Package 'ngramr'

May 9, 2026

Type Package

Title Retrieve and Plot Google n-Gram Data

Version 1.10.0

Date 2025-01-10

Maintainer Sean Carmody <seancarmody@gmail.com>

Description Retrieve and plot word frequencies through time from the ``Google Ngram Viewer'' <https://books.google.com/ngrams>.

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

Imports httr, rlang, curl, dplyr (>= 1.0.3), cli, tibble, tidyr, rjson, stringr, ggplot2, scales, xml2, textutils

URL https://github.com/seancarmody/ngramr

BugReports https://github.com/seancarmody/ngramr/issues

License MIT + file LICENSE

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Encoding UTF-8

Suggests testthat

Language en-AU

NeedsCompilation no

Author Sean Carmody [aut, cre, cph]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-01-10 22:10:02 UTC

Contents

---

chunk *Chunk a vector or list*

Description

chunk takes a vector (or list) and returns a list of chunks which all have lengths (approximately) equal to a specified value.

Usage

```
chunk(x, len = NULL, n = NULL)
```

Arguments

x	vector of list
len	target length of chunks
n	number of chunks

Details

If n is specified, len is ignored and chunk returns a list of length n of "chunks" of x. Otherwise n is calculated to break the vector into chunks which are each approximately of length len. If both len and n are unspecified, chunk simply returns x.

Examples

```
chunk(letters, 10)
chunk(LETTERS, n = 3)
```

corpuses *Google n-gram corpus information*

Description

Details of the various corpuses available through the Google n-gram tool

Usage

```
corpuses
```

Format

44 x 6 ngram data frame

ggram *Plot n-gram frequencies*

Description

`ggram` downloads data from the Google Ngram Viewer website and plots it in `ggplot2` style.

Usage

```
ggram(
  phrases,
  ignore_case = FALSE,
  geom = "line",
  geom_options = list(),
  lab = NA,
  google_theme = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`phrases`	vector of phrases. Alternatively, phrases can be an ngram object returned by `ngram` or `ngrami`.
`ignore_case`	logical, indicating whether the frequencies are case insensitive. Default is `FALSE`.
`geom`	the ggplot2 geom used to plot the data; defaults to "line"
`geom_options`	list of additional parameters passed to the ggplot2 geom.
`lab`	y-axis label. Defaults to "Frequency".
`google_theme`	use a Google Ngram-style plot theme.
`...`	additional parameters passed to `ngram`

Details

Google generated two datasets drawn from digitised books in the Google books collection. One was generated in July 2009, the second in July 2012. Google will update these datasets as book scanning continues.

Examples

```
library(ggplot2)
ggram(c("hacker", "programmer"), year_start = 1950)

# Changing the geom.
ggram(c("cancer", "fumer", "cigarette"),
      year_start = 1900,
      corpus = "fr-2012",
      smoothing = 0,
      geom = "step")

# Passing more options.
ggram(c("cancer", "smoking", "tobacco"),
      year_start = 1900,
      corpus = "en-fiction-2012",
      geom = "point",
      smoothing = 0,
      geom_options = list(alpha = .5)) +
  stat_smooth(method="loess", se = FALSE, formula = y  ~ x)

# Setting the layers manually.
ggram(c("cancer", "smoking", "tobacco"),
      year_start = 1900,
      corpus = "en-fiction-2012",
      smoothing = 0,
      geom = NULL) +
  stat_smooth(method="loess", se=FALSE, span = 0.3, formula = y ~ x)

# Setting the legend placement on a long query and using the Google theme.
# Example taken from a post by Ben Zimmer at Language Log.
p <- c("((The United States is + The United States has) / The United States)",
      "((The United States are + The United States have) / The United States)")
ggram(p, year_start = 1800, google_theme = TRUE) +
      theme(legend.direction="vertical")

# Pass ngram data rather than phrases
ggram(hacker) + facet_wrap(~ Corpus)
```

---

hacker *Sample n-gram data*

Description

Frequency data for the phrases "hacker", "programmer", from 1950 to 2008.

Usage

```
hacker
```

Format

a 236 x 4 ngram data frame

`ngram` *Get n-gram frequencies*

Description

`ngram` downloads data from the Google Ngram Viewer website and returns it in a tibble.

Usage

```
ngram(
  phrases,
  corpus = "en",
  year_start = 1800,
  year_end = 2022,
  smoothing = 3,
  case_ins = FALSE,
  aggregate = FALSE,
  count = FALSE,
  drop_parent = FALSE,
  drop_all = FALSE,
  type = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

