Package ‘httpgd’

February 2, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Package</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>A 'HTTP' Server Graphics Device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td>1.3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>A graphics device for R that is accessible via network protocols. This package was created to make it easier to embed live R graphics in integrated development environments and other applications. The included 'HTML/JavaScript' client (plot viewer) aims to provide a better overall user experience when dealing with R graphics. The device asynchronously serves graphics via 'HTTP' and 'WebSockets'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>License</td>
<td>GPL (&gt;= 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depends</td>
<td>R (&gt;= 3.2.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imports</td>
<td>later (&gt;= 1.1.0), systemfonts (&gt;= 1.0.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkingTo</td>
<td>cpp11 (&gt;= 0.2.4), BH (&gt;= 1.75.0), later, systemfonts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggests</td>
<td>testthat, xml2 (&gt;= 1.0.0), fontquiver (&gt;= 0.2.0), knitr, markdown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RoxygenNote</td>
<td>7.1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encoding</td>
<td>UTF-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SystemRequirements</td>
<td>C++17, libpng, cairo, freetype2, fontconfig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BugReports</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/nx10/httpgd/issues">https://github.com/nx10/httpgd/issues</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VignetteBuilder</td>
<td>knitr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>yes</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
httpgd-package

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R topics documented:

httpgd-package .................................................. 2
hgd ................................................................. 3
hgd_browse ..................................................... 5
hgd_clear ....................................................... 5
hgd_close ....................................................... 6
hgd_generate_token ............................................. 7
hgd_id ............................................................. 7
hgd_info .......................................................... 8
hgd_inline ....................................................... 9
hgd_plot .......................................................... 10
hgd_remove ..................................................... 11
hgd_renderers ................................................... 12
hgd_state ........................................................ 12
hgd_svg .......................................................... 13
hgd_test_pattern ............................................... 14
hgd_url .......................................................... 14
hgd_view ........................................................ 16

Index 17

httpgd-package

httpgd: HTTP server graphics device

Description

Asynchronous HTTP server graphics device.
**hgd**

*Asynchronous HTTP server graphics device.*

**Description**

This function initializes a httpgd graphics device and starts a local webserver, that allows for access via HTTP and WebSockets. A link will be printed by which the web client can be accessed using a browser.

**Usage**

```r
hgd(
  host = getOption("httpgd.host", "127.0.0.1"),
  port = getOption("httpgd.port", 0),
  width = getOption("httpgd.width", 720),
  height = getOption("httpgd.height", 576),
  bg = getOption("httpgd.bg", "white"),
  pointsize = getOption("httpgd.pointsize", 12),
  system_fonts = getOption("httpgd.system_fonts", list()),
  user_fonts = getOption("httpgd.user_fonts", list()),
  cors = getOption("httpgd.cors", FALSE),
  token = getOption("httpgd.token", TRUE),
  silent = getOption("httpgd.silent", FALSE),
  websockets = getOption("httpgd.websockets", TRUE),
  webserver = getOption("httpgd.webserver", TRUE),
  fix_text_width = getOption("httpgd.fix_text_width", TRUE),
  extra_css = getOption("httpgd.extra_css", "")
)
```

**Arguments**

- **host**
  - Server hostname. Set to "0.0.0.0" to enable remote access. We recommend to **only enable remote access in trusted networks**. The network security of httpgd has not yet been properly tested.

- **port**
  - Server port. If this is set to 0, an open port will be assigned.

- **width**
  - Graphics device width (pixels).

- **height**
  - Graphics device height (pixels).

- **bg**
  - Background color.

- **pointsize**
  - Graphics device point size.

- **system_fonts**
  - Named list of font names to be aliased with fonts installed on your system. If unspecified, the R default families sans, serif, mono and symbol are aliased to the family returned by `systemfonts::font_info()`.

