

Package ‘sss’

July 23, 2025

Version 0.2.2

License GPL-2 | GPL-3

Title Import Files in the Triple-s (Standard Survey Structure) Format

Description Tools to import survey files in the '.sss' (triple-s) format.
The package provides the function 'read.sss()' that reads the '.asc'
(or '.csv') and '.sss' files of a triple-s survey data file.
See also <<https://triple-s.org/>>.

URL <http://andrie.github.io/sss/>, <https://andrie.github.io/sss/>

BugReports <https://github.com/andrie/sss/issues>

Depends R (>= 2.11.0)

Imports utils, xml2, methods, assertthat

Suggests testthat, covr, knitr, rmarkdown, dplyr, spelling, utf8

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Encoding UTF-8

VignetteBuilder knitr

Language en-US

Config/testthat/edition 3

NeedsCompilation no

Author Andrie de Vries [aut, cre]

Maintainer Andrie de Vries <apdevries@gmail.com>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-01-26 10:20:02 UTC

Contents

fast.read.fwf	2
namesMultiple	3
parseSSSmetadata	3
read.sss	4

readSSSdata 5

readSSSmetadata 6

repN 6

Index 7

fast.read.fwf	<i>Read fixed-width files quickly.</i>
---------------	--

Description

Experimental replacement for `utils::read.fwf` that runs much faster. However, it is much less flexible than `utils::read.fwf`.

Usage

```
fast.read.fwf(  
  file,  
  widths,  
  col.names = NULL,  
  colClasses = NA,  
  tz = "",  
  dec = ".",  
  ...  
)
```

Arguments

file	Character vector: name of file
widths	Numeric vector: column widths. Negative numbers mean "skip this many columns". Use an NA as the final element if there are likely to be extra characters at the end of each row after the last one that you're interested in.
col.names	names for the columns that are NOT skipped
colClasses	can be used to control type conversion; see <code>read.table()</code> . It is an optional vector whose names must be part of <code>col.names</code> . There is one extension of the <code>read.table()</code> rules: a <code>colClasses</code> string starting <code>POSIXct</code> will trigger automatic conversion to <code>POSIXct</code> , using the rest of the string as the format specifier.
tz	used in auto-conversion to <code>POSIXct()</code> when <code>colClasses</code> is set
dec	the character to be assumed for decimal points. Passed to <code>utils::type.convert()</code>
...	ignored

namesMultiple	<i>Reads all "codes" inside the triple-s "record"</i>
---------------	---

Description

This function parses the record node and extracts all "codes" nodes into a data.frame

Usage

```
namesMultiple(names, length, sep = "_")
```

Arguments

names	character vector defining the string that separates field and subfield names
length	Numeric vector that indicates the number of times each row must be repeated
sep	Character vector defining the string that separates field and subfield names

parseSSSmetadata	<i>Parses a triple-s XML (sss) metadata file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
------------------	--

Description

This function reads and parses a .sss XML metadata file as well as its associated .asc data file. The .sss standard defines a standard survey structure.

Usage

```
parseSSSmetadata(x, XMLdoc)
```

Arguments

x	An XML document - as returned by xml2::read_xml() , or readSSSmetadata()
XMLdoc	No longer used. Use x instead.

See Also

[readSSSmetadata](#), [read.sss](#), [readSSSdata](#)

read.sss	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (asc) data file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
----------	---

Description

This function reads and parses a .sss XML metadata file as well as its associated .asc data file. The sss standard defines a standard survey structure.

Usage

```
read.sss(
  sssFilename,
  ascFilename = guess_asc_filename(sssFilename),
  sep = "_",
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

sssFilename	Character string: name of .sss file containing the survey metadata
ascFilename	Character string: name of .asc (or .csv) file containing survey data. If this is not provided, guesses the filename using
sep	Character vector defining the string that separates question and subquestion labels, e.g. c("Q_1", "Q_2")
verbose	If TRUE, prints messages when reading data files. Defaults to FALSE.

Value

A data frame with one element (column) for each variable in the data set.

The resulting data.frame contains several attributes:

- `variable.labels`: a named list of value labels with one element per variable, either NULL or a named character vector
- `label.table`: a named list with one element per question. Every element is a named character string that contains the label codes for that question.

References

<https://triple-s.org/>

See Also

Other read functions: [readSSSdata\(\)](#), [readSSSmetadata\(\)](#)

Examples

```
example <- system.file("sampledata/sample-1.sss", package = "sss")

# read.sss() automatically guesses the data file name
read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-1.sss", package = "sss"))

read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-2.sss", package = "sss"))

read.sss(system.file("sampledata/sample-3.sss", package = "sss"))
```

readSSSdata	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (asc) data file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
-------------	---

Description

This function reads an ‘.asc’ data file.

Usage

```
readSSSdata(x, ascFilename)
```

Arguments

x	Name of .asc file containing the survey metadata
ascFilename	No longer used. Use x instead.

See Also

[read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSmetadata\(\)](#)

Other read functions: [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSmetadata\(\)](#)

Examples

```
sampleRoot <- system.file("sampledata", package = "sss")
filenameSSS <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.sss")
filenameASC <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.asc")

readSSSdata(filenameSSS)
readSSSmetadata(filenameSSS)
```

readSSSmetadata	<i>Reads a triple-s XML (sss) metadata file, as specified by the triple-s XML standard.</i>
-----------------	---

Description

This function reads a .sss XML metadata file. The .sss standard defines a standard survey structure

Usage

```
readSSSmetadata(x, SSSfilename)
```

Arguments

x	Name of .sss file containing the survey metadata
SSSfilename	No longer used. Use x instead.

See Also

[parseSSSmetadata\(\)](#), [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSdata\(\)](#)

Other read functions: [read.sss\(\)](#), [readSSSdata\(\)](#)

Examples

```
sampleRoot <- system.file("sampledata", package = "sss")
filenameSSS <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.sss")
filenameASC <- file.path(sampleRoot, "sample-1.asc")

readSSSdata(filenameSSS)
readSSSmetadata(filenameSSS)
```

repN	<i>Repeats each element n times</i>
------	-------------------------------------

Description

Each element is repeated n times. This is used to construct a vector of the new length after accounting for fields of type multiple

Usage

```
repN(n)
```

Arguments

n	Numeric vector that indicates the number of times each row must be repeated
---	---

Index

* Internal

namesMultiple, 3

repN, 6

* parsing functions

parseSSSmetadata, 3

* read functions

read.sss, 4

readSSSdata, 5

readSSSmetadata, 6

fast.read.fwf, 2

namesMultiple, 3

parseSSSmetadata, 3

parseSSSmetadata(), 6

POSIXct(), 2

read.sss, 4, 5, 6

read.sss(), 5, 6

read.table(), 2

readSSSdata, 4, 5, 6

readSSSdata(), 6

readSSSmetadata, 4, 5, 6

readSSSmetadata(), 3, 5

repN, 6

utils::read.fwf, 2

utils::type.convert(), 2

xml2::read_xml(), 3