

# Package ‘interface’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Runtime Type System

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**URL** <https://github.com/dereckmezquita/interface>

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**Description** Provides a runtime type system, allowing users to define and implement interfaces, enums, typed data.frame/data.table, as well as typed functions. This package enables stricter type checking and validation, improving code structure, robustness and reliability.

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==.enum	<i>Equality comparison for enum objects</i>
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## Description

Compares two enum objects or an enum object with a character value.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'enum'
e1 == e2
```

## Arguments

e1	First enum object
e2	Second enum object or a character value

## Value

Logical value indicating whether the two objects are equal

---

enum *Create an enumerated type*

---

### Description

Creates an enumerated type with a fixed set of possible values. This function returns an enum generator, which can be used to create enum objects with values restricted to the specified set.

### Usage

```
enum(...)
```

### Arguments

... The possible values for the enumerated type. These should be unique character strings.

### Value

A function (enum generator) of class 'enum\_generator' that creates enum objects of the defined type. The returned function takes a single argument and returns an object of class 'enum'.

### See Also

[interface](#) for using enums in interfaces

### Examples

```
# Create an enum type for colors
Colors <- enum("red", "green", "blue")

# Create enum objects
my_color <- Colors("red")
print(my_color) # Output: Enum: red

# Trying to create an enum with an invalid value will raise an error
try(Colors("yellow"))

# Enums can be used in interfaces
ColoredShape <- interface(
  shape = character,
  color = Colors
)

my_shape <- ColoredShape(shape = "circle", color = "red")

# Modifying enum values
my_shape$color$value <- "blue" # This is valid
try(my_shape$color$value <- "yellow") # This will raise an error
```

---

`fun`*Create a typed function*

---

### Description

Defines a function with specified parameter types and return type. Ensures that the function's arguments and return value adhere to the specified types.

### Usage

```
fun(...)
```

### Arguments

...           Named arguments defining the function parameters and their types, including 'return' for the expected return type(s) and 'impl' for the function implementation.

### Details

The 'fun' function allows you to define a function with strict type checking for its parameters and return value. This ensures that the function receives arguments of the correct types and returns a value of the expected type. The 'return' and 'impl' arguments should be included in the ... parameter list.

### Value

A function of class 'typed\_function' that enforces type constraints on its parameters and return value. The returned function has the same signature as the implementation function provided in the 'impl' argument.

### Examples

```
# Define a typed function that adds two numbers
add_numbers <- fun(
  x = numeric,
  y = numeric,
  return = numeric,
  impl = function(x, y) {
    return(x + y)
  }
)

# Valid call
print(add_numbers(1, 2)) # [1] 3

# Invalid call (throws error)
try(add_numbers("a", 2))
```

```
# Define a typed function with multiple return types
concat_or_add <- fun(
  x = c(numeric, character),
  y = numeric,
  return = c(numeric, character),
  impl = function(x, y) {
    if (is.numeric(x)) {
      return(x + y)
    } else {
      return(paste(x, y))
    }
  }
)

# Valid calls
print(concat_or_add(1, 2))      # [1] 3
print(concat_or_add("a", 2))  # [1] "a 2"
```

---

handle_violation	<i>Handle violations based on the specified action</i>
------------------	--

---

### Description

Handles violations by either throwing an error, issuing a warning, or doing nothing, depending on the specified action.

### Usage

```
handle_violation(message, action)
```

### Arguments

message	The error message to be handled.
action	The action to take: "error", "warning", or "silent".

---

interface	<i>Define an interface</i>
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### Description

An interface defines a structure with specified properties and their types or validation functions. This is useful for ensuring that objects adhere to a particular format and type constraints.

### Usage

```
interface(..., validate_on_access = FALSE, extends = list())
```

## Arguments

...                   Named arguments defining the properties and their types or validation functions.

validate\_on\_access           Logical, whether to validate properties on access (default: FALSE).

extends                A list of interfaces that this interface extends.

## Value

A function of class 'interface' that creates objects implementing the defined interface. The returned function takes named arguments corresponding to the interface properties and returns an object of class 'interface\_object'.

## Examples

