

Package ‘blockr.session’

August 4, 2026

Title Session Management for 'blockr'

Version 0.1.0

Description Persist, restore and manage 'blockr' boards from within a running app. Provides a 'manage_project' plugin for 'blockr.core' that replaces the built-in file upload and download interface with storage backed by the 'pins' package. On 'Posit Connect' each visitor reads and writes pins under their own account, with board sharing, visibility controls and version history.

License GPL (>= 3)

URL <https://bristolmyerssquibb.github.io/blockr.session/>,
<https://github.com/BristolMyersSquibb/blockr.session>

BugReports <https://github.com/BristolMyersSquibb/blockr.session/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

Imports blockr.core (>= 0.1.3), shiny, pins (>= 1.4.0), jsonlite,
glue, rlang, bsicons, htmltools, httr2, utils, zip

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), blockr.dock, connectapi, knitr,
rmarkdown, quarto, withr, xml2

VignetteBuilder quarto

Config/testthat/edition 3

Config/roxygen2/version 8.0.0

NeedsCompilation no

Author Nicolas Bennett [aut, cre],
Christoph Sax [aut],
Bristol Myers Squibb [fnd]

Maintainer Nicolas Bennett <nicolas@cynkra.com>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-08-04 14:10:18 UTC

Contents

manage_project	2
rack-backend	3
rack_create	6
rack_load	7
rack_loader	7
user_pins_board	8
Index	10

manage_project	<i>Project management</i>
----------------	---------------------------

Description

Enhanced session management with navbar-compatible UI. Provides a `blockr.core::preserve_board()` plugin with full navbar layout including workflows, version history, and editable title.

Usage

```
manage_project(server = manage_project_server, ui = manage_project_ui)

manage_project_server(id, board, ...)

manage_project_ui(id, x)
```

Arguments

server, ui	Server/UI for the plugin module
id	Namespace ID
board	Reactive values object containing board state
...	Extra arguments (may include dock object)
x	Board object

Value

See `blockr.core::preserve_board()`.

Examples

```
plg <- manage_project()
blockr.core::is_plugin(plg)
```

rack-backend	<i>Rack storage backend contract</i>
--------------	--------------------------------------

Description

The rack layer is the storage abstraction behind blockr session persistence: it turns a save into a stored, versioned record and a load back into board state. The shipped backend dispatches on **pins** boards (see `user_pins_board()`), but the contract is storage-agnostic – a database or document store is supported by implementing the generics documented here and carrying the `rack_backend` class, which is what wiring a non-pins backend into the `session_mgmt_backend` `blockr.core::blockr_option()` requires. The high-level `rack_create()`, `rack_append()` and `rack_load()` entry points that application code calls are built on these generics.

Usage

```
new_rack_id(id, version = NULL, user = NULL, ..., class = character())  
  
new_rack_record(id, name, ..., class = character())  
  
rack_content_hash(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_name(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_rename(id, backend, name, ...)  
  
rack_exists(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_list(backend, tags = NULL, ...)  
  
as_rack_id(x, backend, ...)  
  
rack_info(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_download(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_upload(backend, path, ...)  
  
rack_delete(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_purge(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_capabilities(backend, ...)  
  
rack_tags(id, backend, ...)  
  
rack_set_tags(id, backend, tags, ...)
```

```

rack_acl(id, backend, ...)

rack_set_acl(id, backend, acl_type, ...)

rack_share(id, backend, with_sub, ...)

rack_unshare(id, backend, with_sub, ...)

rack_shares(id, backend, ...)

rack_find_users(backend, query, ...)

```

Arguments

id	A rack_id identifying a stored record, for the accessor and mutator generics. For new_rack_id() and new_rack_record(), the record's storage id: a non-empty string, stable and independent of the display name.
version	For new_rack_id(), an optional version string pinning the rack_id to one stored version; NULL tracks the latest.
user	For new_rack_id(), the owning account, used to reach records stored under another user's namespace.
...	Passed on to methods; for the constructors, extra named fields stored on the object.
class	Character vector prepended to the object's class, so a backend carries its own rack_id / rack_record subclass.
name	Display name for the record, written to the backend's native name field and never used as the storage key; NULL keeps the current name.
backend	A rack backend: the storage object dispatched on. A pins board is recognized directly; any other backend carries the rack_backend class so the session_mgmt_backend option accepts it.
tags	Character vector of tags: the filter applied by rack_list() (NULL for none), or the tag set written by rack_set_tags().
x	The object to coerce with as_rack_id(): an existing rack_id (returned unchanged), or a component bag – a list of identifier fields (id, and optionally version and user) or a rack_record – turned into the backend's own rack_id subclass.
path	Path to the local file to upload as a new version.
acl_type	Access-control level to set, backend-defined (e.g. "private", "acl", "all").
with_sub	Backend identifier of the principal to share a record with or revoke.
query	Search prefix for rack_find_users().

