

# Package ‘matter’

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**Type** Package

**Title** A framework for rapid prototyping with file-based data structures

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**Description** Memory-efficient reading, writing, and manipulation of structured binary data as file-based vectors, matrices, arrays, lists, and data frames.

**License** Artistic-2.0

**Depends** R (>= 3.5), BiocParallel, Matrix, methods, stats, biglm

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**Suggests** BiocStyle, testthat

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---

apply

*Apply Functions Over “matter” Matrices*

---

**Description**

An implementation of `apply` for `matter_mat`, `sparse_mat` and `virtual_mat` matrices.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ..., BPPARAM = bpparam(), simplify = TRUE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'sparse_mat'  
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ..., BPPARAM = bpparam(), simplify = TRUE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'virtual_mat'  
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ..., BPPARAM = bpparam(), simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

X	A <a href="#">matter</a> matrix-like object.
MARGIN	Must be 1 or 2 for <a href="#">matter_mat</a> matrices, where '1' indicates rows and '2' indicates columns. The dimension names can also be used if X has dimnames set.
FUN	The function to be applied.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to FUN.
BPPARAM	An optional instance of <a href="#">BiocParallelParam</a> . See documentation for <a href="#">bplapply</a> .
simplify	Should the result be simplified?

**Details**

Because FUN must be executed by the interpreter in the appropriate R environment, the full row or column will be loaded into memory. The chunksize of X is ignored. For summary statistics, functions like [colMeans](#) and [rowMeans](#) offer greater control over memory pressure. When performed in parallel, the matter metadata is serialized to each R session, so all workers must be able to access the data via the same paths().

**Value**

See [apply](#) for details.

**Warning**

Applying a function over the rows of a column-major matrix (e.g., [matter\\_matc](#)) or over the columns of a row-major matrix (e.g., [matter\\_matr](#)) may be very slow.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[apply](#)

**Examples**

```

register(SerialParam())

x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)

apply(x, 2, summary)

```

---

biglm

*Using “biglm” with “matter”*


---

**Description**

This method allows `matter_mat` matrices and `matter_df` data frames to be used with the `biglm` and `bigglm` functions from the “biglm” package.

**Usage**

```

## S4 method for signature 'formula,virtual_df'
biglm(formula, data, weights = NULL, sandwich = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,virtual_df'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,matter_mat'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL, fc = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,sparse_mat'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL, fc = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,virtual_mat'
bigglm(formula, data, ..., chunksize = NULL, fc = NULL)

```

**Arguments**

<code>formula</code>	A model formula.
<code>data</code>	A <code>matter</code> matrix with column names.
<code>weights</code>	A one-sided, single-term formula specifying weights.
<code>sandwich</code>	If TRUE, compute the Huber/White sandwich covariance matrix (uses $p^4$ memory rather than $p^2$ ).
<code>chunksize</code>	An integer giving the maximum number of rows to process at a time. If left NULL, this will be calculated by dividing the chunksize of data by the number of variables in the formula.
<code>fc</code>	Either column indices or names of variables which are factors.
<code>...</code>	Additional options passed to <code>bigglm</code> .

**Value**

An object of class `bigglm`.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

`bigglm`

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)

x <- matter_mat(rnorm(1000), nrow=100, ncol=10)

colnames(x) <- c(paste0("x", 1:9), "y")

fm <- paste0("y ~ ", paste0(paste0("x", 1:9), collapse=" + "))
fm <- as.formula(fm)

fit <- bigglm(fm, data=x, chunksize=50)
coef(fit)
```

---

binvec

*Bin a vector*


---

**Description**

Bin a vector based on intervals or groups.

**Usage**

```
binvec(x, u, v, method = "sum")
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A numeric vector.
<code>u, v</code>	The (inclusive) lower and upper indices of the bins, or a factor providing the groupings.
<code>method</code>	The method used to bin the values. This is efficiently implemented for "sum", "mean", "min" or "max". Providing a function will use a less-efficient fallback.

**Value**

An vector of the summarized (binned) values.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**Examples**

```

set.seed(1)

x <- runif(20)

binvec(x, c(1,6,11,16), c(5,10,15,20), method="mean")

binvec(x, seq(from=1, to=21, by=5), method="mean")

g <- rep(c("a","b","c","d"), each=5)

binvec(x, g, method="mean")

```

bsearch

*Binary Search with Approximate Matching***Description**

Given a set of keys and a sorted (non-decreasing) vector of values, use a binary search to find the indexes in values that match the values of key. This implementation allows for returning the index of the nearest match if there are no exact matches. It also allows specifying a tolerance for comparison of doubles.

**Usage**

```

bsearch(key, values, tol = 0, tol.ref = "none",
nomatch = NA_integer_, nearest = FALSE)

```

**Arguments**

key	A vector of keys to match.
values	A sorted (non-decreasing) vector of values to be matched.
tol	The tolerance for matching doubles. Must be $\geq 0$ .
tol.ref	One of 'none', 'key', or 'values'. If 'none', then comparison of doubles is done by taking the absolute difference. If either 'key' or 'values', then relative differences are used, and this specifies which to use as the reference (target) value.
nomatch	The value to be returned in the case when no match is found, coerced to an integer. (Ignored if nearest = TRUE.)
nearest	Should the index of the closest match be returned if no exact matches are found?

**Details**

The algorithm is implemented in C and currently only works for 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character' vectors. If there are multiple matches, then the first match that is found will be returned, with no guarantees. If a nonzero tolerance is provided, the closest match will be returned.

The "nearest" match for strings when there are no exact matches is decided by the match with the most initial matching characters. Tolerance is ignored for strings and integers. Behavior is undefined and results may be unexpected if values includes NAs.

**Value**

A vector of the same length as key, giving the indexes of the matches in values.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[match](#), [pmatch](#), [findInterval](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- c(1.11, 2.22, 3.33, 5.0, 5.1)

bsearch(2.22, x) # 2
bsearch(3.0, x) # NA
bsearch(3.0, x, nearest=TRUE) # 3
bsearch(3.0, x, tol=0.1, tol.ref="values") # 3

y <- c("hello", "world!")
bsearch("world!", y) # 2
bsearch("worl", y) # NA
bsearch("worl", y, nearest=TRUE) # 2
```

---

checksum

*Calculate Checksums and Cryptographic Hashes*

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for applying cryptographic hash functions and calculating checksums for arbitrary R objects.

**Usage**

```
checksum(x, ...)
```

## S4 method for signature 'matter'

```
checksum(x, algo = c("sha1", "md5"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object to be hashed.  
 algo                The hash function to use.  
 ...                 Additional arguments to be passed to the hash function.

**Details**

The method for [matter](#) objects calculates checksums of each of the files in the object's paths.

