

Automatic Sampling and Analysis of YouTube Data

Collecting YouTube data with R

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Collecting YouTube Data with R

As stated in the Introduction, there are several packages for collecting *YouTube* data in R:

- tuber
- vosonSML
- VOSONDash
- youtubecaption

In this session, we will focus on working with the tuber package. While vosonSML and VosonDash are very powerful for generating (and analyzing) network data (and can also be used to collect comments), tuber offers functions for collecting different types of data about channels, playlists, and videos.



The tuber Package

With the tuber package you can access the *YouTube* API via R. The author of the package has written a short vignette to introduce some of its main functions.

Note: You can also access/open this vignette in R/*RStudio* with the following command:

```
vignette("tuber-ex")
```



The tuber Package

Essentially, there are three main units of analysis for which you can access data with the tuber package:

- 1. Videos
- 2. Channels
- 3. Playlists

In this workshop, we will focus on accessing and working with data for individual **videos**.



Setup

```
install.packages(c("tidyverse", "tuber"))
library(tuber)
library(tidyverse)
```

NB: If your version of \mathbb{R} is < 4.0.0, you should also run the following command before collecting data from the *YouTube* API:

```
options(stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```



Excursus: Keep Your Secrets Secret

If you save your API credentials in an R script, anyone who has that script can potentially use your API key. This can affect your quota and might even cause costs for you (if you have billing enabled for your project).

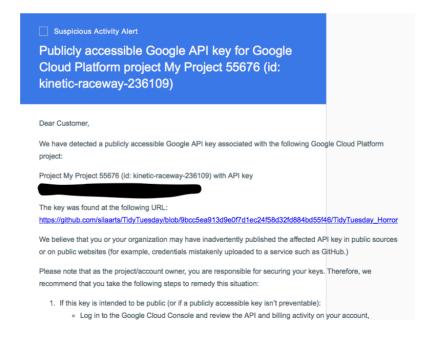
Sidenote: If you use environment variables in R and store your app ID and secret there, your credentials won't be shared if you share your scripts. However, the information is still stored locally in a plain text file. You can run usethis::edit_r_environ() to see its contents.



Excursus: Keep Your Secrets Secret

Sometimes google is protecting you... (I forgot to delete my API key from my code pic.twitter.com/7va0o19YmT

Sil Aarts (@sil_aarts) October 24, 2019





Excursus: Keep Your Secrets Secret

One way of keeping your credentials safe(r) is using the keyring package.

```
install.packages("keyring")
library(keyring)
```



Excursus: The keyring Package

To store your credentials in an encrypted password-protected keyring you first need to create a new keyring.

```
keyring_create("YouTube_API")
```

You will be prompted to set a password for this keyring. Next, you can store your *YouTube* API app secret in the keyring (*Note*: You can also store your app ID the same way).

When you are prompted to enter the password this time you should enter your app secret. After that, you should lock the keyring again.

