

### SEARCHING AND TRANSFORMING TEXT

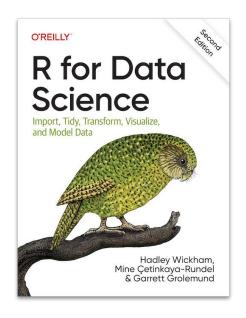
R & stringr

### CONTENT

- Why is text different?
- Working with text data using {stringr}
  - Searching
  - Extract matches
  - Replace matches
  - Splitting, substrings, and concatenating
  - Case conversion
  - Trimming



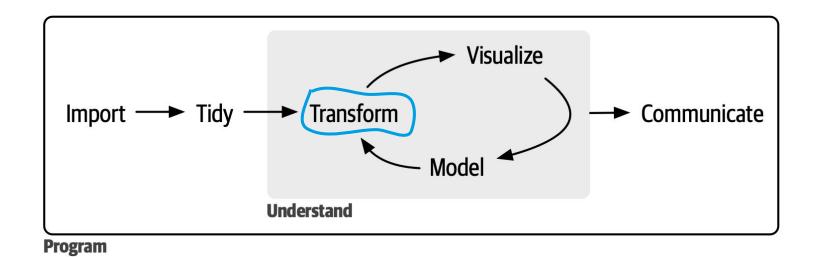
### RECOMMENDED LITERATURE



Wickham, Hadley, and Garrett Grolemund. R for Data Science: Import, Tidy, Transform, Visualize, and Model Data. 2nd edition, O'Reilly, 2023. Available online: https://r4ds.hadley.nz/

- → Chapter 14 Strings
- → Chapter 15 Regular Expressions





Source: Wickham, Hadley, and Garrett Grolemund. R for Data Science: Import, Tidy, Transform, Visualize, and Model Data. First edition, O'Reilly, 2016. URL: https://r4ds.hadley.nz/diagrams/data-science/base.png



### WHY IS TEXT DIFFERENT?

### WHY IS TEXT DIFFERENT?

### STRUCTURED VS UNSTRUCTURED

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3	berlinliebich	de	2020-04-29T14:35:31.000+0000	FALSE	null	@biko3467 @Danke Tegel Aber hallo.	
4	berlinliebich	de	2020-04-29T20:14:24.000+0000	FALSE	null	Die Berliner sind mit dem Senat zufrieden und die Mehrheit für Mitte-Links steht. Was will man mehrhttps://t.co/Cld5BgUdc3	
5	berlinliebich	de	2020-04-29T16:00:29.000+0000	FALSE	null	Bei der @Linksfraktion gibt es gleich nebenan bei Facebook einen spannenden Livestream (u.a. mit mir) und natürlich mit Gebärdendolmetschung. (@EinAugens	
6	c_lindner	de	2020-04-29T16:05:38.000+0000	FALSE	null	Mit @FuestClemens, VwL-Professor, Präsident des #ifo und Mitglied der #Leopoldina spreche ich in einer neuen #COVID19-Sonderfolge über den Schaden an de	
7	SWagenknecht	de	2020-04-29T10:28:22.000+0000	FALSE	null	300 Infizierte in einem Schlachtbetrieb? Gab es dort genug #Arbeitsschutz, Abstands- und Hygieneregeln? Offenbar braucht es mehr Kontrollen – und Betriebe, d	
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9	c_lindner	de	2020-04-29T17:57:29.000+0000	TRUE	ZDFheute	RT @ZDFheute: "Wenn Hygienekonzepte vorliegen - Masken, Desinfektion, ausreichen Abstand -, dann müssen Lokale, Läden, Schulen, das gesells	
10	c_lindner	de	2020-04-29T13:17:56.000+0000	TRUE	maybritillner	RT @maybritillner: Thema morgen bei #illner"Die Politik macht auf – die Unsicherheit bleibt"Mehr Infos zu allen 6 Gästen 👉 https://t.co/G	
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	DoroBaer	de	2020-04-29T06:17:54.000+0000	TRUE	MarkusBlume	RT @MarkusBlume: Wir gedenken heute der Befreiung des #Konzentrationslagers #Dachau. Das menschenverachtende Grauen fand dort vor 75 Jahren	
	kahrs	fr	2020-04-29T05:36:02.000+0000	FALSE	null		
	juergenhardt	de	2020-04-29T05:21:41.000+0000	FALSE	null	Gut, dass die @KASonline das Scheinwerferlicht auf die Krise in vs lenkt. Als @cducsubt haben wir uns immer dafür stark gemacht, den demokratischen Übergan	
	juergenhardt	de	2020-04-29T05:21:41.000+0000	FALSE	null	Gut, dass die @KASonline das Scheinwerferlicht auf die Krise in ve lenkt. Als @cducsubt haben wir uns immer dafür stark gemacht, den demokratischen Übergar	
30	GoeringEckardt ZaklinNastic	de de	2020-04-27T06:57:19.000+0000 2020-04-26T19:37:22.000+0000	FALSE	null	Das ist mal ein Montag Morgen! #happy #GRUENE 100000 das ist 🗱 Prozent #Zukunft #Mut #Klimaschutz #Zusammenhalt @Die_Gruenen https://t.co/Uw0xbDf	



