

# Package ‘ffbase’

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**Title** Basic Statistical Functions for Package 'ff'

**Type** Package

**LazyLoad** yes

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**Description** Extends the out of memory vectors of 'ff' with statistical functions and other utilities to ease their usage.

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ffbase-package	<i>Basic statistical functions for ff</i>
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### Description

Basic statistical functions for `ff` vectors and `ffdf` data.frames. The aim of `ffbase` is to make working with `ff` vectors and `ffdf` data.frame a bit easier.

### Basic operations

<code>cut.ff</code>	cut a <code>ff</code> vector.
<code>c.ff</code>	concatenate <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>unique</code>	<code>unique</code> for a <code>ff</code> vector and <code>ffdf</code> .
<code>duplicated</code>	<code>duplicated</code> for a <code>ff</code> vector and <code>ffdf</code> .
<code>ffmatch</code>	<code>match</code> for a 2 <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>ffdfmatch</code>	<code>match</code> for 2 <code>ffdf</code> objects.
<code>%in%</code>	<code>%in%</code> operator for a <code>ff</code> vector and <code>ffdf</code> .
<code>is.na.ff</code>	<code>is.na</code> for a <code>ff</code> vector.
<code>+</code> , <code>-</code> , <code>*</code> , <code>/</code> , <code>^</code> , <code>%%</code> , <code>%/%</code>	operators for arithmetic on <code>ff</code> vector.
<code>==</code> , <code>!=</code> , <code>&lt;</code> , <code>&lt;=</code> , <code>&gt;=</code> , <code>&gt;</code> , <code>&amp;</code> , <code> </code> , <code>!</code>	compare & logic operators for working with <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>abs</code> , <code>sign</code> , <code>sqrt</code> , <code>ceiling</code> , <code>floor</code> , <code>trunc</code> , <code>round</code> , <code>signif</code>	Math operators for working on <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>log</code> , <code>log10</code> , <code>log2</code> , <code>log1p</code> , <code>exp</code> , <code>expm1</code>	Math operators for working on <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>acos</code> , <code>acosh</code> , <code>asin</code> , <code>asinh</code> , <code>atan</code> , <code>atanh</code>	Math operators for working on <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>cos</code> , <code>cosh</code> , <code>sin</code> , <code>sinh</code> , <code>tan</code> , <code>tanh</code>	Math operators for working on <code>ff</code> vectors.
<code>gamma</code> , <code>lgamma</code> , <code>digamma</code> , <code>trigamma</code>	Math operators for working on <code>ff</code> vectors.

### Selections

<code>subset.ffdf</code>	subset a <code>ffdf</code> .
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<code>transform.ffdf</code>	create a new ffdf based on an existing ffdf
<code>with.ffdf</code>	create a ff vector based on columns of an existing ffdf
<code>within.ffdf</code>	create a ffdf data.frame based on columns of an existing ffdf
<code>ffwhich</code>	create a ff integer vector based on a logical expression

## Aggregations

<code>hist.ff</code>	Calculate a histogram for ff vector.
<code>quantile.ff</code>	Get quantiles for ff vector.
<code>sum.ff</code>	sum for a ff vector.
<code>mean.ff</code>	(trimmed) mean for a ff vector.
<code>all.ff</code>	all for logical ff vector.
<code>min.ff</code>	min for ff vector.
<code>max.ff</code>	max for ff vector.
<code>cumsum.ff</code>	cumsum for ff vector.
<code>cumprod.ff</code>	cumprod for ff vector.
<code>range.ff</code>	range for ff vector.
<code>table</code>	table for ff vectors.
<code>tabulate.ff</code>	tabulate for ff vectors.
<code>ffdfply</code>	Split, group and aggregate for ffdf operations.

## Miscellaneous

<code>ffordered</code>	Add a sorted index to a ff vector.
<code>save.ffdf</code>	Save a ffdf in a directory with its containing ff columns.
<code>load.ffdf</code>	Loads a ffdf from a directory
<code>pack.ffdf</code>	Packs ffdf data.frames into a zip or tar file
<code>unpack.ffdf</code>	Unpacks data.frames from a zip or tar file
<code>ffappend</code>	Append data to a ff vector.
<code>ffdfappend</code>	Append data to a ffdf.
<code>merge.ffdf</code>	Merge two ffdf objects.
<code>ffmatch</code>	match two ff vectors
<code>ffdfmatch</code>	match two ffdf data.frames
<code>laf_to_ffdf</code>	Import csv and fixed width files through package LaF.

## Examples

```
ffdat <- as.ffdf(data.frame(x=1:10, y=10:1))

# add a new ff vector z to the ffdf data.frame
within(ffdat, {z <- x+y})[]

# add a new ff vector z to the ffdf data.frame using transform
transform(ffdat, z=x+y)[]

cut(ffdat$x, breaks=3)[]

tabulate.ff(ffdat$x)
```

+.ff\_vector

*Arithmetic Operators for ff vectors***Description**

These binary operators perform arithmetic on numeric ff vectors. Arith family:

- Arith: "+", "-", "\*", "/", "^", "%%", "%/%"

The operators require either x or y to be an ff\_vector or both. In case either x or y is not an ff\_vector, the other object needs to be of length 1. Recycling is not implemented.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x + y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x - y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x * y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x / y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x ^ y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x %% y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x %/ y
```

**Arguments**

x	either a numeric ff_vector or a vector of length 1 in RAM in which case y should be an ff_vector
y	either a numeric ff_vector or a vector of length 1 in RAM in which case x should be an ff_vector

**Value**

an ff\_vector. For the definition of the operators see the base package of R.

---

>.ff\_vector                      *Ops for ff vectors*

---

**Description**

These operators implement ff\_vector specific operators and handle the following operators from the Ops family:

- Compare: "==" , "!=", "<" , "<=" , ">=" , ">"
- Logic: "&" , "|" , "!"

The operators require either x or y to be an ff\_vector or both. In case either x or y is not an ff\_vector, the other object needs to be of length 1. Recycling is not implemented.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x > y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x < y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x == y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x != y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x <= y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x >= y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x & y
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
x | y

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
!x
```

### Arguments

x either a numeric ff\_vector or a vector of length 1 in RAM in which case y should be an ff\_vector

y either a numeric ff\_vector or a vector of length 1 in RAM in which case x should be an ff\_vector

### Value

an ff\_vector. For the definition of the operators see the base package of R.

---

abs.ff_vector	<i>Math for ff vectors</i>
---------------	----------------------------

---

### Description

These mathematical functions implement ff\_vector specific math and handle the following functions from the Math family:

- Math: "abs", "sign", "sqrt", "ceiling", "floor", "trunc", "log", "log10", "log2", "log1p", "acos"
- Math2: "round", "signif"

The operators require x to be an ff\_vector.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
abs(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
sign(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
sqrt(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
ceiling(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
```

```
floor(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
trunc(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
log10(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
log2(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
log1p(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
acos(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
acosh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
asin(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
asinh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
atan(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
atanh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
exp(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
expm1(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
cos(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
cosh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
sin(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
```



```

sinh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
tan(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
tanh(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
gamma(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
lgamma(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
digamma(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
trigamma(x)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
log(x, base)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
round(x, digits)

## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
signif(x, digits)

```

### Arguments

x	a numeric <code>ff_vector</code>
...	for <code>trunc</code> , currently not used
base	base for <code>log</code>
digits	digits for <code>round</code> and <code>signif</code>

### Value

an `ff_vector`. For the definition of the operators see the base package of R.

---

addfforder

*Add the order of a ff vector of the ff vector x*

---

### Description

Add a `ff_vector` that contains the order of the `ff` vector `x` as an attribute. The order can be retrieved using `ffordered`. Note that you have to assign the result to the original vector `x`.

**Usage**

```
addfforder(x, addsorted = FALSE, ...)
```

```
ffordered(x)
```

```
ffsorted(x)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff vector to be indexed
addsorted	should the sorted values also be stored in ffsorted?
...	parameters that will be passed on to <a href="#">fforder</a> .

