Package 'duckdb'

October 16, 2025

Title DBI Package for the DuckDB Database Management System

Version 1.4.1

Description The DuckDB project is an embedded analytical data management system with support for the Structured Query Language (SQL). This package includes all of DuckDB and an R Database Interface (DBI) connector.

License MIT + file LICENSE

URL https://r.duckdb.org/, https://github.com/duckdb/duckdb-r

BugReports https://github.com/duckdb/duckdb-r/issues

Depends DBI, R (>= 4.1.0)

Imports methods, utils

Suggests adbcdrivermanager, arrow (>= 13.0.0), bit64, callr, clock, DBItest, dbplyr, dplyr, rlang, testthat, tibble, vctrs, withr

Config/build/compilation-database false

Config/build/never-clean true

Config/comment/compilation-database Generate manually with pkgload:::generate_db() for faster pkgload::load_all()

Config/gha/extra-packages arrow=?ignore-before-r=4.2.0 adbcdrivermanager=?ignore-before-r=4.2.0

Config/gha/filter os != ``windows-latest" | r != ``4.1"

Config/gha/filter-note Inexplicable build failures on Windows GHA with R 4.1, works locally

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.3.9000

SystemRequirements xz (for building from source)

Biarch true

NeedsCompilation yes

2 Contents

Author Hannes Mühleisen [aut] (ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8552-0029),
Mark Raasveldt [aut] (ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5005-6844),
Kirill Müller [cre] (ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1416-3412),
Stichting DuckDB Foundation [cph],
Apache Software Foundation [cph],
PostgreSQL Global Development Group [cph],
The Regents of the University of California [cph],
Cameron Desrochers [cph],
Victor Zverovich [cph],
RAD Game Tools [cph],
Valve Software [cph],
Rich Geldreich [cph],
Tenacious Software LLC [cph],
The RE2 Authors [cph],
Google Inc. [cph],
Facebook Inc. [cph],
Steven G. Johnson [cph],
Jiahao Chen [cph],
Tony Kelman [cph],
Jonas Fonseca [cph],
Lukas Fittl [cph],
Salvatore Sanfilippo [cph],
Art.sy, Inc. [cph],
Oran Agra [cph],
Redis Labs, Inc. [cph],
Melissa O'Neill [cph],
PCG Project contributors [cph]
Maintainer Kirill Müller <kirill@cynkra.com></kirill@cynkra.com>
Repository CRAN
Date/Publication 2025-10-16 13:30:02 UTC
Contents
backend-duckdb
default_conn
duckdb

Index 13

duckdb_explain-class7duckdb_read_csv7duckdb_register9duckdb_register_arrow10sql_query11

3

5

backend-duckdb 3

backend-duckdb

DuckDB SQL backend for dbplyr

Description

This is a SQL backend for dbplyr tailored to take into account DuckDB's possibilities. This mainly follows the backend for PostgreSQL, but contains more mapped functions.

tbl_file() is an experimental variant of dplyr::tbl() to directly access files on disk. It is safer than dplyr::tbl() because there is no risk of misinterpreting the request, and paths with special characters are supported.

tbl_function() is an experimental variant of dplyr::tbl() to create a lazy table from a table-generating function, useful for reading nonstandard CSV files or other data sources. It is safer than dplyr::tbl() because there is no risk of misinterpreting the query. See https://duckdb.org/docs/data/overview for details on data importing functions.

As an alternative, use dplyr::tbl(src, dplyr::sql("SELECT ... FROM ...")) for custom SQL queries.

tbl_query() is deprecated in favor of tbl_function().

Use simulate_duckdb() with lazy_frame() to see simulated SQL without opening a DuckDB connection.

