# Package 'squarebrackets'

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Type Package Title Subset Methods as Alternatives to the Square Brackets Operators for Programming **Version** 0.0.0.9 Date 2024-06-14 **Description** Provides subset methods (supporting both non-recursive and recursive S3 classes) that may be more convenient alternatives to the `[` and `[<-` operators, whilst maintaining similar performance. Some nice properties of these methods include, but are not limited to, the following. 1) The `[` and `[<-` operators use different rule-sets for different data.frame-like types (data.frames, tibbles, data.tables, tibbles, etc.). The 'squarebrackets' methods use the same rule-sets for the different data.frame-like types. 2) Performing dimensional subset operations on an array using `[` and `[<-`, requires a-priori knowledge of the number of dimensions the array has. The 'squarebrackets' methods work on any arbitrary dimensions without requiring such prior knowledge. 3) When selecting names with the `[` and `[<-` operators, only the first occurrence of the names are selected in case of duplicate names. The 'squarebrackets' methods always perform on all names in case of duplicates, not just the first. 4) The `[[` and `[[<-` operators allow operating on a recursive subset of a nested list. But these only operate on a single recursive subset, and are not vectorized for multiple recursive subsets of a nested list at once. 'squarebrackets' provides a way to reshape a nested list into a 2D recursive array of lists, thereby allowing vectorized operations on recursive subsets of such a nested list. 5) The `[<-` operator only supports copy-on-modify semantics for most classes. The 'squarebrackets' methods provides explicit pass-by-reference and pass-by-value semantics, whilst still respecting things like binding-locks and mutability rules. License MIT + file LICENSE **Encoding UTF-8** LinkingTo Rcpp **Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE) RoxygenNote 7.3.1

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# **Description**

squarebrackets: Subset Methods as Alternatives to the Square Brackets Operators for Programming

# **Goal & Properties**

Among programming languages, 'R' has perhaps one of the most flexible and comprehensive subsetting functionality, provided by the square brackets operators ([, [<-)).

But in some situations the square brackets operators are occasionally less than optimally convenient (see squarebrackets\_inconveniences).

The Goal of the 'squarebrackets' package is not to replace the square-brackets operators, but to provide **alternative** sub-setting methods and functions, to be used in situations where the square bracket operators are inconvenient.

These alternative sub-setting methods and functions have the following properties:

## • Programmatically friendly:

- Unlike base [, it's not required to know the number of dimensions of an array a-priori, to perform subset-operations on an array.
- Missing arguments can be filled with NULL, instead of using dark magic like base::quote(expr = ).
- No Non-standard evaluation.
- Functions are pipe-friendly.
- No (silent) vector recycling.
- Extracting and removing subsets uses the same syntax.

## • Class consistent:

- sub-setting of multi-dimensional objects by specifying dimensions (i.e. rows, columns, ...) use drop = FALSE.
   So matrix in, matrix out.
- The methods deliver the same results for data.frames, data.tables, tibbles, and tidytables.
   No longer does one have to re-learn the different brackets-based sub-setting rules for different types of data.frame-like objects.
  - Powered by the subclass agnostic 'C'-code from 'collapse' and 'data.table'.

# • Explicit copy semantics:

- Sub-set operations that change its memory allocations, always return a modified copy of the object.
- For sub-set operations that just change values in-place (similar to the [<- and [[<- methods) the user can choose a method that modifies the object by **reference**, or choose a method that returns a **deep copy**.

## • Careful handling of names:

- Sub-setting an object by index names returns ALL matches with the given names, not just the first.
- Data.frame-like objects (see supported classes below) are forced to have unique column names.
- Sub-setting arrays using x[indx1, indx2, etc.] will drop names(x).
   The methods from 'squarebrackets' will not drop names(x).
- Concise function and argument names.

#### • Performance aware:

Despite the many checks performed, the functions are kept reasonably speedy, through the use of the 'Rcpp', 'collapse', and 'data.table' R-packages.

# **Supported Classes**

'squarebrackets' only supports S3 classes, and only those that primarily use square brackets for sub-setting (hence the name of the package).

## Supported immutable classes:

atomic, factor, list, data.frame (including tibble and sf-data.frame).

## Supported mutable classes:

mutable\_atomic, data.table (including tidytable and sf-data.table).

There are, of course, a lot of classes which are not supported by 'squarebrackets'.

Most notably, key-value stores, such as environments, or the various 'collections' classes from the 'collections' package, are not supported.

## **Methods and Functions**

#### **GENERIC METHODS**

The main focus of this package is on its generic methods and binding implementations.

Generic methods for non-recursive objects (atomic, factor, etc.) start with sb\_.

Generic methods for recursive objects (list, data.frame, etc.) start with sb2\_.

The binding implementations for non-recursive objects (atomic, factor, etc.) start with bind\_.

The binding implementations for recursive objects (list, data.frame, etc.) start with bind2\_.

There is also the somewhat separate idx method, which works on both recursive and non-recursive objects.

The available generic methods are the following:

• sb\_x, sb2\_x: extract, exchange, or duplicate subsets.

- sb rm, sb2 rm: un-select/remove subsets.
- sb\_set, sb2\_set: modify (transform or replace) subsets of a mutable object using pass-by-reference semantics.
- sb\_mod, sb2\_mod: return a **copy** of an object with modified (transformed or replaced) subsets.
- sb2\_rec: access recursive subsets of lists.
- sb2\_reccom: replace, transform, remove, or add recursive subsets to a list, through R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics.
- sb\_setRename, sb2\_setRename: change the names of a mutable object using pass-by-reference semantics.
- bind , bind2 : implementations for binding dimensional objects.
- idx: translate given indices/subscripts, for the purpose of copy-on-modify substitution.

So for example, use sb\_rm() to remove subsets from atomic arrays, and use sb2\_rm() to remove subsets from recursive arrays.

#### SPECIALIZED FUNCTIONS

Additional specialized sub-setting functions are provided:

- lst\_untree: unnest tree-like nested list, to make vectorized sub-setting on recursive subsets of the list easier.
- The dt\_-functions to programmatically perform data.table-specific [-operations, with the security measures provided by the 'squarebrackets' package.
- setapply: apply functions over mutable matrix margins using pass-by-reference semantics.
- ma\_setv: Find & Replace values in mutable\_atomic objects using pass-by-reference semantics.

This is considerably faster and more memory efficient than using sb\_set for this.

- sb\_str: extract or replace a subset of characters of a single string (each single character is treated as a single element).
- sb\_a: extract multiple attributes from an object.

#### **HELPER FUNCTIONS**

And finally, a couple of helper functions for creating ranges, sequences, and indices (often needed in sub-setting) are provided:

- currentBindings: list or lock all currently existing bindings that share the share the same address as the input variable.
- n: Nested version of c, and short-hand for list.
- sub2coord, coord2ind: Convert subscripts (array indices) to coordinates, coordinates to flat indices, and vice-versa.
- match\_all: Find all matches, of one vector in another, taking into account the order and any duplicate values of both vectors.
- Computing indices:
   idx\_by to compute grouped indices.
   idx\_ord\_-functions to compute ordered indices.

• Computing sequences:

seq\_rec2 for the recursive sequence generator (for example to generate a Fibonacci sequence). seq\_names to create a range of indices from a specified starting and ending name.

## Author(s)

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#### References

The badges shown in the documentation of this R-package were made using the services of: https://shields.io/

aaa1\_squarebrackets\_immutable\_classes

Supported Immutable S3 Classes, With Auto-Coercion Rules

# **Description**

The sb\_ generic methods support the following immutable S3 classes:

- atomic classes (atomic vectors, matrices, and arrays);
- · factor;
- list including dimensional lists (note that lists are merely pointers to other objects, and these other objects may be of a different class and may even be mutable);
- data.frame
   (including the classes tibble, sf-data.frame and sf-tibble)

Note that "immutable" does not mean you cannot modify it.

It simply means that modification leads to a copy being made.

#### **Auto-Coercion Rules**

## Atomic

coercion\_through\_copy: YES

Atomic objects are automatically coerced to fit the modified subset values, when modifying through copy.

For example, replacing one or multiple values in an integer vector (type int) with a decimal number (type db1) will coerce the entire vector to type db1.

#### **Factor**

coercion\_through\_copy: NO

Factors only accept values that are part of their levels, and thus do not support coercion on modification. There is no mechanism for changing factors by reference at all.

Replacing a value with a new value not part of its levels, will result in the replacement value being NA.

#### List

#### coercion\_through\_copy: depends

Lists themselves allow complete change of their elements, since lists are merely pointers. For example, the following code performs full coercion:

```
x <- list(factor(letters), factor(letters))
sb_mod(x, 1, rp = list(1))</pre>
```

However, a recursive subset of a list which itself is not a list, follows the coercion rules of whatever class the recursive subset is.

For example the following code:

```
x <- list(1:10, 1:10)
sb_rec(x, 1, rp = "a") # coerces to character</pre>
```

transforms recursive subsets according to the - in this case - atomic auto-coercion rules.

## Data.frames when replacing/transforming whole columns

```
coercion_through_copy: YES
```

A data.frame is actually a list, where each column is itself a list. As such, replacing/transforming whole columns, so row = NULL and filter = NULL, allows completely changing the type of the column

Note that coercion of columns needs arguments row = NULL and filter = NULL in the  $sb\_mod$  and  $sb\_set$  methods; no auto-coercion will take place when specifying something like row = 1:nrow(x) (see next section).

#### Data.frames, when partially replacing/transforming columns

coercion\_through\_copy: NO

If rows are specified in the sb\_mod and sb\_set methods, and thus not whole columns but parts of columns are replaced or transformed, no auto-coercion takes place.

I.e.: replacing/transforming a value in an integer (int) column to become 1.5, will not coerce the column to the decimal type (dbl); instead, the replacement value 1.5 is coerced to integer 1.

The coe argument in the sb\_mod method allows the user to enforce coercion, even if subsets of columns are replaced/transformed instead of whole columns.

Specifically, the coe arguments allows the user to specify a coercive function to be applied on the entirety of every column specified in col or vars; columns outside this subset are not affected.

This coercion function is, of course, applied before replacement (rp) or transformation (tf()).

## **Examples**

```
# Coercion examples - lists ====
x <- list(factor(letters), factor(letters))
print(x)</pre>
```

```
sb2_mod(x, 1, rp = list(1)) # first element fully changed.
x \leftarrow list(1:10, 1:10)
print(x)
sb2_reccom(x, 1, rp = "a") # coerces first element to character
print(x)
# Coercion examples - data.frame-like - whole columns ====
obj <- data.frame(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_mod(
 obj, vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: row=NULL & filter = NULL, so coercion performed
# Coercion examples - data.frame-like - partial columns ====
# sb_mod():
obj <- data.frame(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
sb2_mod(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 coe = as.double, tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed
```

aaa2\_squarebrackets\_mutable\_classes

Supported Mutable S3 Classes, With Auto-Coercion Rules

# Description

The sb\_generic methods support the following Mutable S3 classes:

• mutable\_atomic (this vector class supports any dimension, thus also matrices and arrays);

- data.table (including the classes tidytable and sf-data.table);
- **Views of Lists**: Though lists themselves are treated as immutable, lists can contain mutable objects, and so modification by reference of mutable views of lists **is** support by 'squarebrackets'.

The mutable version of the list class would be the environment class, and the various key-value storage classes available in other packages, such as the 'collapse' package.

Key-value storage classes generally do not use square brackets for their primary sub-setting method, and are thus not covered by this package.

#### **Auto-Coercion Rules**

#### **Coercion Semantics**

The mutable classes support "copy-on-modify" semantics like the immutable classes, but - unlike the immutable classes - they also support "pass-by-reference" semantics.

The sb\_mod method modify subsets of an object through a **deep copy**.

The sb\_set method and dt\_setcoe function modify subsets of an object by reference.

These 2 copy semantics - "pass by reference" or "modify copy" - have slightly different auto-coercion rules.

These are explained in this section.

#### mutable\_atomic

```
coercion_through_copy: YES coercion_by_reference: NO
```

Mutable atomic objects are automatically coerced to fit the modified subset values, when modifying through copy, just like regular atomic classes.

For example, replacing one or multiple values in an integer vector (type int) with a decimal number (type db1) will coerce the entire vector to type db1.