**Value**

A character vector giving the hash or hashes of the object.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[digest](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matter(1:10)
y <- matter(1:10)

checksum(x)
checksum(y) # should be the same
```

---

chunk\_apply

*Apply Functions Over Chunks of a List, Vector, or Matrix*

---

**Description**

Perform equivalents of `apply`, `lapply`, and `mapply`, but over parallelized chunks of the data. This is most useful if accessing the data is potentially time-consuming, such as for file-based `matter` objects. Operating on chunks reduces the number of I/O operations.

**Usage**

```
chunk_apply(X, FUN, MARGIN, ..., simplify = FALSE,
            chunks = NA, view = c("element", "chunk"),
            attr = list(), alist = list(), pattern = NULL,
            outfile = NULL, verbose = FALSE,
            BPRED0 = list(), BPPARAM = bpparam())

chunk_mapply(FUN, ..., MoreArgs = NULL, simplify = FALSE,
```

```
chunks = NA, view = c("element", "chunk"),
attr = list(), alist = list(), pattern = NULL,
outfile = NULL, verbose = FALSE,
BPRED0 = list(), BPPARAM = bpparam())
```

## Arguments

X	A list, vector, or matrix for <code>chunk_apply()</code> . These may be any class that implements suitable methods for <code>[], [[, dim,</code> and <code>length()</code> . Only lists are supported for <code>chunk_mapply()</code> .
FUN	The function to be applied.
MARGIN	If the object is matrix-like, which dimension to iterate over. Must be 1 or 2, where 1 indicates rows and 2 indicates columns. The dimension names can also be used if X has <code>dimnames</code> set.
MoreArgs	A list of other arguments to FUN.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to FUN.
simplify	Should the result be simplified into a vector, matrix, or higher dimensional array?
chunks	The number of chunks to use. If NA (the default), this is inferred from <code>chunksizes(X)</code> for <code>matter</code> objects, or from <code>getOption("matter.default.chunksizes")</code> for non- <code>matter</code> classes. For IO-bound operations, using fewer chunks will often be faster, but use more memory.
view	What should be passed as the argument to FUN: "element" means the vector element, row, or column are passed (same as the behavior of <code>lapply</code> and <code>apply</code> ), and "chunk" means to pass the entire chunk.
attr	A named list of attributes that will be attached to the argument passed to FUN as-is.
alist	A named list of vector-like attributes that will be attached to the argument passed to FUN, subsetted to the current elements. Typically, each attribute should be as long as X, unless <code>pattern</code> is specified, in which case each attribute should be as long as <code>pattern</code> .
pattern	A list of indices giving a pattern over which to apply FUN to X. Each element of <code>pattern</code> should give a vector of indices which can be used subscript X. For time and space efficiency, no attempt is made to verify these indices are valid.
outfile	If non-NULL, a file path where the results should be written as they are processed. If specified, FUN must return a 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', or 'numeric' vector. The result will be returned as a <code>matter</code> object.
verbose	Should user messages be printed with the current chunk being processed?
BPRED0	See documentation for <a href="#">bplapply</a> .
BPPARAM	An optional instance of <code>BiocParallelParam</code> . See documentation for <a href="#">bplapply</a> .

## Details

When `view = "element"`:

For vectors and lists, the vector is broken into some number of chunks according to `chunks`. The individual elements of the chunk are then passed to `FUN`.

For matrices, the matrix is chunked along rows or columns, based on the number of chunks. The individual rows or columns of the chunk are then passed to `FUN`.

In this way, the first argument of `FUN` is analogous to using the base `apply` and `lapply` functions.

However, when `view = "chunk"`:

In this situation, the entire chunk is passed to `FUN`, and `FUN` is responsible for knowing how to handle a sub-vector or sub-matrix of the original object. This may be useful if `FUN` is already a function that could be applied to the whole object such as `rowSums` or `colSums`.

When this is the case, it may be useful to provide a custom `simplify` function. Otherwise, the result will be returned as a list with length equal to the number of chunks, which must be post-processed to get into a desirable form.

For convenience to the programmer, several attributes are made available when `view = "chunk"`.

- `"chunk_id"`: The index of the chunk currently being processed by `FUN`.
- `"chunk_elt"`: The indices of the elements of the chunk, as rows/columns/elements in the original matrix/vector.
- `"pattern_id"` (optional): The indices of the patterns that compose the current chunk.
- `"pattern_elt"` (optional): The indices of the elements of the patterns, as rows/columns/elements in the original matrix/vector, that compose the current chunk.

The `pattern` argument can be used to iterate over dependent elements of a vector, or dependent rows/columns of a matrix. This can be useful if the calculation for a particular row/column/element depends on the values of others.

When `pattern` is provided, multiple rows/columns/elements will be passed to `FUN`, even when `view="element"`. Each element of the `pattern` list should be a vector giving the indices that should be passed to `FUN`.

This can be used to implement a rolling apply function.

## Value

Typically, a list if `simplify=FALSE`. Otherwise, the results may be coerced to a vector or array.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[apply](#), [lapply](#), [mapply](#),

**Examples**

```

register(SerialParam())

set.seed(1)
x <- matrix(rnorm(1000^2), nrow=1000, ncol=1000)

out <- chunk_apply(x, mean, 1, chunks=20, verbose=TRUE)

```

colStats

*Row and Column Summary Statistics***Description**

These functions perform calculation of summary statistics over matrix rows and columns, for each level of a grouping variable (optionally), and with implicit row/column scaling and centering if desired.

**Usage**

```

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
colStats(x, stat, groups,
         na.rm = FALSE, tform = identity,
         col.center = NULL, col.scale = NULL,
         row.center = NULL, row.scale = NULL,
         drop = TRUE, BPPARAM = bpparam(), ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
rowStats(x, stat, groups,
         na.rm = FALSE, tform = identity,
         col.center = NULL, col.scale = NULL,
         row.center = NULL, row.scale = NULL,
         drop = TRUE, BPPARAM = bpparam(), ...)

```

**Arguments**

x	A matrix on which to calculate summary statistics.
stat	The name of summary statistics to compute over the rows or columns of a matrix. Allowable values include: "min", "max", "prod", "sum", "mean", "var", "sd", "any", "all", and "nnzero".
groups	A factor or vector giving the grouping. If not provided, no grouping will be used.
na.rm	If TRUE, remove NA values before summarizing.
tform	A dimensionality-preserving transformation to be applied to the matrix (e.g., log() or sqrt()).
col.center	A vector of column centers to subtract from each row. (Or a matrix with a column for each level of groups.)

<code>col.scale</code>	A vector of column scaling factors to divide from each row. (Or a matrix with a column for each level of groups.)
<code>row.center</code>	A vector of row centers to subtract from each column. (Or a matrix with a column for each level of groups.)
<code>row.scale</code>	A vector of row centers to scaling factors to divide from each column. (Or a matrix with a column for each level of groups.)
<code>drop</code>	If only a single summary statistic is calculated, return the results as a vector (or matrix) rather than a list.
<code>BPPARAM</code>	An optional instance of <code>BiocParallelParam</code> . See documentation for <a href="#">bplapply</a> .
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments.

### Details

The summary statistics methods are calculated over chunks of the matrix using [colstreamStats](#) and [rowstreamStats](#). For matrix objects, the iteration is performed over the major dimension for IO efficiency.

### Value

A list for each stat requested, where each element is either a vector (if no grouping variable is provided) or a matrix where each column corresponds to a different level of groups.

If `drop=TRUE`, and only a single statistic is requested, then the result will be unlisted and returned as a vector or matrix.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### See Also

[colSums](#)

### Examples

