

# Package ‘optigrab’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Command-Line Parsing for an R World

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**URL** <https://github.com/decisionpatterns/optigrab>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/decisionpatterns/optigrab/issues>

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**Description** Parse options from the command-line using a simple, clean syntax.

It requires little or no specification and supports short and long options,  
GNU-, Java- or Microsoft- style syntaxes, verb commands and more.

**Depends** R (>= 3.0.0), methods

**Imports** stringi (>= 0.4.1), magrittr (>= 1.5)

**Suggests** testthat (>= 0.9.1), knitr (>= 1.9), rmarkdown

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**LazyLoad** no

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

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gnu_style	<i>GNU-style command line options</i>
-----------	---------------------------------------

---

## Description

Functions for enabling GNU-style command-line option behavior.

## Usage

gnu\_style

## Format

```
List of 3
$ flag_test :function (x)
..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref' atomic [1:8] 2 18 2 57 18 57 2 2
.. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x737f9e0>
$ flag_to_name:function (x)
..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref' atomic [1:8] 4 21 4 52 21 52 4 4
.. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x737f9e0>
$ name_to_flag:function (x)
..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref' atomic [1:8] 6 21 13 1 21 1 6 13
.. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x737f9e0>
```

## Details

Functions for enabling GNU-style command-line options. GNU-style options are characterized by a single dash (-) before single character option flags and a double dash (--) before multiple character option flags.

## References

<http://www.gnu.org/prep/standards/standards.html>

**See Also**

Non-exported function \*\_flag\_test, \*\_flag\_to\_name and \*\_name\_to\_flag  
[gnu\\_style](#)  
[java\\_style](#)  
[ms\\_style](#)

is.flag

*Determine if/which vector element are options flags***Description**

Determines if an element of a vector is an option flag (as opposed to a value ) by checking against the option style

**Usage**

```
is.flag(x)
```

```
which.flag(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                   vector of options, for example commandArgs().

**Details**

is.flag and which.flag are internal functions not expected to be called directly.

They are used to identify which elements of the option vector are option names (as opposed to option values). Options are identified by `getOptions('optigrab')$style$flag_test`. By default, *optigrab* follows GNU-style command line arguments, i.e. those beginning with "-" or "--" and are set at the time of package loading.

**Value**

logical. indicating which arguments are flags.

numeric

**Examples**

```
optigrab:::is.flag( c( "--foo", "bar" ) )
optigrab:::is.flag( c( "--foo", "bar", "-f", "-b", "text" ) )
optigrab:::which.flag( c( "--foo", "bar" ) )
optigrab:::which.flag( c( "--foo", "bar", "-f", "-b", "text" ) )
```

---

java_style	<i>Java-style command line options</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Functions for enabling Java-style command-line option behavior.

**Usage**

java\_style

**Format**

```
List of 3
$ flag_test :function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 3 19 3 51 19 51 3 3
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x733e1a8>
$ flag_to_name:function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 5 22 5 51 22 51 5 5
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x733e1a8>
$ name_to_flag:function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 7 22 7 51 22 51 7 7
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x733e1a8>
```

**Details**

Functions for enabling Java-style command-line options. Java-style options are characterized by a single dash (-) before the option name.

**See Also**

Non-exported function \*\_flag\_test, \*\_flag\_to\_name and \*\_name\_to\_flag

[gnu\\_style](#)

[java\\_style](#)

[ms\\_style](#)

---

ms_style	<i>Microsoft-style command line options</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

Functions for enabling Microsoft-style command-line option behavior.

**Usage**

ms\_style

**Format**

```
List of 3
$ flag_test :function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 3 17 3 49 17 49 3 3
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x7312ef8>
$ flag_to_name:function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 5 20 5 49 20 49 5 5
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x7312ef8>
$ name_to_flag:function (x)
  ..- attr(*, "srcref")=Class 'srcref'  atomic [1:8] 7 20 7 49 20 49 7 7
  .. .. ..- attr(*, "srcfile")=Classes 'srcfilecopy', 'srcfile' <environment: 0x7312ef8>
```

**Details**

Functions for enabling Microsoft-style command-line options. Microsoft-style options are characterized by a single forward slash (/) before the option name.

Microsoft-style options can be supported by setting

**See Also**

Non-exported function `*_flag_test`, `*_flag_to_name` and `*_name_to_flag`

[gnu\\_style](#)

[ms\\_style](#)

[ms\\_style](#)

**Examples**

