

# externalVector

April 19, 2009

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NAIndex-class

*Class "NAIndex", index class representing a subscript of all NA's for a vector or an array dimension*

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## Description

When used as a subscript for a vector object `x`, this is equivalent to `rep(NA, length(x))`.  
When used as a subscript for the `i`-th dimension of an array object `x`, this is equivalent to `rep(NA, dim(x)[i])`.

## Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("NAIndex", Length, Names)`. `Length` must be a non-negative integer. Default value for `Length` is 0. The `Names` argument, if not missing, must be of length `Length`. If missing, `Names` is taken to be `NULL`.

## Slots

**.Data:** Object of class "logical", this is always same as `NA`.

**Length:** Object of class "integer", this is the length of the index.

**Names:** Object of class "vectorNamesType", this contains names associated with the elements of the index (if any).

## Extends

Class "logical", directly. Class "vectorIndex", directly.

## Methods

Signature components for the methods are:

<code>x</code>	The class "allIndex"
<code>scalar</code>	Length one positive "integer"
<code>i</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>value</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>.Object</code>	The class "allIndex"

**`x+scalar`:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x`.

**scalar+x:** Add scalar to x. Result is x.

**x\*scalar:** Multiply x by scalar. Result is x.

**scalar\*x:** Multiply x by scalar. Result is x.

**dim(x) <- value** Set a dimension on x. If value is of length 2, this may create a "matrixIndex".

**x[i]:** Subset x. If length of i is 0, the result is an object of class "noneIndex". Otherwise, the result is an object of class "NAIndex" with same length as i.

**x[]:** Subset x with the subscript missing. Result is x.

**x[i] <- value:** Subassign x. Results in an error (as objects from class "allIndex" are not mutable).

**x[[i]] <- value:** Subassign x. Results in an error (as objects from class "allIndex" are not mutable).

**allNA(x):** Are all elements of x NA? Result is always FALSE.

**anyNA(x):** Is any element of x NA? Result is always FALSE.

**initialize(.Object, Length=0, Names):** Initialize an object from class "allIndex".

**length(x):** Return the length of x which is always Inf.

**length(x) <- value:** Modify the length of x. If value is 0, makes x an object of class "noneIndex". Otherwise, modifies length of x to value.

**names(x):** Returns the Names slot of x.

**names(x) <- value:** Sets the Names slot of x to value.

### See Also

[vectorIndex-class](#) for the super class of "NAIndex".

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SubscriptList	<i>Function to convert a list of array subscripts to a list objects of class vectorIndex.</i>
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### Description

SubscriptList takes a list of subscripts to a subset or subassign operation and converts each subscript to an object belonging to the virtual class `vectorIndex`.

### Usage

```
SubscriptList(subs, length.object, dim.object = NULL, names.object = NULL, dimna
```

### Arguments

<code>subs</code>	An object of class "list", elements are valid subscripts.
<code>length.object</code>	A scalar of class "integer", representing the length of the object being subsetted or subassigned.
<code>dim.object</code>	An object of class "integer" or NULL, the dimension of the object.
<code>names.object</code>	An object belonging to class union "validNamesClass", the names of the object viewed as a vector.

`dimnames.object`  
 NULL or an object of class "list", each of whose elements are objects belonging to class union "validNamesClass".

`assign.operation`  
 A scalar of class "logical", if TRUE the subscripts are for a subassign operation, if FALSE, the subscripts are for a subset operation.

**Value**

An object of class "list" of same length as `subs` with each element a

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**See Also**

See class union [vectorNamesType-class](#) for possible subscripts which are matched against the `names.object` or elements of `dimnames.object`.

Also see class union [vectorIndex-class](#) for some other possible subscripts and for all possible elements in the returned list.

Finally, see [\[](#) for other subscripts that are valid.

**Examples**

```
subs <- alist(i= , j= )
subs$j <- 1:4
SubscriptList(subs, 15, c(3, 5))
SubscriptList(list(i=c("a", "c"), j=-2), 15, c(3, 5),
               dimnames=list(letters[1:3], LETTERS[1:5]))
```

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 Subset

*Generics Subset and Subset2 in package 'externalVector' and their methods*

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**Description**

The generics `Subset` and `Subset2` and their methods are used internally and are not for general use. They may be replaced by C code in future.

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allIndex-class	<i>Class "allIndex", index class representing a subscript for all elements of a vector or an array dimension</i>
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### Description

When used as a subscript for a vector object `x`, this is equivalent to `seq(length(x))`. When used as a subscript for the `i`-th dimension of an array object `x`, this is equivalent to `seq(dim(x)[i])`.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("allIndex")`. Objects from this class can not be modified and they are all equivalent.

### Slots

**.Data:** Object of class "logical", this is always equal to TRUE.

### Extends

Class "logical", directly. Class "vectorIndex", directly.

### Methods

Signature components for the methods are:

<code>x</code>	The class "allIndex"
<code>scalar</code>	Length one positive "integer"
<code>i</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>value</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>.Object</code>	The class "allIndex"

**`x+scalar`:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x`.

**`scalar+x`:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x`.

**`x*scalar`:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x`.

**`scalar*x`:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x`.

**`dim(x) <- value`** Set a dimension on `x`. If `value` is of length 2, this may create a "matrixIndex".

**`x[i]`:** Subset `x`. Result is `i`.

**`x[]`:** Subset `x` with the subscript missing. Result is `x`.

**`x[i] <- value`:** Subassign `x`. Results in an error (as objects from class "allIndex" are not mutable).

**`x[[i]] <- value`:** Subassign `x`. Results in an error (as objects from class "allIndex" are not mutable).

**`allNA(x)`:** Are all elements of `x` NA? Result is always FALSE.

**`anyNA(x)`:** Is any element of `x` NA? Result is always FALSE.

**`initialize(.Object)`:** Initialize an object from class "allIndex".

**`length(x)`:** Return the length of `x` which is always Inf.

**`length(x) <- value`:** Modify the length of `x`. Always results in an error.

**See Also**

[vectorIndex-class](#) for the super class of "allIndex".

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allNA	<i>The generics "allNA" and "anyNA".</i>
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**Description**

The two generic "allNA" returns TRUE if all of its arguments are NA's and FALSE otherwise.

The two generic "anyNA" returns TRUE if any of its arguments is NA and FALSE otherwise.

