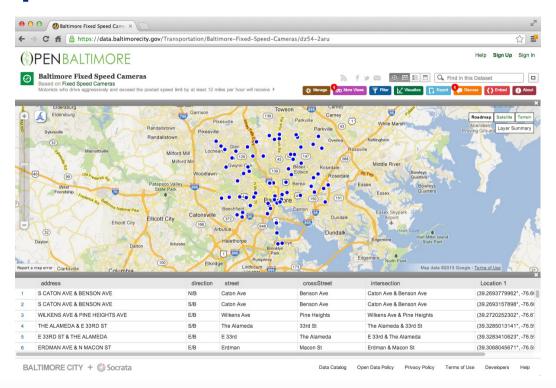


# Editing text variables

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#### **Example - Baltimore camera data**



https://data.baltimorecity.gov/Transportation/Baltimore-Fixed-Speed-Cameras/dz54-2aru

# Fixing character vectors - tolower(), toupper()

```
if(!file.exists("./data")){dir.create("./data")}
fileUrl <- "https://data.baltimorecity.gov/api/views/dz54-2aru/rows.csv?accessType=DOWNLOAD"
download.file(fileUrl,destfile="./data/cameras.csv",method="curl")
cameraData <- read.csv("./data/cameras.csv")
names(cameraData)</pre>
```

```
[1] "address" "direction" "street" "crossStreet" "intersection" "Location.1"
```

```
tolower(names(cameraData))
```

```
[1] "address" "direction" "street" "crossstreet" "intersection" "location.1"
```

## Fixing character vectors - strsplit()

- · Good for automatically splitting variable names
- · Important parameters: x, split

```
splitNames = strsplit(names(cameraData),"\\.")
splitNames[[5]]
```

```
[1] "intersection"
```

```
splitNames[[6]]
```

```
[1] "Location" "1"
```

#### **Quick aside - lists**

```
mylist <- list(letters = c("A", "b", "c"), numbers = 1:3, matrix(1:25, ncol = 5))
head(mylist)</pre>
```

```
$letters
[1] "A" "b" "c"
Snumbers
[1] 1 2 3
[[3]]
   [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,] 1 6 11 16 21
[2,] 2 7 12 17 22
[3,] 3 8 13 18 23
[4,] 4 9 14 19 24
[5,]
     5 10 15
                20 25
```

#### **Quick aside - lists**

```
mylist[1]
$letters
[1] "A" "b" "c"
mylist$letters
[1] "A" "b" "c"
mylist[[1]]
```

```
[1] "A" "b" "c"
```

#### Fixing character vectors - sapply()

- · Applies a function to each element in a vector or list
- · Important parameters: X,FUN

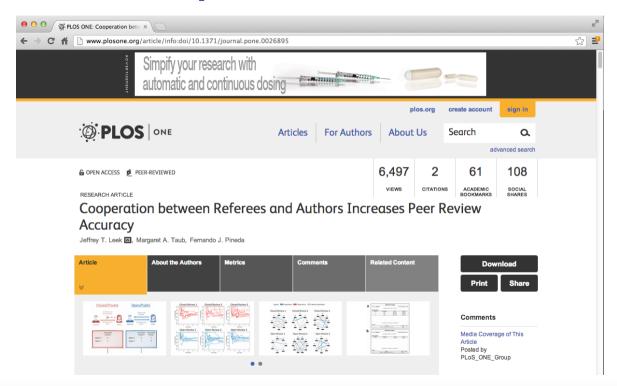
```
splitNames[[6]][1]

[1] "Location"

firstElement <- function(x){x[1]}
sapply(splitNames,firstElement)

[1] "address" "direction" "street" "crossStreet" "intersection" "Location"</pre>
```

#### Peer review experiment data



http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0026895

#### Peer review data

```
fileUrl1 <- "https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/7710864/data/reviews-apr29.csv"
fileUrl2 <- "https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/7710864/data/solutions-apr29.csv"
download.file(fileUrl1,destfile="./data/reviews.csv",method="curl")
download.file(fileUrl2,destfile="./data/solutions.csv",method="curl")
reviews <- read.csv("./data/reviews.csv"); solutions <- read.csv("./data/solutions.csv")
head(reviews,2)</pre>
```

```
head(solutions,2)
```

#### Fixing character vectors - sub()

· Important parameters: pattern, replacement, x

## Fixing character vectors - gsub()

```
testName <- "this_is_a_test"
sub("_","",testName)</pre>
```

```
[1] "thisis_a_test"
```

#### Texto

```
gsub("_","",testName)
```

```
[1] "thisisatest"
```

# Finding values - grep(),grepl()

```
grep("Alameda",cameraData$intersection)
[1] 4 5 36
table(grepl("Alameda", cameraData$intersection))
FALSE TRUE
cameraData2 <- cameraData[!grepl("Alameda", cameraData$intersection),]</pre>
```

#### More on grep()

```
grep("Alameda",cameraData$intersection,value=TRUE)
[1] "The Alameda & 33rd St" "E 33rd & The Alameda" "Harford \n & The Alameda"
grep("JeffStreet",cameraData$intersection)
integer(0)
length(grep("JeffStreet",cameraData$intersection))
[1] 0
```

#### More useful string functions

```
library(stringr)
nchar("Jeffrey Leek")
[1] 12
substr("Jeffrey Leek",1,7)
[1] "Jeffrey"
paste("Jeffrey","Leek")
```

[1] "Jeffrey Leek"

#### More useful string functions

```
paste0("Jeffrey","Leek")

[1] "JeffreyLeek"

str_trim("Jeff ")

[1] "Jeff"
```

#### Important points about text in data sets

- Names of variables should be
  - All lower case when possible
  - Descriptive (Diagnosis versus Dx)
  - Not duplicated
  - Not have underscores or dots or white spaces
- · Variables with character values
  - Should usually be made into factor variables (depends on application)
  - Should be descriptive (use TRUE/FALSE instead of 0/1 and Male/Female versus 0/1 or M/F)