

# Package ‘knitr’

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**Type** Package

**Title** A general-purpose package for dynamic report generation in R

**Version** 1.5.31

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**Maintainer** Yihui Xie <xie@yihui.name>

**Description** This package provides a general-purpose tool for dynamic report generation in R, which can be used to deal with any type of (plain text) files, including Sweave, HTML, Markdown, reStructuredText, AsciiDoc, and Textile. R code is evaluated as if it were copied and pasted in an R terminal thanks to the evaluate package (e.g., we do not need to explicitly print() plots from ggplot2 or lattice). R code can be reformatted by the formatR package so that long lines are automatically wrapped, with indent and spaces added, and comments preserved. A simple caching mechanism is provided to cache results from computations for the first time and the computations will be skipped the next time. Almost all common graphics devices, including those in base R and add-on packages like Cairo, cairoDevice and tikzDevice, are built-in with this package and it is straightforward to switch between devices without writing any special functions. The width and height as well as alignment of plots in the output document can be specified in chunk options (the size of plots for graphics devices is also supported). Multiple plots can be recorded in a single code chunk, and it is also allowed to rearrange plots to the end of a chunk or just keep the last plot. Warnings, messages and errors are written in the output document by default (can be turned off). The large collection of hooks in this package makes it possible for the user to control almost everything in the R code input and output. Hooks can be used either to format the output or to run R code fragments before or after a code chunk. The language in code chunks is not restricted to R (there is simple support to Python and shell scripts, etc). Many features are borrowed from or inspired by Sweave, cacheSweave, pgfSweave, brew and decumar.

**Depends** R (>= 2.14.1)

**Imports**

evaluate ( $\geq 0.5.3$ ),digest,formatR ( $\geq 0.10$ ),highr ( $\geq 0.3$ ),markdown ( $\geq 0.6.5$ ),stringr ( $\geq 0.6$ ),tools

**Suggests** testit,rgl,codetools,XML,RCurl

**License** GPL

**URL** <http://yihui.name/knitr/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Collate** 'block.R' 'cache.R' 'citation.R' 'utils.R' 'plot.R' 'defaults.R' 'concordance.R' 'engine.R' 'themes.R' 'highlight.R' 'header.R' 'hooks-asciidoc.R' 'hooks-chunk.R' 'hooks-extra.R' 'hooks-html.R' 'hooks-latex.R' 'hooks-md.R' 'hooks-rst.R' 'hooks-textile.R' 'hooks.R' 'output.R' 'package.R' 'pandoc.R' 'parser.R' 'pattern.R' 'rocco.R' 'spin.R' 'table.R' 'template.R' 'themes-eclipse.R' 'utils-base64.R' 'utils-conversion.R' 'utils-rd2html.R' 'utils-sweave.R' 'utils-upload.R' 'utils-vignettes.R' 'zzz.R'

**R topics documented:**

knitr-package	3
all_labels	4
all_patterns	4
asis_output	6
current_input	6
dep_auto	7
dep_prev	8
eclipse_theme	8
fig_path	9
hook_ffmpeg_html	10
hook_movecode	11
hook_plot_asciidoc	12
hook_rgl	13
image_uri	15
imgur_upload	15
kable	17
knit	18
knit2html	20
knit2pdf	21
knit2wp	23
knit_child	24
knit_engines	25
knit_exit	26
knit_expand	26
knit_global	27
knit_hooks	28
knit_meta	28
knit_patterns	29

knit_print . . . . .	30
knit_rd . . . . .	31
knit_theme . . . . .	32
opts_chunk . . . . .	33
opts_knit . . . . .	34
opts_template . . . . .	35
pandoc . . . . .	36
pat_rnw . . . . .	37
plot_crop . . . . .	38
rand_seed . . . . .	39
read_chunk . . . . .	39
read_rforge . . . . .	41
render_asciidoc . . . . .	42
rocco . . . . .	43
rst2pdf . . . . .	44
set_alias . . . . .	45
set_header . . . . .	46
set_parent . . . . .	47
spin . . . . .	48
stitch . . . . .	50
Sweave2knitr . . . . .	51
wrap_rmd . . . . .	52
write_bib . . . . .	53
<b>Index</b>	<b>55</b>

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knitr-package	<i>A general-purpose tool for dynamic report generation in R</i>
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## Description

This is an alternative tool to Sweave with more flexible design and new features like cache and fine control of graphics. It is not limited to LaTeX and is ready to be customized to process other file formats. See the package website in the references for more information and examples.

## Note

The pronunciation of **knitr** is similar to *neater* (neater than what?) or you can think of *knitter* (but it is *single t*). The name comes from knit + R (while Sweave = S + weave).

## Author(s)

Yihui Xie <<http://yihui.name>>

## References

Full documentation and demos: <http://yihui.name/knitr/>; FAQ's: <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/blob/master/FAQ.md>

**See Also**

The core function in this package: [knit](#). If you are an Sweave user, see [Sweave2knitr](#) on how to convert Sweave files to **knitr**.

---

all_labels	<i>Get all chunk labels in a document</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

This function returns all chunk labels as a character vector.

**Usage**

```
all_labels()
```

**Value**

A character vector.

---

all_patterns	<i>All built-in patterns</i>
--------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

This object is a named list of all built-in patterns.

**Usage**

```
all_patterns
```

**Format**

```
List of 8
 $ rnw      :List of 7
  ..$ chunk.begin   : chr "^\\s*<<(.*)>>=.*$"
  ..$ chunk.end     : chr "^\\s*@\\s*(%+.*|)$"
  ..$ inline.code   : chr "\\Sexpr\\{([^}]+)\\}"
  ..$ inline.comment: chr "^\\s*%.*"
  ..$ ref.chunk     : chr "^\\s*<<(.*)>>\\s*$"
  ..$ header.begin  : chr "(^|\\n)[^%]*\\s*\\\\\\\\documentclass[^}]+\\\\\\\\"
  ..$ document.begin: chr "\\s*\\\\\\\\begin\\\\\\\\{document\\\\\\\\}"
 $ brew      :List of 1
  ..$ inline.code: chr "<%[=]{0,1}\\s+([%^]+)\\s+[-]*%>"
 $ tex       :List of 8
  ..$ chunk.begin   : chr "^\\s*%+\\s*begin.rcode\\s*(.*)"
```

```

..$ chunk.end      : chr "^\\s*%+\\s*end.rcode"
..$ chunk.code     : chr "%+"
..$ ref.chunk      : chr "%+\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.comment: chr "^\\s*%.*"
..$ inline.code    : chr "\\r\\n\\{([\\^]+)\\}"
..$ header.begin   : chr "(^|\\n)[^%]*\\s*\\{\\{documentclass[\\^]+\\}"
..$ document.begin: chr "\\s*\\{\\{begin\\{document\\}"
$ html      :List of 5
..$ chunk.begin : chr "^\\s*<!--\\s*begin.rcode\\s*(.*)"
..$ chunk.end   : chr "^\\s*end.rcode\\s*-->"
..$ ref.chunk   : chr "^\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.code : chr "<!--\\s*\\r\\ninline(.+?)-->"
..$ header.begin: chr "\\s*<head>"
$ md        :List of 4
..$ chunk.begin: chr "^\\s*+\\s*\\{r(.*)\\}\\s*$"
..$ chunk.end  : chr "^\\s*+\\s*$"
..$ ref.chunk  : chr "^\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.code: chr "r +([\\^]+)\\s*"
$ rst       :List of 5
..$ chunk.begin: chr "^\\s*[.][.]\\s+\\{r(.*)\\}\\s*$"
..$ chunk.end  : chr "^\\s*[.][.]\\s+[.][.]\\s*$"
..$ chunk.code : chr "[.][.]"
..$ ref.chunk  : chr "\\s*+\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.code: chr ":r:([\\^]+)"
$ asciidoc:List of 6
..$ chunk.begin : chr "^//\\s*begin[.]rcode(.*)$"
..$ chunk.end   : chr "^//\\s*end[.]rcode\\s*$"
..$ chunk.code  : chr "^//+"
..$ ref.chunk   : chr "^\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.code : chr "r +([\\^]+)\\s*|+[r +([\\^+]+)\\s*[+]"
..$ inline.comment: chr "^//.*"
$ textile :List of 5
..$ chunk.begin : chr "^###[.]\\s+begin[.]rcode(.*)$"
..$ chunk.end   : chr "^###[.]\\s+end[.]rcode\\s*$"
..$ ref.chunk   : chr "^\\s*<<(.)>>\\s*$"
..$ inline.code : chr "@r +([\\^@]+)\\s*@@"
..$ inline.comment: chr "^###[.].*"

```

## References

Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/patterns>

## See Also

[knit\\_patterns](#)

## Examples

```
all_patterns$rnw
```

```
all_patterns$html
str(all_patterns)
```

---

asis_output	<i>Mark an R object with a special class</i>
-------------	--

---

## Description

This is a convenience function that assigns the input object a class named `knit_asis`, so that **knitr** will treat it as is (the effect is the same as the chunk option `results = asis`) when it is written to the output.

