

Package ‘atime’

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Type Package

Title Asymptotic Timing

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Description Computing and visualizing comparative asymptotic timings of different algorithms and code versions. Also includes functionality for comparing empirical timings with expected references such as linear or quadratic, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asymptotic_computational_complexity Also includes functionality for measuring asymptotic memory and other quantities.

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URL <https://github.com/tdhock/atime>

BugReports <https://github.com/tdhock/atime/issues>

Imports data.table, bench, lattice, git2r, utils, stats, grDevices

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atime	<i>Asymptotic timing</i>
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Description

Computation time and memory for several R expressions of several different data sizes.

Usage

```
atime(
  N, setup, expr.list=NULL, times=10, seconds.limit=0.01, verbose=FALSE,
  result=FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

N	numeric vector of at least two data sizes, default is $2^{\text{seq}(2, 20)}$.
setup	expression to evaluate for every data size, before timings.
expr.list	named list of expressions to time.
times	number of times to evaluate each timed expression.
seconds.limit	if the median timing of any expression exceeds this many seconds, then no timings for larger N are computed.
verbose	logical, print messages after every data size?
result	logical, save each result? If TRUE, and result is a data frame with one row, then the numeric column names will be saved as more units to analyze (in addition to kilobytes and seconds).
...	named expressions to time.

Details

Each iteration involves first computing the setup expression, and then computing several times the ...expressions. For convenience, expressions may be specified either via code (...) or data (expr.list arg).

Value

list of class atime with elements unit.col.vec (character vector of column names to analyze), seconds.limit (numeric input param), measurements (data table of results).

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
## Example 1: polynomial and exponential time string functions.
string.result <- atime::atime(
  N=unique(as.integer(10^seq(0,3.5,l=100))),
  setup={
    subject <- paste(rep("a", N), collapse="")
    pattern <- paste(rep(c("a?", "a"), each=N), collapse="")
  },
  seconds.limit=0.001,
  PCRE.match=regexpr(pattern, subject, perl=TRUE),
  TRE.match=regexpr(pattern, subject, perl=FALSE),
  constant.replacement=gsub("a","constant size replacement",subject),
  linear.replacement=gsub("a",subject,subject))
plot(string.result)

## Example 2: split data table vs frame, constant factor difference.
library(data.table)
split.result <- atime::atime(
  setup={
    set.seed(1)
    DT <- data.table(
      x1 = rep(c("c","d"), l=N),
      x2 = rep(c("x","y"), l=N),
      x3 = rep(c("a","b"), l=N),
      y = rnorm(N)
    )[sample(.N)]
    DF <- as.data.frame(DT)
  },
  seconds.limit=0.001,
  frame=split(DF[names(DF) != "x1"], DF["x1"], drop = TRUE),
  table=split(DT, by = "x1", keep.by = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
)
plot(split.result)
```

atime_grid

Asymptotic timing grid

Description

Create expressions for asymptotic timing by substituting values into expressions.

Usage

```
atime_grid(
  param.list = list(),
  ...,
  name.value.sep="=",
  expr.param.sep=" ",
  collapse = ",",
  symbol.params=character())
```

Arguments

<code>param.list</code>	Named list of items to replace in ... expressions, default empty list means nothing to replace.
<code>...</code>	Named expressions which each must contain each name of <code>param.list</code> .
<code>name.value.sep</code>	string: separator between names and values from <code>param.list</code> , default "=".
<code>expr.param.sep</code>	string: separator between expressions and parameters, default " ".
<code>collapse</code>	string: separator between parameters, default ",".
<code>symbol.params</code>	character vector: these elements of <code>param.list</code> will be converted to symbols before substitution.

Value

Named list of expressions which can be used as `expr.list` argument of `atime`.

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
## Example 0: with no param.list, same as quote inside named list.
atime::atime_grid(m=mean(data), s=sum(data))
list(m=quote(mean(data)), s=quote(sum(data)))

## Example 1: polynomial vs exponential time regex.
(expr.list <- atime::atime_grid(
  list(PERL=c(TRUE, FALSE)),
  expr.param.sep="\n",
  regexpr=regexpr(pattern, subject, perl=PERL)))
atime.list <- atime::atime(
  N=unique(as.integer(10^seq(0,3.5,l=20))),
  setup={
    subject <- paste(rep("a", N), collapse="")
    pattern <- paste(rep(c("a?", "a"), each=N), collapse="")
  },
  expr.list=expr.list)
plot(atime.list)
```

```
## Example 2: symbol.params arg.
sub.param.list <- list(FUN=c("sub","gsub"), PERL=c(TRUE,FALSE))
## with base R we can use as.symbol and substitute:
sapply(sub.param.list$FUN,function(name)substitute(fun("a",""),subject), list(fun=as.symbol(name)))
## with atime_grid the analog is to use symbol.params argument:
(sub.expr.list <- atime::atime_grid(
  sub.param.list,
  replace=FUN("a",""),subject,perl=PERL),
  symbol.params="FUN"))
sub.atime.list <- atime::atime(
  setup={
    subject <- paste(rep("a",N),collapse="")
  },
  expr.list=sub.expr.list)
plot(sub.atime.list)
```

atime_pkg

Asymptotic timing package tests

Description

Computation time and memory for several R expressions of several different data sizes, for several package versions (base, HEAD, CRAN, merge-base, others specified by user).

Usage

