

Package ‘retroharmonize’

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Type Package

Title Ex Post Survey Data Harmonization

Version 0.1.15

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Description Assist in reproducible retrospective (ex-post) harmonization of data, particularly individual level survey data, by providing tools for organizing metadata, standardizing the coding of variables, and variable names and value labels, including missing values, and documenting the data transformations, with the help of comprehensive s3 classes.

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

Language en-US

URL <https://retroharmonize.dataobservatory.eu/>

BugReports <https://github.com/antaldaniel/retroharmonize/issues>

LazyData true

Imports vctrs,
haven,
dplyr (>= 1.0.0),
magrittr,
stats,
tibble,
labelled,
methods,
rlang,
fs,
assertthat,
tidyselect,
pillar,
snakecase,
purrr,
tidyr,
here,
glue

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

Depends R (>= 3.5.0)

Suggests knitr,
rmarkdown,
covr,
testthat,
png

VignetteBuilder knitr

R topics documented:

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as_factor	<i>Convert labelled_spss_survey vector To Factor</i>
-----------	--

Description

Convert a [labelled_spss_survey](#) vector to a type of factor. Keeps only the levels and class attributes.

Usage

```
as_factor(x, levels = "default", ordered = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	Object to coerce to a factor.
levels	How to create the levels of the generated factor: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "default": uses labels where available, otherwise the values. Labels are sorted by value.• "both": like "default", but pastes together the level and value• "label": use only the labels; unlabelled values become NA• "values": use only the values
ordered	If TRUE create an ordered (ordinal) factor, if FALSE (the default) create a regular (nominal) factor.

See Also

as_factor is imported from haven: [as_factor](#)

as_labelled_spss_survey

Labelled to labelled_spss_survey

Description

Labelled to labelled_spss_survey

Usage

```
as_labelled_spss_survey(x, id)
```

Arguments

x	A vector of class haven_labelled or haven_labelled_spss.
id	The survey identifier.

Value

A vector of labelled_spss_survey

See Also

Other type conversion functions: [labelled_spss_survey\(\)](#)

collect_val_labels	<i>Collect labels from metadata file</i>
--------------------	--

Description

Collect labels from metadata file

Usage

```
collect_val_labels(metadata)
```

```
collect_na_labels(metadata)
```

Arguments

metadata A metadata data frame created by [metadata_create](#).

Value

The unique valid labels or the user-defined missing labels found in all the files analyzed in metadata.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
test_survey <- retroharmonize::read_rds (
  file = system.file("examples", "ZA7576.rds",
    package = "retroharmonize"),
  id = "test"
)
example_metadata <- metadata_create (test_survey)

collect_val_labels (metadata = example_metadata )
collect_na_labels ( metadata = example_metadata )
```

concatenate	<i>Concatenate haven_labelled_spss vectors</i>
-------------	--

Description

Concatenate haven_labelled_spss vectors

Usage

```
concatenate(x, y)
```

Arguments

x A haven_labelled_spss vector.
 y A haven_labelled_spss vector.

Value

A concatenated haven_labelled_spss vector. Returns an error if the attributes do not match. Gives a warning when only the variable label do not match.

Examples

```
v1 <- labelled::labelled(
  c(3,4,4,3,8, 9),
  c(YES = 3, NO = 4, `WRONG LABEL` = 8, REFUSED = 9)
)
v2 <- labelled::labelled(
  c(4,3,3,9),
  c(YES = 3, NO = 4, `WRONG LABEL` = 8, REFUSED = 9)
)
s1 <- haven::labelled_spss(
  x = unclass(v1),          # remove labels from earlier defined
  labels = labelled::val_labels(v1), # use the labels from earlier defined
  na_values = NULL,
  na_range = 8:9,
  label = "Variable Example"
)

s2 <- haven::labelled_spss(
  x = unclass(v2),          # remove labels from earlier defined
  labels = labelled::val_labels(v2), # use the labels from earlier defined
  na_values = NULL,
  na_range = 8:9,
  label = "Variable Example"
)
concatenate (s1,s2)
```

document_survey_item *Document survey item harmonization*

Description

Document survey item harmonization

Usage

```
document_survey_item(x)
```

Arguments

x A labelled_spss_survey vector from a single survey or concatenated from several surveys.