`phrases`	vector of phrases, with a maximum of 12 items
`corpus`	Google corpus to search (see Details for possible values)
`year_start`	start year, default is 1800. Data available back to 1500.
`year_end`	end year, default is 2008
`smoothing`	smoothing parameter, default is 3
`case_ins`	Logical indicating whether to force a case insensitive search. Default is `FALSE`.
`aggregate`	Sum up the frequencies for ngrams associated with wildcard or case insensitive searches. Default is `FALSE`.
`count`	Default is `FALSE`.

drop_parent	Drop the parent phrase associated with a wildcard or case-insensitive search. Default is FALSE.
drop_all	Delete the suffix "(All)" from aggregated case-insensitive searches. Default is FALSE.
type	Include the Google return type (e.g. NGRAM, NGRAM_COLLECTION, EXPANSION) from result set. Default is FALSE.

Details

Google generated two datasets drawn from digitised books in the Google Books collection. One was generated in July 2009, the second in July 2012 and the third in 2019. Google is expected to update these datasets as book scanning continues.

This function provides the annual frequency of words or phrases, known as n-grams, in a sub-collection or "corpus" taken from the Google Books collection.The search across the corpus is case-sensitive.

If the function is unable to retrieve data from the Google Ngram Viewer site (either because of access issues or if the format of Google's site has changed) a NULL result is returned and messages are printed to the console but no errors or warnings are raised (this is to align with CRAN package policies).

Below is a list of available corpora. Note that the data for the 2012 corpuses only extends to 2009.

Corpus	Corpus Name
en-US-2019	American English 2019
en-US-2012	American English 2012
en-US-2009	American English 2009
en-GB-2019	British English 2019
en-GB-2012	British English 2012
en-GB-2009	British English 2009
zh-Hans-2019	Chinese 2019
zh-Hans-2012	Chinese 2012
zh-Hans-2009	Chinese 2009
en-2019	English 2019
en-2012	English 2012
en-2009	English 2009
en-fiction-2019	English Fiction 2019
en-fiction-2012	English Fiction 2012
en-fiction-2009	English Fiction 2009
en-1M-2009	English One Million
fr-2019	French 2019
fr-2012	French 2012
fr-2009	French 2009
de-2019	German 2019
de-2012	German 2012
de-2009	German 2009
iw-2019	Hebrew 2019
iw-2012	Hebrew 2012
iw-2009	Hebrew 2009

es-2019	Spanish 2019
es-2012	Spanish 2012
es-2009	Spanish 2009
ru-2019	Russian 2019
ru-2012	Russian 2012
ru-2009	Russian 2009
it-2019	Italian 2019
it-2012	Italian 2012

The Google Million is a sub-collection of Google Books. All are in English with dates ranging from 1500 to 2008. No more than about 6,000 books were chosen from any one year, which means that all of the scanned books from early years are present, and books from later years are randomly sampled. The random samplings reflect the subject distributions for the year (so there are more computer books in 2000 than 1980).

See http://books.google.com/ngrams/info for the full Ngram syntax.

Value

`ngram` returns an object of class "`ngram`", which is a tidyverse `tibble` enriched with attributes reflecting some of the parameters used in the Ngram Viewer query.

Examples

```
ngram(c("mouse", "rat"), year_start = 1950)
ngram(c("blue_ADJ", "red_ADJ"))
ngram(c("_START_ President Roosevelt", "_START_ President Truman"), year_start = 1920)
```

---

ngrami *Get n-gram frequencies (case insensitive version)*

Description

This function is a simple wrapper of `ngram` for case insensitive searches.

Usage

```
ngrami(phrases, aggregate = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

`phrases`	vector of phrases
`aggregate`	sum up each of the terms
`...`	remaining parameters passed to ngram

ngramw *Get n-gram frequencies ("wide" format)*

Description

Get n-gram frequencies ("wide" format)

Usage

```
ngramw(phrases, ignore_case = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

phrases	vector of phrases
ignore_case	ignore case of phrases (i.e. call ngrami rather than ngram). Default value is FALSE.
...	remaining parameters passed to ngram

print.ngram *Print n-gram contents*

Description

Print n-gram contents

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'ngram'
print(x, rows = 6, ...)
```

Arguments

x	ngram object as returned by link{ngram}
rows	number of rows to print. Default is 6.
...	additional parameters passed to default print method.

Examples

```
x <- ngram(c("hacker", "programmer"), year_start = 1950)
print(x)
```

theme_google *Google Ngram theme for ggplot2*

Description

Google Ngram theme for ggplot2

Usage

```
theme_google(...)
```

Arguments

...	additional parameters to pass to theme

Details

Use a Google Ngram-style plot theme.

Index