

# Package ‘Rserve’

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**Version** 1.8-13

**Title** Binary R server

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**Depends** R (>= 1.5.0)

**Suggests** RScient

**SystemRequirements** libR, GNU make

**Description** Rserve acts as a socket server (TCP/IP or local sockets) which allows binary requests to be sent to R. Every connection has a separate workspace and working directory. Client-side implementations are available for popular languages such as C/C++ and Java, allowing any application to use facilities of R without the need of linking to R code. Rserve supports remote connection, user authentication and file transfer. A simple R client is included in this package as well.

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**URL** <http://www.rforge.net/Rserve/>

**Biarch** true

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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`ocap`*Object Capability (OCAP) Functions*

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**Description**

The following functions are only meaningful when used by code that is run inside Rserve in object-capability (OCAP) mode. See [Rserve Wiki](#) for details.

`ocap` registers a function as a capability and returns the reference.

`resolve.ocap` takes a capability reference and returns the function representing the capability.

`Rserve.context` retrieves or sets the current context for out-of-band (OOB) messages (see also [Rserve.eval](#) for specifying contexts during evaluation).

**Usage**

```
ocap(fun, name = deparse(substitute(fun)))
resolve.ocap(ocap)
Rserve.context(what)
```

**Arguments**

<code>fun</code>	function to register
<code>name</code>	description of the function, only for informational and logging purposes
<code>ocap</code>	reference previously obtained by a call to <code>ocap</code>
<code>what</code>	if present, sets the context to the supplied value. If missing, the function returns the current context

**Value**

`ocap` returns the new capability reference, it will be an object of the class "OCref".

`resolve.ocap` returns the function corresponding to the reference or NULL if the reference does not exist. It will raise an error if `ocap` is not a valid "OCref" object.

`Rserve.context` returns the current context

**Author(s)**

Simon Urbanek

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Rserve	<i>Server providing R functionality to applications via TCP/IP or local unix sockets</i>
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## Description

Starts Rserve in daemon mode (unix only). Any additional parameters not related to Rserve will be passed straight to the underlying R. For configuration, usage and command line parameters please consult the online documentation at <http://www.rforge.net/Rserve>. Use `R CMD Rserve --help` for a brief help.

The `Rserve` function is provided for convenience only.

On Windows the `Rserve()` function sets up the `PATH` to include the current `R.DLL` so that Rserve can be run.

## Usage

```
# R CMD Rserve [<parameters>]
```

```
Rserve(debug = FALSE, port, args = NULL, quote=(length(args) > 1), wait, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>debug</code>	determines whether regular Rserve or debug version of Rserve ( <code>Rserve.dbg</code> ) should be started.
<code>port</code>	port used by Rserve to listen for connections. If not specified, it will be taken from the configuration file (if present) or default to 6311
<code>args</code>	further arguments passed to Rserve (as a string that will be passed to the <code>system</code> command - see <code>quote</code> below).
<code>quote</code>	logical, if <code>TRUE</code> then arguments are quoted, otherwise they are just joined with spaces
<code>wait</code>	wait argument for the <code>system</code> call. It defaults to <code>FALSE</code> on Windows and <code>TRUE</code> elsewhere.
<code>...</code>	other arguments to be passes to <code>system</code> .

## Details

Rserve is not just a package, but an application. It is provided as a R package for convenience only. For details see <http://www.rforge.net/Rserve>

## Note

`R CMD Rserve` will only work on unix when installed from *sources* and with sufficient permissions to have write-rights in `$R_HOME/bin`. Binary installations have no way to write in `$R_HOME/bin` and thus `Rserve()` function described above is the only reliable way to start Rserve in that case.

Java developers may want to see the `StartRserve` class in `java/Rserve/test` examples for easy way to start Rserve from Java.

Rserve can be compiled with TLS/SSL support based on OpenSSL. Therefore the following statements may be true if Rserve binaries are shipped together with OpenSSL: This product includes software developed by the OpenSSL Project for use in the OpenSSL Toolkit (<http://www.openssl.org/>).

This product includes cryptographic software written by Eric Young (eay@cryptsoft.com). This product includes software written by Tim Hudson (tjh@cryptsoft.com). They are not true otherwise.

### Author(s)

Simon Urbanek

### See Also

[run.Rserve](#)

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Rserve.eval

*Evaluate expressions in a REPL-like fashion*

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### Description

Rserve.eval evaluates a given expression in a way that is very close to the behavior on the console Read/Evaluate/Print Loop (REPL). Among other things this means printing the result of each expression if visible. The function is guaranteed to not raise an error and in case of an error it returns an object of class Rserve-eval-error with details including the error and the stack trace.

### Usage

