

# Package ‘matter’

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**Type** Package

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**Description** Memory-efficient reading, writing, and manipulation of structured binary data on disk as vectors, matrices, arrays, lists, and data frames.

**License** Artistic-2.0

**Depends** R (>= 3.5), methods, stats, biglm

**Imports** BiocGenerics, digest, irlba, utils

**Suggests** BiocStyle, testthat

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---

apply *Apply Functions Over “matter” Matrices*

---

**Description**

An implementation of `apply` for `matter_mat`, `sparse_mat` and `virtual_mat` matrices.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'sparse_mat'
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'virtual_mat'
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ...)
```

**Arguments**

X	A <code>matter_mat</code> object.
MARGIN	Must be 1 or 2 for <code>matter_mat</code> matrices, where ‘1’ indicates rows and ‘2’ indicates columns. The dimension names can also be used if X has <code>dimnames</code> set.
FUN	The function to be applied.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to FUN.

## Details

Because FUN must be executed by the interpreter in the appropriate R environment, the full row or column will be loaded into memory. The chunksize of X is ignored. For summary statistics, functions like [colMeans](#) and [rowMeans](#) offer greater control over memory pressure.

## Value

See [apply](#) for details.

## Warning

Applying a function over the rows of a column-major matrix (e.g., [matter\\_matc](#)) or over the columns of a row-major matrix (e.g., [matter\\_matr](#)) may be very slow.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[apply](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
apply(x, 2, summary)
```

---

biglm

*Using “biglm” with “matter”*

---

## Description

This method allows [matter\\_mat](#) matrices to be used with the [biglm](#) and [bigglm](#) function from the “biglm” package.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'formula,matter_df'
biglm(formula, data, weights = NULL, sandwich = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,matter_df'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,matter_mat'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL, fc = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

formula	A model formula.
data	A <code>matter</code> matrix with column names.
weights	A one-sided, single-term formula specifying weights.
sandwich	If TRUE, compute the Huber/White sandwich covariance matrix (uses $p^4$ memory rather than $p^2$ ).
chunksize	An integer giving the maximum number of rows to process at a time. If left NULL, this will be calculated by dividing the chunksize of data by the number of variables in the formula.
fc	Either column indices or names of variables which are factors.
...	Additional options passed to <code>bigglm</code> .

**Value**

An object of class `bigglm`.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

`bigglm`

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)

x <- matter_mat(rnorm(1000), nrow=100, ncol=10)

colnames(x) <- c(paste0("x", 1:9), "y")

fm <- paste0("y ~ ", paste0(paste0("x", 1:9), collapse=" + "))
fm <- as.formula(fm)

fit <- bigglm(fm, data=x, chunksize=50)
coef(fit)
```

**Description**

Given a set of keys and a sorted (non-decreasing) vector of values, use a binary search to find the indexes in values that match the values of key. This implementation allows for returning the index of the nearest match if there are no exact matches. It also allows specifying a tolerance for comparison of doubles.

**Usage**

```
bsearch(key, values, tol = 0, tol.ref = "none",
        nomatch = NA_integer_, nearest = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

key	A vector of keys to match.
values	A sorted (non-decreasing) vector of values to be matched.
tol	The tolerance for matching doubles. Must be $\geq 0$ .
tol.ref	One of 'none', 'key', or 'values'. If 'none', then comparison of doubles is done by taking the absolute difference. If either 'key' or 'values', then relative differences are used, and this specifies which to use as the reference (target) value.
nomatch	The value to be returned in the case when no match is found, coerced to an integer. (Ignored if nearest = TRUE.)
nearest	Should the index of the closest match be returned if no exact matches are found?

**Details**

The algorithm is implemented in C and currently only works for 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character' vectors. If there are multiple matches, the first match that is found will be returned, but there are no guarantees about *which* match is found.

The "nearest" match for strings when there are no exact matches is decided by the match with the most initial matching characters. Tolerance is ignored for strings and integers. Behavior is undefined and results may be unexpected if values includes NAs.