```
atime_pkg(pkg.path=".", tests.dir="inst")
```

Arguments

pkg.path	path to git repository containing R package.
tests.dir	path to directory which contains atime/tests.R, relative to pkg.path (default "inst").

Details

There should be a tests.R code file which defines test.list, a list with names corresponding to different tests. Each element should be a list with at least three named elements: N, setup, expr, (possibly others such as pkg.edit.fun and version_name="1234567890abcdef") to be passed as named arguments to atime_versions, along with the following versions which are passed using the sha.vec argument: base ref comes from GITHUB_BASE_REF environment variable (default master), HEAD ref is the branch that you want to merge into base, CRAN is current published version (sha value ""), merge-base is most recent common ancestor commit between base and HEAD. The tests.R code file can define version.colors which should be a character vector (names for versions, values for colors; names/versions are HEAD, base, CRAN, merge-base, and any others you may define such as Before, Regression, Slow, Fixed, Fast).

Value

Named list, names come from names of `test.list`, and values come from results of `atime_versions`. Side effect is that data/plot files are saved in `atime` directory, including `tests.RData` (test results which can be read into R if you want to make your own alternative plots/analyses), and `tests_all_facet.png` (plot summarizing all test results).

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
if(FALSE){
  tdir <- tempfile()
  dir.create(tdir)
  git2r::clone("https://github.com/tdhock/binsegRcpp", tdir)
  repo <- git2r::repository(tdir)
  git2r::checkout(repo, "another-branch")
  result.list <- atime::atime_pkg(tdir)
  inst.atime <- file.path(tdir, "inst", "atime")
  dir(inst.atime)
  tests.RData <- file.path(inst.atime, "tests.RData")
  (objs <- load(tests.RData))

  atime::atime_versions_remove("binsegRcpp")
}
```

atime_versions

Asymptotic timing of git versions

Description

Computation time and memory for a single R expression evaluated using several different git versions.

Usage

```
atime_versions(
  pkg.path, N, setup, expr, sha.vec=NULL,
  times=10, seconds.limit=0.01, verbose=FALSE,
  pkg.edit.fun=pkg.edit.default, result=FALSE,
  ...)
```

Arguments

<code>pkg.path</code>	Path to git repo containing R package.
<code>N</code>	numeric vector of data sizes to vary.
<code>setup</code>	expression to evaluate for every data size, before timings. In contrast to <code>expr</code> , no replacement of <code>Package:</code> is performed.
<code>expr</code>	code with package double-colon prefix, for example <code>PKG::fun(argA, argB)</code> , where <code>PKG</code> is the name of the package specified by <code>pkg.path</code> . This code will be evaluated for each different package version, by replacing <code>PKG:</code> by <code>PKG.SHA:</code> . To run different versions of implicitly-called functions like <code>DT[i, j]</code> , you need to call them explicitly, as in <code>data.table::`[.data.table`(DT, i, j)</code> .
<code>sha.vec</code>	named character vector / list of versions.
<code>times</code>	number of times to evaluate each timed expression.
<code>seconds.limit</code>	if the median timing of any expression exceeds this many seconds, then no timings for larger <code>N</code> are computed.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, print messages after every data size?
<code>pkg.edit.fun</code>	function called to edit package before installation, should typically replace instances of <code>PKG</code> with <code>PKG.SHA</code> , default works with Rcpp packages.
<code>result</code>	logical, save results? (default FALSE)
<code>...</code>	named versions.

Details

For convenience, versions can be specified either as code (`...`), data (`sha.vec`), or both. Each version should be either `" "` (to use currently installed version of package, or if missing, install most recent version from CRAN) or a SHA1 hash, which is passed as branch arg to `git2r::checkout`; version names used to identify/interpret the output/plots.

Value

list of class `atime` with elements `seconds.limit` (numeric input param), `timings` (data table of results).

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

See Also

[atime_versions_exprs](#) converts `expr` into a list of expressions, one for each version, passed to `atime` as the `expr.list` argument.

Examples

```

if(FALSE){

  tdir <- tempfile()
  dir.create(tdir)
  git2r::clone("https://github.com/tdhock/binsegRcpp", tdir)
  atime.list <- atime::atime_versions(
    pkg.path=tdir,
    N=2^seq(2, 20),
    setup={
      max.segs <- as.integer(N/2)
      data.vec <- 1:N
    },
    expr=binsegRcpp::binseg_normal(data.vec, max.segs),
    cv="908b77c411bc7f4fcbcf53759245e738ae724c3e",
    "rm unord map"="dcd0808f52b0b9858352106cc7852e36d7f5b15d",
    "mvl_construct"="5942af606641428315b0e63c7da331c4cd44c091")
  plot(atime.list)

  atime::atime_versions_remove("binsegRcpp")

}

```

atime_versions_exprs *Create expressions for different git versions*

Description

Install different git commit versions as different packages, then create a list of expressions, one for each version. For most use cases `atime_versions` is simpler, but `atime_versions_exprs` is more flexible for the case of comparing different versions of one expression to another expression.

