

rsunlight vignette - Interface to Sunlight Labs APIs.

About the package

rsunlight is an R package to search and retrieve data from the Sunlight Labs APIs.

Returned objects from functions are simple lists. That is, you likely will want to take output objects and make data.frames, vectors, matrices, etc. In future versions of rsunlight, I will return data.frame's when possible as those are easy to work with in R for beginners, though advanced users probably like lists more (I'm guessing, or just the raw JSON, eh)?

Install rsunlight

```
install.packages("devtools")
library(devtools)
install_github("rsunlight", "ropengov")
```

Load rsunlight and other dependency libraries

```
library(rsunlight)
```

Gets details (subcommittees + membership) for a committee by id.

```
out <- cg_getcommittees(id = "JSPR")
out$response$committee$members[[1]]$legislator[1:5]
```

```
## $website
## [1] "http://www.alexander.senate.gov"
##
## $fax
## [1] "202-228-3398"
##
## $govtrack_id
## [1] "300002"
##
## $firstname
## [1] "Lamar"
##
## $chamber
## [1] "senate"
```

Gets a list of all committees that a member serves on, including subcommittees.

```
out <- cg_getcommitteesallleg(bioguide_id = "S000148")
out$response$committees[[1]]

## $committee
## $committee$chamber
## [1] "Senate"
##
## $committee$id
## [1] "SSRA"
##
## $committee$name
## [1] "Senate Committee on Rules and Administration"
```

Get districts for a latitude/longitude.

```
out <- cg_getdistrictlatlong(latitude = 35.778788, longitude = -78.787805)
out$response$districts

## [[1]]
## [[1]]$district
## [[1]]$district$state
## [1] "NC"
##
## [[1]]$district$number
## [1] "2"
```

Get districts that overlap for a certain zip code.

```
out <- cg_getdistrictzip(zip = 27511)
out$response$districts

## [[1]]
## [[1]]$district
## [[1]]$district$state
## [1] "NC"
##
## [[1]]$district$number
## [1] "2"
##
##
##
## [[2]]
## [[2]]$district
## [[2]]$district$state
## [1] "NC"
##
## [[2]]$district$number
## [1] "4"
```

```
##
##
##
## [[3]]
## [[3]]$district
## [[3]]$district$state
## [1] "NC"
##
## [[3]]$district$number
## [1] "13"
```

Search congress people and senate members.

```
out <- cg_getlegislatorsearch(name = "Reed")
out$response$results[[1]]$result$legislator[1:5]
```

```
## $website
## [1] "http://reed.house.gov"
##
## $fax
## [1] "202-226-6599"
##
## $govtrack_id
## [1] "412393"
##
## $firstname
## [1] "Tom"
##
## $chamber
## [1] "house"
```

Search congress people and senate members for a zip code.

```
out <- cg_legislatorsallforzip(zip = 77006)
library(plyr)
ldply(out$response$legislators, function(x) data.frame(x$legislator[c("firstname",
"lastname"))]))
```

```
##   firstname    lastname
## 1   Sheila Jackson Lee
## 2         Ted         Cruz
## 3        John       Cornyn
## 4         Ted         Poe
```

Find the popularity of a phrase over a period of time.

Get a list of how many times the phrase “united states” appears in the Congressional Record in each month between January and June, 2010:

```
cw_timeseries(phrase = "united states", start_date = "2009-01-01", end_date = "2009-04-30",
              granularity = "month")
```

```
## 4 records returned
```

```
##   count      month
## 1  3805 2009-01-01
## 2  3512 2009-02-01
## 3  6018 2009-03-01
## 4  2967 2009-04-01
```

Plot data

```
library(ggplot2)
dat <- cw_timeseries(phrase = "climate change")
```

```
## 1407 records returned
```

```
ggplot(dat, aes(day, count)) + geom_line() + theme_grey(base_size = 20)
```

Plot more data

```
dat_d <- cw_timeseries(phrase = "climate change", party = "D")
```

```
## 957 records returned
```

```
dat_d$party <- rep("D", nrow(dat_d))
dat_r <- cw_timeseries(phrase = "climate change", party = "R")
```

```
## 632 records returned
```

```
dat_r$party <- rep("R", nrow(dat_r))
dat_both <- rbind(dat_d, dat_r)
ggplot(dat_both, aes(day, count, colour = party)) + geom_line() + theme_grey(base_size = 20) +
  scale_colour_manual(values = c("blue", "red"))
```

