

# Package ‘houba’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Manipulation of (Large) Memory-Mapped Objects (Vectors, Matrices and Arrays)

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**Description** Manipulate data through memory-mapped files, as vectors, matrices or arrays. Basic arithmetic functions are implemented, but currently no matrix arithmetic. Can write and read descriptor files for compatibility with the 'bigmemory' package.

**License** CeCILL-2

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---

apply	<i>Apply functions over margins of a mmatrix</i>
-------	--

---

## Description

This method generalizes ‘base::apply’ to mmatrix objects

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
apply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ..., simplify = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

X	a mmatrix
MARGIN	an integer giving the subscript which the function will be applied over
FUN	the function to be applied
...	extra arguments for ‘FUN’
simplify	a logical indicating whether the results should be simplified

## Details

If ‘simplify’ is TRUE the result will be a vector or a matrix, depending on the size of the values returned by ‘FUN’. If the size of this object is greater than houba(max.size), then it will be memory-mapped (i.e., either a mvector or a mmatrix). If ‘simplify’ is FALSE, the result is a list.

The function extracts the rows or the columns of ‘X’ one by one, to a R object, which is passed to ‘FUN’.

**Value**

If 'simplify' is TRUE, a matrix (or a mmatrix) or a vector (or a mvector). If 'simplify' is FALSE, a list.

**See Also**

[base:apply](#)

**Examples**

```
a <- matrix(1:6, 2, 3)
A <- as.mmatrix(a)
apply(A, 1, var)
apply(A, 2, var)
```

---

Arithmetic

*Arithmetic Operators*

---

**Description**

Arithmetic operators for memory mapped objects

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,array'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'array,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,mmatrix'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,marray'
```

```
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,array'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,mmatrix'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'array,marray'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,missing'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,array'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'array,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,mmatrix'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvectorOrNumeric,marray'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,array'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,mmatrix'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'array,marray'
```

```
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrixOrMarray,mmatrixOrMarray'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvector,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'numeric,mvector'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvector,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'numeric,mvector'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvector,missing'
e1 - e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvector,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'numeric,mvector'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'mvector,mvectorOrNumeric'
e1 / e2

## S4 method for signature 'numeric,mvector'
e1 / e2
```

### Arguments

e1	first operand
e2	second operand

### Details

The usual operations are performed. Values are recycled if necessary. There's no type promotion: if one of the operands is a R object and the other is a memory-mapped object, the result will be a memory mapped object with same data type as the operand. If both operand are memory mapped objects with different data types, the result will be a memory mapped object with the same data type than the left operand.

### Value

an object of class mvector, mmatrix or marray depending on the operand classes.

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

```
x <- as.mvector(2**(1:4))
y <- 2*x
x <- x/2
x + c(1,2) / y
```

---

`as.array.marray`*Converting memory-mapped objects to R objects*

---

**Description**

Converting memory-mapped objects to R objects

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'marray'
as.array(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'marray'
as.vector(x, mode = "any")

## S3 method for class 'mmatrix'
as.matrix(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'mmatrix'
as.vector(x, mode = "any")

## S3 method for class 'mvector'
as.vector(x, mode = "any")
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	memory-mapped object to convert
<code>...</code>	extra parameters (ignored)
<code>mode</code>	the mode of the created vector

**Value**

an array

**Examples**

```
a <- array( 1:24, c(2,3,4) )
A <- as.marray(a)
all(as.array(A) == a)
as.vector(A)
```

---

as.marray

*Conversion of R objects to memory mapped objects*

---

**Description**

Conversion of R objects to memory mapped objects

**Usage**

```
as.marray(x, datatype, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'array'
as.marray(x, datatype, filename)

as.mmatrix(x, datatype, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix'
as.mmatrix(x, datatype, filename)

as.mvector(x, datatype, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'numeric'
as.mvector(x, datatype, filename)
```

**Arguments**

x	an r object
datatype	(optional) type of the memory mapped object
filename	(optional) path to file

**Details**

If 'filename' is a path to an existing file, the function will raise an error. If you need to overwrite a file, unlink it first.

**Value**

A memmory-mapped object, of class 'mvector', 'mmatrix' or 'marray'

## Examples

```
a <- matrix(1:6, 2)
A <- as.mmatrix(a)
B <- as.mmatrix(a, "float")
A
B
```

---

colMeans,mmatrix-method

*Row and Columns sums and means*

---

## Description

Methods generalizing the base methods to mmatrix objects

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
colMeans(x, output.type)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
colSums(x, output.type)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
rowMeans(x, output.type)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
rowSums(x, output.type)
```

## Arguments

x	a dual matrix or array
output.type	type of the result, if it's a mvector (see details)

## Details

If the size of the result is greater than `houba(max.size)`, then it will be a mvector instead of R object. In this case its type will be determined using 'output.type'. If 'output.type' is missing, a coherent choice will be made (integer or double).