```
# Define an interface for a person
Person <- interface(
  name = character,
  age = numeric,
  email = character
)

# Create an object that implements the Person interface
john <- Person(
  name = "John Doe",
  age = 30,
  email = "john@example.com"
)

# Using enum in an interface
Colors <- enum("red", "green", "blue")
ColoredShape <- interface(
  shape = character,
  color = Colors
)

my_shape <- ColoredShape(shape = "circle", color = "red")

# In-place enum declaration
Car <- interface(
  make = character,
  model = character,
  color = enum("red", "green", "blue")
)

my_car <- Car(make = "Toyota", model = "Corolla", color = "red")
```

---

print.enum	<i>Print method for enum objects</i>
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---

**Description**

Prints a human-readable representation of an enum object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'enum'  
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An enum object
...	Additional arguments (not used)

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects. Prints a string representation of the enum object to the console.

---

print.enum_generator	<i>Print method for enum generators</i>
----------------------	---

---

**Description**

Prints a human-readable representation of an enum generator, showing all possible values.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'enum_generator'  
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An enum generator function
...	Additional arguments (not used)

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects. Prints a string representation of the enum generator to the console.

---

```
print.interface_object
```

*Print method for interface objects*

---

**Description**

Print method for interface objects

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'interface_object'  
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object implementing an interface
...	Additional arguments (not used)

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects. Prints a human-readable representation of the interface object to the console.

---

```
print.typed_frame
```

*Print method for typed data frames*

---

**Description**

Provides a custom print method for typed data frames, displaying their properties and validation status.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'typed_frame'  
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	A typed data frame.
...	Additional arguments passed to print.

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects. Prints a summary of the typed data frame to the console, including its dimensions, column specifications, frame properties, and a preview of the data.



---

print.typed\_function *Print method for typed functions*

---

### Description

Provides a custom print method for typed functions, displaying their parameter types and return type.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'typed_function'  
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    A typed function.  
...                  Additional arguments (not used).

### Value

No return value, called for side effects. Prints a human-readable representation of the typed function to the console, showing the argument types and return type.

---

rbind.typed\_frame      *Combine typed data frames row-wise*

---

### Description

This function combines multiple typed data frames row-wise, ensuring type consistency and applying row validation rules. It extends the base [rbind](#) function by adding type checks and row validation based on the specified rules for typed data frames.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'typed_frame'  
rbind(..., deparse.level = 1)
```

### Arguments

...                    Typed data frames to combine.  
deparse.level      See [rbind](#).

### Details

This version of [rbind](#) for `typed_frame` performs extra type checking and row validation to ensure consistency and adherence to specified rules. Refer to the base [rbind](#) documentation for additional details on combining data frames: [rbind](#).

**Value**

The combined typed data frame. The returned object is of class 'typed\_frame' and inherits all properties (column types, validation rules, etc.) from the first data frame in the list.

---

type.frame	<i>Create a typed data frame</i>
------------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Creates a data frame with specified column types and validation rules. Ensures that the data frame adheres to the specified structure and validation rules during creation and modification.

**Usage**

```
type.frame(
  frame,
  col_types,
  freeze_n_cols = TRUE,
  row_callback = NULL,
  allow_na = TRUE,
  on_violation = c("error", "warning", "silent")
)
```

**Arguments**

frame	The base data structure (e.g., data.frame, data.table).
col_types	A list of column types and validators.
freeze_n_cols	Logical, whether to freeze the number of columns (default: TRUE).
row_callback	A function to validate and process each row (optional).
allow_na	Logical, whether to allow NA values (default: TRUE).
on_violation	Action to take on violation: "error", "warning", or "silent" (default: "error").

**Details**

The 'type.frame' function defines a blueprint for a data frame, specifying the types of its columns and optional validation rules for its rows. When a data frame is created or modified using this blueprint, it ensures that all data adheres to the specified rules.

