Package 'tabshiftr'

January 13, 2022

Title Reshape Disorganised Messy Data

Version 0.3.2

Description Helps the user to build and register schema descriptions of
disorganised (messy) tables. Disorganised tables are tables that are
not in a topologically coherent form, where packages such as 'tidyr' could
be used for reshaping. The schema description documents the arrangement of
input tables and is used to reshape them into a standardised (tidy) output
format.

URL https://github.com/EhrmannS/tabshiftr

BugReports https://github.com/EhrmannS/tabshiftr/issues

Depends R (>= 2.10)

Language en-gb

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Imports checkmate, rlang, tibble, dplyr, tidyr, magrittr, tidyselect,
testthat, crayon, methods, purrr, stringr

RoxygenNote 7.1.2

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, bookdown, readr, covr

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

Author Steffen Ehrmann [aut, cre] (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2958-0796>),
Carsten Meyer [aut] (<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3927-5856>),
Abdualmaged Alhemiary [ctb],
Amelie Haas [ctb],
Annika Ertel [ctb],
Arne Rümmler [ctb] (<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8637-9071>),
Caroline Busse [ctb],
Tsvetelina Tomova [ctb]

Maintainer Steffen Ehrmann <steffen@funroll-loops.de>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2022-01-13 11:20:02 UTC

R topics documented:

.eval_find   *Evaluate .find constructs*

Description

Evaluate .find constructs

Usage

```
.eval_find(input = NULL, col = NULL, row = NULL)
```

Arguments

input	[character(1)] table to reorganise.
col	[list(2)] the output of the respective .find construct used to match in columns.
row	[list(2)] the output of the respective .find construct used to match in rows.

Value

the columns or rows of the evaluated position

.expect_valid_table	*Test for a valid table*

Description

This function is a collection of expectations which ensure that the output of [reorganise](#) is formally and contentwise correct. It is used in the tests of this package.

Usage

```
.expect_valid_table(x = NULL, units = 1, variables = NULL, groups = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	a table to test.
units	the number of units in the output table (from 1 to 3)
variables	the variables that should be in the output table (either "harvested" or "production")
groups	whether or not groups are in the test table.

Value

Either an error message of the invalid expectations, or the output of the last successful expectation.

.find	*Determine row or column on the fly*

Description

Find the location of a variable not based on it's columns/rows, but based on a regular expression or function

Usage

```
.find(by, col = NULL, row = NULL)
```

Arguments

by	[character(1)] character string containing a regular expression or function to identify columns or rows in the input table on the fly.
col	[integerish(1)] optionally, in case by should not be applied to the whole table, this is the column(s) in which to apply by.
row	[integerish(1)] optionally, in case by should not be applied to the whole table, this is the row(s) in which to apply by.

Details

This functions is basically a wild-card for when columns or rows are not known ad-hoc, but have to be assigned on the fly. This can be very helpful when several tables contain the same variables, but the arrangement may be slightly different.

Value

the index values where the target was found.

How does this work

The first step in using any schema is validating it via the function validateSchema. This happens by default in reorganise, but can also be done manually, for example when debugging complicated schema descriptions.

In case that function encounters a schema that wants to find columns or rows on the fly via .find, it combines all cells of columns and all cells of rows into one character string and matches the regular expression or function on those. Columns/rows that have a match are returned as the respective column/row value.

Examples

```
# use regular expressions to find cell positions
(input <- tabs2shift$clusters_messy)

schema <- setCluster(id = "territories",
                     left = .find("comm*"), top = .find("comm*")) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = c(1, 1, 4), rows = c(2, 9, 9)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 4, rows = c(3:6), distinct = TRUE) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = c(1, 1, 4)) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = c(2, 2, 5)) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = c(3, 3, 6))

schema
validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input)

# use a function to find rows
(input <- tabs2shift$messy_rows)
```

```
schema <-
  setFilter(rows = .find(by = is.numeric, col = 1), invert = TRUE) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 2) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 3) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

reorganise(schema = schema, input = input)
```

`.tidyVars`   *Match variables*

Description

This function matches id and observed variables and reshapes them accordingly

Usage

