

# Package ‘pathological’

October 8, 2015

**Type** Package

**Title** Path Manipulation Utilities

**Version** 0.0-7

**Date** 2015-10-08

**Author** Richard Cotton [aut, cre], Janko Thyson [ctb]

**Maintainer** Richard Cotton <richierocks@gmail.com>

**Description** Utilities for paths, files and directories.

**URL** <https://github.com/richierocks/pathological>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/richierocks/pathological/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 2.15.0)

**Imports** assertive.base (>= 0.0-3), assertive.properties,  
assertive.types, assertive.files, assertive.reflection,  
assertive.strings, plyr, stringr (>= 1.0.0), utils

**Suggests** testthat

**License** Unlimited

**LazyLoad** yes

**Acknowledgments** Development of this package was partially funded by the Proteomics Core at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar <<http://qatar-weill.cornell.edu>>. The Core is supported by 'Biomedical Research Program' funds, a program funded by Qatar Foundation.

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2015-10-08 19:43:07

## R topics documented:

choose_dir . . . . .	2
copy_dir . . . . .	3

create_dirs . . . . .	4
cygwinify_path . . . . .	5
decompose_path . . . . .	6
get_drive . . . . .	7
get_libraries . . . . .	8
is_windows_drive . . . . .	8
os_path . . . . .	9
parent_dir . . . . .	10
pathological . . . . .	11
r_environ . . . . .	11
r_home . . . . .	12
split_path . . . . .	13
standardize_path . . . . .	13
system_file . . . . .	14
sys_which . . . . .	15
temp_dir . . . . .	16

<b>Index</b>	<b>17</b>
--------------	-----------

---

choose_dir	<i>Choose files interactively</i>
------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

Choose one or more files or a directory interactively using a pop-up dialog.

## Usage

```
choose_dir(default = "", sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

```
choose_files(default = "", multi = FALSE, sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

## Arguments

default	The default file to be selected. See the Details section of <code>choose.files</code> for how to specify. Only on Windows.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.
multi	Logical value indicating if multiple files can be selected. Only on Windows.

## Value

A character vector of standardized file paths that were chosen.

## Note

`choose_files` uses `choose.files` under Windows and `file.choose` under other platforms.

**Examples**

```
choose_files()
if(assertive.reflection::is_windows())
{
  choose_dir()
}
```

---

`copy_dir`*Copy the contents of a directory*

---

**Description**

Copies the contents of a directory, possibly recursively.

**Usage**

```
copy_dir(source_dir, target_dir, pattern = NULL, overwrite = FALSE,
         recursive = TRUE)
```

```
dir_copy(...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>source_dir</code>	String of directory to copy from.
<code>target_dir</code>	String of directory to copy to.
<code>pattern</code>	String regex or NULL. A filter for filenames, passed to <code>dir</code> .
<code>overwrite</code>	Logical value. Should existing files be overwritten?
<code>recursive</code>	Logical value. Should subdirectories and their contents be copied?
<code>...</code>	Passed from the deprecated <code>dir_copy</code> to <code>copy_dir</code> .

**Value**

A logical vector of whether or not each file was successfully copied is invisibly returned.

**Note**

Target directories that don't exist are created, silently (assuming write permission).

**See Also**

[basename](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
#Copy subdirs by default
copy_dir(R.home("etc"), file.path(tempdir(), "etc"))
#Just copy the top level
copy_dir(R.home("etc"), file.path(tempdir(), "etc2"), recursive = FALSE)
#Now copy deeper levels, without overwriting.
copy_dir(R.home("etc"), file.path(tempdir(), "etc2"), overwrite = FALSE)
#Cleanup
unlink(file.path(tempdir(), "etc"), recursive = TRUE)
unlink(file.path(tempdir(), "etc2"), recursive = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

create\_dirs

*Create or remove directories*


---

**Description**

A vectorized version of `dir.create`, and `unlink` with more convenient defaults.

**Usage**

```
create_dirs(x = temp_file(pattern = "dir"))

remove_dirs(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` A character vector of paths of directories to create/remove. For `create_dirs`, it defaults to a directory inside `tempdir()`.

**Value**

A logical vector of successes of failures.

