

# Package ‘bsearchtools’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Binary Search Tools

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**Description** Exposes the binary search functions of the C++ standard library (`std::lower_bound`, `std::upper_bound`) plus other convenience functions, allowing faster lookups on sorted vectors.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

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bsearchtools-package *Binary Search Tools*

## Description

Exposes the binary search based functions of the C++ standard library (`std::lower_bound`, `std::upper_bound`) plus other convenience functions, allowing faster lookups on sorted vectors. It also includes a lightweight data.frame/matrix wrapper (DFI), which automatically creates indexes on the columns for faster lookups.

## Details

Package: bsearchtools  
 Type: Package  
 Version: 0.0.61  
 Date: 2017-02-22  
 License: GPL (>= 2)

This package allows to perform the most common binary search operations on sorted vectors (integer, numeric, bool and character vectors are supported). It exposes lower-bound/upper-bound functions working exactly like their the C++ standard library counterparts, and some convenience functions allowing efficient values and ranges lookups.

Note that these functions are especially designed to be used for non-vectorized operations (e.g. inside loops); for vectorized operations, the great `data.table` package already fullfills basically every R programmer needs.

## Author(s)

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## References

Project repository : <https://github.com/digEmAll/bsearchtools/>

cpp reference page : <http://en.cppreference.com/w/>

## See Also

[sort](#), [order](#), [data.table](#)

**Examples**

```

require(bsearchtools)

#####
### get indexes of values in range
### search values in range [2,4]

# N.B. v must be sorted !
v1 <- sort(c(3,5,7,10,4,8,13,3,2))

indexesInRangeNumeric(v1,2,4)
# is identical to:
which(v1 >= 2 & v1 <= 4)

#####
### What if vector is not sorted ?
### (and we're going to perform a lot of lookups on it)

v2 <- c(3,5,7,10,4,8,13,3,2)

# we can create two intermediate vectors
ordIdxs <- order(v2)
sortedV2 <- v2[ordIdxs]

# then use them as follows :
ordIdxs[indexesInRangeNumeric(sortedV2,2,4)]

# this returns the same indexes :
# N.B. : 'which' returns ascending indexes while the previous line does not:
# sort the result if you want them ascending
which(v2 >= 2 & v2 <= 4)

#####
##### N.B. the previous code is basically what is performed by DFI objects under the hood
##### check DFI function documentation for further information
DF <- data.frame(v2=v2)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF)
indexes <- DFI.subset(DFIobj,RG('v2',2,4),return.indexes=TRUE)

## Not run:
#####
### big example to measure the performance difference
set.seed(123) # for reproducibility
sortedValues <- sort(sample(1:1e4,1e5,replace=TRUE))

# measure time difference doing same operation 500 times
tm1 <- system.time( for(i in 1:500) res2 <- which(sortedValues >= 7000 & sortedValues <= 7500))
tm2 <- system.time( for(i in 1:500) res1 <- indexesInRangeInteger(sortedValues,7000,7500))

print(paste("'which' took:",tm1["elapsed"]))
print(paste("'indexesInRangeInteger' took:",tm2["elapsed"]))

```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

DFI *Create a data.frame (or matrix) with indexes*

---

### Description

Turn a data.frame (or matrix) object into a DFI object allowing faster lookups on indexed columns (indexed column to be intended as DB indexes).

### Usage

```
DFI(DF, indexes.col.names=colnames(DF))
as.DFI(DF, indexes.col.names=colnames(DF)) # exactly the same as DFI()
is.DFI(x)
## S3 method for class 'DFI'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

DF	A data.frame or matrix object (must have column names defined).
indexes.col.names	The column names for which we want to create the indexes. Only integer,numeric,logical and character are supported, so be careful since data.frame by default turns strings into factors (see data.frame stringsAsFactors argument)
x	A DFI object.
...	optional arguments passed to inner print methods of data.frame and matrix .

### Details

Basically, DFI() function creates a wrapper of DF. This wrapper contains the original data.frame or matrix plus the necessary indexes data and the class of the wrapped object. These extra data will be used to perform faster lookups (in [DFI.subset](#) function) and can be extracted using the appropriate functions [DFI.unWrap](#), [DFI.indexes](#), [DFI.getIndex](#).

### Value

An object with class "DFI"

### Note

Since version 0.0.47 DFI objects do not inherit from data.frame or matrix anymore, hence they cannot be modified/subsetted using data.frame/matrix standard operators. This has been changed since the column indexes are not recreated automatically and once the object is modified, DFI.subset could give wrong results without any warning. To use the standard replacement and subset operators, extract the original object first using [DFI.unWrap\(DFIobj\)](#).

**See Also**

[DFI.subset](#) [DFI.unwrap](#) [DFI.indexes](#) [DFI.getIndex](#)

**Examples**