Interactive charts using rCharts Note that the resulting chart opens in a browser, so is not shown in this vignette, but you will see it open in a browser when you run the code.

```
dream <- lapply(c("D", "R"), function(x) cw_timeseries(phrase = "i have a dream",
  party = x, start_date = "1996-01-01", end_date = "2013-01-01", granularity = "month"))
df <- merge(dream[[1]], dream[[2]], by = "month", all = TRUE)
df[is.na(df)] <- 0
names(df) <- c("date", "D", "R")
df$date <- as.character(df$date)
# df <- ldply(dream, data.frame)
```

```
library(rCharts)
m1 <- mPlot(x = "date", y = c("D", "R"), type = "Line", data = df)
m1$set(pointSize = 0, lineWidth = 1)
m1
```

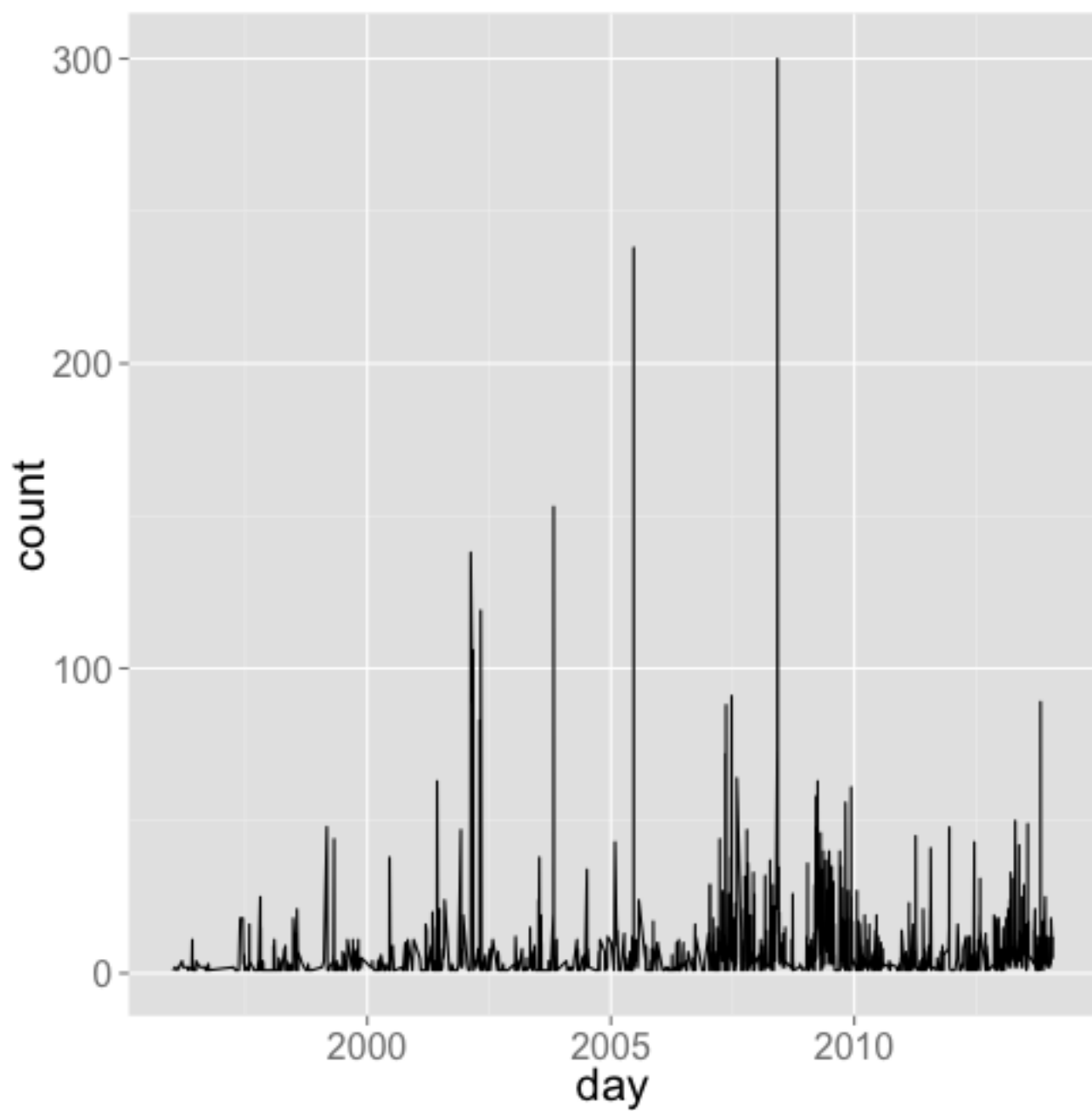


Figure 1: plot of chunk cw_timeseries2

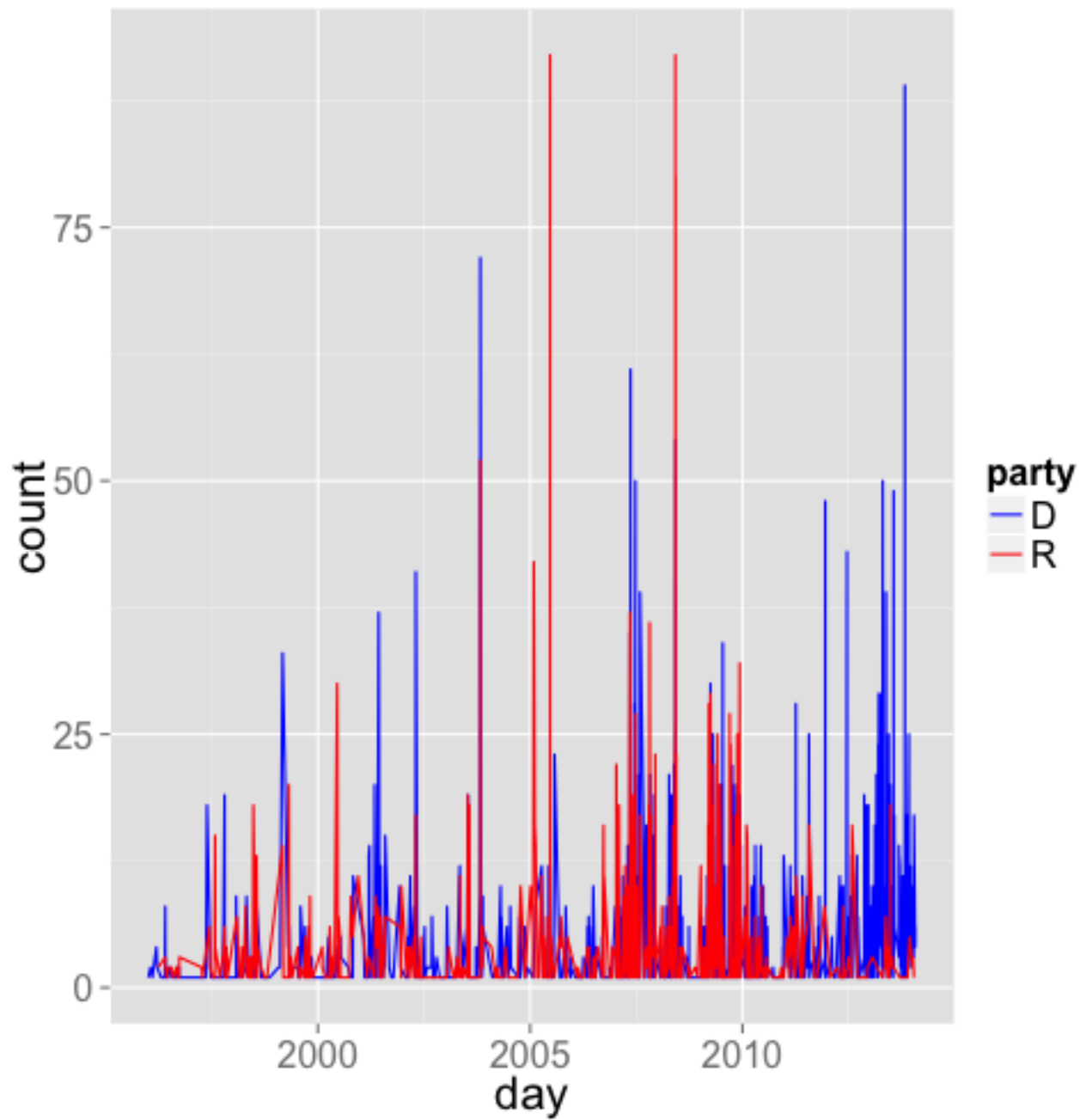


Figure 2: plot of chunk cw_timeseries3

Search OpenStates bills.

```
out <- os_billsearch(terms = "agriculture", state = "tx", chamber = "upper")
lapply(out, "[", "title")[100:110]

## [[1]]
## [1] "Relating to the sale by the Brazos River Authority of certain property at Possum Kingdom Lake."
##
## [[2]]
## [1] "Proposing a constitutional amendment providing immediate additional revenue for the state budget by
##
## [[3]]
## [1] "Relating to production requirements for holders of winery permits."
##
## [[4]]
## [1] "Relating to the use of human remains in the training of search and rescue animals."