**Note**

`unlink`, and consequently `remove_dirs`, sometimes fails to remove empty directories. See [https://bugs.r-project.org/bugzilla3/show\\_bug.cgi?id=16287](https://bugs.r-project.org/bugzilla3/show_bug.cgi?id=16287).

**See Also**

`dir.create`, `unlink`

**Examples**

```
dirs <- file.path(temp_dir(), c("foo", "bar/baz"))
create_dirs(dirs)

# Check this worked:
assert_all_are_dirs(dirs)

# Clean up
remove_dirs(dirs)
```

---

cygwinify_path	<i>Make a path suitable for cygwin</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

By default, cygwin complains about standard paths. This function converts paths to a form that cygwin likes.

**Usage**

```
cygwinify_path(x = dir())
```

**Arguments**

**x** A character vector of file paths. Defaults to files in the current directory.

**Value**

A character vector of the cygwinified inputs.

**See Also**

`standardize_path`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
cygwinify_path(c("c:/Program Files", "\\some/network/drive"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

decompose_path	<i>Split a path into its components</i>
----------------	---

---

### Description

decompose\_path splits a path into the directory name, filename without extension, and extension. strip\_extension, get\_extension and replace\_extension provide shortcuts to manipulate the file extension. recompose\_path takes the result of decompose\_path and returns complete paths.

### Usage

```
decompose_path(x = dir())

get_extension(x = dir())

recompose_path(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'decomposed_path'
recompose_path(x, ...)

replace_extension(x = dir(), new_extension, include_dir = NA)

strip_extension(x = dir(), include_dir = NA)
```

### Arguments

x	A character vector of file paths. Defaults to files in the current directory.
...	Not currently used.
new_extension	A new extension to replace the existing ones.
include_dir	Should the directory part of the path be included? If NA, the default, keep the directory from the input. If TRUE, standardize the directory. If FALSE, strip the directory.

### Value

decompose\_path returns a character matrix with three columns named "dirname", "filename" and "extension". strip\_extension returns a character vector of the filename, possibly with a directory (see include\_dir argument). replace\_extension returns a character vector of the filename with a new extension, possibly with a directory (see include\_dir argument). get\_extension returns a character vector of the third column. recompose\_path returns a character vector of paths.

### Examples

```
x <- c(
  "somedir/foo.tgz",      # single extension
  "another dir\\bar.tar.gz", # double extension
  "baz",                  # no extension
```

```

"quux. quuux.tbz2",      # single ext, dots in filename
R.home(),                # a dir
"~",                     # another dir
"~/quuuux.tar.xz",      # a file in a dir
"",                       # empty
".",                     # current dir
"..",                    # parent dir
NA_character_,           # missing
)
(decomposed <- decompose_path(x))
get_extension(x)
strip_extension(x)
strip_extension(x, FALSE)
recompose_path(decomposed)

```

---

get\_drive

*On Windows, return the drive of the path*


---

## Description

On a Windows system, this returns the drive letter of the path followed by a colon. On other systems, it returns a single forward slash.

## Usage

```
get_drive(x = getwd())
```

## Arguments

`x` A character vector of file paths. Defaults to the current directory.

## Value

A character vector of drive paths on Windows systems, or forward slashes on Unix-based systems.

## See Also

[is\\_windows\\_drive](#)

## Examples

```
get_drive(c("~", r_home(), temp_dir()))
```

---

get_libraries	<i>Get the libraries on your machine</i>
---------------	--

---

**Description**

Wrapper to `.libPaths` that gets all the libraries that R knows about on your machine.

**Usage**

```
get_libraries(index = TRUE, sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

index	A numeric or logical vector specifying the index of the libraries to return. By default, all libraries are returned.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A character vector of paths to libraries.

**References**

[http://cran.r-project.org/doc/FAQ/R-FAQ.html#What-is-the-difference-between-package-and-library\\_003f](http://cran.r-project.org/doc/FAQ/R-FAQ.html#What-is-the-difference-between-package-and-library_003f)

**See Also**

[.libPaths](#)

**Examples**

```
get_libraries()
get_libraries(1)
```

---

is_windows_drive	<i>Is the path a Windows drive?</i>
------------------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Checks to see if the path is a Windows drive.

**Usage**