## Usage

```
asis_output(x, meta = NULL)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	an R object (typically a character string, or can be converted to a character string via <a href="#">as.character()</a> )
<code>meta</code>	additional metadata of the object to be printed (the metadata will be collected when the object is printed, and accessible via <code>knit_meta()</code> )

## Details

This function is normally used in a custom S3 method based on the printing function [knit\\_print\(\)](#).

## Examples

```
# see ?knit_print
```

---

current_input	<i>Query the current input filename</i>
---------------	---

---

## Description

Returns the name of the input file passed to [knit\(\)](#).

## Usage

```
current_input()
```

## Value

A character string, if this function is called inside an input document (otherwise `NULL`).

---

dep\_auto

---

*Build automatic dependencies among chunks*

---

## Description

When the chunk option `autodep = TRUE`, all names of objects created in a chunk will be saved in a file named ‘\_\_objects’ and all global objects used in a chunk will be saved to ‘\_\_globals’. This function can analyze object names in these files to automatically build cache dependencies, which is similar to the effect of the `dependson` option. It is supposed to be used in the first chunk of a document and this chunk must not be cached.

## Usage

```
dep_auto(path = opts_chunk$get("cache.path"))
```

## Arguments

`path`                      the path to the dependency file

## Value

NULL. The dependencies are built as a side effect.

## Note

Be cautious about `path`: because this function is used in a chunk, the working directory when the chunk is evaluated is the directory of the input document in `knitr`, and if that directory differs from the working directory before calling `knitr()`, you need to adjust the `path` argument here to make sure this function can find the cache files ‘\_\_objects’ and ‘\_\_globals’.

## References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/cache/>

## See Also

[dep\\_prev](#)

---

dep_prev	<i>Make later chunks depend on previous chunks</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

This function can be used to build dependencies among chunks so that all later chunks depend on previous chunks, i.e. whenever the cache of a previous chunk is updated, the cache of all its later chunks will be updated.

### Usage

```
dep_prev()
```

### Value

NULL; the internal dependency structure is updated as a side effect.

### References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/cache/>

### See Also

[dep\\_auto](#)

---

eclipse_theme	<i>Download and convert a theme from <a href="http://eclipsecolorthemes.org">eclipsecolorthemes.org</a> to CSS</i>
---------------	--

---

### Description

This function uses the **XML** package to parse the theme as an XML file, then converts to a CSS file using a brew template in the **knitr** package. The CSS file can be further parsed with `knit_theme$get()`, and the result will be ready for `knit_theme$set()` to set the highlighting theme.

### Usage

```
eclipse_theme(id)
```

### Arguments

id	id of theme to save as CSS
----	----------------------------

### Value

Path to the CSS file converted from the website.



**Author(s)**

Ramnath Vaidyanathan and Yihui Xie

**References**

<http://www.eclipsecolorthemes.org/>

**See Also**

[knit\\_theme](#)

**Examples**

```
## http://www.eclipsecolorthemes.org/?view=theme&id=1
## Not run:
opts_knit$set(out.format = "latex")
(css = eclipse_theme(1))
thm = knit_theme$get(css)
knit_theme$set(thm)

## End(Not run)
```

---

fig\_path

*Path for figure files*


---

**Description**

The filename of figure files is the combination of options `fig.path` and `label`. This function returns the path of figures for the current chunk by default.

**Usage**

```
fig_path(suffix = "", options = opts_current$get())
```

**Arguments**

<code>suffix</code>	a suffix of the filename
<code>options</code>	a list of options; by default the options of the current chunk

**Value**

A character string (path)

**Note**

When there are multiple figures in a chunk, this function only provides a prefix of the filenames by default, and the actual filenames are of the form ‘prefix1’, ‘prefix2’, ... where ‘prefix’ is the string returned by this function.

When there are special characters (not alphanumeric or ‘-’ or ‘\_’) in the path, they will be automatically replaced with ‘\_’. For example, ‘a b/c.d-’ will be sanitized to ‘a\_b/c\_d-’. This makes the filenames safe to LaTeX.

**Examples**

```
fig_path(".pdf", list(fig.path = "figure/abc-", label = "first-plot"))
fig_path(1:10, list(fig.path = "foo-", label = "bar"))
```

---

hook\_ffmpeg\_html

*Hooks to create animations in HTML output*


---

**Description**

hook\_ffmpeg\_html() uses FFmpeg to convert images to a video; hook\_scianimator() uses the JavaScript library SciAnimator to create animations; hook\_r2swf() uses the **R2SWF** package.

**Usage**

```
hook_ffmpeg_html(x, options)
```

```
hook_scianimator(x, options)
```

```
hook_r2swf(x, options)
```

**Arguments**

x                    the plot filename (a character string)

options            a list of the current chunk options

**Details**

These hooks are mainly for the package option `animation.fun`, e.g. you can set `opts_knit$set(animation.fun = hook_s`

**Description**

A document hook is a function to post-process the output document.

**Usage**

```
hook_movecode(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                      a character string (the content of the whole document output)

**Details**

hook\_movecode() is a document hook to move code chunks out of LaTeX floating environments like ‘figure’ and ‘table’ when the chunks were actually written inside the floats. This function is primarily designed for LyX: we often insert code chunks into floats to generate figures or tables, but in the final output we do not want the code to float with the environments, so we use regular expressions to find out the floating environments, extract the code chunks and move them out. To disable this behavior, use a comment `% knitr_do_not_move` in the floating environment.

**Value**

The post-processed document as a character string.

**Note**

These functions are hackish. Also note hook\_movecode() assumes you to use the default output hooks for LaTeX (not Sweave or listings), and every figure/table environment must have a label.

**References**

<http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
knit_hooks$set(document = hook_movecode)

## End(Not run)
# see example 103 at https://github.com/yihui/knitr-examples
```

---

hook_plot_asciidoc	<i>Default plot hooks for different output formats</i>
--------------------	--

---

## Description

These hook functions define how to mark up graphics output in different output formats.

## Usage

```
hook_plot_asciidoc(x, options)
```

```
hook_plot_html(x, options)
```

```
hook_plot_tex(x, options)
```

```
hook_plot_md(x, options)
```

```
hook_plot_rst(x, options)
```

```
hook_plot_textile(x, options)
```

## Arguments

x	the plot filename (a character string)
options	a list of the current chunk options

## Details

Depending on the options passed over, `hook_plot_tex` may return the normal `\includegraphics{}` command, or `\input{}` (for tikz files), or `\animategraphics{}` (for animations); it also takes many other options into consideration to align plots and set figure sizes, etc. Similarly, `hook_plot_html`, `hook_plot_md` and `hook_plot_rst` return character strings which are HTML, Markdown, reST code.

In most cases we do not need to call these hooks explicitly, and they were designed to be used internally. Sometimes we may not be able to record R plots using `recordPlot`, and we can make use of these hooks to insert graphics output in the output document; see `hook_plot_custom` for details.

## Value

A character string (code with plot filenames wrapped)

## References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks>

**See Also**[hook\\_plot\\_custom](#)**Examples**

```
## this is what happens for a chunk like this

## <<foo-bar-plot, dev=pdf, fig.align=right>>=
hook_plot_tex("foo-bar-plot.pdf", opts_chunk$merge(list(fig.align = "right")))

## <<bar, dev=tikz>>=
hook_plot_tex("bar.tikz", opts_chunk$merge(list(dev = "tikz")))

## <<foo, dev=pdf, fig.show=animate, interval=.1>>=

## 5 plots are generated in this chunk
hook_plot_tex("foo5.pdf", opts_chunk$merge(list(fig.show = "animate", interval = 0.1,
  fig.cur = 5, fig.num = 5)))
```

hook\_rgl

*Built-in chunk hooks to extend knitr***Description**

Hook functions are called when the corresponding chunk options are not NULL to do additional jobs beside the R code in chunks. This package provides a few useful hooks, which can also serve as examples of how to define chunk hooks in **knitr**.

**Usage**

```
hook_rgl(before, options, envir)

hook_pdfcrop(before, options, envir)

hook_optipng(before, options, envir)

hook_plot_custom(before, options, envir)

hook_webgl(before, options, envir)

hook_purl(before, options, envir)
```

**Arguments**

```
before,options,envir
      see references
```

## Details

The function `hook_rgl` can be set as a hook in **knitr** to save plots produced by the **rgl** package. According to the chunk option `dev` (graphical device), plots can be save to different formats (postscript: 'eps'; pdf: 'pdf'; other devices correspond to the default PNG format). The plot window will be adjusted according to chunk options `fig.width` and `fig.height`. Filenames are derived from chunk labels and the `fig.path` option.

The function `hook_webgl` is a wrapper for the `writeWebGL()` function in the **rgl** package. It writes WebGL code to the output to reproduce the **rgl** scene in a browser.

The function `hook_pdfcrop` can use the program `pdfcrop` to crop the extra white margin when the plot format is PDF to make better use of the space in the output document, otherwise we often have to struggle with `par` to set appropriate margins. Note `pdfcrop` often comes with a LaTeX distribution such as MiKTeX or TeXLive, and you may not need to install it separately (use `Sys.which(pdfcrop)` to check it; if it not empty, you are able to use it). Similarly, when the plot format is not PDF (e.g. PNG), the program `convert` in ImageMagick is used to trim the white margins (call `convert input -trim output`).

The function `hook_optipng` calls the program `optipng` to optimize PNG images. Note the chunk option `optipng` can be used to provide additional parameters to the program `optipng`, e.g. `optipng = -o7`. See <http://optipng.sourceforge.net/> for details.

When the plots are not recordable via `recordPlot` and we save the plots to files manually via other functions (e.g. **rgl** plots), we can use the chunk hook `hook_plot_custom` to help write code for graphics output into the output document.

The hook `hook_purl` can be used to write the code chunks to an R script. It is an alternative approach to `purl`, and can be more reliable when the code chunks depend on the execution of them (e.g. `read_chunk()`, or `opts_chunk$set(eval = FALSE)`). To enable this hook, it is recommended to associate it with the chunk option `purl`, i.e. `knit_hooks$set(purl = hook_purl)`. When this hook is enabled, an R script will be written while the input document is being **knit**. Currently the code chunks that are not R code or have the chunk option `purl=FALSE` are ignored.

## References

[http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks#chunk\\_hooks](http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks#chunk_hooks)

## See Also

`rgl.snapshot`, `rgl.postscript`

## Examples

```
knit_hooks$set(rgl = hook_rgl)
## then in code chunks, use the option rgl=TRUE
```

---

image\_uri*Encode an image file to a data URI*

---

**Description**

This function takes an image file and uses either the **markdown** package, or **RCurl** or the built-in function to encode it as a base64 string, which can be used in the `img` tag in HTML.

**Usage**

```
image_uri(f)
```

**Arguments**

`f` the path to the image file

**Value**

a character string (the data URI)

**Author(s)**

Wush Wu and Yihui Xie

**References**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data\\_URI\\_scheme](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_URI_scheme)

**Examples**