```
register(SerialParam())

set.seed(1)

x <- matrix(runif(100^2), nrow=100, ncol=100)

groups <- as.factor(rep(letters[1:5], each=20))

colStats(x, "mean", groups=groups)
```

---

combine	<i>Combine Out-of-Memory Objects</i>
---------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for combining matter objects. A default fallback method to `c()` is provided as well.

This generic is internally used to implement `c()`, `cbind()`, and `rbind()` for matter objects.

**Usage**

```
combine(x, y, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	One of the objects.
y	A second object.
...	Any other objects of the same class as x and y.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**Examples**

```
x <- 1:5  
y <- 6:10  
  
combine(x, y)
```

---

combiner	<i>Get or Set combiner for an Object</i>
----------	------------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for getting or setting the 'combiner' for an object with values to combine.

**Usage**

```
combiner(object)
```

```
combiner(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	An object with a combiner.
value	The value to set the combiner.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[sparse\\_mat](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10))
combiner(x)
combiner(x) <- "sum"
x[]
```

---

delayed-ops

*Delayed Operations on “matter” Objects*

---

**Description**

Some arithmetic, comparison, and logical operations are available as delayed operations on [matter](#) objects. With these operations, no out-of-memory data is changed, and the operation is only executed when elements of the object are actually accessed.

**Details**

Currently the following delayed operations are supported:

‘Arith’: ‘+’, ‘-’, ‘\*’, ‘/’, ‘^’, ‘

‘Compare’: ‘==’, ‘>’, ‘<’, ‘!=’, ‘<=’, ‘>=’

‘Logic’: ‘&’, ‘|’

‘Ops’: ‘Arith’, ‘Compare’, ‘Logic’

‘Math’: ‘exp’, ‘log’, ‘log2’, ‘log10’

Delayed operations are applied at the C++ layer immediately after the elements are read from virtual memory. This means that operations that are implemented in C and/or C++ for efficiency (such as summary statistics) will also reflect the execution of the delayed operations.

**Value**

A new [matter](#) object with the registered delayed operation. Data in storage is not modified; only object metadata is changed.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[Arith](#), [Compare](#), [Logic](#), [Ops](#), [Math](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter(1:100)
y <- 2 * x + 1

x[1:10]
y[1:10]

mean(x)
mean(y)
```

---

`drle-class`*Delta Run Length Encoding*

---

**Description**

The `drle` class stores delta-run-length-encoded vectors. These differ from other run-length-encoded vectors provided by other packages in that they allow for runs of values that each differ by a common difference (`delta`).

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
drle(x, cr_threshold = 0, delta = TRUE)

is.drle(x)
## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An integer or numeric vector to convert to delta run length encoding for <code>drle()</code> ; an object to test if it is of class <code>drle</code> for <code>is.drle()</code> .
<code>cr_threshold</code>	The compression ratio threshold to use when converting a vector to delta run length encoding. The default (0) always converts the object to <code>drle</code> . Values of <code>cr_threshold &lt; 1</code> correspond to compressing even when the output will be larger than the input (by a certain ratio). For values $> 1$ , compression will only take place when the output is (approximately) at least <code>cr_threshold</code> times smaller.
<code>delta</code>	Should non-zero deltas be considered by the encoding? (Default <code>TRUE</code> .) If <code>FALSE</code> , then ordinary run-length-encoding is used.

**Value**

An object of class `drle`.

**Slots**

`values`: The values that begin each run.

`lengths`: The length of each run.

`deltas`: The difference between the values of each run.

**Creating Objects**

`drle` instances can be created through `drle()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`: Get the elements of the uncompressed vector.

`length(x)`: Get the length of the uncompressed vector.

`c(x, ...)`: Combine vectors.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[rle](#)

**Examples**

```
## Create a drle vector
x <- c(1,1,1,1,1,6,7,8,9,10,21,32,33,34,15)
y <- drle(x)

# Check that their elements are equal
x == y[]
```

---

keys	<i>Get or Set Keys for an Object</i>
------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for getting or setting 'keys' for an object with key-value pairs such as a map data structure.

**Usage**

```
keys(object)
```

```
keys(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	An object with keys.
value	The value to set the keys.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[sparse\\_mat](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10))
keys(x)
keys(x) <- 1:10
x[]
```

---

lapply	<i>Apply Functions Over "matter" Lists</i>
--------	--------------------------------------------

---

**Description**

An implementation of [lapply](#) and [sapply](#) for [matter\\_list](#) objects.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_list'  
lapply(X, FUN, ..., BPPARAM = bpparam())  
  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_list'  
sapply(X, FUN, ..., BPPARAM = bpparam(),  
simplify = TRUE, USE.NAMES = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

X	A <a href="#">matter</a> list-like object.
FUN	The function to be applied.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to FUN.
simplify	Should the result be simplified into a vector, matrix, or higher dimensional array?
USE.NAMES	Use names(X) for the names of the answer. If X is a character, use X as names unless it has names already.
BPPARAM	An optional instance of <code>BiocParallelParam</code> . See documentation for <a href="#">bplapply</a> .

**Details**

Because FUN must be executed by the interpreter in the appropriate R environment, the full list element will be loaded into memory. The chunksize of X is ignored. When performed in parallel, the matter metadata is serialized to each R session, so all workers must be able to access the data via the same paths().

**Value**

See [lapply](#) for details.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[lapply](#)

**Examples**

```
register(SerialParam())  
  
x <- matter_list(list(1:10, b=11:20, 21:30), names=c("a", "b", "c"))  
  
lapply(x, sum)  
  
sapply(x, sum)
```

---

locmax	<i>Local Maxima</i>
--------	---------------------

---

**Description**

Find the indices of the local maxima of a vector.

**Usage**

```
locmax(x, halfWindow = 2, findLimits = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	A numeric vector.
halfWindow	The number of vector elements to look on either side of an element before considering it a local maximum.
findLimits	If TRUE, then also return the approximate boundaries of the peak.

**Details**

For this function, a local maximum is defined as an element greater than all of the elements within halfWindow elements to the left of it, and greater than or equal to all of the elements within halfWindow elements to the right of it.

The boundaries are found by descending the local maxima until the elements are no longer non-increasing. Small increases within halfWindow of the local maxima are ignored.