```
is_windows_drive(x)
```



**Arguments**

`x` A character vector of file paths. Defaults to files in the current directory.

**Value**

A logical vector, TRUE when the path is a Windows drive name. On non-Windows machines, the return value is FALSE everywhere.

**Note**

The check is done by regular expression: values are considered to be Windows drive name if they consist of a letter followed by a colon, optionally followed by a slash or backslash. Paths are standardized before checking, so `.` and `..` are resolved to their actual locations rather than always returning FALSE.

**See Also**

[get\\_drive](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- c("c:", "c:/", "c:\\", "C:", "C:/", "C:\\", "c:/c", "cc:", NA)
# Warnings about OS suppressed so package checks pass on non-Windows systems.
suppressWarnings(is_windows_drive(x))
```

---

os\_path

*The OS path*


---

**Description**

The locations in the operating system PATH environment variable.

**Usage**

```
os_path(sep = c("/", "\\"), standardize = TRUE, splitter = if
(is_windows()) ";" else ":")
```

**Arguments**

`sep` String separator between directory levels in the output.

`standardize` Should the paths be standardized?

`splitter` The character to split the PATH environment variable on. Defaults to a semi-colon on Windows systems and a colon elsewhere.

**Value**

A character vector of paths.

**See Also**[Sys.getenv](#)**Examples**

```
os_path()
```

---

parent\_dir

*Get the parent dir*

---

**Description**

Gets the parent directory of the input.

**Usage**

```
parent_dir(x, sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

x	A character vector of file paths.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A character vector of parent directories of the input.

**Note**

Missing values are returned as missing. On Windows, the parent of a drive, e.g., "c:/" is itself. Likewise, under Unix, the parent of "/" is itself.

**Examples**

```
(x <- c(
  sys_which("R"),
  r_home(),
  r_profile_site(),
  "c:/", # different behaviour under Windows/Unix
  "~",
  "/",
  "foo/bar/nonexistent",
  NA
))
parent_dir(x)
```

---

pathological	<i>pathological: utilities for paths, files and directories.</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

This package contains utilities for manipulating paths, files and directories.

**Details**

`decompose_path` splits a path into the directory name, filename without extension, and extension. `strip_extension` and `get_extension` provide shortcuts to the second and third parts of the filename. `recompose_path` takes the result of `decompose_path` and returns complete paths.

`copy_dir` copies the contents of a directory, possibly recursively.

**Author(s)**

Richie Cotton

---

<code>r_environ</code>	<i>Get the location of the R profile/environ</i>
------------------------	--

---

**Description**

Gets the location of the user or site R profile and environ startup files.

**Usage**

```
r_environ(sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

```
r_environ_site(sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

```
r_profile(sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

```
r_profile_site(sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

`sep` String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A string giving the path the ".Rprofile", ".Renviron", "Rprofile.site", or ".Renviron.site". If the file cannot be found, NA is returned.

**See Also**

[Startup](#) for how this is calculated.

**Examples**

```
r_environ()
r_environ_site()
r_profile()
r_profile_site()
```

---

r\_home

*The R home directory*

---

**Description**

Return a path to a file in the R home directory. A vectorized, standardized version of R.home.

**Usage**

```
r_home(component = "home", ..., sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

component	"home" for the root of the R installation directory, or the name of a subdirectory.
...	Further subdirectories passed to file.path.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A character vector of paths inside the R installation dir.

**See Also**

[R.home](#)

**Examples**

```
r_home()
r_home("etc", "Rprofile.site")
r_home(c("home", "bin", "share"), c("", "i386", "zoneinfo"))
```

---

split_path	<i>Split a path into directory components</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

Splits a character vector of paths into directory components. The opposite of [file.path](#).

**Usage**

```
split_path(x = dir())
```

**Arguments**

x                    A character vector of file paths. Defaults to files in the current directory.

**Value**

A named list of character vectors containing the split paths.

**Note**

Paths are split on forward and back slashes, except for double forward or back slashes at the start of (UNC) paths. These are included in the first element of that split path.

**Examples**

```
(splits <- split_path(c(getwd(), "~", r_home())))  
# Reverse the operation  
sapply(splits, paste, collapse = "/")
```

---

standardize_path	<i>Standardize paths</i>
------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Standardi[sz]e path names so that they can be more easily compared.