Replacing or transforming subsets of mutable atomic objects **by reference** does not support coercion. Thus, for example, the following code,

```
x <- 1:16
sb_set(x, i = 1:6, rp = 8.5)
x
```

gives c(rep(8, 6) 7:16) instead of c(rep(8.5, 6), 7:16), because x is of type integer, so rp is interpreted as type integer also.

#### data.table, when replacing/transforming whole columns

```
coercion_through_copy: YES coercion_by_reference: YES
```

A data.table is actually a list made mutable, where each column is itself a list. As such, replacing/transforming whole columns, so row = NULL and filter = NULL, allows completely changing the type of the column.

Note that coercion of columns needs arguments row = NULL and filter = NULL in the  $sb\_mod$  and  $sb\_set$  methods; no auto-coercion will take place when specifying something like row = 1: nrow(x)

(see next section).

## data.table, when partially replacing/transforming columns

```
coercion_through_copy: NO coercion_by_reference: NO
```

If rows are specified in the sb\_mod and sb\_set methods, and thus not whole columns but parts of columns are replaced or transformed, no auto-coercion takes place.

I.e.: replacing/transforming a value in an integer (int) column to become 1.5, will not coerce the column to the decimal type (dbl); instead, the replacement value 1.5 is coerced to integer 1.

The coe argument in the sb\_mod method allows the user to enforce coercion, even if subsets of columns are replaced/transformed instead of whole columns.

Specifically, the coe arguments allows the user to specify a coercive function to be applied on the entirety of every column specified in col or vars; columns outside this subset are not affected.

This coercion function is, of course, applied before replacement (rp) or transformation (tf()).

#### Views of Lists

coercion\_by\_reference: depends

Regular lists themselves are not treated as mutable objects by 'squarebrackets'.

However, lists are not actually really objects, merely a (potentially hierarchical) structure of pointers.

Thus, even if a list itself is not treated as mutable, subsets of a list which are themselves mutable classes, are mutable.

For example, if you have a list of data.table objects, the data.tables themselves are mutable.

Therefore, the following will work:

```
x <- list(
  a = data.table(cola = 1:10, colb = letters[1:10]),
  b = data.table(cola = 11:20, colb = letters[11:20]))
mypointer <- x$a
sb_set(mypointer, col = "cola", tf = \(x)x^2)</pre>
```

Notice in the above code that mypointer is not a copy of xa, since they have the same address. Thus changing mypointer also changes xa.

In other words: mypointer is what could be called a "view" of x\$a.

Notice also that  $sb_set(x$a, ...)$  will not work, since  $sb_set()$  requires **actual variables**, similar to in-place functions in the style of `myfun()<-`.

The auto-coercion rules of Views of Lists, depends entirely on the object itself.

Thus if the list subset is a data.table, mutable matrix, coercion rules of data.tables apply.

And if the list subset is a data.table, coercion rules of mutable matrices apply., etc.

## **Examples**

```
# Coercion examples - mutable_atomic ====
x <- as.mutable_atomic(1:16)</pre>
```

```
sb_set(x, i = 1:6, rp = 8.5) \# 8.5 coerced to 8, because `x` is of type `integer`
print(x)
# Coercion examples - data.table - whole columns ====
# sb mod():
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
 obj, vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: row=NULL & filter = NULL, so coercion performed
# sb_set():
sb2_set(
 obj, vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: row=NULL & filter = NULL, so coercion performed
str(obj)
# Coercion examples - data.table - partial columns ====
# sb_mod():
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_mod(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt
 # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
)
sb2_mod(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 coe = as.double, tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed
# sb_set():
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2 set(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
  # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
)
print(obj)
```

```
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj)
dt_setcoe(obj, vars = is.numeric, v = as.numeric)
str(obj)
sb2_set(obj,
 filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed by dt_setcoe(); so no warnings
print(obj)
# View of List ====
x <- list(
a = data.table::data.table(cola = 1:10, colb = letters[1:10]),
b = data.table::data.table(cola = 11:20, colb = letters[11:20])
print(x)
mypointer <- x$a
address(mypointer) == address(x$a) # they are the same
sb2\_set(mypointer, col = "cola", tf = \(x)x^2)
print(x) # notice x has been changed
```

aaa3\_squarebrackets\_indx\_args

Index Arguments in the Generic Sub-setting Methods

## **Description**

There are 6 types of arguments that can be used in the generic methods of 'squarebrackets' to specify the indices to perform operations on:

- i: to specify flat (i.e. dimensionless) indices.
- row, col: to specify rows and/or columns in tabular objects.
- idx, dims: to specify indices of arbitrary dimensions in arrays.
- 1v1: specify levels, for factors only.
- filter, vars: to specify rows and/or columns specifically in data.frame-like objects.
- margin, slice: to specify indices of one particular dimension.

In this help page x refers to the object on which subset operations are performed.

#### Argument i

class: atomic vector class: factor

class: recursive vector

Any of the following can be specified for argument i:

- NULL, only for multi-dimensional objects or factors, when specifying the other arguments (i.e. dimensional indices or factor levels.)
- a vector of length 0, in which case no indices are selected for the operation (i.e. empty selection)
- a strictly positive integer vector with indices.
- a **logical vector**, of the same length as x, giving the indices to select for the operation.
- a character vector of index names.
   If an object has multiple indices with the given name, ALL the corresponding indices will be selected for the operation.
- a **function** that takes as input x, and returns a logical vector, giving the element indices to select for the operation.

For atomic objects, i is interpreted as i(x).

For lists, i is interpreted as lapply(x, i).

Using the i arguments corresponds to doing something like the following:

```
sb_x(x, i = i) # ==> x[i]
```

For a brief explanation of the relationship between flat indices (i), and the dimension indices (row, col, etc.), see the Details section in sub2ind.

# Arguments row, col

class: atomic matrix class: data.frame-like

Any of the following can be specified for the arguments row / col:

- NULL (default), corresponds to a missing argument, which results in ALL of the indices in this dimension being selected for the operation.
- a vector of length 0, in which case no indices are selected for the operation (i.e. empty selection).
- a strictly positive integer vector with dimension indices to select for the operation.
- a **logical** vector of the same length as the corresponding dimension size, giving the indices of this dimension to select for the operation.
- a character vector of index names.
   If a dimension has multiple indices with the given name, ALL the corresponding indices will be selected for the operation.

NOTE: The arguments row and col will be ignored if i is specified.

Using the row, col arguments corresponds to doing something like the following:

```
sb_x(x, row = row, col = col) # ==> x[row, col, drop = FALSE]
```

## Argument Pair idx, dims

class: atomic array class: recursive array

idx must be a list of indices.

dims must be an integer vector of the same length as idx, giving the dimensions to which the indices given in idx correspond to.

The elements of idx follow the same rules as the rules for row and col, EXCEPT one should not fill in NULL.

NOTE: The arguments idx and dims will be ignored if i is specified.

To keep the syntax short, the user can use the n function instead of list() to specify idx.

Using the idx, dims arguments, corresponds to doing something like the following, here using an example of a 4-dimensional array:

```
sb_x(x, n(1:10, 1:5), c(1, 3)) # ==> x[1:10, , 1:5, , drop = FALSE]
```

#### Argument lvl

class: factor

For this argument, the names of the levels of x can be given, selecting the corresponding indices for the operation.

#### Arguments filter, vars

class: data.frame-like

filter must be a one-sided formula with a single logical expression using the column names of the data.frame, giving the condition which observation/row indices should be selected for the operation. For example, to perform an operation on the rows for which column height > 2 and for which column sex != "female", specify the following formula:

```
~ (height > 2) & (sex != "female")
```

If the formula is linked to an environment, any variables not found in the data set will be searched from the environment.

vars must be a function that returns a logical vector, giving the column indices to select for the operation.

For example, to select all numeric columns, specify vars = is.numeric.

#### Argument Pair margin, slice

class: atomic array class: recursive array class: data.frame-like

Relevant only for the idx method.

The margin argument specifies the dimension on which argument slice is used.

I.e. when margin = 1, slice selects rows; when margin = 2, slice selects columns; etc.

The slice argument can be any of the following:

- a **strictly positive integer** vector with dimension indices to select for the operation.
- a **logical** vector of the same length as the corresponding dimension size, giving the dimension indices to select for the operation.
- a character vector of index names.
   If a dimension has multiple indices with the given name, ALL the corresponding indices will be selected for the operation.

One could also give a vector of length 0 for slice;

Argument slice is only used in method idx, and the result of idx are meant to be used inside the regular [ and [<- operators.

Thus the result of a zero-length index specification depends on the rule-set of [.class(x)] and [<-.class(x)].

## **Argument inv**

all classes

Relevant for the sb\_mod/sb2\_mod, sb\_set/sb2\_set, and idx methods.

By default, inv = FALSE, which translates the indices like normally.

When inv = TRUE, the inverse of the indices is taken.

Consider, for example, an atomic matrix x;

using  $sb_mod(x, 1:2, 1:2, tf = tf)$  corresponds to something like the following:

```
x[1:2, 1:2] \leftarrow tf(x[1:2, 1:2])
```

and using  $sb_mod(x, 1:2, 1:2, inv = TRUE, tf = tf)$  corresponds to something like the following:

```
x[-1:-2, -1:-2] \leftarrow tf(x[-1:-2, -1:-2])
```

#### NOTE

The order in which the user gives indices when inv = TRUE generally does not matter.

The order of the indices as they appear in the original object x is maintained, just like in base 'R'.

Therefore, when replacing multiple values where the order of the replacement matters, it is better to keep inv = FALSE, which is the default.

For replacement with a single value or with a transformation function, inv = TRUE can be used without considering the ordering.

## Out-of-Bounds Integers, Non-Existing Names/Levels, and NAs

- Integer indices that are out of bounds (including NaN and NA\_integer\_) always give an error.
- Specifying non-existing names/levels (including NA\_character\_) as indices is considered a form of zero-length indexing.
- Logical indices are translated internally to integers using which, and so NAs are ignored.

#### **Disallowed Combinations of Index Arguments**

One cannot specify i and the other indexing arguments simultaneously; it's either i, or the other arguments.

The arguments are evaluated in the following order:

- 1. Argument i
- 2. Argument lvl (for factors)
- 3. The rest of the indexing arguments.

One cannot specify row and filter simultaneously; it's either one or the other.

One cannot specify col and vars simultaneously; it's either one or the other.

One cannot specify the idx, dims pair and slice, margin pair simultaneously; it's either one pair or the other pair.

In the above cases it holds that if one set is specified, the other is set is ignored.

#### Drop

Sub-setting with the generic methods from the 'squarebrackets' R-package using dimensional arguments (row, col, lyr, idx, dims, filter, vars) always use drop = FALSE.

To drop potentially redundant (i.e. single level) dimensions, use the drop function, like so:

```
sb_x(x, row = row, col = col) > drop() # ==> x[row, col, drop = TRUE]
```

## First, Last, and Shuffle

The indices are counted forward. I.e. 1 is the first element, not the last. One can use the last function to get the last N indices.

One can use the first function to get the first N indices.

To shuffle elements of indices, use the sample function.

## **Regarding Performance**

Integer indices and logical indices are the fastest.

Indexing through names or levels (i.e. character vectors) is the slowest.

Thus if performance is important, use integer or logical indices.

aaa4\_squarebrackets\_options

squarebrackets Options

#### **Description**

This help page explains the various global options that can be set for the 'squarebrackets' package, and how it affects the functionality.

## **Check Duplicates**

argument: chkdup

option: squarebrackets.chkdup

The sb\_x method is the only method where providing duplicate indices actually make sense.

For the other methods, it doesn't make sense.

Giving duplicate indices usually won't break anything; however, when replacing/transforming or removing subsets, it is almost certainly not the intention to provide duplicate indices.

Providing duplicate indices anyway might lead to unexpected results.

Therefore, for the methods where giving duplicate indices does not make sense, the chkdup argument is present.

This argument controls whether the method in question checks for duplicates (TRUE) or not (FALSE).

Setting chkdup = TRUE means the method in question will check for duplicate indices, and give an error when it finds them.

Setting chkdup = FALSE will disable these checks, which saves time and computation power, and is thus more efficient.

Since checking for duplicates can be expensive, it is set to FALSE by default.

The default can be changed in the squarebrackets.chkdup option.