```
opt_style(ms_style)
opt_get( "foo", opts=c("/foo", "bar") )
```

---

optigrab

*Optigrab*

---

**Description**

The optigrab packages provides a function `opt_grab` to retrieve options/arguments from the command line. It is useful for running R in batch mode with `R CMD BATCH ...` or `Rscript`.

GNU-, Java- and Microsoft-style command line options are supported. GNU-style is the default.

See the *optigrab* vignettes or the github README file for details.

**References**

The Jerk. Dir. Carl Reiner. Perf Steve Martin, Bernadette Peters, Caitlin Adams. Universal Pictures, 1979.

<http://www.gnu.org/prep/standards/standards.html>

<https://github.com/gsscoder/commandline>

### See Also

[opt\\_get](#)  
[commandArgs](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
  opt_get( c("foo","f"))

## End(Not run)

opts <- c( "--flag", "bar" )
flag <- opt_get( c("foo","f"), opts=opts ) # bar
```

---

<code>opt_assign</code>	<i>Get option and assign to variables</i>
-------------------------	---

---

### Description

`opt_get` and `assign`

### Usage

```
opt_assign(x, pos = 1, inherits = FALSE, name = x, ...,
  assign.na = FALSE)
```

```
opt_assign_all(x, ..., assign.na = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	character or list; variable names or alias. If no coercion is done, and the first element of a character vector of length greater than one will be used, with a warning.
<code>pos</code>	where to do the assignment. By default, assigns into the current environment. See 'Details' for other possibilities.
<code>inherits</code>	should the enclosing frames of the environment be inspected?
<code>name</code>	character; name of option
<code>...</code>	arguments passed to <code>opt_get</code>
<code>assign.na</code>	logical; whether NA can be assigned. (Default: FALSE) <code>opt_assign</code> parses an option using <code>opt_get</code> and then assigns it according to ...

**See Also**

[opt\\_get](#)  
[assign](#)

**Examples**

```
opt_assign( "foo", opts=c("--foo", "bar") )
opt_assign( c("foo", "f"), opts=c("--foo", "baz") )
```

---

opt_expand	<i>Expand argument vector to split names from values This is an internal function and should generally not be called directly.</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Expand argument vector to split names from values This is an internal function and should generally not be called directly.

**Usage**

```
opt_expand(opts = commandArgs())
```

**Arguments**

opts            character vector of arguments. (Default: commandArgs())  
 opt\_expand does two things:

- "1." removes values preceding and including -args
- "2." splits and value containing an equal (=) sign

**Note**

non-exported

**See Also**

[opt\\_grab](#)  
[base{commandArgs}](#)

**Examples**

```
optigrab:::opt_expand()
optigrab:::opt_expand( opts=c( "--foo", "bar" ) )
```

---

opt_get	<i>Get option's values from the command-line</i>
---------	--

---

### Description

Returns value(s) from the command-line associated with the desired option.

### Usage

```
opt_get(name, default, n, required = FALSE, description = NULL,
        opts = commandArgs(), style = getOption("optigrab")$style)
```

