Package 'httptest2'

July 22, 2025

Description Testing and documenting code that communicates with remote servers can be painful. This package helps with writing tests for packages that

Type Package

Title Test Helpers for 'httr2'

```
use 'httr2'. It enables testing all of the logic
      on the R sides of the API without requiring access to the
      remote service, and it also allows recording real API responses to use as
      test fixtures. The ability to save responses and load them offline also
      enables writing vignettes and other dynamic documents that can be
      distributed without access to a live server.
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```

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.mockPaths

Set an alternate directory for mock API fixtures

Description

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By default, with_mock_api() will look for and capture_requests() will write mocks to your package's tests/testthat directory, or else the current working directory if that path does not exist. If you want to look in or write to other places, call .mockPaths() to add directories to the search path.

Usage

.mockPaths(new)

Arguments

new

Either a character vector of path(s) to add, or NULL to reset to the default.

Details

It works like base::.libPaths(): any directories you specify will be added to the list and searched first. The default directory will be searched last. Only unique values are kept: if you provide a path that is already found in .mockPaths(), the result effectively moves that path to the first position.

For finer-grained control, or to completely override the default behavior of searching in the current working directory, you can set the option "httptest2.mock.paths" directly.

Value

If new is omitted, the function returns the current search paths, a a character vector. If new is provided, the updated value will be returned invisibly.

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Examples

```
.mockPaths()
.mockPaths("/var/somewhere/else")
.mockPaths()
.mockPaths(NULL)
.mockPaths()
```

capture_requests

Record API responses as mock files

Description

capture_requests() is a context that collects the responses from requests you make and stores them as mock files. This enables you to perform a series of requests against a live server once and then build your test suite using those mocks, running your tests in with_mock_api().

Usage

```
capture_requests(expr, simplify = TRUE)
start_capturing(simplify = TRUE)
stop_capturing()
```

Arguments

expr Code to run inside the context

simplify logical: if TRUE (default),

logical: if TRUE (default), plain-text responses with status 200 will be written as just the text of the response body. In all other cases, and when simplify is FALSE, the httr2_response object will be written out to a .R file using

base::dput().

Details

start_capturing() and stop_capturing() allow you to turn on/off request recording for more convenient use in an interactive session.

Recorded responses are written out as plain-text files. By storing fixtures as plain-text files, you can more easily confirm that your mocks look correct, and you can more easily maintain them without having to re-record them. If the API changes subtly, such as when adding an additional attribute to an object, you can just touch up the mocks.

If the response has status 200 OK and the Content-Type maps to a supported file extension—currently .json, .html, .xml, .txt, .csv, and .tsv—just the response body will be written out, using the appropriate extension. 204 No Content status responses will be stored as an empty file with extension .204. Otherwise, the response will be written as a .R file containing syntax that, when executed, recreates the httr2_response object.

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Files are saved to the first directory in .mockPaths(), which if not otherwise specified is either "tests/testthat" if it exists (as it should if you are in the root directory of your package), else the current working directory. If you have trouble when recording responses, or are unsure where the files are being written, set options(httptest2.verbose = TRUE) to print a message for every file that is written containing the absolute path of the file.

Value

capture_requests() returns the result of expr. start_capturing() invisibly returns the destination directory. stop_capturing() returns nothing; it is called for its side effects.

See Also

build_mock_url() for how requests are translated to file paths. And see vignette("redacting",
package = "httptest2") for details on how to prune sensitive content from responses when recording.

Examples

```
# Setup so that our examples clean up after themselves
tmp <- tempfile()</pre>
.mockPaths(tmp)
on.exit(unlink(tmp, recursive = TRUE))
library(httr2)
capture_requests({
 request("http://httpbin.org/get") %>% req_perform()
 request("http://httpbin.org/response-headers") %>%
    req_headers(`Content-Type` = "application/json") %>%
    req_perform()
})
# Or:
start_capturing()
request("http://httpbin.org/get") %>% req_perform()
request("http://httpbin.org/response-headers") %>%
 req_headers(`Content-Type` = "application/json") %>%
 req_perform()
stop_capturing()
```

change_state

Handle a change of server state

Description

In a vignette, put a call to change_state() before any code block that makes a change on the server, or rather, before any code block that might repeat the same request previously done and expect a different result.

Usage