Usage

```
tbl_file(src = NULL, path, ..., cache = FALSE)
tbl_function(src, query, ..., cache = FALSE)
tbl_query(src, query, ...)
simulate_duckdb(...)
```

Arguments

src	A duckdb connection object, default_conn() if omitted.
path	Path to existing Parquet, CSV or JSON file
	Any parameters to be forwarded
cache	Enable object cache for Parquet files
query	SQL code, omitting the FROM clause

Examples

```
library(dplyr, warn.conflicts = FALSE)
con <- DBI::dbConnect(duckdb(), path = ":memory:")
db <- copy_to(con, data.frame(a = 1:3, b = letters[2:4]))</pre>
```

default_conn

```
db %>%
  filter(a > 1) %>%
  select(b)

path <- tempfile(fileext = ".csv")
write.csv(data.frame(a = 1:3, b = letters[2:4]))

db_csv <- tbl_file(con, path)
db_csv %>%
  summarize(sum_a = sum(a))

db_csv_fun <- tbl_function(con, paste0("read_csv_auto('", path, "')"))
db_csv %>%
  count()

DBI::dbDisconnect(con, shutdown = TRUE)
```

default_conn

Get the default connection

Description

[Experimental]

default_conn() returns a default, built-in connection.

Usage

```
default_conn()
```

Details

Currently, the connection is established with duckdb(environment_scan = TRUE) and dbConnect(timezone_out = "", array = "matrix") so that data frames are automatically available as tables, timestamps are returned in the local timezone, and DuckDB's array type is returned as an R matrix. The details of how the connection is established are subject to change. In particular, returning the output as a tibble or other object may be supported in the future.

This connection is intended for interactive use. There is no way for this or other packages to comprehensively track the state of this connection, so scripts and packages should manage their own connections.

Value

A DuckDB connection object

Examples

```
conn <- default_conn()
sql_query("SELECT 42", conn = conn)</pre>
```

duckdb 5

duckdb

Connect to a DuckDB database instance

Description

duckdb() creates or reuses a database instance.

duckdb_shutdown() shuts down a database instance.

Return an adbcdrivermanager::adbc_driver() for use with Arrow Database Connectivity via the adbcdrivermanager package.

dbConnect() connects to a database instance.

dbDisconnect() closes a DuckDB database connection. The associated DuckDB database instance is shut down automatically, it is no longer necessary to set shutdown = TRUE or to call duckdb_shutdown().

Usage

```
duckdb(
  dbdir = DBDIR_MEMORY,
  read_only = FALSE,
 bigint = "numeric",
  config = list(),
  environment_scan = FALSE
)
duckdb_shutdown(drv)
duckdb_adbc()
## S4 method for signature 'duckdb_driver'
dbConnect(
  drv,
 dbdir = DBDIR_MEMORY,
 debug = getOption("duckdb.debug", FALSE),
  read_only = FALSE,
  timezone_out = "UTC",
  tz_out_convert = c("with", "force"),
  config = list(),
 bigint = "numeric",
 array = "none"
)
## S4 method for signature 'duckdb_connection'
dbDisconnect(conn, ..., shutdown = TRUE)
```

6 duckdb

Arguments

dbdir Location for database files. Should be a path to an existing directory in the file

system. With the default (or ""), all data is kept in RAM.

read_only Set to TRUE for read-only operation. For file-based databases, this is only applied

when the database file is opened for the first time. Subsequent connections (via the same drv object or a drv object pointing to the same path) will silently

ignore this flag.

bigint How 64-bit integers should be returned. There are two options: "numeric"

and "integer64". If "numeric" is selected, bigint integers will be treated as double/numeric. If "integer64" is selected, bigint integers will be set to bit64

encoding.

config Named list with DuckDB configuration flags, see https://duckdb.org/docs/

configuration/overview#configuration-reference for the possible options. These flags are only applied when the database object is instantiated.

Subsequent connections will silently ignore these flags.

. . . Reserved for future extensions, must be empty.

environment_scan

Set to TRUE to treat data frames from the calling environment as tables. If a database table with the same name exists, it takes precedence. The default of

this setting may change in a future version.

drv Object returned by duckdb()

debug Print additional debug information, such as queries.

timezone_out The time zone returned to R, defaults to "UTC", which is currently the only

timezone supported by duckdb. If you want to display datetime values in the

local timezone, set to Sys. timezone() or "".

tz_out_convert How to convert timestamp columns to the timezone specified in timezone_out.