**Usage**

```
allNA(x)
anyNA(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object on which `is.na` can be applied.

**Value**

Either TRUE or FALSE.

**Examples**

```
allNA(1:3)
allNA(c(NA, NA, NA))
allNA(c(1, 2, NA))
anyNA(1:3)
anyNA(c(NA, NA, NA))
anyNA(c(1, 2, NA))
```

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allocators	<i>Generics associated with external resources and their allocators</i>
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**Description**

These are generics used with objects of class "externalResource" and "externalAllocator".

**Usage**

```
allocator(resource)
getPointer(resource)
initializeResource(resource, ptr, size, type, ...)
allocatedSize(resource)
allocatedType(resource)
allocate(resource, alloc, size, type, ...)
deallocate(resource, alloc)
external.size(resource, alloc)
external.size(resource, copy, alloc) <- value
reinitializePointer(resource, alloc)
```

**Arguments**

<code>resource</code>	An object which is an "externalResource".
<code>alloc</code>	An object which is an "externalAllocator".
<code>ptr</code>	An external pointer.
<code>size</code>	The size - if given for a non-vector type, the number of bytes. Otherwise, the length of the vector.
<code>type</code>	Object representing the type stored in the resource.
<code>copy</code>	Logical, if TRUE (the default), then the new memory is initialized to the content of the old memory for the minimum of old and new sizes. Content of any uninitialized memory is undefined. Under any circumstance, the inherent type of the allocated memory remains the same as its initial value.
<code>value</code>	Integer, new size.
<code>...</code>	Further arguments passed to or from other functions.

**Value**

`allocator` returns the allocator to be used by default with `resource`.

`getPointer` returns the "externalptr" associated with `resource`.

`initializeResource` initializes `resource` with `ptr` of type "externalptr" and returns `resource`.

`allocatedSize` returns the size of memory to be allocated for `resource`. If `allocatedType(resource)` is an R basic vector type, then the size is the length of the vector. Otherwise the size is the total number of bytes.

`allocatedType` returns an object representing the type to be stored in the resource

`allocate` allocates the external pointer in `resource` using the allocator `alloc` for `resource`. If `type` is a basic vector object, then it allocates an object of same mode with length `size` and otherwise allocates `size` bytes of raw memory. The `resource` object is initialized by a call to `initializeResource`.

`deallocate` asks the allocator `alloc` to deallocate the memory in `resource`. The result is allocator dependant.

`external.size` returns the argument `size` used in the last call to `allocate` for `resource`.

The replacement form can be used to change the size of the allocated memory. If `value` is same as `external.size(resource)`, then no action is taken. Otherwise, this reallocates the memory in `resource` using the allocator `alloc` (or `allocator(resource)` if `alloc` is missing) with new size `value` and the same type as earlier.

`reinitializePointer` tries to reinitialize the memory pointer in `resource` after `resource` was saved and restored as an R image (by serialization code, by saving the R workspace, or by an explicit call to `save`).

**See Also**

[externalAllocator-class](#), [externalResource-class](#)

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as.Rvector	<i>convert an object to an R basic vector or matrix</i>
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## Description

`as.Rvector`, a generic, attempts to coerce its argument into a basic R vector of a convenient mode. All attributes of `x` are preserved.

Default methods are provided for basic R objects which are returned unchanged by `as.Rvector`.

`as.Rmatrix`, a generic, first converts its argument to a basic R vector and then applies `as.matrix` to the result.

## Usage

```
as.Rvector(x)
as.Rmatrix(x)
```

## Arguments

`x` An object

## Details

This preserves all the non-slot attributes of the object `x` when converting to a basic R vector. In addition, if any of `dim(x)`, `dimnames(x)`, `names(x)` is not `NULL`, the corresponding attribute in the result is also set.

## Value

The value from `as.Rvector` is a basic R vector of mode "logical", "integer", "numeric", "complex", "character" or "list". The value from `as.Rmatrix` is a basic R matrix.

## See Also

[as.vector](#) for converting an object to an appropriate vector with all attributes removed and [as.matrix](#) for converting a vector like object to a matrix.

## Examples

```
x <- 1:2
names(x) <- letters[1:2]
as.vector(x)
as.Rvector(x)
as.Rmatrix(x)
```

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asEach

*Coerce each element of an external vector to a particular type*


---

### Description

This generic coerces each element of an external vector to a particular type.

### Usage

```
asEach(x, type, arrayOnly = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	An external vector object.
type	Character-string, a basic vector mode.
arrayOnly	If arrayOnly is FALSE (the default) do not copy extra slots like Names, DimNames or Dim.

### Value

Another external vector object of same length but with `class(defaultElement(x)) == class(type)`.

### See Also

[as](#) to convert an object to a different class.

### Examples

```
x <- externalCharacter(4)
x[] <- c("1", "2", "3", "4")
asEach(x, "integer")
```

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defaultElement

*Return the default element for a vector object.*


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### Description

For a vector object, this generic returns a length one vector with the default element for the vector as the first (and only) element.

### Usage

```
defaultElement(x)
```

### Arguments

x	A vector object.
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**Value**

A length one vector with the default element.

**See Also**

[externalVector-class](#) for the method for this generic for the "externalVector" class.

**Examples**

```
defaultElement(1:5)
defaultElement(list(1, 2))
```

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exprMatrix-class     *Class union for objects behaving like a matrix*

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**Description**

Class union "exprMatrix" represents the type of exprs and se.exprs slots in "exprSet" objects. One of the classes in the union is always "matrix"

**Objects from the Class**

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

**Methods**

No methods defined with class "exprMatrix" in the signature.

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externalAllocator-class  
                           *Class "externalAllocator", base class for memory allocators for external resources*

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**Description**

Class "externalAllocator" is a virtual class with no slots. It represents memory allocators that allocate raw memory to be held in an object of class "externalptr". Instead of returning the "externalptr" object directly, the allocators deal with subclasses of "externalResource" that hold an object of class "externalptr".

**Objects from the Class**

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

**Virtual Methods**

Attempt to execute these methods would result in an error unless they have been redefined for a subclass of "externalAllocator".

Signature components for implementation of the methods:

resource	The class "externalResource"
alloc	A subclass of "externalAllocator"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"
copy	The class "logical"
value	The class "ANY"

Description of the virtual methods:

**allocate(resource, alloc, size, type, ...):** Allocate the external pointer in `resource` using the allocator `alloc`. If `type` is a basic vector object, then allocate an object of same mode with length `size`. Otherwise allocate `size` bytes of raw memory. This method should end with a call to `initializeResource` to initialize the `resource` object.

**deallocate(resource, alloc):** The allocator `alloc` should try to deallocate the raw memory in `resource`. It should not modify the `resource` object in any way other than modifying the object of class "externalptr" in `resource` to reflect the deallocation.

**external.size** Return the size of the allocated memory in `resource`.

**external.size<-(resource, copy, alloc, value):** If `value` is same as `external.size(resource)`, then no action is taken. Otherwise, reallocate the memory in `resource` using the allocator `alloc` with new size `value`. If `copy` is TRUE (the default), then the new memory is initialized to the content of the old memory for the minimum of old and new sizes. Content of any uninitialized memory is undefined.

**reinitializePointer(resource, alloc):** If the object `resource` was saved as an R image (by serialization code, by saving the R workspace, or by an explicit call to `save`) then the raw memory pointer in any "externalptr" object in it would be set to 0. This method tries to reinitialize the raw memory pointer. The exact result is allocator dependant.

#### Author(s)

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#### See Also

[externalResource-class](#) for more on how to use an allocator with objects from subclasses of "externalResource".

[gcAllocator-class](#) for an example of a subclass of "externalAllocator".

[setVirtualMethod](#) for more on virtual methods.

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externalMatrix      *Create an external matrix object*

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#### Description

This function can be used to create a new external matrix object.