## **Mutable Atomic Messages**

option: squarebrackets.ma\_messages

The [<-.mutable\_atomic method notifies the user of copy-on-modification.

Should the user find this annoying, the user can disable these messages by setting squarebrackets.ma\_messages to FALSE.

## squarebrackets.protected

The user should NEVER touch the squarebrackets.protected option.

This option lists all locked non-functions in the base environment, in order to protect them from any accidental pass-by-reference modification by the methods/functions from 'squarebrackets'.

Other packages that provide pass-by-reference modification, such as the 'collapse' package, generally do not provide such protections, and are not blocked by squarebrackets.protected.

aaa5\_squarebrackets\_PassByReference

Regarding Modification By Reference

#### **Description**

This help page describes how modification using "pass-by-reference" semantics is handled by the 'squarebrackets' package.

This help page does not explain all the basics of pass-by-reference semantics, as this is treated as prior knowledge.

All functions/methods in the 'squarebrackets' package with the word "set" in the name use pass-by-reference semantics.

#### **Advantages and Disadvantages**

The main advantage of pass-by-reference is that much less memory is required to modify objects. But it does have several disadvantages.

First, the coercion rules are slightly different: see squarebrackets\_mutable\_classes.

Second, if 2 or more variables refer to exactly the same object, changing one variable also changes the other ones.

I.e. the following code,

```
x <- y <- mutable_atomic(1:16)
sb_set(x, i = 1:6, rp = 8)</pre>
```

modifies not just x, but also y.

This is true even if one of the variables is locked (see bindingIsLocked).

I.e. the following code,

```
x <- mutable_atomic(1:16)
y <- x
lockBinding("y", environment())
sb_set(x, i = 1:6, rp = 8)</pre>
```

modifies both x and y without error, even though y is a locked constant.

## Mutable vs Immutable types

With the exception of environments, most of base R's data types are treated as immutable:

Modifying an object in 'R' will make a copy of the object, something called 'copy-on-modify' semantics.

However, almost any of base R's data types can be modified by reference, through R's own 'C' API, or through 'C++' code (like via 'Rcpp'), thus treating these objects as mutable, even though they are not "supposed" to be mutable.

Modifying a base 'R' object by reference can be problematic.

Since 'R', and also most R-packages, treat these objects as immutable, modifying them as-if they are mutable may produce undesired results.

To prevent the issue described above, 'squarebrackets' only supports pass-by-reference semantics on objects that are actually supposed to be mutable.

In relation to this restriction, 'squarebrackets' adds a new class of objects, mutable\_atomic, which are simply atomic objects that have the permission to be modified by reference.

# **Mutability Rules With Respect To Recursive Objects**

Lists are difficult objects in that they do not contain elements, they simply point to other objects, that one can access via a list.

When a recursive object is of a mutable class, all its subsets are treated as mutable, as long as they are part of the object.

On the other hand, When a recursive object is of an immutable class, than its recursive subsets retain their original mutability.

#### **Example 1: Mutable data.tables**

A data. table is a mutable class.

So all columns of the data. table are treated as mutable;

There is no requirement to, for instance, first change all columns into the class of mutable\_atomic to modify these columns by reference.

# **Example 2: Immutable lists**

A regular list is an immutable class.

So the list itself is immutable, but the recursive subsets of the list retain their mutability.

If you have a list of data. table objects, for example, the data.tables themselves remain mutable.

Therefore, the following pass-by-reference modification will work:

```
x <- list(
  a = data.table(cola = 1:10, colb = letters[1:10]),
  b = data.table(cola = 11:20, colb = letters[11:20]))
mypointer <- x$a
sb_set(mypointer, col = "cola", tf = \(x)x^2)</pre>
```

Notice in the above code that mypointer has the same address as x\$a, and is therefore not a copy of x\$a.

Thus changing mypointer also changes x\$a.

In other words: mypointer is what could be called a "View" of x\$a.

## **Input Variable**

Methods/functions that perform in-place modification by reference can be thought of as similar to functions in the style of some\_function(x, ...) <- value, in the sense that the variable must actually exist as an actual variable.

```
Thus things like any of the following, sb_set(1:10, ...), sb2_set(x$a, ...), or sb_set(base::letters), will not work.
```

## **Lock Binding**

Mutable classes are, as the name suggests, meant to be mutable.

Locking the binding of a mutable object is **mostly** fruitless (but not completely; see the current-Bindings function).

To prevent modification of an object's binding, 2 things must be true:

- the object must be an immutable class.
- the binding must be locked (see lockBinding).

Some packages that provide pass-by-reference semantics tend to ignore the lock of an object's binding.

Use the 'squarebrackets' methods and (of course) core/base 'R' methods, in case the user fears the binding locks will not be respected.

# **Protected Addresses**

To prevent an accidental pass-by-reference modification of objects in the base environment, all addresses of all exported objects in the base environment (baseenv) are stored in the option squarebrackets.protected whenever 'squarebrackets' is **loaded**, either directly or indirectly.

Needless to say, the user should never touch this option.

#### **Protection**

Due to the properties described above in this help page, something like the following will not work:

```
# letters = base::letters
sb_set(letters, i = 1, rp = "XXX")
```

The above won't work because:

- 1. addresses in baseenv() are protected;
- 2. immutable objects are disallowed (you'll have to create a mutable object, which will create a copy of the original, thus keeping the original object safe from modification by reference);
- 3. locked bindings are disallowed.

Despite the checks made by this package, the user should never actively try to modify a **locked** or **protected** object by reference, as that would defeat the purpose of locking an object.

Some packages provide functions that change class-related attributes of objects by reference. Using such functions is discouraged, unless you know exactly what you're doing.

## **Examples**

```
# the following code demonstrates how locked bindings,
# such as `base::letters`,
# are being safe-guarded
x <- list(a = base::letters)</pre>
mypointer <- x$a # view of a list
address(mypointer) == address(base::letters) # TRUE: point to the same memory
bindingIsLocked("letters", baseenv()) # base::letters is locked ...
bindingIsLocked("mypointer", environment()) # ... but this pointer is not!
if(requireNamespace("tinytest")) {
  tinytest::expect_error(
    sb_set(mypointer, i = 1, rp = "XXX") # this still gives an error though ...
  )
}
is.mutable_atomic(mypointer) # ... because it's not of class `mutable_atomic`
x <- list(
 a = as.mutable_atomic(base::letters) # `as.mutable_atomic()` makes a copy
mypointer <- x$a # view of a list</pre>
address(mypointer) == address(base::letters) # FALSE: it's a copy
 mypointer, i = 1, rp = "XXX" # modifies x, does NOT modify `base::letters`
print(x) # x is modified
base::letters # but this still the same
# Word of warning:
# the safe-guard in 'squarebrackets' is good, but definitely not perfect.
# Do not actively try to break things; you might actually succeed.
```

aaa6\_squarebrackets\_inconveniences

Examples Where the Square Bracket Operators Are Less Convenient

#### **Description**

This help page shows some examples where the square bracket operators ( [, [<-) are less than optimally convenient, and how the methods provided by 'squarebrackets' can be helpful in those cases.

## **Arrays**

In order to perform subset operations on some array x with the square brackets operator ([, [<-), one needs to know how many dimensions it has.

I.e. if x has 3 dimensions, one would use:

```
x[i, j, k, drop = FALSE]
x[i, j, k] <- value</pre>
```

But how would one the use the [ and [<- operators, when number of dimensions of x is not known a-priori?

It's not impossible, but still rather convoluted.

The methods provided by 'squarebrackets' do not use position-based arguments, and as such work on any arbitrary dimensions without requiring prior knowledge; see squarebrackets\_indx\_args for details.

When extracting/removing dimensional sub-set from an array, i.e. x[indx1, indx2], dimnames(x) will be preserved (within the range of the subset of course), but names(x) will be dropped completely.

The methods provided by 'squarebrackets' do not completely remove names(x) when extracting/removing subsets.

After all: why bother giving arrays flat names if they'll be stripped anyway?

#### Rule-sets for data.frame-like Objects

The data.frame, tibble, data.table, and tidytable classes all inherit from class "data.frame".

Yet they use different rules regarding the usage of the square bracket operators.

Constantly switching between these rules is annoying, and makes one's code inconsistent.

The methods provided by 'squarebrackets' use the same sub-setting rules for all data.frame inherited classes, thus solving this issue.

The 'squarebrackets' package attempts to keep the data.frame methods as class agnostic as possible, through the class agnostic functionality of the 'collapse' and 'data.table' R-packages.

This attempt to keep data.frame-like classes consistent does, admittedly, result in some oddities in how data.frames are treated by 'squarebrackets', compared to how other classes are treated by 'squarebrackets':

- Whole-columns will be auto-coerced when replaced/transformed by sb\_mod, but partial columns will not be auto-coerced by default.
- The sb\_x and sb\_rm methods always automatically conserve all attributes (though names and dimensions are adjusted accordingly, of course); the attributes are not stripped, unlike the other classes.
- Giving a data.frame-like object with non-unique column names to the sb\_-methods returns an error; duplicating columns with sb x will automatically adjust the column names to make them

#### **Annoying Sub-setting By Names**

unique.

When selecting names for sub-setting, only the first occurrences of the names are selected for the sub-set:

and when un-selecting/removing names for sub-setting, the syntax is very different from selecting names.

The methods provided by 'squarebrackets' uses the same syntax for both selecting and removing sub-sets.

Moreover, selecting/removing sub-sets by names always selects/removes all sub-sets with the given names, not just the first match.

## **Modification Semantics**

'R' adheres to copy-on-modify semantics when replacing values using [<-.

But sometimes one would like explicit control when to create a copy, and when to modify using pass-by-reference semantics.

The 'squarebrackets' package provides the sb\_mod method to return a copy of an object with modified subsets, and the sb\_set method to modify using pass-by-reference semantics.

The idx method can be used in combination with R's own [<- operator for R's default copy-on-modify semantics.

# **Regarding Other Packages**

There are some packages that solve some of these issues.

But using different packages for solving different issues for the same common theme (in this case: solving some inconveniences in the square bracket operators) leads to inconsistent code.

I have not found an R-package that provides a holistic approach to providing alternative methods to the square brackets operators.

Thus, this 'R' package was born.

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Dimensional Binding of Objects

## **Description**

The bind\_ and bind2\_ implementations provide dimensional binding functionalities. bind\_ is for atomic objects, and bind2\_ for recursive objects.

When possible, the bind\_/bind2\_ functions return mutable classes.

The following implementations are available:

- bind\_array() binds atomic arrays and matrices. Returns a mutable\_atomic array.
- bind2\_array() binds recursive arrays and matrices.

  This is a modified version of the fantastic abind::abind function by Tony Plare and Richard Heiberger, such that it can handle recursive arrays (abind::abind would unlist everything to atomic).

Returns dimensional lists.

bind2\_dt() binds data.tables and other data.frame-like objects.
 Returns a data.table.

Faster than do.call(cbind, ...) or do.call(rbind, ...) for regular data.frame objects.

## Usage

```
bind_array(arg.list, along, name_along = TRUE, name_flat = FALSE)
bind2_array(arg.list, along, name_along = TRUE, name_flat = FALSE)
bind2_dt(arg.list, along)
```

#### **Arguments**

arg.list	a list of only the appropriate objects. Do not mix different types of objects.
along	a single integer, indicating the dimension along which to bind the dimensions. I.e. use along = 1 for row-binding, along = 2 for column-binding, etc.
name_along	Boolean, for bind_array() and bind2_array(). Indicates if dimension along should be named. Other dimensions will never be named.
name_flat	Boolean, for bind_array() and bind2_array(). Indicates if flat indices should be named. Note that setting this to TRUE will reduce performance considerably. for performance: set to FALSE

#### Value

The new object.

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#### References

Plate T, Heiberger R (2016). *abind: Combine Multidimensional Arrays*. R package version 1.4-5, https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=abind.