**Value**

An integer vector giving the indices of the local maxima, potentially with attributes 'lower' and 'upper' if findLimits=TRUE.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**Examples**

```
x <- c(0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 5, 1, 1, 0)
locmax(x, findLimits=TRUE)
```

---

 matter-class

*Vectors, Matrices, and Arrays Stored in Virtual Memory*


---

## Description

The matter class and its subclasses are designed for easy on-demand read/write access to binary virtual memory data structures, and working with them as vectors, matrices, arrays, lists, and data frames.

## Usage

```
## Instance creation
matter(...)

# Check if an object is a matter object
is.matter(x)

# Coerce an object to a matter object
as.matter(x, ...)
```

## Additional methods documented below

## Arguments

... Arguments passed to subclasses.  
 x An object to check if it is a matter object or coerce to a matter object.

## Value

An object of class `matter`.

## Slots

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Creating Objects

`matter` is a virtual class and cannot be instantiated directly, but instances of its subclasses can be created through `matter()`.

## Methods

Class-specific methods:

`atomdata(x)`: Access the 'data' slot.

`adata(x)`: An alias for `atomdata(x)`.

`datamode(x)`, `datamode(x) <- value`: Get or set 'datamode'.

`paths(x)`, `paths(x) <- value`: Get or set 'paths'.

`filemode(x)`, `filemode(x) <- value`: Get or set 'filemode'.

`readonly(x)`, `readonly(x) <- value`: A shortcut for getting or setting 'filemode'.

`chunksize(x)`, `chunksize(x) <- value`: Get or set 'filemode'.

Standard generic methods:

`length(x)`, `length(x) <- value`: Get or set 'length'.

`dim(x)`, `dim(x) <- value`: Get or set 'dim'.

`names(x)`, `names(x) <- value`: Get or set 'names'.

`dimnames(x)`, `dimnames(x) <- value`: Get or set 'dimnames'.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter\\_vec](#), [matter\\_mat](#), [matter\\_arr](#), [matter\\_list](#), [matter\\_fc](#), [matter\\_str](#), [matter\\_df](#)

## Examples

```
## Create a matter_vec vector
x <- matter(1:100, length=100)
x

## Create a matter_mat matrix
x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
x
```

## Description

The matter package defines a number of data types for translating between data elements stored in virtual memory and data elements loaded into R. These are typically set and stored via the `datamode` argument and slot.

At the R level, matter objects may be any of the following data modes:

- `raw`:matter objects of this mode are typically vectors of raw bytes.
- `logical`:Any matter object that represents a logical vector or has had any Compare or Logic delayed operations applied to it will be of this type.
- `integer`:matter objects represented as integers in R.
- `numeric`:matter objects represented as doubles in R.
- `character`:matter objects represented as character vectors in R.
- `virtual`:A number of matter objects do not necessarily represent out-of-memory data, or may include a number of components mixed between virtual memory and real memory; these will use this data mode.

In virtual memory, matter objects may be composed of atomic units of the following data types:

- `char`:8-bit signed integer; defined as `char`.
- `uchar`:8-bit unsigned integer; used for ‘Rbyte’ or ‘raw’; defined as unsigned `char`.
- `short`:16-bit signed integer; defined as `int16_t`.
- `ushort`:16-bit unsigned integer; defined as `uint16_t`.
- `int`:32-bit signed integer; defined as `int32_t`.
- `uint`:32-bit unsigned integer; defined as `uint32_t`.
- `long`:64-bit signed integer; defined as `int64_t`.
- `ulong`:64-bit unsigned integer; defined as `uint64_t`.
- `float`:Platform dependent, but usually a 32-bit float; defined as `float`.
- `double`:Platform dependent, but usually a 64-bit float; defined as `double`.

While a substantial effort is made to coerce data elements properly between data types, sometimes this cannot be done losslessly. This will generate a warning (typically *many* such warnings) that can be silenced by setting `options(matter.cast.warning=FALSE)`.

Note that the unsigned data types do not support NA; coercion to signed `short` and `long` attempts to preserve missingness. The special values `NaN`, `Inf`, and `-Inf` are only supported by the floating-point types, and will be set to `NA` for signed integral types, and to `0` for unsigned integral types.

---

matter-options	<i>Options for “matter” Objects</i>
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**Description**

The matter package provides the following options:

- `options(matter.cast.warning=TRUE)`: Should a warning be emitted when casting between data types results in a loss of precision?
- `options(matter.default.chunksize=1000000L)`: The default chunksize for new matter objects. This is the (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset. Must be an integer.
- `options(matter.show.head=TRUE)`: Should a preview of the beginning of the data be displayed when the object is printed?
- `options(matter.show.head.n=6)`: The number of elements, rows, and/or columns to be displayed by the object preview.
- `options(matter.coerce.altrep=FALSE)`: When coercing matter objects to native R objects (such as matrix), should a matter-backed ALTREP object be returned instead? The initial coercion will be cheap, and the result will look like a native R object. This does not guarantee that the full data is never read into memory. Not all functions are ALTREP-aware at the C-level, so some operations may still trigger the full data to be read into memory. This should only ever happen once, as long as the object is not duplicated, though.
- `options(matter.coerce.altrep.list=FALSE)`: Should a matter-backed ALTREP list be returned when coercing `matter_list` lists to native R lists? Lists are treated differently, because the coercion is more costly, as the metadata for each list element must be uncompressed and converted to separate ALTREP representations. (Note that this does not affect `matter_df` data frames, which do not compress metadata about the columns, because the columns are regular matter vectors.)
- `options(matter.wrap.altrep=FALSE)`: When coercing to a matter-backed ALTREP object, should the object be wrapped in an ALTREP wrapper? (This is always done in cases where the coercion preserves existing attributes.) This allows setting of attributes without triggering a (potentially expensive) duplication of the object when safe to do so.
- `options(matter.dump.dir=tempdir())`: Temporary directory where matter object files should be dumped when created without user-specified file paths.

---

matter_arr-class	<i>Out-of-Memory Arrays</i>
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---

**Description**

The `matter_arr` class implements out-of-memory arrays.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_arr(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
           offset = 0, extent = prod(dim), dim = 0, dimnames = NULL,
           chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

data	An optional data vector which will be initially written to virtual memory if provided.
datamode	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric'). See ?datatypes for details.
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
dim	A vector giving the dimensions of the array.
dimnames	The names of the matrix dimensions.
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_arr`.