#### Usage

```
externalMatrix(data = NA, nrow = 1, ncol = 1, byrow = FALSE, dimnames =
NULL, storageClass = (if (is(data, "externalVectorWithStorage"))
class(data@storage) else "simpleStorage"), indirect = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	An optional data vector.
<code>nrow</code>	The desired number of rows.
<code>ncol</code>	The desired number of columns.
<code>byrow</code>	Not used.
<code>dimnames</code>	A <code>dimnames</code> value for the external matrix: a <code>list</code> of length 2.
<code>storageClass</code>	name of the subclass of "externalStorage" to be used for storing the external vector elements.
<code>indirect</code>	If <code>TRUE</code> , return an "indirectExternalVector" object.

**Details**

This function is similar to the `matrix` function in R base package.

**Value**

If `indirect` is `FALSE` (the default) a new external matrix object with correct dimension and `dimnames`. Otherwise create a new external vector object but return it by wrapping it in an "indirectExternalMatrix" object with the correct dimension and `dimnames`.

**See Also**

`matrix`

**Examples**

```
x <- externalMatrix(1:6, nrow=2, ncol=3)
dim(x)
x[1, 1:2] # drop = FALSE by default
log(x)
```

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externalResource-class

*Class "externalResource", base class for external resource allocated by an externalAllocator*

---

**Description**

Class "externalResource" is a virtual class with no slots. External allocators, represented by subclasses of class "externalAllocator" can only allocate external pointers contained in objects from a subclass of "externalResource".

**Objects from the Class**

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

**Methods for the virtual class "externalResource"**

These methods are defined for the virtual class "externalResource" and need not be redefined by its subclasses.

Signature components for the methods are:

resource	The class "externalResource"
alloc	The class "missing"
ptr	The class "externalptr"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"
copy	The class "logical"
value	The class "ANY"

The argument `alloc` has the class "missing" wherever it appears in these methods. That means, to invoke these methods, the argument `alloc` must be omitted from the call and to use any of the additional arguments, they must be specified by name. For example, use `allocate(resource, size=size, type=type)` and not `allocate(resource, size, type)`.

Description of the methods:

**allocatedType(resource):** Returns `NULL`.

**allocate(resource, alloc, size, type, ...):** Allocate the external pointer in `resource` using the default allocator for `resource`. If `type` is a basic vector object, then allocate an object of same mode with length `size`. Otherwise allocate `size` bytes of raw memory. The `resource` object is initialized by a call to `initializeResource`.

**deallocate(resource, alloc):** Ask the default allocator to deallocate the memory in `resource`. The result is allocator dependant.

**external.size** Return the argument `size` used in the last call to `allocate` for `resource`

**external.size<-(resource, copy, alloc, value):** If `value` is same as `external.size(resource)`, then no action is taken. Otherwise, reallocate the memory in `resource` using the default allocator with new size `value` and the same type as earlier. If `copy` is `TRUE` (the default), then the new memory is initialized to the content of the old memory for the minimum of old and new sizes. Content of any uninitialized memory is undefined. Under any circumstance, the inherent type of the allocated memory remains the same as its initial value.

**initialize(.Object):** Code called by `new("resourceSubclass", ...)` if "resourceSubclass" is a subclass of "externalResource" and either has no `initialize` method of its own or its `initialize` method has `callNextMethod()` in its body. Returns the result of `allocate(.Object, ...)`

**reinitializePointer(resource, alloc):** If the object `resource` was saved as an R image (by serialization code, by saving the R workspace, or by an explicit call to `save`) then the raw memory pointer in any "externalptr" object in it would be set to 0. This method tries to reinitialize the raw memory pointer. The exact result is allocator dependant.

## Virtual Methods

Attempt to execute these methods would result in an error unless they have been redefined for a subclass of "externalResource".

Signature components for implementation of the methods:

resource	A subclass of "externalResource"
ptr	The class "externalptr"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"

Description of the virtual methods:

**allocatedSize(resource):** Size of memory to be allocated for `resource`. If `allocatedType(resource)` is an R basic vector type, then the size is the length of the vector. Otherwise the size is the total number of bytes.

**allocator(resource):** The allocator to be used by default with this `resource`.

**getPointer(resource):** Return the "externalptr" associated with this `resource`.

**initializeResource(resource, ptr, size, type, ...):** Initialize `resource` with `ptr` of type "externalptr". The `size` and `type` arguments are identical to that obtained from previous calls to `allocatedSize(resource)` and `allocatedType(resource)`.

### Other Virtual Methods

These methods must be redefined for subclasses for "externalAllocator". It is not necessary to define them for specific subclasses of "externalResource".

Signature components for implementation of the methods:

<code>resource</code>	The class "externalResource"
<code>alloc</code>	A subclass of "externalAllocator"
<code>size</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>type</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>copy</code>	The class "logical"
<code>value</code>	The class "ANY"

Description of the virtual methods:

**allocate(resource, alloc, size, type, ...):** Allocate the external pointer in `resource` using the allocator `alloc`.

**deallocate(resource, alloc):** Ask the allocator `alloc` to deallocate the memory in `resource`.

**external.size** Return the size of the allocated memory in `resource`.

**external.size<-(resource, copy, alloc, value):** Reallocate the memory in `resource` using the allocator `alloc`.

**reinitializePointer(resource, alloc):** If the raw memory pointer in `resource` is zero, try to reinitialize it.

### Author(s)

Saikat DebRoy <saikat@stat.wisc.edu>

### See Also

[externalAllocator-class](#) for more details on how to use an allocator with objects from subclasses of "externalResource".

[gcAllocator-class](#) for an example of a simple subclass of "externalResource".

[setVirtualMethod](#) for more on virtual methods.

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externalStorage-class

*Class "externalStorage", base class for external storage for objects of class "externalVectorWithStorage"*

---

## Description

The "externalStorage" class represents the base class of the storage backend implementation used by the class "externalVectorWithStorage". A pointer to the external storage allocated or accessed by an object of class "externalStorage" is kept in an external pointer.

## Objects from the Class

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

## Slots

**ptr:** Object of class "externalptr", keeps the pointer to the external storage.

**type:** Object of class "vector", a vector object of length one representing the type of object stored in the external storage. Usually one of the basic R vector types.

**length:** Object of class "integer", Cached value for the length of the vector stored in the external storage.

## Extends

Class "externalResource", directly.

## Methods

Signature components for the methods:

resource	The class "externalStorage"
x	The class "externalStorage"
ptr	The class "externalptr"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"

**allocator(resource):** The allocator to be used by default with this resource. Returns an object of class "gcAllocator".

**getPointer(resource):** Return the ptr slot.

**initializeResource(resource, ptr, size, type, ...):** Set the ptr slot of resource to ptr.

**initialize(.Object, type = logical(1), length = as.integer(0)):** This checks the validity of type and length arguments and coerce the length argument to class "integer" before using them to set the corresponding slots. Finally a call to callNextMethod is made to use the initializer for class "externalResource" which, via a call to the initializeResource method above sets ptr slot.

**internalType(x):** The type of object to be stored within the resource. It is an R basic vector type ("logical", "integer", "numeric", "complex", "character" or "list").

**getNativeStorageMethods(x):** Get the "externalptr" stored in the "nativeStorageMethods" object associated with a particular subclass of "externalStorage" and a basic R vector

type.

### See Also

[setExternalStorageClass](#) for how to set a subclass of "externalStorage".  
[nativeStorageMethods-class](#) for the C structure containing C function pointers for a particular storage methods class.  
[externalVectorWithStorage-class](#) for how the "externalStorage" class is used.  
[simpleStorage-class](#) for a simple implementation of "externalStorage".

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externalVector-class

*Class "externalVector", base class for vector objects stored in an external resource*

---

### Description

This class represents objects that behave like R basic vectors but are stored in some external resource.

### Objects from the Class

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

### Methods

Common signature components for the methods:

x    The class "externalVector"  
 X    The class "externalVector"

Description of the methods:

**asEach(x, type, arrayOnly)** Coerce x so that it now behaves like a basic R vector with the same class as type.

**c(x, ..., recursive)** Combine all the arguments into a single vector. Behaves like a basic R vector with the same class as type.

**as.Rvector(x)** Coerce x to a basic R vector with same names, dimension and dimnames (if any of these are present in x).

**as.vector(x, mode)** Return an external vector which behaves like a basic R vector of mode mode.

**as.logical(x, ...)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to logical.

**as.integer(x, ...)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to integer.

**as.double(x, ...)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to numeric.

**as.numeric(x, ...)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to numeric.

**as.charcater(x)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to character.

**as.list(x, ...)** Return an external vector that behaves like a list.

**as.single(x, ...)** Return an external vector with all elements coerced to numeric and a "CSingle" attribute set to TRUE.

**as.data.frame(x, row.names, optional)** Create a data.frame object from x.

**as.matrix(x)** If `length(dim(x))` is 2, return x unchanged. Otherwise, return x as a matrix with a single column.

**defaultElement(x)** The default element of x contained in a basic R vector.

**dimnames(x) <- value** Set dimnames of x to value.

**names(x) <- value** Set names of x to value.

**show(object)** Display object.

**apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ...)** Coerce X to an R matrix and call the default apply method.

**lapply(X, FUN, ...)** Lapply for "externalVector" class.

**sapply(X, FUN, ..., simplify, USE.NAMES)** Sapply for "externalVector" class.

**mean(x, trim = 0, na.rm = FALSE, ...)** Mean and trimmed mean of x.

**median(x, na.rm = FALSE)** Mean of x.

### Virtual Methods

Common signature components for implementation of the virtual methods:

x	A subclass of "externalVector"
value	The class "ANY"

Description of the virtual methods:

**setDimNames(x, value)** Set the dimnames of x to value without any error checking or coercion. Return the modified x.

**setNames(x, value)** Set the names of x to value without any error checking or coercion. Return the modified x.

### See Also

[externalVectorWithStorage-class](#), [matrixIndex-class](#), [indirectExternalVector-class](#), [indirectExternalMatrix-class](#), for subclasses of "externalVector".

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externalVector      *Creating external vectors*

---

### Description

These functions can be used to create new external vector objects with newly allocated storage.

### Usage