Value

Returns a list of the current and historic coding, labelling of the valid range and missing values or range, the history of the variable names and the history of the survey IDs.

See Also

Other documentation functions: [document_waves\(\)](#)

Examples

```
var1 <- labelled::labelled_spss(
  x = c(1,0,1,1,0,8,9),
  labels = c("TRUST" = 1,
             "NOT TRUST" = 0,
             "DON'T KNOW" = 8,
             "INAP. HERE" = 9),
  na_values = c(8,9))

var2 <- labelled::labelled_spss(
  x = c(2,2,8,9,1,1 ),
  labels = c("Tend to trust" = 1,
             "Tend not to trust" = 2,
             "DK" = 8,
             "Inap" = 9),
  na_values = c(8,9))

h1 <- harmonize_values (
  x = var1,
  harmonize_label = "Do you trust the European Union?",
  harmonize_labels = list (
    from = c("^tend\\sto|^trust", "^tend\\snot|not\\strust", "^dk|^don", "^inap"),
    to = c("trust", "not_trust", "do_not_know", "inap"),
    numeric_values = c(1,0,99997, 99999)),
  na_values = c("do_not_know" = 99997,
               "inap" = 99999),
  id = "survey1",
)

h2 <- harmonize_values (
  x = var2,
  harmonize_label = "Do you trust the European Union?",
  harmonize_labels = list (
    from = c("^tend\\sto|^trust", "^tend\\snot|not\\strust", "^dk|^don", "^inap"),
    to = c("trust", "not_trust", "do_not_know", "inap"),
    numeric_values = c(1,0,99997, 99999)),
  na_values = c("do_not_know" = 99997,
               "inap" = 99999),
  id = "survey2"
)

h3 <- concatenate(h1, h2)
document_survey_item(h3)
```

document_waves	<i>Document survey lists</i>
----------------	------------------------------

Description

Document survey lists

Usage

```
document_waves(survey_list)
```

Arguments

survey_list A list of [survey](#) objects.

Value

Returns a data frame with the key attributes of the surveys in a survey list: the name of the data file, the number of rows and columns, and the size of the object as stored in memory.

See Also

Other documentation functions: [document_survey_item\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file( "examples", package = "retroharmonize")

my_rds_files <- dir( examples_dir)[grepl(".rds",
                                         dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(file.path(examples_dir, my_rds_files))

waves_document <- document_waves(example_surveys)

attr(waves_document, "original_list" )
waves_document
```

harmonize_na_values	<i>Harmonize na_values in haven_labelled_spss</i>
---------------------	---

Description

Harmonize na_values in haven_labelled_spss

Usage

```
harmonize_na_values(df)
```

Arguments

df A data frame that contains haven_labelled_spss vectors.

Value

A tibble where the na_values are consistent

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file(
  "examples", package = "retroharmonize"
)

test_read <- read_rds (
  file.path(examples_dir, "ZA7576.rds"),
  id = "ZA7576",
  doi = "test_doi")

harmonize_na_values(test_read)
```