```
uri = image_uri(file.path(R.home("doc"), "html", "logo.jpg"))
cat(sprintf("<img src=\"%s\" />", uri), file = "logo.html")
if (interactive()) browseURL("logo.html") # you can check its HTML source
```

---

imgur\_upload*Upload an image to imgur.com*

---

**Description**

This function uses the **RCurl** package to upload a image to [imgur.com](http://imgur.com), and parses the XML response to a list with **XML** which contains information about the image in the Imgur website.

**Usage**

```
imgur_upload(file, key = "9f3460e67f308f6")
```

**Arguments**

file	the path to the image file to be uploaded
key	the client id for Imgur (by default uses a client id registered by Yihui Xie)

**Details**

When the output format from `knit()` is HTML or Markdown, this function can be used to upload local image files to Imgur, e.g. set the package option `opts_knit$set(upload.fun = imgur_upload)`, so the output document is completely self-contained, i.e. it does not need external image files any more, and it is ready to be published online.

**Value**

A character string of the link to the image; this string carries an attribute named XML which is a list converted from the response XML file; see Imgur API in the references.

**Note**

Please register your own Imgur application to get your client id; you can certainly use mine, but this id is in the public domain so everyone has access to all images associated to it.

**Author(s)**

Yihui Xie, adapted from the **imguR** package by Aaron Statham

**References**

Imgur API version 3: <http://api.imgur.com/>; a demo: <http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/upload/>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
f = tempfile(fileext = ".png")
png(f)
plot(rnorm(100), main = R.version.string)
dev.off()

res = imgur_upload(f)
res # link to original URL of the image
attr(res, "XML") # all information
if (interactive())
  browseURL(res)

## to use your own key
opts_knit$set(upload.fun = function(file) imgur_upload(file, key = "your imgur key"))

## End(Not run)
```



kable

*Create tables in LaTeX, HTML, Markdown and reStructuredText***Description**

This is a very simple table generator. It is simple by design. It is not intended to replace any other R packages for making tables.

**Usage**

```
kable(x, format, digits = getOption("digits"), row.names = NA, align,
      output = getOption("knitr.table.output", TRUE), ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	an R object (typically a matrix or data frame)
<code>format</code>	a character string; possible values are <code>latex</code> , <code>html</code> , <code>markdown</code> , <code>pandoc</code> , and <code>rst</code> ; this will be automatically determined if the function is called within <b>knitr</b> ; it can also be set in the global option <code>knitr.table.format</code>
<code>digits</code>	the maximum number of digits for numeric columns (passed to <code>round()</code> )
<code>row.names</code>	whether to include row names; by default, row names are included if they are neither <code>NULL</code> nor identical to <code>1:nrow(x)</code>
<code>align</code>	the alignment of columns: a character vector consisting of <code>l</code> (left), <code>c</code> (center) and/or <code>r</code> (right); by default, numeric columns are right-aligned, and other columns are left-aligned; if <code>align = NULL</code> , the default alignment is used
<code>output</code>	whether to write out the output in the console
<code>...</code>	other arguments (see examples)

**Value**

A character vector of the table source code. When `output = TRUE`, the results are also written into the console as a side-effect.

**Note**

The tables for `format = markdown` also work for Pandoc when the `pipe_tables` extension is enabled (this is the default behavior for Pandoc  $\geq 1.10$ ).

When using this function inside a **knitr** document (e.g. R Markdown or R LaTeX), you will need the chunk option `results=asis`.

**References**

See <https://github.com/yihui/knitr-examples/blob/master/091-knitr-table.Rnw> for some examples in LaTeX, but they also apply to other document formats.

### See Also

Other R packages such as **xtable** and **tables** for HTML and LaTeX tables, and **ascii** and **pander** for different flavors of markdown output and some advanced features and table styles.

### Examples

```
kable(head(iris), format = "latex")
kable(head(iris), format = "html")
kable(head(iris), format = "latex", caption = "Title of the table")
kable(head(iris), format = "html", caption = "Title of the table")
# use the booktabs package
kable(mtcars, format = "latex", booktabs = TRUE)
# use the longtable package
kable(matrix(1000, ncol = 5), format = "latex", digits = 2, longtable = TRUE)
# add some table attributes
kable(head(iris), format = "html", table.attr = "id=\"mytable\"")
# reST output
kable(head(mtcars), format = "rst")
# no row names
kable(head(mtcars), format = "rst", row.names = FALSE)
# R Markdown/Github Markdown tables
kable(head(mtcars[, 1:5]), format = "markdown")
# no inner padding
kable(head(mtcars), format = "markdown", padding = 0)
# more padding
kable(head(mtcars), format = "markdown", padding = 2)
# Pandoc tables
kable(head(mtcars), format = "pandoc", caption = "Title of the table")
# save the value
x = kable(mtcars, format = "html", output = FALSE)
cat(x, sep = "\n")
# can also set options(knitr.table.format = html) so that the output is HTML
```

---

knit

*Knit a document*


---

### Description

This function takes an input file, extracts the R code in it according to a list of patterns, evaluates the code and writes the output in another file. It can also tangle R source code from the input document (`purl()` is a wrapper to `knit(..., tangle = TRUE)`).

### Usage

```
knit(input, output = NULL, tangle = FALSE, text = NULL, quiet = FALSE,
     envir = parent.frame(), encoding = getOption("encoding"))

purl(..., documentation = 1L)
```

## Arguments

input	path of the input file
output	path of the output file for <code>knit()</code> ; if <code>NULL</code> , this function will try to guess and it will be under the current working directory
tangle	whether to tangle the R code from the input file (like <a href="#">Stangle</a> )
text	a character vector as an alternative way to provide the input file
quiet	whether to suppress the progress bar and messages
envir	the environment in which the code chunks are to be evaluated (can use <a href="#">new.env()</a> to guarantee an empty new environment)
encoding	the encoding of the input file; see <a href="#">file</a>
documentation	an integer specifying the level of documentation to go the tangled script: 0 means pure code (discard all text chunks); 1 (default) means add the chunk headers to code; 2 means add all text chunks to code as roxygen comments
...	arguments passed to <a href="#">knit()</a> from <a href="#">purl()</a>

## Details

For most of the time, it is not necessary to set any options outside the input document; in other words, a single call like `knit(my_input.Rnw)` is usually enough. This function will try to determine many internal settings automatically. For the sake of reproducibility, it is a better practice to include the options inside the input document (to be self-contained), instead of setting them before knitting the document.

First the filename of the output document is determined in this way: ‘foo.Rnw’ generates ‘foo.tex’, and other filename extensions like ‘.Rtex’, ‘.Rhtml’ (‘.Rhtm’) and ‘.Rmd’ (‘.Rmarkdown’) will generate ‘.tex’, ‘.html’ and ‘.md’ respectively. For other types of files, if the filename contains ‘\_knit\_’, this part will be removed in the output file, e.g., ‘foo\_knit\_.html’ creates the output ‘foo.html’; if ‘\_knit\_’ is not found in the filename, ‘foo.ext’ will produce ‘foo.txt’ if ext is not txt, otherwise the output is ‘foo-out.txt’. If `tangle = TRUE`, ‘foo.ext’ generates an R script ‘foo.R’.

We need a set of syntax to identify special markups for R code chunks and R options, etc. The syntax is defined in a pattern list. All built-in pattern lists can be found in `all_patterns` (call it `apat`). First **knitr** will try to decide the pattern list based on the filename extension of the input document, e.g. ‘Rnw’ files use the list `apat$rnw`, ‘tex’ uses the list `apat$tex`, ‘brew’ uses `apat$brew` and HTML files use `apat$html`; for unknown extensions, the content of the input document is matched against all pattern lists to automatically which pattern list is being used. You can also manually set the pattern list using the [knit\\_patterns](#) object or the [pat\\_rnw](#) series functions in advance and **knitr** will respect the setting.

According to the output format (`opts_knit$get(out.format)`), a set of output hooks will be set to mark up results from R (see [render\\_latex](#)). The output format can be LaTeX, Sweave and HTML, etc. The output hooks decide how to mark up the results (you can customize the hooks).

See the package website and manuals in the references to know more about **knitr**, including the full documentation of chunk options and demos, etc.

**Value**

The compiled document is written into the output file, and the path of the output file is returned, but if the output path is `NULL`, the output is returned as a character vector.

**Note**

The name `knit` comes from its counterpart ‘weave’ (as in Sweave), and the name `purl` (as ‘tangle’ in Stangle) comes from a knitting method ‘knit one, purl one’.

If the input document has child documents, they will also be compiled recursively. See [knit\\_child](#).

The working directory when evaluating R code chunks is the directory of the input document by default, so if the R code involves external files (like `read.table()`), it is better to put these files under the same directory of the input document so that we can use relative paths. However, it is possible to change this directory with the package option `opts_knit$set(root.dir = ...)` so all paths in code chunks are relative to this `root.dir`.

The arguments `input` and `output` do not have to be restricted to files; they can be `stdin()/stdout()` or other types of connections, but the pattern list to read the input has to be set in advance (see [pat\\_rnw](#)), and the output hooks should also be set (see [render\\_latex](#)), otherwise **knitr** will try to guess the patterns and output format.

If the output argument is a file path, it is strongly recommended to be in the current working directory (e.g. ‘foo.tex’ instead of ‘somewhere/foo.tex’), especially when the output has external dependencies such as figure files.

**References**

Package homepage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/>. The **knitr** [main manual](#): and [graphics manual](#).

See `citation(knitr)` for the citation information.

**Examples**

```
library(knitr)
(f = system.file("examples", "knitr-minimal.Rnw", package = "knitr"))
knit(f) # compile to tex

purl(f) # tangle R code
purl(f, documentation = 0) # extract R code only
purl(f, documentation = 2) # also include documentation
```

---

knit2html

---

*Convert markdown to HTML using `knit()` and `markdownToHTML()`*


---

**Description**

This is a convenience function to knit the input markdown source and call [markdownToHTML\(\)](#) in the **markdown** package to convert the result to HTML.

**Usage**