```
change_state()
```

Details

change_state() works by layering a new directory on top of the existing .mockPaths(), so fixtures are recorded/loaded there, masking rather than overwriting previously recorded responses for the same request. In vignettes, these mock layers are subdirectories with integer names.

Value

Invisibly, the return of .mockPaths() with the new path added.

See Also

```
start_vignette(); vignette("vignettes", package = "httptest2") for an overview of all
```

Description

This expectation checks that HTTP headers (and potentially header values) are present in a request. It works both in the mock HTTP contexts and on "live" HTTP requests.

Usage

```
expect_request_header(
  expr,
    ...,
  fixed = FALSE,
  ignore.case = FALSE,
  perl = FALSE,
  useBytes = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

expr	Code to evaluate
•••	Named headers to match. Values should either be a string (length-1 character), which will be passed to testthat::expect_match(), or NULL to assert that the named header is not present in the request. To assert that a header is merely present in the request, without asserting anything about its contents, provide an empty string (""). Header names are always case-insensitive; header values will be matched using the following parameters:
fixed	logical. If TRUE, pattern is a string to be matched as is. Overrides all conflicting arguments.

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ignore.case logical. if FALSE, the pattern matching is *case sensitive* and if TRUE, case is ignored during matching.

perl logical. Should Perl-compatible regexps be used?

useBytes logical. If TRUE the matching is done byte-by-byte rather than character-by-character. See 'Details'.

Value

The value of expr if there are no expectation failures

Examples

```
library(httr2)
expect_request_header(
  request("http://httpbin.org") %>%
    req_headers(Accept = "image/png") %>%
    req_perform(),
  accept = "image/png",
    `x-fake-header` = NULL
)
expect_request_header(
  request("http://httpbin.org") %>%
    req_headers(Accept = "image/png") %>%
    req_perform(),
  accept = ""
)
```

expect_verb

Expectations for mocked HTTP requests

Description

The mock contexts in httptest2 can raise errors or messages when requests are made, and those (error) messages have three elements, separated by space: (1) the request method (e.g. "GET"); (2) the request URL; and (3) the request body, if present. These verb-expectation functions look for this message shape. expect_PUT, for instance, looks for a request message that starts with "PUT".

```
expect_GET(object, url = "", ...)
expect_POST(object, url = "", ...)
expect_PATCH(object, url = "", ...)
expect_PUT(object, url = "", ...)
```

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```
expect_DELETE(object, url = "", ...)
expect_no_request(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object

Code to execute that may cause an HTTP request

url

character: the URL you expect a request to be made to. Default is an empty string, meaning that you can just assert that a request is made with a certain method without asserting anything further.

. . .

character segments of a request payload you expect to be included in the request body, to be joined together by paste0(). You may also pass any of the following named logical arguments, which will be passed to base::grepl():

- fixed: Should matching take the pattern as is or treat it as a regular expression. Default: TRUE, and note that this default is the opposite of the default in grep1. (The rest of the arguments follow its defaults.)
- ignore.case: Should matching be done case insensitively? Default: FALSE, meaning matches are case sensitive.
- per1: Should Perl-compatible regular expressions be used? Default: FALSE
- useBytes: Should matching be done byte-by-byte rather than character-bycharacter? Default: FALSE

Value

A testthat 'expectation'.

Examples

```
library(httr2)
without_internet({
 expect_GET(
    request("http://httpbin.org/get") %>% req_perform(),
    "http://httpbin.org/get"
 )
 expect_GET(
    request("http://httpbin.org/get") %>% req_perform(),
    "http://httpbin.org/[a-z]+",
   fixed = FALSE # For regular expression matching
 )
 expect_PUT(
    request("http://httpbin.org/put") %>%
     req_method("PUT") %>%
     req_body_json(list(a = 1)) %>%
     req_perform(),
    "http://httpbin.org/put",
    '{"a":1}'
 # Don't need to assert the request body, or even the URL
 expect_PUT(
```

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```
request("http://httpbin.org/put") %>%
    req_method("PUT") %>%
    req_body_json(list(a = 1)) %>%
    req_perform()
)
    expect_no_request(rnorm(5))
})
```

gsub_response

Find and replace within a response object

Description

This function passes its arguments to base::gsub() in order to find and replace string patterns (regular expressions) within the URL and the response body of httr2_response objects.

Usage