```
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns
```

---

DFI.coercion

*Coerce a DFI object*


---

**Description**

Coerce a DFI object to data.frame or matrix

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'DFI'
as.data.frame(x, ...)
## S3 method for class 'DFI'
as.matrix(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

`x` a DFI object  
`...` optional arguments passed to inner `as.data.frame` and `as.matrix` methods.

**Value**

A data.frame or matrix object

**See Also**

[DFI](#)

**Examples**

```
### create a simple DFIobj
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns
```

```
### coercion
as.data.frame(DFIobj)
as.matrix(DFIobj)
```

---

DFI.getIndex

*Extract the index information of a DFI object*


---

### Description

Return the index data (i.e. ordered indexes, and sorted values) of an indexed column of a DFI object

### Usage

```
DFI.getIndex(DFIobj, name)
```

### Arguments

DFIobj	a DFI object
name	the name of the indexed column in the DFI object

### Value

A list with two values:

idxs	the indexes used to sort the column values (as returned by <code>order(colValues, na.last=NA)</code> )
sorted	the sorted values of the column (as returned by <code>colValues[idxs]</code> )

### See Also

[DFI](#)

### Examples

```
### create a simple DFIobj
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns

### get the index data of 'Bar' column
DFI.getIndex(DFIobj,"Bar")
```

---

DFI.indexes	<i>Get the indexes names of a DFI object</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

Method to get the indexes names of a DFI object

**Usage**

```
DFI.indexes(DFIobj)
```

**Arguments**

DFIobj            A DFI object

**Value**

A character vector containing the name of the indexed columns of the DFI object

**Examples**

```
### create a simple DFIobj
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                 Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                 Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns

### get the indexes names (returns c("Foo","Bar"))
DFI.indexes(DFIobj)
```

---

DFI.subset	<i>Subset a DFI object</i>
------------	----------------------------

---

**Description**

Function to subset a DFI object efficiently (using binary search) by creating complex filters on indexed columns. For details about column indexes, refer to [DFI](#), for information about NA handling, refer to [rowfilters.DFI](#).

**Usage**

```
DFI.subset(DFIobj, filter=NULL, return.indexes=FALSE,
           sort.indexes=TRUE, colFilter=NULL, drop=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

DFIobj	a DFI object.
filter	a filter object created by functions EQ, RG, IN, AND, OR, NOT.
return.indexes	if TRUE, the row indexes satisfying the filter are returned instead of the DFI subset.
sort.indexes	if FALSE the order of the rows or row.index returned will not be necessarily equal to the original order in the DFI object. If TRUE, subsetting will keep the original row/row.indexes order. FALSE usually gives a better performance.
colFilter	if return.indexes==TRUE is ignored; otherwise, if not NULL, it will be passed as second argument of data.frame/matrix subset operator i.e. [, colFilter]
drop	if different from NULL is passed as drop argument of data.frame and matrix subset (ignored if return.indexes=TRUE).

**Value**

A subset of the data.frame or matrix wrapped by the DFI object, unless return.indexes==TRUE in which case an integer vector with the row indexes will be returned.

**See Also**

[DFI](#), [EQ](#), [IN](#), [RG](#), [NOT](#), [AND](#), [OR](#)

**Examples**

```
### create a simple DFIobj
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                 Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                 Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns

DFI.subset(DFIobj, filter=OR(EQ('Foo',5),EQ('Bar','B')))
```

---

DFI.unWrap

*Unwrap a DFI object returning the original wrapped object*


---

**Description**

Extract the original wrapped object (data.frame or matrix) inside a DFI object

**Usage**

```
DFI.unWrap(DFIobj)
```



**Arguments**

DFIobj            a DFI object

**Value**

A data.frame or matrix according to the class of the original object

**See Also**

[DFI](#)

**Examples**

```
### create a simple DFIobj
DF <- data.frame(Foo=c(3,5,7,1,5,8,7,10),
                 Bar=c("A","B","B","C","B","B","C","A"),
                 Baz=c(TRUE,FALSE),
                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
DFIobj <- DFI(DF, c("Foo","Bar")) # create a DFI from DF with indexes on "Foo" and "Bar" columns

### get the inner data.frame
DFI.unWrap(DFIobj)
```

---

indexesEqualTo            *Find indexes of a value using binary search*

---

**Description**

Given a sorted vector, it returns the indexes of the vector elements equal to valueToSearch.