```
.tidyVars(ids = NULL, obs = NULL, clust = NULL, grp = NULL)
```

Arguments

`ids`	list of id variables
`obs`	list of observed variables
`clust`	list of cluster variables
`grp`	list of group variables

Value

a symmetric list of variables (all with the same dimensions)

`.updateFormat`   *Update the formating of a table*

Description

This function updates the format of a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
.updateFormat(input = NULL, schema = NULL)
```

Arguments

```
input           [character(1)]
                table to reorganise.

schema          [character(1)]
                the schema description of input.
```

---

getClusterVar   *Extract cluster variables*

Description

This function extracts the cluster variable from a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
getClusterVar(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

```
schema          [character(1)]
                the schema description of input.

input           [character(1)]
                table to reorganise.
```

Value

list of the length of number of clusters with values cluster variable.

Examples

```
input <- tabs2shift$clusters_nested
schema <- setCluster(id = "sublevel",
                     group = "territories", member = c(1, 1, 2),
                     left = 1, top = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1, rows = c(2, 14)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "sublevel", columns = 1, rows = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 7) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 2) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input) %>%
   getClusterVar(input = input)
```

---

getData   *Extract clusters*

Description

This function extracts clusters of data from a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
getData(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema   [character(1)]
                the schema description of input.

input   [character(1)]
                table to reorganise.

Value

list of the length of number of clusters with clusters cut out from the original input

Examples

```
input <- tabs2shift$clusters_nested
schema <- setCluster(id = "sublevel",
                     group = "territories", member = c(1, 1, 2),
                     left = 1, top = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1, rows = c(2, 14)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "sublevel", columns = 1, rows = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 7) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 2) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input) %>%
  getData(input = input)
```

---

getGroupVar   *Extract cluster group variable*

Description

This function extracts the cluster grouping variable from a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
getGroupVar(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema	[character(1)] the schema description of input.
input	[character(1)] table to reorganise.

Value

list of the length of number of clusters with values of the grouping variable

Examples

```
input <- tabs2shift$clusters_nested
schema <- setCluster(id = "sublevel",
                     group = "territories", member = c(1, 1, 2),
                     left = 1, top = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1, rows = c(2, 14)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "sublevel", columns = 1, rows = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 7) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 2) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input) %>%
  getGroupVar(input = input)
```

---

getIDVars   *Extract identifying variables*

Description

This function extracts the identifying variables from a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
getIDVars(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema	[character(1)] the schema description of input.
input	[character(1)] table to reorganise.

Value

list of the length of number of clusters with values of the identifying variables per cluster

Examples

```
input <- tabs2shift$clusters_nested
schema <- setCluster(id = "sublevel",
                     group = "territories", member = c(1, 1, 2),
                     left = 1, top = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1, rows = c(2, 14)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "sublevel", columns = 1, rows = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 7) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 2) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input) %>%
  getIDVars(input = input)
```

---

getObsVars   *Extract observed variables*

Description

This function extracts the observed variables from a table by applying a schema description to it.

Usage

```
getObsVars(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema   [character(1)]
                the schema description of input.

input   [character(1)]
                table to reorganise.

Value

list of the length of number of clusters with values of the observed variables per cluster

Examples

```
input <- tabs2shift$clusters_nested
schema <- setCluster(id = "sublevel",
                     group = "territories", member = c(1, 1, 2),
                     left = 1, top = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = 1, rows = c(2, 14)) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "sublevel", columns = 1, rows = c(3, 8, 15)) %>%
```

```
    setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 7) %>%
    setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = 2) %>%
    setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = 5) %>%
    setObsVar(name = "production", columns = 6)

  validateSchema(schema = schema, input = input) %>%
    getObsVars(input = input)
```

---

reorganise	*Reorganise a table*

Description

This function takes a disorganised messy table and rearranges columns and rows into a tidy table based on a schema description.

Usage

```
reorganise(input = NULL, schema = NULL)
```

Arguments

input
: [data.frame(1)]
  table to reorganise.

schema
: [symbol(1)]
  the schema description of input.

Value

A (tidy) table which is the result of reorganising input based on schema.

Examples

```
# a rather disorganised table with messy clusters and a distinct variable
(input <- tabs2shift$clusters_messy)

# put together schema description by ...
# ... identifying cluster positions
schema <- setCluster(id = "territories", left = c(1, 1, 4), top = c(1, 8, 8))