harmonize_values

Harmonize the values and labels of labelled vectors

Description

Harmonize the values and labels of labelled vectors

Usage

```
harmonize_values(
  x,
  harmonize_label = NULL,
  harmonize_labels = NULL,
  na_values = c(do_not_know = 99997, declined = 99998, inap = 99999),
  na_range = NULL,
  id = "survey_id",
  name_orig = NULL,
  perl = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

x	A labelled vector
harmonize_label	A character vector of 1L containing the new, harmonize variable label. Defaults to NULL, in which case it uses the variable label of x, unless it is also NULL.
harmonize_labels	A list of harmonization values
na_values	A named vector of na_values, the observations that are defined to be treated as missing in the SPSS-style coding.

na_range	A min, max range of na_range, the continuous missing value range. In most surveys this should be left NULL.
id	A survey ID, defaults to survey_id
name_orig	The original name of the variable. If left NULL it uses the latest name of the object x.
perl	Use perl-like regex? Defaults to FALSE.

Value

A labelled vector that contains in its metadata attributes the original labelling, the original numeric coding and the current labelling, with the numerical values representing the harmonized coding.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
var1 <- labelled::labelled_spss(
  x = c(1,0,1,1,0,8,9),
  labels = c("TRUST" = 1,
             "NOT TRUST" = 0,
             "DON'T KNOW" = 8,
             "INAP. HERE" = 9),
  na_values = c(8,9))

harmonize_values (
  var1,
  harmonize_labels = list (
    from = c("^tend\\sto|^trust", "^tend\\snot|not\\strust", "^dk|^don", "^inap"),
    to = c("trust", "not_trust", "do_not_know", "inap"),
    numeric_values = c(1,0,99997, 99999)),
  na_values = c("do_not_know" = 99997,
               "inap" = 99999),
  id = "survey_id"
)
```

harmonize_var_names	<i>Harmonize the variable names of surveys</i>
---------------------	--

Description

The function harmonizes the variable names of surveys (of class survey) that are imported from an external file as a wave.

Usage

```
harmonize_var_names(waves, metadata, rowids = TRUE)
```

Arguments

waves	A list of surveys imported with read_surveys .
metadata	A metadata table created by <code>metadata_create</code> and binded together for all surveys in waves.
rowids	Rename var labels of original vars rowid to simply uniqid?

Value

The list of surveys with harmonized variable names.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file("examples", package = "retroharmonize")
survey_list <- dir(examples_dir)[grepl("\\.rds", dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(
  file.path( examples_dir, survey_list),
  save_to_rds = FALSE)
metadata <- lapply ( X = example_surveys, FUN = metadata_create )
metadata <- do.call(rbind, metadata)

metadata$var_name <- label_normalize(metadata$var_name)

metadata$var_name [metadata$label_orig == "age education"] <- "age_education"

harmonize_var_names(waves = example_surveys,
  metadata = metadata )
```

harmonize_waves	<i>Harmonize waves</i>
-----------------	------------------------

Description

Harmonize the values of surveys. It binds together variables that are all present in the surveys, and applies a harmonization function on them.

Usage

```
harmonize_waves(waves, .f, status_message = FALSE)
```

Arguments

waves	A list of surveys
.f	A function to apply for the harmonization.
status_message	Defaults to FALSE. If set to TRUE it shows the id of the survey that is being joined.

Value

A natural full join of all surveys into a data frame.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file("examples", package = "retroharmonize")
survey_list <- dir(examples_dir)[grepl("\\.rds", dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(
  file.path( examples_dir, survey_list),
  save_to_rds = FALSE)

metadata <- lapply ( X = example_surveys, FUN = metadata_create )
metadata <- do.call(rbind, metadata)

to_harmonize <- metadata %>%
  dplyr::filter ( var_name_orig %in%
    c("rowid", "w1") |
    grepl("trust ", label_orig ) ) %>%
  dplyr::mutate ( var_label = var_label_normalize(label_orig)) %>%
  dplyr::mutate ( var_name = val_label_normalize(var_label))

harmonize_eb_trust <- function(x) {
  label_list <- list(
    from = c("^tend\\snot", "^cannot", "^tend\\sto", "^can\\srely",
      "^dk", "^inap", "na"),
    to = c("not_trust", "not_trust", "trust", "trust",
      "do_not_know", "inap", "inap"),
    numeric_values = c(0,0,1,1, 99997,99999,99999)
  )

  harmonize_values(x,
    harmonize_labels = label_list,
    na_values = c("do_not_know"=99997,
      "declined"=99998,
      "inap"=99999)
  )
}

merged_surveys <- merge_waves ( example_surveys, var_harmonization = to_harmonize )

harmonized <- harmonize_waves(waves = merged_surveys,
  .f = harmonize_eb_trust,
  status_message = FALSE)

# For details see Afrobarometer and Eurobarometer Case Study vignettes.
```

labelled_spss_survey *Labelled vectors for multiple SPSS surveys*

Description

This class is amending `haven::labelled_spss` with a unique object identifier `id` to make later binding or joining reproducible and well-documented.