```
externalVector(type = "logical", length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
externalLogical(length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
externalInteger(length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
externalNumeric(length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
externalComplex(length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
externalCharacter(length = 0, storageClass = "simpleStorage", indirect = FALSE)
```



**Arguments**

<code>type</code>	A character-string, the name of the class of basic R vectors to be represented by the new external vector object.
<code>length</code>	Length of the new external vector
<code>storageClass</code>	name of the subclass of "externalStorage" to be used for storing the external vector elements.
<code>indirect</code>	If TRUE, return an "indirectExternalVector" object.

**Details**

These functions are similar to the `vector`, `logical`, `integer`, `numeric`, `complex` and `character` functions in the R base package. These functions have an extra argument `storageClass` to specify the external storage class to use. The default is to use "simpleStorage" which uses garbage collected memory from R for storage.

**Value**

If `indirect` is FALSE (the default) the a new external vector object of the given length, given type with elements stored in an external storage object with class `storageClass`. Otherwise create the new external vector object but return it by wrapping it in an "indirectExternalVector" object.

**See Also**

[vector](#), [logical](#), [integer](#), [numeric](#), [complex](#), [character](#), [list](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- externalVector("numeric", 4)
x[] <- 1:4
x[1:3]
y <- x+2
y
x+y
```

---

externalVectorWithStorage-class

*Class "externalVectorWithStorage", external vector class with an external storage for the vector*

---

**Description**

This is a subclass of "externalVector" that implements the use of arbitrary external backends for storing the elements of the vector.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `externalVector(type, length, storageClass)`.

**Slots**

**storage:** Object of class "externalStorage", the storage backend for the vector elements.

**Names:** Object of class "vectorNamesType", names of the elements.

**Dim:** Object of class "integerOrNull", dimension of the object.

**DimNames:** Object of class "listOrNull", dimnames of the object

**Extends**

Class "externalVector", directly. Class "vectorNamesType", directly.

**Methods**

**e1 op e2** For any arithmetic or comparison operation *op* this returns the result of the operation. Either (or both) of *e1* and *e2* are of class "externalVectorWithStorage".

**Complex(z)** Return the result of an operation in the `Complex` group generic.

**Math(x)** Return the result of an operation in the `Math` group generic.

**Summary(x)** Return the result of an operation in the `Summary` group generic.

**log(x)** Return natural logarithm of *x*.

**log(x, base)** Return logarithm of *x* with base *base*.

**x[i, j, ..., drop=FALSE ]** Extract a subset of *x* according to the given subscripts.

**x[i, j, ... <- value]** Subassign of *x* by *value* according to the given subscripts.

**as.Rvector(x)** Coerce *x* to a basic R vector with same names, dimension and dimnames (if any of these are present in *x*).

**asEach(x, type, arrayOnly)** Coerce *x* so that it now behaves like a basic R vector with the same class as *type*.

**colSums(x, na.rm, dims)** Return the column sums of *x*.

**colMeans(x, na.rm, dims)** Return the column means of *x*.

**rowSums(x, na.rm, dims)** Return the row sums of *x*.

**rowMeans(x, na.rm, dims)** Return the row means of *x*.

**dim(x)** Return the dimension of *x*.

**dim(x) <- value** Set the dimension of *x* to *value*.

**dimnames(x)** Return the dimnames of *x*.

**getExternalStorage(x)** Return the storage slot of *x*.

**getNativeStorageMethods** Return `getNativeStorageMethods(x@storage)`.

**is.finite(x)** Return an external vector of logicals with same length as *x* indicating if an element of *x* is finite.

**is.infinite(x)** Return an external vector of logicals with same length as *x* indicating if an element of *x* is infinite.

**is.na(x)** Return an external vector of logicals with same length as *x* indicating if an element of *x* is NA.

**is.nan(x)** Return an external vector of logicals with same length as *x* indicating if an element of *x* is NaN.

**length(x)** Return the length of *x*.

**length(x) <- value** Set the length of *x* to *value*.

**names(x)** Return the names of `x`.

**names(x) <- value** Set the names of `x` to `value`.

**lapply(X, FUN, ...)** Lapply for "externalVectorWithStorage" class.

**setDimNames(x, value)** Set the dimnames of `x` to `value` without any error checking or coercion. Return the modified `x`.