```
keyring_lock("YouTube_API")
```



Authenticate Your App

or, if you stored your app secret in a keyring

Note: If you use a keyring (and have not unlocked it before), you will be prompted to enter the password for that keyring in R/RStudio.



Authentication

When running the yt_oauth () function, there will be a prompt in the console asking you whether you want to save the access token in a file. If you select "Yes", tuber will create a local file (in your working directory) called .httr-oauth to cache OAuth access credentials between R sessions. The token stored in this file will be valid for one hour (and can be automatically refreshed). Doing this makes sense if you know you will be running multiple R sessions that need your credentials (example: knitting an R Markdown document). Otherwise, you probably want to choose "No" here.

Note: If you use git in combination with *GitHub* or *GitLab* for your *YouTube* data project, you should also add the .httr-oauth file (if you create one) to your .gitignore.



Authentication

Similar to the app key and secret, you should never share the .httr-oauth as the file contains a list with your app ID and the access token. If you have created a .httr-oauth file and want to check its contents, you can do so as follows in R:

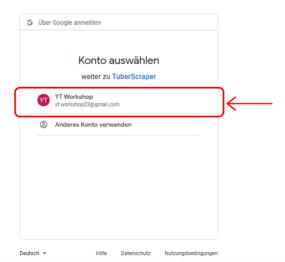
```
# read the .httr-oauth file
token <- readRDS("~/.httr-oauth") # this assumes the file is stored in your home
# app ID
token$`0123456789abcdefghij`$app$key # the token object is a list of tokens; the
# app secret
token$`0123456789abcdefghij`$app$secret
# If you are unsure which token is the correct one, you can check out the name of
token$`0123456789abcdefghij`$app$appname</pre>
```



App Authorization (1)

Note: The following is a repetition from the API setup slides. You typically only need to do this once at the beginning of your data collection session.

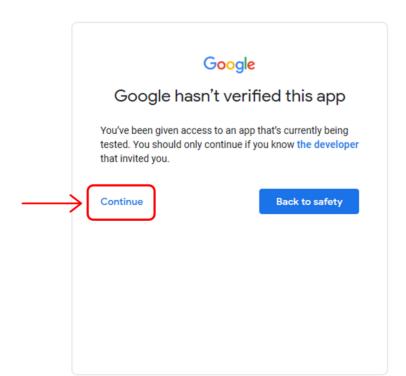
After making your choice regarding the .httr-oauth file, a browser window should open, prompting you to select/log in with your *Google* account and to give permissions.





App Authorization (2)

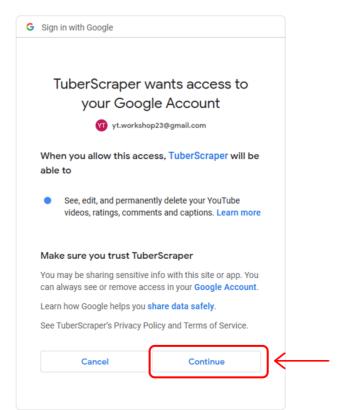
Google warns you that the app has not been verified, but you can trust yourself and click on "Continue".





App Authorization (3)

Allow the app (and, hence, yourself) to make changes to the account (you have created).





App Authorization (4)

Confirm your choices once more by clicking "Allow". Your browser should now display the following message: Authentication complete. Please close this page and return to R.

You can now close the browser tab/window and return to $\mathbb{R}/RStudio$.





Channel Statistics (1)

After authorizing your app, you can test if everything works by getting some statistics for a channel. You can find the channel ID by inspecting the page source on the channel website and searching for the strings "channelld" or "externalld", or by using the *Commentpicker* tool.

```
gesis_stats <- get_channel_stats("UCiQ98odXlAkX63EaFWNjH0g")

## Channel Title: GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften
## No. of Views: 24865
## No. of Subscribers: 567
## No. of Videos: 111</pre>
```

Note: If you want additional data on channels/video creators and their performance on *YouTube*, you can also check out the statistics provided by *Socialblade*.



Channel Statistics (2)

get_channel_stats() returns a list which can then be wrangled into a dataframe (or a tibble as in the code below).

```
gesis_stats_df <- gesis_stats$statistics %>%
  as_tibble() %>%
  mutate(
    across(where(is.character), as.numeric),
    channel_id = gesis_stats$id,
    channel_name = gesis_stats$snippet$title,
    channel_published = gesis_stats$snippet$publishedAt)

gesis_stats_df
```

Note: You may also want to transform the channel_published column to a date variable. You can, e.g., do that using the <u>lubridate</u> or the <u>anytime</u> package.



Video Statistics

To get statistics for a video you need its ID. The video IDs are the characters after the "v=" URL parameter. For example, for the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DcJFdCmN98s the ID is "DcJFdCmN98s".

```
dayum_stats <- get_stats("DcJFdCmN98s")</pre>
dayum stats df <- dayum stats %>%
  as_tibble() %>%
  mutate(across(c(2:5), as.numeric))
dayum_stats_df
## # A tibble: 1 x 5
     id
                 viewCount likeCount favoriteCount commentCount
##
                      <dbl>
                                <dbl>
                                               <dbl>
                                                             <dbl>
##
     <chr>
## 1 DcJFdCmN98s 46055491
                               709869
                                                             54847
```

Note: Until July 2021 it was also possible to get the dislike counts for videos. However, access to that via the *YouTube* API has been disabled since then. Those are also not visible anymore on the public video pages, only for the content creators.



Video Details

Using its ID, you can also get other information about a particular video, such as its description, using the tuber function get video details().