```
knit2html(input, output = NULL, ..., envir = parent.frame(), text = NULL, quiet = FALSE,
          encoding = getOption("encoding"))
```

**Arguments**

...	options passed to <a href="#">markdownToHTML</a>
input	path of the input file
output	path of the output file for <code>knit()</code> ; if NULL, this function will try to guess and it will be under the current working directory
envir	the environment in which the code chunks are to be evaluated (can use <a href="#">new.env()</a> to guarantee an empty new environment)
text	a character vector as an alternative way to provide the input file
quiet	whether to suppress the progress bar and messages
encoding	the encoding of the input file; see <a href="#">file</a>

**Value**

If the argument `text` is NULL, a character string (HTML code) is returned; otherwise the result is written into a file and the filename is returned.

**See Also**

[knit](#), [markdownToHTML](#)

**Examples**

```
# a minimal example
writeLines(c("# hello markdown", "{r hello-random, echo=TRUE}", "rnorm(5)", ""),
           "test.Rmd")
knit2html("test.Rmd")
if (interactive()) browseURL("test.html")
```

---

knit2pdf	<i>Convert Rnw or Rrst files to PDF using knit() and texi2pdf() or rst2pdf()</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

Knit the input Rnw or Rrst document, and compile to PDF using `texi2pdf` or `rst2pdf`.

**Usage**

```
knit2pdf(input, output = NULL, compiler = NULL, envir = parent.frame(), quiet = FALSE,
          encoding = getOption("encoding"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

compiler	a character string which gives the LaTeX program used to compile the tex document to PDF (by default it uses the default setting of <a href="#">texi2pdf</a> , which is often PDFLaTeX); this argument will be used to temporarily set the environmental variable ‘PDFLATEX’. For an Rrst file, setting compiler to rst2pdf will use <a href="#">rst2pdf</a> to compile the rst file to PDF using the ReportLab open-source library.
...	options to be passed to <a href="#">texi2pdf</a> or <a href="#">rst2pdf</a>
input	path of the input file
output	path of the output file for knit(); if NULL, this function will try to guess and it will be under the current working directory
envir	the environment in which the code chunks are to be evaluated (can use <a href="#">new.env()</a> to guarantee an empty new environment)
quiet	whether to suppress the progress bar and messages
encoding	the encoding of the input file; see <a href="#">file</a>

**Value**

The filename of the PDF file.

**Note**

The output argument specifies the output filename to be passed to the PDF compiler (e.g. a tex document) instead of the PDF filename.

**Author(s)**

Ramnath Vaidyanathan, Alex Zvoleff and Yihui Xie

**See Also**

[knit](#), [texi2pdf](#), [rst2pdf](#)

**Examples**

```
# compile with xelatex
## knit2pdf(..., compiler = xelatex)

# compile a reST file with rst2pdf
## knit2pdf(..., compiler = rst2pdf)
```

---

knit2wp*Knit an R Markdown document and post it to WordPress*

---

## Description

This function is a wrapper around the **RWordPress** package. It compiles an R Markdown document to HTML and post the results to WordPress.

## Usage

```
knit2wp(input, title = "A post from knitr", ..., shortcode = FALSE,  
        encoding = getOption("encoding"), publish = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

input	the filename of the Rmd document
title	the post title
...	other meta information of the post, e.g. <code>categories = c(R,Stats)</code> and <code>mt_keywords = c(knitr, wor</code> etc
shortcode	a logical vector of length 2: whether to use the shortcode <code>'[sourcecode lang=lang]'</code> which can be useful to WordPress.com users for syntax highlighting of source code and output; the first element applies to source code, and the second applies to text output (by default, both are FALSE)
publish	whether to publish the post immediately
encoding	the encoding of the input file; see <a href="#">file</a>

## Note

This function will convert the encoding of the post and the title to UTF-8 internally. If you have additional data to send to WordPress (e.g. keywords and categories), you may have to manually convert them to the UTF-8 encoding with the `iconv(x, to = UTF-8)` function (especially when using Windows).

## Author(s)

William K. Morris and Yihui Xie

## References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/wordpress/>

## Examples

```
# see the reference
```

knit\_child

*Knit a child document***Description**

This function knits a child document and returns a character string to input the result into the main document. It is designed to be used in the chunk option `child` and serves as the alternative to the `SweaveInput` command in Sweave.

**Usage**

```
knit_child(..., options = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>...</code>	arguments passed to <code>knit</code>
<code>options</code>	a list of chunk options to be used as global options inside the child document (ignored if not a list); when we use the <code>child</code> option in a parent chunk, the chunk options of the parent chunk will be passed to the <code>options</code> argument here

**Value**

A character string of the content of the compiled child document is returned as a character string so it can be written back to the parent document directly.

**Note**

This function is not supposed be called directly like `knit()`; instead it must be placed in a parent document to let `knit()` call it indirectly.

The path of the child document is relative to the parent document.

**References**

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/child/>

**Examples**

```
## you can write \Sexpr{knit_child(child-doc.Rnw)} in an Rnw file main.Rnw
## to input results from child-doc.Rnw in main.tex

## comment out the child doc by \Sexpr{knit_child(child-doc.Rnw, eval =
## FALSE)}
```



## Description

This object controls how to execute the code from languages other than R (when the chunk option engine is not R). Each component in this object is a function that takes a list of current chunk options (including the source code) and returns a character string to be written into the output.

## Usage

```
knit_engines
```

## Format

List of 4

```
$ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
$ set      :function (...)
$ merge    :function (values)
$ restore  :function (target = value)
```

## Details

The engine function has one argument options: the source code of the current chunk is in options\$code. Usually we can call external programs to run the code via [system](#). Other chunk options are also contained in this argument, e.g. options\$echo and options\$eval, etc.

In most cases, options\$engine can be directly used in command line to execute the code, e.g. python or ruby, but sometimes we may want to specify the path of the engine program, in which case we can pass it through the engine.path option. For example, engine=ruby, engine.path=/usr/bin/ruby1.9.1. Additional command line arguments can be passed through options\$engine.opts, e.g. engine=ruby, engine.opts=-v.

Below is a list of built-in language engines, retrieved via knit\_engines\$get():

```
List of 22 $ awk      :function (options) $ bash      :function (options) $ coffee :function (options)
$ gawk      :function (options) $ haskell :function (options) $ perl      :function (options)
$ python    :function (options) $ Rscript :function (options) $ ruby      :function (options)
$ sas       :function (options) $ scala   :function (options) $ sed       :function (options) $ sh       :function (options)
$ zsh       :function (options) $ highlight: function (options) $ Rcpp     :function (options)
$ tikz      :function (options) $ dot     :function (options) $ c         :function (options)
$ asy       :function (options) $ cat     :function (options) $ asis      :function (options)
```

## References

Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/objects>; examples: <http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/engines/>

**Examples**

```
knit_engines$get("python")
knit_engines$get("awk")
names(knit_engines$get())
```

---

knit\_exit

*Exit knitting early*


---

**Description**

Sometimes we may want to exit the knitting process early, and completely ignore the rest of the document. This function provides a mechanism to terminate `knit()`.

**Usage**

```
knit_exit(append)
```

**Arguments**

append	a character vector to be appended to the results from <code>knit()</code> so far; by default, it is <code>\end{document}</code> for LaTeX output, and <code>&lt;/body&gt;&lt;/html&gt;</code> for HTML output to make the output document complete; for other types of output, it is an empty string
--------	--

**Value**

Invisible NULL. An internal signal is set up (as a side effect) to notify `knit()` to quit as if it had reached the end of the document.

**Examples**

```
# see https://github.com/yihui/knitr-examples/blob/master/096-knit-exit.Rmd
```

---

knit\_expand

*A simple macro preprocessor for templating purposes*


---

**Description**

This function expands a template based on the R expressions in `{{}}` (this tag can be customized by the `delim` argument). These expressions are extracted, evaluated and replaced by their values in the original template.

**Usage**

```
knit_expand(file, ..., text = readLines(file, warn = FALSE), delim = c("{{", "}}"))
```

**Arguments**

file	the template file
...	a list of variables to be used for the code in the template; note the variables will be searched in the parent frame as well
text	an alternative way to file to specify the template code directly (if provided, file will be ignored)
delim	the (opening and ending) delimiters for the templating tags

**Value**

A character vector, with the tags evaluated and replaced by their values.

**References**

This function was inspired by the pyexpander (<http://pyexpander.sourceforge.net>) and m4 (<http://www.gnu.org/software/m4/>), thanks to Frank Harrell.

**Examples**

```
# see the knit_expand vignette
if (interactive()) browseVignettes(package = "knitr")
```

---

knit_global	<i>The global environment in which code chunks are evaluated</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

This function makes the environment of a code chunk accessible inside a chunk.

**Usage**

```
knit_global()
```

**Details**

It returns the `envir` argument of `knit`, e.g. if we call `knit()` in the global environment, `knit_global()` returns R's global environment by default. You can call functions like `ls()` on this environment.

---

`knit_hooks`*Hooks for R code chunks, inline R code and output*

---

### Description

A hook is a function of a pre-defined form (arguments) that takes values of arguments and returns desired output. The object `knit_hooks` is used to access or set hooks in this package.

### Usage

`knit_hooks`

### Format

List of 4

```
$ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
$ set      :function (...)
$ merge    :function (values)
$ restore  :function (target = value)
```

### References

Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/objects>

Components in `knit_hooks`: <http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks>

### Examples

```
knit_hooks$get("source")
knit_hooks$get("inline")
```

---

`knit_meta`*Metadata about objects to be printed*

---

### Description

As an object is printed, **knitr** will collect metadata about it (if available). After knitting is done, all the metadata is accessible via this function.

