

# Package ‘FaaSr’

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**Type** Package

**Title** FaaS (Function as a Service) Package

**Version** 1.1.2

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**Description** Allows users to create and deploy the workflow with multiple functions in Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) cloud computing platforms. The 'FaaSr' package makes it simpler for R developers to use FaaS platforms by providing the following functionality:

- 1) Parsing and validating a JSON-based payload compliant to 'FaaSr' schema supporting multiple FaaS platforms
- 2) Invoking user functions written in R in a Docker container (derived from rocker), using a list generated from the parser as argument
- 3) Downloading/uploading of files from/to S3 buckets using simple primitives
- 4) Logging to files in S3 buckets
- 5) Triggering downstream actions supporting multiple FaaS platforms
- 6) Generating FaaS-specific API calls to simplify the registering of a user's workflow with a FaaS platform

Supported FaaS platforms:

Apache OpenWhisk <<https://openwhisk.apache.org/>>

GitHub Actions <<https://github.com/features/actions>>

Amazon Web Services (AWS) Lambda <<https://aws.amazon.com/lambda/>>

Supported cloud data storage for persistent storage:

Amazon Web Services (AWS) Simple Storage Service (S3) <<https://aws.amazon.com/s3/>>.

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**URL** <https://github.com/FaaSr/FaaSr-package>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/FaaSr/FaaSr-package/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** jsonlite, httr, uuid, paws.application.integration,  
paws.compute, paws.storage, paws.security.identity, cli,  
jsonvalidate, base64enc, sodium

**Suggests** arrow, glue, rmarkdown, paws.common, testthat, knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**NeedsCompilation** no

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faasr

*faasr*

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## Description

FaaS library client-side main function It's generating the instance for the user Users can use the functions with the instance generated by "faasr"

## Usage

```
faasr(json_path = NULL, env_path = NULL)
```

### Arguments

`json_path`      a string for the json path  
`env_path`        a string for the env(credentials) path

### Value

svc; a set of data consisting of functions and data

### Examples

```
if (interactive()){  
  test <- faasr(json_path="json_path.json", env_path="env_path")  
}
```

---

`faasr_arrow_s3_bucket` *faasr\_arrow\_s3\_bucket*

---

### Description

'test' Uses "arrow" library to set up the configurations with given json file and provide the object to the users

### Arguments

`server_name`    for string, default value is `faasr$DefaultDataStore`

### Value

s3 representing object for "arrow"

### Examples

```
# this function can be run only inside the container  
if (interactive()){  
  arrow_s3 <- faasr_arrow_s3_bucket()  
  arrow_s3$ls  
}
```

---

faasr\_delete\_file      *faasr\_delete\_file*

---

### Description

Helper function to delete a file in an S3 bucket

### Arguments

faasr	list with parsed and validated Payload
server_name	string with name of the S3 bucket to use; must match a name declared in the faasr list
remote_folder	string with the name of the remote folder where the file is to be deleted from
remote_file	string with the name for the file to be deleted

### Value

return nothing / delete the file in the bucket

### Examples

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr_delete_file(remote_file="test.txt")
}
```

---

faasr\_get\_file      *faasr\_get\_file*

---

### Description

Helper function to download a file from an S3 bucket to local Action folder

### Arguments

faasr	list with parsed and validated Payload
server_name	string with name of the S3 bucket to use; must match a name declared in the faasr list
remote_folder	string with the name of the remote folder where the file is to be downloaded from
remote_file	string with the name for the file to be downloaded from the S3 bucket
local_folder	string with the name of the local folder where the file to be downloaded is stored
local_file	string with the name of the local file once downloaded

**Value**

return nothing / delete the file in the bucket

**Examples**

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr_get_file("remote_folder", "remote_file", "local_folder", "local_file")
}
```

---

faasr\_invoke\_workflow *faasr\_invoke\_workflow*

---

**Description**

invoke workflow This function aggregates the invoke workflow function for openwhisk, github actions and lambda This can be used as a cross-platform function

**Usage**

```
faasr_invoke_workflow(FunctionInvoke = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

FunctionInvoke a string for invoke function  
... a string for underlying functions

**Value**

return nothing / invokes the FaaS platform.

**Examples**

```
if (interactive()){
  test <- faasr("test.json", "env")
  test$invoke_workflow
}
```

---

faasr_log	<i>faasr_log</i>
-----------	------------------

---

### Description

Helper function to append to the log file residing in an S3 bucket the name of the S3 server is implicit from the validated JSON payload, key LoggingServer the log file is a concatenation of folder "logs" and file name "faasr\_log\_" + InvocationID + ".txt"

### Arguments

faasr	list with parsed and validated Payload
log_message	string message to be appended to the log

### Value

return nothing / leave the log to the bucket

### Examples

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  log_message <- "test message"
  faasr_log(log_message)
}
```

---

faasr_parse	<i>faasr_parse</i>
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---

### Description

This function uses JSON parsing and validation to ensure the Payload is compliant Two checks are made here: 1) is it a valid JSON format? and 2) does it conform to the FaaSr JSON schema? If both checks pass, return a list with all the parsed key/value pairs Otherwise, abort

### Usage

```
faasr_parse(faasr_payload)
```

### Arguments

faasr_payload	JSON Payload provided upon Action invocation by the FaaS platform
---------------	---