Details

Two kinds of object flow through the contract. A *backend* is the board or store itself, the dispatch target for as_rack_id(), rack_capabilities(), rack_list(), rack_upload() and rack_find_users().

A `rack_id` is a handle to one stored record, the dispatch target for the remaining generics. `as_rack_id()` coerces a raw identifier – a component list or a `rack_record` listing row – into the backend’s own `rack_id` subclass (via `new_rack_id(..., class=)`) from the components (`id`, `version`, `user`) carried in a session URL, and returns an existing `rack_id` unchanged. `rack_list()` returns `new_rack_record()` summaries, the listing rows the workflow menu renders.

Value

`new_rack_id()` and `new_rack_record()` return a `rack_id` and `rack_record` respectively. `rack_capabilities()` returns the named list of flags above. `rack_list()` returns a list of `rack_records` and `rack_info()` a data frame of versions (columns `version`, `created`, `ref`, newest first). `as_rack_id()`, `rack_upload()` and `rack_rename()` return a `rack_id`; `rack_download()` a local file path; `rack_name()` a string; `rack_exists()` a scalar logical; `rack_content_hash()` the stored payload hash; `rack_tags()`, `rack_acl()` and `rack_shares()` the stored tags, access level and shares. The mutators (`rack_set_tags()`, `rack_set_acl()`, `rack_share()`, `rack_unshare()`, `rack_delete()`, `rack_purge()`) return invisibly.

Capabilities

`rack_capabilities()` is the feature switch: it returns a named list of logical flags declaring which optional features the backend supports, and the management UI gates the matching generics on it.

- **versioning:** a version history is kept per record: `rack_info()` lists it and `rack_download()` / `rack_delete()` accept a version.
- **tags:** `rack_tags()` and `rack_set_tags()` are implemented.
- **metadata:** a display name (`rack_name()`, `rack_rename()`) and a content hash (`rack_content_hash()`) are stored alongside the payload.
- **sharing:** `rack_share()`, `rack_unshare()` and `rack_shares()` are implemented.
- **visibility:** `rack_acl()` and `rack_set_acl()` are implemented.
- **user_discovery:** `rack_find_users()` is implemented.

A minimal backend implements only the core create / load / list set – `as_rack_id()`, `rack_upload()`, `rack_download()`, `rack_exists()`, `rack_list()`, `rack_info()` and `rack_name()` – and returns `FALSE` for every optional capability; the generics behind a `FALSE` flag are then never reached and need no method.

See Also

`rack_create()`, `rack_append()` and `rack_load()` for the high-level save / load API built on the contract, and `user_pins_board()` for the default **pins** backend.

rack_create	<i>Create or append to a session record on a rack backend</i>
-------------	---

Description

`rack_create()` serialises data to JSON and stores it as a **new** record keyed on `id` – the board’s own stable id, so the record id and the board id match. It is a strict insert: it errors (class `rack_create_exists`) if `id` already names a record rather than appending a version. `name` is written to the backend’s native display field. `rack_append()` adds a **new version** to the existing record identified by `id`, erroring (class `rack_append_missing`) if there is none, and never touches the name. Together they replace the former `rack_save()`, separating insert from append. To change a record’s name, use `rack_rename()`.

Usage

```
rack_create(backend, data, id, name, ...)
```

```
rack_append(id, backend, data, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>backend</code>	A rack backend object (e.g. a <code>pins_board</code>).
<code>data</code>	An R object to serialise and store (typically the session list returned by the blockr session machinery).
<code>id</code>	For <code>rack_create()</code> , the storage id to key the new record on (typically the board id); errors if it already names a record. For <code>rack_append()</code> , the <code>rack_id</code> of the record to add a version to.
<code>name</code>	Character scalar. The display name for the new record.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments forwarded to rack_upload() .

Value

A `rack_id` object identifying the newly created version.

See Also

[rack_load\(\)](#) for the complementary load function, [rack_rename\(\)](#) to change a record’s name, [rack_upload\(\)](#) for the underlying generic.

rack_load	<i>Load a session from a rack backend</i>
-----------	---

Description

Downloads and parses a stored session identified by `id` from the given backend. This is a convenience wrapper around [rack_download\(\)](#) that additionally deserialises the JSON payload into an R object.

Usage

```
rack_load(id, backend, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>id</code>	A <code>rack_id</code> object identifying the session to load.
<code>backend</code>	A rack backend object (e.g. a <code>pins_board</code>).
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments forwarded to rack_download() .