## Value

a mvector or a R vector, depending on the size of the result.

**Examples**

```
a <- matrix(1:20, 4, 5)
A <- as.mmatrix(a, "float")
colMeans(A)
rowSums(A)
```

---

copy

*Copy memory mapped object*

---

**Description**

Copy memory mapped object

**Usage**

```
copy(x, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'mvector'
copy(x, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
copy(x, filename)

## S4 method for signature 'marray'
copy(x, filename)
```

**Arguments**

x                    a memory mapped object  
filename            (optional) a file name for the new object

**Details**

Creates a new memory mapped object, identical to x.

**Value**

A memory mapped object.

**Examples**

```
a <- as.mvector(1:4)
b <- copy(a)
a
b
```

---

`copy.values`*Copy values to memory mapped object*

---

**Description**

Copy values to memory mapped object

**Usage**

```
copy.values(x, values)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,numericOrArray'  
copy.values(x, values)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,memoryMapped'  
copy.values(x, values)
```

**Arguments**

`x` a memory mapped object

`values` a R object or a memory mapped object

**Details**

Copy values to `x`, recycling if necessary. This function modifies `x` in-place.

**Value**

None.

**Examples**

```
A <- mvector("double", 3)  
copy.values(A, 1:3)  
B <- mvector("double", 6)  
copy.values(B, A)  
B
```

---

descriptor.file	<i>Descriptor file</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

## Description

Descriptor file

## Usage

```
descriptor.file(object)

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
descriptor.file(object)

## S4 method for signature 'mvector'
descriptor.file(object)

## S4 method for signature 'marray'
descriptor.file(object)
```

## Arguments

object            a memory mapped object

## Details

Creates a descriptor file, similar to the descriptor files of the package 'bigmemory'. This descriptor allows to map the object with the package bigmemory, or the [read.descriptor](#) function in this package. Its name is obtained by appending ".desc" to the name of the file mapped by 'object'.

A method is available for marrays as well, but the resulting descriptor can't be read by 'bigmemory' as this package doesn't handle arrays. The function 'read.descriptor' in houba can read it.

## Value

None.

## See Also

[read.descriptor](#)

## Examples

```
A <- mmatrix("short", 10, 20)
A[] <- sample.int(200)

# create descriptor file
dsc <- descriptor.file(A)
```

```
# linking file to other object
B <- read.descriptor(dsc, readonly = FALSE)
all(as.matrix(A) == as.matrix(B)) # TRUE

B[1:10] <- 0
all(A[1:10] == 0) # TRUE
```

---

**dim***Change object dimensions*

---

## Description

Change object dimensions

## Usage

```
## S4 replacement method for signature 'memoryMapped,numeric'
dim(x) <- value
```

```
## S4 replacement method for signature 'memoryMapped,NULL'
dim(x) <- value
```

## Arguments

x                    a memory mapped object  
value                or NULL new dimensions

## Details

The new dimensions must match the object size. This function can change the class of the object, e.g. from `mvector` to `mmatrix` or the reverse.

If the value is `NULL`, then `x` is turned into a `mvector`.

## Examples

```
x <- as.mvector(1:6)
x
dim(x) <- 2:3
x
dim(x) <- NULL
x
```

---

extract	<i>Read/write access to memory-mapped objects</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