**Slots**

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

`matter_arr` instances can be created through `matter_arr()` or `matter()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[...]`, `x[...]` <- value: Get or set the elements of the array.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_arr(1:1000, dim=c(10,10,10))
x
```

---

matter\_df-class      *Out-of-Memory Data Frames*

---

### Description

The `virtual_df` class implements lightweight data frames that may be a mixture of atomic vectors and `matter` vectors, simulating the behavior of `data.frame`.

The `matter_df` class extends `virtual_df` to implement fully out-of-memory data frames where all columns are `matter` objects.

Calling `as.matter()` on an ordinary R `data.frame` will coerce all columns to `matter` objects to create a `matter_df` data frame.

### Usage

```
## Instance creation
virtual_df(..., row.names = NULL, stringsAsFactors = default.stringsAsFactors())

matter_df(..., row.names = NULL, stringsAsFactors = default.stringsAsFactors())

## Additional methods documented below
```

### Arguments

`...`            These arguments become the data columns or data frame variables. They should be named.

`row.names`        A character vector giving the row names.

`stringsAsFactors`  
                   Should character vectors be converted to factors? This is recommended for `matter_df`, as accessing the underlying out-of-memory integer vectors (for a factor) is typically much faster than accessing a vector of out-of-memory strings.

### Value

An object of class `virtual_df` or `matter_df`.

### Slots

`data`: This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.

`datamode`: The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.

`paths`: A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

`filemode`: The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.

**chunksiz**e: The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length**: The length of the data.

**dim**: Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names**: The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames**: Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops**: Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

virtual\_df instances can be created through `virtual_df()`.

matter\_df instances can be created through `matter_df()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x$name`, `x$name <- value`: Get or set a single column.

`x[[i]]`, `x[[i]] <- value`: Get or set a single column.

`x[i]`, `x[i] <- value`: Get or set multiple columns.

`x[i, j, ..., drop]`, `x[i, j] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the data frame.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_df(a=as.matter(1:10), b=11:20, c=as.matter(letters[1:10]))
x
x[1:2]
x[[2]]
x[["c"]]
x[, "c"]
x[1:5, c("a", "c")]
x$c
x$c[1:5]
```

---

matter\_fc-class      *Out-of-Memory Factors*

---

## Description

The matter\_fc class implements out-of-memory factors.

## Usage

```
## Instance creation
matter_fc(data, datamode = "int", paths = NULL,
          filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
          offset = 0, extent = length, length = 0L, names = NULL,
          levels = base::levels(as.factor(data)),
          chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

## Arguments

data	An optional data vector which will be initially written to the data in virtual memory if provided.
datamode	Must be an integral type for factors.
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
length	An optional number giving the total length of the data across all files, equal to the sum of 'extent'. This is ignored and calculated automatically if 'extent' is specified.
names	The names of the data elements.
levels	The levels of the factor.
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

## Value

An object of class [matter\\_fc](#).

## Slots

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
- chunksiz:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
- levels:** The levels of the factor.

## Extends

[matter](#), [matter\\_vec](#)

## Creating Objects

`matter_fc` instances can be created through `matter_fc()` or `matter()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`, `x[i] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the factor.

`levels(x)`, `levels(x) <- value`: Get or set the levels of the factor.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#), [matter\\_vec](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_fc(rep(c("a", "a", "b"), 5), levels=c("a", "b", "c"))
x
```

---

matter\_list-class      *Out-of-Memory Lists of Vectors*

---

## Description

The `matter_list` class implements out-of-memory lists.

## Usage

```
## Instance creation
matter_list(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
            filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
            offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof(datamode) * extent)[-length(extent)]),
            extent = lengths, lengths = 0, names = NULL, dimnames = NULL,
            chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

## Arguments

<code>data</code>	An optional data list which will be initially written to the data in virtual memory if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric'). See <code>?datatypes</code> for details.
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <code>tempfile</code> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
<code>offset</code>	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
<code>extent</code>	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
<code>lengths</code>	A vector giving the length of each element of the list.
<code>names</code>	The names of the data elements.
<code>dimnames</code>	The names of the data elements' data elements.
<code>chunksize</code>	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

## Value

An object of class `matter_list`.

## Slots

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
- chunksiz:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

`matter_list` instances can be created through `matter_list()` or `matter()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[[i]]`, `x[[i]] <- value`: Get or set a single element of the list.

`x[[i, j]]`: Get the *j*th sub-elements of the *i*th element of the list.

`x[i]`, `x[i] <- value`: Get or set the *i*th elements of the list.

`lengths(x)`: Get the lengths of all elements in the list.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matter_list(list(c(TRUE,FALSE), 1:5, c(1.11, 2.22, 3.33)), lengths=c(2,5,3))
x[]
x[1]
x[[1]]

x[[3,1]]
x[[2,1:3]]
```

---

matter\_mat-class      *Out-of-Memory Matrices*

---

**Description**

The `matter_mat` class implements out-of-memory matrices.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_mat(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
           offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof(datamode) * extent)[-length(extent)]),
           extent = if (rowMaj) rep(ncol, nrow) else rep(nrow, ncol),
           nrow = 0, ncol = 0, rowMaj = FALSE, dimnames = NULL,
           chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	An optional data matrix which will be initially written to the data in virtual memory if provided.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric'). See <code>?datatypes</code> for details.
<code>paths</code>	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
<code>filemode</code>	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
<code>offset</code>	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
<code>extent</code>	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
<code>nrow</code>	An optional number giving the total number of rows.

ncol	An optional number giving the total number of columns.
rowMaj	Whether the data should be stored in row-major order (as opposed to column-major order) in virtual memory. Defaults to 'FALSE', for efficient access to columns. Set to 'TRUE' for more efficient access to rows instead.
dimnames	The names of the matrix dimensions.
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class `matter_mat`.

**Slots**

**data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

**dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.

**names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

**Extends**

`matter`

**Creating Objects**

`matter_mat` instances can be created through `matter_mat()` or `matter()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop], x[i, j] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`x %*% y`: Matrix multiplication. At least one matrix must be an in-memory R matrix (or vector).

`crossprod(x, y)`: Alias for `t(x) %*% y`.

`tcrossprod(x, y)`: Alias for `x %*% t(y)`.

`cbind(x, ...), rbind(x, ...)`: Combine matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the out-of-memory data.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matter_mat(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
x
```

---

matter_str-class	<i>Out-of-Memory Strings</i>
------------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

The `matter_str` class implements out-of-memory strings.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_str(data, datamode = "uchar", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
           offset = c(0, cumsum(sizeof("uchar") * extent)[-length(extent)]),
           extent = nchar, nchar = 0, names = NULL, encoding = "unknown",
           chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

data	An optional character vector which will be initially written to the data in virtual memory if provided.
datamode	Must be "uchar" (or "raw") for strings.
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
nchar	A vector giving the length of each element of the character vector.
names	The names of the data elements.
encoding	The character encoding to use (if known).
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class [matter\\_str](#).

**Slots**

data:	This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.
datamode:	The storage mode of the <i>accessed</i> data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.
paths:	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
filemode:	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
chunksize:	The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
length:	The length of the data.
dim:	Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
names:	The names of the data elements for vectors.
dimnames:	Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
ops:	Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
encoding:	The character encoding of the strings.

**Extends**

[matter](#)

**Creating Objects**

matter\_str instances can be created through matter\_str() or matter().

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

x[i], x[i] <- value: Get or set the string elements of the vector.

lengths(x): Get the number of characters (in bytes) of all string elements in the vector.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matter_str(rep(c("hello", "world!"), 50))
x
```