**Value**

A vector of the same length as key, giving the indexes of the matches in values.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[match](#), [pmatch](#), [findInterval](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- c(1.11, 2.22, 3.33, 5.0, 5.1)

bsearch(2.22, x) # 2
bsearch(3.0, x) # NA
bsearch(3.0, x, nearest=TRUE) # 3
bsearch(3.0, x, tol=0.1, tol.ref="values") # 3

y <- c("hello", "world!")
bsearch("world!", y) # 2
bsearch("worl", y) # NA
bsearch("worl", y, nearest=TRUE) # 2
```

---

`checksum`*Calculate Checksums and Cryptographic Hashes*

---

### Description

This is a generic function for applying cryptographic hash functions and calculating checksums for arbitrary R objects.

### Usage

```
checksum(x, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
checksum(x, algo = c("sha1", "md5"), ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object to be hashed.
<code>algo</code>	The hash function to use.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to the hash function.

### Details

The method for `matter` objects calculates checksums of each of the files in the object's paths.

### Value

A character vector giving the hash or hashes of the object.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

[digest](#)

### Examples

```
x <- matter(1:10)  
y <- matter(1:10)  
  
checksum(x)  
checksum(y) # should be the same
```

---

combiner	<i>Get or Set combiner for an Object</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

This is a generic function for getting or setting the 'combiner' for an object with values to combine.

### Usage

```
combiner(object)

combiner(object) <- value
```

### Arguments

object	An object with a combiner.
value	The value to set the combiner.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

[sparse\\_mat](#)

### Examples

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10))
combiner(x)
combiner(x) <- "sum"
x[]
```

---

delayed-ops	<i>Delayed Operations on "matter" Objects</i>
-------------	---

---

### Description

Some arithmetic operations are available as delayed operations on [matter](#) objects. With these operations, no data is changed on disk, and the operation is only executed when elements of the object are actually accessed.

### Details

Currently the following operations are supported:

'Arith': '+', '-', '\*', '/', '^'  
'Compare': '==', '>', '<', '!=', '<=', '>='  
'Math': 'exp', 'log', 'log2', 'log10'

Delayed operations are applied at the C++ layer immediately after the elements are read from disk. This means that operations that are implemented in C and/or C++ for efficiency (such as summary statistics) will also reflect the execution of the delayed operations.

**Value**

A new `matter` object with the registered delayed operation. Data on disk is not modified; only object metadata is changed.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[Arith](#), [Compare](#), [Math](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matter(1:100)
y <- 2 * x + 1

x[1:10]
y[1:10]

mean(x)
mean(y)
```

---

drle-class

*Delta Run Length Encoding*


---

**Description**

The `drle` class stores delta-run-length-encoded vectors. These differ from other run-length-encoded vectors provided by other packages in that they allow for runs of values that each differ by a common difference (delta).

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
drle(x, cr_threshold = 0)

is.drle(x)
## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An integer or numeric vector to convert to delta run length encoding for <code>drle()</code> ; an object to test if it is of class <code>drle</code> for <code>is.drle()</code> .
<code>cr_threshold</code>	The compression ratio threshold to use when converting a vector to delta run length encoding. The default (0) always converts the object to <code>drle</code> . Values of <code>cr_threshold &lt; 1</code> correspond to compressing even when the output will be larger than the input (by a certain ratio). For values <code>&gt; 1</code> , compression will only take place when the output is (approximately) at least <code>cr_threshold</code> times smaller.

**Value**

An object of class `drle`.

**Slots**

`values`: The values that begin each run.

`lengths`: The length of each run.

`deltas`: The difference between the values of each run.

**Creating Objects**

`drle` instances can be created through `drle()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`: Get the elements of the uncompressed vector.

`length(x)`: Get the length of the uncompressed vector.

`c(x, ...)`: Combine vectors.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

`[base]{rle}`

**Examples**

```
## Create a drle vector
x <- c(1,1,1,1,1,6,7,8,9,10,21,32,33,34,15)
y <- drle(x)

# Check that their elements are equal
x == y[]
```

---

keys

*Get or Set Keys for an Object*

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for getting or setting 'keys' for an object with key-value pairs such as a map data structure.