```
dayum_details <- get_video_details("DcJFdCmN98s")</pre>
```



Video Details

get_video_details() returns a list. If we want to turn that into a dataframe, we can make use of two helper functions that were created for the development version of tuber (see this commit). We have stored these functions in the script video_details_to_df.R which we need to source here.

```
source("../R/video_details_to_df.R")

dayum_details_df <- dayum_details %>%
   video_details_to_df()

glimpse(dayum_details_df[1:9])
```



Video Details

```
## Rows: 1
## Columns: 9
## $ response_kind <chr> "youtube#videoListResponse"
## $ response_etag <chr> "U4sYkQ9UdlRAckV8lnm8P7NNnhc"
## $ items kind
                   <chr> "voutube#video"
                   <chr> "k5Z0aXimEmrHofyUdXIoNVo3YAg"
## $ items_etag
## $ id
                   <chr> "DcJFdCmN98s"
## $ publishedAt
                   <chr> "2012-08-15T22:04:48Z"
## $ channelId
                   <chr> "UCNYrK4tc5i1-eL8TXesH2pg"
## $ title
                   <chr> "OH MY DAYUM ft. @DaymDrops"
## $ description
                   <chr> "the track on itunes- https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/oh-my-dayum-
```



Viewer Comments

There are two tuber functions for collecting viewer comments for specific videos (both return a dataframe by default):

1. get_comment_threads() collects comments for a video. By
 default, it collects the 100 most recent comments. The number of
 comments can be changed with the argument max_results
 (needs to be >= 20).

NB: If the number is > 100, the function should fetch all results (see ? $get_comment_threads$). However, the function has a bug, so that the resulting dataframe only contains repetitions of the 100 most recent comments when $max_results > 100$. Also, this function does not collect replies to comments.



Viewer Comments

1. get_all_comments() collects all comments for a video, including replies to comments.

NB: This function only collects up to 5 replies per comment (the related issue in the tuber GitHub repo is still open). Depending on the number of comments for a video, running this function can take some time and might also deplete your API quota limit (more on that later).



Viewer Comments

Our recommendation is that if you want more than the most recent 100 comments, you should use <code>get_all_comments()</code>, even if you do not want to analyze replies to comments (you can simply filter those out later on).

If you also care about replies to comments, a good alternative to tuber::get_all_comments() is the Collect() function from the vosonSML package (which we will talk about in a bit) as that collects up to 20 replies for each comment (instead of just 5 as the corresponding tuber function does).



Viewer Comments with tuber: Example

For example, if you want to collect comments for the Emoji Movie Trailer (we will use those as examples in the later sessions), you could do that as follows:

```
emoji_movie_comments <- get_all_comments("r8pJt4dK_s4")</pre>
```

NB: To save time and your *YouTube* API quota limit you might not want to run this code now.

You can then export the resulting dataframe in a format of your choice for later use.

```
saveRDS(emoji_movie_comments, file = "./data/RawEmojiComments.rds")
```



Collecting Comments for Multiple Videos

If you want to collect comments for multiple videos, you need a vector with all video IDs (in the code example below, this vector is named video_ids). If you have that, you can use map_df() from the purrr package to iterate over video IDs and create a combined dataframe (of course, you could also do this with a for-loop).

Important notice: Be aware that your daily API quota limit very likely won't allow you to collect all comments for videos with a high number of comments (more on the API quota limit in a bit).



Searching Video IDs with tuber

tuber provides the function yt_search() for using the API to search *YouTube*. However, using this function is extremely costly in terms of API queries/quotas.

A single search query with the yt_search() function can easily exceed your daily quota limit as, by default, it returns data for all search results (you can check the number of results for a search query via the YouTube Data API Explorer). Hence, if you want to use the yt_search() function, we would strongly recommend setting the get_all argument to FALSE. This returns up to 50 results.



Multiple search result pages (1)

If you want to use yt_search() and want more than 50 search results, you can use the page_token argument to get more than one page of results.



Multiple search result pages (2)



Example: Two pages of search results