There are two options: "with", and "force". If "with" is chosen, the timestamp will be returned as it would appear in the specified time zone. If "force" is chosen, the timestamp will have the same clock time as the timestamp in the

database, but with the new time zone.

array How arrays should be returned. There are two options: "none" and "matrix".

If "none" is selected, arrays are not returned. Instead an error is generated. If "matrix" is selected, arrays are returned as a column matrix. Each array is one

row in the matrix.

conn A duckdb_connection object

shutdown Unused. The database instance is shut down automatically.

Details

The behavior of with = "force" at DST transitions depends on how R handles translation from the underlying time representation to a human-readable format. If the timestamp is invalid in the target timezone, the resulting value may be NA or an adjusted time.

duckdb_explain-class 7

Value

```
duckdb() returns an object of class duckdb_driver.

dbDisconnect() and duckdb_shutdown() are called for their side effect.

An object of class "adbc_driver"

dbConnect() returns an object of class duckdb_connection.
```

Examples

```
library(adbcdrivermanager)
with_adbc(db <- adbc_database_init(duckdb_adbc()), {
   as.data.frame(read_adbc(db, "SELECT 1 as one;"))
})

drv <- duckdb()
con <- dbConnect(drv)

dbGetQuery(con, "SELECT 'Hello, world!'")

dbDisconnect(con)
duckdb_shutdown(drv)

# Shorter:
con <- dbConnect(duckdb())
dbGetQuery(con, "SELECT 'Hello, world!'")
dbDisconnect(con, shutdown = TRUE)</pre>
```

Description

DuckDB EXPLAIN query tree

duckdb_read_csv

Reads a CSV file into DuckDB

Description

Directly reads a CSV file into DuckDB, tries to detect and create the correct schema for it. This usually is much faster than reading the data into R and writing it to DuckDB.

8 duckdb_read_csv

Usage

```
duckdb_read_csv(
  conn,
  name,
  files,
  ...,
  header = TRUE,
 na.strings = "",
  nrow.check = 500,
 delim = ",",
quote = "\"",
  col.names = NULL,
  col.types = NULL,
  lower.case.names = FALSE,
  sep = delim,
  transaction = TRUE,
  temporary = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

	conn	A DuckDB connection, created by dbConnect().
	name	The name for the virtual table that is registered or unregistered
	files	One or more CSV file names, should all have the same structure though
		Reserved for future extensions, must be empty.
	header	Whether or not the CSV files have a separate header in the first line
	na.strings	Which strings in the CSV files should be considered to be NULL
	nrow.check	How many rows should be read from the CSV file to figure out data types
	delim	Which field separator should be used
	quote	Which quote character is used for columns in the CSV file
	col.names	Override the detected or generated column names
	col.types	Character vector of column types in the same order as col.names, or a named character vector where names are column names and types pairs. Valid types are DuckDB data types, e.g. VARCHAR, DOUBLE, DATE, BIGINT, BOOLEAN, etc.
lower.case.names		
		Transform column names to lower case
	sep	Alias for delim for compatibility
	transaction	Should a transaction be used for the entire operation

Details

temporary

If the table already exists in the database, the csv is appended to it. Otherwise the table is created.

Set to TRUE to create a temporary table

duckdb_register 9

Value

The number of rows in the resulted table, invisibly.

Examples

```
con <- dbConnect(duckdb())</pre>
data <- data.frame(a = 1:3, b = letters[1:3])</pre>
path <- tempfile(fileext = ".csv")</pre>
write.csv(data, path, row.names = FALSE)
duckdb_read_csv(con, "data", path)
dbReadTable(con, "data")
dbDisconnect(con)
# Providing data types for columns
path <- tempfile(fileext = ".csv")</pre>
write.csv(iris, path, row.names = FALSE)
con <- dbConnect(duckdb())</pre>
duckdb_read_csv(con, "iris", path,
  col.types = c(
    Sepal.Length = "DOUBLE",
    Sepal.Width = "DOUBLE",
    Petal.Length = "DOUBLE",
    Petal.Width = "DOUBLE",
    Species = "VARCHAR"
  )
)
dbReadTable(con, "iris")
dbDisconnect(con)
```

duckdb_register

Register a data frame as a virtual table

Description

duckdb_register() registers a data frame as a virtual table (view) in a DuckDB connection. No data is copied.

Usage