**Usage**

```
keys(object)
```

```
keys(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	An object with keys.
value	The value to set the keys.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[sparse\\_mat](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10))
keys(x)
keys(x) <- 1:10
x[]
```

---

matter-class

*Vectors, Matrices, and Arrays Stored on Disk*

---

**Description**

The matter class and its subclasses are designed for easy on-demand read/write access to binary on-disk data structures, and working with them as vectors, matrices, arrays, lists, and data frames.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter(...)

# Check if an object is a matter object
is.matter(x)

# Coerce an object to a matter object
as.matter(x, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

...	Arguments passed to subclasses.
x	An object to check if it is a matter object or coerce to a matter object.

**Value**

An object of class [matter](#).

**Slots**

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should be a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Creating Objects**

`matter` is a virtual class and cannot be instantiated directly, but instances of its subclasses can be created through `matter()`.

**Methods**

Class-specific methods:

- `atomdata(x)`: Access the 'data' slot.
- `adata(x)`: An alias for `atomdata(x)`.
- `datamode(x)`, `datamode(x) <- value`: Get or set 'datamode'.
- `paths(x)`, `paths(x) <- value`: Get or set 'paths'.
- `filemode(x)`, `filemode(x) <- value`: Get or set 'filemode'.
- `readonly(x)`, `readonly(x) <- value`: A shortcut for getting or setting 'filemode'.
- `chunksize(x)`, `chunksize(x) <- value`: Get or set 'filemode'.

Standard generic methods:

- `length(x)`, `length(x) <- value`: Get or set 'length'.
- `dim(x)`, `dim(x) <- value`: Get or set 'dim'.
- `names(x)`, `names(x) <- value`: Get or set 'names'.
- `dimnames(x)`, `dimnames(x) <- value`: Get or set 'dimnames'.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter\\_vec](#), [matter\\_mat](#), [matter\\_arr](#), [matter\\_list](#), [matter\\_fc](#), [matter\\_str](#), [matter\\_df](#)

**Examples**

```
## Create a matter_vec vector
x <- matter(1:100, length=100)
x[]

## Create a matter_mat matrix
x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
x[]
```

---

matter-utils

*Internal Utilities for “matter” Package*

---

**Description**

Low-level utility functions, classes, and data defined in the **matter** package. They are not intended to be used directly.

---

matter\_arr-class

*Arrays Stored on Disk*

---

**Description**

The `matter_arr` class implements on-disk arrays.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_arr(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
           offset = 0, extent = prod(dim), dim = 0, dimnames = NULL, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	An optional data vector which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric').
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
dim	A vector giving the dimensions of the array.
dimnames	The names of the matrix dimensions.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_arr`.

**Slots**

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should be a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`matter_arr` instances can be created through `matter_arr()` or `matter()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[...]`, `x[...]` <- `value`: Get or set the elements of the array.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[matter](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter_arr(1:125, dim=c(5,5,5))
x[]
```

---

<code>matter_df-class</code>	<i>Data Frames Stored on Disk</i>
------------------------------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

The `matter_df` class implements on-disk data frames.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_df(..., row.names = NULL)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

`...` These arguments become the data columns or data frame variables. They should be named.

`row.names` A character vector giving the row names.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_df`.

**Slots**

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

**chunksiz:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Extends**[matter](#)**Creating Objects**

matter\_df instances can be created through matter\_df() or matter().

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

x\$name, x\$name <- value: Get or set the data columns.

x[[i]], x[[i]] <- value: Get or set the data columns.

x[i, j, ..., drop], x[i, j] <- value: Get or set the elements of the data frame.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[matter](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter_df(a=as.matter(1:10), b=as.matter(1:10))
x[]
x[[1]]
x[["a"]]
x[, "a"]
x[1:5, c("a", "b")]
x$a
x$a[1:10]
```

---

matter\_fc-class

*Factors Stored on Disk*


---

**Description**

The matter\_fc class implements on-disk factors.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_fc(data, datamode = "int", paths = NULL,
          filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
          offset = 0, extent = length, length = 0L, names = NULL,
          levels = base::levels(as.factor(data)), ...)
```

```
## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

data	An optional data vector which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
datamode	Must be an integral type for factors.
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
length	An optional number giving the total length of the data across all files, equal to the sum of 'extent'. This is ignored and calculated automatically if 'extent' is specified.
names	The names of the data elements.
levels	The levels of the factor.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class [matter\\_fc](#).

