

# Package ‘MultiJoin’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Enables Efficient Joining of Data File on Common Fields using the Unix Utility Join

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**Depends** R (>= 2.10), graphics, stats, utils

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## Description

Wrapper around the Unix join facility which is more efficient than the built-in R routine merge(). The package enables the joining of multiple files on disk at once. The files can be compressed and various filters can be deployed before joining. Compiles only under Unix.

**License** GPL

**LazyLoad** yes

**NeedsCompilation** no

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ArtificialData      *create artificial data for testing*

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### Description

This function allows quick generation of a test data set which can be used with the majority of the Join functions

### Usage

```
ArtificialData(fakeDataDir = "~/fakeData2/", joinKey = letters[1:20],

              numFiles = 4, N = rep(15, numFiles), SORT = 1, GZIP = 0,

              sep = c(" ", ",", "\t", "|")[1], prefix = "file", suffix = ".txt",

              daten = month.abb, NCOL = rep(3, numFiles), chunkSize = 1000,

              verbose = 0)
```

### Arguments

fakeDataDir	directory to put the data
joinKey	set of join keys to choose from (has to be longer than N) - this column will be the key for join
numFiles	number of files to split the data across
N	number of rows in each file created, e.g. N = c(15,20,10,30)
SORT	should the join key be sorted?
GZIP	should the data files created by gzipped?
sep	column delimiter; default white space
prefix	file name prefix
suffix	file name suffix
daten	data to sample from
NCOL	number of data columns per file
chunkSize	write that many lines to the file at once
verbose	level of verbosity

### Value

invisibly return data and file names

**Author(s)**

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**Examples**

```
if (0){

  ArtificialData("fakeData2",verbose=1)

  ArtificialData("fakeData2",joinKey = 1:2000, N = rep(1500,4) ,verbose=0)

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="/tmp/fakeData")

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="./fakeData", joinKey=letters[1:10], numFiles = 6, N = rep(5,6))

  ret = ArtificialData(SORT = 1, GZIP = 1)

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="fakeData", joinKey = 0:9, N = rep(6, 4), verbose=1)

  #on allegro:

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="./fakeData", joinKey=letters, numFiles = 10,

    N = rep(18,10), NCOL=rep(5,10))

}
```

**Description**

small helper function that attempts to count how many columns there are in a file

**Usage**

```
CountColumns(files = c("ftr1.txt", "ftr2.txt"), sep = c(" ",
  ", ", "\t", "|")[1], mycat = c("", "gunzip -cf ", "cat ")[1],
  filterStr = "", verbose = 0, ...)
```

**Arguments**

files	which files to inspect
sep	column delimiter; default white space
mycat	effective cat command, if empty do NOT use FIFOs
filterStr	various inline filters that act locally and do not need an input file,
verbose	level of verbosity
...	further arguments to myjoin such as missingValue or extraARGS

**Value**

returns number of columns of each file

**Author(s)**

"Markus Loecher, Berlin School of Economics and Law (BSEL)" <markus.loecher@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
if (0){

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="fakeData2", joinKey = 0:9, N = rep(6, 4), verbose=1)

  CountColumns(paste0("fakeData2/file",1:4,".txt"))

  #zipped data:

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="fakeData2", joinKey = 0:9, N = rep(6, 4), GZIP=1, verbose=1)
```

```

CountColumns(paste0("fakeData2/file",1:4,".txt.gz"),mycat ="gunzip -cf ")

#gzipped and selected columns:

ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="fakeData2", joinKey = 0:9, N = rep(6, 4), GZIP=1, verbose=1)

CountColumns(paste0("fakeData2/file",1:4,".txt.gz"),mycat ="gunzip -cf ",

              filterStr=" | cut -f1,3 -d\" \" ")

}

```

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FullJoin	<i>create command to fully join multiple (more than 2) files</i>
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### Description

Iteratively calls the function FullJoinPairs() to join lines of two files on a common field

### Usage