- **user_fonts**
  - Named list of fonts to be aliased with font files provided by the user rather than fonts properly installed on the system. The aliases can be fonts from the fontquiver package, strings containing a path to a font file, or a list containing
name and file elements with name indicating the font alias in the SVG output and file the path to a font file.

cors Toggles Cross-Origin Resource Sharing (CORS) header. When set to TRUE, CORS header will be set to "*".

token (Optional) security token. When set, all requests need to include a token to be allowed. (Either in a request header (X-HTTPGD-TOKEN) field or as a query parameter.) This parameter can be set to TRUE to generate a random 8 character alphanumeric token. A random token of the specified length is generated when it is set to a number. FALSE deactivates the token.

silent When set to FALSE no information will be printed to console.

websockets Use websockets.

webserver Can be set to FALSE for offline mode. In offline mode the device is only accessible via R.

fix_text_width Should the width of strings be fixed so that it doesn’t change between SVG renderers depending on their font rendering? Defaults to TRUE. If TRUE each string will have the textLength CSS property set to the width calculated by systemfonts and lengthAdjust=’spacingAndGlyphs’. Setting this to FALSE can be beneficial for heavy post-processing that may change content or style of strings, but may lead to inconsistencies between strings and graphic elements that depend on the dimensions of the string (e.g. label borders and background).

extra_css Extra CSS to be added to the SVG. This can be used to embed webfonts.

Details

All font settings and descriptions are adopted from the excellent 'svglite' package.

Value

No return value, called to initialize graphics device.

Examples

## Not run:

hgd() # Initialize graphics device and start server
hgd_browse() # Or copy the displayed link in the browser

# Plot something
x <- seq(0, 3 * pi, by = 0.1)
plot(x, sin(x), type = "l")

dev.off() # alternatively: hgd_close()

## End(Not run)
**hgd_browse**

*Open httpgd URL in the browser.*

**Description**

This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

**Usage**

```
hgd_browse(..., which = dev.cur(), browser = getOption("browser"))
```

**Arguments**

- `...`: Parameters passed to `hgd_url()`.
- `which`: Which device (ID).
- `browser`: Program to be used as HTML browser.

**Value**

URL.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

hgd()
hgd_browse() # open browser
hist(rnorm(100))

dev.off()

## End(Not run)
```

---

**hgd_clear**

*Clear all httpgd plot pages.*

**Description**

This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

**Usage**

```
hgd_clear(which = dev.cur())
```

**Arguments**

- `which`: Which device (ID).
hgd_close

Value

Whether there were any pages to remove.

Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
plot(1, 1)
hist(rnorm(100))
hgd_clear()
hist(rnorm(100))
dev.off()

## End(Not run)
```

hgd_close

Close httpgd device.

Description

This achieves the same effect as `grDevices::dev.off()`, but will only close the device if it has the httpgd type.

Usage

```r
hgd_close(which = dev.cur(), all = FALSE)
```

Arguments

- `which` Which device (ID).
- `all` Should all running httpgd devices be closed.

Value

Number and name of the new active device (after the specified device has been shut down).

Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
hgd_browse() # open browser
hist(rnorm(100))
hgd_close() # Equivalent to dev.off()

hgd()
hgd()
```
**hgd_generate_token**

hgd()
hgd_close(all = TRUE)

## End(Not run)

---

**Description**

This is mainly used internally by httpgd, but exposed for testing purposes.

**Usage**

hgd_generate_token(len)

**Arguments**

- **len**: Token length (number of characters).

**Value**

Random token string.

**Examples**

hgd_generate_token(6)

---

**hgd_id**

*Query httpgd plot IDs*

---

**Description**

Query httpgd graphics device static plot IDs. Available plot IDs starting from `index` will be returned. `limit` specifies the number of plots. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

**Usage**

hgd_id(index = 0, limit = 1, which = dev.cur(), state = FALSE)

**Arguments**

- **index**: Plot index. If this is set to 0, the last page will be selected.
- **limit**: Limit the number of returned IDs. If this is set to a value > 1 the returned type is a list if IDs.
- **which**: Which device (ID).
- **state**: Include the current device state in the returned result (see also: `hgd_state()`).
Value

TODO

Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
plot.new()
text(.5, .5, "#1")
plot.new()
text(.5, .5, "#2")
plot.new()
text(.5, .5, "#3")
third <- hgd_id()
second <- hgd_id(2)
all <- hgd_id(1, limit = Inf)
hgd_remove(1)
hgd_svg(second)

dev.off()

## End(Not run)
```