# ... specifying the cluster ID as id variable (obligatory)
schema <- schema %>%
    setIDVar(name = "territories", columns = c(1, 1, 4), rows = c(2, 9, 9))

# ... specifying the distinct variable (explicit position)
schema <- schema %>%
    setIDVar(name = "year", columns = 4, rows = c(3:6), distinct = TRUE)

# ... specifying a tidy variable (by giving the column values)
```

```
schema <- schema %>%
    setIDVar(name = "commodities", columns = c(1, 1, 4))

# ... identifying the (tidy) observed variables
schema <- schema %>%
    setObsVar(name = "harvested", columns = c(2, 2, 5)) %>%
    setObsVar(name = "production", columns = c(3, 3, 6))

# get the tidy output
reorganise(input, schema)
```

---

schema-class   *The* schema *class (S4) and its methods*

Description

A schema stores the information of where which information is stored in a table of data.

Slots

cluster [list(1)]
> description of clusters in the table.

format [list(1)]
> description of the table format

variables [named list(.)]
> description of identifying and observed variables.

Setting up schema descriptions

This section outlines the currently recommended strategy for setting up schema descriptions. For example tables and the respective schemas, see the vignette.

1. *Variables*: Clarify which are the identifying variables and which are the observed variables. Make sure not to mistake a listed observed variable as identifying variable.

2. *Clusters*: Determine whether there are clusters and if so, find the origin (top left cell) of each cluster and provide the required information in setCluster(top = ...,left = ...). It is advised to treat a table that contains meta-data in the top rows as cluster, as this is often the case with implicit variables. All variables need to be specified in each cluster (in case clusters are all organised in the same arrangement), or relative = TRUE can be used. Data may be organised into clusters a) whenever a set of variables occurs more than once in the same table, nested into another variable, or b) when the data are organised into separate spreadsheets or files according to one of the variables (depending on the context, these issues can also be solved differently). In both cases the variable responsible for clustering (the cluster ID) can be either an identifying variable, or a categorical observed variable:

   - in case the cluster ID is an identifying variable, provide its name in [setCluster(id = ...)](setCluster) and specify it as an identifying variable (setIDVar)

- in case it is a observed variable, provide simply setCluster(...,id = "observed").

3. *Meta-data*: Provide potentially information about the format (setFormat).

4. *Identifying variables*: Determine the following:
   - is the variable available at all? This is particularly important when the data are split up into tables that are in spreadsheets or files. Often the variable that splits up the data (and thus identifies the clusters) is not explicitly available in the table anymore. In such a case, provide the value in setIDVar(...,value = ...).
   - all columns in which the variable values sit.
   - in case the variable is in several columns, determine additionally the row in which its values sit. In this case, the values will look like they are part of a header.
   - in case the variable must be split off of another column, provide a regular expression that results in the target subset via setIDVar(...,split = ...).
   - in case the variable is distinct from the main table, provide the explicit (non-relative) position and set setIDVar(...,distinct = TRUE).

5. *Observed variable*: Determine the following:
   - all columns in which the values of the variable sit.
   - the unit and conversion factor.
   - in case the variable is not tidy, go through the following cases one after the other:
     – in case the variable is nested in a wide identifying variable, determine in addition to the columns in which the values sit also the rows in which the *variable name* sits.
     – in case the names of the variable are given as a value of an identifying variable, give the column name as setObsVar(...,key = ...), together with the name of the respective observed variable (as it appears in the table) in values.
     – in case the name of the variable is the ID of clusters, specify setObsVar(...,key = "cluster",value = ...), where values has the cluster number the variable refers to.

---

schema_default   *Default template of a schema description*

Description

Default template of a schema description

Usage

```
schema_default
```

Format

The object of class schema describes at which position in a table which information can be found. It contains the four slots clusters, header, meta and variables.

The default schema description contains an example of an identifying and a values variables. Further identifying and values variables would be added when more variables are contained in a table.

---

setCluster   *Set where the clusters are*

Description

There is hardly any limit to how data can be arranged in a spreadsheet, apart from the apparent organisation into a lattice of cells. However, it is often the case that data are gathered into topologically coherent chunks. Those chunks are what is called 'cluster' in `tabshiftr`.

Usage