```

FullJoin(files = c("ftr1.txt", "ftr2.txt"), prefix = " time ",

         suffix = " > joined.txt", myjoin = FullJoinPairs, NumFields = rep(2,

         length(files)), sep = c(" ", ",", "\t", "|")[1], mycat = c("",

         "gunzip -cf ", "cat ")[1], filterStr = "", ReturnData = FALSE,

         verbose = 2, ...)

```

### Arguments

files	which files to join
prefix	any convenience prefix command to be passed to the beginning of the Unix command to be executed

suffix	any convenience suffix command to be passed to the end of the Unix command to be executed
myjoin	the particular Join function from the package to use
NumFields	this includes the userid column
sep	column delimiter; default white space
mycat	effective cat command, if empty do NOT use FIFos
filterStr	various inline filters that act locally and do not need an input file,
ReturnData	should the result of the join command be read into R and returned as a dataframe?
verbose	level of verbosity
...	further arguments to myjoin such as missingValue or extraARGS

**Value**

returns command only

**Author(s)**

"Markus Loecher, Berlin School of Economics and Law (BSEL)" <markus.loecher@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
if (0){

  #no FIFOs:

  FullJoin(NumFields = rep(4,2))

  FullJoin(paste0("ftr",1:4,".txt"), NumFields = rep(4, 4), suffix = " | gzip > joined.txt.gz")

  FullJoin(paste0("ftr",1:4,".txt"), NumFields = rep(3, 4),missingValue="0", suffix = "")

  #with FIFOs:

  FullJoin(paste0("ftr",1:4,".txt"), mycat = "cat ", NumFields = rep(3, 4),missingValue="0",

          suffix = "", verbose=2)

  FullJoin(paste0("ftr",1:3,".txt.gz"), mycat = "gunzip -cf ", filterStr = " | cut -f1,3",
```

```
    NumFields = rep(2, 3), verbose=2)

#selected columns only:

FullJoin(paste0("ftr",1:3,".txt"), mycat = "cat ", filterStr = "cut -f1,3",

    NumFields = rep(2, 3),missingValue="0", suffix = "", verbose=2)

ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="./fakeData2", joinKey=letters, numFiles = 10,

    N = rep(18,10), NCOL=rep(5,10))

FullJoin(paste0("./fakeData2/file",1:10,".txt"),missingValue="0", suffix = "", verbose=2)

# let's try FIFOs:

#small:

cmd = FullJoin(paste0("file",1:2,".txt"), mycat = "cat ", NumFields = rep(5, 2),

    missingValue="0", suffix = " > joined.txt", verbose=2)

cmd = FullJoin(paste0("file",1:3,".txt"), mycat = "cat ", NumFields = rep(5, 3),

    missingValue="0", suffix = " > joined.txt", verbose=2)

# and now gzipped files:
```

```

ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="./fakeData", joinKey=letters, numFiles = 10,GZIP =1,

                    N = rep(18,10), NCOL=rep(5,10))

cmd = FullJoin(paste0("./fakeData/file",1:10,".txt.gz"), mycat = "gunzip -c ",

              NumFields = rep(3, 10),missingValue="NA",

              filterStr = " | cut -f1,2,3",

              suffix = " > joined.txt", verbose=2)

x = FullJoin(paste0("./fakeData/file",1:10,".txt.gz"), mycat = "gunzip -c ",

            NumFields = rep(3, 10),missingValue="NA",

            filterStr = " | cut -f1,2,3",ReturnData=TRUE,

            suffix = "", verbose=0)

}

#let us try a laarge example

#uids = sort(paste0(sample(LETTERS,10^7,replace=TRUE), sample(10^8,10^7)))

#uids = paste0(LETTERS, (10^7):(10^8))

#tmp=expand.grid(LETTERS,LETTERS,LETTERS,0:9,0:9);str(tmp)

```



```
#uids=apply(expand.grid(LETTERS[1:3],LETTERS[1:3],0:2,0:3),1,paste0,collapse="")

#uids=apply(expand.grid(LETTERS,LETTERS,LETTERS,0:9,0:9),1,paste0,collapse="")

if (0) {

  uids = scan("uids.txt",what="")

  Nfiles=100

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="./fakeData", joinKey=uids,

    numFiles = Nfiles, GZIP =1, N = rep(10^5,Nfiles), NCOL=rep(10,Nfiles))

  cmd = FullJoin(paste0("fakeData/file",1:10,".txt.gz"), mycat = "gunzip -c ",

    NumFields = rep(3, 10),missingValue="NA",

    filterStr = " | cut -f1,2,3",

    suffix = " | gzip > ./fakeData/joined.txt.gz", verbose=2)

  system("rm /tmp/fifo*")

  for (go in cmd) system(go)

  x = FullJoin(paste0("./fakeData/file",1:10,".txt.gz"), mycat = "gunzip -c ",

    NumFields = rep(3, 10),missingValue="NA",

    filterStr = " | cut -f1,2,3",ReturnData=TRUE,

    suffix = "", prefix="", verbose=0)
```

```
}

```

---

FullJoinPairs                    *create command to fully join lines of two files on a common field*

---

### Description

Calls the Unix utility join to join lines of two files on a common field  
 The -a option is set for both files such that also unpairable lines are printed.