**Value**

The updated vector x

**Examples**

```
x <- ff(rnorm(10))

# adds an index to x (note the assignment)
x <- addfforder(x)

# retrieve ffindex
o <- fffordered(x)

o
# use it to sort the original vector
x[o]
```

---

all.ff

*Summary methods for ff objects*

---

**Description**

Summary methods for ff objects

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
all(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE, range = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff object
...	optional other (ff) objects
na.rm	should NA be removed?
range	a ri or an integer vector of length==2 giving a range restriction for chunked processing

**Value**

TRUE, FALSE or NA

---

any.ff *Summary methods for ff objects*

---

**Description**

Summary methods for ff objects

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
any(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE, range = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff object
...	optional other (ff) objects
na.rm	should NA be removed?
range	a ri or an integer vector of length==2 giving a range restriction for chunked processing

**Value**

TRUE, FALSE or NA

---

as.character.ff      *Character Vectors*

---

### Description

The generic function `as.character` converts ff vectors to characters.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'  
as.character(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

`x`                    a ff vector  
`...`                 other parameters passed on to chunk

### Value

A factor ff vector of the same length of `x`.

### See Also

[as.character](#)

### Examples

```
as.character(ff(c(NA, 1:100)))  
as.character(ff(seq.Date(Sys.Date(), Sys.Date()+100, by = "day")))  
as.character(ff(c(Sys.time())))
```

---

as.Date.ff\_vector      *Date Conversion Functions for ff vector*

---

### Description

Date Conversion Functions for ff vector.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'  
as.Date(x, ..., inplace = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object of class ff\_vector  
 ...                  other parameters passed on to [as.Date](#)  
 inplace              passed on to [chunkify](#)

**Value**

An ff\_vector of length(x) containing the result of as.Date applied to the elements in chunks

---

as.ffdf.ffdf                    *Trivial implementation, but very handy*

---

**Description**

Coerce a ffd object to an ffd object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
as.ffdf(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    ffd object  
 ...                  not used.

---

as.ram.ffdf                    *As ram for an ffd to get your ffd as a data frame in RAM*

---

**Description**

Load your ffd object in RAM into a data.frame.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
as.ram(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object of class ffd  
 ...                  not used.

**Value**

a data.frame in RAM

---

`bigglm.ffdf`*Bounded memory linear regression*

---

### Description

`bigglm.ffdf` creates a generalized linear model object that uses only  $p^2$  memory for  $p$  variables. It uses the `biglm` package and is a simple wrapper to allow to work with an `ffdf` as input data. Make sure that package is loaded.

### Usage

```
bigglm.ffdf(formula, data, family = gaussian(), ..., chunksize = 5000)
```

### Arguments

<code>formula</code>	a model formula
<code>data</code>	an object of class <code>ffdf</code>
<code>family</code>	A glm family object
<code>...</code>	other parameters passed on to <code>bigglm</code> . See the <code>biglm</code> package: <a href="#">biglm</a>
<code>chunksize</code>	Size of chunks for processing the <code>ffdf</code>

### Value

An object of class `bigglm`. See the `bigglm` package for a description: [bigglm](#)

### See Also

[bigglm](#)

### Examples

```
library(biglm)
library(ff)

data(trees)
x <- as.ffdf(trees)
a <- bigglm(log(Volume)~log(Girth)+log(Height),
            data=x, chunksize=10, sandwich=TRUE)
summary(a)

b <- bigglm(log(Volume)~log(Girth)+log(Height)+offset(2*log(Girth)+log(Height)),
            data=x, chunksize=10, sandwich=TRUE)
summary(b)
```

---

binned_sum	<i>Fast summing in different bins</i>
------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

binned\_sum implements fast summing for given bins by calling c-code.

**Usage**

```
binned_sum(x, bin, nbins = max(bin), ...)

## Default S3 method:
binned_sum(x, bin, nbins = max(bin), ...)

## S3 method for class 'ff'
binned_sum(x, bin, nbins = max(bin), ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector with the data to be summed
bin	integer vector with the bin number for each data point
nbins	integer maximum bin number
...	used by binned_sum.ff

**Value**

numeric matrix where each row is a bin

---

binned_sumsq	<i>Fast squared summing in different bins</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

binned\_sum implements fast squared summing for given bins by calling c-code, which can be used to calculate variance and standard deviation Please note that incorrect use of this function may crash your R-session. the values of bins must be in between 1:nbins and bin may not contain NA

**Usage**

```

binned_sumsq(x, mean = rep(0, nbins), bin, nbins = max(bin), ...)

## Default S3 method:
binned_sumsq(x, mean = rep(0, nbins), bin,
  nbins = max(bin), ...)

## S3 method for class 'ff'
binned_sumsq(x, mean = rep(0, nbins), bin, nbins = max(bin),
  ...)

```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector with the data to be summed squared
mean	numeric vector with an optional mean to be subtracted from the data to be summed and squared
bin	integer vector with the bin number for each observation
nbins	integer maximum bin number
...	will be passed on to the implementation.

**Value**

numeric matrix where each row is a bin  
 numeric matrix where each row is a bin  
 numeric matrix where each row is a bin

---

binned_tabulate	<i>Fast tabulating in different bins</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

binned\_sum implements fast tabulating for given bins by calling c-code. It also returns the number of NA's per bin. Please note that incorrect use of this function may crash your R-session. the values of bins must be between 1 and nbins and may not contain NA. The values of x must be between 1 and nlevels.

**Usage**

```

binned_tabulate(x, bin, nbins = max(bin), nlevels = nlevels(x), ...)

## Default S3 method:
binned_tabulate(x, bin, nbins = max(bin),
  nlevels = nlevels(x), ...)

## S3 method for class 'ff'
binned_tabulate(x, bin, nbins = max(bin), nlevels = nlevels(x),
  ...)

```



**Arguments**

x	factor or integer vector with the data to be tabulated
bin	integer vector with the bin number for each data point
nbins	integer maximum bin number
nlevels	integer number of levels used in x
...	used by binned_tabulate.ff

**Value**

numeric matrix where each row is a bin and each column a level

---

byMean	<i>Fast conditional mean</i>
--------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

byMean works like a very fast version of tapply with (weighted) FUN=mean or FUN=weighted.mean.

**Usage**

```
byMean(x, by, na.rm = FALSE, weight = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector to be averaged
by	(list of) factor(s) for which the mean will be calculated
na.rm	logical If TRUE NA values will be removed
weight	numeric with of same length as x
...	not used

**Value**

array with dimensions of by

---

bySum	<i>Fast conditional sum</i>
-------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

bySum works like a very fast version of tapply with (weighted) FUN=sum.

**Usage**

```
bySum(x, by, na.rm = FALSE, weight = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector to be summed
by	(list of) factor(s) for which the sum will be calculated
na.rm	logical If TRUE NA values will be removed
weight	numeric with of same length as x
...	not used

**Value**

array with dimensions of by

**Examples**

```
bySum(warpbreaks$breaks, warpbreaks$wool)
bySum(warpbreaks$breaks, warpbreaks[, -1])
```

---

c.ff	<i>Concatenate ff vectors</i>
------	-------------------------------

---

**Description**

Concatenate ff vectors

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
c(...)
```

**Arguments**

...	ff ff vectors to be concatenated
-----	----------------------------------

**Value**

a new ff object, data is physically copied

**See Also**

[ffappend](#)

---

chunkify	<i>Chunkify an element-wise function</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

Chunkify creates a new function that operates on a ff vector. It creates chunks from the ff vector and calls the original function fun on each chunk.

**Usage**

```
chunkify(fun)
```

**Arguments**

fun	function to be 'chunkified', the function must accept a vector and return a vector of the same length
-----	---

**Value**

'chunkified' function that accepts a ff vector as its first argument.

---

compact	<i>Compact a ff vector or ffd data frame</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

Compact takes a ff vector and tries to use the smallest binary data type for this vector.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
compact(x, use.na = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff or ffd object
use.na	logical if TRUE the resulting ff vector can contain NA, otherwise this is not checked
...	other parameters

**Value**

compact cloned ff vector, or original if no compacting can be done

---

condMean	<i>Fast conditional mean</i>
----------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

condMean works like a very fast version of tapply with FUN=mean.

**Usage**

```
condMean(x, index, na.rm = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector to be averaged
index	(list of) factor(s) for which the mean will be calculated
na.rm	logical If TRUE NA values will be removed
...	not used

**Value**

array with dimensions of index

---

condSum	<i>Fast conditional sum</i>
---------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

condSum works like a very fast version of tapply with FUN=sum.

**Usage**

```
condSum(x, index, na.rm = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	numeric vector to be summed
index	(list of) factor(s) for which the sum will be calculated
na.rm	logical If TRUE NA values will be removed
...	not used

**Value**

array with dimensions of index

**Description**

Cumulative Sums, Products, and Extremes

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'  
cumsum(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'  
cumprod(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'  
cummax(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'  
cummin(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

`x` ff numeric vector or an object that can be coerced to one a numeric vector  
`...` other parameters passed on to chunk

**Value**

An ff vector of the same length and type as `x` (after coercion), except that `cumprod` returns a numeric vector for integer input.