hgd_info  

**httpgd device information.**

Description

Access general information of a httpgd graphics device. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```r
hgd_info(which = dev.cur())
```

Arguments

| which | Which device (ID). |

Value

List of status variables with the following named items: $id$: Server unique ID, $version$: httpgd and library versions.
**hgd_inline**

_Inline SVG rendering._

**Examples**

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
hgd_info()
dev.off()

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

Convenience function for quick inline SVG rendering. This is similar to `hgd_svg()` but the plotting code is specified inline and an offline httpgd graphics device is managed (created and closed) automatically. Starting a device with `hgd()` is therefore not necessary.

**Usage**

```r
hgd_inline(
  code,
  page = 0,
  page_width = -1,
  page_height = -1,
  zoom = 1,
  renderer = "svg",
  file = NA,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

- `code`  
  Plotting code. See examples for more information.
- `page`  
  Plot page to render. If this is set to 0, the last page will be selected. Can be set to a numeric plot index or plot ID (see `hgd_id()`).
- `page_width`  
  Width of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last width will be selected.
- `page_height`  
  Height of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last height will be selected.
- `zoom`  
  Zoom level. (For example: 2 corresponds to 200%, 0.5 would be 50%.)
- `renderer`  
  Renderer.
- `file`  
  Filepath to save SVG. (No file will be created if this is NA)
- `...`  
  Additional parameters passed to `hgd(webserver=FALSE,...)`
Value

Rendered SVG string.

Examples

```r
hgd_inline(
  hist(rnorm(100))
)

s <- hgd_inline(
  plot.new()
  lines(c(0.5, 1, 0.5), c(0.5, 1, 1))
)
cat(s)
```

Description

This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```r
hgd_plot(
  page = 0,
  width = -1,
  height = -1,
  zoom = 1,
  renderer = "svg",
  which = dev.cur(),
  file = NA
)
```

Arguments

- **page**: Plot page to render. If this is set to 0, the last page will be selected. Can be set to a numeric plot index or plot ID (see `hgd_id()`).
- **width**: Width of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last width will be selected.
- **height**: Height of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last height will be selected.
- **zoom**: Zoom level. (For example: 2 corresponds to 200%, 0.5 would be 50%.)
- **renderer**: Renderer.
- **which**: Which device (ID).
- **file**: Filepath to save SVG. (No file will be created if this is NA)
hgd_remove

Value

Rendered SVG string.

Examples

## Not run:

```r
hgd()
plot(1, 1)
s <- hgd_svg(width = 600, height = 400)
hist(rnorm(100))
hgd_svg(file = tempfile(), width = 600, height = 400)
dev.off()
```

## End(Not run)

---

hgd_remove

Remove a httpgd plot page.

Description

This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```r
hgd_remove(page = 0, which = dev.cur())
```

Arguments

- **page**: Plot page to remove. If this is set to 0, the last page will be selected. Can be set to a numeric plot index or plot ID (see `hgd_id()`).
- **which**: Which device (ID).

Value

Whether the page existed (and thereby was successfully removed).

Examples

## Not run:

```r
hgd()
plot(1, 1) # page 1
hist(rnorm(100)) # page 2
hgd_remove(page = 1) # remove page 1
dev.off()
```

## End(Not run)
hgd_renderers  

**httpgd device renderers.**

Description

Get a list of available renderers. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```
hgd_renderers(which = dev.cur())
```

Arguments

which  
Which device (ID).

Value

List of renderers with the following named items: $id: Renderer ID, $mime: File mime type, $ext: File extension, $name: Human readable name, $type: Renderer type (currently either `plot` or `other`), $bin: Is the file a binary blob or text.

Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
hgd_renderers()
dev.off()
## End(Not run)
```

hgd_state  

**httpgd device status.**

Description

Access status information of a httpgd graphics device. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```
hgd_state(which = dev.cur())
```

Arguments

which  
Which device (ID).
Value

List of status variables with the following named items: $host: Server hostname, $port: Server port, $token: Security token, $hsize: Plot history size (how many plots are accessible), $upid: Update ID (changes when the device has received new information), $active: Is the device the currently activated device.

Examples

## Not run:

```r
hgd()
hgd_state()
plot(1, 1)
hgd_state()
dev.off()
```

## End(Not run)

---

**hgd_svg**

*Render httpgd plot to SVG.*

Description

This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

Usage

```r
hgd_svg(
  page = 0,
  width = -1,
  height = -1,
  zoom = 1,
  which = dev.cur(),
  file = NA
)
```

Arguments

- **page**: Plot page to render. If this is set to 0, the last page will be selected. Can be set to a numeric plot index or plot ID (see `hgd_id()`).
- **width**: Width of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last width will be selected.
- **height**: Height of the plot. If this is set to -1, the last height will be selected.
- **zoom**: Zoom level. (For example: 2 corresponds to 200%, 0.5 would be 50%.)
- **which**: Which device (ID).
- **file**: Filepath to save SVG. (No file will be created if this is NA)
Value

Rendered SVG string.

Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd()
plot(1, 1)
s <- hgd_svg(width = 600, height = 400)
hist(rnorm(100))
hgd_svg(file = tempfile(), width = 600, height = 400)

dev.off()

## End(Not run)
```

### Parameters

- `hgd_test_pattern()`
  - **Description:** Plot a test pattern that can be used to evaluate and compare graphics devices.

### Usage

```r
hgd_test_pattern()
```

### Examples

```r
## Not run:

hgd_test_pattern()

## End(Not run)
```

### Parameters

- `hgd_url`
  - **Description:** Generate URLs to the plot viewer or to plot SVGs. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.

```r
hgd_url
```

---

**Description**

Generate URLs to the plot viewer or to plot SVGs. This function will only work after starting a device with `hgd()`.
Usage

hgd_url(
  endpoint = "live",
  which = dev.cur(),
  websockets = TRUE,
  width = -1,
  height = -1,
  renderer = NA,
  history = TRUE,
  host = NULL,
  port = NULL,
  explicit = FALSE
)

Arguments

  endpoint  API endpoint. The default, "live" is the HTML/JS plot viewer. Can be set to
            a numeric plot index or plot ID (see hgd_id()) to obtain the direct URL to the
            SVG.
  which     Which device (ID).
  websockets Use websockets.
  width     Width of the plot. (Only used when endpoint is "svg", or a plot index or ID.)
  height    Height of the plot. (Only used when endpoint is "svg", or a plot index or ID.)
  renderer  Renderer.
  history   Should the plot history sidebar be visible.
  host      Replaces hostname.
  port      Replaces port.
  explicit  Ads hgd=(host):(port) query parameter. Needed for host resolution in some
            editors.

Value

  URL.

Examples

  ## Not run:

  hgd()
  my_url <- hgd_url()
  hgd_url(0)
  hgd_url(plot_id(), width = 800, height = 600)
  dev.off()

  ## End(Not run)
hgd_view

Open httpgd URL in the IDE.

Description

Global option viewer needs to be set to a function that accepts the client URL as a parameter.

Usage

hgd_view()

Details

This function will only work after starting a device with hgd().

Value

viewer function return value.

Examples

## Not run:

hgd()

hgd_view()

hist(rnorm(100))

dev.off()

## End(Not run)
Index

grDevices::dev.off(), 6

hgd, 3
hgd(), 5, 7–14, 16
hgd_browse, 5
hgd_clear, 5
hgd_close, 6
hgd_generate_token, 7
hgd_id, 7
hgd_id(), 9–11, 13, 15
hgd_info, 8
hgd_inline, 9
hgd_plot, 10
hgd_remove, 11
hgd_renderers, 12
hgd_state, 12
hgd_state(), 7
hgd_svg, 13
hgd_svg(), 9
hgd_test_pattern, 14
hgd_url, 14
hgd_url(), 5
hgd_view, 16
httpgd-package, 2

systemfonts::font_info(), 3