**Slots**

data:	This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
datamode:	The storage mode of the <i>accessed</i> data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
paths:	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
filemode:	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
chunksize:	The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
length:	The length of the data.
dim:	Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
names:	The names of the data elements for vectors.
dimnames:	Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
ops:	Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
levels:	The levels of the factor.

**Extends**

[matter](#), [matter\\_vec](#)

## Creating Objects

matter\_fc instances can be created through matter\_fc() or matter().

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

x[i], x[i] <- value: Get or set the elements of the factor.

levels(x), levels(x) <- value: Get or set the levels of the factor.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#), [matter\\_vec](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_fc(c("a", "a", "b"), levels=c("a", "b", "c"))
x[]
```

---

matter\_list-class      *Lists of Vectors Stored on Disk*

---

## Description

The matter\_list class implements on-disk lists.

## Usage

```
## Instance creation
matter_list(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
            filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
            offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof(datamode) * extent)[-length(extent)]),
            extent = lengths, lengths = 0, names = NULL, dimnames = NULL, ...)
```

```
## Additional methods documented below
```

## Arguments

data	An optional data list which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
datamode	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric').
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
lengths	A vector giving the length of each element of the list.
names	The names of the data elements.
dimnames	The names of the data elements' data elements.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_list`.

**Slots**

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`matter_list` instances can be created through `matter_list()` or `matter()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[[i]], x[[i]] <- value:` Get or set the elements of the list.

`x[i, j], x[i, j] <- value:` Get or set the *j* elements of the *i*th element of the list.

`lengths(x):` Get the lengths of all elements in the list.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[matter](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter_list(list(c(TRUE,FALSE), 1:5, c(1.11, 2.22, 3.33)), lengths=c(2,5,3))
x[]
x[[1]]
x[3,2]
x[2,5]
```

---

matter\_mat-class      *Matrices Stored on Disk*

---

**Description**

The `matter_mat` class implements on-disk matrices.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_mat(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
           offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof(datamode) * extent)[-length(extent)]),
           extent = if (rowMaj) rep(ncol, nrow) else rep(nrow, ncol),
           nrow = 0, ncol = 0, rowMaj = FALSE, dimnames = NULL, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	An optional data matrix which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric').
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
<code>offset</code>	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
<code>extent</code>	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
<code>nrow</code>	An optional number giving the total number of rows.

ncol	An optional number giving the total number of columns.
rowMaj	Whether the data should be stored in row-major order (as opposed to column-major order) on disk. Defaults to 'FALSE', for efficient access to columns. Set to 'TRUE' for more efficient access to rows instead.
dimnames	The names of the matrix dimensions.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_mat`.

**Slots**

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should be a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`matter_mat` instances can be created through `matter_mat()` or `matter()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop]`, `x[i, j] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`x %*% y`: Matrix multiplication. At least one matrix must be an in-memory R matrix (or vector).

`crossprod(x, y)`: Alias for `t(x) %*% y`.

`tcrossprod(x, y)`: Alias for `x %*% t(y)`.