#### **Examples**

```
# atomic arrays ==== x <-matrix(1:12,3,4) y <- x+100 arg.list <- list(x = x, y=y) bind_array(arg.list, along=0) # binds on new dimension before first bind_array(arg.list, along=1) # binds on first dimension bind_array(arg.list, along=2) bind_array(arg.list, along=3) # bind on new dimension after last
```

```
# recursiv arrays ==== x <-matrix(as.list(1:12),3,4) y <- lapply(x, \(x) + 100\) dim(y) <- dim(x) arg.list <- list(x = x, y=y) bind2_array(arg.list, along=0) # binds on new dimension before first bind2_array(arg.list, along=1) # binds on first dimension bind2_array(arg.list, along=2) bind2_array(arg.list, along=3) # bind on new dimension after last
```

#### **Description**

The mutable\_atomic class is a mutable version of atomic classes.

It works exactly the same in all aspects as regular atomic classes, with only one real difference:

The 'squarebrackets' methods and functions that perform modification by reference (basically all methods and functions with "set" in the name) accept mutable\_atomic, but do not accept regular atomic.

 $See\ square brackets\_PassByReference\ for\ details.$ 

Like data.table, [<- performs R's default copy-on-modification semantics. For modification by reference, use sb\_set.

Exposed functions (beside the S3 methods):

- mutable\_atomic(): create a mutable\_atomic object.
- is.mutable\_atomic(): checks if an object is atomic.
- as.mutable\_atomic(): converts a regular atomic object to mutable\_atomic.

• couldb.mutable\_atomic(): checks if an object could be mutable\_atomic. An objects can become mutable\_atomic if it is one of the following types: logical, integer, double, character, complex, raw. bit64::integer64 type is also supported, since it is internally defined as double.

# Usage

```
mutable_atomic(data, names = NULL, dim = NULL, dimnames = NULL)
as.mutable_atomic(x, ...)
is.mutable_atomic(x)

couldb.mutable_atomic(x)

## S3 method for class 'mutable_atomic'
x[...]

## S3 replacement method for class 'mutable_atomic'
x[...] <- value

## S3 method for class 'mutable_atomic'
format(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mutable_atomic'
print(x, ...)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

```
data atomic vector giving data to fill the mutable_atomic object.

names, dim, dimnames
see setNames and array.

x an atomic object.
... method dependent arguments.

value see Extract.
```

# Value

```
For mutable_atomic():
Returns a mutable_atomic object.
```

```
For as.mutable_atomic():
```

Converts an atomic object (vector, matrix, array) to the same object, but with additional class "mutable\_atomic", and the additional attribute "typeof".

```
For is.mutable_atomic():
```

Returns TRUE if the object is atomic, has the class "mutable\_atomic", has the correctly set attribute "typeof", and has an address that does not overlap with the addresses of base objects. is.mutable\_atomic returns FALSE otherwise.

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```
For couldb.mutable_atomic():
Returns TRUE if the object is one of the following types:
logical, integer, double, character, complex, raw.
bit64::integer64 type is also supported, since it is internally defined as double.
Returns FALSE otherwise.
```

#### Warning

Always use mutable\_atomic() or as.mutable\_atomic to create a mutable object, as they make necessary checks.

Circumventing these checks may break things.

## **Examples**

```
x <- mutable_atomic(
   1:20, dim = c(5, 4), dimnames = list(letters[1:5], letters[1:4])
)
x

x <- matrix(1:10, ncol = 2)
x <- as.mutable_atomic(x)
is.mutable_atomic(x)
print(x)
x[, 1]
x[] <- as.double(x) # notifies the user a copy is being made
print(x) # "typeof" attribute adjusted accordingly, and class still present</pre>
```

currentBindings

List or Lock All Currently Existing Bindings Pointing To Same Address

# Description

```
currentBindings(x, action = "list")
```

lists all **currently existing** objects sharing the same **address** as x, in a given environment.

```
currentBindings(x, action = "checklock")
```

searches all **currently existing** objects sharing the same **address** as x, in a given environment, and reports which of these are locked and which are not locked.

```
currentBindings(x, action = "lockbindings")
```

searches all **currently existing** objects sharing the same **address** as x, in a given environment, and locks them using lockBinding.

See also squarebrackets\_PassByReference for information regarding the relation between locked bindings and pass-by-reference modifications.

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#### Usage

```
currentBindings(x, action = "list", env = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

x the existing variable whose address to use when searching for bindings.

action a single string, giving the action to perform.

Must be one of the following:

• "list" (default).

• "checklock".

• "lockbindings".

env the environment where to look for objects.

If NULL (default), the caller environment is used.

## **Details**

The lockBinding function locks a binding of an object, preventing modification.

'R' also uses locked bindings to prevent modification of objects from package namespaces.

The pass-by-reference semantics of 'squarebrackets' in principle respect this, and disallows modification of objects by reference.

However, lockBinding does not lock the address/pointer of an object, only one particular binding of an object.

This problematic; consider the following example:

```
x <- mutable_atomic(1:16)
y <- x
lockBinding("y", environment())
sb_set(x, i = 1:6, rp = 8)</pre>
```

In the above code, x and y share the same address, thus pointing to the same memory, yet only y is actually locked.

Since x is not locked, modifying x is allowed.

But since sb\_set()/sb2\_set() performs modification by reference, y will still be modified, despite being locked.

The currentBindings() function allows to user to: find all **currently existing** bindings in the **caller environment** sharing the same address as x, and locking all these bindings.

#### Value

```
For currentBindings(x, action = "list"):
Returns a character vector.
For currentBindings(x, action = "checklock"):
Returns a named logical vector.
```

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The names give the names of the bindings, and each associated value indicates whether the binding is locked (TRUE) or not locked (FALSE).

```
For currentBindings(x, action = "lockbindings"):
Returns VOID. It just locks the currently existing bindings.
To unlock the bindings, remove the objects (see rm).
```

## Warning

The currentBindings() function only locks currently existing bindings in the caller environment:

bindings that are created **after** calling currentBindings() will not automatically be locked. Thus, every time the user creates a new binding of the same object, and the user wishes it to be locked, currentBindings() must be called again.

## **Examples**

```
x <- as.mutable_atomic(1:10)</pre>
y <- x
lockBinding("y", environment())
currentBindings(x)
currentBindings(x, "checklock") # only y is locked
\# since only y is locked, we can still modify y through x by reference:
sb_set(x, i = 1, rp = -1)
print(y) # modified!
rm(list= c("y")) # clean up
# one can fix this by locking ALL bindings:
y <- x
currentBindings(x, "lockbindings") # lock all
currentBindings(x, "checklock") # all bindings are locked, including y
\# the 'squarebrackets' package respects the lock of a binding,
# provided all bindings of an address are locked;
# so this will give an error, as it should:
if(requireNamespace("tinytest")) {
  tinytest::expect_error(
    sb_set(x, i = 1, rp = -1),
    pattern = "object is locked"
  )
}
# creating a new variable will NOT automatically be locked:
z <- y # new variable; will not be locked!</pre>
{\tt currentBindings(x, "checklock")} \ \# \ z \ {\tt is not locked}
currentBindings(x, "lockbindings") # we must re-run this
currentBindings(x, "checklock") # now z is also locked
```

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```
if(requireNamespace("tinytest")) {
  tinytest::expect_error( # now z is also protected
    sb_set(z, i = 1, rp = -1),
    pattern = "object is locked"
  )
}

rm(list= c("x", "y", "z")) # clean up
```

dt

Functional Forms of data.table Operations

# **Description**

Functional forms of special data.table operations.

These functions do not use Non-Standard Evaluation.

These functions also benefit from the security measures that 'squarebrackets' implements for the pass-by-reference semantics.

- dt\_aggregate() aggregates a data.table or tidytable, and returns the aggregated copy.
- dt\_setcoe() coercively transforms columns of a data.table or tidytable using pass-by-reference semantics.
- dt\_setrm() removes columns of a data.table or tidytable using pass-by-reference semantics.
- dt\_setadd(x, new) adds the columns from data.table/tidytable new to data.table/tidytable x, thereby modifying x using pass-by-reference semantics.
- dt\_setreorder() reorders the rows and/or variables of a data.table using pass-by-reference semantics.

## Usage

```
dt_aggregate(x, SDcols = NULL, f, by, order_by = FALSE)

dt_setcoe(
    x,
    col = NULL,
    vars = NULL,
    v,
    chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)

dt_setrm(
    x,
    col = NULL,
    vars = NULL,
    chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
```

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```
)
dt_setadd(x, new)
dt_setreorder(x, roworder = NULL, varorder = NULL)
```

### **Arguments**

x a data.table or tidytable.

SDcols atomic vector, giving the columns to which the aggregation function f() is to

be applied on.

f the aggregation function

by atomic vector, giving the grouping columns.

order\_by Boolean, indicating if the aggregated result should be ordered by the columns

specified in by.

col, vars see squarebrackets\_indx\_args.

Duplicates are not allowed.

v the coercive transformation function

chkdup see squarebrackets options.

for performance: set to FALSE

new a data.table or tidytable.

It must have column names that do not already exist in x.

roworder a integer vector of the same length as nrow(x), giving the order in which the

rows are to be re-order. Internally, this numeric vector will be turned into an

order using order, thus ensuring it is a strict permutation of 1:nrow(x).

varorder integer or character vector of the same length as ncol(x), giving the new col-

umn order.

See data.table::setcolorder.

## **Details**

dt\_setreorder(x, roworder = roworder) internally creates a new column to reorder the data.table by, and then removes the new column.

The column name is randomized, and extra care is given to ensure it does not overwrite any existing columns.

## Value

For dt\_aggregate():

The aggregated data. table object.

For the rest of the functions:

Returns: VOID. These functions modify the object by reference.

Do not use assignments like  $x \leftarrow dt_setcoe(x, ...)$ .

Since these functions return void, you'll just get NULL.

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#### **Examples**

```
# dt_aggregate on sf-data.table ====
if(requireNamespace("sf")) {
 x <- sf::st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package = "sf"))</pre>
 x <- data.table::as.data.table(x)</pre>
 x$region <- ifelse(x$CNTY_ID <= 2000, 'high', 'low')
 d.aggr <- dt_aggregate(</pre>
   x, SDcols = "geometry", f= sf::st_union, by = "region"
 head(d.aggr)
# dt_setcoe ====
obj <- data.table::data.table(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_set(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
str(obj)
obj <- data.table::data.table(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
dt_setcoe(obj, vars = is.numeric, v = as.numeric) # integers are now numeric
sb2_set(obj,
 filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed; so no warnings
)
str(obj)
# dt_setrm ====
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj)
dt_setrm(obj, col = 1)
str(obj)
obj <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
str(obj)
dt_setrm(obj, vars = is.numeric)
```

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```
str(obj)
```

```
# dt_setadd ====

obj <- data.table::data.table(
    a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10])
)
new <- data.table::data.table(
    e = sample(c(TRUE, FALSE), 10, TRUE),
    f = sample(c(TRUE, FALSE), 10, TRUE)
)
dt_setadd(obj, new)
print(obj)</pre>
```

```
# dt_setreorder====

n <- 1e4
obj <- data.table::data.table(
    a = 1L:n, b = n:1L, c = as.double(1:n), d = as.double(n:1)
)
dt_setreorder(obj, roworder = n:1)
head(obj)
dt_setreorder(obj, varorder = ncol(obj):1)
head(obj)</pre>
```

idx

Convert/Translate Indices (for Copy-On-Modify Substitution)

#### **Description**

The idx() method converts indices.

The type of output depends on the type of input index arguments given:

- idx(x, i = i, ...) converts linear indices to a strictly positive integer vector of linear indices.
- idx(x, idx = idx, dims = dims, ...) converts dimensional indices to a strictly positive integer vector of linear indices.
- idx(x, slice = slice, margin = margin, ...) converts indices of one dimension to a strictly positive integer vector of indices for that specific dimension.

Vectors (both atomic and recursive) only have index argument i.

Data.frame-like objects only have the slice, margin index argument pair.

Arrays (both atomic and recursive) have the idx, dims index argument pair, as well as the arguments i and slice, margin.

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The result of the idx() method can be used inside the regular square-brackets operators. For example like so:

```
x <- array(...)
my_indices <- idx(x, idx, dims)
x[my_indices] <- value

y <- data.frame(...)
rows <- idx(y, 1:10, 1, inv = TRUE)
cols <- idx(y, c("a", "b"), 2)
y[rows, cols] <- value</pre>
```

thus allowing the user to benefit from the convenient index translations from 'squarebrackets', whilst still using R's default copy-on-modification semantics (instead of the deep copy semantics and pass-by-reference semantics provided by 'squarebrackets').

