Package 'CatMisc'

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.flexFilehandle

Flexible Filehandle

Description

Utility method to transparently handle 'normal' and compressed files

Usage

.flexFilehandle(file)

Arguments

file

Required, the path to the file to read

Details

If the file ends with 'gz', then gzfile will be used to open a file handle. Otherwise, file will be used.

Value

A list with filehandle ("fh"), basename ("name"), suffix ("sfx") and gzip flag ("gz")

allRefClasses 3

allRefClasses

All Reference Classes

Description

Return class representations for object and all inherited classes

Usage

```
allRefClasses(obj, standardClasses = FALSE, struct = NA)
```

Arguments

obj

Required, the object to be tested. This can be either a class name, a class gener-

ator structure, or a RefClass object itself.

standardClasses

Default FALSE. If TRUE then the R-internal utility classes (eg envRefClass)

will be included in the output.

struct

Default NA. Used internally for recursion

Details

Recursively follows 'contains' (inherited) reference classes to provide an exhaustive list of all reference classes associated with the provided object

CatMisc

CAT Miscellaneous Functions

Description

A collection of utility methods frequently used in packages by Charles Tilford (CAT)

Details

- is.empty.field Test for empty RefClass fields
- is.def Tests a scalar against a variety of "nothing" values
- is.something Tests if object is defined, and not zero, "" or FALSE
- parenRegExp Simplifies capture from regular expression parentheses
- textBlockToVector Splits a block of text into lines
- .flexFilehandle Automatically handles .gz files
- methodHelp Used inside RefClass methods for "self-help"
- file.rename2 File rename that can cross device boundaries

4 colorize

Description

RefClassHelper object method to colorize a string

Arguments

msg	Default "". A character vector of text to colorize
color	Default NULL. Optional text (eg "yellow") corresponding to the foreground color of the text
bgcolor	Default NULL. Optional text (eg "silver") corresponding to the background color of the text

help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$colorize( help=TRUE )

myObject$colorize( msg="", color=NULL, bgcolor=NULL )

Takes a character vector and applies foregrand and/or background color to it.
```

Value

A character vector with ANSI color codes injected by crayon

See Also

```
crayon, colorNameToFunc, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ANSI_escape_code#Colors
```

```
el <- RefClassHelper()
x <- el$colorize(c("This", "That"), "green")
x
message(paste(x, collapse=" ... and ... "))</pre>
```

colorMap 5

Description

RefClassHelper object method to turn a string into a crayon color function

Arguments

color Required, a string describing a color, eg "magenta". Can also be a function

reference

bg Default FALSE. If TRUE, will pick the background color corresponding to the

name.

help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$colorMap( help=TRUE )
myObject$colorMap( color, bg=FALSE )
```

Takes a color name as input, returns a crayon function. This is primarily a utility function.

Value

A function from the crayon

See Also

colorize, crayon, colorNameToFunc

```
el <- RefClassHelper()
f <- el$colorMap("red")
base::message(f("Quick Brown Fox"))
f <- el$colorMap("cyan", TRUE)
base::message(f("Lazy Dog"))</pre>
```

6 dotSelfVarName

Color Name to Crayon Function

Description

Function to generate a map of color names to crayon functions

Usage

colorNameToFunc()

Details

The list generated by this method is simply a lookup list-of-lists used to turn names ("cyan", "black") into crayon colorizing functions. It is utilized by colorize to convert the user's color parameters into the appropriate colorizing functions.

The function is run once, the first time the map is requested. Afterwards the resulting list is stored in a local variable for cached retrieval.

Value

A list of lists

See Also

colorize

dotSelfVarName	Get Name of Current Variable

Description

For an object, get the variable name being used by R to 'hold' it

Arguments

def	Default " $my0bj$ ", a default name that can be used if the actual name can not be found.
fallbackVar	Default "". Another default name, will be used in preference to def if the real name can not be found. There are reasons for this. I can't remember what they were and am too timid to simplify the function at this point.
help	Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

fieldDescriptions 7

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$.selfVarName( help=TRUE )
myObject$.selfVarName( def="myObj", fallbackVar="" )
```

Returns the variable name of an object. That is, if you have an object foo, calling foo\$.selfVarName should return "foo".

This functionality is used to generate self-referential help text that can be copied-and-pasted to allow for easy exploration of the object.

Value

A single character string

See Also

help, getFieldDescriptions, help

Examples

```
rch <- RefClassHelper()
rch$.selfVarName()
identical("rch", rch$.selfVarName())</pre>
```

fieldDescriptions

Field Descriptions

Description

Get brief descriptions for all RefClass fields used by the object

Arguments

help

Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$fieldDescriptions( help=TRUE )
myObject$fieldDescriptions( )
```

This method simply returns a list of descriptive text for each Reference Class field defined for the object. It is intended to provide self-documenting information to the help function.

