

Convenient option settings management with the settings package

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Base R comes with a number option settings managers. Most notably, the functions `par()` for graphical options, and `options()` for general options are probably familiar to most users. These functions store option parameters such as ‘default line width’ (`lwd`) or ‘the number of digits to display on the command-line’ (`digits`) that are available globally. Users may call these functions to query or set option values. Moreover, the `options()` facility is used by many packages to store package-specific global options.

The `settings` package is aimed to make options management even more convenient. In particular, with this package one can:

- Define one’s own option settings manager (with default settings) in a single call.
- Alter or request options like with `options()` but also reset all option values with a single call.
- Merging or altering option settings either globally or locally with ease (e.g. when writing functions with the `...` argument).

Besides that, the package offers a convenient way to reset `options()` or `par()` to their ‘factory settings’ in a single call. For example, calling

```
reset_par()
```

resets almost every graphical parameter to its default; exceptions are a few settings that typically have device-dependent defaults such as `mai` (margin size in inches) or `pin` (current plot dimensions in inches). A call to

```
reset_options()
```

resets all of R’s options their defaults.

References

- [1] Mark van der Loo (2014-15) `settings`: *Software Option Settings Manager for R* R package version 0.2.0 <https://github.com/markvanderloo/settings>