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Reading multiple files in a directory starting from a specific row

CAREERS 2.0



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I am trying to read multiple files in R from the working directory and would like to read like to read from the 7th row for each file. I am not sure how can i do that

I found how to read an individual file with this:



```
data = read.csv(file.choose (), skip = 6 )
```

or I can read multiple files like this:

```
j = list.files()
     d = lapply(j, read.csv)
```

could you please help me with how can i read multiple files starting from the 7th row?



link | improve this question

edited Mar 27 at 13:28 Paul Hiemstra **5,763** •3 •8 •27 asked Mar 27 at 13:11 Ayan **82** • 5 100% accept rate

1 From the help page, ... optional arguments to FUN . In your example, read.csv == FUN, so you can just pass the additional arguments after declaring FUN, i.e. lapply, j, read.csv, skip = 6). See ?lapply for more details. - Chase Mar 27 at 13:18

feedback

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asked 3 months ago viewed 155 times active 3 months ago



2 Answers

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Software Developer **OTC Markets**

New York, NY

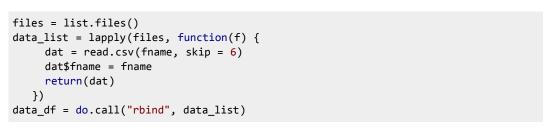
Software Development Engineer, Amazon Instant Video

...I CAREERS 2.0

Amazon

Seattle, WA

Linux Kernel Developer Riverside Research Dayton, OH



In addition to @James's answer, using lapply only reads the files into a list, not into a common

data.frame . From your question it is not obvious if you want this. But I'll add it for completeness sake

To be able to identify to which file a row in the common data.frame belonged originally, I often add a

Alternatively, you could use the awesome plyr library, which does the exact same thing in:

```
library(plyr)
files = list.files()
```



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column with the filename. In pseudo-code this would look something like:

data_df = ldply(files, read.csv, skip = 6)

I have not tested this pseudo-code, so it could be that there are some flaws yet. But you get the basic idea. One problem for example could be that ldply does not automatically adds the filename as a column. Then you need to use the function call as I did using lapply. In that case, ldply saves you the do.call step. Note that plyr supports a progress bar (nice for long processes) and parallel processing.

note:

• I like more descriptive names than j and d. This makes the code easier to read.

link | improve this answer

answered Mar 27 at 13:27 Paul Hiemstra **5,763** • 3 • 8 • 27

thats thats explain a lot with the issue I am having now! :) - Ayan Mar 27 at 14:05

feedback





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Just combine the two. You can pass in named arguments to a function in lapply:

d <- lapply(j, read.csv, skip=6)</pre>

link | improve this answer

edited Mar 27 at 13:26

answered Mar 27 at 13:13 James

24 • 1 • 9 • 24 1 • 9 • 24 1 • 9 • 24 1 • 9 • 24

Thanks, thats what I thought, i must have spelled something wrong, I tried this before and didn't work, now working just fine:) - Ayan Mar 27 at 13:18

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applying R script prepared for single file to multiple files in the directory

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combine the multiple files with one header

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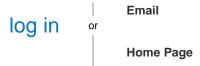
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