**setNames(x, value)** Set the names of `x` to `value` without any error checking or coercion. Return the modified `x`.

**rebind(x, length.x = length(x), type = defaultElement(x), names.x = names(x), dim.x = dim(x), dimnames.x = dimnames(x))** Create an "externalVectorWithStorage" object with the same external storage backend class as `x` but with (possibly) new length, type, names, dim or dimnames. If `arrayOnly` is `FALSE`, the names, dim and dimnames for the new object are not set.

**initialize(.Object, ...)** Initialize a new object from class "externalVectorWithStorage".

### See Also

[externalVector](#) and [externalMatrix](#) for how how to create new objects from this class easily.

---

gcAllocator-class    *Class "gcAllocator", memory allocator class for external resources*

---

### Description

A memory allocator class for external resources that allocates memory using R memory management system. The allocated memory is freed by the R garbage collector when all reference to it is removed.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("gcAllocator")`.

### Extends

Class "externalAllocator", directly.

### Methods

Signature components for the methods:

resource	The class "externalResource"
alloc	The class of "gcAllocator"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"
copy	The class "logical"
value	The class "ANY"

Description of the methods:

**allocate(resource, alloc, size, type, ...):** Allocate the external pointer in `resource`. If `type` is a basic vector object, then allocate an object of same mode with length `size`. Otherwise

allocate `size` bytes of raw memory. The allocation is done by creating an R basic vector with same class as type and storing it in the protected field of the newly created external pointer. Ends with a call to `initializeResource` to initialize the `resource` object.

**deallocate(resource, alloc):** Replace the protected field of `resource@ptr` with `R_NilValue`.

**external.size** Return the size of the allocated memory in `resource`.

**external.size<-(resource, copy, alloc, value):** If `value` is same as `external.size(resource)`, then no action is taken. Otherwise, reallocate the memory in `resource` with new size `value`. If `copy` is `TRUE` (the default), then the new memory is initialized to the content of the old memory for the minimum of old and new sizes. Content of any uninitialized memory is undefined.

**reinitializePointer(resource, alloc):** If the object `resource` was saved as an R image (by serialization code, by saving the R workspace, or by an explicit call to `save`) then the raw memory pointer in any "externalptr" object in it would be set to 0. This method reinitializes the memory (if possible) by using the protected field of the external pointer.

### Examples

```
library(externalVector)
## set a storage class
setClass("testStorage",
         representation(ptr="externalptr"),
         contains="externalResource")
setMethod("initializeResource", "testStorage",
         function(resource, ptr, size, type, ...)
         {
           resource@ptr <- ptr
           resource
         })
setMethod("allocator", "testStorage",
         function(resource)
         new("gcAllocator"))
setMethod("getPointer", "testStorage",
         function(resource)
         resource@ptr)
setMethod("allocatedSize", "testStorage",
         function(resource)
         32)
## Now create an object from the class
x <- new("testStorage")
x
external.size(x)
external.size(x) <- 64
x
external.size(x)
deallocate(x)
x
external.size(x)
```

**Description**

This generic extracts the "externalStorage" object associated with an "externalVector" object.

**Usage**

```
getExternalStorage (x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An "externalVector" object.

**Value**

An "externalStorage" object.

**See Also**

[externalStorage-class](#), [externalVectorWithStorage-class](#)

---

*getNativeStorageMethods*

*Return the storage methods associated with an object*

---

**Description**

For an object from a subclass of "externalStorage" or for an object with an associated subclass of "externalStorage", this generic returns the "externalptr" stored in the "nativeStorageMethods" object associated with that subclass of "externalStorage".

**Usage**

```
getNativeStorageMethods (x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object.

**Value**

An "externalptr" object with a pointer to a C storageMethods structure.

**See Also**

[nativeStorageMethods-class](#)

---

indirectExternalMatrix-class

*Class "indirectExternalMatrix", class for indirect matrix subset of an externalVector object.*

---

### Description

Objects from this class store an object of class "externalVector" and a matrix subscript for that object and behaves as if this is an object created by applying that subscript.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form as ("indirectExternalMatrix", vec) where vec is an object of class "externalVector".

### Slots

**actual:** Object of class "externalVector", the actual object of which this is a subset

**index:** Object of class "matrixIndex", the vector subscript to get the subset.

### Extends

Class "externalVector", directly.

### Methods

**e1 op e2** For any arithmetic or comparison operation op this returns the result of the operation. Either (or both) of e1 and e2 are of class "indirectExternalMatrix".

**Complex(z)** Return the result of an operation in the Complex group generic.

**Math(x)** Return the result of an operation in the Math group generic.

**Summary(x)** Return the result of an operation in the Summary group generic.

**log(x)** Return natural logarithm of x.

**log(x, base)** Return logarithm of x with base base.

**x[i, j, ..., drop=FALSE]** Extract a subset of x according to the given subscripts.

**x[i, j, ... <- value]** Subassign of x by value according to the given subscripts. This assigns to the correct elements of x@actual.

**as.Rvector(x)** Coerce x to a basic R vector with same names, dimension and dimnames (if any of these are present in x).

**as.vector(x, mode)** Return an R basic vector with mode mode.

**as.matrix** Return a matrix of appropriate mode .

**length(x)** Return the length of x.

**length(x) <- value** Set the length of x to value.

**dim(x)** Return the dimension of x.

**dim(x) <- value** Set the dimension of x to value.

**dimnames(x)** Return the dimnames of x.

**dimnames(x) <- value** Set the dimnames of x to value.

**getExternalStorage(x)** Return the storage slot of associated with `x@actual`.

**is.finite(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is finite.

**is.infinite(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is infinite.

**is.na(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is NA.

**is.nan(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is NaN.

**force** return the result of `force(x@actual)[x@index]`.

### See Also

[indirectExternalVector-class](#) for the matrix class corresponding to this.

---

indirectExternalVector-class

*Class "indirectExternalVector", class for indirect vector subset of an externalVector object.*

---

### Description

Objects from this class store an object of class "externalVector" and a vector subscript for that object and behaves as if this is an object created by applying that subscript.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form as (`"indirectExternalVector"`, `vec`) where `vec` is an object of class "externalVector".

### Slots

**actual:** Object of class "externalVector", the actual object of which this is a subset

**index:** Object of class "vectorIndex", the vector subscript to get the subset.

### Extends

Class "externalVector", directly.

### Methods

**e1 op e2** For any arithmetic or comparison operation `op` this returns the result of the operation. Either (or both) of `e1` and `e2` are of class "indirectExternalVector".

**Complex(z)** Return the result of an operation in the `Complex` group generic.

**Math(x)** Return the result of an operation in the `Math` group generic.

**Summary(x)** Return the result of an operation in the `Summary` group generic.

**log(x)** Return natural logarithm of `x`.

**log(x, base)** Return logarithm of `x` with base `base`.

**x[i, j, ..., drop=FALSE ]** Extract a subset of `x` according to the given subscripts.

**x[i, j, ... <- value]** Subassign of `x` by `value` according to the given subscripts. This assigns to the correct elements of `x@actual`.

**as.Rvector(x)** Coerce `x` to a basic R vector with same names, dimension and dimnames (if any of these are present in `x`).