Read/write access to memory-mapped objects

**Usage**

```
## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,numeric,numeric,numeric'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,missing,numeric,numeric'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,numeric,missing,numeric'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,missing,missing,numeric'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,numeric,numeric,memoryMapped'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,missing,numeric,memoryMapped'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,numeric,missing,memoryMapped'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'marray,missing,missing,memoryMapped'
x[i, j, ...] <- value

## S4 method for signature 'marray,numeric,numeric'
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]

## S4 method for signature 'marray,missing,numeric'
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]

## S4 method for signature 'marray,numeric,missing'
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]

## S4 method for signature 'marray,missing,missing'
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]

## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,numeric,numeric'
x[i, j, ...] <- value
```

```
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,numeric,numeric'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,missing,numeric'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,missing,numeric'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,numeric,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,numeric,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,missing,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,missing,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mvector,numeric,missing,numeric'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mvector,missing,missing,numeric'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mvector,numeric,missing,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'mvector,missing,missing,memoryMapped'  
x[i, j, ...] <- value  
  
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,numeric'  
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]  
  
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,numeric'  
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]  
  
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix,numeric,missing'  
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]  
  
## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix,missing,missing'  
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]  
  
## S4 method for signature 'mvector,numeric,missing'  
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'mvector,missing,missing'
x[i, j, ..., drop = TRUE]
```

### Arguments

x	memory-mapped object
i, j	indices of elements to extract or replace
...	supplementary indices (for arrays)
value	replacement value
drop	for dual matrices or array.

### Value

a R object or a memory-mapped object (depending on `houba("max.size")`)

### Examples

```
a <- matrix(1:6, 2, 3)
A <- as.mmatrix(a)
A[1,]
A[2,] <- A[1,] * 2
A[,3] <- 6:7
A
```

---

flush

*Flushes changes from a memory-mapped matrix*

---

### Description

Sync makes sure that the data written to the file linked with the object.

### Usage

```
flush(con)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped'
flush(con)
```

### Arguments

con	a memory mapped object
-----	------------------------

### Details

An error will be raised if the object is read-only, or if the operation failed.

**Value**

None

**Examples**

```
x <- as.mvector(1:50)
x <- x + 1
flush(x)
```

---

houba

*Options for package houba*

---

**Description**

Options for package houba

**Usage**

```
houba(...)
```

**Arguments**

... options to be defined, using 'name = value', or name(s) of option(s) to get.

**Details**

houba() sends back the list of all options. houba(option = value) sets the option value. houba("option") sends back the value of an option.

Currently the only supported option is "max.size". Use houba("max.size") to get its value and, for example, houba(max.size = 1e3), to set it to 1000.

When subsetting an mvector or an mmatrix, if the size of the resulting object is greater than 'max.size', then the result will be a memory mapped object (mvector or mmatrix), else it will be a R object (vector or matrix). The default value is 1e6. Set 'max.size' to '0' to always get a memory mapped object and to 'Inf' to always get a R object.

**Value**

a named list with options values, or a single option value.

**Examples**

```
houba()
houba("maxsize")
```

---

inplace	<i>In-place arithmetic operations</i>
---------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

In-place arithmetic operations

**Usage**

```
inplace.inverse(x)
```

```
inplace.opposite(x)
```

```
inplace.sum(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,numeric'
```

```
inplace.sum(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,memoryMapped'
```

```
inplace.sum(x, y)
```

```
inplace.minus(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,numeric'
```

```
inplace.minus(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,memoryMapped'
```

```
inplace.minus(x, y)
```

```
inplace.prod(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,numeric'
```

```
inplace.prod(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,memoryMapped'
```

```
inplace.prod(x, y)
```

```
inplace.div(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,numeric'
```

```
inplace.div(x, y)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped,memoryMapped'
```

```
inplace.div(x, y)
```

**Arguments**

x                    a memory mapped object

y a R object or a memory mapped object

**Details**

These functions will modify x in-place, performing the operation indicated by their name.

**Value**

None

**Examples**

```
x <- as.mvector( 2**(1:3) )
inplace.inverse(x)
inplace.opposite(x)
inplace.sum(x, 0.5)
inplace.prod(x, 8)
x
y <- copy(x)
inplace.prod(x, y)
x
```

---

*length,mvector-method* *Length of mvector*

---

**Description**

returns the length of a mvector

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'mvector'
length(x)
```

**Arguments**

x mvector

**Value**

an integer

---

marray

*Creation of memory mapped objects*

---

## Description

These functions create memory mapped vectors, matrices or arrays, possibly from an existing file.

## Usage

```
marray(  
  datatype = c("double", "float", "integer", "short"),  
  dim,  
  filename,  
  readonly  
)
```

```
mmatrix(  
  datatype = c("double", "float", "integer", "short"),  
  nrow,  
  ncol,  
  filename,  
  readonly  
)
```