```
gsub_response(response, pattern, replacement, ...)
```

Arguments

response An httr2_response or http2_request object to sanitize.

Pattern From base::gsub(): "character string containing a regular expression (or character string for fixed = TRUE) to be matched in the given character vector." Passed to gsub(). See the docs for gsub() for further details.

A replacement for the matched pattern, possibly including regular expression backreferences. Passed to gsub(). See the docs for gsub() for further details.

Additional logical arguments passed to gsub(): ignore.case, perl, fixed, and useBytes are the possible options.

Details

Note that, unlike gsub(), the first argument of the function is response, not pattern, while the equivalent argument in gsub(), "x", is placed third. This difference is to maintain consistency with the other redactor functions in httptest2, which all take response as the first argument.

This function also can be applied to an http2_request object to replace patterns inside the request URL.

Value

An httr2_response object, same as was passed in, with the pattern replaced in the URLs and bodies.

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redact	Remove sensitive content	from HTTP responses
--------	--------------------------	---------------------

Description

When recording requests for use as test fixtures, you don't want to include secrets like authentication tokens and personal ids. These functions provide a means for redacting this kind of content, or anything you want, from responses that capture_requests() saves.

Usage

```
redact_cookies(response)
redact_headers(response, headers = c())
within_body_text(response, FUN)
```

Arguments

response An httr2_response or httr2_request object to sanitize.

headers For redact_headers(), a character vector of header names to sanitize.

FUN For within_body_text(), a function that takes as its argument a character vec-

tor and returns a modified version of that. This function will be applied to the

text of the response's body.

Details

redact_cookies() removes cookies from httr2_response objects and is the default redactor in capture_requests(). redact_headers() lets you target selected request and response headers for redaction. within_body_text() lets you manipulate the text of the response body and manages the parsing of the raw (binary) data in the httr_response object.

Note that if you set a redacting function, it will also be applied to requests when loading mocks. This allows you to sanitize and/or shorten URLs in your mock files.

Value

All redacting functions return a well-formed httr2_response or httr2_request object.

See Also

vignette("redacting", package = "httptest2") for a detailed discussion of what these functions do and how to customize them. gsub_response() is another redactor. 10 set_redactor

set_redactor

Set a response redactor

Description

A redactor is a function that alters the response content being written out in the capture_requests() context, allowing you to remove sensitive values, such as authentication tokens, as well as any other modification or truncation of the response body. By default, the redact_cookies() function will be used to purge standard auth methods, but set_redactor() allows you to provide a different one.

Usage

```
set_redactor(FUN)
```

Arguments

FUN

A function or expression that modifies httr2_response objects. Specifically, a valid input is one of:

- A function taking a single argument, the httr2_response, and returning a valid httr2_response object.
- A formula as shorthand for an anonymous function with . as the "response" argument, as in the purrr package. That is, instead of function (response) redact_headers(response, "X-Custom-Header"), you can use ~ redact_headers(., "X-Custom-Header")
- A list of redacting functions/formulas, which will be executed in sequence on the response
- NULL, to override the default redact_cookies().

Details

Alternatively, you can put a redacting function in inst/httptest2/redact.R in your package, and any time your package is loaded (as in when running tests or building vignettes), the function will be used automatically.

Value

Invisibly, the redacting function, validated and perhaps modified. Formulas and function lists are turned into proper functions. NULL as input returns the force() function.

See Also

For further details on how to redact responses, see vignette("redacting", package = "httptest2").

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Examples

```
# Shorten UUIDs in response body/URLs to their first 6 digits:
set_redactor(function(resp) gsub_response(resp, "([0-9a-f]{6})[0-9a-f]{26}", "\\1"))
# Restore the default
set_redactor(redact_cookies)
```

start_vignette

Set mocking/capturing state for a vignette

Description

Use start_vignette() to either use previously recorded responses, if they exist, or capture real responses for future use.

Usage

```
start_vignette(dir, ...)
end_vignette()
```

Arguments

dir

Root file path for the mocks for this vignette. A good idea is to use the file name

of the vignette itself.

... Optional arguments passed to start_capturing()

Details

In a vignette or other R Markdown or Sweave document, place start_vignette() in an R code block at the beginning, before the first API request is made, and put end_vignette() in a R code chunk at the end. You may want to make those R code chunks have echo=FALSE in order to hide the fact that you're calling them.

As in with_mock_dir(), the behavior changes based on the existence of the dir directory. The first time you build the vignette, the directory won't exist yet, so it will make real requests and record them inside of dir. On subsequent runs, the mocks will be used. To record fresh responses from the server, delete the dir directory, and the responses will be recorded again the next time the vignette runs.

If you have additional setup code that you'd like available across all of your package's vignettes, put it in inst/httptest2/start-vignette.R in your package, and it will be called in start_vignette() before the mock/record context is set. Similarly, teardown code can go in inst/httptest2/end-vignette.R, evaluated in end_vignette() after mocking is stopped.

Value

Nothing; called for its side effect of starting/ending response recording or mocking.

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See Also

start_capturing() for how requests are recorded; use_mock_api() for how previously recorded
requests are loaded; change_state() for how to handle recorded requests when the server state is
changing; vignette("vignettes", package = "httptest2") for an overview of all

use_httptest2

Use 'httptest2' in your tests

Description

This function adds httptest2 to Suggests in the package DESCRIPTION and loads it in tests/testthat/setup.R. Call it once when you're setting up a new package test suite.

Usage