**as.vector(x, mode)** Return an R basic vector with mode `mode`.

**as.matrix** Return a matrix of appropriate mode .

**length(x)** Return the length of `x`.

**length(x) <- value** Set the length of `x` to `value`.

**dim(x)** Return the dimension of `x`.

**dim(x) <- value** Set the dimension of `x` to `value`.

**dimnames(x)** Return the dimnames of `x`.

**dimnames(x) <- value** Set the dimnames of `x` to `value`.

**getExternalStorage(x)** Return the storage slot of associated with `x@actual`.

**is.finite(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is finite.

**is.infinite(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is infinite.

**is.na(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is NA.

**is.nan(x)** Return a vector of logicals with same length as `x` indicating if an element of `x` is NaN.

**setNames(x, value)** Set the names of `x` to `value` without any error checking or coercion. Return the modified `x`.

**force** return the result of `force(x@actual)[x@index]`.

**See Also**

[indirectExternalMatrix-class](#) for the matrix class corresponding to this.

---

internalType

*Get a vector object similar to the one stored inside an external storage object*

---

**Description**

Get a vector object similar to the one stored inside an external storage object.

**Usage**

```
internalType(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` An "externalStorage" object.

**Value**

An R basic vector object representing the kind of vector object stored in the `x`.

**See Also**

[externalStorage-class](#)



---

makeSlice	<i>Create a new object of class "sliceIndex"</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

Create a new object of class "sliceIndex"

**Usage**

```
makeSlice(start = 1, length.slice = 1, stride = 1)
```

**Arguments**

start	Start of the index.
length.slice	Length of the index.
stride	Difference between consecutive elements of the index.

**Value**

An object of class "sliceIndex".

**See Also**

[sliceIndex-class](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- makeSlice(0, 4, 2)
as(x, "positiveIndex")
```

---

matrixIndex-class	<i>Class "matrixIndex", index class representing a set of row and column subscripts for a matrix</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Objects of class "matrixIndex" represent subscripts corresponding to a submatrix of some matrix of a given size. Like the "vectorIndex" subclasses, this is a class for internal use.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("matrixIndex", row, col, origdim, Names)`.

**Slots**

**row:** Object of class "vectorIndex", the row subscript.  
**col:** Object of class "vectorIndex", the column subscript.  
**origdim:** Object of class "integer", the dimension of the full matrix.  
**Names:** Object of class "vectorNamesType", names for the submatrix elements when the submatrix is treated as vectors.

**Extends**

Class "externalVector", directly.

**Methods**

Signature components for the methods are:

x	The class "allIndex"
scalar	Length one positive "integer"
i	The class "ANY"
j	The class "ANY"
drop	The class "logical"
value	The class "ANY"
.Object	The class "allIndex"

**x[i, j, drop=FALSE ]** Create another object of class `matrixIndex` with same `origdims` represents a further submatrix of the full matrix. If `drop` is `TRUE` and at least one of the dimensions of the answer is 1, the answer is an object of class "vectorIndex" instead.

**x[[i ]]** Get the subscript representing the indices for dimension `i`.

**dim(x)** Get the dimension of `x`.

**dimnames(x)** Get the dimnames of `x`.

**length(x)** Get the length of `x` considered as a vector. This is same as `prod(dim(x))`.

**names(x)** Get the names of `x`.

**setDimNames(x, value)** Set the dimnames of `x` and return the modified `x`.

**setNames(x, value)** Set the names of `x` and return the modified `x`.

**as(x, "vectorIndex")** Coerce `x` to an object of class "vectorIndex".

**See Also**

[vectorIndex-class](#) for the class of row and column subscripts.

---

nativeStorageMethods-class

*Class "nativeStorageMethods", class holding an external pointer to a C storageMethods structure.*

---

**Description**

This simple class has only one purpose - holding an external pointer that contains a pointer to a C `storageMethods` structure. The memory for the C structure is allocated by the "gcAllocator" memory allocator.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("nativeStorageMethods", ...)`. For details on how the `...` argument to `new` works, see documentation for the "initialize" method for class "externalResource".

The `ptr` slot in a newly created object contains pointer to an uninitialized C `storageMethods` structure.

**Slots**

**ptr:** Object of class "externalptr"

**Extends**

Class "externalResource", directly.

**Methods**

Signature components of the methods:

resource	The class "nativeStorageMethods"
ptr	The class "externalptr"
size	The class "ANY"
type	The class "ANY"

Description of the methods:

**allocatedSize(resource):** Returns the size of the C storageMethods structure in bytes.

**allocator(resource):** Returns an object of class "gcAllocator".

**getPointer(resource):** Return the ptr slot.

**initializeResource(resource, ptr, size, type, ...):** Sets the ptr

**See Also**

[nativeStorageMethodsList-class](#) for how this class is used.

[externalResource-class](#) for more on the super class of this class.

---

nativeStorageMethodsList-class

*Class "nativeStorageMethodsList", contains objects from class "nativeStorageMethods"*

---

**Description**

The class "nativeStorageMethodsList" contains a number of slots, all from class "nativeStorageMethod". Usually, each object of class "nativeStorageMethodsList" is associated with a particular subclass of "externalStorage".

Objects from this class are never visible to the user.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("nativeStorageMethodsList")`. Any extra arguments are ignored.

## Slots

All slots in this class are objects of class "nativeStorageMethods".

**allMethods:** Contains the C storageMethods structure with all methods registered (directly or indirectly) for the associated "externalStorage" class.

**logicalMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "logical".

**integerMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "integer".

**numericMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "numeric".

**complexMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "complex".

**characterMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "character".

**listMethods:** Object returned by getExternalStorageMethods for the associated "externalStorage" class and type "list".

## Methods

**initialize(Object, ...)** Initializer method for class "nativeStorageMethodsList". This initializes each of the slots of the class. Any extra argument in ... is ignored.

---

nonSlotAttributes *Functions to extract and set attributes which are not slots.*

---

## Description

These functions access an object's attribute list. The first form returns the an object's attribute list after removing any attribute which is also a slot for the object. The assignment form makes the list on the right-hand side of the assignment the object's attribute list (if appropriate).

## Usage

```
nonSlotAttributes(x)
nonSlotAttributes(x) <- value
```

## Arguments

x	An object.
value	An appropriate attribute list, or NULL.

## See Also

[attributes](#) and [attributes<-](#)

---

noneIndex-class	<i>Class "noneIndex", index class representing a subscript for none of the elements of a vector or an array dimension</i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

When used as a subscript for a vector object or for any dimension of an array object this is equivalent to `integer(0)`.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("noneIndex")`. Objects from this class can not be modified and they are all equivalent.

### Slots

**.Data:** Object of class "integer", this is always equal to `integer(0)`.

### Extends

Class "integer", directly. Class "vectorIndex", directly.