`cbind(x, ...)`, `rbind(x, ...)`: Combine matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the on-disk data.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[matter](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter_mat(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
x[]
```

---

matter_str-class	<i>Strings Stored on Disk</i>
------------------	-------------------------------

---

**Description**

The `matter_str` class implements on-disk strings.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_str(data, datamode = "uchar", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
           offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof("uchar") * extent)[-length(extent)]),
           extent = nchar, nchar = 0, names = NULL,
           encoding = "unknown", ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	An optional character vector which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	Must be "uchar" (or "raw") for strings.
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
<code>offset</code>	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
<code>extent</code>	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
<code>nchar</code>	A vector giving the length of each element of the character vector.
<code>names</code>	The names of the data elements.
<code>encoding</code>	The character encoding to use (if known).
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_str`.

**Slots**

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

**chunksiz:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**encoding:** The character encoding of the strings.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`matter_str` instances can be created through `matter_str()` or `matter()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[[i]], x[[i]] <- value:` Get or set the string elements of the vector.

`x[i, j], x[i, j] <- value:` Get or set `j` characters the `i`th string element of the vector.

`lengths(x):` Get the number of characters (in bytes) of all string elements in the vector.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

`matter`

**Examples**

```
x <- matter_str(c("hello", "world!"))
x[]
```

---

matter\_vec-class      *Vectors Stored on Disk*

---

### Description

The `matter_vec` class implements on-disk vectors.

### Usage

```
## Instance creation
matter_vec(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "rb", "rb+"),
           offset = 0, extent = length, length = 0L, names = NULL, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	An optional data vector which will be initially written to the data on disk if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric').
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <code>tempfile</code> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
<code>offset</code>	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
<code>extent</code>	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
<code>length</code>	An optional number giving the total length of the data across all files, equal to the sum of 'extent'. This is ignored and calculated automatically if 'extent' is specified.
<code>names</code>	The names of the data elements.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

### Value

An object of class `matter_vec`.

### Slots

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

`matter_vec` instances can be created through `matter_vec()` or `matter()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`, `x[i] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the vector.

`c(x, ...)`: Combine vectors.

`t(x)`: Transpose a vector (to a row matrix). This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the on-disk data.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_vec(1:100)
x[]
```

---

prcomp

*Principal Components Analysis for “matter” Matrices*

---

### Description

This method allows computation of a truncated principal components analysis of a `matter_mat` matrix using the implicitly restarted Lanczos method `irlba`.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
prcomp(x, n = 3, retx = TRUE, center = TRUE, scale. = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	A <code>matter</code> matrix.
<code>n</code>	The number of principal components to return, must be less than $\min(\dim(x))$ .
<code>retx</code>	A logical value indicating whether the rotated variables should be returned.
<code>center</code>	A logical value indicating whether the variables should be shifted to be zero-centered, or a centering vector of length equal to the number of columns of <code>x</code> . The centering is performed implicitly and does not change the data-on-disk in <code>x</code> .
<code>scale.</code>	A logical value indicating whether the variables should be scaled to have unit variance, or a scaling vector of length equal to the number of columns of <code>x</code> . The scaling is performed implicitly and does not change the data-on-disk in <code>x</code> .
<code>...</code>	Additional options passed to <code>irlba</code> .

### Value

An object of class ‘prcomp’. See `?prcomp` for details.

### Note

The ‘tol’ truncation argument found in the default `prcomp` method is not supported. In place of the truncation tolerance in the original function, the argument `n` explicitly gives the number of principal components to return. A warning is generated if the argument ‘tol’ is used.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

`bigglm`

### Examples

```
set.seed(1)  
  
x <- matter_mat(rnorm(1000), nrow=100, ncol=10)  
  
prcomp(x)
```

---

profmem

*Profile Memory Use*

---

### Description

These are utility functions for profiling memory used by objects and by R during the execution of an expression.

### Usage

```
profmem(expr)
```

```
mem(x, reset = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

expr	An expression to be evaluated.
x	An object, to identify how much memory it is using.
reset	Should the maximum memory used by R be reset?

### Details

These are wrappers around the built-in `gc` function. Note that they only count memory managed by R.

### Value

For `profmem`, a vector giving [1] the amount of memory used at the start of execution, [2] the amount of memory used at the end of execution, [3] the maximum amount of memory used during execution, [4] the memory overhead as defined by the maximum memory used minus the starting memory use, and [5] the execution time in seconds.