If the object inherits other RefClass classes, they will be recursively queried for descriptive text associated in their own fieldDescriptions structures. This recursion is managed by getFieldDescriptions.

8 file.rename2

Value

A list of character vectors, each a single entry long, each (ideally) being a brief description of the field

See Also

getFieldDescriptions, help, helpSections

Examples

```
el <- RefClassHelper()
el$fieldDescriptions()
el$help() # Descriptive text will be at bottom</pre>
```

file.rename2

File Rename II

Description

Attempts to move/rename files over device boundaries

Usage

```
file.rename2(from, to)
```

Arguments

from Required, the current path to the file

to Required, the path you wish to rename/move the file to

Details

At least some implementations of R apparently use a low-level rename library that will refuse to move files across device boundaries. That is, if the file resides at a path that is on a device different from the destination path, the rename will fail with an error message similar to:

```
In file.rename(fromPath, toPath) : cannot rename file '/mnt/deviceX/foobar.txt' to '/mnt/deviceY/foo
```

Some (many? all?) systems disallow (or simply cannot?) make *hard links* between devices. However, a move/rename is not a link (at least in outcome), so the error is a bit perplexing. The behavior is not limited to R, problems are also seen in Python where the os.rename method fails, but shutil.move will work (https://stackoverflow.com/a/15300474)

Anyhoo. If renames are failing with cross-device link messages, you're probably running into this issue. This method detects the issue (based on a failure to copy and a grepl to "Invalid cross.device link"), and attempts to solve the problem by a copy-then-delete-source mechanism. Doing this task carefully was more complex than initially anticipated. Source on GitHub has more commentary (which get removed if you just evaluate file.rename2) on why the code is the way it is.

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Value

A single logical value, TRUE for success, FALSE for failure.

See Also

file.rename

Examples

```
from <- "/mnt/device1/foo.txt"
to <- "/mnt/device2/foo.txt"
file.rename(from, to) # Fails if /mnt/device1 and /mnt/device2 differ
file.rename2(from, to) # Yay! Works.</pre>
```

getFieldDescriptions Get Field Descriptions

Description

Get brief descriptions for all object fields

Arguments

help

Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$getFieldDescriptions( help=TRUE )
myObject$getFieldDescriptions( )
```

Returns a list, with names representing object fields and values being descriptions of each one. The descriptions need to be defined in the object's fieldDescriptions method. If inheritance is being used, they will be recovered recursively for each parent class. The function is used by the help method.

Value

A list of character strings

See Also

fieldDescriptions, getHelpSections, help

10 getHelpSections

Examples

```
rch <- RefClassHelper()
rch$getFieldDescriptions()
rch$help() # Will be shown at the end of the help</pre>
```

getHelpSections

Get Help Sections

Description

Get a list of all notable object methods, organized into sections

Arguments

help

Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$getHelpSections( help=TRUE )
myObject$getHelpSections( )
```

Returns a list, with names representing conceptual sections and values being object methods assigned to those sections. This structure needs to be defined in the object's helpSections method. If inheritance is being used, sections will be recovered recursively for each parent class. The function is used by the help method.

Value

A list of character strings

See Also

helpSections, getFieldDescriptions, help

```
rch <- RefClassHelper()
rch$getHelpSections()
rch$help() # Will be used near the top to organize methods</pre>
```

help 11

Object Help	help
-------------	------

Description

Summarize object methods and fields, and commands to get additional help

Arguments

genericName Default 'myObject'. Used if R can not determine the actual variable name of the

object (via .selfVarName)

color Default NULL, which will use the value defined by useColor. If TRUE, then

output will be colorized.

generic Default FALSE. If TRUE, then generic Reference Class methods common to all

RefClass objects will be included.

help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Value

NULL, invisibly

See Also

getFieldDescriptions, getHelpSections, show

Examples

```
rch <- RefClassHelper()
## Report help for the object
rch$help()
rch$help( generic=TRUE ) # Include generic methods</pre>
```

helpSections Help Sections

Description

Get a list that organizes methods into conceptually-related sections

Arguments

help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

12 initialize

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$helpSections( help=TRUE )
myObject$helpSections( )
```

This method simply returns a list that organizes the methods used by the Reference Class object into related sections. It is intended to provide self-documenting information to the help function.

If the object inherits other RefClass classes, they will be recursively queried for their own sections. This recursion is managed by getHelpSections.

Value

A list of character vectors, each containing one or more methods within the section defined by that entry's name.

See Also

getHelpSections, help, fieldDescriptions

Examples