### WHY IS TEXT DIFFERENT?

### WHAT OPTIONS DO WE HAVE?

What can we do with text without changing the structure?

Apply **filter**, but with different operators from **{stringr}**:

- Search for keywords with str\_detect
- Search for patterns with regular expressions

Apply mutate and extract matches:

- Extract whether a keyword has been matched
- Extract the matched keyword(s)
- Extract multiple matches and explode to rows



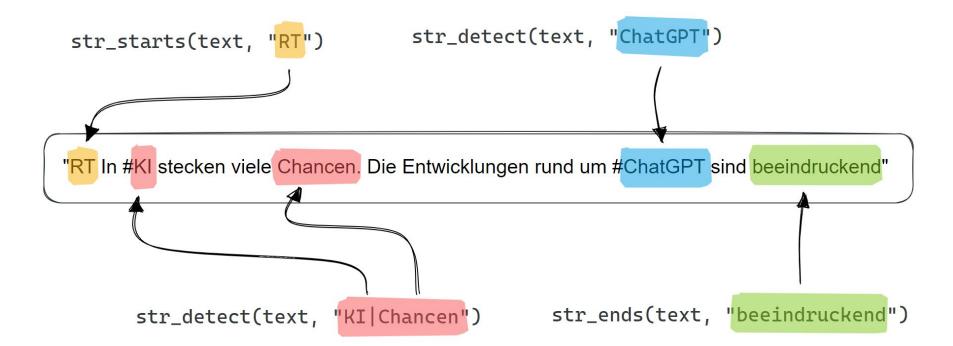
# SEARCHING IN TEXT WITH {stringr}

### **SEARCHES IN TEXT**

### SIMPLE KEYWORD MATCHES

- The {stringr} package contains functions for working with text
- We can use {stringr} to search in text:
  - str\_detect for simple keyword matches
  - str\_starts and str\_ends as special cases
  - str\_to\_lower to improve matches
  - str\_count to count occurrences of keywords and patterns





Simple keyword matches anywhere in the text:

```
tweets |>
  filter(str_detect(text, "ChatGPT")) |>
  select(screen_name, text)
```

Searching at the start of a text:

```
tweets |>
  filter(str_starts(text, "RT", negate = TRUE)) |>
  select(screen_name, text)
```



Searching at the end of a text:

```
tweets |>
  filter(str_ends(text, "CL")) |>
  select(screen_name, text)
```



Improved keyword matches with str\_to\_lower:

```
tweets |>
  mutate(text = str_to_lower(text)) |>
  filter(str_detect(text, "chatgpt")) |>
  select(screen_name, text)
```



### **SEARCHES IN TEXT WITH**

### **REGULAR EXPRESSIONS**

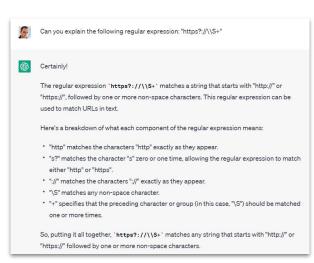
Regular expressions are powerful, yet can be complex to write.