The idx() method is particularly handy for replacing or coercively transforming shallow subsets of recursive objects, without having to return a copy of the entire object.

Thus combining [<- with idx is more efficient than sb2\_mod for recursive objects.

# Usage

```
idx(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
idx(x, i, inv = FALSE, ..., chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE))
## S3 method for class 'array'
idx(
  Х,
  idx = NULL,
  dims = NULL,
  slice = NULL,
  margin = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)
## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
idx(
  х,
  slice,
  margin,
  inv = FALSE,
  . . . ,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
```

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# **Arguments**

```
    vector, matrix, array, or data.frame; both atomic and recursive objects are supported.
    further arguments passed to or from other methods.
    i, idx, dims, margin, slice, inv
    See squarebrackets_indx_args.
    Duplicates are not allowed.
    chkdup
    see squarebrackets_options.
    for performance: set to FALSE
```

#### Value

```
For idx(x, i = i, ...) and idx(x, idx = idx, dims = dims, ...):
A strictly positive integer vector of flat indices.

For idx(x, margin = margin, slice = slice, ...):
A strictly positive integer vector of indices for the dimension specified in margin.
```

#### **Examples**

```
# recursive ====

x <- as.list(1:10)
x[idx(x, \(x)x>5)] <- -5
print(x)

x <- array(as.list(1:27), dim = c(3,3,3))
x[idx(x, n(1:2, 1:2), c(1,3))] <- -10
print(x)

x <- data.frame(
    a = sample(c(TRUE, FALSE, NA), 10, TRUE),
    b = 1:10,
    c = rnorm(10),
    d = letters[1:10],
    e = factor(letters[11:20])</pre>
```

 $idx_by$ 

```
)
rows <- idx(x, 1:5, 1, inv = TRUE)
cols <- idx(x, c("b", "a"), 2)
x[rows, cols] <- NA
print(x)
```

idx\_by

Compute Grouped Indices

# Description

Given:

- a sub-set function f;
- the complete range of indices r of some object x;
- and a grouping factor grp;

the  $idx_by()$  function takes indices f(r) per group grp.

The result of idx\_by() can be supplied to the indexing arguments (see squarebrackets\_indx\_args) to perform **grouped** subset operations.

## Usage

```
idx_by(f, r, grp, parallel = FALSE, mc.cores = 1L)
```

# **Arguments**

f a subset function to be applied per group on r.

The function must accept a character or integer vector as input, and produce a

character or integer vector as output.

For example, to subset the last element per group, specify:

f = last

r an integer or character vector, giving the complete range of indices of an object.

For example: colnames(x), 1:nrow(x), etc.

grp a factor giving the groups. Make sure its order corresponds to i and r, otherwise

it makes no sense.

```
parallel, mc.cores see BY.
```

#### Value

A vector of indices of the same type as r.

 $idx_{ord_{v}}$ 

#### **Examples**

```
# vectors ====
(a <- 1:20)
(grp <- factor(rep(letters[1:5], each = 4)))</pre>
# get the last element of `a` for each group in `grp`:
i <- idx_by(last, seq_along(a), grp)</pre>
sb_x(cbind(a, grp), row = i)
# data.frame ====
x <- data.frame(</pre>
 a = sample(1:20),
 b = letters[1:20],
 group = factor(rep(letters[1:5], each = 4))
print(x)
# get the first row for each group in data.frame `x`:
row <- idx_by(first, 1:nrow(x), x$group)</pre>
sb2_x(x, row)
\# get the first row for each group for which a > 10:
x2 <- sb2_x(x, filter = ~a > 10)
row <- na.omit(idx_by(first, 1:nrow(x2), x2$group))</pre>
sb2_x(x2, row)
```

idx\_ord\_v

Compute Ordered Indices

## **Description**

Computes ordered indices. Similar to order, except the user must supply a vector, a list of equallength vectors, a data.frame or a matrix (row-wise and column-wise are both supported), as the input.

```
For a vector x, idx_ord_v(x) is equivalent to order(x).

For a data.frame or a list of equal-length vectors x, with p columns/elements, idx_ord_df(x) is equivalent to order(x[[1]], ..., x[[p]]).

For a matrix (or array) x with p rows, idx_ord_m(x, margin = 1) is equivalent to order(x[1, ], ..., x[p, ], ...).

For a matrix (or array) x with p columns, idx_ord_m(x, margin = 2) is equivalent to order(x[, 1], ..., x[, p], ...).
```

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Note that these are merely a convenience functions, and that these are actually slightly slower than order (except for idx\_ord\_v()), due to the additional functionality.

# Usage

```
idx_ord_v(
 х,
 na.last = TRUE,
 decr = FALSE,
 method = c("auto", "shell", "radix")
idx_ord_m(
 Х,
 margin,
 na.last = TRUE,
 decr = FALSE,
 method = c("auto", "shell", "radix")
idx_ord_df(
 Х,
 na.last = TRUE,
 decr = FALSE,
 method = c("auto", "shell", "radix")
```

# Arguments

#### Value

See order.

```
x <- sample(1:10)
order(x)
idx_ord_v(x)
idx_ord_m(rbind(x, x), 1)
idx_ord_m(cbind(x, x), 2)
idx_ord_df(data.frame(x, x))</pre>
```

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indx\_x

**Exported Utilities** 

## **Description**

Exported utilities.

Usually the user won't need these functions.

## Usage

```
indx_x(i, x, xnames, xsize)
indx_rm(i, x, xnames, xsize)
```

## **Arguments**

i See squarebrackets\_indx\_args.

x a vector, vector-like object, factor, data.frame, data.frame-like object, or a list.

xnames names or dimension names xsize length or dimension size

#### Value

The subsetted object.

### **Examples**

```
x <- 1:10
names(x) <- letters[1:10]
indx_x(1:5, x, names(x), length(x))
indx_rm(1:5, x, names(x), length(x))</pre>
```

lst

Unnest Tree-like List to Recursive 2d Array or Flattened Recursive Vector

## **Description**

[[, [[<-, sb2\_rec, and sb2\_reccom, can performing recursive subset operation on a nested list. Such recursive subset operations only operate on a single element.

Performing recursive subset operations on multiple elements is not vectorized, and requires a (potentially slow) loop.

The lst\_untree() funtion takes a nested tree-like list, and turns it into a 2d recursive array (i.e. a list-matrix), allowing vectorized subset operations to be performed on the list.

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lst\_untree() can also simply flatten the list, making it a non-nested list. See the Examples section to understand how the list will be arranged and named.

The lst\_nlists() counts the total number of recursive list-elements inside a list.

## Usage

```
lst_nlists(x)
lst_untree(x, margin, use.names = FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

Χ

a tree-like nested list.

margin

a single integer, indicating how the result should be arranged:

- margin = 0 produces a simple flattened recursive vector (i.e. list) without dimensions.
- margin = 1 produces a 2D recursive array (i.e. a matrix of lists), with length(x) rows and n columns, where n = sapply(x, lst\_nlists) |> max().
   Empty elements will be filled with list(NULL).
- margin = 2 pproduces a 2D recursive array (i.e. a matrix of lists), with length(x) columns and n rows, where n = sapply(x, lst\_nlists) |> max().
   Empty elements will be filled with list(NULL).

use.names

Boolean, indicating if the elements returned from lst\_untree() should be named

Names of nested elements, such as x[[c("A", "B", "C")]], will become "A.B.C", as that is the behaviour of the rapply function (which lst\_untree() calls internally).

It is therefore advised not to use dots (".") in your list names, and use underscores ("\_") instead, before calling lst\_untree().

See the rrapply::rrapply function for renaming (and other forms of transforming) recursive subsets of lists.

## Value

For lst\_untree():

A non-nested (dimensional) list.

Note that if margin = 1 or margin = 2, lst\_untree() returns a recursive matrix (i.e. a recursive array with 2 dimensions), **not** a data.frame.

(One advantage of a recursive matrix over a data.frame, is that a recursive matrix can have separate column names and regular names, whereas the names of a data.frame are necessarily equal to the column names).

For lst\_nlists():

A single integer, giving the total number of recursive list-elements in the given list.

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```
# show-casing how the list-elements are arranged and named ====
x <- list(
 A = list(
   A = list(A = "AAA", B = "AAB"),
   A = list(A = "AA2A", B = "AA2B"),
   B = list(A = "ABA", B = "ABB"),
   C = letters
 ),
 Y = list(
   Z = list(Z = "YZZ", Y = "YZY"),
   Y = list(Z = "YYZ", Y = "YYY"),
   X = "YX"
 )
)
# un-tree column-wise:
sapply(x, lst_nlists) \mid > max() \# number of rows `y` will have
y <- lst_untree(x, margin = 2, use.names = TRUE)
dim(y)
print(y)
y[["Y.Z.Y"]] # you can still use names for selecting/replacing
sb2_x(y, n(1:3, 1:2), 1:2) # vectorized selection of multiple recursive elements
# un-tree row-wise:
sapply(x, lst_nlists) \mid > max() \# number of columns `y` will have
y <- lst_untree(x, margin = 1, use.names = TRUE)</pre>
dim(y)
print(y)
y[["Y.Z.Y"]] # you can still use names for selecting/replacing
sb2_x(y, n(1:2, 1:3), 1:2) # vectorized selection of multiple recursive elements
# simple flattened list:
y <- lst_untree(x, margin = 0, use.names = TRUE)</pre>
print(y)
y[["Y.Z.Y"]]
x[[c("Y", "Z", "Y")]] # equivalent in the original list
# showcasing that only list-elements are recursively flattened ====
# i.e. atomic vectors in recursive subsets remain atomic
x \leftarrow lapply(1:10, \x) list(sample(letters), sample(1:10)))
sapply(x, lst_nlists) |> max()
y <- lst_untree(x, margin = 1)</pre>
dim(y)
print(y)
lst_untree(x, margin = 1)
```

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```
# showcasing vectorized sub-setting ====
x <- lapply(1:10, \(x) list(
    list(sample(letters[1:10]), sample(LETTERS[1:10])),
    list(sample(month.abb), sample(month.name)),
    list(sample(1:10), rnorm(10))
))
y <- lst_untree(x, 1)

# getting the first recursive elements in the second level/depth in base R:
for(i in seq_along(x)) {
    x[[c(i, c(1,1))]]
}

# the same, but vectorized using the untree'd list:
y[seq_len(nrow(y)), 1]</pre>
```

match\_all

Match All, Order-Sensitive and Duplicates-Sensitive

# Description

Find all indices of vector haystack that are equal to vector needles, taking into account the order of both vectors, and their duplicate values.

It is essentially a much more efficient version of:

```
lapply(needles, \(i) which(haystack == i))
```

Like lapply(needles,  $\(i)$  which(haystack == i)), NAs are ignored.

Core of the code is based on a suggestion by Sebastian Kranz (author of the 'collapse' package).

## Usage

```
match_all(needles, haystack, unlist = TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

```
needles, haystack
```

vectors

unlist

Boolean, indicating if the result should be a vector (TRUE, default), or a list (FALSE).

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#### Value

An integer vector, or list of integer vector.

If a list, each element of the list corresponds to each value of needles.

When needles and/or haystack is/are empty or fully NA, match\_all() returns an empty integer vector (if unlist = TRUe), or an empty list (if unlist = FALSE).

# **Examples**

```
n <- 200
haystack <- sample(letters, n, TRUE)
needles <- sample(letters, n/2, TRUE)
indices1 <- match_all(needles, haystack)
head(indices1)</pre>
```

ma\_setv

Find and Replace Present Values in mutable\_atomic Objects By Reference

#### **Description**

```
The ma_setv(x, v rp) function performs the equivalent of x[which(x == v)] <- rp but using pass-by-reference semantics.
```

This is faster than using  $sb_set(x, i = which(x == v), rp = rp)$ .

Inspired by collapse::setv, but written in 'C++' through 'Rcpp', with additional safety checks.