### Value

faasr list with parsed and validated Payload

**Examples**

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr <- faasr_parse(faasr_payload)
}
```

---

faasr_put_file	<i>faasr_put_file</i>
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---

**Description**

Helper function to upload a file from a local Action folder to an S3 bucket

**Arguments**

faasr	list with parsed and validated Payload
server_name	string with name of the S3 bucket to use; must match a name declared in the faasr list
local_folder	string with the name of the local folder where the file to be uploaded resides
local_file	string with the name of the local file to be uploaded
remote_folder	string with the name of the remote folder where the file is to be uploaded to
remote_file	string with the name for the file once uploaded to the S3 bucket

**Value**

return nothing / put the file into the bucket

**Examples**

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr_put_file("local_folder", "local_file", "remote_folder", "remote_file")
}
```

---

```
faasr_register_workflow
    faasr_register_workflow
```

---

**Description**

Client tools for registering actions This aggregates openwhisk, github actions and lambda's register functions

**Usage**

```
faasr_register_workflow(...)
```

**Arguments**

... inputs for timeout, cron, and memory

**Value**

return nothing / executes the FaaS

**Examples**

```
if (interactive()){
  test <- faasr("test.json", "env")
  test$register_workflow
}
```

---

```
faasr_replace_values  faasr_replace_values
```

---

**Description**

replace dummy keys with real keys Dummy key format: Servername + "\_" + Key Name with CAPITAL LETTER e.g., My\_OW\_Account + API.key = My\_OW\_Account\_API\_KEY

**Usage**

```
faasr_replace_values(faasr, cred)
```

**Arguments**

faasr a list form of the JSON file  
cred a list form of the credentials



**Value**

faasr a list form of the JSON file with real keys

**Examples**

```
if (interactive()){  
  faasr_with_cred <- faasr_replace_values(faasr, cred)  
}
```

---

faasr\_run\_user\_function  
*faasr\_run\_user\_function*

---

**Description**

Run user functions and leave the state information

**Usage**

```
faasr_run_user_function(.faasr)
```

**Arguments**

.faasr            list with parsed and validated Payload

**Value**

return nothing / executes the given user function

**Examples**

```
# This function can be run only in the container  
if (interactive()){  
  faasr_run_user_function(.faasr)  
}
```

---

```
faasr_set_workflow_timer
      faasr_set_workflow_timer
```

---

### Description

set cron timer for workflow This function aggregates the set cron timer function for openwhisk, github actions and lambda This can be used as a cross-platform function

### Usage

```
faasr_set_workflow_timer(cron, target = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

cron	a string for cron data e.g., */5 * * * *
target	a string for specific function
...	a string for underlying functions

### Value

return nothing / set the workflow timer

### Examples

```
if (interactive()){
  test <- faasr("test.json", "env")
  test$set_workflow_timer
}
```

---

```
faasr_start      faasr_start
```

---

### Description

This is the entry-point FaaSr Function that is invoked by a FaaS platform when an Action is instantiated Terminology to clarify the various modules involved:

- \* Action: an instance of a Docker container instantiated by a FaaS platform
- \* User Function: a single function written in R; at runtime, it is executed by a single Action
- \* FaaSr Function: function implemented by the FaaSr package to implement all the logic necessary to manage the execution of a User Function within an Action. A FaaSr function has a prefix faasr\_
- \* User Workflow: a graph where each vertex represents a single User Functions and each edge represents a trigger
- \* Payload: a JSON-formatted text file that conforms to the FaaSr schema. It is delivered by the FaaS platform for each Action. It describes the entire User Workflow and may contain credentials for FaaS and S3 services

faasr\_start calls other FaaS Functions to go through the following steps:

- \* Parse the Payload and ensure that it conforms to the FaaS JSON schema; otherwise, abort
- \* Build the User Workflow graph from Payload and ensure it is cycle-free; otherwise, abort
- \* Initialize the logs folder in an S3 bucket, only if this is the entry point to the User Workflow
- \* Ensure only a single User Function runs if it has multiple predecessors; otherwise, abort
- \* Invoke the User Function, supplying the parsed payload as a list argument
- \* Update the logs folder to assert that this User Function has completed
- \* Generate triggers to start Actions that will run the next User Functions, if there are any in the User Workflow

### Arguments

faasr\_payload    JSON Payload provided upon Action invocation by the FaaS platform

### Value

faasr a list form of JSON payload

### Examples

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr <- faasr_start(faasr_payload)
}
```

---

<code>faasr_trigger</code>	<i>faasr_trigger</i>
----------------------------	----------------------

---

### Description

Uses FaaS-specific APIs to generate triggers to execute downstream User Function Currently supports: \* Apache OpenWhisk \* AWS Lambda \* GitHub Actions

### Usage

```
faasr_trigger(faasr)
```

### Arguments

faasr            list with parsed and validated Payload

### Value

return nothing / send requests to the FaaS servers.

### Examples

```
# This function can be run only in the container
if (interactive()){
  faasr_trigger(faasr)
}
```

---

```
faasr_unset_workflow_timer  
  faasr_unset_workflow_timer
```

---

### Description

unset cron timer for workflow This function aggregates the unset cron timer function for openwhisk, github actions and lambda This can be used as a cross-platform function

### Usage

```
faasr_unset_workflow_timer(target = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

target	a string for specific function
...	a string for underlying functions

### Value

return nothing / unset the workflow timer

### Examples

```
if (interactive()){  
  test <- faasr("test.json", "env")  
  test$unset_workflow_timer  
}
```

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