For `mem`, either a single numeric value giving the memory used by an object, or a vector providing a more readable version of the information returned by `gc` (see its help page for details).

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

[gc](#),

### Examples

```
x <- 1:100
```

```
mem(x)
```

```
profmem(mean(x + 1))
```

---

rep_vt-class	<i>Virtual Replication of Vectors</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

---

### Description

The `rep_vt` class simulates the behavior of the base function `rep` without actually allocating memory for the duplication. Only the original vector and the expected length of the result are stored. All attributes of the original vector (including names) are dropped.

### Usage

```
## Instance creation
rep_vt(x, times, length.out = length(x) * times)

## Additional methods documented below
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	A vector (of any mode).
<code>times</code>	The number of times to repeat the whole vector.
<code>length.out</code>	The desired length of the result.

### Value

An object of class `rep_vt`.

### Slots

<code>data</code> :	The original vector.
<code>length</code> :	The expected length of the repeated virtual vector.

### Creating Objects

`rep_vt` instances can be created through `rep_vt()`.

### Methods

Standard generic methods:

<code>x[i]</code> :	Get the elements of the uncompressed vector.
<code>x[[i]]</code> :	Get a single element of the uncompressed vector.
<code>length(x)</code> :	Get the length of the uncompressed vector.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

`[base]{rep}`

## Examples

```
## Create a rep_vt vector
init <- 1:3
x <- rep(init, length.out=100)
y <- rep_vt(init, length.out=100)

# Check that their elements are equal
x == y[]
```

---

scale

*Scaling and Centering of “matter” Matrices*

---

## Description

An implementation of [scale](#) for `matter_mat` matrices.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'
scale(x, center = TRUE, scale = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	A <a href="#">matter_mat</a> object.
<code>center</code>	Either a logical value or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of columns of 'x'.
<code>scale</code>	Either a logical value or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of columns of 'x'.

## Details

See [scale](#) for details.

## Value

A [matter\\_mat](#) object with the appropriate 'scaled:center' and 'scaled:scale' attributes set. No data on disk is changed, but the scaling will be applied any time the data is read. This includes but is not limited to loading data elements via subsetting, summary statistics methods, and matrix multiplication.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[scale](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)

scale(x)
```

---

sparse\_mat-class      *Sparse Matrices*

---

### Description

The `sparse_mat` class implements sparse matrices, potentially stored on-disk. Both compressed-sparse-column (CSC) and compressed-sparse-row (CSR) formats are supported. Non-zero elements are internally represented as key-value pairs.

