# Package 'mojson'

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**Title** A Serialization-Style Flattening and Description for JSON

**Version** 0.1

**Author** Bo Wei <ckris@163.com>

**Maintainer** Bo Wei <ckris@163.com>

**Description** Support JSON flattening in a long data frame way, where the nesting keys will be stored in the absolute path. It also provides an easy way to summarize the basic description of a JSON list. The idea of 'mojson' is to transform a JSON object in an absolute serialization way, which means the early key-value pairs will appear in the heading rows of the resultant data frame. 'mojson' also provides an alternative way of comparing two different JSON lists, returning the left/inner/right-join style results.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**URL** https://github.com/chriswweibo/mojson

**BugReports** https://github.com/chriswweibo/mojson/issues

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**Imports** RJSONIO, magrittr, tidyr, iterators, stringr, compareDF

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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# R topics documented:

| alignj | *JSON Lists Alignment* |
|---|---|

### Description

Align the two JSON lists by specifying the primary path(keys), to support the left/inner/right-join style comparison.

### Usage

```
alignj(json_new, json_old, sep = "@", primary)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| json_new | list. The new JSON list. |
| json_old | list. The old JSON list. |
| sep | character. A character/string passed to [flattenj](flattenj). Defaults to @ to avoid the occasional overriding. Not recommended to use some risky characters like . and \. |
| primary | character. The primary path(keys) for identifying a unique JSON object. The value provided should contain the sep value to specify the nesting information unless it is an outermost key. |

### Details

The function borrows the idea from the data set operation, and the result contains:

- new, contains the flattening result of json_new.
- old, contains the flattening result of json_old.
- common_primary, contains the primary paths both in json_new and json_old.
- new_primary, contains the primary paths only in json_new.
- old_primary, contains the primary paths only in json_old.

### Value

list. The result list contains the alignment information of three types: the primary paths only in the new JSON, only in the old JSON, and in both.

### Examples

```
library(mojson)
j1 <- list(list(id = list(x = 1 ,y = 2), gender = 'M'),
           list(id = list(x = 2 ,y = 2), gender = 'M'))
j2 <- list(list(id = list(x = 2 ,y = 2), gender = 'F'),
           list(id = list(x = 3 ,y = 2), gender = 'F'))
alignj(j1, j2, primary = 'id@x')
```

---

descj *JSON Description*

---

## Description

Provide descriptive information about the JSON list, such as the key frequency, the nesting information and the value distribution.

## Usage

```
descj(dat, sep = "@")
```

## Arguments

dat              list. Loaded result from a JSON file.

sep             character. A character/string passed to [flattenj](). Defaults to @ to avoid the occasional overriding. Not recommended to use some risky characters like . and \.

## Details

The result contains three parts:

- key_summary, presents the description of keys, which contains all the keys and their respective frequencies.
- value_summary, presents the description of values, which contains all atomic values and their respective frequencies.
- stream_summary, presents the description of paths' direct upstream keys and downstream keys. The up data frame stores the upstream information about where the current key is nested. And the down data frame stores the downstream information about how the current key branches. It means no upstream or downstream if . value is empty.

**Note that the mathematical logic of frequency is based on the flattening work, which means the occurrence of one key will be considered as repeated if it has multiple downstream keys**. For example, list(list(x = list(m = 1, n = 2), y = 2)), and the frequency of x will be 2, because it has two nesting keys. It is recommended to interpret the upstream and downstream information in a relative way rather than an absolute way. Returning the absolute frequency is to preserve the raw information. Hence, it is easy to know that x will equally branches to m and n.

## Value

list. The descriptive result.

## See Also

[flattenj]().

## Examples

```
library(mojson)
j <- list(a = list(x = 1, y = 2),
          b = c(3, 4, list(z = 5, s = 6, t = list(m = 7, n = 8))))
j_multi <- list(j, j, j)
desc <- descj(j_multi)
desc$keys_summary
```

---

diffj                          *Multiple JSON Objects Diff*

---

## Description

Find the difference between multiple JSON objects yielded by create, delete and update operations.

## Usage

```
diffj(json_new, json_old, sep = "@", primary)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| json_new | list. The new JSON objects. |
| json_old | list. The old JSON objects. |
| sep | character. A character/string used to separate keys in the nesting path. Defaults to @ to avoid the occasional overriding. Not recommended to use some risky characters like . and \. When compact = FALSE, it is unnecessary to assign sep explicitly, unless @ has been used in the keys. |
| primary | character. The primary path(keys) for identifying a unique JSON object. The value provided should contain the sep value to specify the nesting information unless it is an outermost key. |

## Details

This function finds out the difference between two JSON lists. And the difference is as follows:

- create, stores the flattened result of objects only in the json_new, that is some JSON objects have been created.
- delete, stores the flattened result of objects only in the json_old, that is some JSON objects have been deleted.
- change, stores the value update information in the common objects, reflected by '+(add)', and '-(remove)' in the chng_type field.

The change_summary provides the general information of value change.

## Value

list. Contains the difference result, including path create, path delete and value change results.