```
search p1 <- yt search(term = "tidyverse",</pre>
                        simplify = F,
                        get all = F)
page token <-search p1$nextPageToken</pre>
search_p2 <- yt_search(term = "tidyverse",</pre>
                        get all = F,
                        page token = page token)
search_p1_snippet <- lapply(search_p1$items, function(x) unlist(x$snippet))</pre>
search p1 ids <- lapply(search p1$items, function(x) unlist(x$id))</pre>
ids_p1_df<- purrr::map_dfr(search_p1_ids, bind_rows) %>%
  select(videoId)
search p1 df <- purrr::map dfr(search p1 snippet, bind rows) %>%
  bind cols(ids p1 df)
search_results <- bind_rows(search_p1_df, search_p2) %>%
  mutate(videoId = case when(is.na(videoId) ~ as.character(video id),
                              TRUE ~ as.character(videoId))) %>%
  select(-video id) %>%
  relocate(videoId)
glimpse(search results)
```

Example: Two pages of search results

```
## Rows: 100
 ## Columns: 17
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "tBxGVfvx-Gc", "JtQfXY0lIzc", "B-Jec3WjRHE", "MKwyauo8nSI", "NDHSBUN_r~
 ## $ videoId
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "2021-06-30T16:00:36Z", "2019-07-01T20:12:36Z", "2021-07-22T11:51:36Z"~
 ## $ publishedAt
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "UCGuktEl5InrcxPfCjmPWxsA", "UCsrrSPRVwOGDt1nN-xKNSGQ", "UC2xiDQc3vBk2~
 ## $ channelId
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "Cleaning and manipulating data with the tidyverse: dplyr, readr, and ~
 ## $ title
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "Data cleaning is one of the more undervalued steps in a data anlaysis~
 ## $ description
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "https://i.ytimg.com/vi/tBxGVfvx-Gc/default.jpg", "https://i.ytimg.com~
 ## $ thumbnails.default.url
## $ thumbnails.default.width <chr> "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "120", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "90", "
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "https://i.ytimg.com/vi/tBxGVfvx-Gc/mqdefault.jpg", "https://i.ytimg.c~
  ## $ thumbnails.medium.url
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320", "320"
  ## $ thumbnails.medium.width
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               <chr> "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180", "180"
  ## $ thumbnails.medium.height
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "https://i.ytimg.com/vi/tBxGVfvx-Gc/hqdefault.jpg", "https://i.ytimg.c~
 ## $ thumbnails.high.url
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               <chr> "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "480", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "360", "36
 ## $ thumbnails.high.width
## $ thumbnails.high.height
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               <chr> "Riffomonas Project", "Mark Gingrass", "Jochen Kruppa", "Thomas Mock", ~ <chr> "none", "
## $ channelTitle
 ## $ liveBroadcastContent
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <chr> "2021-06-30T16:00:36Z", "2019-07-01T20:12:36Z", "2021-07-22T11:51:36Z"~
 ## $ publishTime
```



Searching Video IDs: Alternatives

There are two alternatives to using the yt_search() function from the tuber package to search for *YouTube* video IDs:

- 1. Manual search via the *YouTube* website: This works well for a small number of videos but is not really feasible if you want a large number of video IDs for your analyses.
- 2. Web scraping: You should use this method with caution. The robots.txt of *YouTube* disallows the scraping of results pages. In practical terms, the (over)use of web scraping might, e.g., get your IP address blocked (at least temporarily). An introduction to web scraping would be beyond the scope of this workshop, but there are many online tutorials on this (e.g., this one).



Other Useful tuber Functions

Function	Output
get_all_channel_video_stats('channel_id')	list with statistics for all videos in a channel
get_playlists(filter=c(channel_id='channel_id'))	list with playlists for a channel
get_playlist_items(filter=c(playlist_id='playlist_id'))	dataframe with items from a playlist

For the full list of functions in the package, see the tuber reference manual.

As always when using \mathbb{R} (packages), it helps to check the documentation for the functions that you (want to) use. For example:

?get_video_details
?get_all_comments



YouTube API Quota Limits

In order to be able to estimate the quota costs of a specific API call via the tuber package, you need to know the specific queries that the function you use produces. If you want to do this, you can print the function code (you can do this in $\mathbb R$ by executing the function name without () at the end: e.g., get_stats).

You can then use the information from that code for the Quota Calculator or the API Explorer (by checking the respective method in the YouTube API documentation). The help file for the function of interest can also be useful here (?get_stats).



<environment: namespace:tuber>

tuber Function Code