---

matter\_vec-class      *Out-of-Memory Vectors*

---

**Description**

The matter\_vec class implements out-of-memory vectors.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
matter_vec(data, datamode = "double", paths = NULL,
           filemode = ifelse(all(file.exists(paths)), "r", "rw"),
           offset = 0, extent = length, length = 0L, names = NULL,
           chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

data	An optional data vector which will be initially written to the data in virtual memory if provided.
datamode	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are the C types ('char', 'uchar', 'short', 'ushort', 'int', 'uint', 'long', 'ulong', 'float') and their R equivalents ('raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric'). See ?datatypes for details.
paths	A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored. If 'NULL', then a temporary file is created using <a href="#">tempfile</a> .
filemode	The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
offset	A vector giving the offsets in number of bytes from the beginning of each file in 'paths', specifying the start of the data to be accessed for each file.
extent	A vector giving the length of the data for each file in 'paths', specifying the number of elements of size 'datamode' to be accessed from each file.
length	An optional number giving the total length of the data across all files, equal to the sum of 'extent'. This is ignored and calculated automatically if 'extent' is specified.
names	The names of the data elements.
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

**Value**

An object of class [matter\\_vec](#).

**Slots**

- data:** This slot stores the information about locations of the data in virtual memory and within the files.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the *accessed* data when read into R. This is a 'character' vector of with possible values 'raw', 'logical', 'integer', 'numeric', or 'virtual'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.

**dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.

**ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

`matter_vec` instances can be created through `matter_vec()` or `matter()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`, `x[i] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the vector.

`c(x, ...)`: Combine vectors.

`t(x)`: Transpose a vector (to a row matrix). This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the out-of-memory data.

## Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## See Also

[matter](#)

## Examples

```
x <- matter_vec(1:100)
x
```

---

prcomp

*Principal Components Analysis for “matter” Matrices*

---

## Description

This method allows computation of a truncated principal components analysis of a `matter_mat` matrix using the implicitly restarted Lanczos method [irlba](#).

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'
prcomp(x, n = 3, retx = TRUE, center = TRUE, scale. = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	A <a href="#">matter</a> matrix.
n	The number of principal componenets to return, must be less than $\min(\dim(x))$ .
retx	A logical value indicating whether the rotated variables should be returned.
center	A logical value indicating whether the variables should be shifted to be zero-centered, or a centering vector of length equal to the number of columns of x. The centering is performed implicitly and does not change the out-of-memory data in x.
scale.	A logical value indicating whether the variables should be scaled to have unit variance, or a scaling vector of length equal to the number of columns of x. The scaling is performed implicitly and does not change the out-of-memory data in x.
...	Additional options passed to <a href="#">irlba</a> .

**Value**

An object of class 'prcomp'. See [?prcomp](#) for details.

**Note**

The 'tol' truncation argument found in the default [prcomp](#) method is not supported. In place of the truncation tolerance in the original function, the argument n explicitly gives the number of principal components to return. A warning is generated if the argument 'tol' is used.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[bigglm](#)

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
x <- matter_mat(rnorm(1000), nrow=100, ncol=10)
prcomp(x)
```

profmem

*Profile Memory Use*

---

**Description**

These are utility functions for profiling memory used by objects and by R during the execution of an expression.

**Usage**

```
profmem(expr)
```

```
mem(x, reset = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>expr</code>	An expression to be evaluated.
<code>x</code>	An object, to identify how much memory it is using.
<code>reset</code>	Should the maximum memory used by R be reset?

**Details**

These are wrappers around the built-in [gc](#) function. Note that they only count memory managed by R.

**Value**

For `profmem`, a vector giving [1] the amount of memory used at the start of execution, [2] the amount of memory used at the end of execution, [3] the maximum amount of memory used during execution, [4] the memory overhead as defined by the maximum memory used minus the starting memory use, and [5] the execution time in seconds.

For `mem`, either a single numeric value giving the memory used by an object, or a vector providing a more readable version of the information returned by [gc](#) (see its help page for details).

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[gc](#),

**Examples**

```
x <- 1:100  
  
mem(x)  
  
profmem(mean(x + 1))
```

---

rep_vt-class	<i>Virtual Replication of Vectors</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

The `rep_vt` class simulates the behavior of the base function `rep` without actually allocating memory for the duplication. Only the original vector and the expected length of the result are stored. All attributes of the original vector (including names) are dropped.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation  
rep_vt(x, times, length.out = length(x) * times)  
  
## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A vector (of any mode).
<code>times</code>	The number of times to repeat the whole vector.
<code>length.out</code>	The desired length of the result.

**Value**

An object of class `rep_vt`.

**Slots**

`data`: The original vector.  
`length`: The expected length of the repeated virtual vector.

**Creating Objects**

`rep_vt` instances can be created through `rep_vt()`.

**Methods**

Standard generic methods:

`x[i]`: Get the elements of the uncompressed vector.  
`x[[i]]`: Get a single element of the uncompressed vector.  
`length(x)`: Get the length of the uncompressed vector.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[base]{rep}

**Examples**

```
## Create a rep_vt vector
init <- 1:3
x <- rep(init, length.out=100)
y <- rep_vt(init, length.out=100)

# Check that their elements are equal
x == y[]
```

---

scale

*Scaling and Centering of “matter” Matrices*

---

**Description**

An implementation of [scale](#) for [matter\\_mat](#) matrices.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'
scale(x, center = TRUE, scale = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

x	A <a href="#">matter_mat</a> object.
center	Either a logical value or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of columns of 'x'.
scale	Either a logical value or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of columns of 'x'.

**Details**

See [scale](#) for details.

**Value**

A [matter\\_mat](#) object with the appropriate 'scaled:center' and 'scaled:scale' attributes set. No data in virtual memory is changed, but the scaling will be applied any time the data is read. This includes but is not limited to loading data elements via subsetting, summary statistics methods, and matrix multiplication.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[scale](#)**Examples**

```
x <- matter(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)

scale(x)
```

---

sparse_mat-class	<i>Sparse Matrices</i>
------------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

The `sparse_mat` class implements sparse matrices, potentially stored out-of-memory. Both compressed-sparse-column (CSC) and compressed-sparse-row (CSR) formats are supported. Non-zero elements are internally represented as key-value pairs.