```
use_httptest2(path = ".")
```

Arguments

path

character path to the package

Details

The function is idempotent: if httptest2 is already added to these files, no additional changes will be made.

Value

Nothing: called for file system side effects.

without_internet

Make all HTTP requests raise an error

Description

without_internet() simulates the situation when any network request will fail, as in when you are without an internet connection. Any HTTP request through http2 will raise an error.

```
without_internet(expr)
block_requests()
```

with_mock_api

Arguments

expr

Code to run inside the mock context

Details

block_requests() and stop_mocking() allow you to turn on/off request blocking for more convenient use in an interactive session.

The error message raised has a well-defined shape, made of three elements, separated by space: (1) the request method (e.g. "GET"); (2) the request URL; and (3) the request body, if present. The verb-expectation functions, such as expect_GET() and expect_POST(), look for this shape.

Value

The result of expr

Examples

```
library(httr2)
library(testthat, warn.conflicts = FALSE)
without_internet({
  expect_error(
    request("http://httpbin.org/get") %>% req_perform(),
    "GET http://httpbin.org/get"
  )
  expect_error(
    request("http://httpbin.org/put") %>%
      req_method("PUT") %>%
      req_body_json(list(a = 1)) %>%
      req_perform(),
    'PUT http://httpbin.org/put {"a":1}',
    fixed = TRUE
  )
})
```

with_mock_api

Serve a mock API from files

Description

In this context, HTTP requests attempt to load API response fixtures from files. This allows test code to proceed evaluating code that expects HTTP requests to return meaningful responses. Requests that do not have a corresponding fixture file raise errors, like how without_internet() does.

```
with_mock_api(expr)
use_mock_api()
stop_mocking()
```

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Arguments

expr

Code to run inside the mock context

Details

use_mock_api() and stop_mocking() allow you to turn on/off request mocking for more convenient use in an interactive session.

Requests are translated to mock file paths according to several rules that incorporate the request method, URL, query parameters, and body. See build_mock_url() for details.

File paths for API fixture files may be relative to the 'tests/testthat' directory, i.e. relative to the .R test files themselves. This is the default location for storing and retrieving mocks, but you can put them anywhere you want as long as you set the appropriate location with .mockPaths().

Value

with_mock_api() returns the result of expr. use_mock_api() and stop_mocking() return nothing.

Examples

```
library(httr2)
with_mock_api({
    # There are no mocks recorded in this example, so catch this request with
    # expect_GET()
    expect_GET(
        request("https://cran.r-project.org") %>% req_perform(),
        "https://cran.r-project.org"
    )
      # For examples with mocks, see the tests and vignettes
})
```

with_mock_dir

Use or create mock files depending on their existence

Description

This context will switch the .mockPaths() to tests/testthat/dir (and then resets it to what it was before). If the tests/testthat/dir folder doesn't exist, capture_requests() will be run to create mocks. If it exists, with_mock_api() will be run. To re-record mock files, simply delete tests/testthat/dir and run the test.

```
with_mock_dir(dir, expr, simplify = TRUE, replace = TRUE)
```

with_mock_dir

Arguments

dir character string, unique folder name that will be used or created under tests/testthat/

expr Code to run inside the context

simplify logical: if TRUE (default), plain-text responses with status 200 will be written

as just the text of the response body. In all other cases, and when simplify is FALSE, the httr2_response object will be written out to a .R file using

base::dput().

replace Logical: should dir replace the contents of .mockPaths() (default) or be added

in front of the existing paths? The default behavior here is the opposite of .mockPaths() so that the tests inside of with_mock_dir() are fully isolated.

See Also

vignette("httptest2") for usage examples.

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