An NA value in `x` causes the corresponding and following elements of the return value to be NA, as does integer overflow in `cumsum` (with a warning).

**See Also**

[cumsum](#), [cumprod](#), [cummax](#), [cummin](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- 1:10000  
tmp <- cumsum(ff(x))  
class(tmp)  
table(tmp[] == cumsum(x))
```

```
x <- rnorm(1000)  
tmp <- cummax(ff(x))  
table(tmp[] == cummax(x))  
tmp <- cummin(ff(x))
```

```
table(tmp[] == cummin(x))
tmp <- cumprod(ff(x))
table(tmp[] == cumprod(x))

## S3 type of calling
cumsum(ff(x))
cummax(ff(x))
cummin(ff(x))
cumprod(ff(x))
```

---

cut.ff

*Convert Numeric ff vector to factor ff*

---

### Description

cut divides the range of x into intervals and codes the values in x according to which interval they fall. The leftmost interval corresponds to level one, the next leftmost to level two and so on.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
cut(x, breaks, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    a (numeric) ff object that will be cut into pieces  
breaks                specifies the breaks for cutting this  
...                    other parameters that can be given to [cut.default](#)

### Details

The cut method for ff with the behaviour of `link{cut}`

### Value

ff a new [ff](#) object with the newly created factor

### See Also

cut

---

diff.ff	<i>Lagged Differences</i>
---------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Returned suitably lagged and iterated differences

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
diff(x, lag = 1L, differences = 1L, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff vector containing values to be differenced
lag	a n integer indicating which lag to use
differences	an integer indicating the order of the difference
...	other parameters will be passed on to diff

---

droplevels.ff	<i>The function droplevels is used to drop unused levels from a ff factor or , more commonly, from factors in a ffd</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

The function droplevels is used to drop unused levels from a ff factor or , more commonly, from factors in a ffd

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
droplevels(x, ..., inplace = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff object
...	not used
inplace	if TRUE the columns will be physically changed, otherwise (default) a new ff vector will be created

**Value**

ff object where levels of factors are dropped

**See Also**

[droplevels](#) [droplevels.ffd](#)

---

droplevels.ffdf	<i>The function droplevels is used to drop unused levels from factors in a <a href="#">ffdf</a></i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

The function droplevels is used to drop unused levels from factors in a [ffdf](#)

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
droplevels(x, except = NULL, ..., inplace = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	ffdf object
except	specify which columns will be excluded from dropping levels
...	further arguments passed to <a href="#">droplevels.ff</a>
inplace	if TRUE the columns will be physically changed, otherwise (default) new ff vectors will be created

### Value

ffdf object where levels of factors are dropped

### See Also

[droplevels](#) [droplevels.ff](#)

---

duplicated.ff	<i>Duplicated for ff and ffdf objects</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Duplicated for ff and ffdf objects similar as in [duplicated](#).

Remark that this duplicated function is slightly different from the duplicated method in the base package as it first orders the ffdf or ff\_vector object and then applies duplicated. This means you need to order the ffdf or ff\_vector in case you want to have the exact same result as the result of the base package. See the example.



**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
duplicated(x, incomparables = FALSE, fromLast = FALSE,
  trace = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
duplicated(x, incomparables = FALSE, fromLast = FALSE,
  trace = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff object or ffdf object
incomparables	a vector of values that cannot be compared. FALSE is a special value, meaning that all values can be compared, and may be the only value accepted for methods other than the default. It will be coerced internally to the same type as x.
fromLast	logical indicating if duplication should be considered from the last, i.e., the last (or rightmost) of identical elements will be kept
trace	logical indicating to show on which chunk the function is computing
...	other parameters passed on to chunk

**Value**

A logical ff vector of length nrow(x) or length(x) indicating if each row or element is duplicated.

**See Also**

[duplicated](#), [ffdforder](#), [fforder](#)

**Examples**

```
## duplicated.ffdf - mark that you need to order according to the records you
## like in order to have similar results as the base unique method
data(iris)
irisdouble <- rbind(iris, iris)
irisdouble <- irisdouble[ sample(x=1:nrow(irisdouble), size=nrow(irisdouble)
  , replace = FALSE), ]
ffiris <- as.ffdf(irisdouble)
duplicated(ffiris, by=10, trace=TRUE)
duplicated(ffiris$Sepal.Length, by=10, trace=TRUE)
table(duplicated(irisdouble), duplicated(ffiris, by=10)[])
irisdouble <- irisdouble[order(apply( irisdouble
  , FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=".")
  , MARGIN=1
  )), ]
ffiris <- as.ffdf(irisdouble)
table(duplicated(irisdouble), duplicated(ffiris, by=10)[])
table(duplicated(ffiris$Sepal.Width, by=10)[], duplicated(ffiris$Sepal.Width[]))

measures <- c("Sepal.Width", "Species")
```

```

irisdouble <- irisdouble[order(apply( irisdouble[, measures]
                                   , FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=".")
                                   , MARGIN=1)), ]
ffiris <- as.ffdf(irisdouble)
table(duplicated(irisdouble[, measures]), duplicated(ffiris[measures], by=10)[])
table(duplicated(ffiris$Sepal.Width, by=10)[], duplicated(ffiris$Sepal.Width[]))

```

---

expand.ffgrid

*Create a ffdf from All Combinations of Factors*


---

## Description

Similar as `expand.grid` in the base package generates an ffdf. Code is almost copy-pasted from [expand.grid](#).

## Usage

```
expand.ffgrid(..., KEEP.OUT.ATTRS = TRUE, stringsAsFactors = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

`...` ff vectors, ff factors or a list containing these.

`KEEP.OUT.ATTRS` currently ignored

`stringsAsFactors` logical specifying if character vectors are converted to factors. Irrelevant for ff as character vectors are factors in package ff.

## Value

A ffdf containing one row for each combination of the supplied factors. The first factors vary fastest. The columns are labelled by the factors if these are supplied as named arguments or named components of a list.

## See Also

[expand.grid](#)

## Examples

```

comb <- expand.ffgrid(ff(1:1000), ff(factor(LETTERS)))
dim(comb)

x <- ff(factor(LETTERS))
y <- ff(1:1000)
z <- ff(seq.Date(Sys.Date(), Sys.Date()+10, by = "day"))
comb <- expand.ffgrid(x, y, z)
dim(comb)
comb[1:100, ]

```

```
expand.ffgrid(list(a = ff(1:10), b = ff(1:10)))
```

---

ffappend	<i>Append a ff vector to another ff vector</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

Appends (ff) vector y to ff vector x. Please note that the data of x will be coerced to the type of y if y has a higher vmode.

### Usage

```
ffappend(x, y, adjustvmode = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	ff object where data will be appended to. If x==NULL a new ff object will be created
y	ff object or vector object
adjustvmode	logical, indicating to coerce x to a higher vmode to make sure y is appended without loss of information.
...	parameter that will be passed on to chunk internally

### Value

ff object with same physical storage as x unless y has a higher vmode in which case the data will be cloned to the higher vmode

### See Also

[c.ff](#)

---

ffdfappend	<i>Append a dataframe or an ffdf to another ffdf</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

Appends a dataframe or an ffdf called dat to an existing ffdf called x. Please note that the data of x will be coerced to the type of y if the corresponding column of y has a higher vmode.

### Usage

```
ffdfappend(x, dat, recode = TRUE, adjustvmode = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ffdf object where data will be appended to. If x==NULL a new ffdff object will be created
dat	ffdf object or data.frame object
recode	should factors be recoded (default), or not (faster)
adjustvmode	logical, indicating to coerce the columns of x to a higher vmode to make sure y is appended without loss of information.
...	Further arguments passed to <a href="#">as.ffdf</a> , when x==NULL

**Value**

ffdf object with same physical storage as x unless the corresponding column of y has a higher vmode in which case the data will be cloned to the higher vmode

**See Also**

[c.ff](#)

---

ffdfply

*Performs a split-apply-combine on an ffdff*

---

**Description**

Performs a split-apply-combine on an ffdff. Splits the x ffdff according to split and applies FUN to the data, stores the result of the FUN in an ffdff.

Remark that this function does not actually split the data. In order to reduce the number of times data is put into RAM for situations with a lot of split levels, the function extracts groups of split elements which can be put into RAM according to BATCHBYTES. Please make sure your FUN covers the fact that several split elements can be in one chunk of data on which FUN is applied.