```
el <- RefClassHelper()
el$helpSections()
el$help() # Methods will be broken out into the above sections</pre>
```

initialize

Initialize RefClass Object

Description

R internal method to create a new Reference Class instance

Details

The \$initialize() object method is one of the reserved Reference Class functions. It executes whenever you generate a new object (that is, if a class 'foo' is defined, when you run x <- foo()). You should not call \$initialize() directly.

In many cases you may not need to define such a method. I have found, however, that if you are attempting RefClass inheritance that the method can be useful. Some suggestions when creating a method:

- Make use of ... in the parameters.
- Be sure to call callSuper(...) to invoke the initialize for parent classes
- This is a reasonable place to define default field values, expose them for parameterized customization, and put in sanity-checking
- Using the same variable name for parameters and fields works, but can be confusing.
- Do not forget to set fields with <<-

is.def

Value

The newly created RefClass object

Examples

```
## Using one of the built-in toy objects:
rct <- myRefClassThing() # There. That was it. It ran transparently.</pre>
```

is.def

Is Defined

Description

Broad test returning false for a variety of "empty" values

Usage

```
is.def(x)
```

Arguments

Х

The object to be tested

Details

Born out of frustration with diverse possibilities for "not present". The function is NOT vectorized, instead expecting the passed object to be "a single thing".

Value

TRUE if "defined", otherwise FALSE. The following objects are considered "not defined":

- NULL
- Objects that ONLY contain NA
- Matrices with zero columns and zero rows
- Empty fields (TRUE value from is.empty.field)

is.empty.field

```
## FALSE (not defined)
is.def(NULL)
is.def(numeric())
is.def(c(NA,NA,NA,NA))
is.def(matrix(numeric(),0,0)) # 0x0 matrix
```

is.empty.field

Is Empty Field

Description

Tests for ReferenceClass fields that have not been set.

Usage

```
is.empty.field(x, zero.length.empty = FALSE)
```

Arguments

```
x The object to be tested zero.length.empty
```

Default FALSE, if true then count a zero-length vector as an empty field (returns TRUE)

Details

Some RefClass fields will be automatically set, even if you try not to. For example, simple fields (numeric, character, logical, etc) will be unavaoidably (?) set to a zero-length vector of the appropriate type.

A field defined as 'ANY', however, can not auto-populate. If left unset, it will be represented as a little Slot object of class "uninitializedField". This function simply tests if the provided object inherits that class

Value

TRUE if x inherits class "uninitializedField", otherwise FALSE

```
## Simple object with two fields, one numeric, the other ANY
foo <- setRefClass("foo", fields = list( x = 'numeric', y = 'ANY' ))
foo$methods( initialize = function(...) {
    ## Don't do anything. This should override (?) the default
    ## $initFields() call.
});</pre>
```

is.something 15

```
fooObj <- foo()

## $x will be an zero-element numeric vector.
str(fooObj$x)

## It is not considered an empty field:
is.empty.field(fooObj$x)

## ... unless you ask for such cases to test positive:
is.empty.field(fooObj$x, zero.length.empty=TRUE)

## $y will be a small object:
str(fooObj$y)

## And will report as being an empty field:
is.empty.field(fooObj$y)</pre>
```

is.something

Is Something

Description

Check if something is defined, and not zero or an empty string

Usage

```
is.something(x)
```

Arguments

Х

The object to be tested

Details

Primarily designed to deal with parameter checking for user-supplied arguments

Value

TRUE if x is "defined" (is.def) and is neither (numeric) zero nor an empty string.