```
setCluster(
  schema = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  group = NULL,
  member = NULL,
  left = NULL,
  top = NULL,
  width = NULL,
  height = NULL
)
```

Arguments

schema
: `[schema(1)]`
In case this information is added to an already existing schema, provide that schema here (overwrites previous information).

id
: `[character(1)]`
When data are clustered, it is typically the case that the data are segregated according to a categorical variables of interest. In such cases, this variable needs to be registered as cluster ID.

group
: `[character(1)]`
When clusters themselves are clustered, they are typically nested into another categorical variable, which needs to be registered as group ID.

member
: `[integerish(.)]`
For each cluster, specify here to which group it belongs. Clusters are enumerated from left to right and from top to bottom.

left
: `[integerish(.)]`
The horizontal cell value of the top-left cell of each cluster. This can also be a vector of values in case there are several clusters.

top
: `[integerish(.)]`
The vertical cell values of the top-left cell of each cluster. This can also be a vector of values in case there are several clusters.

width
: `[integerish(.)]`
The width of each cluster in cells. This can also be a vector of values in case there are several clusters.

height   [integerish(.)]
           The height of each cluster in cells. This can also be a vector of values in case
           there are several clusters.

Details

Please also take a look at the currently suggested strategy to set up a schema description.

Value

An object of class schema.

See Also

Other functions to describe table arrangement: setFilter(), setFormat(), setIDVar(), setObsVar()

Examples

```
# please check the vignette for examples
```

---

setFilter   *Set filters*

Description

This function allows to specify additional rules to filter certain rows

Usage

```
setFilter(schema = NULL, rows = NULL, invert = FALSE)
```

Arguments

schema   [schema(1)]
           In case this information is added to an already existing schema, provide that
           schema here (overwrites previous information).
rows   [integerish(.)]
           rows that are mentioned here are kept.
invert   [logical(1)]
           whether or not to invert the values provided in columns and rows.

Value

An object of class schema.

See Also

Other functions to describe table arrangement: setCluster(), setFormat(), setIDVar(), setObsVar()

Examples

```
# please check the vignette for examples
```

---

setFormat   *Set the specific format of a table*

Description

Any table makes some assumptions, which are mostly not explicitly recorded in the commonly available table format, about the data. This concerns, for example, the symbol(s) that signal "not available" values or the symbol that is used as decimal sign.

Usage

```
setFormat(schema = NULL, decimal = NULL, thousand = NULL, na_values = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema	[schema(1)] In case this information is added to an already existing schema, provide that schema here (overwrites previous information).
decimal	[character(1)] The symbols that should be interpreted as decimal separator.
thousand	[character(1)] The symbols that should be interpreted as thousand separator.
na_values	[character(.)] The symbols that should be interpreted as NA.

Details

Please also take a look at the currently suggested strategy to set up a schema description.

Value

An object of class schema.

See Also

Other functions to describe table arrangement: setCluster(), setFilter(), setIDVar(), setObsVar()

Examples

```
# please check the vignette for examples
```

---

setIDVar   *Set an identifying variable*

Description

Identifying variables are those variables that describe the (qualitative) properties that make each
observation (as described by the observed variables) unique.

Usage

```
setIDVar(
  schema = NULL,
  name = NULL,
  value = NULL,
  columns = NULL,
  rows = NULL,
  split = NULL,
  merge = NULL,
  relative = FALSE,
  distinct = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

schema	[schema(1)] In case this information is added to an already existing schema, provide that schema here (overwrites previous information).
name	[character(1)] Name of the new identifying variable.
value	[character(1)] In case the variable is an implicit variable (i.e., which is not in the origin table), specify it here.
columns	[integerish(.)] The column(s) in which the *values* of the new variable are recorded.
rows	[integerish(.)] In case the variable is in several columns, specify here additionally the row in which the *names* are recorded.
split	[character(1)] In case the variable is part of a compound value, this should be a regular expression that splits the respective value off of that compound value. See extract on how to set up the regular expression.
merge	[character(1)] In case a variable is made up of several columns, this should be the character string that would connect the two columns (e.g., an empty space " ").

relative   [logical(1)]
                whether the values provided in columns and rows are relative to the cluster
                position(s) or whether they refer to the overall table.

distinct   [logical(1)]
                whether or not the variable is distinct from a cluster. This is the case when
                the variable is not systematically available for all clusters and thus needs to be
                registered separately from clusters.

Details

Please also take a look at the currently suggested strategy to set up a schema description.

Value

An object of class schema.

See Also

Other functions to describe table arrangement: setCluster(), setFilter(), setFormat(), setObsVar()

Examples