### Methods

Signature components for the methods are:

<code>x</code>	The class "allIndex"
<code>scalar</code>	Length one positive "integer"
<code>i</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>value</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>.Object</code>	The class "allIndex"

**`x+scalar`:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x`.

**`scalar+x`:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x`.

**`x*scalar`:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x`.

**`scalar*x`:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x`.

**`dim(x) <- value`** Set a dimension on `x`. If `value` is of length 2, this may create a "matrixIndex".

**`x[i]`:** Subset `x`. The result is an object of class "NAIndex" of length same as `length(integer(0)[i])`.

**`x[]`:** Subset `x` with the subscript missing. Result is `x`.

**`x[i] <- value`:** Subassign `x`. Results in an error (as objects from class "noneIndex" are not mutable).

**`x[[i]] <- value`:** Subassign `x`. Results in an error (as objects from class "noneIndex" are not mutable).

**`allNA(x)`:** Are all elements of `x` NA? Result is always FALSE.

**`anyNA(x)`:** Is any element of `x` NA? Result is always FALSE.

**`initialize(.Object)`:** Initialize an object from class "allIndex".

**`length(x)`:** Return the length of `x` which is always 0.

**`length(x) <- value`:** Modify the length of `x`. Always results in an error.

**See Also**

[vectorIndex-class](#) for the super class of "noneIndex".

---

```
positiveIndex-class
```

*Class "positiveIndex", index class representing a sequence of non-negative integers*

---

**Description**

This represents a subscript of arbitrary non-negative integers.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("positiveIndex", val)`. If `val` is missing, the result is an object of class "positiveIndex" of length 0. Otherwise, it is coerced to an integer and an object of class "positiveIndex" is created which has the same `.Data` slot as `val`. The `rangeIndex` and `noNA` slots are calculated by the initialization code.

**Slots**

**.Data:** Object of class "integer", the actual index values.

**rangeIndex:** Object of class "integer" of length 2, same as `range(.Data)`.

**noNA:** Object of class "logical" of length 1, same as `!any(is.na(.Data))`.

**Extends**

Class "integer", directly. Class "vectorIndex", directly.

**Methods**

Signature components for the methods are:

<code>x</code>	The class "allIndex"
<code>scalar</code>	Length one positive "integer"
<code>i</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>value</code>	The class "ANY"
<code>.Object</code>	The class "allIndex"

**x+scalar** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x` with `x@.Data` replaced by `x@.Data+scalar`.

**scalar+x** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x` with `x@.Data` replaced by `x@.Data+scalar`.

**x\*scalar** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x` with `x@.Data` replaced by `x@.Data*scalar`.

**scalar\*x** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x` with `x@.Data` replaced by `x@.Data*scalar`.

**dim(x) <- value** Set a dimension on `x`. If `value` is of length 2, this may create a "matrixIndex".

**x[i]** Subset `x`. If length of `i` is 0, the result is an object of class "noneIndex". Otherwise, the result is an object of class "sliceIndex" or of class "positiveIndex".

**x[]** Subset `x` with the subscript missing. Result is `x`.

**allNA(x)** Are all elements of `x` NA? Result is `all(is.na(x@.Data))`.

**anyNA(x)** Is any element of `x` NA? Result is `any(is.na(x@.Data))`.

**as.integer(x)** Convert `x` to an R subscript - adds 1 to each element of `x@.Data`.

**initialize(.Object, .Data)** Initialize `.Object`.

---

rebind

*Allocate a new external vector with external storage*


---

### Description

This function allocates a new "externalVectorWithStorage" object with possibly new length, type, names, dimension or dimnames.

### Usage

```
rebind(x, length.x = length(x), type = x@storage@type,
       names.x = x@Names, dim.x = x@Dim,
       dimnames.x = x@DimNames, ..., arrayOnly = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class "externalVectorWithStorage".
<code>length.x</code>	New length.
<code>type</code>	New type.
<code>names.x</code>	New names.
<code>dim.x</code>	New dimension.
<code>dimnames.x</code>	New dimnames.
<code>...</code>	Other arguments passed to initializer of the class of <code>x</code> .
<code>arrayOnly</code>	Just create the data part with no names, dimensions or dimnames.

### Value

A new object of same class as `x`.

### See Also

[externalVectorWithStorage-class](#)

---

setDimNames	<i>Set names and dimnames</i>
-------------	-------------------------------

---

**Description**

These generics set the names and the dimnames of an object without any sanity checks.

**Usage**

```
setNames(object, nm)
setDimNames(object, dnm)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object.
nm	The new names.
dnm	The new dimnames.

**Value**

The object after modification.

**See Also**

[names<-](#), [dimnames<-](#)

---

setExternalStorageClass	<i>Create subclass of externalStorage</i>
-------------------------	---

---

**Description**

Function to create a subclass of "externalStorage" and associate native C methods with the class.

**Usage**

```
setExternalStorageClass(Class, methodNames, ..., contains = "externalStorage", w
```

**Arguments**

Class	Character string, name for the class.
methodNames	Character vector, names of the native C functions for use as methods (see Adding Native Methods below).
...	Other arguments passed to setClass.
contains	what classes does this class extend? (These are called superclasses in some languages.) Should have at least one class name which is a subclass of "externalStorage".
where	The environment in which to store or remove the definition. Defaults to the top-level environment of the calling function (the global environment for ordinary computations, but the environment or namespace of a package when loading that package).





```

                                alloc="simpleAlloc"),
contains = "externalStorage")
## End(Not run)

```

---

setVirtualMethod    *Set a virtual method for a given signature*

---

### Description

This sets a method for a signature. If there is no generic with the given name, it also creates the appropriate generic. If called, the method generates an error indicating the classes of the arguments which are part of the signature.

### Usage

```
setVirtualMethod(name, signature.virtual, signature.nonvirtual = character(), ..
```

### Arguments

name	The character-string name of the generic function.
signature.virtual	Signature of the arguments for which the virtual method is being set. All of these arguments must have a virtual class in the signature.
signature.nonvirtual	Signature for other arguments. Any omitted argument is assumed to have class "ANY".
...	Other arguments. See details.
where	The database in which to store the definition of the method.

### Details

If the generic for name is not defined, an attempt is made to create it with `setGeneric(name, ..., where = where)`.

### Value

This method exists for its side-effect of setting up the virtual method.

The return value is the result from the call to `setMethod` to create the virtual method.

### See Also

[setGeneric](#), [setMethod](#)

**Examples**

```

setClass("myMatrix")
setVirtualMethod("dim", "myMatrix")
setVirtualMethod("dimnames", "myMatrix")
setClass("myMatrix2", representation(val="numeric",
                                     d = "integer",
                                     dn = "list"),
         contains="myMatrix")
x <- new("myMatrix2", val=1:4, d = as.integer(c(2, 2)),
        dn = list(LETTERS[1:2], letters[1:2]))
## A call dim(x) or dimnames(x) would generate an error here
setMethod("dim", "myMatrix", function(x) x@d)
setMethod("dimnames", "myMatrix", function(x) x@dn)
dim(x)
dimnames(x)

```

---

```
simpleStorage-class
```

*Class "simpleStorage", an external storage class that uses reference to R basic vectors as storage*

---

**Description**

The class "simpleStorage" is an implementation of the "externalStorage" class. The actual storage for the vector object is contained in an R basic vector referenced through the `ptr` slot.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("simpleStorage", type, length)`. See the `initialize` method for "externalStorage" for details.

**Slots**

**ptr:** Object of class "externalptr", keeps the R basic vector in the protected field. For "logical", "integer", "numeric", "complex", the address field of the external pointer also holds a pointer to the data in the basic R vector.

**type:** Object of class "vector", a vector object of length one representing the type of object stored in the external storage. Usually one of the basic R vector types.