# Usage

```
ma_setv(x, v, rp, invert = FALSE, NA.safety = TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

x a mutable\_atomic **variable**.

v non-missing (so no NA or NaN) atomic scalar to find.

rp atomic scalar giving the replacement value.

invert Boolean.

If FALSE (default), the equivalent of x[which(x == v()] <- rp is performed; If TRUE, the equivalent of x[which(x != v)] <- rp is performed instead.

NA. safety Boolean.

just like in which, NA and NaN results in x==v should be ignored, thus NA. safety

is TRUE by default.

However, if it is known that x contains no NAs or NaNs, setting NA. safety to

FALSE will increase performance a bit.

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NOTE: Setting NA. safety = FALSE when x does contain NAs or NaNs, may result in unexpected behaviour.

for performance: set to FALSE

#### Value

Returns: VOID. This function modifies the object by reference.

Do not use assignment like  $x \leftarrow ma_setv(x, ...)$ .

Since this function returns void, you'll just get NULL.

# **Examples**

```
x <- mutable_atomic(c(1:20, NA, NaN))
print(x)
ma_setv(x, 2, 100)
print(x)</pre>
```

n

Nest

# Description

The c() function concatenates vectors or lists into a vector (if possible) or else a list.

In analogy to that function, the n() function **nests** objects into a list (not into an atomic vector, as atomic vectors cannot be nested).

It is a short-hand version of the list function.

This is handy because lists are often needed in 'squarebrackets', especially for arrays.

# Usage

n()

## Value

The list.

```
obj <- array(1:64, c(4,4,3))
print(obj)
sb_x(obj, n(1:3, 1:2), c(1,3))
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, , 1:2, drop = FALSE]</pre>
```

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sb2\_rec

Access, Replace, Transform, Remove, and Extend Recursive Subsets

#### **Description**

The sb2\_rec() and sb2\_reccom() methods are essentially convenient wrappers around [[ and [[<-, respectively.

sb2\_rec() will access recursive subsets of lists.

sb2\_reccom() can do the following things:

- replace or transform recursive subsets of a list, using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics, by specifying the rp or tf argument, respectively.
- remove a recursive subset of a list, using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics, by specifying argument rp = NULL.
- extending a list with additional recursive elements, using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics.

This is done by specifying an out-of-bounds index in argument rec, and entering the new values in argument rp.

Note that adding surface level elements of a dimensional list will remove the dimension attributes of that list.

## Usage

```
sb2_rec(x, rec)
sb2_reccom(x, rec, rp, tf)
```

#### **Arguments**

Х

a list, or list-like object.

rec

an integer (including negative integers) or character vector of length p, such that x[[rec]] is equivalent to x[[rec[1]]]...[[rec[p]]], providing all but the final indexing results in a list.

When on a certain subset level of a nested list, multiple subsets with the same name exist, only the first one will be selected when performing recursive indexing by name, due to the recursive nature of this type of subsetting.

rp optional, and allows for multiple functionalities:

- In the simplest case, performs x[[rec]] <- rp, using R's default semantics. Since this is a replacement of a recursive subset, rp does not necessarily have to be a list itself; rp can be any type of object.
- When specifying rp = NULL, will **remove** (recursive) subset x[[rec]]. To specify actual NULL instead of removing a subset, use list(NULL).

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• When rec is an integer, and specifies an out-of-bounds subset, sb2\_reccom() will add value rp to the list.

Any empty positions in between will be filled with NA.

• When rec is character, and specifies a non-existing name, sb2\_reccom() will add value rp to the list as a new element at the end.

tf

an optional function. If specified, performs  $x[[rec]] \leftarrow tf(x[[rec]])$ , using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics.

Does not support extending a list like argument rp.

#### **Details**

Since recursive objects are pointers to objects, extending a list or removing an element of a list does not copy the entire list, in contrast to atomic vectors.

#### Value

```
For sb2_rec():
```

Returns the recursive subset.

```
For sb2\_reccom(..., rp = rp):
```

Returns VOID, but replaces, adds, or removes the specified recursive subset, using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics.

```
For sb2\_reccom(..., tf = tf):
```

Returns VOID, but transforms the specified recursive subset, using R's default Copy-On-Modify semantics.

#### **Examples**

```
lst <- list(
    A = list(
    A = list(A = "AAA", B = "AAB"),
    A = list(A = "AA2A", B = "AA2B"),
    B = list(A = "ABA", B = "ABB")
),
    B = list(
    A = list(A = "BAA", B = "BAB"),
    B = list(A = "BBA", B = "BBB")
)
)</pre>
```

```
# access recursive subsets ====

sb2_rec(lst, c(1,2,2)) # this gives "AA2B"
sb2_rec(lst, c("A", "B", "B")) # this gives "ABB"
sb2_rec(lst, c(2,2,1)) # this gives "BBA"
sb2_rec(lst, c("B", "B", "A")) # this gives "BBA"
```

```
# replace recursive subset with R's default in-place semantics ====
# replace "AAB" using R's default in-place semantics:
sb2_reccom(
 lst, c("A", "A", "B"),
 rp = "THIS IS REPLACED WITH IN-PLACE SEMANTICS"
print(lst)
# replace shallow subsets with R's default in-place semantics ====
for(i in c("A", "B")) sb2_reccom(lst, i, rp = "AND THEN THERE WERE NONE")
print(lst)
# Modify View of List By Reference ====
x <- list(
a = data.table::data.table(cola = 1:10, colb = letters[1:10]),
b = data.table::data.table(cola = 11:20, colb = letters[11:20])
)
print(x)
mypointer <- sb2_rec(x, "a")</pre>
address(mypointer) == address(x$a) # they are the same
sb2\_set(mypointer, col = "cola", tf = \(x)x^2)
print(x) # notice x has been changed
```

sb\_mod

Method to Return a Copy of an Object With Modified Subsets

# Description

```
This is an S3 Method to return a copy of an object with modified subsets. Use sb_{mod}(x, ...) if x is a non-recursive object (i.e. atomic or factor). Use sb_{mod}(x, ...) if x is a recursive object (i.e. list or data.frame-like).
```

For modifying subsets using R's default copy-on-modification semantics, see idx.

# Usage

```
sb_mod(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb_mod(
  х,
  i,
  inv = FALSE,
  ...,
  rp,
 tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'matrix'
sb_mod(
  х,
  row = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  rp,
  tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb_mod(
  х,
  idx = NULL,
  dims = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  rp,
  tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'factor'
sb_mod(
  Х,
 i = NULL,
  1v1 = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  rp,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
sb2\_mod(x, ...)
```

```
## Default S3 method:
    sb2_mod(
      х,
      i,
      inv = FALSE,
      ...,
      rp,
      tf,
      chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE),
      .lapply = lapply
   ## S3 method for class 'array'
    sb2_mod(
      х,
      idx = NULL,
     dims = NULL,
      i = NULL,
      inv = FALSE,
      . . . ,
      rp,
      tf,
      chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE),
      .lapply = lapply
   )
   ## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
    sb2_mod(
      Х,
      row = NULL,
      col = NULL,
      filter = NULL,
      vars = NULL,
      inv = FALSE,
      coe = FALSE,
      . . . ,
      rp,
      chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE),
      .lapply = lapply
    )
Arguments
                    see squarebrackets_immutable_classes and squarebrackets_mutable_classes.
    Х
                    further arguments passed to or from other methods.
    i, lvl, row, col, idx, dims, filter, vars, inv
                    See squarebrackets_indx_args.
```

rp an object of somewhat the same type as the selected subset of x, and the same

An empty index selection returns the original object unchanged.

same length as the selected subset of x or a length of 1.

To remove recursive subsets of recursive objects, see either sb2 rec or sb2 rm.

tf the transformation function.
chkdup see squarebrackets\_options.

for performance: set to FALSE

.lapply the generic methods use lapply for list- and data.frame-like objects to compute

tf() on every list element or dataset column.

The user may supply a custom lapply()-like function in this argument to use

instead.

 $For example, the perform parallel transformation, the user may supply \verb|future.apply|: future_lapply| apply | future_lapply| | future_lapply$ 

The supplied function must use the exact same argument convention as lapply,

otherwise errors or unexpected behaviour may occur.

coe Either FALSE (default), TRUE, or a function.

The argument coe is ignored if both the row and filter arguments are set to

NULL.

See Details section for more info. for performance: set to FALSE

#### **Details**

## **Transform or Replace**

Specifying argument tf will transform the subset.

Specifying rp will replace the subset.

One cannot specify both tf and rp. It's either one set or the other.

Note that the tf argument is not available for factors: this is intentional.

#### Argument coe

For data.frame-like objects, sb\_mod() can only auto-coerce whole columns, not subsets of columns. So it does not automatically coerce column types when row or filter is also specified.

The coe arguments provides 2 ways to circumvent this:

1. The user can supply a coercion function to argument coe.

The function is applied on the entirety of every column specified in col or vars; columns outside this subset are not affected.

This coercion function is, of course, applied before replacement (rp) or transformation (tf()).

2. The user can set coe = TRUE.

In this case, the whole columns specified in col or vars are extracted and copied to a list. Subsets of each list element, corresponding to the selected rows, are modified with rp or tf(), using R's regular auto-coercion rules.

The modified list is then returned to the data.frame-like object, replacing the original columns.

Note that coercion required additional memory.

The larger the data.frame-like object, the larger the memory.

The default, coe = FALSE, uses the least amount of memory.

#### Value

A copy of the object with replaced/transformed values.

```
# atomic objects ====
obj \leftarrow matrix(1:16, ncol = 4)
colnames(obj) <- c("a", "b", "c", "a")</pre>
print(obj)
rp <- -1:-9
sb_mod(obj, 1:3, 1:3, rp = rp)
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, 1:3] \leftarrow -1:-9; obj
sb_{mod}(obj, i = (x)x \le 5, rp = -1:-5)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj <= 5] <- -1:-5; obj</pre>
sb_{mod}(obj, col = "a", rp = -1:-8)
# above is equivalent to obj[, which(colnames(obj) %in% "a")] <- -1:-8; obj</pre>
sb_{mod}(obj, 1:3, 1:3, tf = (x) -x)
\# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, 1:3] <- (-1 * obj[1:3, 1:3]); obj
sb_mod(obj, i = \(x)x \le 5, tf = \(x) -x)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj \le 5] \le (-1 * obj[obj \le 5]); obj
obj \leftarrow matrix(1:16, ncol = 4)
colnames(obj) <- c("a", "b", "c", "a")</pre>
print(obj)
sb_{mod}(obj, 1:3, 1:3, tf = (x) -x)
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, 1:3] \leftarrow -1 * obj[1:3, 1:3]
sb_mod(obj, i = \(x)x \le 5, tf = \(x) -x)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj <= 5] <- -1:-5; obj</pre>
sb_{mod}(obj, col = "a", tf = \(x) -x)
# above is equivalent to obj[, which(colnames(obj) %in% "a")] <- -1:-8; obj</pre>
obj <- array(1:64, c(4,4,3))
print(obj)
sb_{mod}(obj, list(1:3, 1:2), c(1,3), rp = -1:-24)
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, , 1:2] <- -1:-24
sb_{mod}(obj, i = (x)x \le 5, rp = -1:-5)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj <= 5] <- -1:-5</pre>
# lists ====
obj <- list(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:11], c = 11:20)
print(obj)
sb2_mod(obj, "a", rp = list(1L))
# above is equivalent to obj[["a"]] <- 1L; obj</pre>
sb2_{mod}(obj, is.numeric, rp = list(-1:-10, -11:-20))
# above is equivalent to obj[which(sapply(obj, is.numeric))] <- list(-1:-10, -11:-20); obj</pre>
# recursive arrays / dimensional lists ====
obj \leftarrow c(as.list(1:10), as.list(letters[1:10])) |> array(dim = c(5, 4)) |> t()
print(obj)
sb2_mod(obj, list(1:3), 1, rp = list(FALSE))
```

```
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, ] <- list(FALSE)</pre>
# data.frame-like objects - whole columns ====
obj <- data.frame(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_mod(
 obj, vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: row=NULL & filter = NULL, so coercion performed
# data.frame-like objects - partial columns ====
obj <- data.frame(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
sb2_mod(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 coe = as.double, tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed
sb2_mod(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 coe = TRUE, tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed
```

sb\_rm

Method to Un-Select/Remove Subsets of an Object

## **Description**

```
This is an S3 Method to un-select/remove subsets from an object. Use sb_rm(x, ...) if x is a non-recursive object (i.e. atomic or factor). Use sb_rm(x, ...) if x is a recursive object (i.e. list or data.frame-like).
```

# Usage

```
sb_rm(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
```

```
sb_rm(x, i, ..., chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE))
## S3 method for class 'matrix'
sb_rm(
  х,
  row = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb_rm(
  Х,
  idx = NULL,
  dims = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'factor'
sb_rm(
 Х,
 i = NULL,
 lvl = NULL,
  drop = FALSE,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
sb2_rm(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb2_rm(
  Х,
  i,
  drop = FALSE,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb2_rm(
  х,
  idx = NULL,
  dims = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  drop = FALSE,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
sb2_rm(
    x,
    row = NULL,
    col = NULL,
    filter = NULL,
    vars = NULL,
    ...,
    chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x see squarebrackets_immutable_classes and squarebrackets_mutable_classes.
```

... further arguments passed to or from other methods.