Mark also that NA's in the split are not considered as a split on which the FUN will be applied.

**Usage**

```
ffdfply(x, split, FUN, BATCHBYTES = getOption("ffbatchbytes"),
        RECORDBYTES = sum(.rambytes[vmode(x)]), trace = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	an ffdff
split	an ff vector which is part of the ffdff x
FUN	the function to apply to each split. This function needs to return a data.frame
BATCHBYTES	integer scalar limiting the number of bytes to be processed in one chunk
RECORDBYTES	optional integer scalar representing the bytes needed to process one row of x
trace	logical indicating to show on which split the function is computing
...	other parameters passed on to FUN

**Value**

an `ffdf`

**See Also**

[groupunningcumsum](#), [table](#)

**Examples**

```
data(iris)
ffiris <- as.ffdf(iris)

youraggregatorFUN <- function(x){
  dup <- duplicated(x[c("Species", "Petal.Width")])
  o <- order(x$Petal.Width)
  lowest_pw <- x[rev(o),][!dup,]
  highest_pw <- x[o,][!dup,]
  lowest_pw$group <- factor("lowest", levels=c("lowest", "highest"))
  highest_pw$group <- factor("highest", levels=c("lowest", "highest"))
  rbind(lowest_pw, highest_pw)
}
result <- ffdfply( x = ffiris, split = ffiris$Species,
                  FUN = function(x) youraggregatorFUN(x),
                  BATCHBYTES = 5000, trace=TRUE)

dim(result)
dim(iris)
result[1:10,]

ffiris$integerkey <- with(ffiris, as.integer(Sepal.Length))
result <- ffdfply( x = ffiris, split = ffiris$integerkey
                  , FUN = function(x) youraggregatorFUN(x), BATCHBYTES = 5000
                  , trace=TRUE
                  )

ffiris$datekey <- ff( as.Date(ffiris$Sepal.Length[,], origin = "1970-01-01"),
                    vmode = "integer")
result <- ffdfply( x = ffiris, split = ffiris$datekey
                  , FUN = function(x) youraggregatorFUN(x)
                  , BATCHBYTES = 5000, trace=TRUE
                  )
```

---

`ffdfbind.fill`

*rbind for ffdf where missing columns are added if not available in one of the ffdf objects*

---

**Description**

`rbind` for `ffdf` where missing columns are added if not available in one of the `ffdf` objects. Similarly as `rbind.fill` but for `ffdf` objects

**Usage**

```
ffdfbind.fill(..., clone = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

```
...          2 or more ffd objects
clone       logical, indicating to clone the first ffd object in ... or not before appending the
            other objects. Defaults to TRUE.
```

**Value**

an ffd where the ffd objects are rbind-ed together. Missing columns in either one of the passed ffd objects are set to NA values.

**Examples**

```
x <- fdfbind.fill( as.fdf(iris),
                  as.fdf(iris[, c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width"
                                , "Petal.Length")]))
class(x)
nrow(x)
sum(is.na(x$Petal.Width))
```

---

ffdfsave

*Save a ffd data.frame in directory*


---

**Description**

ffdfsave saves a ffd data.frame in the given filename (.rdata) and stores all ff columns in a subdirectory with the name "<filename>\_ff". Each column will be named "<columnname>.ff". A saved ffd data.frame is a .rdata file and can be loaded with the load function `load` (Deprecated), the preferred method is `save.fdf`

**Usage**

```
ffdfsave(dat, filename)
```

**Arguments**

```
dat          ffd data.frame, to be saved
filename     path where .rdata file will be save and <filename>_ff directory will be created
```

---

`ffdfwith`*Evaluate an expression in a ffd data environment*

---

### Description

Evaluate an R expression in an environment constructed from a `ffdata` data frame. Faster than `with.ffdf`, but in contrast `ffdfwith` can change the original data. Please note that `ffdfwith` assumes that the result must be of the same length as `nrow(data)`. You should write your expression as if it is a normal `data.frame`. The resulting return value however will be a `ffdf` object.

### Usage

```
ffdfwith(data, expr, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	<code>ffdf</code> data object used as an environment for evaluation.
<code>expr</code>	expression to evaluate.
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to future methods.

### Value

if `expression` is a vector a newly created `ff` vector will be returned otherwise if the expression is a `data.frame` a newly created `ffdf` object will be returned.

### Examples

```
dat <- data.frame(x=1:10, y=10:1)
ffdat <- as.ffdf(dat)

ffdfwith(ffdat, {
  x <- x + 1
  x + y
})

#notice that x has been altered
ffdat$x
```

---

`ffifelse`*Conditional Element Selection for ff vectors.*

---

**Description**

Similar as `ifelse` in the base package but only works with `yes` and `no` as `ff` vectors.

**Usage**

```
ffifelse(test, yes, no)
```

**Arguments**

<code>test</code>	logical or boolean <code>ff</code> vector
<code>yes</code>	an <code>ff</code> vector with return values for true elements of <code>test</code> . If too short, their elements are recycled.
<code>no</code>	an <code>ff</code> vector with return values for false elements of <code>test</code> . If too short, their elements are recycled.

**Value**

An `ff` vector of the same length as `test`.

**See Also**

[ifelse](#)

**Examples**

```
data(iris)
ffiris <- as.ffdf(iris)
ffifelse(ffiris$Sepal.Length < 5, TRUE, NA)
ffifelse(ffiris$Sepal.Length < 5, factor(rep("abc", nrow(ffiris))), NA)
ffifelse(ffiris$Sepal.Length < 5, Sys.Date(), factor("abc"))
ffifelse(ffiris$Sepal.Length < 5, Sys.Date(), ff(seq.Date( Sys.Date()+1
, Sys.Date()+nrow(ffiris), by = "day")))
```



---

ffmatch *Value Matching for ff objects*


---

**Description**

ffmatch returns an ff vector of the positions of (first) matches of its first argument in its second. Similar as [match](#).

ffdfmatch allows to match ffd objects by [paste](#)-ing together the columns of the ffd and matching on the pasted column and returns an ff vector of the positions of (first) matches of its first argument in its second.

%in% returns a logical ff vector indicating if there is a match or not for its left operand. ffd objects are also allowed in the left and right operand of the %in% operator. See the examples.

**Usage**

```
ffmatch(x, table, nomatch = NA_integer_, incomparables = NULL,
        trace = FALSE, ...)
```

```
ffdfmatch(x, table, nomatch = NA_integer_, incomparables = NULL,
          trace = FALSE, ...)
```

```
x %in% table
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff object for ffmatch or an ffd object for ffdmatch
table	a ff object for ffmatch or an ffd object for ffdmatch
nomatch	the value to be returned in the case when no match is found. Note that it is coerced to integer.
incomparables	a vector of values that cannot be matched. Any value in x matching a value in this vector is assigned the nomatch value. For historical reasons, FALSE is equivalent to NULL.
trace	logical indicating to show on which chunk the function is computing
...	other parameters passed on to chunk

**Value**

An ff vector of the same length as x. An integer vector giving the position in table of the first match if there is a match, otherwise nomatch.

**See Also**

[match](#), [paste](#)

## Examples

```
## Basic example of match.ff
x.ff <- ffmach( as.ff(as.factor(c(LETTERS, NA)))
               , as.ff(as.factor(c("C", "B", "Z", "X", "HMM", "Nothing", NA)))
               , trace=TRUE
               , BATCHBYTES=20)

class(x.ff)
x <- match(c(LETTERS, NA), c("C", "B", "Z", "X", "HMM", "Nothing", NA))
table(x.ff[] == x, exclude=c())
## ffdmatch also allows to input an ffd
data(iris)
ffiris <- as.ffdf(iris)
ffirissubset <- as.ffdf(iris[c(1:10, nrow(iris)), ])
ffdfmatch(ffiris, ffirissubset, trace=TRUE, BATCHBYTES=500)

## %in% is masked from the base package
letter <- factor(c(LETTERS, NA))
check <- factor(c("C", "B", "Z", "X", "HMM", "Nothing", NA))
letter %in% check
as.ff(letter) %in% as.ff(check)

ffiris %in% ffirissubset
```

---

ffrandom

*Generate ff vector with draws from distribution*


---

## Description

A convenience function to generate ff vectors with draws from random distributions using functions such as [runif](#), [rnorm](#) and [rlnorm](#).