**Usage**

```
standardize_path(x = dir(), sep = c("/", "\\"), include_names = TRUE)
```

```
standardise_path(x = dir(), sep = c("/", "\\"), include_names = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

x	A character vector of file paths. Defaults to files in the current directory.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.
include_names	A logical value indicating whether the output should be named with the input file paths.

**Value**

A character vector of paths, pointing to the same locations as the input, but in a standardized form.

**See Also**

[normalizePath](#), [path.expand](#), [getAbsolutePath](#)

**Examples**

```
standardize_path(c(".", "..", "~", R.home(), NA))
standardize_path(c(".", "..", "~", R.home(), NA), "\\")
```

---

system\_file

*Find a file in a package*

---

**Description**

Wrapper to `system.file` that returns standardized paths.

**Usage**

```
system_file(..., package = "base", library_location = NULL,
  must_work = FALSE, sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

...	Character vectors specifying subdirectories and files within some package. The default, none, returns the root of the package. Wildcards are not supported.
package	A string with the name of a single package. An error occurs if more than one package name is given.
library_location	a character vector with path names of R libraries. See the 'Details' section of <a href="#">system.file</a> for the meaning of the default value of NULL.
must_work	If TRUE, an error is given if there are no matching files.
sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A character vector of positive length, containing the file paths that matched . . . , or a missing string, NA, if none matched (unless `mustWork = TRUE`). (This behaviour for missing paths differs from `system.file()`.) If matching the root of a package, there is no trailing separator. `system.file()` with no arguments gives the root of the base package.

**See Also**

[system.file](#)

**Examples**

```
# Examples taken from ?system.file
system_file()           # The root of the 'base' package
system_file(package = "stats") # The root of package 'stats'
system_file("INDEX")
system_file("help", "AnIndex", package = "splines")
```

---

sys\_which

*Find paths to executables*

---

**Description**

Wrapper to `Sys.which`, that returns standardized paths.

**Usage**

```
sys_which(x, sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

`x`                    A character vector of executables.  
`sep`                   String separator between directory levels in the output.

**Value**

A character vector of paths to those executables, or NA if it doesn't exist. (This behaviour for missing executables differs from `Sys.which`.)

**See Also**

[Sys.which](#)

**Examples**

```
sys_which("R")           # R executable
sys_which(c("make", "gcc")) # tools for running Rcpp
```

---

temp_dir	<i>Create a temp file/dir</i>
----------	-------------------------------

---

**Description**

Wrappers to `tempdir` and `tempfile` that return standardized paths.

**Usage**

```
temp_dir(sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

```
temp_file(..., sep = c("/", "\\"))
```

**Arguments**

sep	String separator between directory levels in the output.
...	Passed to <code>tempfile</code>

**Value**

For `temp_file` a character vector giving the names of possible (temporary) files. Note that no files are generated by `temp_file`. For `temp_dir`, the path of the per-session temporary directory.

**See Also**

[tempdir](#)

**Examples**

```
temp_dir()
temp_file()
```



# Index

\*Topic **package**  
  pathological, 11  
  .libPaths, 8

basename, 3

choose\_dir, 2  
choose\_files (choose\_dir), 2  
copy\_dir, 3  
create\_dirs, 4  
cygwinify\_path, 5

decompose\_path, 6  
dir.create, 4  
dir\_copy (copy\_dir), 3

environ (r\_environ), 11

file.choose, 2  
file.path, 13

get\_drive, 7, 9  
get\_extension (decompose\_path), 6  
get\_libraries, 8  
getAbsolutePath, 14

is\_windows\_drive, 7, 8

normalizePath, 14

os\_path, 9

parent\_dir, 10  
path.expand, 14  
pathological, 11  
pathological-package (pathological), 11

R.home, 12  
r\_environ, 11  
r\_environ\_site (r\_environ), 11  
r\_home, 12  
r\_profile (r\_environ), 11

r\_profile\_site (r\_environ), 11  
recompose\_path (decompose\_path), 6  
remove\_dirs (create\_dirs), 4  
replace\_extension (decompose\_path), 6

split\_path, 13  
standardise\_path (standardize\_path), 13  
standardize\_path, 13  
Startup, 12  
startup (r\_environ), 11  
strip\_extension (decompose\_path), 6  
Sys.getenv, 10  
Sys.which, 15  
sys\_which, 15  
system.file, 14, 15  
system\_file, 14

temp\_dir, 16  
temp\_file (temp\_dir), 16  
tempdir, 16

unlink, 4