### Usage

```
## Instance creation
sparse_mat(data, datamode = "double", nrow = 0, ncol = 0,
           rowMaj = FALSE, dimnames = NULL, keys = NULL,
           tolerance = c(abs=0), combiner = "identity", ...)

# Check if an object is a sparse matrix
is.sparse(x)

# Coerce an object to a sparse matrix
as.sparse(x, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	Either a length-2 'list' with elements 'keys' and 'values' which provide the halves of the key-value pairs of the non-zero elements, or a data matrix that will be used to initialize the sparse matrix. If a list is given, all 'keys' elements must be <i>sorted</i> in increasing order.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are R numeric and logical types ('logical', 'integer', 'numeric') and their C equivalents.
<code>nrow</code>	An optional number giving the total number of rows.
<code>ncol</code>	An optional number giving the total number of columns.
<code>keys</code>	Either NULL or a vector with length equal to the number of rows (for CSC matrices) or the number of columns (for CSR matrices). If NULL, then the 'key' portion of the key-value pairs that make up the non-zero elements are assumed to be row or column indices. If a vector, then they define the how the non-zero elements are matched to rows or columns. The 'key' portion of each non-zero element is matched against this canonical set of keys using binary search. Allowed types for keys are 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character'.
<code>rowMaj</code>	Whether the data should be stored using compressed-sparse-row (CSR) representation (as opposed to compressed-sparse-column (CSC) representation). Defaults to 'FALSE', for efficient access to columns. Set to 'TRUE' for more efficient access to rows instead.
<code>dimnames</code>	The names of the sparse matrix dimensions.
<code>tolerance</code>	For 'numeric' keys, the tolerance used for floating-point equality when determining key matches. The vector should be named. Use 'absolute' to use absolute differences, and 'relative' to use relative differences.

combiner	In the case of collisions when matching keys, how the row- or column-vectors should be combined. Acceptable values are "identity", "min", "max", "sum", and "mean". A user-specified function may also be provided. Using "identity" means collisions result in an error. Using "sum" or "mean" results in binning all matches.
x	An object to check if it is a sparse matrix or coerce to a sparse matrix.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

### Value

An object of class `sparse_mat`.

### Slots

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should be a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
- keys** Either NULL or a vector with length equal to the number of rows (for CSC matrices) or the number of columns (for CSR matrices). If NULL, then the 'key' portion of the key-value pairs that make up the non-zero elements are assumed to be row or column indices. If a vector, then they define how the non-zero elements are matched to rows or columns. The 'key' portion of each non-zero element is matched against this canonical set of keys using binary search. Allowed types for keys are 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character'.
- tolerance:** For 'numeric' keys, the tolerance used for floating-point equality when determining key matches. An attribute 'type' gives whether 'absolute' or 'relative' differences should be used for the comparison.
- combiner:** This is a function determining how the row- or column-vectors should be combined (or not) when key matching collisions occur.

### Warning

If 'data' is given as a length-2 list of key-value pairs, no checking is performed on the validity of the key-value pairs, as this may be a costly operation if the list is stored on disk. Each element of the 'keys' element must be *sorted* in increasing order, or behavior may be unexpected.

Assigning a new data element to the sparse matrix will always sort the key-value pairs of the row or column into which it was assigned.

**Extends**

[matter](#)

**Creating Objects**

sparse\_mat instances can be created through `sparse_mat()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop]`, `x[i, j] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the sparse matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`cbind(x, ...)`, `rbind(x, ...)`: Combine sparse matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the data representation.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
keys <- list(
  c(1,4,8,10),
  c(2,3,5),
  c(1,2,7,9))

values <- list(
  rnorm(4),
  rnorm(3),
  rnorm(4))

init1 <- list(keys=keys, values=values)

x <- sparse_mat(init1, nrow=10)
x[]

init2 <- matrix(rbinom(100, 1, 0.2), nrow=10, ncol=10)

y <- sparse_mat(init2, keys=letters[1:10])
y[]
```

---

struct	<i>C-Style Structs Stored on Disk</i>
--------	---------------------------------------

---

### Description

This is a convenience function for creating and reading C-style structs in a single file stored on disk.

### Usage

```
struct(..., filename = NULL, filemode = "rb+", offset = 0)
```

### Arguments

...	Named integers giving the members of the struct. They should be of the form <code>name=c(type=length)</code> .
filename	A single string giving the name of the file.
filemode	The mode to use to open the file.
offset	A scalar integer giving the offset from the beginning of the file.

### Details

This is simply a convenient wrapper around the wrapper around [matter\\_list](#) that allows easy specification of C-style structs in a file.

### Value

A object of class [matter\\_list](#).

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

[matter\\_list](#)

### Examples

```
x <- struct(first=c(int=1), second=c(double=1))

x$first <- 2L
x$second <- 3.33

x$first
x$second
```

## Description

These functions efficiently calculate summary statistics for `matter` objects. For matrices, they operate efficiently on both rows and columns.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
range(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
min(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
max(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
prod(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
mean(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
sum(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
sd(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
var(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
any(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
all(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colMeans(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colSums(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colSds(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colVars(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowMeans(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowSums(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowSds(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowVars(x, na.rm)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	A <code>matter</code> object.
<code>na.rm</code>	If TRUE, remove NA values before summarizing.

## Details

These summary statistics methods operate on chunks of data (equal to the chunksize of `x`) which are loaded into memory and then freed before reading the next chunk.