## Usage

```
ffrandom(n, rfun = runif, ..., vmode = NULL)
```

## Arguments

n	number of observations
rfun	a function generating the draws from the random distribution. This function should expect the number of draws as its first argument. Valid examples are the routines <a href="#">runif</a> , <a href="#">rnorm</a> , and <a href="#">rlnorm</a> .
...	additional arguments are passed on to rfun.
vmode	the vmode of the resulting vector. See <a href="#">ff</a> . If none given the vmode is determined from a single draw from rfun.

**Details**

Before generating the vector a single draw is taken from the distribution. This might be important if one tries to reproduce draws directly from `rfun`.

**Value**

An `ff` vector with draws from the distribution.

**Examples**

```
n <- ffrandom(1E3, rnorm, mean = 10, sd = 5)

set.seed(123)
runif(1)
a <- runif(10)
set.seed(123)
b <- ffrandom(10, runif)
identical(a, b[])
```

---

`ffrep.int`*Replicate Elements of ff vectors.*

---

**Description**

Similar as `rep.int` in the base package but for `ff` vectors.

**Usage**

```
ffrep.int(x, times)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	an integer <code>ff</code> vector
<code>times</code>	integer <code>ff</code> vector giving the (non-negative) number of times to repeat each element if of length <code>length(x)</code> , or an integer of length 1 indicating how many times to repeat the whole vector. Negative or <code>NA</code> values are an error.

**Value**

An `ff` vector of integers where `x` is recycled

**See Also**

[rep.int](#)

**Examples**

```

ffrep.int(ff(1:1000), times=20)
ffrep.int(ff(factor(LETTERS)), times=20)
ffrep.int(ff(Sys.time()), times=20)
ffrep.int(ff(seq.Date(Sys.Date(), Sys.Date()+10, by = "day")), times=20)

x <- ff(factor(LETTERS), length=26)
ffrep.int(x, times=ff(1:26))

## Or supply an ff vector of the same length as x
x <- seq.Date(Sys.Date(), Sys.Date()+10, by = "day")
x <- as.ff(x)
ffrep.int(x, times=ff(0:10))

x <- ff(factor(LETTERS), length=26)
ffrep.int(x, times=ff(1:26))

```

ffseq

*Sequence Generation of ff vectors.***Description**

Similar as seq in the base package, generating an ff vector.

**Usage**

```

ffseq(from = 1, to = 1, by = ((to - from)/(length.out - 1)),
      length.out = NULL, along.with = NULL, ...)

```

**Arguments**

from	the starting value of the sequence
to	the end (maximal) value of the sequence
by	number, increment of the sequence
length.out	desired length of the sequence. Only non-negative numbers larger than 0 are allowed.
along.with	take the length from the length of this argument
...	arguments passed to or from methods

**Value**

An ff vector with the generated sequence, similar as what seq generates but as an ff vector.  
 Mark: in case this would generate a sequence of length 0, will return integer().

**See Also**[seq](#)**Examples**

```
## ffseq_len
ffseq_len(1000)
ffseq_len(1000000)

## ffseq
ffseq(from = 1, to = 4, by = 1)
ffseq(from = 1, to = 4, by = 0.5)
ffseq(from = 4, to = 1, by = -0.5)
ffseq(from = -100, to = 100, by = 0.3)
ffseq(from = 2, to = -100, length.out = 4)
ffseq(from = 2, to = -100, length.out = 4)
ffseq(from = 2, along.with=1000)
ffseq(to = 2, along.with=1000)
ffseq(along.with=1000)
ffseq(length.out=1000000)
```

---

`ffseq_len`*Sequence Generation of ff vectors.*

---

**Description**

Similar as `seq_len` in the base package, generating an ff vector.

**Usage**

```
ffseq_len(length.out)
```

**Arguments**

<code>length.out</code>	desired length of the sequence. Only non-negative numbers larger than 0 are allowed.
-------------------------	--

**Value**

An ff vector of integers with range from 1 to `length.out`

**See Also**[seq\\_len](#)

**Examples**

```
## ffseq_len
ffseq_len(1000)
ffseq_len(1000000)

## ffseq
ffseq(from = 1, to = 4, by = 1)
ffseq(from = 1, to = 4, by = 0.5)
ffseq(from = 4, to = 1, by = -0.5)
ffseq(from = -100, to = 100, by = 0.3)
ffseq(from = 2, to = -100, length.out = 4)
ffseq(from = 2, to = -100, length.out = 4)
ffseq(from = 2, along.with=1000)
ffseq(to = 2, along.with=1000)
ffseq(along.with=1000)
ffseq(length.out=1000000)
```

---

ffwhich

---

*Create an index from a filter statement*


---

**Description**

ffwhich creates an **ff** integer index vector from a filter expression. The resulting vector can be used to index or subset a **ffdf** or **ff** vector.

**Usage**

```
ffwhich(x, expr, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff or <b>ffdf</b> object
expr	R code that evaluates to a logical
...	not used

**See Also**

ffindexget ffindexset

**Examples**

```
# create a ff vector
x <- ff(10:1)
# make an ff index vector
idx <- ffwhich(x, x < 5)
# use it to retrieve values from x
x[idx][[]]
```

```
# create a ffd data.frame
dat <- ffd(x1=x, y1=x)
# create an ff index vector from a filter statement
idx <- ffwhich(dat, x1 < 5 & y1 > 2)
# use it to select data from the data.frame
dat[idx,],
```

---

format.ff\_vector      *Date Conversion Functions for ff vector*

---

### Description

Date Conversion Functions for ff vector.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff_vector'
format(x, ..., inplace = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x                    an object of class ff\_vector  
 ...                  other parameters passed on to [format](#)  
 inplace              passed on to [chunkify](#)

### Value

An ff\_vector of length(x) containing the result of format applied to the elements in chunks

---

grouprunningcumsum      *Groups the input integer vector into several groups if the running cumulative sum increases a certain maximum number*

---

### Description

Groups the input integer vector into several groups if the running cumulative sum increases a certain maximum number

### Usage

```
grouprunningcumsum(x, max)
```

### Arguments

x                    an integer vector  
 max                  the maximum running cumulative size before an extra grouping is done

**Value**

An integer vector of the same length of x, indicating groups

---

hist.ff	<i>hist for ff vectors</i>
---------	----------------------------

---

**Description**

Currently this is a simple version of [hist](#) functionality.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
hist(x, breaks = min(100, length(x)), plot = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff vector of values for which the histogram is desired
breaks	a single numer given the number of cells for the histogram
plot	logical. If TRUE (default), a histogram is plotted, otherwise a list of breaks and counts is returned
...	further arguments supplied to plot.

**Value**

histogram object

---

ikey	<i>Creates a unique integer key for unique combinations of rows of an ffd</i>
------	---

---

**Description**

Creates a unique integer key for unique combinations of rows of an ffd. In database terms this would correspond to a primary or foreign key.

Orders the ffd decreasingly alongside the columns with NA's as last in the order and creates the integer key.

**Usage**

```
ikey(x, ...)
```



**Arguments**

x                    an ffd  
 ...                  other parameters passed on to chunk

**Value**

An integer ff vector of the same length as the number of rows in x with unique values for each unique row

**Examples**

```
oldffmaxbytes <- getOption("ffmaxbytes")
options(ffmaxbytes = 20)
ffiris <- as.ffdf(iris)
ffiris$key1 <- ikey(ffiris)
ffiris$key2 <- ikey(ffiris[c("Petal.Width", "Species")])
unique(ffiris[c("key2", "Petal.Width", "Species")])[,]
options(ffmaxbytes = oldffmaxbytes)
```

---

is.na.ff	<i>'Not Available' / Missing Values for ff vectors</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

The generic function is.na indicates which elements are missing.  
 The generic function is.na<- sets elements to NA.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
is.na(x, ...)

## S3 replacement method for class 'ff'
is.na(x, ...) <- value
```

**Arguments**

x                    a ff vector  
 ...                  other parameters passed on to chunk  
 value                a suitable ff index vector for use with x

**Value**

A logical ff vector of the same length of x indicating if the ff vector contains missing values.

**See Also**

[is.na](#), [ffvecapply](#)

**Examples**

```
is.na.ff(ff(c(NA, 1:100)), BATCHBYTES=20, VERBOSE=TRUE)
## S3 generic
is.na(ff(c(NA, 1:100)))
## Assign a missing value
x <- ff(c(NA, 1:100))
is.na(x) <- ff(c(3,5))
x
is.na(x) <- 7:8
x
```

---

laf\_to\_ffdf

*Use LaF to import data into ffdF data.frame*


---

**Description**

Use LaF to import data into a [ffdf](#) data.frame

**Usage**

```
laf_to_ffdf(laf, x = NULL, nrows = 1e+05, transFUN = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

laf	laf object pointing to a csv or fwf file
x	optional, <a href="#">ffdf</a> object where laf data should be appended to.
nrows,	number of rows per block, passed on to next_block
transFUN	NULL or a function that is called on each data.frame chunk which is read in using next_block. This can be used for filtering and data transformations.
...	passed on to next_block

---

load.ffdf	<i>Loads ffd data.frames from a directory</i>
-----------	---

---

### Description

load.ffdf loads ffd data.frames from the given dir, that were stored using [save.ffdf](#). Each column is stored as with filename <ffdfname>\${<colname>.ff. All variables are stored in .RData in the same directory. The data can be loaded by starting a R session in the directory or by using [load.ffdf](#).