```
i, lvl, row, col, idx, dims, filter, vars
```

See squarebrackets\_indx\_args.

An empty index selection results in nothing being removed, and the entire object is returned.

chkdup

see squarebrackets\_options. for performance: set to FALSE

drop

Boolean.

- For factors: If drop = TRUE, unused levels are dropped, if drop = FALSE they are not dropped.
- For lists: if drop = TRUE, selecting a single element will give the simplified result, like using [[]]. If drop = FALSE, a list is always returned regardless of the number of elements.

## Value

A copy of the sub-setted object.

```
# atomic objects ====

obj <- matrix(1:16, ncol = 4)
colnames(obj) <- c("a", "b", "c", "a")
print(obj)
sb_rm(obj, 1:3, 1:3)
# above is equivalent to obj[-1:-3, -1:-3, drop = FALSE]
sb_rm(obj, i = \(\chix)\x>5\)
# above is equivalent to obj[!obj > 5]
sb_rm(obj, col = "a")
# above is equivalent to obj[, which(!colnames(obj) %in% "a")]

obj <- array(1:64, c(4,4,3))
print(obj)
sb_rm(obj, n(1, c(1, 3)), c(1, 3))</pre>
```

```
# above is equivalent to obj[-1, c(-1, -3), drop = FALSE]
sb_rm(obj, i = (x)x>5)
# above is equivalent to obj[!obj > 5]
# factors ====
obj <- factor(rep(letters[1:5], 2))</pre>
sb_rm(obj, lvl = "a")
# above is equivalent to obj[which(!obj %in% "a")]
# lists ====
obj <- list(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:11], c = 11:20)
print(obj)
sb2_rm(obj, "a")
# above is equivalent to obj[which(!names(obj) %in% "a")]
sb2_rm(obj, 1) # obj[-1]
sb2_rm(obj, 1:2)
# above is equivalent to obj[seq_len(length(obj))[-1:-2]]
sb2_rm(obj, is.numeric, drop = TRUE)
# above is equivalent to obj[[!sapply(obj, is.numeric)]] IF this returns a single element
obj <- list(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:11], c = letters)
sb2_rm(obj, is.numeric)
# above is equivalent to obj[!sapply(obj, is.numeric)] # this time singular brackets?
# for recusive indexing, see sb2_rec()
# recursive arrays / dimensional lists ====
obj \leftarrow c(as.list(1:10), as.list(letters[1:10])) |> array(dim = c(5, 4)) |> t()
print(obj)
sb2_rm(obj, list(1:3), 1)
# above is equivalent to obj[-1:-3, ]
# data.frame-like objects ====
obj <- data.frame(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
print(obj)
sb2_rm(obj, 1:3, 1:3)
# above is equivalent to obj[-1:-3, -1:-3, drop = FALSE]
sb2_rm(obj, filter = ~ (a > 5) & (c < 19), vars = is.numeric)
```

 $sb\_set$ 

Method to Modify Subsets of a Mutable Object By Reference

# Description

This is an S3 Method to replace or transform a subset of a supported mutable object using pass-by-reference semantics

```
Use sb\_set(x, ...) if x is a non-recursive object (i.e. mutable_atomic). Use sb2\_set(x, ...) if x is a recursive object (i.e. data.table).
```

# Usage

```
sb_set(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb_set(
  Х,
  i,
  inv = FALSE,
  . . . ,
  rp,
  tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
)
## S3 method for class 'matrix'
sb_set(
  Х,
  row = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  . . . ,
  rp,
  tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb_set(
  х,
  idx = NULL,
  dims = NULL,
  i = NULL,
  inv = FALSE,
  . . . ,
  rp,
  tf,
  chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE)
```

```
)
    sb2_set(x, ...)
    ## Default S3 method:
    sb2_set(x, ...)
    ## S3 method for class 'data.table'
    sb2_set(
      Χ,
      row = NULL,
      col = NULL,
      filter = NULL,
      vars = NULL,
      inv = FALSE,
      . . . ,
      rp,
      tf,
      chkdup = getOption("squarebrackets.chkdup", FALSE),
      .lapply = lapply
Arguments
                      a variable belonging to one of the supported mutable classes.
    Χ
                      further arguments passed to or from other methods.
    i, row, col, idx, dims, filter, vars, inv
                      See squarebrackets_indx_args.
                      An empty index selection leaves the original object unchanged.
                      an object of somewhat the same type as the selected subset of x, and the same
    rp
                      same length as the selected subset of x or a length of 1.
                      To remove recursive subsets of recursive objects, see either sb2_rec or sb2_rm.
    tf
                      the transformation function.
    chkdup
                      see squarebrackets_options.
                      for performance: set to FALSE
    .lapply
                      the generic methods use lapply for list- and data.frame-like objects to compute
                      tf() on every list element or dataset column.
                      The user may supply a custom lapply()-like function in this argument to use
                      For example, the perform parallel transformation, the user may supply future.apply::future_lapply
                      The supplied function must use the exact same argument convention as lapply,
```

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## **Details**

sb\_set

## Transform or Replace

Specifying argument tf will transform the subset. Specifying rp will replace the subset. One cannot specify both tf and rp. It's either one set or the other.

otherwise errors or unexpected behaviour may occur.

Note that there is no sb\_set() method for factors: this is intentional.

#### Value

Returns: VOID. This method modifies the object by reference. Do not use assignments like  $x <- sb_set(x, ...)$ . Since this function returns void, you'll just get NULL.

```
# mutable_atomic objects ====
gen_mat <- function() {</pre>
  obj <- as.mutable_atomic(matrix(1:16, ncol = 4))</pre>
  colnames(obj) <- c("a", "b", "c", "a")</pre>
  return(obj)
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
sb_set(obj, 1:3, 1:3, rp = -1:-9)
obj2
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
obj
sb_set(obj, i = (x)x \le 5, rp = -1:-5)
obj2
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
sb_set(obj, col = "a", rp = cbind(-1:-4, -5:-8))
obj2
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
obj
sb_set(obj, 1:3, 1:3, tf = \(x) -x)
obj2
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
obj
sb_set(obj, i = \(x)x \le 5, tf = \(x) -x)
obj2
obj <- obj2 <- gen_mat()</pre>
obj
sb_set(obj, col = "a", tf = \(x) -x)
gen_array <- function() {</pre>
 as.mutable_atomic(array(1:64, c(4,4,3)))
}
obj <- gen_array()</pre>
sb_set(obj, list(1:3, 1:2, c(1, 3)), 1:3, rp = -1:-12)
```

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```
obj
obj <- gen_array()</pre>
obj
sb_set(obj, i = \(x)x \le 5, rp = -1:-5)
# data.table ====
obj <- data.table::data.table(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_set(
 obj, filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # WARNING: sqrt() results in `dbl`, but columns are `int`, so decimals lost
print(obj)
obj <- data.table::data.table(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
dt_setcoe(obj, vars = is.numeric, v = as.numeric)
str(obj)
sb2_set(obj,
 filter = \sim (a >= 2) & (c <= 17), vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: coercion performed by dt_setcoe(); so no warnings
print(obj)
obj <- data.table::data.table(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = 11:20, d = factor(letters[1:10]))
str(obj) # notice that columns "a" and "c" are INTEGER (`int`)
sb2_set(
 obj, vars = is.numeric,
 tf = sqrt # SAFE: row=NULL & filter = NULL, so coercion performed
str(obj)
```

sb\_setRename

Method to Change the Names of a Mutable Object By Reference

# Description

This is an S3 Method to rename a supported mutable object using pass-by-reference semantics.

This method takes extra care not to modify any objects that happen to share the same address as the (dim)names of x.

I.e. the following code:

```
x <- mutable_atomic(1:26)
names(x) <- base::letters
y <- x
sb_setRename(x, newnames = rev(names(x)))</pre>
```

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```
will not modify base::letters, even though names(x) shared the same address. Thus, sb\_setRename() can be used safely without fearing such accidents.
```

```
Use sb\_setRename(x, ...) if x is a non-recursive object (i.e. mutable\_atomic). Use sb2\_setRename(x, ...) if x is a recursive object (i.e. data.table).
```

## Usage

```
sb_setRename(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb_setRename(x, newnames, ...)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb_setRename(x, newdimnames, newnames, ...)
sb2_setRename(x, ...)
## S3 method for class 'data.table'
sb2_setRename(x, old, new, skip_absent = FALSE, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x a **variable** belonging to one of the supported mutable classes.

... further arguments passed to or from other methods.

newnames atomic character vector giving the new names.

Specifying NULL will remove the names.

newdimnames a list of the same length as dim(x).

The first element of the list corresponds to the first dimension (i.e. rows), the

second element to the second dimension (i.e. columns), and so on.

The components of the list can be either NULL, or a character vector with the

same length as the corresponding dimension.

Instead of a list, simply NULL can be specified, which will remove the dimnames

completely.

old the old column names

new the new column names, in the same order as old

skip\_absent Skip items in old that are missing (i.e. absent) in names(x).

Default FALSE halts with error if any are missing.

#### Value

Returns: VOID. This method modifies the object by reference. Do not use assignment like names(x) <- sb\_setRename(x, ...). Since this function returns void, you'll just get NULL.

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#### **Examples**

```
# mutable atomic vector ====
x <- y <- mutable_atomic(1:10, names = letters[1:10])</pre>
sb_setRename(x, rev(letters[1:10]))
print(x)
# mutable atomic matrix ====
x <- mutable_atomic(</pre>
 1:20, dim = c(5, 4), dimnames = n(letters[1:5], letters[1:4])
)
print(x)
sb_setRename(
 lapply(dimnames(x), rev)
print(x)
x <- mutable_atomic(</pre>
  1:20, letters[1:20], \dim = c(5, 4), \dim = n(letters[1:5], letters[1:4])
)
print(x)
sb_setRename(
 х,
 newdimnames = lapply(dimnames(x), rev),
 newnames = rev(names(x))
print(x)
# data.table ====
x <- data.table::data.table(</pre>
 a = 1:20,
 b = letters[1:20]
print(x)
sb2\_setRename(x, old = names(x), new = rev(names(x)))
print(x)
```

sb\_special

Specialized Sub-setting Functions

## **Description**

The sb\_a() function subsets extracts one or more attributes from an object.

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The sb\_str() function subsets characters of single string, or replace a subset of the characters of a single string with the subsets of the characters of another string. In both cases, a single string is treated as a iterable vector, where each single character in a string is a single element. The sb\_str() function is considerably faster than doing the equivalent operation in base 'R' or even 'stringi'.

#### Usage

```
sb_str(str, ind, rp.str, rp.ind)
sb_a(x, a = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

str a single string. ind an integer vector, giving the positions of the string to subset. similar to str and ind, respectively. rp.str, rp.ind If not specified, sb\_str() will perform something like str[ind] treating str as an iterable vector. If these ARE specified, sb\_str() will perform something like str[ind] <- rp.str[rp.ind]</pre> treating str and rp.str as iterable vectors. an object Χ a character vector of attribute names. If NULL (default), ALL attributes are reа turned.

#### Value

The sub-setted object.