##
## [[5]]
## [1] "Relating to end-of-course assessment instruments administered to public high school students and ot
##
## [[6]]
## [1] "Relating to public high school graduation, including curriculum and assessment requirements for gra
##
## [[7]]
## [1] "Relating to certain residential and other structures and mitigation of loss to those structures res
##
## [[8]]
## [1] "Recognizing March 28, 2013, as Texas Water Conservation Day at the State Capitol."
##
## [[9]]
## [1] "Recognizing March 26, 2013, as Lubbock Day at the State Capitol."
##
## [[10]]
## [1] "In memory of Steve Jones."
##
## [[11]]
## [1] "Relating to the regulation of dangerous wild animals."
```

Search Legislators on OpenStates.

```
out <- os_legislatorsearch(state = "tx", party = "democratic", active = TRUE)
out[[1]][1:4]

## $last_name
## [1] "Allen"
##
## $updated_at
## [1] "2014-01-29 00:41:39"
##
## $nimsp_candidate_id
## [1] "111820"
##
## $full_name
## [1] "Alma Allen"
```

Search for entities - that is, politicians, individuals, or organizations with the given name

```
out <- ts_aggregatesearch("Nancy Pelosi")
out <- lapply(out, function(x) {
  x[sapply(x, is.null)] <- "none"
  x
})
ldply(out, data.frame)
```

	name	count_given	firm_income	count_lobbied
## 1	Nancy Pelosi (D)	0	0	0
## 2	Nancy Pelosi for Congress	7	0	0

	seat	total_received	state	lobbying_firm	count_received	party
## 1	federal:house	14731364	CA	none	10321	D
## 2	none	0	none	<NA>	0	none

	total_given	type	id
## 1	0	politician	85ab2e74589a414495d18cc7a9233981
## 2	7250	organization	afb432ec90454c8a83a3113061e7be27

	non_firm_spending	is_superpac