```
opt_get_gnu(flag, ...)
```

```
opt_get_ms(flag, ...)
```

```
opt_get_java(flag, ...)
```

```
opt_grab(flag, n = 1, opts = commandArgs())
```

### Arguments

name	character; vector of possible synonymes for the "flag" that identifies the option.
default	any; the value(s) provided if the flag is not found (default: NA )
n	integer; number of values to retrieve. See Details. (default: determined by default, see <b>Details</b> below.)
required	logical; whether the value is required. If not found or an incorrect, number of values are found, an error is thrown. (default: FALSE)
description	(character) message to be printed with opt_help
opts	character; vector to parse for options (default: commandArgs())
style	list; list of functions that define the parsing style
flag	character; vector of possible synonyms for the "flag" that identifies the option. These should be given as they would exactly appear on the command line.
...	additional arguments passed to opt_grab

### Details

These functions support parsing of command arguments work when using Rscript, a #\! on linux systems or R CMD BATCH. By default, they closely follows the ubiquitous GNU standards for command-line interfaces. opt\_grab is the workhorse that does the actual parsing. It returns the options values or NA if it cannot discern them. It is currently exported, but this may change in future version to be an internal function. Its interface is not guaranteed. The user should use opt\_get instead.

opt\_get supports default values, automated guessing for n and (attempts a) coercion of the return values to the correct class.



**Value**

opt\_grab always returns a character; it is either the value for the flags or NA\_character if they cannot be parsed.

opt\_get returns a value the command-line value as specified by the arguments or produces an error if the value could not be determined and required==TRUE.

**Selecting n**

Except in rare-cases, the user should not have to specify n. This is determined from the value of default.

If default is a logical value, i.e. TRUE or FALSE, n is assumed to take no arguments. Presents of the flag on the command line will return TRUE, absense of the flag returns false.

If default is another type than logical, n is selected as length(default).

If default is missing, n is 1.

**automatic coercion**

Command-line arguments are character vectors. If default is supplied then the opt\_get attempts to coerce the values it returns to class(default). The user might wish to supply the correct methods to handle the conversions.

**side-effects**

opt\_grab has the additional side-effect of keeping track of the arguments. This is useful for keeping track of

flag is used to identify the command line flag. It can include all synonyms for the flags.

n the number of value(s) to retrieve from the command line. If n=0, then a logical value is returned indicating whether the flag exists

required indicates if a value is required. If the the flag is not found and there is no default given or if there is not the correct number of value(s) an error is raised.

opts is the vector from which options are parsed. By default, this is commandArgs().

**References**

<http://www.gnu.org/prep/standards/standards.html>

**See Also**

[commandArgs](#)

**Examples**

```
opts <- c( '--foo', 'bar' )

opt_get('foo')
opt_get( c('foo'), opts=opts )
opt_grab( c('--foo'), opts=opts )
```

```

opt_get_ms( c('foo'), opts=c('/foo', 'bar' ) )
opt_get_java( c('foo'), opts=c('-foo', 'bar' ) )

# Using pipes:
## Not run:
  c('foo', 'f') %>% opt_get('bar')

## End(Not run)

```

---

 opt\_get\_args

*Return arguments to Rscript*


---

## Description

Arguments to a script are those following the `--args` argument.

## Usage

```
opt_get_args(opts = commandArgs())
```

## Arguments

`opts` character; vector of arguments, (Default: `commandArgs()`)  
 Returns the user provided arguments, i.e. those following (the first) `--args` flag. This is identical to what is done by `commandArgs( trailingOnly = TRUE )` does. This is included an used since it supports testing/modifying the `commandArgs` array.

## Value

character; vector stripping elements preceding and including (the first) `--args` flag.

## See Also

[commandArgs](#)  
[opt\\_grab](#)  
[commandArgs](#)

## Examples

```

opt_get_args()
opt_get_args( opts=c( "Rscript", "-a", "-b", "--args", "-c", 3, "-d" ) ) # "-c" "3" "-d"
opt_get_args( opts=c( "-a", "-b", "--args", "-c", "--args", "-d" ) ) # "-c" "-d"
opt_get_args( opts=c( "--foo", "bar" ) )

```

---

opt_get_path	<i>Get path current running script</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Get path current running script

**Usage**

```
opt_get_path(opts = commandArgs(), full.name = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

opts            character; vector from which to parse options (default: commandArgs() )  
full.name        boolean; expand to full path(?)

**This function is deprecated, use `this_file` instead.**

**Value**

character; path to Rscript or NA if there isn't one.

**References**

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1815606/rscript-determine-path-of-the-executing-script>

**See Also**

[opt\\_grab](#)  
`base{commandArgs}`

**Examples**

```
optigrab:::opt_get_path()
```

---

opt_get_verb	<i>Get verb from the command line</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Return the verb for the application. The verb is the first argument that is not part of an option.

**Usage**

```
opt_get_verb(opts = commandArgs())
```

**Arguments**

opts                    character; Vector from which to parse options (default: `commandArgs()`)

**Details**

Some applications such as *git* support command verbs, e.g. push, fetch, etc. These can be retrieved by `opt_get_verb`.

`opt_get_verb` look for the first unaccounted for options (after `--args`). The number of options needed by each flags is determined by and saved by calls to `opt_get`. See the details to see how `n` is automatically determined. When not explicitly defined the number of options needed by each flag is 1. Because of this, it convention to call `opt_get_verb` after all `opt_get` calls. For most simple applications, it likely doesn't matter.

**Value**

character of length 1; the verb found from the command-line. NA if a verb cannot be identified.