```
x <- matrix(1:10, ncol = 2)
colnames(x) <- c("a", "b")
attr(x, "test") <- "test"
sb_a(x, "test")
sb_a(x)

x <- "hello"
sb_str(x, 5:1) # this gives "olleh"
sb_str(x, c(1:5, 5)) # this gives "helloo"
sb_str(x, c(2:5)) # this gives "ello"
sb_str(x, seq(1, 5, by = 2)) # this gives "hlo"
sb_str(x, 1:4, "world", 1:4) # this gives "worlo"</pre>
```

 $sb_x$ 

sb\_x

Method to Extract, Exchange, or Duplicate Subsets of an Object

## **Description**

```
This is an S3 Method to extract, exchange, or duplicate (i.e. repeat x times) subsets of an object. Use sb_x(x, ...) if x is a non-recursive object (i.e. atomic or factor). Use sb_x(x, ...) if x is a recursive object (i.e. list or data.frame-like).
```

#### Usage

```
sb_x(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb_x(x, i, ...)
## S3 method for class 'matrix'
sb_x(x, row = NULL, col = NULL, i = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb_x(x, idx = NULL, dims = NULL, i = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'factor'
sb_x(x, i = NULL, lvl = NULL, drop = FALSE, ...)
sb2_x(x, ...)
## Default S3 method:
sb2_x(x, i, drop = FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'array'
sb2_x(x, idx = NULL, dims = NULL, i = NULL, drop = FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
sb2_x(x, row = NULL, col = NULL, filter = NULL, vars = NULL, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x see squarebrackets_immutable_classes and squarebrackets_mutable_classes.
... further arguments passed to or from other methods.
i, lvl, row, col, idx, dims, filter, vars
See squarebrackets_indx_args.
Duplicates are allowed, resulting in duplicated indices.
An empty index selection results in an empty object of length 0.
```

drop Boolean.

• For factors: If drop = TRUE, unused levels are dropped, if drop = FALSE they are not dropped.

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• For lists: if drop = TRUE, and sub-setting is done using argument i, selecting a single element will give the simplified result, like using [[]]. If drop = FALSE, a list is always returned regardless of the number of elements.

#### Value

Returns a copy of the sub-setted object.

```
# atomic objects ====
obj \leftarrow matrix(1:16, ncol = 4)
colnames(obj) <- c("a", "b", "c", "a")</pre>
print(obj)
sb_x(obj, 1:3, 1:3)
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, 1:3, drop = FALSE]
sb_x(obj, i = (x)x>5)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj > 5]
sb_x(obj, col = c("a", "a"))
# above is equivalent to obj[, lapply(c("a", "a"), (i) which(colnames(obj) == i)) |> unlist()]
obj \leftarrow array(1:64, c(4,4,3))
print(obj)
sb_x(obj, n(1:3, 1:2), c(1,3))
# above is equivalent to obj[1:3, , 1:2, drop = FALSE]
sb_x(obj, i = (x)x>5)
# above is equivalent to obj[obj > 5]
# factors ====
obj <- factor(rep(letters[1:5], 2))</pre>
sb_x(obj, lvl = c("a", "a"))
\# above is equivalent to obj[lapply(c("a", "a"), \(i) which(obj == i)) |> unlist()]
# lists ====
obj <- list(a = 1:10, b = letters[1:11], c = 11:20)
print(obj)
sb2_x(obj, 1) # obj[1]
sb2_x(obj, 1, drop = TRUE) # obj[[1]]
sb2_x(obj, 1:2) # obj[1:2]
sb2_x(obj, is.numeric) # obj[sapply(obj, is.numeric)]
# for recursive indexing, see sb2_rec()
# recursive arrays / dimensional lists ====
```

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seq\_names

Generate Integer Sequence From a Range of Names

## **Description**

Generate integer sequence from a range of names.

#### Usage

```
seq_names(names, start, end, inv = FALSE)
```

# Arguments

names	a character vector of names.  Duplicate names, empty names, or a character vector of length zero are not allowed.
start	the name giving the starting index of the sequence
end	the name giving the ending index of the sequence
inv	Boolean. If TRUE, the indices of all names <b>except</b> the names of the specified sequence will be given.

## Value

An integer vector.

```
x <- data.frame(
    a = 1:10, b = letters[1:10], c = factor(letters[1:10]), d = -1:-10
)
ind <- seq_names(colnames(x), "b", "d")
sb2_x(x, col = ind)</pre>
```

seq\_rec2

seq_rec2	Generate Recursive Sequence Through Repeated Arithmetic Infix Op-
	erations

# Description

This is a recursive sequence generator.

The function is essentially a highly generalized version of a Fibonacci sequence generator.

Starting with 2 initial values, each next value i is generated by either one of 2 formulas:

```
1. x[i] = (s[1] + m[1] * x[i-1]) %inop% (s[2] + m[2] * x[i-2])
2. x[i] = (m[1] * (x[i-1] + s[1])) %inop% (m[2] * (x[i-2] + s[2]))
```

where %inop% is the arithmetic infix operator chosen, and m and s are each a numeric vector of length 2. The order of x[i-1] and x[i-2] can also be swapped.

# Usage

```
seq_rec2(
   inits = c(0L, 1L),
   n = 10L,
   s = c(0L, 0L),
   m = c(1L, 1L),
   inop = "+",
   form = 1L,
   rev = FALSE
)
```

# Arguments

inits	a numeric (double or integer) vector of length 2, giving the initial values. Any numbers are allowed, even negative and/or fractional numbers. Note that numbers given must give valid results when passed to function f().
n	a single integer, giving the size of the numeric vector to generate. NOTE: it must hold that $n > 2$ .
s, m	numeric vectors of length 2 to be used in the formula.
inop	a single string, giving the arithmetic infix operator to be used.  Currently supported: "+", "-", "*", "/".  For a fibonacci sequence, inop = "+".
form	either 1 or 2, indicating which formula to be used (see Description section above).
rev	reverse the order of $x[i-1]$ and $x[-2]$ . For example, using form = 1:
	<ul> <li>If rev = FALSE (default), it holds:</li> <li>x[i] = (s[1] + m[1] * x[i-1]) %inop% (s[2] + m[2] * x[i-2]).</li> </ul>

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```
• If rev = TRUE, it holds:

x[i] = (s[1] + m[1] * x[i-2]) %inop% (s[2] + m[2] * x[i-1])
```

#### **Details**

The default values of the arguments give the first 10 numbers of a regular Fibonacci sequence. See examples for several number series created with this function.

This function is written in C++ using Rcpp for better performance.

#### Value

A sequence of numbers.

#### Note

Do not supply NAs or NaNs to this function, as it cannot handle them.

## **Examples**

```
\begin{split} &\text{seq\_rec2}() \text{ \# by default gives Fibonacci numbers} \\ &\text{seq\_rec2}(\text{inits} = 2:1) \text{ \# Lucas numbers} \\ &\text{c(1, seq\_rec2}(\text{c(1, 2), inop} = "*")) \text{ \# Multiplicative Fibonacci} \\ &\text{seq\_rec2}(\text{m} = \text{c(2L, 1L)}) \text{ \# Pell numbers} \\ &\text{seq\_rec2}(\text{inits} = \text{c(1, 0), m} = \text{c(0L, 2L)}) \text{ \# see https://oeis.org/A077957} \\ &\text{seq\_rec2}(\text{m} = \text{c(1L, 2L)}) \text{ \# Jacobsthal numbers} \end{split}
```

setapply

Apply Functions Over mutable\_atomic Matrix Margins By Reference

## **Description**

The setapply() function applies a functions over the rows or columns of a mutable\_atomic matrix, through pass-by-reference semantics.

For every iteration, a copy of only a single row or column (depending on the margin) is made, the function is applied on the copy, and the original row/column is replaced by the modified copy through pass-by-reference semantics.

The setapply() is a bit faster and uses less memory than apply.

## Usage

```
setapply(x, MARGIN, FUN)
```

## **Arguments**

x a mutable\_atomic matrix. Arrays are not supported.

MARGIN a single integer scalar, giving the subscript to apply the function over.

1 indicates rows, 2 indicates columns.

FUN the function to be applied.

The function must return a vector of the same type of x, and the appropriate length (i.e. length ncol(x) when MARGIN == 1 or length nrow(x) when MARGIN

== 2).

#### Value

Returns: VOID. This function modifies the object by reference. Do NOT use assignment like x <- setapply(x, ...). Since this function returns void, you'll just get NULL.

## **Examples**

```
# re-order elements matrix by reference ====
x <- mutable_atomic(1:20, dim = c(5,4))
print(x)
setapply(x, 1, FUN = \(x)x[c(4,1,3,2)])
print(x)

# sort elements of matrix by reference ====
x <- mutable_atomic(20:1, dim = c(5,4))
print(x)
setapply(x, 2, FUN = sort)
print(x)</pre>
```

sub2ind

Convert Subscripts to Coordinates, Coordinates to Flat Indices, and Vice-Versa

# Description

These functions convert a list of integer subscripts to an integer matrix of coordinates, an integer matrix of coordinates to an integer vector of flat indices, and vice-versa. Inspired by the sub2ind function from 'MatLab'.

• sub2coord() converts a list of integer subscripts to an integer matrix of coordinates.

• coord2ind() converts an integer matrix of coordinates to an integer vector of flat indices.

- ind2coord() converts an integer vector of flat indices to an integer matrix of coordinates.
- coord2sub() converts an integer matrix of coordinates to a list of integer subscripts; it performs a very simple (one might even say naive) conversion.
- sub2ind() is a faster and more memory efficient version of coord2ind(sub2coord(sub, x.dims), x.dims) (especially for up to 5 dimensions).

All of these functions are written to be memory-efficient.

The coord2ind() is thus the opposite of arrayInd, and ind2coord is merely a convenient wrapper around arrayInd.

Note that the equivalent to the sub2ind function from 'MatLab' is actually the coord2ind() function here.

# Usage

```
sub2coord(sub, x.dim)
coord2sub(coord)
coord2ind(coord, x.dim, checks = TRUE)
ind2coord(ind, x.dim)
sub2ind(sub, x.dim, checks = TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

sub a list of integer subscripts.

The first element of the list corresponds to the first dimension (rows), the second

element to the second dimensions (columns), etc. The length of sub must be equal to the length of x.dim.

One cannot give an empty subscript; instead fill in something like seq\_len(dim(x)[margin]).

NOTE: The coord2sub() function does not support duplicate subscripts.

x.dim an integer vector giving the dimensions of the array in question. I.e. dim(x).

coord an integer matrix, giving the coordinate indices (subscripts) to convert.

Each row is an index, and each column is the dimension.

The first columns corresponds to the first dimension, the second column to the

second dimensions, etc.

The number of columns of coord must be equal to the length of x.dim.

checks Boolean, indicating if arguments checks should be performed.

Defaults to TRUE.

Can be set to FALSE for minor speed improvements.

for performance: set to FALSE

ind an integer vector, giving the flat position indices to convert.

#### **Details**

The S3 classes in 'R' use the standard Linear Algebraic convention, as in academic fields like Mathematics and Statistics, in the following sense:

- vectors are **column** vectors (i.e. vertically aligned vectors);
- index counting starts at 1;
- rows are the first dimension/subscript, columns are the second dimension/subscript, etc.

Thus, the orientation of flat indices in, for example, a 4 by 4 matrix, is as follows:

```
[,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
            5
                9
[1,]
       1
                     13
[2,]
        2
                10
                     14
[3,]
        3
             7
                 11
                      15
[4,]
        4
             8
                12
                      16
```

The subscript [1,2] refers to the first row and the second column. In a 4 by 4 matrix, subscript [1,2] corresponds to flat index 5.

The functions described here thus follow also this convention.

#### Value

```
For sub2coord() and ind2coord():
```

Returns an integer matrix of coordinates (with properties as described in argument coord).

```
For coord2ind():
```

Returns an integer vector of flat indices (with properties as described in argument ind).

```
For coord2sub():
```

Returns a list of integer subscripts (with properties as described in argument sub)

#### Note

These functions were not specifically designed for duplicate indices per-sé.

For efficiency, they do not check for duplicate indices either.

```
x.dim <- c(10, 10, 3)
x.len <- prod(x.dim)
x <- array(1:x.len, x.dim)
sub <- list(c(4, 3), c(3, 2), c(2, 3))
coord <- sub2coord(sub, x.dim)
print(coord)
ind <- coord2ind(coord, x.dim)
print(ind)
all(x[ind] == c(x[c(4, 3), c(3, 2), c(2, 3)])) # TRUE</pre>
```

```
coord2 <- ind2coord(ind, x.dim)
print(coord)
all(coord == coord2) # TRUE
sub2 <- coord2sub(coord2)
sapply(1:3, \(i) sub2[[i]] == sub[[i]]) |> all() # TRUE
```

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