For row and column summaries on matrices, the iteration scheme is dependent on the layout of the data. Column-major matrices will always be iterated over by column, and row-major matrices will always be iterated over by row. Row statistics on column-major matrices and column statistics on row-major matrices are calculated iteratively.

The efficiency of these methods is entirely dependent on the chunksize of `x`. Larger chunks will yield faster calculations, but greater memory usage. The row and column summary methods may be more or less efficient than the equivalent call to [apply](#), depending on the chunk size.

Variance and standard deviation are calculated using a running sum of squares formula which can be calculated iteratively and is accurate for large floating-point datasets (see reference).

## Value

For mean, sd, and var, a single number. For the column summaries, a vector of length equal to the number of columns of the matrix. For the row summaries, a vector of length equal to the number of rows of the matrix.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## References

B. P. Welford, "Note on a Method for Calculating Corrected Sums of Squares and Products," *Technometrics*, vol. 4, no. 3, pp. 1-3, Aug. 1962.

## See Also

[colSums](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matrix(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
```

```
sum(x)
mean(x)
var(x)
sd(x)
```

```
colSums(x)
colMeans(x)
colVars(x)
colSds(x)
```

```
rowSums(x)
rowMeans(x)
rowVars(x)
rowSds(x)
```

---

tolerance	<i>Get or Set Tolerance for an Object</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for getting or setting 'tolerance' for an object which tests floating point equality.

**Usage**

```
tolerance(object)

tolerance(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	An object with tolerance.
value	The value to set the tolerance.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[sparse\\_mat](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10), keys=rnorm(10))
tolerance(x)
tolerance(x) <- c(absolute=0.1)
x[]
```

---

uuid	<i>Universally Unique Identifiers</i>
------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Generate a UUID.

**Usage**

```
uuid(uppercase = FALSE)

hex2raw(x)

raw2hex(x, uppercase = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A vector of to convert between raw bytes and hexadecimal strings.  
 uppercase          Should the result be in uppercase?

**Details**

uuid generates a random universally unique identifier.  
 hex2raw converts a hexadecimal string to a raw vector.  
 raw2hex converts a raw vector to a hexadecimal string.

**Value**

For uuid, a list of length 2:

- string: A character vector giving the UUID.
- bytes: The raw bytes of the UUID.

For hex2raw, a raw vector.

For raw2hex, a character vector of length 1.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**Examples**

```
id <- uuid()
id
hex2raw(id$string)
raw2hex(id$bytes)
```

---

virtual\_mat-class      *Virtual Matrices*

---

**Description**

The virtual\_mat class implements virtual matrices, which may hold any matrix objects. It is provided primarily to allow combining of matrix classes that could not be combined otherwise.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
virtual_mat(data, datamode = "double", rowMaj = FALSE,
            dimnames = NULL, index = NULL, ...)

# Check if an object is a virtual matrix
is.virtual(x)

# Coerce an object to a virtual matrix
as.virtual(x, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	A list of matrices to combine.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data on disk. Allowable values are R numeric and logical types ('logical', 'integer', 'numeric') and their C equivalents.
<code>rowMaj</code>	Whether the matrices in <code>data</code> are combined by row (TRUE) or by column (FALSE).
<code>dimnames</code>	The names of the virtual matrix dimensions.
<code>index</code>	A length-2 list of row and column indices giving a submatrix, if desired.
<code>x</code>	An object to check if it is a virtual matrix or coerce to a virtual matrix.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `virtual_mat`.

**Slots**

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data on disk and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'rb' for read-only access, or 'rb+' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
- index** A length-2 list of row and column indices giving a virtual submatrix.
- transpose** TRUE if the virtual matrix should be transposed, and FALSE otherwise.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`virtual_mat` instances can be created through `virtual_mat()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop]`: Get or set the elements of the virtual matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`cbind(x, ...)`, `rbind(x, ...)`: Combine virtual matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the data representation.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matrix(runif(50), nrow=10, ncol=5)
```

```
x <- virtual_mat(list(x, x))  
x[]
```

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