```
Rserve.eval(what, where = .GlobalEnv, last.value = FALSE, exp.value = FALSE,
            context = NULL, handlers = list(error=.save.condition))
```

### Arguments

what	expressions to evaluate
where	environment to evaluate in
last.value	logical, if TRUE then the result of the evaluation is returned, otherwise the evaluation is only performed for its side-effects and returns TRUE instead.
exp.value	logical, if TRUE then an error object will include the actual expression that triggered the error, otherwise it will only store the index of the expression in what.
context	optional object that will be used as the Rserve context for the duration of the evaluation (see <a href="#">Rserve.context</a> ).
handlers	optional named list of calling handlers to register for the duration of the evaluation. The default is to register an error handlers which stores the error condition so it can be reported in the result - see below.

### Details

If what contains one or more expressions, they are evaluated one by one while printing the result of each if visible. Upon error subsequent expressions are not evaluated. If what is not an expression then the only a single evaluation of what is performed and the result is not printed.

The main purpose of this function is to implement console front-ends where the front-end uses `parse() + Rserve.eval()` to simulate the action of a GUI. Because the function returns in all circumstances it allows clients to rely on a well-define messaging behavior.

**Value**

If the evaluation triggered an error, the result is an object of class `Rserve-eval-error` with components:

<code>error</code>	character, error message
<code>traceback</code>	list of contexts in the traceback
<code>expression</code>	if what contains multiple expressions then this will be either an index to the expression that caused the error ( <code>exp.value=FALSE</code> ) or the actual expression (otherwise).
<code>context</code>	current Rserve context, <code>NULL</code> if none has been set
<code>condition</code>	if any condition has been saved via <code>.save.condition</code> (which is the default) then on error the captured condition object is stored here, <code>NULL</code> otherwise

If the evaluation finished without an error then the result is either `TRUE` if `last.value=FALSE` or the value of the last expression otherwise.

**Note**

Rserve versions up to 1.8-10 did not include the `condition` component, no calling handlers were registered and there was no `condition` component in the result. To replicate that behavior or if you don't need that information, you can set `handlers=NULL` which removes the overhead of adding calling handlers.

No error checking is performed on the `handlers` parameter, so make sure it is a valid, named list of functions, otherwise an error will occur at evaluation time.

**Author(s)**

Simon Urbanek

**Examples**

```
g <- function() stop("foo")
f <- function() g()
(Rserve.eval(expression(f())))
(Rserve.eval(parse(text="1:5\n1+1")))
(Rserve.eval(quote(1+1), last.value=TRUE))

error_with_condition = function(object = NULL) {
  cond = errorCondition("this is a custom error with condition",
                        object = object,
                        class = "CustomError")
  stop(cond)
}
str(Rserve.eval(quote(error_with_condition("hello")), last.value = TRUE))
```

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<code>run.Rserve</code>	<i>Start Rserve within the current R process.</i>
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### Description

`run.Rserve` makes the current R process into an Rserve instance. Rserve takes over until it is shut down or receives a user interrupt signal. The main difference between `Rserve` and `run.Rserve` is that `Rserve` starts a new process, whereas `run.Rserve` turns the current R session into Rserve. This is only possible if there are no UI elements or other parts that could interfere with the preparation of Rserve.

### Usage