```
is.something("")
is.something(0)
is.something(c(0,0)) # -> TRUE
```

16 methodHelp

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Method Help

Description

Mechanism to identify relevant help topics from calling context

Usage

```
methodHelp(mc, cl, inh = NULL)
```

Arguments

mc	Required, the result of match.call, called just before entering this function. This
	should allow automatic determination of the method name, as well as the vari-
	able name holding the object
cl	Required, the class() of the object
inh	Ignored. Included for compatibility with old calls.

Details

This function is part of an attempt to better document ReferenceClass objects, here focusing on method documentation. The function is designed to be called generically from within a method; See Examples for a fleshed-out illustration. This allows richer documentation to be maintained in Roxygen, and allows objects to be self-documenting if the user passes a help=TRUE flag, eg:

Value

The mysterious 'help_files_with_topic' object R uses for managing internal help (which will be rendered if not captured), or NA if no topic could be found

```
mrct <- myRefClassThing(5)

# General information on the class as a whole:
?myRefClassThing

# Specific information on the $thingProduct() function
mrct$thingProduct( help=TRUE )</pre>
```

myRefClassStuff-class 17

```
myRefClassStuff-class Example Inherited RefClass Object
```

Description

A tiny object designed to be inherited by another tiny object

Details

This is a toy ReferenceClass (aka 'R5') object that is used by another toy class (myRefClassThing), and is used for tests of allRefClasses.

Value

A character vector

Fields

txt An interesting text value

Methods

```
fieldDescriptions(help = FALSE) A static list of brief descriptions for each field in this object helpSections(help = FALSE) Static list organizing object methods into conceptual sections initialize(useColor = TRUE, ...) Create a new RefClassHelper Reference Class object show(help = FALSE) Pretty-print the object thingText(prefix = "[Thing Text]", help = FALSE) Reports the text held by the thing
```

See Also

myRefClassThing, allRefClasses

```
mrcs <- myRefClassStuff(txt="Hello World")
mrcs
mrcs$help()</pre>
```

myRefClassThing-class Example Reference Class Object

Description

A tiny object that multiplies things

Details

This is a toy ReferenceClass (aka 'R5') object used to illustrate the methodHelp function's use in documenting object methods. It is also utilized by tests for methodHelp.

Fields

x A numeric value

Methods

```
fieldDescriptions(help = FALSE) A static list of brief descriptions for each field in this object helpSections(help = FALSE) Static list organizing object methods into conceptual sections initialize(txt = "Initial text", ...) Initialize a new myRefClassStuff object show(...) Provide pretty-printed summary for RefClassStuff objects thingProduct(y = 7, help = FALSE) Multiplies the x field by parameter y
```

See Also

methodHelp

```
mrct <- myRefClassThing( x=17, txt="Text is managed by Stuff" )
# Help at the object level:
mrct$help()
# Help at the method level:
mrct$thingProduct( help=TRUE )

# This class's method:
mrct$thingProduct(3)
# Method from the parent class (myRefClassStuff):
mrct$thingText(prefix="[Foo]")
# Method from the grandparent class (RefClassHelper)
message(mrct$colorize("This text is red", color='red'))</pre>
```

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parenRegExp	Parenthetical Regular Expression

Description

Extract values from parenthetical capture blocks in regular expressions

Usage

```
parenRegExp(RegExp, text, ignore.case = TRUE, unlist = TRUE)
```

Arguments

RegExp The regular expression to use

text The string(s) to test

ignore.case Default TRUE, which will perform matches case insensitively.

unlist Default TRUE, which will unlist the results. A string that does not match will

return a single NA. If more that one capture field is defined, and at least one string fails to match, then the returned, unlisted vector will be ragged. If you are

matching multiple strings, set unlist=FALSE.

Details

RegExp in R is not fully fleshed out. This implements a hack suggested in the internal documentation to allow recovery of text from multiple parenthetical captures

Value

A character vector representing matched values, or NA if no match was found. If unlist is set to FALSE, then a list of character vectors, one list element for each value in the submitted text.

```
codes <- c("Launch code: 0000", "Bro code", "Locker code = 321203")
extractor <- '([A-Z]+).+?(\\d+)'
parenRegExp( extractor, codes, unlist = FALSE )

header <- ">PK139-beta Alien infection mediator (San Antonio serotype) "
fastaRE <- '^>(\\S+)\\s*(.*?)\\s*'
parenRegExp( fastaRE, header )
```

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RefClassHelper-class Reference Class Helper Class

Description

A utility class that provides help functions when inherited

Details

This class is not designed to be used on its own, but rather to be inherited by another Reference Class.

Fields

useCol Default TRUE. Logical flag to indicate if color should be used in messaging varName Extracted variable name of the object varCheck Last time an attempt was made to extract varName

Methods

relativePath 21

relativePath Rela

Description

Reports the relative file path from a parent directory to a child object

Usage