## 1	0	none
## 2	0	<NA>

Return the top contributing organizations, ranked by total dollars given. An organization's giving is broken down into money given directly (by the organization's PAC) versus money given by individuals employed by or associated with the organization.

```
out <- ts_aggregate_topcontribs(id = "85ab2e74589a414495d18cc7a9233981")
ldply(out, data.frame)
```

	employee_amount	total_amount	total_count
## 1	64000.00	101300.00	79
## 2	3500.00	95000.00	30
## 3	0	91600.00	49
## 4	0	85000.00	32
## 5	0	83500.00	38
## 6	0	82500.00	23
## 7	0	77500.00	19
## 8	0	77000.00	19
## 9	0	76000.00	36
## 10	0	74600.00	22

	name	direct_count	employee_count
## 1	Akin, Gump et al	16	63
## 2	American Fedn of St/Cnty/Munic Employees	26	4
## 3	National Assn of Realtors	49	0
## 4	United Auto Workers	32	0
## 5	National Education Assn	38	0
## 6	Sheet Metal Workers Union	23	0
## 7	Intl Brotherhood of Electrical Workers	19	0
## 8	Teamsters Union	19	0
## 9	National Assn of Letter Carriers	36	0
## 10	Plumbers/Pipefitters Union	22	0

	id	direct_amount
## 1	105dcfc8c9384875a099af230dad9917	37300.00

## 2	fb702029157e4c7c887172eba71c66c5	91500.00
## 3	bb98402bd4d3471cad392a671ecd733a	91600.00
## 4	4d3167b97c9f48deb433aad57bb0ee44	85000.00
## 5	1b8fea7e453d4e75841eac48ff9df550	83500.00
## 6	425be85642b24cc2bc3d8a0bb3c7bc92	82500.00
## 7	b53b4ad137d743a996f4d7467700fc88	77500.00
## 8	f89c8e3ab2b44f72971f91b764868231	77000.00
## 9	390767dc6b4b491ca775b1bdf8a36eea	76000.00
## 10	c869c8e293614e10960b2e77f5eabecd	74600.00