# Package: webtrackR (via r-universe)

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Title Preprocessing and Analyzing Web Tracking Data

Version 0.3.1.9000

**Description** Data structures and methods to work with web tracking data. The functions cover data preprocessing steps, enriching web tracking data with external information and methods for the analysis of digital behavior as used in several academic papers (e.g., Clemm von Hohenberg et al., 2023

<doi:10.17605/OSF.IO/M3U9P>; Stier et al., 2022

<doi:10.1017/S0003055421001222>).

URL https://github.com/gesistsa/webtrackR

BugReports https://github.com/gesistsa/webtrackR/issues

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## Description

add\_duration() approximates the time spent on a visit based on the difference between two consecutive timestamps, replacing differences exceeding cutoff with the value defined in replace\_by.

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#### Usage

```
add_duration(
  wt,
  cutoff = 300,
  replace_by = NA,
  last_replace_by = NA,
  device_switch_na = FALSE,
  device_var = NULL
)
```

#### **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

cutoff numeric (seconds). If duration is greater than this value, it is reset to the value

defined by replace\_by. Defaults to 300 seconds.

replace\_by numeric. Determines whether differences greater than the cutoff are set to NA,

or some value. Defaults to NA.

last\_replace\_by

numeric. Determines whether the last visit for an individual is set to NA, or some

value. Defaults to NA.

device\_switch\_na

boolean. Relevant only when data was collected from multiple devices. When visits are ordered by timestamp sequence, two consecutive visits can come from different devices, which makes the timestamp difference less likely to be the true duration. It may be preferable to set the duration of the visit to NA (TRUE) rather

than the difference to the next timestamp (FALSE). Defaults to FALSE.

device\_var

character. Column indicating device. Required if 'device\_switch\_na' set to TRUE. Defaults to NULL.

#### Value

webtrack data frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called for duration.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
wt <- add_duration(wt)
# Defining cutoff at 10 minutes, replacing those exceeding cutoff to 5 minutes,
# and setting duration before device switch to `NA`:
wt <- add_duration(wt,
        cutoff = 600, replace_by = 300,
        device_switch_na = TRUE, device_var = "device"
)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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add\_next\_visit

Add the next visit as a new column

#### **Description**

add\_next\_visit() adds the subsequent visit, as determined by order of timestamps as a new column. The next visit can be added as either the full URL, the extracted host or the extracted domain, depending on level.

## Usage

```
add_next_visit(wt, level = "url")
```

#### **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

level character. Either "url", "host" or "domain". Defaults to "url".

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called url\_next,host\_next or domain\_next.

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Adding next full URL as new column
wt <- add_next_visit(wt, level = "url")
# Adding next host as new column
wt <- add_next_visit(wt, level = "host")
# Adding next domain as new column
wt <- add_next_visit(wt, level = "domain")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

add\_panelist\_data

Add panelist features to tracking data

## Description

Adds information about panelists (e.g., from a survey) to the tracking data.

#### Usage

```
add_panelist_data(wt, data, cols = NULL, join_on = "panelist_id")
```

add\_previous\_visit 5

## **Arguments**

wt	webtrack data object.

data a data frame containing panelist data which contains columns about panelists cols character vector of columns to add. If NULL, all columns are added. Defaults to

NULL.

join\_on which columns to join on. Defaults to "panelist\_id".

#### Value

webtrack object with the same columns and the columns from data specified in cols.

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
data("testdt_survey_w")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# add survey test data
add_panelist_data(wt, testdt_survey_w)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

add\_previous\_visit

Add the previous visit as a new column

## Description

add\_previous\_visit() adds the previous visit, as determined by order of timestamps as a new column The previous visit can be added as either the full URL, the extracted host or the extracted domain, depending on level.

#### Usage

```
add_previous_visit(wt, level = "url")
```

## Arguments

wt webtrack data object.

level character. Either "url", "host" or "domain". Defaults to "url".

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called url\_previous,host\_previous or domain\_previous..

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#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Adding previous full URL as new column
wt <- add_previous_visit(wt, level = "url")
# Adding previous host as new column
wt <- add_previous_visit(wt, level = "host")
# Adding previous domain as new column
wt <- add_previous_visit(wt, level = "domain")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

add\_referral

Add social media referrals as a new column

## **Description**

Identifies whether a visit was referred to from social media and adds it as a new column. See details for method.

#### **Usage**

```
add_referral(wt, platform_domains, patterns)
```

#### **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object. platform\_domains

character. A vector of platform domains for which referrers should be identified.

Order and length must correspondent to patterns argument

patterns character. A vector of patterns for which referrers should be identified. Order

and length must correspondent to platform\_domains vector.

## **Details**

To identify referrals, we rely on the method described as most valid in Schmidt et al.: When the domain preceding a visit was to the platform in question, and the query string of the visit's URL contains a certain pattern, we count it as a referred visit. For Facebook, the pattern has been identified by Schmidt et al. as 'fbclid=', although this can change in future.

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called referral, which takes on NA if no referral has been identified, or the name specified platform\_domains if a referral from that platform has been identified

add\_session 7

#### References

Schmidt, Felix, Frank Mangold, Sebastian Stier and Roberto Ulloa. "Facebook as an Avenue to News: A Comparison and Validation of Approaches to Identify Facebook Referrals". Working paper.