Usage

```
labelled_spss_survey(
  x = double(),
  labels = NULL,
  na_values = NULL,
  na_range = NULL,
  label = NULL,
  id = NULL,
  name_orig = NULL
)

as_character(x)

is.labelled_spss_survey(x)

as_numeric(x)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	A vector to label. Must be either numeric (integer or double) or character.
<code>labels</code>	A named vector or <code>NULL</code> . The vector should be the same type as <code>x</code> . Unlike factors, labels don't need to be exhaustive: only a fraction of the values might be labelled.
<code>na_values</code>	A vector of values that should also be considered as missing.
<code>na_range</code>	A numeric vector of length two giving the (inclusive) extents of the range. Use <code>-Inf</code> and <code>Inf</code> if you want the range to be open ended.
<code>label</code>	A short, human-readable description of the vector.
<code>id</code>	Survey ID
<code>name_orig</code>	The original name of the variable. If left <code>NULL</code> it uses the latest name of the object <code>x</code> .

Details

It inherits many methods from `labelled`, but uses more strict coercion and validation rules.

See Also

`as_factor`
 Other type conversion functions: [as_labelled_spss_survey\(\)](#)
 Other type conversion functions: [as_labelled_spss_survey\(\)](#)

Examples

```
x1 <- labelled_spss_survey(
  1:10, c(Good = 1, Bad = 8),
  na_values = c(9, 10),
  id = "survey1")

is.na(x1)

# Print data and metadata
print(x1)

x2 <- labelled_spss_survey( 1:10,
  labels = c(Good = 1, Bad = 8),
  na_range = c(9, Inf),
  label = "Quality rating",
  id = "survey1")

is.na(x2)

# Print data and metadata
x2
```

label_normalize	<i>Normalize value and variable labels</i>
-----------------	--

Description

label_normalize removes special characters, whitespace, and other typical typing errors.

Usage

```
label_normalize(x)

var_label_normalize(x)

val_label_normalize(x)
```

Arguments

x A character vector of labels to be normalized.

Details

var_label_normalize changes the vector to snake_case. val_label_normalize removes possible chunks from question identifiers.

The functions var_label_normalize and val_label_normalize may be differently implemented for various survey series.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
label_normalize (
  c("Don't know", " TRUST", "DO NOT TRUST",
    "inap in Q.3", "Not 100%", "TRUST < 50%",
    "TRUST >=90%", "Verify & Check", "TRUST 99%+"))

var_label_normalize (
  c("Q1_Do you trust the national government?",
    " Do you trust the European Commission")
)

val_label_normalize (
  c("Q1_Do you trust the national government?",
    " Do you trust the European Commission")
)
```

merge_waves	<i>Merge waves</i>
-------------	--------------------

Description

Merge a list of surveys into a list with harmonized variable names, variable labels and survey identifiers.

Usage

```
merge_waves(waves, var_harmonization)
```

Arguments

waves	A list of surveys
var_harmonization	Metadata of surveys, including at least filename, var_name_orig, var_name, var_label.

Value

A list of surveys with harmonized names and variable labels.

See Also

[survey](#)

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [na_range_to_values\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file("examples", package = "retroharmonize")
survey_list <- dir(examples_dir)[grepl("\\.rds", dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(
  file.path( examples_dir, survey_list),
  save_to_rds = FALSE)

metadata <- lapply ( X = example_surveys, FUN = metadata_create )
metadata <- do.call(rbind, metadata)

to_harmonize <- metadata %>%
  dplyr::filter ( var_name_orig %in%
    c("rowid", "w1") |
    grepl("trust ", label_orig) ) %>%
  dplyr::mutate ( var_label = var_label_normalize(label_orig) ) %>%
  dplyr::mutate ( var_name = var_label_normalize(var_label) )

merge_waves ( example_surveys, to_harmonize )
```

metadata_create	Create a metadata table
-----------------	-------------------------

Description

Create a metadata table from the survey data files.

Usage