### Some examples:

- str\_detect(text, "chatgpt|gpt3|gpt4")
- str\_detect(text, "@\\w+")
- str\_detect(text, "https?://\\S+")
- str\_detect(text, "\\s{2,}")

All {stringr} functions actually take regular expressions!

### ChatGPT to the rescue!





### EXTRACT MATCHES WITH {stringr}

### **EXTRACT MATCHES**

It is good to know whether and which keyword matched in a text:

- str\_extract to pull a match from the text into a new column
- str\_extract\_all to pull all matches into a new column as a list
- str\_extract\_all with str\_c and unlist to concatenate all matches into a single string
- str\_extract\_all with unnest\_longer from {tidyr} to extract all matches into separate rows



Extract only the first match:

```
tweets |>
  mutate(text = str_to_lower(text)) |>
  mutate(first_match = str_extract(text, "chatgpt|gpt3|gpt4")) |>
  filter(!is.na(first_match)) |>
  select(first_match, text)
```

Extract all matches as a list:

```
tweets |>
  mutate(text = str_to_lower(text)) |>
  mutate(matches = str_extract_all(text, "chatgpt|gpt3|gpt4")) |>
  filter(!is.na(matches)) |>
  select(matches, text)
```

### ALL MATCHES AS STRING

With str\_c and unlist, we can transform a list of strings into a concatenated string:

```
tweets |>
  mutate(text = str_to_lower(text)) |>
  mutate(matches = str_extract_all(text, "chatgpt|gpt3|gpt4")) |>
  mutate(matches_flat = str_c(unlist(matches), collapse = ",")) |>
  select(matches_flat, text)
```



### **EXTRACT MATCHES**

### **ALL MATCHES AS ROWS**

With unnest\_longer, we can explode a list of character strings into separate rows:

```
tweets |>
  mutate(extracted_urls = str_extract_all(text, "https?://\\S+")) |>
  unnest_longer(extracted_urls, keep_empty = TRUE) |>
  select(id, screen_name, extracted_urls, text) |>
  arrange(id)
```



### REPLACE MATCHES WITH {stringr}

### **REPLACE MATCHES**

Occasionally, we want to remove things from text:

- str\_replace to replace the first match with a new string
- str\_replace\_all to replace all matches with a new string
- str\_remove and str\_remove\_all to delete occurrences
- str\_trim to remove leading and trailing white spaces from text

All code examples are on GitHub: https://github.com/winf-hsos/data-analytics-code



### SPLITTING, SUBSTRINGS, AND CONCATENATING TEXT WITH {stringr}

### **SPLIT TEXT**

### BREAK UP A TEXT

Splitting a string into multiple pieces can be helpful at times:

- **str\_split** to break a long string into a list of strings using a separator character or pattern
- str\_split\_i to break a long string using a separator and keeping only the i-th result
- str\_sub extracts a part from a string via start and end locations
- str\_c to concatenate a list of strings into one strings



### CASE CONVERSION WITH {stringr}

### **CASE CONVERSION**

### ALL CAPS OR LOWER

Splitting a string into multiple pieces can be helpful at times:

- str\_to\_lower to convert all letters to lowercase
- str\_to\_upper to convert all letter to uppercase
- str\_title to make the first letter uppercase



# TRIMMING TEXT WITH {stringr}

### TRIMMING

Trimming a string is sometimes necessary, especially to correct for faulty user input:

- str\_trim removes white spaces at the beginning and end of a string
- str\_squish also replaces multiple white spaces within a string with a single one