```
run.Rserve(..., config.file = "/etc/Rserve.conf")
```

### Arguments

<code>...</code>	all named arguments are treated as entries that would be otherwise present in the configuration file. So argument <code>foo="bar"</code> has the same meaning as <code>foo bar</code> in the configuration file. The only exception is that logical values can be used instead of <code>enable/disable</code> . Some settings such as <code>uid</code> are not relevant and thus ignored.
<code>config.file</code>	path of the configuration file to load in the Rserve. It will be loaded before the above settings and is optional, i.e. if the file is not present or readable it will be ignored.

### Value

Returns `TRUE` after the Rserve was shut down.

### Author(s)

Simon Urbanek

### See Also

[Rserve](#)

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<code>self</code>	<i>Functions usable for R code run inside Rserve</i>
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### Description

The following functions can only be used inside Rserve, they cannot be used in stand-alone R. They interact with special features of Rserve. All commands below will succeed only if Rserve has been started with `r-control enable` configuration setting for security reasons.

`self.ctrlEval` issues a control command to the Rserve parent instance that evaluates the given expression in the server. The expression is only queued for evaluation which will happen asynchronously in the server (see `RSserverEval` in `RScclient` package for details). Note that the current session is unaffected by the command.

`self.ctrlSource` issues a control command to the Rserve parent instance to source the given file in the server, see `RSserverSource` in the `RScilent` package for details.

`self.oobSend` sends a out-of-band (OOB) message with the encoded content of `what` to the client connected to this session. The OOB facility must be enabled in the Rserve configuration (using `oob enable`) and the client must support OOB messages for this to be meaningful. This facility is not used by Rserve itself, it is offered to specialized applications (e.g. `Cairo` supports asynchronous notification of web clients using WebSockets-QAPI tunnel to dynamically update graphics on the web during evaluation).

`self.oobMessage` is like `self.oobSend` except that it waits for a response and returns the response.

## Usage

```
self.ctrlEval(expr)
self.ctrlSource(file)
self.oobSend(what, code = 0L)
self.oobMessage(what, code = 0L)
```

## Arguments

<code>expr</code>	R expression to evaluate remotely
<code>file</code>	path to a file that will be sourced into the main instance
<code>what</code>	object to include as the payload fo the message
<code>code</code>	user-defined message code that will be ORed with the <code>OOB_SEND/OOB_MSG</code> message code

## Value

`oobMessage` returns data contained in the response message.

All other functions return `TRUE` (invisibly).

## Author(s)

Simon Urbanek

## Examples

```
## Not run:
  self.ctrlEval("a <- rnorm(10)")
  self.oobSend(list("url", "http://foo/bar"))

## End(Not run)
```

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`ulog`*Micro Logging*

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**Description**

`ulog` logs the supplied message using the `ulog` facility which typically corresponded to `syslog`. See `ulog` `Rserve` configuration for the various endpoints supported by `ulog` (local, UDP/TCP remote, ...).

This function is guaranteed to be silent regardless of the `ulog` setting and is intended to have minimal performance impact.

Note: if `Rserve` is compiled with `-DULOG_STDERR` (also implied in the debug build) then `ulog` messages are also emitted on `stderr` with `"ULOG: "` prefix.

Please note that this `ulog` function is governed by the `Rserve` settings, and NOT the `ulog` package settings. The latter is a general port of the `ulog` logging facility to `R`, while `Rserve::ulog` is specific to the `Rserve` process.

**Usage**

```
ulog(...)
```

**Arguments**

```
...           message to log
```

**Value**

The logged string constructed from the message, invisibly

**Author(s)**

Simon Urbanek

**Examples**

```
ulog("INFO: My application started")
```

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