```
metadata_create(survey)
```

Arguments

survey A survey data frame.

Details

The structure of the returned tibble:

filename The original file name; if present; missing, if a non-[survey](#) data frame is used as input survey.

id The ID of the survey, if present; missing, if a non-[survey](#) data frame is used as input survey.

var_name_orig The original variable name in SPSS.

class_orig The original variable class after importing with [read_spss](#).

label_orig The original variable label in SPSS.

labels A list of the value labels.

valid_labels A list of the value labels that are not marked as missing values.

na_labels A list of the value labels that refer to user-defined missing values.

na_range An optional range of a continuous missing range, if present in the vector.

n_labels Number of categories or unique levels, which may be different from the sum of missing and category labels.

n_valid_labels Number of categories in the non-missing range.

n_na_labels Number of categories of the variable, should be the sum of the former two.

na_levels A list of the user-defined missing values.

Value

A nested data frame with metadata and the range of labels, na_values and the na_range itself.

Examples

```
metadata_create (
  survey = read_rds (
    system.file("examples", "ZA7576.rds",
                package = "retroharmonize")
  )
)
```

na_range_to_values	<i>Harmonize user-defined missing value ranges</i>
--------------------	--

Description

Harmonize the na_values attribute with na_range, if the latter is present.

Usage

```
na_range_to_values(x)
```

```
is.na_range_to_values(x)
```

Arguments

x A labelled_spss or labelled_spss_survey vector

Details

na_range_to_values() tests if the function needs to be called for na_values harmonization. The na_range is often missing and less likely to cause logical problems when joining survey answers.

Value

A x with harmonized na_values and na_range attributes. If min(na_values) or max(na_values) than the left- and right-hand value of na_range, it gives a warning and adjusts the original na_range.

See Also

Other harmonization functions: [collect_val_labels\(\)](#), [harmonize_na_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_values\(\)](#), [harmonize_var_names\(\)](#), [harmonize_waves\(\)](#), [label_normalize\(\)](#), [merge_waves\(\)](#)

Examples

```
var1 <- labelled::labelled_spss(
  x = c(1,0,1,1,0,8,9),
  labels = c("TRUST" = 1,
             "NOT TRUST" = 0,
             "DON'T KNOW" = 8,
             "INAP. HERE" = 9),
  na_range = c(8,12))

na_range_to_values(var1)
as_numeric(na_range_to_values(var1))
as_character(na_range_to_values(var1))
```

pull_survey	<i>Pull a survey from a survey list</i>
-------------	---

Description

Pull a survey by survey code or id.

Usage

```
pull_survey(survey_list, id = NULL, filename = NULL)
```

Arguments

survey_list	A list of surveys
id	The id of the requested survey. If NULL use filename
filename	The filename of the requested survey.

Value

A single survey identified by id or filename.

See Also

Other import functions: [read_rds\(\)](#), [read_spss\(\)](#), [read_surveys\(\)](#), [subset_save_surveys\(\)](#)

Examples

```
examples_dir <- system.file( "examples", package = "retroharmonize")

my_rds_files <- dir( examples_dir)[grepl(".rds",
                                         dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(
  file.path(examples_dir, my_rds_files) )

pull_survey(example_surveys, id = "ZA5913")
```

read_rds	<i>Read survey from rds file</i>
----------	----------------------------------

Description

Read survey from rds file

Usage

```
read_rds(file, id = NULL, filename = NULL, doi = NULL)
```

Arguments

file	A re-saved survey, imported with haven:: read_spss
id	An identifier of the tibble, if omitted, defaults to the file name.
filename	An import file name.
doi	An optional document object identifier.

Value

A tibble, data frame variant with survey attributes.

See Also

Other import functions: [pull_survey\(\)](#), [read_spss\(\)](#), [read_surveys\(\)](#), [subset_save_surveys\(\)](#)

Examples