**Assumptions**

`opt_get_verb` assumes any flags occurring before the verb have exactly 1 value. A command line such as "`> myscript -verbose verb`" will be misparsed; the code will assume that "verb" is the value of the flag "-verbose"

**See Also**

[opt\\_get](#)  
[base{commandArgs}](#)

**Examples**

```
opt_get_verb()
```

---

 opt\_help

*Automatic usage/help information*


---

**Description**

Prints program usage information and, if used non-interactively, exits.

**Usage**

```
opt_help(name = c("help", "?"), opts = commandArgs())
```

**Arguments**

name            character; vector of names/aliases to use

opts            character; vector from which to parse options (default: `commandArgs()`)

Usage information is generated from `opt_get` calls made prior to `opt_help`. `opt_help` shuded will will not be shown. It is considered best practice to handle all option parsing in a block at the beginning of the application. `opt_ihelp` would be best placed at the end of that block

**Value**

logical; returns TRUE if command-line options contain a help flag, FALSE otherwise. Mainly `opt_help` is used for side-effects of printing usage/help information,

**See Also**

[commandArgs](#)

**Examples**

```
opts <- c( "--foo", "bar")
optigrab::opt_grab( "--foo")
optigrab::opt_help()
```

---

opt_split_args	<i>Split command arguments</i>
----------------	--------------------------------

---

**Description**

Splits command argument vector to name, value pairs. This is an internal function and should generally not be called directly.

**Usage**

```
opt_split_args(opts = commandArgs())
```

**Arguments**

opts            character; vector of arguments. (Default: `commandArgs()`)

`opt_split_args` splits and value containing an equal (=) sign

**Note**

non-exported

**See Also**

[opt\\_grab](#)  
[base{commandArgs}](#)

**Examples**

```
optigrab:::opt_split_args()
optigrab:::opt_split_args( opts=c( "--foo=hello", "-b=goodbye" ) )
```

---

opt_style	<i>Get or set the optigrab style</i>
-----------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Get or sets the optigrab style

**Usage**

```
opt_style(style)
```

**Arguments**

**style**            named list; containing the following functions: `flag_test`, `flag_to_name` and `name_to_flag`

If `style` is not specified, `opt_style` gets the current optigrab style. If `style` is provided, it must be a named list containing three functions `flag_test`, `flag_to_name` and `name_to_flag`.

**Value**

If `style` is not provided, returns a list of styles, otherwise used for the side-effect of setting the option

**flag\_test**

Accepts a character vector and returns a logical vector indicating whether the elements are flags.

**flag\_to\_name**

Accepts a character vector of flags and turns them into variable names, usually by stripping delimiters that indicate that they are flags

**name\_to\_flag**

Accepts a character vector of names and transforms them into the flags that would appear on the command line. This is used by [opt\\_grab](#).

**See Also**

[gnu\\_style](#)  
[ms\\_style](#)  
[ms\\_style](#)

## Examples

```
opt_style()  
opt_style( optigrab::gnu_style )  
opt_style( optigrab::java_style )  
opt_style( optigrab::ms_style )
```

---

str_to_opts	<i>Split a string bases on whitespace</i>
-------------	---

---

## Description

Split a string based on whitespace ignore single- and double quoted entries

## Usage

```
str_to_opts(x = character())
```

## Arguments

x  
character; string to parse as if it is a command line  
This is an internal function used predominantly for testing. It might be deprecated in the near future.

## Value

A character array that could be similar to that provided by `commandArgs`.

## Note

not-exported, by design

## See Also

[commandArgs](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
str <- 'cmd -t "Say Anything" --character \'Lloyd Dobler\''  
str_to_opts(str)  
split_ws_nonquote(str)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

this_file	<i>this_file</i>
-----------	------------------

---

### Description

Name or path to the current file

### Usage

```
this_file(opts = commandArgs(), local = TRUE, full.path = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

opts	character; vector of arguments. (Default: <code>commandArgs()</code> )
local	logical; if TRUE returns the most currently sourced script as opposed to the original/first source script. (Default: TRUE)
full.path	logical; Whether to return the full path to the sourced file. (Default: TRUE)

### Details

`this_file` returns the name or path of the executing file whether the file was invoked from **Rscript** or in an interactive session. Further it source

Argument `local` controls whether it is the current file (TRUE) or the original, top-level file.

### Value

one-element character vector with the path to the current file; returns NA is in an interactive session not in a file.

### References

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1815606/rscript-determine-path-of-the-executing-script>

### See Also

[opt\\_grab](#)  
[base{commandArgs}](#)

### Examples

```
this_file()
```



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