### Usage

```
load.ffdf(dir, envir = parent.frame())
```

### Arguments

dir	path from where the data should be loaded
envir	environment where the stored variables will be loaded into.

### See Also

[load.ffdf](#)

### Examples

```
iris.ffdf <- as.ffdf(iris)

td <- tempfile()

# save the ffd into the supplied directory
save.ffdf(iris.ffdf, dir=td)

# what in the directory?
dir(td)

#remove the ffd from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# and reload the stored ffd
load.ffdf(dir=td)

tf <- paste(tempfile(), ".zip", sep="")
packed <- pack.ffdf(file=tf, iris.ffdf)

#remove the ffd from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# restore the ffd from the packed ffd
unpack.ffdf(tf)
```

---

mean.ff	<i>Mean of ff vector</i>
---------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Mean of ff vector

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
mean(x, trim = 0, ..., range = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff vector
trim	percentage of robustness, between 0 and 1
...	other arguments passed to mean
range	a ri or an integer vector of length==2 giving a range restriction for chunked processing

**Value**

mean value

**Examples**

```
# create a vector of length 10 million
x <- ff(vmode="double", length=1e7)

mean(x)
```

---

merge.ffdf	<i>Merge two ffdf by common columns, or do other versions of database join operations.</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Merge two ffdf by common columns, or do other versions of database join operations. This method is similar to [merge](#) in the base package but only allows inner and left outer joins. Note that joining is done based on [ffmatch](#) or [ffdfmatch](#): only the first element in y will be added to x; and since [ffdfmatch](#) works by [paste](#)-ing together a key, this might not be suited if your key contains columns of vmode double.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
merge(x, y, by = intersect(names(x), names(y)), by.x = by,
      by.y = by, all = FALSE, all.x = all, all.y = all, sort = FALSE,
      suffixes = c(".x", ".y"), incomparables = NULL, trace = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	an ffdf
y	an ffdf
by	specifications of the common columns. Columns can be specified by name, number or by a logical vector.
by.x	specifications of the common columns of the x ffdf, overruling the by parameter
by.y	specifications of the common columns of the y ffdf, overruling the by parameter
all	see <a href="#">merge</a> in R base
all.x	if TRUE, then extra rows will be added to the output, one for each row in x that has no matching row in y. These rows will have NAs in those columns that are usually filled with values from y. The default is FALSE, so that only rows with data from both x and y are included in the output.
all.y	similar as all.x
sort	logical, currently not used yet, defaults to FALSE.
suffixes	character(2) specifying the suffixes to be used for making non-by names() unique.
incomparables	values which cannot be matched. See <a href="#">match</a> . Currently not used.
trace	logical indicating to show on which chunk the function is computing
...	other options passed on to <a href="#">ffdfindexget</a>

**Details**

If a left outer join is performed and no matching record in x is found in y, columns with vmodes 'boolean', 'quad', 'nibble', 'ubyte', 'ushort' are coerced respectively to vmode 'logical', 'byte', 'byte', 'short', 'integer' to allow NA values.

**Value**

an ffdf

**See Also**

[merge](#)

**Examples**

```

authors <- data.frame(
  surname = c("Tukey", "Venables", "Tierney", "Ripley", "McNeil"),
  nationality = c("US", "Australia", "US", "UK", "Australia"),
  deceased = c("yes", rep("no", 4)))
books <- data.frame(
  name = c("Tukey", "Venables", "Tierney",
           "Ripley", "Ripley", "McNeil", "R Core"),
  title = c("Exploratory Data Analysis",
            "Modern Applied Statistics ...",
            "LISP-STAT",
            "Spatial Statistics", "Stochastic Simulation",
            "Interactive Data Analysis",
            "An Introduction to R"),
  other.author = c(NA, "Ripley", NA, NA, NA, NA,
                  "Venables & Smith"))
books <- lapply(1:100, FUN=function(x, books){
  books$price <- rnorm(nrow(books))
  books
}, books=books)
books <- do.call(rbind, books)
authors <- as.ffdf(authors)
books <- as.ffdf(books)

dim(books)
dim(authors)
## Inner join
oldffbatchbytes <- getOption("ffbatchbytes")
options(ffbatchbytes = 100)
m1 <- merge( books, authors, by.x = "name", by.y = "surname"
            , all.x=FALSE, all.y=FALSE, trace = TRUE)

dim(m1)
unique(paste(m1$name[], m1$nationality[]))
unique(paste(m1$name[], m1$deceased[]))
m2 <- merge( books[,], authors[,], by.x = "name", by.y = "surname"
            , all.x=FALSE, all.y=FALSE, sort = FALSE)

dim(m2)
unique(paste(m2$name[], m2$nationality[]))
unique(paste(m2$name[], m2$deceased[]))
## Left outer join
m1 <- merge( books, authors, by.x = "name", by.y = "surname"
            , all.x=TRUE, all.y=FALSE, trace = TRUE)

class(m1)
dim(m1)
names(books)
names(m1)
unique(paste(m1$name[], m1$nationality[]))
unique(paste(m1$name[], m1$deceased[]))
## Show coercion to allow NA's
authors$test <- ff(TRUE, length=nrow(authors), vmode = "boolean")
vmode(authors$test)
m1 <- merge( books, authors, by.x = "name", by.y = "surname"

```

```

      , all.x=TRUE, all.y=FALSE, trace = TRUE)
vmode(m1$test)
table(m1$test[], exclude=c())
options(ffbatchbytes = oldffbatchbytes)

```

---

min.ff *Minimum, maximum and range of ff vector*

---

### Description

default behaviour of [min](#), [max](#) and [range](#)

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'ff'
min(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE, range = NULL)

```

### Arguments

x	a ff object
...	optional other (ff) objects
na.rm	should NA be removed?
range	a <code>ri</code> or an integer vector of length==2 giving a range restriction for chunked processing

### Value

minimum, maximum or range values

### Examples

```

x <- ff(1:100)

min(x)
max(x)
range(x)

is.na(x) <- 10
min(x)
max(x)
range(x)

min(x, na.rm=TRUE)
max(x, na.rm=TRUE)
range(x, na.rm=TRUE)

```

---

 move.ffdf

*Moves all the columns of ffd data.frames into a directory*


---

### Description

move.ffdf saves all columns into the given dir. Each column is stored as with filename <ffdf-name>\${colname}.ff. If you want to store the data for an other session please use [save.ffdf](#) or [pack.ffdf](#)

### Usage

```
move.ffdf(x, dir = ".", name = as.character(substitute(x)),
          relativepath = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	ffdf data.frame to be moved
dir	path were all of supplied ffd's, will be saved. It will be created if it doesn't exist.
name	name to be used as data.frame name
relativepath	If TRUE the ffd will contain relativepaths. Use with care...

### See Also

[load.ffdf](#) [save.ffdf](#)

### Examples

```
iris.ffdf <- as.ffdf(iris)

td <- tempfile()

# save the ffd into the supplied directory
save.ffdf(iris.ffdf, dir=td)

# what in the directory?
dir(td)

#remove the ffd from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# and reload the stored ffd
load.ffdf(dir=td)

tf <- paste(tempfile(), ".zip", sep="")
packed <- pack.ffdf(file=tf, iris.ffdf)

#remove the ffd from memory
```



```
rm("iris.ffdf")

# restore the ffdf from the packed ffdf
unpack.ffdf(tf)
```

---

pack.ffdf

*Packs ffdf data.frames into a compressed file*

---

## Description

pack.ffdf stores ffdf data.frames into the given file for easy archiving and movement of data. The file can be restored using [unpack.ffdf](#). If file ends with ".zip", the package will be zipped otherwise it will be tar.gz-ed.

