

Package ‘flexiblas’

September 29, 2020

Type Package

Title 'FlexiBLAS' API Interface

Version 3.0.0

Description Provides functions to switch the 'BLAS'/'LAPACK' optimized backend and change the number of threads without leaving the R session, which needs to be linked against the 'FlexiBLAS' wrapper library
<<https://www.mpi-magdeburg.mpg.de/projects/flexiblas>>.

License GPL (>= 3)

Encoding UTF-8

OS_type unix

URL <https://github.com/Enchufa2/r-flexiblas>

BugReports <https://github.com/Enchufa2/r-flexiblas/issues>

Suggests tinytest

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

NeedsCompilation yes

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flexiblas-package **flexiblas**: *FlexiBLAS API Interface for R*

Description

Provides functions to switch the BLAS/LAPACK optimized backend and change the number of threads without leaving the R session, which needs to be linked against the FlexiBLAS wrapper library.

Author(s)

Martin Koehler, Iñaki Ucar

References

Koehler M., Saak J. (2020). "FlexiBLAS - A BLAS and LAPACK wrapper library with runtime exchangeable backends." doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3909214](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3909214).

flexiblas-backends *Handle Backends*

Description

Get current backend, list available ones, load and switch between backends.

Usage

```
flexiblas_current_backend()
```

```
flexiblas_list()
```

```
flexiblas_list_loaded()
```

```
flexiblas_load_backend(name)
```

```
flexiblas_switch(n)
```

Arguments

name character vector of backend names or paths (case insensitive).

n loaded backend index.

Value

`flexiblas_current_backend` and `flexiblas_list*` return a character vector of backend names or paths.

`flexiblas_load_backend` and `flexiblas_switch` return the indices of the loaded backends if the operation was successful, or fail otherwise.

See Also

[flexiblas_avail](#), [flexiblas_version](#), [flexiblas-threads](#)

Examples

```
n <- 2000
runs <- 10
ignore <- "__FALLBACK__"

A <- matrix(runif(n*n), nrow=n)
B <- matrix(runif(n*n), nrow=n)

# load backends
backends <- setdiff(flexiblas_list(), ignore)
idx <- flexiblas_load_backend(backends)

# benchmark
timings <- sapply(idx, function(i) {
  flexiblas_switch(i)

  # warm-up
  C <- A[1:100, 1:100] %%% B[1:100, 1:100]

  unname(system.time({
    for (j in seq_len(runs))
      C <- A %%% B
  }))[3])
})

if (length(timings)) {
  results <- data.frame(
    backend = backends,
    `timing [s]` = timings,
    `performance [GFlops]` = (2 * (n / 1000)^3) / timings,
    check.names = FALSE)

  results[order(results$performance),]
}
```

flexiblas-threads *Get/Set Number of Threads*

Description

Get or set the number of threads for the BLAS backend.

Usage

```
flexiblas_get_num_threads()
```

```
flexiblas_set_num_threads(n)
```

Arguments

n number of threads.

Value

flexiblas_get_num_threads returns the number of threads.

flexiblas_set_num_threads returns nothing.

See Also

[flexiblas_avail](#), [flexiblas_version](#), [flexiblas-backends](#)

Examples

```
max_threads <- 4
n <- 2000
runs <- 10

A <- matrix(runif(n*n), nrow=n)
B <- matrix(runif(n*n), nrow=n)

for (i in seq_len(max_threads)) {
  message("Set number of threads to: ", i)
  flexiblas_set_num_threads(i)

  print(system.time({
    for (j in seq_len(runs))
      C <- A %*% B
  })))
}
```

flexiblas_avail	<i>Check Availability</i>
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Description

Check whether FlexiBLAS is available.

Usage

```
flexiblas_avail()
```

Value

A boolean.

See Also

[flexiblas_version](#), [flexiblas-backends](#), [flexiblas-threads](#)

flexiblas_version	<i>Get Version</i>
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Description

Get current version of FlexiBLAS.

Usage

```
flexiblas_version()
```

Value

A [package_version](#) object.

See Also

[flexiblas_avail](#), [flexiblas-backends](#), [flexiblas-threads](#)

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