```
get_stats
## function (video_id = NULL, ...)
## {
##
       if (!is.character(video_id))
            stop("Must specify a video ID.")
##
       quervlist <- list(part = "statistics", id = video_id)</pre>
##
       raw_res <- tuber_GET("videos", querylist, ...)</pre>
##
       if (length(raw res$items) == 0) {
##
           warning("No statistics for this video are available.\n
                                                                                    Likely cause:
##
##
            return(list())
##
       res <- raw_res$items[[1]]</pre>
##
       stat_res <- res$statistics</pre>
##
       c(id = res$id, stat res)
##
## }
## <bytecode: 0x00000232690fdc60>
```



Exemplary Quota Costs for tuber Functions

Function	Costs	API resource	API method	API parts
get_channel_stats('channel_id')	1	Channels	list	statistics,snippet
get_stats('video_id')	1	Videos	list	statistics
<pre>get_comment_threads(filter = c(video_id = 'video_id'), max_results = 100)</pre>	1	CommentThreads	list	snippet

The costs increase with the number of returned items/results.

For reference: yt_search() has a quota cost of 100 per page of results (with a default number of max. 50 results per page).



How do I Know the Quota Costs When Luse tuber?

You can estimate the costs based on costs for the specific query and the number of returned results. For example, if a video has 4000 comments and you wish to collect all of them, you can estimate your cost as follows: 100 results per page = 40 pages & cost per page for $get_all_comments() = 1 -> overall cost = 40$.

In practice, this is a bit more difficult to estimate as both the website of the video and get_stats() give you the comment count including all replies, but get_all_comments() only returns up to 5 replies per comment.



How do I Know the Quota Costs When Luse tuber?

If you want to check your API quota use, you can use the *Google*Developer Console: Choose your project, then select *APIs & Services*.

From the list of "Enabled APIs & services", select the *YouTube Data API v3* from the table by clicking on its name, then click on the *Quotas* tab. The most relevant number there should be the *Queries per day* (the default limit for those is currently 10,000).

If you want more detailed information about your quota usage, you can get a visualization by clicking on the chart icon ("Show usage chart") for "Queries per day" or "Queries per minute".

NB: It takes a bit for the numbers to update after sending your API calls.



Managing Your API Quota

The daily quota for your app resets at midnight Pacific Time. There are 3 ways of dealing with the quota limit:

- 1. Schedule your scripts. You can either do this manually (by splitting your data collection into batches and running the scripts on different days) or automatically (e.g., using the taskScheduleR package for Windows or the cronR package for Linux/Unix).
- 2. Apply for a quota increase via the YouTube Researcher Program. Note: This can be a bit involved and may take some time.
- 3. Use multiple apps and/or accounts for your data collection. Keep in mind that there is a limited number of projects per account. Note that depending on your setup and use this might get your API quota, app(s), account(s) or IP address(es) suspended/blocked (at least temporarily) if employed excessively.



Alternatives to tuber

If you want to collect user comments, an interesting alternative to tuber are the packages vosonSML and VOSONDash. The focus of both of those packages is on network analysis, but they can also be used to just collect user comments via the *YouTube* API.

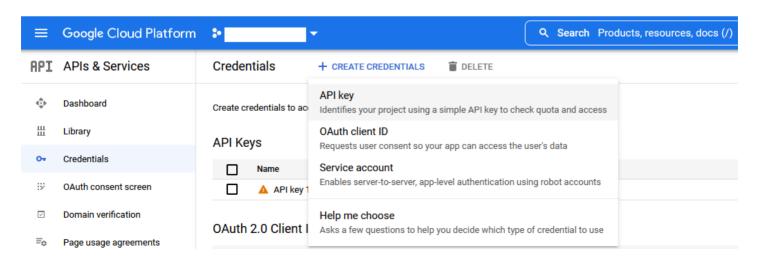
VOSONDash is essentially a graphical user interface (GUI) for vosonSML (note for the R nerds: it is an R Shiny web application). You can install these packages as follows:

```
install.packages("vosonSML")
install.packages("VOSONDash")
```



Authentication for the *voson* packages

Unlike tuber, which requires the app/client ID and secret for authentication, the *voson* packages require an API key. In case you have not already done so in the setup process for your YouTube API project, you can create one via the *Google* Developer Console dashboard.





Authentication for vosonSML

Once you have created an API key for your app, you can authenticate as follows:

```
library(vosonSML)
youtube_auth <- Authenticate("youtube", apiKey = "paste_your_api_key_here")</pre>
```

Note: The Authenticate () function from the vosonSML package only creates a credential object in your local R environment.

You can, of course, also use the functions from the keyring package for storing and accessing your API key.



Collecting comments with vosonSML

With the vosonSML function Collect() you can collect comments for multiple videos.

Note: The vosonSML::Collect() function also gives you an estimated API cost.



Collecting comments with vosonSML



Collecting comments with vosonSML

```
glimpse(comments)
```

```
## Rows: 200
## Columns: 12
## $ Comment
                                                                      <chr> "Look at that rage.... I liket it!", "I can't believe I've been coming bac~
                                                                      <chr> "Alexandre Abreu", "Timbo", "jjjj", "John Appleseed", "StephenCSmith", "Mi~
## $ AuthorDisplayName
                                                                     <chr> "https://yt3.ggpht.com/ytc/AL5GRJWIOWGiW-0_tH1v2nc3dWMgOtLrR8eV-iEbL3hPb0=~
## $ AuthorProfileImageUrl
                                                                      <chr> "http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEcloxdzGECTEQ05s2py2bw", "http://www.you~
## $ AuthorChannelUrl
                                                                      <chr> "UCEcloxdzGECTEQ05s2py2bw", "UC_VMLS6CyIS9MTFUYEpzT0Q", "UCZjs1UD59ZwB8xfP~
## $ AuthorChannelID
                                                                      ## $ ReplyCount
## $ LikeCount
                                                                      <chr> "2023-02-09T17:30:37Z", "2023-01-31T00:18:36Z", "2023-01-20T09:45:34Z", "2~
## $ PublishedAt
                                                                      <chr> "2023-02-09T17:30:37Z", "2023-01-31T00:18:36Z", "2023-01-20T09:45:34Z", "2~
## $ UpdatedAt
                                                                      <chr> "UgxEADxKNMydXY6JK0d4AaABAg", "UgwsH0vTnJVPzpKHXrd4AaABAg", "Ugz3vrUKseQiZ~
## $ CommentID
## $ ParentID
                                                                      <chr> "-5wpm-gesOY", "-5wpm-ges
## $ VideoID
```



VOSONDash

As stated before, VOSONDash provides a GUI for using the functionalities of vosonSML. You can simply launch it locally by loading the library and running a command to launch the R Shiny app.

```
library(VOSONDash)
runVOSONDash()
```

Note: You may have to install some additional libraries to run VOSONDash.



Saving comment data

As before for the comments collected with tuber, you can, of course, also export data collected with vosonSML into your format of choice, such as .rds or .csv.

```
saveRDS(comments, file = "./data/comments.rds")
readr::write_csv(comments, file = "./data/comments.csv")
```





Solutions