```
relativePath(parent, child, mustWork = FALSE, normChild = TRUE)
```

Arguments

parent	Required, the file path that presumably is an ancestor of the child in the directory structure. To return a non-NA value, this object presumably needs to resolve to a directory.
child	Required, the file path of the "deeper" object (can be any component of the file system - file, directory, link, etc.
mustWork	Default FALSE. Passed to normalizePath, set to TRUE if you wish to assure that both child and parent exist.
normChild	Default TRUE, which will cause the child path to be normalized as well. This is not always desirable; For example, normalizePath will convert links to their ultimate target path. If you wish to leave links as-is, set normChild to FALSE.

Details

Given 'child' and 'parent' file paths, return the relative path needed to reach the child from the parent, or NA if the child is not a descendant of the parent.

By default, neither child nor parent will be checked for existance, or if they are an appropriate object. Both will have their paths normalized via normalizePath(). If you wish to force existance of both, set mustWork=TRUE.

Value

If either child or parent are any of NULL, NA or an empty string, then NA. If child is the same as parent (after normalization), an empty string. If child is not a descendant of the parent, NA. In all other cases, a single string representing the relative path.

See Also

normalizePath

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Examples

```
relativePath("/tmp/RtmpaacRRB", "/tmp/RtmpaacRRB/output.txt")
relativePath(file.path(Sys.getenv('HOME'), "data"), "~/data/plots/x.png")
relativePath("/bin/bang/boom", "/bin/etc/etc.txt")
relativePath("/usr/bin", "")
```

textBlockToVector

Text Block to Vector

Description

Convert a multi-line string to a vector of lines

Usage

```
textBlockToVector(x, split = "[\n\r]", trim.white = TRUE,
    skip.empty = TRUE)
```

Arguments

x The block of text to parse

split Default "[\n\r]+", the regular expression used to split out lines

trim. white Default TRUE, which will cause leading and trailing whitespace to be removed

from each line

skip.empty Default TRUE, which will remove elements that are the empty string ('')

Details

When embedding static lists of text in code I find it sometimes easier to read and maintain the list if it is encoded as a simple block of text. This function will break such a block into a vector

Value

A character vector, each element being a line

```
myBlock <- "
A quick brown fox
  Five golden rings
Klaatu barada nikto
"
textBlockToVector(myBlock)</pre>
```

thingProduct 23

thingProduct	Thing Product
--------------	---------------

Description

A toy object method used to illustrate methodHelp

Arguments

y The second number
help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$thingProduct( help=TRUE )

myObject$thingProduct( y=7 )

Multiplies the internally-stored value of x by a supplied second number.
```

Value

A numeric product of x * y

Examples

```
mrct <- myRefClassThing(5)
mrct$thingProduct(11)</pre>
```

thingText Thing Text

Description

Get text for toy (demonstration) Reference Class object

Arguments

prefix Default '[Thing Text]'. A prefix to include before the actual Thing text. help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

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Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$thingText( help=TRUE )
myObject$thingText( prefix="[Thing Text]" )
Returns the thing's text, with a prefix
```

Value

A character vector

Examples

```
mrcs <- myRefClassStuff(txt="Some text for the thing")
## Query the text field directly
mrcs$txt
## Access the text by this method
mrcs$thingText(prefix="[Hooray!]")
# Method from the parent class (RefClassHelper)
message(mrcs$colorize("This text is blue", color='blue'))</pre>
```

useCol

RefClassHelper Use Color Flag

Description

Internal RefClass field indicating if output should be colorized

Details

A logical flag, if TRUE it indicates that messages (from compliant methods) should be colorized with the crayon package.

```
## NORMALLY YOU WILL NOT WANT TO ACCESS THIS FIELD DIRECTLY
## Instead, use the \link{useColor} method to check and alter the value
```

Value

A single logical value

See Also

useColor, message

useColor 25

Examples

```
rch <- RefClassHelper( )
message(rch$colorize("I'm feeling blue", "blue"))
rch$useColor(FALSE)
message(rch$colorize("I'm still down, I'm just not showing it", "blue"))</pre>
```

useColor

Use Color

Description

RefClassHelper object method to get/set colorization flag

Arguments

newval Default NULL. If provided and can be made logical, will set the flag. Inability

to cast as logical will emit a non-fatal error.

help Default FALSE. If TRUE, show this help and perform no other actions.

Details

```
## Method Usage:
myObject$useColor( help=TRUE )

myObject$useColor( newval=NULL )

Gets or sets the flag determining if messages should be colorized
```

Value

A single logical value, invisibly

See Also

message, colorize, useCol

```
rch <- RefClassHelper()
## Show the object:
rch
## Turn off colorization, show the object again:
rch$useColor(FALSE)
rch</pre>
```

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