### Usage

```
knit_meta(class = NULL, clean = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

class	optionally return only metadata entries that inherit from the specified class; the default, NULL, returns all entries.
clean	whether to clean the collected metadata; by default, the metadata stored in <b>knitr</b> is cleaned up once retrieved, because we may not want the metadata to be passed to the next knit() call; to be defensive (i.e. not to have carryover metadata), you can call knit_meta() before knit()

knit\_patterns

*Patterns to match and extract R code in a document***Description**

Patterns are regular expressions and will be used in functions like [grep](#) to extract R code and chunk options. The object knit\_patterns controls the patterns currently used; see the references and examples for usage. All built-in patterns are available in the list [all\\_patterns](#).

**Usage**

knit\_patterns

**Format**

```
List of 4
 $ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
 $ set      :function (...)
 $ merge    :function (values)
 $ restore: :function (target = value)
```

**References**Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/objects>Components in knit\_patterns: <http://yihui.name/knitr/patterns>**See Also**[all\\_patterns](#)**Examples**

```
library(knitr)
opat = knit_patterns$get() # old pattern list (to restore later)

apats = all_patterns # a list of all built-in patterns
str(apats)
knit_patterns$set(apats[["rnw"]]) # set pattern list from apats
```

```
knit_patterns$get(c("chunk.begin", "chunk.end", "inline.code"))

## a customized pattern list; has to empty the original patterns first!
knit_patterns$restore()
## we may want to use this in an HTML document
knit_patterns$set(list(chunk.begin = "<!--helloR\\s+(.*)", chunk.end = "^byeR-->"))
str(knit_patterns$get())

knit_patterns$set(opat) # put the old patterns back
```

---

knit_print	<i>A custom printing function</i>
------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

The S3 generic function `knit_print` is the default printing function in **knitr**. The chunk option `render` uses this function by default. The main purpose of this S3 generic function is to customize printing of R objects in code chunks. We can fall back to the normal printing behavior by setting the chunk option `render = normal_print`.

## Usage

```
knit_print(x, options)

normal_print(x)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	an R object to be printed
<code>options</code>	a list of the current chunk options

## Details

Users can write custom methods based on this generic function. For example, if we want to print all data frames as tables in the output, we can define a method `knit_print.data.frame` that turns a data frame into a table (the implementation may use other R packages or functions, e.g. **xtable** or [kable\(\)](#)).

## Value

The value returned from the print method should be a character vector or can be converted to a character value. You can wrap the value in [asis\\_output\(\)](#) so that **knitr** writes the character value as is in the output.

## Examples

```
library(knitr)
# write tables for data frames
knit_print.data.frame = function(x, options) {
  res = paste(c("", ""), kable(x, output = FALSE)), collapse = "\n")
  asis_output(res)
}
# after you defined the above method, data frames will be printed as tables in
# knitr, which is different with the default print() behavior
```

---

knit\_rd

*Knit package documentation*

---

## Description

Run examples in a package and insert output into the examples code; `knit_rd_all()` is a wrapper around `knit_rd()` to build static HTML help pages for all packages under the ‘html’ directory of them.

## Usage

```
knit_rd(pkg, links = tools::findHTMLlinks(), frame = TRUE)

knit_rd_all()
```

## Arguments

<code>pkg</code>	package name
<code>links</code>	a character vector of links to be passed to <a href="#">Rd2HTML</a>
<code>frame</code>	whether to put a navigation frame on left of the index page

## Value

All HTML pages corresponding to topics in the package are written under the current working directory. An ‘index.html’ is also written as a table of content.

## Note

Ideally the html pages should be put under the ‘html’ directory of an installed package which can be found via `system.file(html, package = your_package_name)`, otherwise some links may not work (e.g. the link to the DESCRIPTION file).

## Examples

```
## Not run:
knit_rd("maps")
knit_rd("rpart")
setwd(system.file("html", package = "ggplot2"))
knit_rd("ggplot2") # time-consuming!

knit_rd_all() # this may take really long time if you have many packages installed

## End(Not run)
```

---

knit_theme	<i>Syntax highlighting themes</i>
------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

This object can be used to set or get themes in **knitr** for syntax highlighting.

## Usage

```
knit_theme
```

## Format

```
List of 2
 $ set:function (theme)
 $ get:function (theme = NULL)
```

## Details

We can use `knit_theme$set(theme)` to set the theme, and `knit_theme$get(theme)` to get a theme. The theme is a character string for both methods (either the name of the theme, or the path to the CSS file of a theme), and for the `set()` method, it can also be a list returned by the `get()` method. See examples below.

## Author(s)

Ramnath Vaidyanathan and Yihui Xie

## References

<https://bitbucket.org/stat/knitr/downloads/knitr-themes.pdf> (its Rnw source is at <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/blob/master/inst/examples/knitr-themes.Rnw>)

## See Also

[eclipse\\_theme](#) (use Eclipse themes)



## Examples

```
opts_knit$set(out.format = "latex")
knit_theme$set("edit-vim")

knit_theme$get() # names of all available themes

thm = knit_theme$get("acid") # parse the theme to a list
knit_theme$set(thm)

opts_knit$set(out.format = NULL) # restore option
```

---

 opts\_chunk

*Default and current chunk options*


---

## Description

Options for R code chunks. When running R code, the object `opts_chunk` (default options) is not modified by chunk headers (local chunk options are merged with default options), whereas `opts_current` (current options) changes with different chunk headers and it always reflects the options for the current chunk.

## Usage

```
opts_chunk

opts_current
```

## Format

```
List of 4
 $ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
 $ set      :function (...)
 $ merge    :function (values)
 $ restore  :function (target = value)
```

## Details

Normally we set up the global options once in the first code chunk in a document using `opts_chunk$set()`, so that all *latter* chunks will use these options. Note the global options set in one chunk will not affect the options in this chunk itself, and that is why we often need to set global options in a separate chunk.

Below is a list of default chunk options, retrieved via `opts_chunk$get()`:

```
List of 52
 $ eval      : logi TRUE
 $ echo      : logi TRUE
 $ results   : chr "markup"
 $ tidy      : logi FALSE
 $ tidy.opts : NULL
 $ collapse  : logi FALSE
 $ prompt    : logi FALSE
 $ comment   : chr "##"
 $ highlight : logi TRUE
 $ strip.white : logi TRUE
 $ size      : chr "normalsize"
 $ background : chr "#F7F7F7"
 $ cache     : logi FALSE
 $ cache.path : chr "cache/"
 $ cache.vars : NULL
 $ cache.lazy : logi TRUE
 $ dependson  : NULL
 $ autodep    : logi FALSE
```

```
$fig.keep : chr "high" $fig.show : chr "asis" $fig.align : chr "default" $fig.path : chr "figure/"
$dev      : NULL $dev.args : NULL $dpi      : num 72 $fig.ext : NULL $fig.width : num 7
$fig.height : num 7 $fig.env   : chr "figure" $fig.cap   : NULL $fig.scap   : NULL
$fig.lp    : chr "fig:" $fig.subcap : NULL $fig.pos   : chr "" $out.width : NULL $out.height : NULL
$out.extra : NULL $fig.retina : num 1 $external : logi TRUE $sanitize : logi FALSE $interval : num 1
$aniopts   : chr "controls,loop" $warning : logi TRUE $error : logi TRUE
$message   : logi TRUE $render   : NULL $ref.label : NULL $child    : NULL $engine : chr "R"
$split     : logi FALSE $include : logi TRUE $purl    : logi TRUE
```

## References

Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/objects>

A list of available options: [http://yihui.name/knitr/options#chunk\\_options](http://yihui.name/knitr/options#chunk_options)

## Examples

```
opts_chunk$get("prompt")
opts_chunk$get("fig.keep")
```

---

opts\_knit

*Options for the knitr package*

---

## Description

Options including whether to use a progress bar when knitting a document, and the base directory of images, etc.

## Usage

```
opts_knit
```

## Format

```
List of 4
 $ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
 $ set      :function (...)
 $ merge    :function (values)
 $ restore  :function (target = value)
```

## Details

Besides the standard usage (`opts_knit$set()`), we can also set package options prior to loading knitr or calling `knit()` using `options()` in base R. A global option `knitr.package.foo` in `options()` will be set as an option `foo` in `opts_knit`, i.e. global options in base R with the prefix `knitr.package.` correspond to options in `opts_knit`. This can be useful to set package options in ‘`~/Rprofile`’ without loading **knitr**.

Below is a list of default package options, retrieved via `opts_knit$get()`:

```
List of 21 $ progress      : logi TRUE $ verbose      : logi FALSE $ out.format    : NULL
$ width      : int 75 $ base.dir    : NULL $ base.url    : NULL $ child.path    : chr "" $ up-
load.fun     :function (x) $ animation.fun  :function (x, options) $ global.device  : logi FALSE
$ eval.after  : NULL $ concordance    : logi FALSE $ tangle      : logi FALSE
$ child      : logi FALSE $ parent     : logi FALSE $ documentation : int 1
$ aliases    : NULL $ root.dir       : NULL $ self.contained  : logi TRUE
$ header     : Named chr [1:3] "" "" "" ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:3] "highlight" "tikz" "framed"
$ unnamed.chunk.label: chr "unnamed-chunk"
```

## References

Usage: <http://yihui.name/knitr/objects>

A list of available options: [http://yihui.name/knitr/options#package\\_options](http://yihui.name/knitr/options#package_options)

## Examples

```
opts_knit$get("verbose")
opts_knit$set(verbose = TRUE) # change it
## Not run:
# for unnamed chunks, use fig as the figure prefix
options(knitr.unnamed.chunk.label = "fig")
knit("001-minimal.Rmd") # from https://github.com/yihui/knitr-examples

## End(Not run)
```

---

opts\_template

*Template for creating reusable chunk options*

---

## Description

Creates a template binding a label to a set of chunk options. Every chunk that references the template label will have the specified set of options applied to it.

## Usage

```
opts_template
```

## Format

```
List of 4
$ get      :function (name, default = FALSE, drop = TRUE)
$ set      :function (...)
$ merge    :function (values)
$ restore  :function (target = value)
```

## Examples

```
opts_template$set(myfigures = list(fig.height = 4, fig.width = 4))
# later you can reuse these chunk options by opts.label, e.g.

# <<foo, opts.label=myfigures>>=

# the above is equivalent to <<foo, fig.height=4, fig.width=4>>=
```

---

pandoc

*A Pandoc wrapper to convert Markdown documents to other formats*


---

## Description

This function calls Pandoc to convert Markdown documents to other formats such as HTML, LaTeX/PDF and Word, etc, (optionally) based on a configuration file or in-file configurations which specify the options to use for Pandoc.