## Usage

```
pack.ffdf(file, ...)
```

## Arguments

file	packaged file, zipped or tar.gz.
...	ff objects to be packed

## See Also

[save.ffdf](#) [unpack.ffdf](#)

## Examples

```
iris.ffdf <- as.ffdf(iris)

td <- tempfile()

# save the ffdf into the supplied directory
save.ffdf(iris.ffdf, dir=td)

# what in the directory?
dir(td)

#remove the ffdf from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# and reload the stored ffdf
load.ffdf(dir=td)

tf <- paste(tempfile(), ".zip", sep="")
packed <- pack.ffdf(file=tf, iris.ffdf)

#remove the ffdf from memory
```

```
rm("iris.ffdf")

# restore the ffdf from the packed ffdf
unpack.ffdf(tf)
```

---

quantile.ff	<i>quantiles</i>
-------------	------------------

---

### Description

The function `quantile` produces quantiles corresponding to the given probabilities. The smallest observation corresponds to a probability of 0 and the largest to a probability of 1. Current implementation doesn't use the `type` parameter of `quantile`. For large `ff` vectors the difference between the types is (very) small. If `x` has been `ffordered`, `quantile` is fast, otherwise it is  $\$n \log(n)\$$ .

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
quantile(x, probs = seq(0, 1, 0.25), na.rm = FALSE,
         names = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	<code>ff</code> vector
<code>probs</code>	numeric vector of probabilities with values in [0,1].
<code>na.rm</code>	logical; if true, any NA and NaN's are removed from <code>x</code> before the quantiles are computed.
<code>names</code>	logical; if true, the result has a <code>names</code> attribute. Set to <code>FALSE</code> for speedup with many <code>probs</code> .
<code>...</code>	currently not used

---

rle_ff	<i>Compute the lengths and values of runs of equal values in a vector</i>
--------	---

---

### Description

Similar `rle` in the base package but for `ff` vectors.

### Usage

```
rle_ff(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	an <code>ff</code> vector
<code>...</code>	further arguments are passed on the <code>chunk</code>

**Value**

An object of class `rle` which is a list with components

**lengths** an integer vector containing the length of each run.

**values** a vector of the same length as ‘lengths’ with the corresponding values.

**Note**

The resulting `rle` object is a memory object and must fit into memory.

**See Also**

[rle](#) for an implementation that runs on ordinary vectors.

---

save.ffdf	<i>Save ffd data.frames in a directory</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

`save.ffdf` saves all `ffdf` data.frames in the given `dir`. Each column is stored as with filename `<ffdfname>${<colname>.ff`. All variables given in `"..."` are stored in `".RData"` in the same directory. The data can be reloaded by starting a R session in the directory or by using `load.ffdf`. Note that calling `save.ffdf` multiple times for the same directory will only store the `ffdf`'s that were given in the last call.

**Usage**

```
save.ffdf(..., dir = "./ffdb", clone = FALSE, relativepath = TRUE,
  overwrite = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>...</code>	<code>ffdf</code> data.frames, <code>ff</code> vectors, or other variables to be saved in the directory
<code>dir</code>	path where <code>.RData</code> file will be saved and all columns of supplied <code>ffdf</code> 's. It will be created if it doesn't exist.
<code>clone</code>	should the <code>ff</code> vectors be <code>clone</code> 'd, creating a snapshot of the supplied <code>ffdf</code> or <code>ff</code> objects? This should only be necessary if you still need the <code>ff</code> vectors in their current storage location.
<code>relativepath</code>	logical if <code>TRUE</code> the stored <code>ff</code> vectors will have relative paths, making moving the data to another storage a simple copy operation.
<code>overwrite</code>	logical If <code>TRUE</code> <code>save.ffdf</code> will overwrite an previous stored <code>ffdf</code> , <code>.Rdata</code> file.

### Details

Using `save.ffdf` automatically sets the `finalizers` of the `ff` vectors to `"close"`. This means that the data will be preserved on disk when the object is removed or the R sessions is closed. Data can be deleted either using `delete` or by removing the directory where the object were saved (`dir`).

### Note

When saving in the temporary directory pointed at by `getOption("fftempdir")`, `ff` assumes that the resulting files are to be deleted. Be sure to change the finalizers of the `ff` vectors when saving in the temporary directory.

### See Also

[load.ffdf](#)

### Examples

```
iris.ffdf <- as.ffdf(iris)

td <- tempfile()

# save the ffdf into the supplied directory
save.ffdf(iris.ffdf, dir=td)

# what in the directory?
dir(td)

#remove the ffdf from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# and reload the stored ffdf
load.ffdf(dir=td)

tf <- paste(tempfile(), ".zip", sep="")
packed <- pack.ffdf(file=tf, iris.ffdf)

#remove the ffdf from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# restore the ffdf from the packed ffdf
unpack.ffdf(tf)
```

---

`set_ffbase_logging`      *sets the logging of ffbase*

---

### Description

sets the logging of `ffbase`

**Usage**

```
set_ffbase_logging(level = c("info"), logger = if (interactive()) cat)
```

**Arguments**

level	logging level: info/debug
logger	function to be called for logging statements, by default this is cat

---

subset.ff	<i>Subsetting a ff vector or ffdldata frame</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

Subsetting a ff vector or ffdldata frame

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
subset(x, subset, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	ff vector or ffdldata.frame to be subset
subset	an expression, ri, bit or logical ff vector that can be used to index x
...	not used

**Value**

a new ff vector containing the subset, data is physically copied

---

sum.ff	<i>Sum of ff vector Elements</i>
--------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

sum returns the sum of all the values present in its arguments.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
sum(x, ..., na.rm = FALSE, range = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	a ff object
...	optional other (ff) objects
na.rm	should NA be removed?
range	a ri or an integer vector of length==2 giving a range restriction for chunked processing

**Value**

sum of elements

---

table	<i>Cross Tabulation and Table Creation</i>
-------	--

---

**Description**

Upgrades table to a generic function and implements a method for ff vectors which works for ff factors. For other arguments passed on to table, uses [table](#)

**Usage**

```
table(..., exclude = if (useNA == "no") c(NA, NaN),
       useNA = c("no", "ifany", "always"), dnn = list.names(...), deparse.level = 1)

table(..., exclude = if (useNA == "no") c(NA, NaN),
       useNA = c("no", "ifany", "always"), dnn = list.names(...), deparse.level = 1)
```

**Arguments**

...	ff factors or ff integers
exclude	see <a href="#">table</a>
useNA	see <a href="#">table</a>
dnn	see <a href="#">table</a>
deparse.level	see <a href="#">table</a>

**Details**

table.ff uses the cross-classifying factors to build a contingency table of the counts at each combination of factor levels.

If ... does not contain factors, unique.ff will add a levels attribute to the non-factors.

**Value**

[table](#) object

**See Also**[table](#)

---

tabulate.ff	<i>Tabulation for ff vectors</i>
-------------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

tabulate.ff takes the integer-valued ff vector bin and counts the number of times each integer occurs in it.

**Usage**

```
tabulate.ff(bin, nbins = max(bin, 1), na.rm = TRUE))
```

**Arguments**

bin	factor to be binned.
nbins	number of bins

**Details**

Behaviour of [tabulate](#)

**Value**

integer vector or if FFRETURN is TRUE a ff vector

**Examples**

```
#create a vector of 10 million
x <- ff(vmode="integer", length=1e7)

# fill first 200 with values
x[1:100] <- 1
x[101:200] <- 2

# lets count
tabulate.ff(x)
```

---

transform.ffdf	<i>Transform a ffdf data.frame</i>
----------------	------------------------------------

---

### Description

Same functionality as [transform](#), but on a ffdf object. Please note that you should write your expression as if it is a normal data.frame. The resulting data.frame however will be a ffdf data.frame.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
transform(`_data`, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>_data</code>	ffdf data object to be transformed.
<code>...</code>	named arguments that will be added to the ffdf data.frame

### Value

a modified clone of ``_data``.