**Value**

A function that creates typed data frames. When called, this function returns an object of class 'typed\_frame' (which also inherits from the base frame class used, i.e. data.frame, data.table).

## Examples

```
# Define a typed data frame
PersonFrame <- type.frame(
  frame = data.frame,
  col_types = list(
    id = integer,
    name = character,
    age = numeric,
    is_student = logical
  )
)

# Create a data frame
persons <- PersonFrame(
  id = 1:3,
  name = c("Alice", "Bob", "Charlie"),
  age = c(25, 30, 35),
  is_student = c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
)

print(persons)

# Invalid modification (throws error)
try(persons$id <- letters[1:3])

# Adding a column (throws error if freeze_n_cols is TRUE)
try(persons$yeet <- letters[1:3])
```

---

validate_property	<i>Validate a property against a given type or validation function</i>
-------------------	--

---

## Description

Validates a property to ensure it matches the expected type or satisfies the given validation function.

## Usage

```
validate_property(name, value, validator)
```

## Arguments

name	The name of the property being validated.
value	The value of the property.
validator	The expected type or a custom validation function.

## Details

This function supports various types of validators: - Enum generators - Lists of multiple allowed types - Interface objects - Built-in R types (character, numeric, logical, integer, double, complex) - data.table and data.frame types - Custom validation functions

**Value**

Returns NULL if the validation passes, otherwise returns a character string containing an error message describing why the validation failed.

---

wrap_fun_in_all	<i>Modify a user-defined function to return a single logical value</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

Modifies a user-defined function to wrap its body in an all() call, ensuring that it returns a single logical value instead of a vector.

It uses bquote() to create a new body for the function. The .() inside bquote() inserts the original body of the function. The all() function wraps around the original body.

**Usage**

```
wrap_fun_in_all(user_fun)
```

**Arguments**

user\_fun      A user-defined function.

**Value**

The modified function.

---

[<- .typed_frame	<i>Modify a typed data frame using [ ]</i>
------------------	--

---

**Description**

Allows modifying a typed data frame using the [ ] operator, with validation checks.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x              A typed data frame.  
i              Row index.  
j              Column index or name.  
value         The new value to assign.

**Value**

The modified typed data frame.

---

\$.enum                      *Get value from enum object*

---

**Description**

Retrieves the value of an enum object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'enum'  
x$name
```

**Arguments**

x	An enum object
name	The name of the field to access (should be "value")

**Value**

The value of the enum object

---

\$.interface\_object        *Get a property from an interface object*

---

**Description**

Get a property from an interface object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'interface_object'  
x$name
```

**Arguments**

x	An interface object
name	The name of the property to get

**Value**

The value of the specified property. The class of the returned value depends on the property's type as defined in the interface.

---

\$<-.enum                      *Set value of enum object*

---

### Description

Sets the value of an enum object. The new value must be one of the valid enum values.

### Usage

```
## S3 replacement method for class 'enum'
x$name <- value
```

### Arguments

x	An enum object
name	The name of the field to set (should be "value")
value	The new value to set

### Value

The updated enum object

---

\$<-.interface\_object    *Set a property in an interface object*

---

### Description

Set a property in an interface object

### Usage

```
## S3 replacement method for class 'interface_object'
x$name <- value
```

### Arguments

x	An interface object
name	The name of the property to set
value	The new value for the property

### Value

The modified interface object, invisibly.

---

<code>\$&lt;-.typed_frame</code>	<i>Modify a typed data frame using \$</i>
----------------------------------	---

---

**Description**

Allows modifying a typed data frame using the \$ operator, with validation checks.

**Usage**

```
## S3 replacement method for class 'typed_frame'  
x$col_name <- value
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A typed data frame.
<code>col_name</code>	The name of the column to modify or add.
<code>value</code>	The new value to assign.

**Value**

The modified typed data frame.

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