```
mvector(  
  datatype = c("double", "float", "integer", "short"),  
  length,  
  filename,  
  readonly  
)
```

## Arguments

datatype	the data type
dim	dimension of marray
filename	(optional) path to file
readonly	(optional) if TRUE, the object will be read-only.
nrow	number of rows of mmatrix
ncol	number of columns of mmatrix
length	length of mvector

## Details

Currently datatype can only be double, float, int, or short. Short will always be a 16 bits integer (int16\_t).

If filename is missing, a temporary filename will be generated using tempfile. In the contrary case, if the file exists, it will be opened (if its size is compatible with the dimension of the object); if the file does not exist, it will be created.

If readonly is missing, it will be set to TRUE when opening an existing file, and to FALSE when the file is created by the function.

### Value

a memory mapped object, of class 'mvector', 'mmatrix' or 'marray'

### Examples

```
a <- mmatrix("float", 4, 3)
a[] <- 1:12
a[1,]
```

---

marray-class

*Class "marray"*

---

### Description

S4 class for manipulating memory-mapped files as arrays

### Slots

ptr externalptr to an instance of the C++ MMatrix class

file character with the path (absolute) of the file used to store the marray.

dim An integer vector giving the dimensions of the marray.

datatype character giving the C++ underlying datatype.

readonly logical Indicates if the array is read-only.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calling [marray](#).

### See Also

[mmatrix-class](#), [mvector-class](#)

---

mmatrix-class	<i>Class "mmatrix"</i>
---------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

S4 class for manipulating memory-mapped files as matrices

**Slots**

ptr externalptr to an instance of the C++ MMatrix class  
 file character with the path (absolute) of the file used to store the mmatrix  
 dim An integer vector giving the dimensions of the mmatrix  
 datatype character giving the C++ underlying datatype.  
 readonly logical Indicates if the array is read-only.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calling [mmatrix](#).

**See Also**

[marray-class](#), [mvector-class](#)

---

mvector-class	<i>Class mvector</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

**Description**

S4 class for manipulating memory-mapped files as vectors

**Slots**

ptr externalptr to an instance of the C++ MMatrix class  
 file character with the path (absolute) of the file used to store the mvector  
 length An integer giving the length of the mvector  
 datatype character giving the C++ underlying datatype.  
 readonly logical Indicates if the vector if read-only.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calling [mvector](#).

**See Also**

[marray-class](#), [mmatrix-class](#)

---

read.descriptor	<i>Read big memory descriptor file</i>
-----------------	--

---

## Description

Read big memory descriptor file

## Usage

```
read.descriptor(descriptor, readonly)
```

## Arguments

descriptor	name of descriptor file
readonly	TRUE by default, specifies if the object should be readonly

## Details

Creates a memory-mapped object by reading a 'bigmemory'-like descriptor file.

## Value

a mvector or a mmatrix

## See Also

[descriptor.file](#)

## Examples

```
A <- mmatrix("short", 10, 20)
A[] <- sample.int(200)

# create descriptor file
dsc <- descriptor.file(A)

# linking file to other object
B <- read.descriptor(dsc, readonly = FALSE)
all(as.matrix(A) == as.matrix(B)) # TRUE

B[1:10] <- 0
all(A[1:10] == 0) # TRUE
```

---

restore	<i>Restore memory-mapped matrix</i>
---------	-------------------------------------

---

## Description

When the external pointer is broken, attempt to recreate a valid object, if the file still exists.

## Usage

```
restore(object)

## S4 method for signature 'marray'
restore(object)

## S4 method for signature 'mmatrix'
restore(object)

## S4 method for signature 'mvector'
restore(object)
```

## Arguments

object            a memory mapped matrix

## Value

a memory-mapped object

## Examples

```
a <- matrix(1:24, 4, 6)
A <- as.mmatrix(a, "float")
rdsfile <- tempfile(fileext = ".rds")
saveRDS(A, rdsfile)
A <- readRDS(rdsfile)
A
A <- restore(A)
A
```

---

type	<i>Type of a memory-mapped object</i>
------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Type of a memory-mapped object

**Usage**

```
type(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'memoryMapped'  
type(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    a memory mapped object

**Details**

Sends back the stored data type (currently "double", "float", "integer" or "short").

**Value**

a string

**Examples**

```
x <- mvector("integer", 6)  
type(x)
```

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