The functions suffixed with the vector type (indexInRangeNumeric,indexInRangeLogical etc.) can be used ONLY with the specified type, otherwise the vector is coerced, and they are (hopefully negligibly) faster then the generic indexesEqualTo function.

**Usage**

```
indexesEqualTo(sortedValues, valueToSearch, indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesEqualToNumeric(sortedValues, valueToSearch, indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesEqualToInteger(sortedValues, valueToSearch, indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesEqualToLogical(sortedValues, valueToSearch, indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesEqualToCharacter(sortedValues, valueToSearch, indexesRemap=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

sortedValues    A sorted atomic vector of type numeric, integer, logical or character  
valueToSearch    The value to search in the vector  
indexesRemap    An integer vector to be used to remap the indexes returned by lookup on sorted-Values, or NULL (the default). Mostly used internally by DFI.

**Value**

The indexes of the vector elements equal to valueToSearch.

**Examples**

```
indexesEqualTo(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),5) # returns c(3,4)
indexesEqualTo(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),10) # returns empty vector
```

---

indexesInRange	<i>Find indexes in a range using binary search</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Given a sorted vector, it returns the indexes of the vector elements included in range [lbInclusive,ubInclusive].

The functions suffixed with the vector type (indexInRangeNumeric,indexInRangeLogical etc.) can be used ONLY with the specified type, otherwise the vector is coerced, and they are (hopefully negligibly) faster than the generic indexInRange function.

**Usage**

```
indexesInRange(sortedValues,lbInclusive, ubInclusive,indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesInRangeNumeric(sortedValues,lbInclusive, ubInclusive,indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesInRangeInteger(sortedValues,lbInclusive, ubInclusive,indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesInRangeLogical(sortedValues,lbInclusive, ubInclusive,indexesRemap=NULL)
indexesInRangeCharacter(sortedValues,lbInclusive, ubInclusive,indexesRemap=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

sortedValues	A sorted atomic vector of type numeric, integer, logical or character
lbInclusive	The inclusive lower bound of the range
ubInclusive	The inclusive upper bound of the range
indexesRemap	An integer vector to be used to remap the indexes returned by lookup on sorted-Values, or NULL (the default). Mostly used internally by DFI.

**Value**

The indexes of the vector elements included in range [lbInclusive,ubInclusive].

**Examples**

```
indexesInRange(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),5,7) # returns c(3,4,5)
indexesInRange(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),10,11) # returns empty vector
```

---

indexesMerge	<i>Intersection / union of list of indexes</i>
--------------	--

---

### Description

Functions to perform intersection or union of a list of integer vectors. This functions are used by DFI.subset for AND/OR filters

### Usage

```
intersectIndexesList(lst,sorted=TRUE)
unionIndexesList(lst,sorted=TRUE)
```

### Arguments

lst	list of integer vectors on which intersection or union must be performed
sorted	logical value used to specify if the returned indexes should be sorted ascending (default TRUE)

### Details

The returned vector is sorted ascending. `intersectIndexesList` is implemented in C++ and corresponds to `sort(unique(Reduce(f=intersect,x=lst)))` (without the sort function if `sorted=FALSE`). `unionIndexesList` is partially implemented in C++ and corresponds to `sort(unique(Reduce(f=union,x=lst)))` (without the sort function if `sorted=FALSE`).

### Value

A vector of integers.

### Examples

```
intersectIndexesList(list(1:7,4:8,3:5))
unionIndexesList(list(1:7,4:8,3:5))
```

---

1b	<i>Binary search based lower bound operation</i>
----	--

---

**Description**

Returns the index pointing to the first element in the vector that is not less than (i.e. greater or equal to) `valueToSearch`. The behavior is the same as C++ `std::lower_bound` function, hence, if the vector is empty or `valueToSearch` is lower than the first element of the vector, it returns the first index (i.e. 1).

The functions suffixed with the vector type (`lbNumeric`, `lbLogical` etc.) can be used **ONLY** with the specified type, otherwise the vector is coerced, and they are (hopefully negligibly) faster than the generic `lb` function.

For information about NAs handling see details section.

**Usage**

```
lb(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
lbInteger(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
lbNumeric(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
lbLogical(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
lbCharacter(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
```

**Arguments**

`sortedValues` A sorted atomic vector of type numeric, integer, logical or character.  
`valueToSearch` The value to search. If equal to NA, 1 is returned.

**Details**

`lb*` functions expect `sortedValues` to be a vector sorted ascending (duplicated values are allowed). Since the binary search functions rely on values comparison (using `<` operator) and NA cannot be compared by definition, if `sortedValues` vector contains NA, the result is unpredictable and NO warning is given. Hence remove them before calling these functions.