**Usage**

```
## Instance creation
sparse_mat(data, datamode = "double", nrow = 0, ncol = 0,
           rowMaj = FALSE, dimnames = NULL, keys = NULL,
           tolerance = c(abs=0), combiner = "identity",
           chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

# Check if an object is a sparse matrix
is.sparse(x)

# Coerce an object to a sparse matrix
as.sparse(x, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

**Arguments**

data	Either a length-2 'list' with elements 'keys' and 'values' which provide the halves of the key-value pairs of the non-zero elements, or a data matrix that will be used to initialize the sparse matrix. If a list is given, all 'keys' elements must be <i>sorted</i> in increasing order.
datamode	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are R numeric and logical types ('logical', 'integer', 'numeric') and their C equivalents.

nrow	An optional number giving the total number of rows.
ncol	An optional number giving the total number of columns.
keys	Either NULL or a vector with length equal to the number of rows (for CSC matrices) or the number of columns (for CSR matrices). If NULL, then the 'key' portion of the key-value pairs that make up the non-zero elements are assumed to be row or column indices. If a vector, then they define the how the non-zero elements are matched to rows or columns. The 'key' portion of each non-zero element is matched against this canonical set of keys using binary search. Allowed types for keys are 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character'.
rowMaj	Whether the data should be stored using compressed-sparse-row (CSR) representation (as opposed to compressed-sparse-column (CSC) representation). Defaults to 'FALSE', for efficient access to columns. Set to 'TRUE' for more efficient access to rows instead.
dimnames	The names of the sparse matrix dimensions.
tolerance	For 'numeric' keys, the tolerance used for floating-point equality when determining key matches. The vector should be named. Use 'absolute' to use absolute differences, and 'relative' to use relative differences.
combiner	In the case of collisions when matching keys, how the row- or column-vectors should be combined. Acceptable values are "identity", "min", "max", "sum", and "mean". A user-specified function may also be provided. Using "identity" means collisions result in an error. Using "sum" or "mean" results in binning all matches.
chunksize	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
x	An object to check if it is a sparse matrix or coerce to a sparse matrix.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

### Value

An object of class `sparse_mat`.

### Slots

**data:** A length-2 'list' with elements 'keys' and 'values' which provide the halves of the key-value pairs of the non-zero elements.

**datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.

**paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.

**filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.

**chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.

**length:** The length of the data.

- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
- keys** Either NULL or a vector with length equal to the number of rows (for CSC matrices) or the number of columns (for CSR matrices). If NULL, then the 'key' portion of the key-value pairs that make up the non-zero elements are assumed to be row or column indices. If a vector, then they define the how the non-zero elements are matched to rows or columns. The 'key' portion of each non-zero element is matched against this canonical set of keys using binary search. Allowed types for keys are 'integer', 'numeric', and 'character'.
- tolerance:** For 'numeric' keys, the tolerance used for floating-point equality when determining key matches. An attribute 'type' gives whether 'absolute' or 'relative' differences should be used for the comparison.
- combiner:** This is a function determining how the row- or column-vectors should be combined (or not) when key matching collisions occur.

### Warning

If 'data' is given as a length-2 list of key-value pairs, no checking is performed on the validity of the key-value pairs, as this may be a costly operation if the list is stored in virtual memory. Each element of the 'keys' element must be *sorted* in increasing order, or behavior may be unexpected.

Assigning a new data element to the sparse matrix will always sort the key-value pairs of the row or column into which it was assigned.

### Extends

[matter](#)

### Creating Objects

sparse\_mat instances can be created through `sparse_mat()`.

### Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop], x[i, j] <- value`: Get or set the elements of the sparse matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`cbind(x, ...), rbind(x, ...)`: Combine sparse matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the data representation.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**[matter](#)**Examples**

```
keys <- list(
  c(1,4,8,10),
  c(2,3,5),
  c(1,2,7,9))

values <- list(
  rnorm(4),
  rnorm(3),
  rnorm(4))

init1 <- list(keys=keys, values=values)

x <- sparse_mat(init1, nrow=10)
x[]

init2 <- matrix(rbinom(100, 1, 0.2), nrow=10, ncol=10)

y <- sparse_mat(init2, keys=letters[1:10])
y[]
```

---

stream-stats

*Streaming Summary Statistics*

---

**Description**

These functions allow calculation of streaming statistics. They are useful, for example, for calculating summary statistics on small chunks of a larger dataset, and then combining them to calculate the summary statistics for the whole dataset.

This is not particularly interesting for simpler, commutative statistics like `sum()`, but it is useful for calculating non-commutative statistics like running `sd()` or `var()` on pieces of a larger dataset.

**Usage**

```
# calculate streaming univariate statistics
s_range(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_min(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_max(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_prod(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_sum(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)
```

```

s_mean(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_var(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_sd(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_any(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_all(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

s_nnzzero(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE)

# calculate streaming matrix statistics
colstreamStats(x, stat, na.rm = FALSE, ...)

rowstreamStats(x, stat, na.rm = FALSE, ...)

# calculate combined summary statistics
stat_c(x, y, ...)

```

### Arguments

<code>x, y, ...</code>	Object(s) on which to calculate a summary statistic, or a summary statistic to combine.
<code>stat</code>	The name of a summary statistic to compute over the rows or columns of a matrix. Allowable values include: "range", "min", "max", "prod", "sum", "mean", "var", "sd", "any", "all", and "nnzzero".
<code>na.rm</code>	If TRUE, remove NA values before summarizing.

### Details

These summary statistics methods are intended to be applied to chunks of a larger dataset. They can then be combined either with the individual summary statistic functions, or with `stat_c()`, to produce the combined summary statistic for the full dataset. This is most useful for calculating running variances and standard deviations iteratively, which would be difficult or impossible to calculate on the full dataset.

The variances and standard deviations are calculated using running sum of squares formulas which can be calculated iteratively and are accurate for large floating-point datasets (see reference).

### Value

For all univariate functions except `s_range()`, a single number giving the summary statistic. For `s_range()`, two numbers giving the minimum and the maximum values.

For `colstreamStats()` and `rowstreamStats()`, a vector of summary statistics.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

## References

B. P. Welford, "Note on a Method for Calculating Corrected Sums of Squares and Products," *Technometrics*, vol. 4, no. 3, pp. 1-3, Aug. 1962.

B. O'Neill, "Some Useful Moment Results in Sampling Problems," *The American Statistician*, vol. 68, no. 4, pp. 282-296, Sep. 2014.

## See Also

[Summary](#)

## Examples

```
set.seed(1)
x <- sample(1:100, size=10)
y <- sample(1:100, size=10)

sx <- s_var(x)
sy <- s_var(y)

var(c(x, y))
stat_c(sx, sy) # should be the same

sxy <- stat_c(sx, sy)

# calculate with 1 new observation
var(c(x, y, 99))
stat_c(sxy, 99)

# calculate over rows of a matrix
set.seed(2)
A <- matrix(rnorm(100), nrow=10)
B <- matrix(rnorm(100), nrow=10)

sx <- rowstreamStats(A, "var")
sy <- rowstreamStats(B, "var")

apply(cbind(A, B), 1, var)
stat_c(sx, sy) # should be the same
```

---

struct

*C-Style Structs Stored in Virtual Memory*

---

## Description

This is a convenience function for creating and reading C-style structs in a single file stored in virtual memory.

## Usage