### Examples

```
transform(as.ffdf(airquality), Ozone = -Ozone)
transform(as.ffdf(airquality), new = -Ozone, Temp = (Temp-32)/1.8)
```

---

unique.ff	<i>Unique values for ff and ffdf objects</i>
-----------	--

---

### Description

Unique values for ff and ffdf objects

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
unique(x, incomparables = FALSE, fromLast = FALSE,
      trace = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
unique(x, incomparables = FALSE, fromLast = FALSE,
      trace = FALSE, ...)
```



**Arguments**

x	ff object or ffdof object
incomparables	a vector of values that cannot be compared. FALSE is a special value, meaning that all values can be compared, and may be the only value accepted for methods other than the default. It will be coerced internally to the same type as x.
fromLast	logical indicating if duplication should be considered from the last, i.e., the last (or rightmost) of identical elements will be kept
trace	logical indicating to show on which chunk the function is computing
...	other parameters passed on to chunk

**Value**

An ffdof with unique values in x or an ff vector with unique values in x if x is a ff vector.

**See Also**

[unique](#)

**Examples**

```

data(iris)
irisdouble <- rbind(iris, iris)
ffiris <- as.ffdf(irisdouble)
## unique.ff
unique(ffiris$Sepal.Length)
unique(ffiris$Petal.Length)
ffiris$Species[1] <- NA
unique(ffiris$Species)
levels(unique(ffiris$Species))
## unique.ffdf
uiris <- unique(ffiris, trace=TRUE, by=10)[,]
test <- unique(irisdouble)
dim(iris)
dim(irisdouble)
dim(uiris)
dim(test)

!apply(uiris, MARGIN=1, FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=",")) %in%
  apply(test, MARGIN=1, FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=","))

!apply(test, MARGIN=1, FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=",")) %in%
  apply(uiris, MARGIN=1, FUN=function(x) paste(x, collapse=","))

```

---

unpack.ffdf	<i>Unpacks previously stored ffd data.frame into a directory</i>
-------------	--

---

### Description

unpack.ffdf restores ffd data.frames into the given dir, that were stored using [pack.ffdf](#). If dir is NULL (the default) the data.frames will be restored in a temporary directory.

### Usage

```
unpack.ffdf(file, dir = NULL, envir = parent.frame())
```

### Arguments

file	packaged file, zipped or tar.gz.
dir	path where the data will be saved and all columns of supplied ffd's. It will be created if it doesn't exist.
envir	the environment where the stored variables should be loaded into.

### See Also

[load.ffdf](#) [pack.ffdf](#)

### Examples

```
iris.ffdf <- as.ffdf(iris)

td <- tempfile()

# save the ffd into the supplied directory
save.ffdf(iris.ffdf, dir=td)

# what in the directory?
dir(td)

#remove the ffd from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# and reload the stored ffd
load.ffdf(dir=td)

tf <- paste(tempfile(), ".zip", sep="")
packed <- pack.ffdf(file=tf, iris.ffdf)

#remove the ffd from memory
rm("iris.ffdf")

# restore the ffd from the packed ffd
unpack.ffdf(tf)
```

---

`with.ffdf`*Evaluate an expression in a ffdf data environment*

---

### Description

Evaluate an R expression in an environment constructed from a ffdf data frame. (see [with](#)). Please note that you should write your expression as if it is a normal `data.frame`. The resulting return value however will be a ff object.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'  
with(data, expr, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	<a href="#">ffdf</a> data object used as an environment for evaluation.
<code>expr</code>	expression to evaluate.
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <a href="#">chunk</a> .

### Value

if expression is a vector a newly created ff vector will be returned otherwise if the expression is a `data.frame` a newly created ffdf object will be returned.

### Note

'with.ffdf' assumes that the returned object is of equal length as 'nrow(data)' and must be converted to a 'ff' object In case this is not true, the result won't be correct.

### See Also

[ffdfwith](#)

### Examples

```
dat <- data.frame(x=1:10, y=10:1)  
  
ffdat <- as.ffdf(dat)  
  
with(ffdat, {x+y})
```

---

 within.ffdf

*Evaluate an expression in a ffdof data environment*


---

### Description

Same functionality as `within`. Please note that you should write your expression as if it is a normal `data.frame`. The resulting `data.frame` however will be a new `ffdf` `data.frame`.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
within(data, expr, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	<code>ffdf</code> data object used as an environment for evaluation.
<code>expr</code>	expression to evaluate.
<code>...</code>	arguments to be passed to <code>chunk</code> .

### Value

a modified clone of `data`.

### Examples

```
ffdat <- as.ffdf(data.frame(x=1:10, y=10:1))
# add z to the ffdat
within(ffdat, {z <- x+y})
```

---

 [.ff

*Reading and writing vectors extended to handle logical ff vectors as indexes*


---

### Description

Package `ff` does not allow to extract and set values of `ff` vectors based on logical `ff` vectors. For this reason the extractor functions `[.ff` and `[<-.ff` defined in package `ff` are overloaded. If you supply a logical `ff` vector as an index to another `ff` vector, the overloaded function will convert it to an integer `ff` index before using the `[.ff` and `[<-.ff` function from the `ff` package. This allows to do `ff(1:10)[ff(c(FALSE, TRUE, NA, TRUE))]`

Mark that all other functionality from the extractor functions `[.ff` and `[<-.ff` in package `ff` are retained. This is an extension to handle logical `ff` vectors as indexes.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ff'
x[i, pack = FALSE]

## S3 replacement method for class 'ff'
x[i, add = FALSE, pack = FALSE] <- value
```

**Arguments**

x	an ff object
i	missing OR a single index expression OR a <a href="#">hi</a> object
pack	FALSE to prevent rle-packing in hybrid index preprocessing, see <a href="#">as.hi</a>
add	TRUE if the values should rather increment than overwrite at the target positions, see <a href="#">readwrite.ff</a>
value	the values to be assigned, possibly recycled

**Value**

See [Extract.ff](#). Mark that if a logical ff vector is used for i, and if only FALSE or NA values are present, NULL is returned in case of the extractor function [.ff while for the setter function [<-.ff, if the length value is zero, this is not allowed.

**See Also**

[Extract.ff](#)

**Examples**

```
## extractors
x <- ff(1:10)
y <- ff(11:20)
idx <- ff(c(FALSE, TRUE, NA, TRUE))
x[idx]
idx <- ff(c(FALSE, FALSE, TRUE))
x[idx]
idx <- ff(1:3)
x[idx]

## setters
idx <- ff(c(FALSE, TRUE, NA, TRUE))
x[idx] <- y[idx]
x
idx <- ff(c(FALSE, FALSE, TRUE))
try(x[idx] <- y[idx], silent = T) ## not allowed
x
idx <- ff(1:3)
x[idx] <- y[idx]
x
```

[.ffdf

*Reading and writing data.frames (ffdf)***Description**

Package `ff` does not allow to extract and set values of `ffdf` objects based on logical `ff` vectors. For this reason the extractor functions `[.ffdf` and `[<-.ffdf` defined in package `ff` are overloaded.

If you supply a logical `ff` vector as an index to subset an `ffdf` object, the overloaded function will convert the logical `ff` vector to an integer `ff` index before using the `[.ffdf` and `[<-.ffdf` functions from the `ff` package.

This allows to do `as.ffdf(iris)[as.ff(iris$Sepal.Length > 5), ]`

This is an extension to handle logical `ff` vectors as indexes to `ffdf` objects.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'ffdf'
x[i, j, drop = TRUE]

## S3 replacement method for class 'ffdf'
x[i, j] <- value
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	an <code>ff</code> object
<code>i</code>	a row subscript
<code>j</code>	a column subscript
<code>drop</code>	logical. If <code>TRUE</code> the result is coerced to the lowest possible dimension.
<code>value</code>	A suitable replacement value

**Value**

See [Extract.ffdf](#). Mark that if a logical `ff` vector is used for `i`, and if only `FALSE` or `NA` values are present, this is not allowed as `ffdf` with zero rows do not exist.

**See Also**

[Extract.ffdf](#)

**Examples**

```
## extractors for ffd objects
data(iris)
x <- as.ffdf(iris)
x[x$Sepal.Length > 5, ]
x[x$Sepal.Length > 5, 1:3]
x[x$Sepal.Length > 5, 1, drop=TRUE]
x[x$Sepal.Length > 5, 1]
x[, 1]
x[, ]
x[c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width")]
x[1:2]

## setters
data(iris)
x <- as.ffdf(iris)
testpositions <- x$Sepal.Length > 5
testpositions <- ffwhich(testpositions, testpositions == TRUE)
mynewdata <- x[testpositions, c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width")]
mynewdata$Sepal.Length <- ff(1, length = nrow(mynewdata))
x[x$Sepal.Length > 5, c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width")] <- mynewdata
x[testpositions, ]

data(iris)
x <- as.ffdf(iris)
testpositions <- x$Sepal.Length > 5
testpositions <- ffwhich(testpositions, testpositions == TRUE)
mynewdata <- x[testpositions, c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width")]
mynewdata$Sepal.Length <- ff(1, length = nrow(mynewdata))
x[testpositions, c("Sepal.Length", "Sepal.Width")] <- mynewdata
x[testpositions, ]
```

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