```
path <- system.file("examples", "ZA7576.rds", package = "retroharmonize")
read_survey <- read_rds(path)
attr(read_survey, "id")
attr(read_survey, "filename")
attr(read_survey, "doi")
```

read_spss	<i>Read SPSS ('.sav', '.zsav', '.por') files. Write '.sav' and '.zsav' files.</i>
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Description

'read_sav()' reads both '.sav' and '.zsav' files; 'write_sav()' creates '.zsav' files when 'compress = TRUE'. 'read_por()' reads '.por' files. 'read_spss()' uses either 'read_por()' or 'read_sav()' based on the file extension.

Usage

```
read_spss(  
  file,  
  user_na = TRUE,  
  id = NULL,  
  filename = NULL,  
  doi = NULL,  
  .name_repair = "unique"  
)
```

Arguments

file	An SPSS file.
user_na	Should user-defined na_values be imported? Defaults to TRUE.
id	An identifier of the tibble, if omitted, defaults to the file name.
filename	An import file name.
doi	An optional document object identifier.
.name_repair	Defaults to "unique" See <code>tibble::as_tibble</code> for details.

Details

This is a wrapper around `haven::read_spss`

Value

A tibble, data frame variant with nice defaults.

Variable labels are stored in the "label" attribute of each variable. It is not printed on the console, but the RStudio viewer will show it.

`'write_sav()'` returns the input `'data'` invisibly.

See Also

Other import functions: `pull_survey()`, `read_rds()`, `read_surveys()`, `subset_save_surveys()`

Examples

```
path <- system.file("examples", "iris.sav", package = "haven")  
haven::read_sav(path)  
  
tmp <- tempfile(fileext = ".sav")  
haven::write_sav(mtcars, tmp)  
haven::read_sav(tmp)
```

read_surveys	<i>Read Survey Files Import surveys into a list. Adds filename as a constant to each element of the list.</i>
--------------	---

Description

Read Survey Files

Import surveys into a list. Adds filename as a constant to each element of the list.

Usage

```
read_surveys(import_file_names, .f = "read_rds", save_to_rds = TRUE)
```

Arguments

import_file_names	A vector of file names to import.
.f	A function to import the surveys with. Defaults to 'read_rds'. For SPSS files, <code>read_spss</code> is recommended, which is a well-parameterized version of read_spss that saves some metadata, too.
save_to_rds	Should it save the imported survey to .rds? Defaults to TRUE.

Value

A list of the surveys. Each element of the list is a data frame-like [survey](#) type object where some metadata, such as the original file name, doi identifier if present, and other information is recorded for a reproducible workflow.

See Also

`survey`

Other import functions: [pull_survey\(\)](#), [read_rds\(\)](#), [read_spss\(\)](#), [subset_save_surveys\(\)](#)

Examples

```
file1 <- system.file(
  "examples", "ZA7576.rds", package = "retroharmonize")
file2 <- system.file(
  "examples", "ZA5913.rds", package = "retroharmonize")

read_surveys (c(file1,file2), .f = 'read_rds' )
```

retrohamonize*retroharmonize: Retrospective harmonization of survey data files*

Description

The goal of `retroharmonize` is to facilitate retrospective (ex-post) harmonization of data, particularly survey data, in a reproducible manner. The package provides tools for organizing the metadata, standardizing the coding of variables, variable names and value labels, including missing values, and for documenting all transformations, with the help of comprehensive `s3` classes.

import functions

Read data stored in formats with rich metadata, such as SPSS (.sav) files, and make them usable in a programmatic context.

`read_spss`: read an SPSS file and record metadata for reproducibility

`read_rds`: read an rds file and record metadata for reproducibility

`read_surveys`: programmatically read a list of surveys

`subset_save_surveys`: programmatically read a list of surveys, and subset them (pre-harmonize the same variables.)

`pull_survey`: pull a single survey from a survey list.

harmonization functions

Create consistent coding and labelling.

`harmonize_values`: `merge_waves`: Create a list of surveys with harmonized names and variable labels.

`harmonize_waves`: Create a list of surveys with harmonized value labels.

`label_normalize` removes special characters, whitespace, and other typical typing errors and helps the uniformization of labels and variable names.

`na_range_to_values`: Make the `na_range` attributes, as imported from SPSS, consistent with the `na_values` attributes.

documentation functions

Make the workflow reproducible by recording the harmonization process.

type conversion functions

Consistently treat labels and SPSS-style user-defined missing values in the R language. `survey` helps constructing a valid survey data frame, and `labelled_spss_survey` helps creating a vector for a questionnaire item. `as_numeric`: convert to numeric values.

`as_factor`: convert to labels to factor levels.

`as_character`: convert to labels to characters.

`as_labelled_spss_survey`: convert labelled and `labelled_spss` vectors to `labelled_spss_survey` vectors.

subset_save_surveys *Subset and Save Surveys*

Description

Read a predefined survey list and variables.

Usage