## Usage

```
pandoc(input, format, config = getOption("config.pandoc"), ext = NA,
       encoding = getOption("encoding"))
```

## Arguments

input	a character vector of the Markdown filenames
format	the output format (see References); it can be a character vector of multiple formats; by default, it is obtained from the <code>t</code> field in the configuration (if the configuration is empty or the <code>t</code> field is not found, the default output format will be <code>html</code> )
config	the Pandoc configuration file; if missing, it is assumed to be a file with the same base name as the input file and an extension <code>.pandoc</code> (e.g. for <code>'foo.md'</code> it looks for <code>'foo.pandoc'</code> )
ext	the filename extensions; by default, the extension is inferred from the format, e.g. <code>latex</code> creates <code>pdf</code> , and <code>dzslides</code> creates <code>html</code> , and so on
encoding	the encoding of the input file; see <a href="#">file</a>

## Details

There are two ways to input the Pandoc configurations – through a config file, or embed the configurations in the markdown file as special comments between `<!--pandoc` and `-->`.

The configuration file is a DCF file (see [read.dcf](#)). This file must contain a field named `t` which means the output format. The configurations are written in the form of `tag:value` and passed to Pandoc (if no value is needed, just leave it empty, e.g. the option `standalone` or `s` for short). If there are multiple output formats, write each format and relevant configurations in a block, and separate blocks with blank lines.

If there are multiple records of the `t` field in the configuration, the input markdown file will be converted to all these formats by default, unless the `format` argument is specified as one single format.

**Value**

The output filename(s) (or an error if the conversion failed).

**References**

Pandoc: <http://johnmacfarlane.net/pandoc/>; Examples and rules of the configurations: <http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/pandoc>

**See Also**

[read.dcf](#)

**Examples**

```
system("pandoc -h") # see possible output formats
```

---

pat_rnw	<i>Set regular expressions to read input documents</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

These are convenience functions to set pre-defined pattern lists (the syntax to read input documents). The function names are built from corresponding file extensions, e.g. `pat_rnw()` can set the Sweave syntax to read Rnw documents.

**Usage**

```
pat_rnw()

pat_brew()

pat_tex()

pat_html()

pat_md()

pat_rst()

pat_asciidoc()

pat_textile()
```

**Value**

The patterns object `knit_patterns` is modified as a side effect.

### Examples

```
## see how knit_patterns is modified
knit_patterns$get()
pat_rnw()
knit_patterns$get()

knit_patterns$restore() # empty the list
```

---

plot\_crop

*Crop a plot (remove the edges) using PDFCrop or ImageMagick*

---

### Description

The command `pdfcrop x` is executed on a PDF plot file, and `convert x -trim x` is executed for other types of plot files, where `x` is the plot filename.

### Usage

```
plot_crop(x)
```

### Arguments

`x`                      the plot filename

### Details

The utility `pdfcrop` is often shipped with a LaTeX distribution, and `convert` is a command in ImageMagick (Windows users may have to put the bin path of ImageMagick into the `PATH` variable).

### Value

The original filename.

### References

PDFCrop: <http://pdfcrop.sourceforge.net>; the `convert` command in ImageMagick: <http://www.imagemagick.org/script/convert.php>

---

rand_seed	<i>An unevaluated expression to return .Random.seed if exists</i>
-----------	---

---

### Description

This expression returns `.Random.seed` when `eval(rand_seed)` and `NULL` otherwise.

### Usage

```
rand_seed
```

### Format

```
language { if (exists(".Random.seed", envir = globalenv())) ; get(".Random.seed", envir = globale
```

### Details

It is designed to work with `opts_knit$set(cache.extra = rand_seed)` for reproducibility of chunks that involve with random number generation. See references.

### References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/cache/>

### Examples

```
eval(rand_seed)
rnorm(1) # .Random.seed is created (or modified)
eval(rand_seed)
```

---

read_chunk	<i>Read chunks from an external script</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

Chunks can be put in an external script, and this function reads chunks into the current **knitr** session; `read_demo()` is a convenience function to read a demo script from a package.

### Usage

```
read_chunk(path, lines = readLines(path, warn = FALSE), labels = NULL, from = NULL,
  to = NULL, from.offset = 0L, to.offset = 0L)
```

```
read_demo(topic, package = NULL, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>path</code>	the path to the R script
<code>lines</code>	a character vector of the code lines (by default read from <code>path</code> )
<code>labels</code>	a character vector of chunk labels (default <code>NULL</code> )
<code>from,to</code>	a numeric vector specifying the starting/ending line numbers of code chunks, or a character vector; see Details
<code>from.offset,to.offset</code>	an offset to be added to <code>from/to</code>
<code>topic,package</code>	name of the demo and the package see <a href="#">demo</a>
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <a href="#">read_chunk</a>

## Details

There are two approaches to read external code into the current session: (1) Use a special separator of the form `## ---- chunk-label` (at least four dashes before the chunk label) in the script; (2) Manually specify the labels, starting and ending positions of code chunks in the script.

The second approach will be used only when `labels` is not `NULL`. For this approach, if `from` is `NULL`, the starting position is 1; if `to` is `NULL`, each of its element takes the next element of `from` minus 1, and the last element of `to` will be the length of `lines` (e.g. when `from = c(1, 3, 8)` and the script has 10 lines in total, `to` will be `c(2, 7, 10)`). Alternatively, `from` and `to` can be character vectors as regular expressions to specify the positions; when their length is 1, the single regular expression will be matched against the `lines` vector, otherwise each element of `from/to` is matched against `lines` and the match is supposed to be unique so that the numeric positions returned from `grep()` will be of the same length of `from/to`. Note `labels` always has to match the length of `from` and `to`.

## Value

As a side effect, code chunks are read into the current session so that future chunks can (re)use the code by chunk label references.

## Note

This function can only be used in a chunk which is *not* cached (chunk option `cache = FALSE`), and the code is read and stored in the current session *without* being executed (to actually run the code, you have to use a chunk with a corresponding label).

## Author(s)

Yihui Xie; the idea of the second approach came from Peter Ruckdeschel (author of the **SweaveListingUtils** package)

## References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/externalization/>



## Examples

```
## put this in foo.R and read_chunk(foo.R)

## ---- my-label ----
1 + 1
lm(y ~ x, data = data.frame(x = 1:10, y = rnorm(10)))

## later you can use <<my-label>>= to reference this chunk

## the 2nd approach
code = c("#@a", "1+1", "#@b", "#@a", "rnorm(10)", "#@b")
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = "foo") # put all code into one chunk named foo
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = "foo", from = 2, to = 2) # line 2 into chunk foo
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = c("foo", "bar"), from = c(1, 4), to = c(3, 6))
# automatically figure out to
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = c("foo", "bar"), from = c(1, 4))
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = c("foo", "bar"), from = "^#@a", to = "^#@b")
read_chunk(lines = code, labels = c("foo", "bar"), from = "^#@a", to = "^#@b",
  from.offset = 1, to.offset = -1)

## later you can use, e.g., <<foo>>=
knitr::knit_code$get() # use this to check chunks in the current session
knitr::knit_code$restore() # clean up the session
```

---

read\_rforge

---

*Read source code from R-Forge*


---

## Description

This function reads source code from the SVN repositories on R-Forge.

## Usage

```
read_rforge(path, project, extra = "")
```

## Arguments

path	relative path to the source script on R-Forge
project	name of the R-Forge project
extra	extra parameters to be passed to the URL (e.g. extra = &revision=48 to check out the source of revision 48)

## Value

A character vector of the source code.

## Author(s)

Yihui Xie and Peter Ruckdeschel

## Examples

```
## Not run:
read_rforge("rgl/R/axes.R", project = "rgl")
read_rforge("rgl/R/axes.R", project = "rgl", extra = "&revision=519")

## End(Not run)
```

---

render\_asciidoc

*Set output hooks for different output formats*


---

## Description

These functions set built-in output hooks for LaTeX, HTML, Markdown, reStructuredText, AsciiDoc and Textile.

## Usage

```
render_asciidoc()

render_html()

render_latex()

render_sweave()

render_listings()

render_markdown(strict = FALSE)

render_jekyll(highlight = c("pygments", "prettify", "none"), extra = "")

render_rst(strict = FALSE)

render_textile()
```

## Arguments

strict	whether to use strict markdown or reST syntax; for markdown: if TRUE, code blocks will be indented by 4 spaces, otherwise they are put in fences made by three backticks; for reST, if TRUE, code is put under two colons and indented by 4 spaces, otherwise is put under the ‘sourcecode’ directive (e.g. it is useful for Sphinx)
highlight	which code highlighting engine to use: for pygments, the Liquid syntax is used (default approach Jekyll); for prettify, the output is prepared for the JavaScript library ‘prettify.js’; for none, no highlighting engine will be used (code blocks are indented by 4 spaces)
extra	extra tags for the highlighting engine; for pygments, it can be linenos; for prettify, it can be linenums

## Details

There are three variants of markdown documents: ordinary markdown (`render_markdown(strict = TRUE)`), extended markdown (e.g. GitHub Flavored Markdown and pandoc; `render_markdown(strict = FALSE)`), and Jekyll (a blogging system on GitHub; `render_jekyll()`). For LaTeX output, there are three variants as well: **knitr**'s default style (`render_latex()`; use the LaTeX **framed** package), Sweave style (`render_sweave()`; use 'Sweave.sty') and listings style (`render_listings()`; use LaTeX **listings** package). Default HTML output hooks are set by `render_html()`; `render_rst()` and `render_asciidoc()` are for reStructuredText and AsciiDoc respectively.

These functions can be used before `knit()` or in the first chunk of the input document (ideally this chunk has options `include = FALSE` and `cache = FALSE`) so that all the following chunks will be formatted as expected.

You can use [knit\\_hooks](#) to further customize output hooks; see references.

## Value

NULL; corresponding hooks are set as a side effect

## References

See output hooks in <http://yihui.name/knitr/hooks>.

Jekyll and Liquid: <https://github.com/mojombo/jekyll/wiki/Liquid-Extensions>; prettify.js: <http://code.google.com/p/google-code-prettify/>

---

rocco

*Knit R Markdown using the classic Docco style*


---

## Description

The classic Docco style is a two-column layout, with text in the left and code in the right column.

## Usage

```
rocco(input, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>input</code>	path of the input R Markdown file
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <a href="#">knit2html</a>

## Details

The output HTML page supports resizing and hiding/showing the two columns. Move the cursor to the center of the page, and it will change to a bidirectional resize cursor; drag the cursor to resize the two columns. Press the key `t` to hide the code column (show the text column only), and press again to hide the text column (show code).