Usage

```

atime_versions_exprs(
  pkg.path, expr, sha.vec=NULL,
  verbose=FALSE,
  pkg.edit.fun=pkg.edit.default, ...)

```

Arguments

<code>pkg.path</code>	Path to git repo containing R package.
<code>expr</code>	code with package double-colon prefix, for example <code>PKG::fun(argA, argB)</code> , where <code>PKG</code> is the name of the package specified by <code>pkg.path</code> . This code will be evaluated for each different package version, by replacing <code>PKG:</code> by <code>PKG.SHA:.</code> To run different versions of implicitly-called functions like <code>DT[i, j]</code> , you need to call them explicitly, as in <code>data.table::`[.data.table`(DT, i, j)</code> .

sha.vec	named character vector / list of versions.
verbose	logical, print messages after every data size?
pkg.edit.fun	function called to edit package before installation, should typically replace instances of PKG with PKG.SHA, default works with Rcpp packages, but does not work with all packages. For an example of a custom package editing function, see the atime vignette about data.table.
...	named versions.

Details

For convenience, versions can be specified either as code (...), data (sha.vec), or both. Each version should be either "" (to install most recent version from CRAN) or a SHA1 hash, which is passed as branch arg to `git2r::checkout`; version names used to identify/interpret the output/plots. Each version is installed as a separate package (to whatever R library is first on `.libPaths()`), using the package name PKG.SHA.

Value

A list of expressions, one for each version, created by replacing PKG: in `expr` with PKG.SHA:, `atime(name1=Package.SHA1::fun(argA, argB), name2=Package.SHA2::fun(argA, argB))`.

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
if(FALSE){

  if(requireNamespace("changepoint")){
    tdir <- tempfile()
    dir.create(tdir)
    git2r::clone("https://github.com/tdhock/binsegRcpp", tdir)
    expr.list <- atime::atime_versions_exprs(
      pkg.path=tdir,
      expr=binsegRcpp::binseg_normal(data.vec, max.segs),
      cv="908b77c411bc7f4fcbcf53759245e738ae724c3e",
      "rm unord map"="dcd0808f52b0b9858352106cc7852e36d7f5b15d",
      "mv1_construct"="5942af606641428315b0e63c7da331c4cd44c091")
    atime.list <- atime::atime(
      N=2^seq(2, 20),
      setup={
        max.segs <- as.integer(N/2)
        data.vec <- 1:N
      },
      expr.list=expr.list,
      changepoint=changepoint::cpt.mean(
        data.vec, penalty="Manual", pen.value=0, method="BinSeg",
        Q=max.segs-1))
  }
```

```
    plot(atime.list)
  }

  atime::atime_versions_remove("binsegRcpp")
}
```

atime_versions_remove *Remove packages installed by atime*

Description

atime_versions_exprs installs different git versions of a package, and this function removes them.

Usage

```
atime_versions_remove(Package)
```

Arguments

Package Name of package without SHA.

Details

The library searched is the first on `.libPaths()`.

Value

integer exit status code from unlink, non-zero if removal failed.

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

glob_find_replace *Find and replace within files*

Description

Find and replace for every file specified by glob.

Usage

```
glob_find_replace(glob, FIND, REPLACE)
```

Arguments

glob	character string: glob defining files.
FIND	character string: regex to find.
REPLACE	character string: regex to use for replacement.

Value

nothing.

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
## see vignette("data.table", package="atime")
```

references_best *Best references*

Description

Compute best asymptotic references, for all empirical measurements which are present (not missing) and increasing with data size.

Usage

```
references_best(L, fun.list=NULL)
```

Arguments

L	List output from atime.
fun.list	List of asymptotic complexity reference functions, default NULL means to use package default.

Value

list of class "references_best" with elements references (data table of references), measurements (data table of measurements).

Author(s)

Toby Dylan Hocking

Examples

```
## Example 1: polynomial and exponential time string functions.
string.result <- atime::atime(
  N=unique(as.integer(10^seq(0,3.5,l=100))),
  setup={
    subject <- paste(rep("a", N), collapse="")
    pattern <- paste(rep(c("a?", "a"), each=N), collapse="")
  },
  seconds.limit=0.001,
  PCRE.match=regexpr(pattern, subject, perl=TRUE),
  TRE.match=regexpr(pattern, subject, perl=FALSE),
  constant.replacement=gsub("a","constant size replacement",subject),
  linear.replacement=gsub("a",subject,subject))
(string.best <- atime::references_best(string.result))
## plot method shows each expr in a separate panel.
plot(string.best)
## predict method computes N for given units (default seconds limit).
string.pred = predict(string.best)
plot(string.pred)
```

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