## Examples

```
library(mojson)
j1 <- list(list(x = 1, y = 2, b = list(m = 1, n = 1)),
           list(x = 2, y = 2, b = list(m = 1, n = 1)))
j2 <- list(list(x = 2, y = 3, b = list(m = 1)),
           list(x = 3, y = 2, b = list(m = 1, n = 1)))
diffj(j1, j2, primary = 'x')
```

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| expanddf | *Data Frame Expand* |
|---|---|

---

## Description

Expand a data frame by splitting one column

## Usage

```
expanddf(df, column, sep)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| df | data frame. The input to be expanded. |
| column | character. The column to be splitted. |
| sep | character. Separator for splitting a column. |

## Details

This function implements the data frame expansion if you need to split one column by the specific characters. The new data frame will generate the new columns named as 'level' appended by position-indexing numbers, such as 'level1', 'level2'. The maximum of appended numbers indicates the most splitting pieces for one cell. If the splitting results of one cell are fewer than the maximum, the row will be padded and corresponding cells will be filled with NAs.

## Value

data frame. The resultant data frame with new columns.

## Examples

```
library(mojson)
# levels are identical.
df1 <- data.frame(a = c('ab@gmail.com', 'cd@gmail.com'),
                  b = c(TRUE, FALSE))
expanddf(df1, 'a', '@')

# change the separator and treat various levels.
df2 <- data.frame(a = c('1-2-0', '1-2-0-3', '1-2'),
```

```
                    b = c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE))
    expanddf(df2, 'a', '-')
```

---

flattenj                       *JSON Flatten*

---

### Description

Transform multiple JSON objects into a flattened data frame.

### Usage

```
flattenj(dat, sep = "@", compact = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| dat | list. Loaded result from a JSON file. |
| sep | character. A character/string passed to flattenj_one. Defaults to @ to avoid the occasional overriding. Not recommended to use some risky characters like . and \. When compact=FALSE, it is unnecessary to assign sep explicitly, unless @ has been used in the key fields. |
| compact | logical. Whether to generate the compact or completely expanded data frame. Defaults to TRUE. |

### Details

The function flattens multiple JSON objects into a new data frame. The result contains multiple columns. If compact=TRUE, it returns paths, values and index columns, otherwise level1, level2, ..., values and index. The index column stores the id of each JSON object.

### Value

data frame. The flattened result.

### See Also

flattenj_one.

### Examples

```
library(mojson)
j <- list(a = list(x = 1, y = 2),
        b = c(3, 4, list(z = 5, s = 6, t = list(m = 7, n = 8))))
j_multi <- list(j, j, j)
flattenj(j_multi)
flattenj(j_multi, compact=FALSE)
```

---

flattenj_one                    *Single JSON Object Flatten*

---

## Description

Transform a JSON object into a flattened data frame in a serialization way.

## Usage

```
flattenj_one(dat, sep = "@", compact = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| dat | list. The list from a JSON object. |
| sep | character. A character/string used to separate keys in the nesting path. Defaults to @ to avoid the occasional overriding. Not recommended to use some risky characters like . and \. When compact = FALSE, it is unnecessary to assign sep explicitly, unless @ has been used in the key fields. |
| compact | logical. Whether to generate the compact or completely expanded data frame. Defaults to TRUE. |

## Details

The function flattens a single JSON object into a data frame with two different schemas according to the compact value.

- For compact = TRUE, the data frame contains two columns. One is paths which stores the absolute path of each record. And the other is values which stores the corresponding values of each path.

- For compact = FALSE, the data frame has more columns based on the global nesting situation.

**It actually applies the serialization way for flattening, which means the early values correspondingly appear in the heading rows of the data frame.** And if the value is a list object in the original data or a non-named list/vector in the R environment, the path will be correspondingly appended with an integer to specify each list element. For example, in the raw JSON file, "{'a':[1, 2, 3]}" will be data.frame(paths = c('a1', 'a2', 'a3'), values = c(1, 2, 3)). Great credits to the answer of [Tommy](#).

## Value

data frame. The flattened result.

## See Also

[expanddf](#).

## Examples

```
library(mojson)
j <- list(a = list(x = 1, y = 2),
          b = c(3, 4, list(z = 5, s = 6, t = list(m = 7, n = 8)))))
flattenj_one(j)
flattenj_one(j, compact = FALSE)
```

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loadj                          *JSON Load*

---

## Description

Load a JSON file into an R list

## Usage

```
loadj(file, encoding = "UTF-8")
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| file | character. A JSON file connection. |
| encoding | character. Encoding method to use. Defaults to UTF-8. |

## Details

This function provides a simple interface to load a JSON file, meanwhile prints some loading information.

- num_of_loaded_obj tells the length of the JSON object.
- duration_seconds tells the loading duration.
- speed_objs_sec tells the loading speed in objects per second.
- obj_len_summary gives the length summary of each JSON object.

## Value

list. The loading result.

## Examples

```
library(mojson)
j <- list(a = list(1, 2), b = 3)
tf <- tempfile()
writeLines(RJSONIO::toJSON(j), tf)
loadj(tf)
```

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