

SEARCHING AND TRANSFORMING TEXT

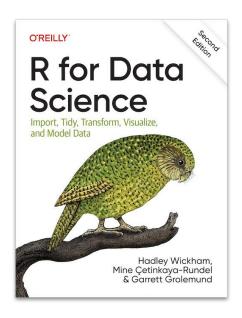
R & stringr

CONTENT

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



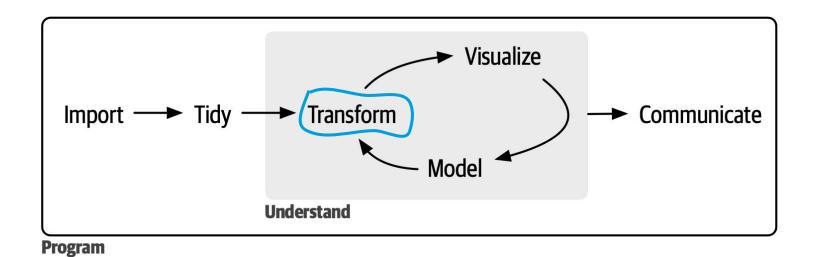
RECOMMENDED LITERATURE



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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16	DoroBaer	de	19 4:37.000 0	LS	null	@LenaRogi Also um den Toaster zum Brennen zu bringen, brauchte ich meine Kinder nicht. Jeh konnte das ganz alleine;-)	
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18	Volker_Beck	de	2020-04 9T 3.00 DP	T IF	Volker_Beck	RT @Volker_Beck: Ich sage mal so: "Wir werden womöglich alle si be der patr Zynismus nervt mich schon etwas und wenn ma	
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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	
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	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



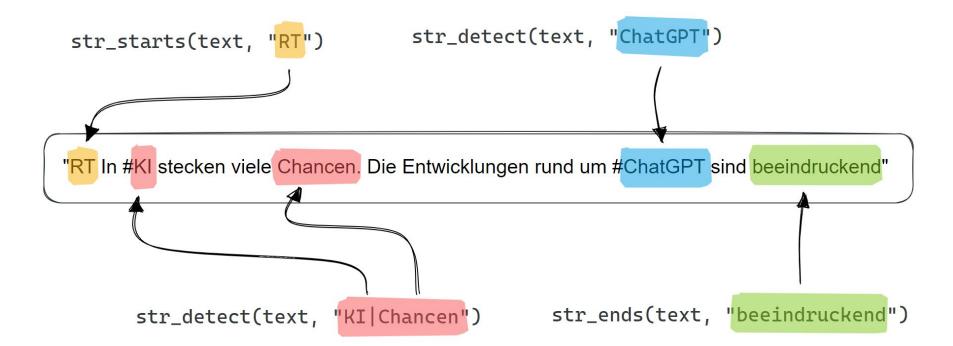
SEARCHING IN TEXT WITH {stringr}

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

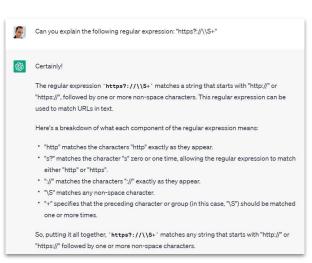
Regular expressions are powerful, yet can be complex to write.

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)
```

EXTRACT MATCHES

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