**Value**

The index pointing to the first element in the vector that is not less than (i.e. greater or equal to) `valueToSearch`.

**References**

See [http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/lower\\_bound](http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/lower_bound)

**Examples**

```
lb(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),5) # returns 3
lb(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),-1) # returns 1
lb(numeric(),-1) # returns 1
```

---

rowfilters.DFI                      *Functions for row filters creation in DFI .subset.*


---

### Description

Functions for row filters creation in DFI .subset.

For information about NAs handling see details section.

### Usage

```
RG(col,from,to)
IN(col,values)
EQ(col,val)
EQNA(col)
NOT(filter)
OR(...)
AND(...)
## S3 method for class 'DFI.FEXPR'
print(x,...)
## S3 method for class 'DFI.FEXPR'
toString(x,...)
## S3 method for class 'DFI.FEXPR'
as.character(x,...)
```

### Arguments

col	column name to be used in the filter condition (must be an indexed column).
from	inclusive lower-bound of the range (RG) filter condition.
to	inclusive upper-bound of the range (RG) filter condition.
values	valid values for the filter condition (used by IN).
val	valid value for the filter condition (used by EQ).
filter	filter condition to be negated (created with RG,IN,EQ,NOT,OR,AND).
...	one or more filters conditions to be put in AND or OR (created with RG,IN,EQ,NOT,OR,AND). For print, toString and as.character functions the optional arguments are currently ignored.
x	an object of class DFI.FEXPR

### Details

Any filter function applied to an indexed column will filter out the NAs present in that column by default (except for EQNA). So, for example, the following filter: `EQ("A", 3)` is actually equal to: `!is.na(A) & A == 3`. The functions `print(filterExpr)`, `toString(filterExpr)` and `as.character(filterExpr)` return the string representation of the filter that you would use in a normal data.frame subset.

RG function accepts NA in from, to arguments, and this "turns off" the part of the filter set to NA. So, for instance `RG("A", NA, to)` will return all values `A <= to` (but still filtering out the NA values).

EQ function accepts NA in val argument, and this simply "turns off" the filter on the column returning all the elements in the column (but still filtering out the NA values).

IN(colName, values) function is converted to OR(EQ(colName, values[1]), EQ(colName, value[2]), ...) hence, if values contains NA, the filter will return all the elements in the column (but still filtering out the NA values).

EQNA(colName) function can be used to select the NAs in the column, which are excluded by the other operators.

## Value

EQ, RG, IN, EQNA, NOT, AND, OR functions return an object inheriting from class 'DFI.FEXPR' to be used as row filter in [DFI.subset](#) function. print.toString, as.character functions return the string representation of an object of class 'DFI.FEXPR'.

## See Also

[DFI.subset](#)

## Examples

```
# create the following filter: 18 <= Age <= 55 & Married == TRUE
filter <- AND(RG('Age', 18, 55), EQ('Married', TRUE))

# create the following filter: Age == 25 | Married == TRUE | Name == 'John'
filter <- OR(EQ('Age', 25), EQ('Married', TRUE), EQ('Name', 'John'))
```

---

 ub

*Binary search based upper bound operation*

---

## Description

Returns the index pointing to the first element in the vector that is greater than valueToSearch. The behavior is the same as C++ std::upper\_bound function, hence, if the vector is empty it or if valueToSearch is greater than the last element of the vector, it returns length(sortedValues) + 1.

The functions suffixed with the vector type (ubNumeric, ubLogical etc.) can be used ONLY with the specified type, otherwise the vector is coerced, and they are (hopefully negligibly) faster than the generic ub function.

For information about NAs handling see details section.

## Usage

```
ub(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
ubInteger(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
ubNumeric(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
ubLogical(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
ubCharacter(sortedValues, valueToSearch)
```

**Arguments**

`sortedValues` A sorted atomic vector of type numeric, integer, logical or character  
`valueToSearch` The value to search. If equal to NA, `length(sortedValues)+1` is returned.

**Details**

`ub*` functions expect `sortedValues` to be a vector sorted ascending (duplicated values are allowed). Since the binary search functions rely on values comparison (using `<` operator) and NA cannot be compared by definition, if `sortedValues` vector contains NA, the result is unpredictable and NO warning is given. Hence remove them before calling these functions.

**Value**

The index pointing to the first element in the vector that is not less than (i.e. greater or equal to) `valueToSearch`.

**References**

See [http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/lower\\_bound](http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/lower_bound)

**Examples**

```
ub(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),5) # returns 5
ub(c(1,4,5,5,7,9),10) # returns 7
ub(numeric(),10) # returns 1
```

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