

RProtoBuf 0.2.6: Quick Reference Guide

Romain François

Dirk Eddelbuettel

October 3, 2012

```
example proto file package tutorial;
option java_package = "com.example.tutorial";
option java_outer_classname = "AddressBookProtos";
message Person {
    required string name = 1;
    required int32 id = 2;
    optional string email = 3;
    enum PhoneType {
        MOBILE = 0;
        HOME = 1;
        WORK = 2;
    }
    message PhoneNumber {
        required string number = 1;
        optional PhoneType type = 2 [default = HOME];
    }
    repeated PhoneNumber phone = 4;
}
message AddressBook {
    repeated Person person = 1;
}
service EchoService {
    rpc Echo (Person) returns (Person);
}
```

read proto description files

```
R> readProtoFiles( "somefile.proto" )
R> readProtoFiles( dir = somedir )
R> readProtoFiles( package = AnRPackage )
```

create a message

```
R> message <- new( tutorial.Person, id = 0,
+                   name = "Romain Francois",
+                   email = "francoisromain@free.fr" )
```

serialize a message to a file or binary connection

```
R> # to a file
R> tf1 <- tempfile()
R> message$serialize( tf1 )
R> tf2 <- tempfile()
R> con <- file( tf2, open = "wb" )
R> message$serialize( con )
R> close(con)
R> # retrieve the payload
R> message$serialize( NULL )
[1] 0a 0f 52 6f 6d 61 69 6e 20 46 72 61 6e 63 6f
[16] 69 73 10 00 1a 16 66 72 61 6e 63 6f 69 73 72
[31] 6f 6d 61 69 6e 40 66 72 65 65 2e 66 72
```

read a message from a file or binary connection

```
R> # from a file
R> tutorial.Person$read( tf1 )
[1] " message of type 'tutorial.Person' "
R> # from a connection
R> con <- file( tf2, open = "rb" )
R> tutorial.Person$read( con )
[1] " message of type 'tutorial.Person' "
```

Get/Set fields

```
R> email <- message$email
R> message$id <- 2
R> message[[ "name" ]] <- "Romain"
R> id <- message[[ 2 ]] # tag number for 'id'
```

Message methods

has	Indicates if a message has a given field.
clone	Creates a clone of the message
isInitialized	Indicates if a message has all its required fields set
serialize	serialize a message to a file or a binary connection or retrieve the message payload as a raw vector
clear	Clear one or several fields of a message, or the entire message
size	The number of elements in a message field
bytesize	The number of bytes the message would take once serialized
swap	swap elements of a repeated field of a message
set	set elements of a repeated field
fetch	fetch elements of a repeated field
add	add elements to a repeated field
str	the R structure of the message
as.character	character representation of a message
toString	character representation of a message (same as as.character)
update	updates several fields of a message at once
descriptor	get the descriptor of the message type of this message

```
R> writeLines( message$toString() )
name: "Romain"
id: 2
email: "francoisromain@free.fr"
```

More info

full vignette [vignette\("RProtoBuf" \)](#)
protobuf <http://code.google.com/p/protobuf/>
RProtoBuf <http://r-forge.r-project.org/projects/rprotobuf/>
mailing list <https://lists.r-forge.r-project.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/rprotobuf-yada>