Value

The deserialised session data as an R object (typically a named list).

See Also

[rack_create\(\)](#) and [rack_append\(\)](#) for the complementary save functions, [rack_download\(\)](#) for the underlying download generic.

rack_loader	<i>Rack-backed board loader</i>
-------------	---------------------------------

Description

A `blockr.core::board_loader()` for `blockr.core::serve()` that picks the board to build from the request URL. The board named by the URL handle (`board_name / user / version`) loads from the `session_mgmt_backend` backend; a new handle (minted when the user hits New) yields an empty board under that fresh id, so saving it forks a distinct record rather than overwriting the served board; a request without any handle (a cold load) gets a cleared copy of the served board. The backend is resolved with the loader's own request (at the GET, before any session) or session (at the WS connect), so a user-scoped backend such as [user_pins_board\(\)](#) resolves under the *visitor's* own Posit Connect credentials at both phases; a board the visitor may not read does not resolve, whatever the user / `board_name` in the URL. Pair it with [manage_project\(\)](#) when calling `blockr.core::serve()`: `serve(board, plugins = c(.., manage_project()), loader = rack_loader())`.

Usage

```
rack_loader()
```

Value

A `blockr.core::board_loader()` object.

user_pins_board	<i>Posit Connect storage backend with graceful fallback</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Resolves the storage backend for the session_mgmt_backend `blockr.core::blockr_option()` – of which it is the default – in three tiers, degrading instead of erroring on a missing credential:

Usage

```
user_pins_board(session = get_session())
```

Arguments

session	Shiny session whose request carries the Connect user session token; defaults to the current reactive domain.
---------	--

Details

1. When the visitor carries a Posit Connect user session token (the Connect API Integration is enabled), it is exchanged via `connectapi::connect()` for a viewer-scoped API key, so each user reads and writes pins under their own namespace (`pins::board_connect()`). Requires the **connectapi** package.
2. With no visitor token but application Connect credentials in the environment (`CONNECT_SERVER` and `CONNECT_API_KEY`), a board on the application's own account.
3. Otherwise (e.g. local development, off Connect), `pins::board_local()`.

Set the session_connect_tag `blockr.core::blockr_option()` to an existing Connect tag's name (or a "Category/Name" path) to have the workflow listing filter server-side by that native tag; saves then apply it. Unset, the listing returns every pin and checks blockr membership only on load.

Value

A pins_board: a viewer- or application-scoped board_connect, or board_local when no Connect credentials are available.

Examples

```
## Not run:
# Resolves the backend for the current visitor; call from within a
# running Shiny app, as it reads the session request for a Connect
# user session token. It is the default value of the
# `session_mgmt_backend` blockr option.
board <- user_pins_board()

## End(Not run)
```

Index

`as_rack_id (rack-backend)`, 3
`as_rack_id()`, 5

`blockr.core::blockr_option()`, 3, 8
`blockr.core::board_loader()`, 7, 8
`blockr.core::preserve_board()`, 2
`blockr.core::serve()`, 7

`manage_project`, 2
`manage_project()`, 7
`manage_project_server (manage_project)`, 2
`manage_project_ui (manage_project)`, 2

`new_rack_id (rack-backend)`, 3
`new_rack_record (rack-backend)`, 3
`new_rack_record()`, 5

`pins::board_connect()`, 8
`pins::board_local()`, 8

`rack-backend`, 3
`rack_acl (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_append (rack_create)`, 6
`rack_append()`, 3, 5, 7
`rack_capabilities (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_content_hash (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_create`, 6
`rack_create()`, 3, 5, 7
`rack_delete (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_download (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_download()`, 7
`rack_exists (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_find_users (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_info (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_list (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_load`, 7
`rack_load()`, 3, 5, 6
`rack_loader`, 7
`rack_name (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_purge (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_rename (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_set_acl (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_set_tags (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_share (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_shares (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_tags (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_unshare (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_upload (rack-backend)`, 3
`rack_upload()`, 6

`user_pins_board`, 8
`user_pins_board()`, 3, 5, 7