

Package ‘flock’

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Type Package

Title Process Synchronization Using File Locks

Version 0.7

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Description Implements synchronization between R processes (spawned by using the ``parallel'' package for instance) using file locks. Supports both exclusive and shared locking.

License Apache License 2.0

Imports Rcpp (>= 0.11.3), methods

LinkingTo Rcpp

NeedsCompilation yes

Repository CRAN

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flock-package

Process synchronization using file locks.

Description

Enables synchronization between R processes using a file lock. Supports both exclusive (writer) and shared (readers) locks.

On UNIX, the implementation relies on the `fcntl` system call. While on Windows, the `LockFileEx/UnlockFileEx` APIs are used.

Details

Package: flock
Type: Package
Version: 0.6
Date: 2014-11-24
License: Apache License 2.0

Author(s)

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Examples

```
## Not run:
require(DBI)
require(flock)
require(RSQLite)
require(parallel)

dbpath <- tempfile()
con <- dbConnect(RSQLite::SQLite(), dbname=dbpath)
df <- data.frame(value = 0)
dbWriteTable(con, "test", df)
dbDisconnect(con)

write.one.value <- function(val, lock.name=NULL) {
  if(!is.null(lock.name)) {
    file.lock = lock(lock.name)
  }

  # The three lines below are the "critical section"
  con <- dbConnect(RSQLite::SQLite(), dbname = dbpath)
```

```
dbWriteTable(con, "test", data.frame(value = val), append = TRUE)
dbDisconnect(con)

if(!is.null(lock.name)) {
  unlock(file.lock)
}

lock.name = tempfile()

# Run the parallel database updates with two cores
mclapply(1:100, write.one.value, mc.cores=2, lock.name=lock.name)

# To see the failing scenario, run (on a multi-core system):
# mclapply(1:100, write.one.value, mc.cores=2)

## End(Not run)
```

is.locked

Locking/Unlocking

Description

Checks whether a lock has been obtained.

Usage

```
is.locked(file.lock)
```

Arguments

file.lock The lock as an object of type FileLock.

Author(s)

Ivan Popivanov

Examples

```
## Not run:
require(flock)

file.lock = lock("~/file.lock")
# Critical section code goes between here and the unlock call
if(is.locked(file.lock)) {
  print("Got the lock!")
}
unlock(file.lock)

## End(Not run)
```

lock	<i>Locking/Unlocking</i>
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Description

Locks a file in exclusive or shared mode.

Usage

```
lock(path, exclusive = TRUE)
```

Arguments

path	Character. The path.
exclusive	Logical. The lock type, exclusive or shared.

Details

The file is created if it doesn't exist.

Value

Returns an object of type FileLock, which is to be used for the unlock call.

Author(s)

Ivan Popivanov

Examples

```
## Not run:  
require(flock)  
  
file.lock = lock("~/file.lock")  
# Critical section code goes here  
unlock(file.lock)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

unlock

*Locking/Unlocking***Description**

Unlocks a file previously locked via lock.

Usage

```
unlock(file.lock)
```

Arguments

`file.lock` The FileLock object returned by lock.

Author(s)

Ivan Popivanov

See Also

[lock](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
require(flock)

file.lock = lock("~/file.lock")
# Critical section code goes here
unlock(file.lock)

## End(Not run)
```

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