**length:** Object of class "integer", Cached value for the length of the vector stored in the external storage.

**Extends**

Class "externalStorage", directly. Class "externalResource", by class "externalStorage".

**Methods**

Signature components for the methods:

resource The class "simpleStorage"

Description of the methods:

**allocatedSize(resource)** Length of the vector to be stored.

**allocatedType** The type of vector to be stored.

### See Also

[externalStorage-class](#) to see details of the super class.

[externalVector](#) to create "externalVector" objects that use this resource.

---

sliceIndex-class    *Class "sliceIndex", index class representing a sequence of non-negative integers*

---

### Description

This represents a sequence that can be created with `seq(start, by=stride, length=n)` where `start >= 0` and `start+(n-1)*stride >= 0`.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `makeSlice(start, length, stride)`.

### Slots

**content:** Object of class "numeric" of length 3. The first element of `content` is the start of the index, the second element is the length of the index, and the third element is the difference between successive elements of the index.

**Names:** Object of class "vectorNamesType", this contains names associated with the elements of the index (if any).

### Extends

Class "vectorIndex", directly.

### Methods

Signature components for the methods are:

x	The class "allIndex"
scalar	Length one positive "integer"
i	The class "ANY"
value	The class "ANY"
.Object	The class "allIndex"

**x+scalar:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x` with `x@content[1]` replaced by `x@content[1]+scalar`.

**scalar+x:** Add `scalar` to `x`. Result is `x` with `x@content[1]` replaced by `x@content[1]+scalar`.

**x\*scalar:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x` with `x@content[3]` replaced by `x@content[3]*scalar`.

**scalar\*x:** Multiply `x` by `scalar`. Result is `x` with `x@content[3]` replaced by `x@content[3]*scalar`.

**x[i]**: Subset x. If length of i is 0, the result is an object of class "noneIndex". Otherwise, the result is an object of class "sliceIndex" or of class "positiveIndex".

**dim(x) <- value** Set a dimension on x. If value is of length 2, this may create a "matrixIndex".

**x[]**: Subset x with the subscript missing. Result is x.

**allNA(x)**: Are all elements of x NA? Result is always FALSE.

**anyNA(x)**: Is any element of x NA? Result is always FALSE.

**length(x)**: Return the length of x.

**length(x) <- value**: Modify the length of x. If value is 0, makes x an object of class "noneIndex". Otherwise, modifies length of x to value.

**names(x)**: Returns the Names slot of x.

**names(x) <- value** : Sets the Names slot of x to value.

---

 union-class

*Some useful class unions*


---

### Description

The class "listOrNull" is a union of the classes "list" and "NULL". The class "listOrNull" is a union of the classes "list" and "NULL". The class "vectorNamesType" is a union of the classes "character", "NULL" and "externalVectorWithStorage".

### Objects from the Class

These are virtual classes: no objects may be created from them.

### Methods

No methods defined with class "listOrNull", "integerOrNull" or "vectorNamesType" in the signature.

---

 var

*Correlation, Variance and Covariance (Matrices)*


---

### Description

var, cov and cor compute the variance of x and the covariance or correlation of x and y if these are vectors. If x and y are matrices then the covariances (or correlations) between the columns of x and the columns of y are computed.

cov2cor scales a covariance matrix into the corresponding correlation matrix *efficiently*.

**Usage**

```
var(x, y, na.rm = FALSE, use)

cov(x, y, use = "all.obs",
    method = c("pearson", "kendall", "spearman"))

cor(x, y, use = "all.obs",
    method = c("pearson", "kendall", "spearman"))

cov2cor(V)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	a numeric vector, matrix or data frame.
<code>y</code>	NULL (default) or a vector, matrix or data frame with compatible dimensions to <code>x</code> . The default is equivalent to <code>y = x</code> (but more efficient).
<code>na.rm</code>	logical. Should missing values be removed?
<code>use</code>	an optional character string giving a method for computing covariances in the presence of missing values. This must be (an abbreviation of) one of the strings "all.obs", "complete.obs" or "pairwise.complete.obs".
<code>method</code>	a character string indicating which correlation coefficient (or covariance) is to be computed. One of "pearson" (default), "kendall", or "spearman", can be abbreviated.
<code>V</code>	symmetric numeric matrix, usually positive definite such as a covariance matrix.

**Details**

For `cov` and `cor` one must *either* give a matrix or data frame for `x` *or* give both `x` and `y`.

`var` is just another interface to `cov`, where `na.rm` is used to determine the default for `use` when that is unspecified. If `na.rm` is TRUE then the complete observations (rows) are used (`use = "complete"`) to compute the variance. Otherwise (`use = "all"`), `var` will give an error if there are missing values.

If `use` is "all.obs", then the presence of missing observations will produce an error. If `use` is "complete.obs" then missing values are handled by casewise deletion. Finally, if `use` has the value "pairwise.complete.obs" then the correlation between each pair of variables is computed using all complete pairs of observations on those variables. This can result in covariance or correlation matrices which are not positive semidefinite.

The denominator  $n - 1$  is used which gives an unbiased estimator of the (co)variance for i.i.d. observations. These functions return NA when there is only one observation (whereas S-PLUS has been returning NaN), and fail if `x` has length zero.

For `cor()`, if `method` is "kendall" or "spearman", Kendall's  $\tau$  or Spearman's  $\rho$  statistic is used to estimate a rank-based measure of association. These are more robust and have been recommended if the data do not necessarily come from a bivariate normal distribution.

For `cov()`, a non-Pearson method is unusual but available for the sake of completeness. Note that "spearman" basically computes `cor(R(x), R(y))` (or `cov(., .)`) where `R(u) := rank(u, na.last="keep")`.

Scaling a covariance matrix into a correlation one can be achieved in many ways, mathematically most appealing by multiplication with a diagonal matrix from left and right, or more efficiently by using `sweep(., FUN = "/")` twice. The `cov2cor` function is even a bit more efficient, and provided mostly for didactical reasons.

**Value**

For `r <- cor(*, use = "all.obs")`, it is now guaranteed that `all(r <= 1)`.

**References**

Becker, R. A., Chambers, J. M. and Wilks, A. R. (1988) *The New S Language*. Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole.

**See Also**

[cor.test](#) (package **ctest**) for confidence intervals (and tests).

[cov.wt](#) for *weighted* covariance computation.

[sd](#) for standard deviation (vectors).

**Examples**

```
x <- externalNumeric(10)
x[] <- 1:10
var(x) # 9.166667

var(x[1:5], x[1:5]) # 2.5

## Two simple vectors
cor(x, x+1) # == 1
```

---

vectorIndex-class    *Class "vectorIndex", base class for index classes used to represent vector subscripts*

---

**Description**

Together, all subclasses of this class represent the possible representations of vector subscripts and subscripts for individual array dimensions.

Usually users would not create objects from any of the subclasses of "vectorIndex" directly.

**Objects from the Class**

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it.

**Methods**

No methods defined with class "vectorIndex" in the signature.

**See Also**

[allIndex-class](#), [noneIndex-class](#), [NAIndex-class](#), [sliceIndex-class](#), [positiveIndex-class](#), all of which are subclasses of "vectorIndex".

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