**Value**

An HTML file is written, and its name is returned.

**Author(s)**

Weicheng Zhu and Yihui Xie

**References**

The Docco package by Jeremy Ashkenas: <https://github.com/jashkenas/docco>

**Examples**

```
rocco_view = function(input) {
  if (!file.exists(input))
    return()
  o = rocco(input, header = "", quiet = TRUE)
  if (interactive())
    browseURL(o)
}
# knit these two vignettes using the docco style
rocco_view(system.file("doc", "docco-classic.Rmd", package = "knitr"))
rocco_view(system.file("doc", "knit_expand.Rmd", package = "knitr"))
```

---

rst2pdf

*A wrapper for rst2pdf*


---

**Description**

Convert reST to PDF using rst2pdf (which converts from rst to PDF using the ReportLab open-source library).

**Usage**

```
rst2pdf(input, command = "rst2pdf", options = "")
```

**Arguments**

input	the input rst file
command	a character string which gives the path of the rst2pdf program (if it is not in PATH, the full path has to be given)
options	extra command line options, e.g. -v

**Value**

An input file ‘\*.rst’ will produce ‘\*.pdf’ and this output filename is returned if the conversion was successful.

**Author(s)**

Alex Zvoleff and Yihui Xie

**References**

<http://rst2pdf.ralsina.com.ar/>

**See Also**

[knit2pdf](#)

---

set\_alias

*Set aliases for chunk options*

---

**Description**

We do not have to use the chunk option names given in **knitr**; we can set aliases for them. The `aliases` is a named character vector; the names are aliases and the elements in this vector are the real option names.

**Usage**

```
set_alias(...)
```

**Arguments**

...                    named arguments (argument names are aliases, and argument values are real chunk options)

**Value**

NULL (`opts_knit$get(aliases)` is modified as the side effect)

**Examples**

```
set_alias(w = "fig.width", h = "fig.height")
# then we can use options w and h in chunk headers instead of fig.width and
# fig.height
```

---

set_header	<i>Set the header information</i>
------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

Some output documents may need appropriate header information. For example, for LaTeX output, we need to write ‘\usepackage{tikz}’ into the preamble if we use tikz graphics; this function sets the header information to be written into the output.

## Usage

```
set_header(...)
```

## Arguments

... the header components; currently possible components are highlight, tikz and framed, which contain the necessary commands to be used in the HTML header or LaTeX preamble; note HTML output does not use the tikz and framed components (they do not make sense to HTML)

## Details

By default, **knitr** will set up the header automatically. For example, if the tikz device is used, **knitr** will add ‘\usepackage{tikz}’ to the LaTeX preamble, and this is done by setting the header component tikz to be a character string: `set_header(tikz = \usepackage{tikz})`. Similarly, when we highlight R code using the **highlight** package (i.e. the chunk option `highlight = TRUE`), **knitr** will set the highlight component of the header vector automatically; if the output type is HTML, this component will be different – instead of LaTeX commands, it contains CSS definitions.

For power users, all the components can be modified to adapt to a customized type of output. For instance, we can change highlight to LaTeX definitions of the **listings** package (and modify the output hooks accordingly), so we can decorate R code using the **listings** package.

## Value

The header vector in `opts_knit` is set.

## Examples

```
set_header(tikz = "\\usepackage{tikz}")
opts_knit$get("header")
```

---

set_parent	<i>Specify the parent document of child documents</i>
------------	---

---

## Description

This function extracts the LaTeX preamble of the parent document to use for the child document, so that the child document can be compiled as an individual document.

## Usage

```
set_parent(parent)
```

## Arguments

parent	path to the parent document (relative to the current child document)
--------	--

## Details

When the preamble of the parent document also contains code chunks and inline R code, they will be evaluated as if they were in this child document. For examples, when **knitr** hooks or other options are set in the preamble of the parent document, it will apply to the child document as well.

## Value

The preamble is extracted and stored to be used later when the complete output is written.

## Note

Obviously this function is only useful when the output format is LaTeX. This function only works when the child document is compiled in a standalone mode using `knit()` (instead of being called in `knit_child()`); when the parent document is compiled, this function in the child document will be ignored.

## References

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/child/>

## Examples

```
## can use, e.g. \Sexpr{set_parent(parent_doc.Rnw)} or  
  
# <<setup-child, include=FALSE>>=  
  
# set_parent(parent_doc.Rnw)  
  
# @
```

spin

*Spin goat's hair into wool***Description**

This function takes a specially formatted R script and converts it to a literate programming document. By default normal text (documentation) should be written after the roxygen comment (#) and code chunk options are written after #+ or #- or # ----.

**Usage**

```
spin(hair, knit = TRUE, report = TRUE, text = NULL, envir = parent.frame(),
     format = c("Rmd", "Rnw", "Rhtml", "Rtex", "Rrst"), doc = "^#[ ]?",
     inline = "^[{][{](.+)[]][ ]*$", comment = c("^[# ]*/[*]", "^..*[*]/ *$"),
     precious = !knit && is.null(text))
```

**Arguments**

hair	the path to the R script
knit	logical: whether to compile the document after conversion
report	logical: whether to generate report for 'Rmd', 'Rnw' and 'Rtex' output (ignored if knit = FALSE)
text	a character vector as an alternative way to hair to provide the R source; if text is not NULL, hair will be ignored
envir	the environment for <code>knit()</code> to evaluate the code
format	character: the output format (it takes five possible values); the default is R Markdown
doc	a regular expression to identify the documentation lines; by default it follows the roxygen convention, but it can be customized, e.g. if you want to use ## to denote documentation, you can use <code>^##\\s*</code>
inline	a regular expression to identify inline R expressions; by default, code of the form <code>((code))</code> on its own line is treated as an inline expression
comment	a pair of regular expressions for the start and end delimiters of comments; the lines between a start and an end delimiter will be ignored; by default, the delimiters are <code>/*</code> in the beginning and <code>*/</code> in the end of a line (following the convention of C comments)
precious	logical: whether intermediate files (e.g., .Rmd files when format is "Rmd") should be removed; default TRUE if knit == TRUE and input is a file

**Details**

Obviously the goat's hair is the original R script, and the wool is the literate programming document (ready to be knitted).



**Value**

If text is NULL, the path of the final output document, otherwise the content of the output.

**Note**

If the output format is Rnw and no document class is specified in roxygen comments, this function will automatically add the article class to the LaTeX document so that it is complete and can be compiled. You can always specify the document class and other LaTeX settings in roxygen comments manually.

**Author(s)**

Yihui Xie, with the original idea from Richard FitzJohn (who named it as sowsear() which meant to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear)

**References**

<http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/stitch/>

**See Also**

[stitch](#) (feed a template with an R script)

**Examples**

```
# write normal text like this and chunk options like below

# + label, opt=value

# /*
# these lines are treated as comments in spin()
1 + 1
# */

(s = system.file("examples", "knitr-spin.R", package = "knitr"))
spin(s) # default markdown
o = spin(s, knit = FALSE) # convert only; do not make a purse yet
knit2html(o) # compile to HTML

# other formats
spin(s, FALSE, format = "Rnw") # you need to write documentclass after #
spin(s, FALSE, format = "Rhtml")
spin(s, FALSE, format = "Rtex")
spin(s, FALSE, format = "Rrst")
```

---

stitch	<i>Automatically create a report based on an R script and a template</i>
--------	--

---

## Description

This is a convenience function for small-scale automatic reporting based on an R script and a template. The default template is an Rnw file (LaTeX); `stitch_rhtml()` and `stitch_rmd()` are wrappers on top of `stitch()` using the R HTML and R Markdown templates respectively.

## Usage

```
stitch(script, template = system.file("misc", "knitr-template.Rnw", package = "knitr"),
       output = NULL, text = NULL, envir = parent.frame())

stitch_rhtml(...)

stitch_rmd(...)
```

## Arguments

<code>script</code>	path to the R script
<code>template</code>	path of the template to use (by default the Rnw template in this package; there is also an HTML template in <b>knitr</b> )
<code>output</code>	the output filename (passed to <b>knitr</b> ); by default it uses the base filename of the script
<code>...</code>	arguments passed to <code>stitch()</code>
<code>text</code>	a character vector as an alternative way to provide the input file
<code>envir</code>	the environment in which the code chunks are to be evaluated (can use <a href="#">new.env()</a> to guarantee an empty new environment)

## Details

The first two lines of the R script can contain the title and author of the report in comments of the form ‘## title:’ and ‘## author:’. The template must have a token ‘%SCHUNK\_LABEL\_HERE’, which will be used to input all the R code from the script. See the examples below.

The R script may contain chunk headers of the form ‘## ---- label’, which will be copied to the template; if no chunk headers are found, the whole R script will be inserted into the template as one code chunk.

## Value

path of the output document

## See Also

[spin](#) (turn a specially formatted R script to a report)

## Examples

```
s = system.file("misc", "stitch-test.R", package = "knitr")
## Not run:
stitch(s)

## End(Not run)

# HTML report
stitch(s, system.file("misc", "knitr-template.Rhtml", package = "knitr"))

# or convert markdown to HTML
stitch(s, system.file("misc", "knitr-template.Rmd", package = "knitr"))
```

---

Sweave2knitr

---

*Convert Sweave to knitr documents*


---

## Description

This function converts an Sweave document to a **knitr**-compatible document.

## Usage

```
Sweave2knitr(file, output = gsub("[.]([^.]+)$", "-knitr.\\1", file),
  encoding = getOption("encoding"), text = NULL)
```

## Arguments

file	the filename of the Rnw file
output	the output filename (by default 'file.Rnw' produces 'file-knitr.Rnw'); if text is not NULL, no output file will be produced
encoding	the encoding of the Rnw file
text	an alternative way to provide the Sweave code as a character string (if provided, the file will be ignored)

## Details

The pseudo command '`\SweaveInput{file.Rnw}`' is converted to a code chunk header `<<child=file.Rnw>>=`. Similarly '`\SweaveOpts{opt = value}`' is converted to a code chunk '`opts_chunk$set(opt = value)`' with the chunk option `include = FALSE`; the options are automatically fixed in the same way as local chunk options (explained below).