### Usage

```
FullJoinPairs(f1, f2, j1 = 1, j2 = 1, o1 = 2:4, o2 = 2:4, missingValue = "NA",
              sep = c(" ", ",", "\t", "|")[1], extraARGS = "")
```

### Arguments

f1	filename of first file
f2	filename of second file
j1	join on this FIELD of file 1
j2	join on this FIELD of file 2
o1	obey this FORMAT while constructing output line from file 1 (NCOL1 would be the number of columns of file 1)
o2	obey this FORMAT while constructing output line from file 2 (NCOL2 would be the number of columns of file 2)
missingValue	replace missing input fields with missingValue
sep	column delimiter; default white space
extraARGS	extra (optional) arguments to be passed to the join function (such as -check-order or -header or -ignore-case)

### Details

Each output line is constructed according to the FORMAT in the -o option. Each element in FIELD-LIST is either the single character 0 or has the form M.N where the file number, M, is 1 or 2 and N is a positive field number. A field specification of 0 denotes the join field. In most

cases, the functionality of the 0 field spec may be reproduced using the explicit M.N that corresponds to the join field. However, when printing unpairable lines (using either of the -a or -v options), there is no way to specify the join field using M.N in FIELD-LIST if there are unpairable lines in both files. To give join that functionality, POSIX invented the 0 field specification notation. The elements in FIELD-LIST are separated by commas or blanks. Blank separators typically need to be quoted for the shell. For example, the commands `join -o 1.2,2.2` and `join -o 1.2 2.2` are equivalent.

**Value**

returns command

**Note**

Important: FILE1 and FILE2 must be sorted on the join fields. If you are unsure, pass the `--check-order` flag

Note, comparisons honor the rules specified by LC\_COLLATE.

**Author(s)**

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**Examples**

```
if (0){  
  
    ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir=tempdir(), numFiles=2, NCOL = rep(4,2))  
  
    FullJoinPairs(ret$fnames[[1]][1], ret$fnames[[2]][1], o1=2:4, o2 = 2:4)  
  
}
```

---

LeftJoinPairs	<i>create command to left join lines of two files on a common field with no further options</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Calls the Unix utility `join` to join lines of two files on a common field. No unpairable lines are printed

### Usage

```
LeftJoinPairs(f1, f2, j1 = 1, j2 = 1, missingValue = "NA", sep = c(" ",
    ", ", "\t", "|")[1], extraARGS = "")
```

### Arguments

<code>f1</code>	filename of first file
<code>f2</code>	filename of second file
<code>j1</code>	join on this FIELD of file 1
<code>j2</code>	join on this FIELD of file 2
<code>missingValue</code>	replace missing input fields with <code>missingValue</code>
<code>sep</code>	column delimiter; default white space
<code>extraARGS</code>	extra (optional) arguments to be passed to the <code>join</code> function (such as <code>-check-order</code> or <code>-header</code> or <code>-ignore-case</code> )

### Details

Each output line is constructed according to the `FORMAT` in the `-o` option. Each element in `FIELD-LIST` is either the single

character `0` or has the form `M.N` where the file number, `M`, is 1 or 2 and `N` is a positive field number.

A field specification of `0` denotes the join field. In most

cases, the functionality of the `0` field spec may be reproduced

using the explicit `M.N` that corresponds to the join field.

However, when printing unpairable lines (using either of the `-a`

or `-v` options), there is no way to specify the join field using

`M.N` in `FIELD-LIST` if there are unpairable lines in both files. To

give `join` that functionality, POSIX invented the `0` field

specification notation.

The elements in `FIELD-LIST` are separated by commas or blanks.

Blank separators typically need to be quoted for the shell. For

example, the commands `join -o 1.2,2.2` and `join -o 1.2 2.2`

are equivalent.

**Value**

Unix command to be executed

**Note**

Important: FILE1 and FILE2 must be sorted on the join fields. If you are unsure, pass the `-check-order` flag

Note, comparisons honor the rules specified by LC\_COLLATE.

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**Examples**

```
if (0){

  LeftJoinPairs("f1.txt", "f2.txt")

  #tab delimiter:

  ret = ArtificialData(fakeDataDir="/tmp/fakeData2", sep = "\t")

  cmd = LeftJoinPairs("/tmp/fakeData2/file1.txt", "/tmp/fakeData2/file2.txt", sep = "\t")

  # cat(cmd, file = "/tmp/tmp.sh")

  # system("bash /tmp/tmp.sh")

}
```

---

MakeFIFOs	<i>creates named Unix pipes, which gzipped files can be streamed to for e.g. further joins</i>
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**Description**

Additional filters can be implemented based upon the input arguments.

This string is typically used in between pipes.

**Usage**

```
MakeFIFOs(file = "file1.txt.gz", FIFO = "/tmp/fifo1", path = ".",
          filterStr = " | cut -f2,3 -d\" \" --complement", mycat = "gunzip -cf ",
          verbose = 2)
```

**Arguments**

file	Name of the file that contains the data to uncompress and filter on
FIFO	Name of the FIFO to create
path	Directory to find the files in
filterStr	various inline filters that act locally and do not need an input file,
mycat	effective cat command
verbose	level of verbosity

**Value**

filter string

**Author(s)**

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**Examples**

```
if (0){
  MakeFIFOs(verbose=2)
```

```
MakeFIFOs(filterStr=" | awk '$2 > 100 && $3 > 5' |  
  
    cut -f2,3 -d\" \" --complement | head -n 10000 | sort -k1,1")  
  
}
```

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