```
duckdb_register(conn, name, df, overwrite = FALSE, experimental = FALSE)
duckdb_unregister(conn, name)
```

Arguments

conn A DuckDB connection, created by dbConnect().

name The name for the virtual table that is registered or unregistered

df A data.frame with the data for the virtual table overwrite Should an existing registration be overwritten?

experimental Enable experimental optimizations

Details

duckdb_unregister() unregisters a previously registered data frame.

Value

These functions are called for their side effect.

Examples

```
con <- dbConnect(duckdb())

data <- data.frame(a = 1:3, b = letters[1:3])

duckdb_register(con, "data", data)
dbReadTable(con, "data")

duckdb_unregister(con, "data")

dbDisconnect(con)</pre>
```

duckdb_register_arrow Register an Arrow data source as a virtual table

Description

duckdb_register_arrow() registers an Arrow data source as a virtual table (view) in a DuckDB connection. No data is copied.

Usage

```
duckdb_register_arrow(conn, name, arrow_scannable, use_async = NULL)
duckdb_unregister_arrow(conn, name)
duckdb_list_arrow(conn)
```

sql_query 11

Arguments

conn A DuckDB connection, created by dbConnect().

name The name for the virtual table that is registered or unregistered

arrow_scannable

A scannable Arrow-object

use_async Switched to the asynchronous scanner. (deprecated)

Details

duckdb_unregister_arrow() unregisters a previously registered data frame.

Value

These functions are called for their side effect.

sql_query

Run an SQL query or statement

Description

[Experimental]

sql_query() runs an arbitrary SQL query using DBI::dbGetQuery() and returns a data.frame with the query results. sql_exec() runs an arbitrary SQL statement using DBI::dbExecute() and returns the number of affected rows.

These functions are intended as an easy way to interactively run DuckDB without having to manage connections. By default, data frame objects are available as views.

Scripts and packages should manage their own connections and prefer the DBI methods for more control.

Usage

```
sql_query(sql, conn = default_conn())
sql_exec(sql, conn = default_conn())
```

Arguments

sql A SQL string

conn An optional connection, defaults to default_conn()

Value

A data frame with the query result

sql_query

Examples

```
# Queries
sql_query("SELECT 42")

# Statements with side effects
sql_exec("CREATE TABLE test (a INTEGER, b VARCHAR)")
sql_exec("INSERT INTO test VALUES (1, 'one'), (2, 'two')")
sql_query("FROM test")

# Data frames available as views
sql_query("FROM mtcars")
```

Index

```
adbcdrivermanager::adbc_driver(), 5
                                                tbl_file (backend-duckdb), 3
                                                tbl_function (backend-duckdb), 3
backend-duckdb, 3
                                                tbl_query (backend-duckdb), 3
data.frame, 11
db Connect, duckdb\_driver-method
        (duckdb), 5
dbConnect__duckdb_driver(duckdb), 5
dbDisconnect, duckdb_connection-method
        (duckdb), 5
dbDisconnect__duckdb_connection
        (duckdb), 5
DBI::dbExecute(), 11
DBI::dbGetQuery(), 11
default_conn, 4
default_conn(), 3, 11
dplyr::tbl(), 3
duckdb, 5
duckdb_adbc (duckdb), 5
duckdb_connection, 7
duckdb_driver, 7
duckdb_explain(duckdb_explain-class), 7
duckdb_explain-class, 7
duckdb_list_arrow
        (duckdb_register_arrow), 10
duckdb_read_csv, 7
duckdb_register, 9
duckdb_register_arrow, 10
duckdb_shutdown (duckdb), 5
duckdb_unregister(duckdb_register), 9
duckdb_unregister_arrow
        (duckdb_register_arrow), 10
print.duckdb_explain
        (duckdb_explain-class), 7
simulate_duckdb (backend-duckdb), 3
sql_exec(sql_query), 11
sql_query, 11
Sys.timezone(), 6
```