```
subset_save_surveys(
  var_harmonization,
  selection_name = "trust",
  import_path = "",
  export_path = "working"
)
```

Arguments

`var_harmonization` Metadata of surveys, including at least filename, `var_name_orig`, `var_name`, `var_label`.

`selection_name` An identifier for the survey subset.

`import_path` The path to the survey files.

`export_path` The path where the subsets should be saved.

Value

The function does not return a value. It saves the subsetted surveys into .rds files.

See Also

Other import functions: [pull_survey\(\)](#), [read_rds\(\)](#), [read_spss\(\)](#), [read_surveys\(\)](#)

Examples

```
test_survey <- read_rds (
  file = system.file("examples", "ZA7576.rds",
    package = "retroharmonize")
)

test_metadata <- metadata_create ( test_survey )
test_metadata <- test_metadata[c(18:37),]
test_metadata$var_name <- var_label_normalize (test_metadata$var_name_orig)
test_metadata$var_label <- test_metadata$label_orig

saveRDS(test_survey, file.path(tempdir(),
  "ZA7576.rds"),
  version = 2)

subset_save_surveys ( var_harmonization = test_metadata,
  selection_name = "tested",
  import_path = tempdir(),
```

```

export_path = tempdir())

file.exists ( file.path(tempdir(), "ZA7576_tested.rds"))

```

subset_waves	<i>Subset all surveys in a wave</i>
--------------	-------------------------------------

Description

The function harmonizes the variable names of surveys (of class `survey`) that are imported from an external file as a wave with `read_surveys`.

Usage

```
subset_waves(waves, subset_names = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>waves</code>	A list of surveys imported with <code>read_surveys</code> .
<code>subset_names</code>	The names of the variables that should be kept from all surveys in the list that contains the wave of surveys. Defaults to <code>NULL</code> in which case it returns all variables without subsetting.

Details

It is likely that you want to harmonize the variable names with `harmonize_var_names` first.

Value

The list of surveys with harmonized variable names.

Examples

```

examples_dir <- system.file("examples", package = "retroharmonize")
survey_list <- dir(examples_dir)[grepl("\\.rds", dir(examples_dir))]

example_surveys <- read_surveys(
  file.path( examples_dir, survey_list),
  save_to_rds = FALSE)
metadata <- lapply ( X = example_surveys, FUN = metadata_create )
metadata <- do.call(rbind, metadata)

metadata$var_name <- label_normalize(metadata$var_name)

metadata$var_name[metadata$label_orig == "age education"] <- "age_education"

hnw <- harmonize_var_names(waves = example_surveys,
                          metadata = metadata )

subset_waves (hnw, subset_names = c("unqid", "w1", "age_education"))

```

survey	<i>Survey data frame</i>
--------	--------------------------

Description

Store the data of a survey in a tibble (data frame) with a unique survey identifier, import filename, and optional doi.

Usage

```
survey(  
  df = data.frame(),  
  id = character(),  
  filename = character(),  
  doi = character()  
)  
  
is.survey(df)
```

Arguments

df	A tibble or data frame that contains the survey data.
id	A mandatory identifier for the survey
filename	The import file name.
doi	Optional doi, can be omitted.

Value

A tibble with id, filename, doi metadata information.

Examples

```
example_survey <- survey(  
  df = data.frame (  
    rowid = 1:6,  
    observations = runif(6)),  
  id = 'example',  
  filename = "no_file"  
)
```


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