```
# please check the vignette for examples
```

---

setObsVar   *Set an observed variable*

Description

Observed variables are those variables that contain the (quantitative) observed/measured values of
each unique unit (as described by the identifying variables). There may be several of them and
in a tidy table they'd be recorded as separate columns.

Usage

```
setObsVar(
  schema = NULL,
  name = NULL,
  columns = NULL,
  top = NULL,
  relative = FALSE,
  distinct = FALSE,
  unit = NULL,
  factor = 1,
  key = NULL,
  value = NULL
)
```

Arguments

schema	`[schema(1)]` In case this information is added to an already existing schema, provide that schema here (overwrites previous information).
name	`[character(1)]` Name of the new measured variable.
columns	`[integerish(.)]` The column(s) in which the *values* of the new variable are recorded.
top	`[integerish(.)]` In case the variable is nested in a wide identifying variable, specify here additionally the topmost row in which the variable *name* sits
relative	`[logical(1)]` whether or not the values provided in `columns` and `rows` are relative to the cluster position(s) or whether they refer to the overall table.
distinct	`[logical(1)]` Whether or not the variable is distinct from a cluster. This is the case when the variable is recorded somewhere 'on the side' and thus not explicitly included in all clusters.
unit	`[character(1)]` the unit of this variable.
factor	`[numeric(1)]` the factor that needs to be multiplied with the values to convert to `unit`, defaults to 1. For instance, if values are recorded in acres, but shall be recorded in hectare, the factor would be 0.40468.
key	`[integerish(1)]` If the variable is recorded (together with other variables) so that the variable names are listed in one column and the respective values are listed in another column, give here the number of the column that contains the variable names. Can alternatively be "cluster", in case observed variables are the cluster ID.
value	`[character(1)]` If the variable is recorded (together with other variables) so that the variable names are listed in one column and the respective values are listed in another column, give here the level in the names column that refer to the values of this variable.

Details

Please also take a look at the currently suggested strategy to set up a schema description.

Value

An object of class schema.

See Also

Other functions to describe table arrangement: setCluster(), setFilter(), setFormat(), setIDVar()

Examples

```
# please check the vignette for examples
```

---

show,schema-method   *Print the* schema

Description

Print the schema

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'schema'
show(object)
```

Arguments

object   [schema]
                the schema to print.

---

tabs2shift   *List of table types*

Description

List of table types

Usage

```
tabs2shift
```

Format

The object of class list contains 20 different types of tables that are used throughout the unit-tests and examples/vignette.

---

validateSchema   *Check and update schema descriptions*

Description

This function takes a raw schema description and updates values that were only given as wildcard or implied values. It is automatically called by reorganise, but can also be used in concert with the getters to debug a schema.

Usage

```
validateSchema(schema = NULL, input = NULL)
```

Arguments

schema   [symbol(1)]
                   the schema description.

input   [data.frame(1)]
                   an input for which to check a schema description.

Details

The core idea of a schema description is that it can be written in a very generic way, as long as it describes sufficiently where in a table what variable can be found. A very generic way can be via using the function .find to identify the initially unknown cell-locations of a variable on-the-fly, for example when it is merely known that a variable must be in the table, but not where it is.

validateSchema matches a schema with an input table and inserts the accordingly evaluated positions (of clusters, filters and variables), adapts some of the meta-data and ensures formal consistency of the schema.

Value

An updated schema description

Examples

```
# build a schema for an already tidy table
(tidyTab <- tabs2shift$tidy)

schema <-
  setIDVar(name = "territories", col = 1) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "year", col = .find("period")) %>%
  setIDVar(name = "commodities", col = 3) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "harvested", col = 5) %>%
  setObsVar(name = "production", col = 6)

# before ...
schema
```

```
# ... after
validateSchema(schema = schema, input = tidyTab)
```

%>%	*re-export magrittr pipe operator*

Description

re-export magrittr pipe operator

Index