```
struct(..., filename = NULL, filemode = "rw", offset = 0)
```

**Arguments**

...	Named integers giving the members of the struct. They should be of the form name=c(type=length).
filename	A single string giving the name of the file.
filemode	The mode to use to open the file.
offset	A scalar integer giving the offset from the beginning of the file.

**Details**

This is simply a convenient wrapper around the wrapper around [matter\\_list](#) that allows easy specification of C-style structs in a file.

**Value**

A object of class [matter\\_list](#).

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[matter\\_list](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- struct(first=c(int=1), second=c(double=1))

x$first <- 2L
x$second <- 3.33

x$first
x$second
```

**Description**

These functions efficiently calculate summary statistics for [matter](#) objects. For matrices, they operate efficiently on both rows and columns.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
range(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
min(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
max(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
prod(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
mean(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
sum(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
sd(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
var(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
any(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter'  
all(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colMeans(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colSums(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colSds(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
colVars(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowMeans(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowSums(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowSds(x, na.rm)  
## S4 method for signature 'matter_mat'  
rowVars(x, na.rm)
```

## Arguments

x	A <a href="#">matter</a> object.
na.rm	If TRUE, remove NA values before summarizing.

## Details

These summary statistics methods operate on chunks of data (equal to the chunksize of x) which are loaded into memory and then freed before reading the next chunk.

For row and column summaries on matrices, the iteration scheme is dependent on the layout of the data. Column-major matrices will always be iterated over by column, and row-major matrices will always be iterated over by row. Row statistics on column-major matrices and column statistics on row-major matrices are calculated iteratively.

The efficiency of these methods is entirely dependent on the chunksize of `x`. Larger chunks will yield faster calculations, but greater memory usage. The row and column summary methods may be more or less efficient than the equivalent call to `apply`, depending on the chunk size.

Variance and standard deviation are calculated using a running sum of squares formula which can be calculated iteratively and is accurate for large floating-point datasets (see reference).

### Value

For `mean`, `sd`, and `var`, a single number. For the column summaries, a vector of length equal to the number of columns of the matrix. For the row summaries, a vector of length equal to the number of rows of the matrix.

### Author(s)

Kylie A. Bemis

### References

B. P. Welford, "Note on a Method for Calculating Corrected Sums of Squares and Products," *Technometrics*, vol. 4, no. 3, pp. 1-3, Aug. 1962.

### See Also

[stream\\_stat](#)

### Examples

```
x <- matrix(1:100, nrow=10, ncol=10)
```

```
sum(x)
mean(x)
var(x)
sd(x)
```

```
colSums(x)
colMeans(x)
colVars(x)
colSds(x)
```

```
rowSums(x)
rowMeans(x)
rowVars(x)
rowSds(x)
```

tolerance

*Get or Set Tolerance for an Object*

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for getting or setting 'tolerance' for an object which tests floating point equality.

**Usage**

```
tolerance(object, ...)
```

```
tolerance(object, ...) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	An object with tolerance.
...	Additional arguments.
value	The value to set the tolerance.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**See Also**

[sparse\\_mat](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- sparse_mat(diag(10), keys=rnorm(10))
tolerance(x)
tolerance(x) <- c(absolute=0.1)
x[]
```

---

uuid*Universally Unique Identifiers*

---

**Description**

Generate a UUID.

**Usage**

```
uuid(uppercase = FALSE)

hex2raw(x)

raw2hex(x, uppercase = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	A vector of to convert between raw bytes and hexadecimal strings.
uppercase	Should the result be in uppercase?

**Details**

uuid generates a random universally unique identifier.  
hex2raw converts a hexadecimal string to a raw vector.  
raw2hex converts a raw vector to a hexadecimal string.

**Value**

For uuid, a list of length 2:

- string: A character vector giving the UUID.
- bytes: The raw bytes of the UUID.

For hex2raw, a raw vector.

For raw2hex, a character vector of length 1.

**Author(s)**

Kylie A. Bemis

**Examples**

```
id <- uuid()
id
hex2raw(id$string)
raw2hex(id$bytes)
```

---

 virtual\_mat-class      *Virtual Matrices*


---

### Description

The `virtual_mat` class implements virtual matrices, which may hold any matrix-like objects. It is provided primarily to allow combining of matrix classes that could not be combined otherwise.

### Usage

```
## Instance creation
virtual_mat(data, datamode = "double", rowMaj = FALSE,
            dimnames = NULL, index = NULL, transpose = FALSE,
            chunksize = getOption("matter.default.chunksize"), ...)

# Check if an object is a virtual matrix
is.virtual(x)

# Coerce an object to a virtual matrix
as.virtual(x, ...)

## Additional methods documented below
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	A list of matrices or vectors to combine.
<code>datamode</code>	A 'character' vector giving the storage mode of the data in virtual memory. Allowable values are R numeric and logical types ('logical', 'integer', 'numeric') and their C equivalents.
<code>rowMaj</code>	Whether the matrices in <code>data</code> are combined by row (TRUE) or by column (FALSE).
<code>dimnames</code>	The names of the virtual matrix dimensions.
<code>index</code>	A length-2 list of row and column indices giving a submatrix, if desired.
<code>transpose</code>	Should the matrix be transposed?
<code>chunksize</code>	The (suggested) maximum number of elements which should be accessed at once by summary functions and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
<code>x</code>	An object to check if it is a virtual matrix or coerce to a virtual matrix.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to constructor.

### Value

An object of class `virtual_mat`.

## Slots

- data:** A list of the original matrices or row/column-vectors.
- datamode:** The storage mode of the accessed data when read into R. This should be a 'character' vector of length one with value 'integer' or 'numeric'.
- paths:** A 'character' vector of the paths to the files where the data are stored.
- filemode:** The read/write mode of the files where the data are stored. This should be 'r' for read-only access, or 'rw' for read/write access.
- chunksize:** The maximum number of elements which should be loaded into memory at once. Used by methods implementing summary statistics and linear algebra. Ignored when explicitly subsetting the dataset.
- length:** The length of the data.
- dim:** Either 'NULL' for vectors, or an integer vector of length one or more giving the maximal indices in each dimension for matrices and arrays.
- names:** The names of the data elements for vectors.
- dimnames:** Either 'NULL' or the names for the dimensions. If not 'NULL', then this should be a list of character vectors of the length given by 'dim' for each dimension. This is always 'NULL' for vectors.
- ops:** Delayed operations to be applied on atoms.
- index** A length-2 list of row and column indices giving a virtual submatrix.
- transpose** TRUE if the virtual matrix should be transposed, and FALSE otherwise.

## Extends

[matter](#)

## Creating Objects

virtual\_mat instances can be created through `virtual_mat()`.

## Methods

Standard generic methods:

`x[i, j, ..., drop]`: Get or set the elements of the virtual matrix. Use `drop = NULL` to return a subset of the same class as the object.

`cbind(x, ...)`, `rbind(x, ...)`: Combine virtual matrices by row or column.

`t(x)`: Transpose a matrix. This is a quick operation which only changes metadata and does not touch the data representation.

## Author(s)

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## See Also

[matter](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matrix(runif(50), nrow=10, ncol=5)

x <- virtual_mat(list(x, x))
x[]
```

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