The Sweave package '`\usepackage{Sweave}`' in the preamble is removed because it is not required.

Chunk options are updated if necessary: option values `true` and `false` are changed to `TRUE` and `FALSE` respectively; `fig=TRUE` is removed because it is not necessary for **knitr** (plots will be automatically generated); `fig=FALSE` is changed to `fig.keep=none`; the devices `pdf/jpeg/png/eps/tikz=TRUE` are converted to `dev=pdf/jpeg/png/postscript/tikz`; `pdf/jpeg/png/eps/tikz=FALSE` are removed; `results=tex/verbatim/hide` are changed to `results=asis/markup/hide`; `width/height`

are changed to `fig.width/fig.height`; `prefix.string` is changed to `fig.path`; `print/term/prefix=TRUE/FALSE` are removed; most of the character options (e.g. `engine` and `out.width`) are quoted; `keep.source=TRUE/FALSE` is changed to `tidy=FALSE/TRUE` (note the order of values).

If a line `@` (it closes a chunk) directly follows a previous `@`, it is removed; if a line `@` appears before a code chunk and no chunk is before it, it is also removed, because **knitr** only uses one `@` after `'<<>='` by default (which is not the original Noweb syntax but more natural).

## Value

If `text` is `NULL`, the output file is written and `NULL` is returned, otherwise the converted text string is returned.

## Note

If `'\SweaveOpts{'` spans across multiple lines, it will not be fixed, and you have to fix it manually. The LaTeX-style syntax of Sweave chunks are ignored (see `?SweaveSyntaxLatex`); only the Noweb syntax is supported.

## References

The motivation of the changes in the syntax: <http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/sweave/>

## See Also

[Sweave](#), [gsub](#)

## Examples

```
Sweave2knitr(text = "<<echo=TRUE>>=") # this is valid
Sweave2knitr(text = "<<png=true>>=") # dev=png
Sweave2knitr(text = "<<eps=TRUE, pdf=FALSE, results=tex, width=5, prefix.string=foo>>=")
Sweave2knitr(text = "<<,png=false,fig=TRUE>>=")
Sweave2knitr(text = "\\SweaveOpts{echo=false}")
Sweave2knitr(text = "\\SweaveInput{hello.Rnw}")
# Sweave example in utils
testfile = system.file("Sweave", "Sweave-test-1.Rnw", package = "utils")
Sweave2knitr(testfile, output = "Sweave-test-knitr.Rnw")
knit("Sweave-test-knitr.Rnw") # or knit2pdf() directly
```

---

wrap\_rmd

---

*Wrap long lines in Rmd files*


---

## Description

This function wraps long paragraphs in an R Markdown file. Other elements are not wrapped: the YAML preamble, fenced code blocks, section headers and indented elements. The main reason for wrapping long lines is to make it easier to review differences in version control.

**Usage**

```
wrap_rmd(file, width = 80, text = NULL, backup)
```

**Arguments**

file	the input Rmd file
width	the expected line width
text	an alternative to file to input the text lines
backup	the path to back up the original file (in case anything goes wrong); if NULL, it is ignored; by default it is constructed from file by adding __ before the base filename

**Value**

If file is provided, it is overwritten; if text is provided, a character vector is returned.

**Note**

Currently it does not wrap blockquotes or lists (ordered or unordered). This feature may or may not be added in the future.

**Examples**

```
wrap_rmd(text = c("", "1+1", "", "- a list item", "> a quote", "",
  paste(rep("this is a normal paragraph", 5), collapse = " ")))
```

---

write\_bib

---

*Generate BibTeX bibliography databases for R packages*


---

**Description**

This function uses [citation](#) and [toBibtex](#) to create bib entries for R packages and write them in a file. Only the auto-generated citations are included for a package. This function can facilitate the auto-generation of bibliography databases for R packages, and it is easy to regenerate all the citations after updating R packages.

**Usage**

```
write_bib(x = .packages(), file = "", tweak = TRUE,
  prefix = getOption("knitr.bib.prefix", "R-"))
```

## Arguments

x	package names (packages which are not installed are ignored)
file	the (‘.bib’) file to write (by default writes to the R console; ignored if it is NULL)
tweak	whether to fix some known problems in the citations, especially non-standard format of authors
prefix	a prefix string for keys in BibTeX entries; by default, it is ‘R-’ unless <code>option(knitr.bib.prefix)</code> has been set to another string

## Details

The citation is forced to be generated from the DESCRIPTION file of the package, the keyword ‘R-pkgname’ is used for the bib item where ‘pkgname’ is the name of the package.

## Value

a list containing the citations (also written to the file as a side effect)

## Note

Some packages on CRAN do not have standard bib entries, which was once reported by Michael Friendly at <https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-devel/2010-November/058977.html>. I find this a real pain, and there are no easy solutions except contacting package authors to modify their DESCRIPTION files. Anyway, the argument tweak has provided ugly hacks to deal with packages which are known to be non-standard in terms of the format of citations; tweak = TRUE is by no means intended to hide or modify the original citation information. It is just due to the loose requirements on package authors for the DESCRIPTION file. On one hand, I apologize if it really mangles the information about certain packages; on the other, I strongly recommend package authors to consider the ‘Authors@R’ field (see the manual *Writing R Extensions*) to make it easier for other people to cite R packages. See `knitr:::tweak.bib` for details of tweaks. Also note this is subject to future changes since R packages are being updated.

## Author(s)

Yihui Xie and Michael Friendly

## Examples

```
write_bib(c("RGtk2", "gWidgets"), file = "R-GUI-pkgs.bib")
write_bib(c("animation", "rgl", "knitr", "ggplot2"))
write_bib(c("base", "parallel", "MASS")) # base and parallel are identical
write_bib("cluster", prefix = "") # a empty prefix
write_bib("digest", prefix = "R-pkg-") # a new prefix
write_bib(c("rpart", "survival"))
write_bib(c("rpart", "survival"), tweak = FALSE) # original version

# what tweak=TRUE does
str(knitr:::tweak.bib)
```

# Index

## \*Topic **datasets**

- all\_patterns, 4
- knit\_engines, 25
- knit\_hooks, 28
- knit\_patterns, 29
- knit\_theme, 32
- opts\_chunk, 33
- opts\_knit, 34
- opts\_template, 35
- rand\_seed, 39

all\_labels, 4

all\_patterns, 4, 29

as.character, 6

asis\_output, 6, 30

citation, 53

current\_input, 6

demo, 40

dep\_auto, 7, 8

dep\_prev, 7, 8

eclipse\_theme, 8, 32

fig\_path, 9

file, 19, 21–23, 36

grep, 29

gsub, 52

hook\_ffmpeg\_html, 10

hook\_movecode, 11

hook\_optipng (hook\_rgl), 13

hook\_pdfcrop (hook\_rgl), 13

hook\_plot\_asciidoc, 12

hook\_plot\_custom, 12, 13

hook\_plot\_custom (hook\_rgl), 13

hook\_plot\_html (hook\_plot\_asciidoc), 12

hook\_plot\_md (hook\_plot\_asciidoc), 12

hook\_plot\_rst (hook\_plot\_asciidoc), 12

hook\_plot\_tex (hook\_plot\_asciidoc), 12

hook\_plot\_textile (hook\_plot\_asciidoc), 12

hook\_purl (hook\_rgl), 13

hook\_r2swf (hook\_ffmpeg\_html), 10

hook\_rgl, 13

hook\_scianimator (hook\_ffmpeg\_html), 10

hook\_webgl (hook\_rgl), 13

iconv, 23

image\_uri, 15

imgur\_upload, 15

kable, 17, 30

knit, 4, 6, 7, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 47, 48, 50

knit2html, 20, 43

knit2pdf, 21, 45

knit2wp, 23

knit\_child, 20, 24, 47

knit\_engines, 25

knit\_exit, 26

knit\_expand, 26

knit\_global, 27

knit\_hooks, 28, 43

knit\_meta, 28

knit\_patterns, 5, 19, 29, 37

knit\_print, 6, 30

knit\_rd, 31

knit\_rd\_all (knit\_rd), 31

knit\_theme, 9, 32

knitr (knitr-package), 3

knitr-package, 3

ls, 27

markdownToHTML, 20, 21

new.env, 19, 21, 22, 50

normal\_print (knit\_print), 30

option, 54  
options, 34  
opts\_chunk, 14, 33  
opts\_current (opts\_chunk), 33  
opts\_knit, 20, 34  
opts\_template, 35  
  
pandoc, 36  
par, 14  
pat\_asciidoc (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_brew (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_html (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_md (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_rnw, 19, 20, 37  
pat\_rst (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_tex (pat\_rnw), 37  
pat\_textile (pat\_rnw), 37  
plot\_crop, 38  
purl, 14  
purl (knit), 18  
  
rand\_seed, 39  
Rd2HTML, 31  
read.dcf, 36, 37  
read\_chunk, 14, 39, 40  
read\_demo (read\_chunk), 39  
read\_rforge, 41  
recordPlot, 12, 14  
render\_asciidoc, 42  
render\_html (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_jekyll (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_latex, 19, 20  
render\_latex (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_listings (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_markdown (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_rst (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_sweave (render\_asciidoc), 42  
render\_textile (render\_asciidoc), 42  
rgl.postscript, 14  
rgl.snapshot, 14  
rocco, 43  
rst2pdf, 22, 44  
  
set\_alias, 45  
set\_header, 46  
set\_parent, 47  
spin, 48, 50  
Stangle, 19  
stitch, 49, 50  
stitch\_rhtml (stitch), 50  
stitch\_rmd (stitch), 50  
Sweave, 52  
Sweave2knitr, 4, 51  
system, 25  
  
texi2pdf, 22  
toBibtex, 53  
  
wrap\_rmd, 52  
write\_bib, 53  
writeWebGL, 14