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
wt <- add_referral(wt, platform_domains = "facebook.com", patterns = "fbclid=")
wt <- add_referral(wt,
    platform_domains = c("facebook.com", "twitter.com"),
    patterns = c("fbclid=", "utm_source=twitter")
)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

add\_session

Add a session variable

#### **Description**

add\_session() groups visits into "sessions", defining a session to end when the difference between two consecutive timestamps exceeds a cutoff.

## Usage

```
add_session(wt, cutoff)
```

#### Arguments

wt webtrack data object.

numeric (seconds). If the difference between two consecutive timestamps ex-

ceeds this value, a new browsing session is defined.

## Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called session.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Setting cutoff to 30 minutes
wt <- add_session(wt, cutoff = 1800)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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add\_title

Download and add the "title" of a URL

#### **Description**

Gets the title of a URL by accessing the web address online and adds the title as a new column. See details for the meaning of "title". You need an internet connection to run this function.

## Usage

```
add_title(wt, lang = "en-US,en-GB,en")
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

lang character (a language tag). Language accepted by the request. Defaults to

"en-US, en-GB, en". Note that you are likely to still obtain titles different from the ones seen originally by the user, because the language also depend on the

user's IP and device settings.

#### **Details**

The title of a website (the text within the <title> tag of a web site's <head>) #' is the text that is shown on the "tab" when looking at the website in a browser. It can contain useful information about a URL's content and can be used, for example, for classification purposes. Note that it may take a while to run this function for a large number of URLs.

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called "title", which will be NA if the title cannot be retrieved.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)[1:2]
# Get titles with `lang` set to default English
wt_titles <- add_title(wt)
# Get titles with `lang` set to German
wt_titles <- add_title(wt, lang = "de")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

atkinson\_index 9

ė	atkinson_index	Symmetric Atkinson Index calculates the symmetric Atkinson index

## Description

Symmetric Atkinson Index calculates the symmetric Atkinson index

## Usage

```
atkinson_index(grp_a, grp_b)
```

## Arguments

grp_a	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group A using a website
grp_b	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group B using a website

#### References

Frankel, David, and Oscar Volij. "Scale Invariant Measures of Segregation "Working Paper, 2008.

## **Examples**

```
# perfect score
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 0, 0)
grp_b <- c(0, 0, 5, 5)
atkinson_index(grp_a, grp_b)
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
grp_b <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
atkinson_index(grp_a, grp_b)</pre>
```

bakshy

Bakshy Top500 Ideological alignment of 500 domains based on face-book data

## Description

Bakshy Top500 Ideological alignment of 500 domains based on facebook data

## Usage

bakshy

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#### **Format**

An object of class data. table (inherits from data. frame) with 500 rows and 7 columns.

#### References

Bakshy, Eytan, Solomon Messing, and Lada A. Adamic. "Exposure to ideologically diverse news and opinion on Facebook." Science 348.6239 (2015): 1130-1132.

classify\_visits

Classify visits by matching to a list of classes

#### **Description**

classify\_visits() categorizes visits by either extracting the visit URL's domain or host and matching them to a list of domains or hosts; or by matching a list of regular expressions against the visit URL.

#### Usage

```
classify_visits(
  wt,
  classes,
  match_by = "domain",
  regex_on = NULL,
  return_rows_by = NULL,
  return_rows_val = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

classes a data frame containing classes that can be matched to visits.

match\_by character. Whether to match list entries from classes to the domain of a visit

("domain") or the host ("host") with an exact match; or with a regular expression against the whole URL of a visit ("regex"). If set to "domain" or "host", both wt and classes need to have a column called accordingly. If set to "regex", the url column of wt will be used, and you need to set regex\_on to the column in classes for which to do the pattern matching. Defaults to

"domain".

regex\_on character. Column in classes which to use for pattern matching. Defaults to

NULL.

return\_rows\_by character. A column in classes on which to subset the returning data. Defaults

to NULL.

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```
return_rows_val
```

character. The value of the columns specified in return\_rows\_by, for which data should be returned. For example, if your classes data contains a column type, which has a value called "shopping", setting return\_rows\_by to "type" and return\_rows\_val to "shopping" will only return visits classified as "shopping".

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and any column in classes except the column specified by match\_by.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
data("domain_list")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)</pre>
# classify visits via domain
wt_domains <- extract_domain(wt)</pre>
wt_classes <- classify_visits(wt_domains, classes = domain_list, match_by = "domain")
# classify visits via domain
# for the example, just renaming "domain" column
domain_list$host <- domain_list$domain</pre>
wt_hosts <- extract_host(wt)</pre>
wt_classes <- classify_visits(wt_hosts, classes = domain_list, match_by = "host")
# classify visits with pattern matching
# for the example, any value in "domain" treated as pattern
data("domain_list")
regex_list <- domain_list[type == "facebook"]</pre>
wt_classes <- classify_visits(wt[1:5000],</pre>
    classes = regex_list,
    match_by = "regex", regex_on = "domain"
)
# classify visits via domain and only return class "search"
data("domain_list")
wt_classes <- classify_visits(wt_domains,</pre>
    classes = domain_list,
    match_by = "domain", return_rows_by = "type",
    return_rows_val = "search"
)
## End(Not run)
```

create\_urldummy

Create an urldummy variable

#### **Description**

Create an urldummy variable

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#### Usage

```
create_urldummy(wt, dummy, name)
```

#### **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object

dummy a vector of urls that should be dummy coded

name of dummy variable to create.

#### Value

webtrack object with the same columns and a new column called "name" including the dummy variable

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
wt <- extract_domain(wt)
code_urls <- "https://dkr1.ssisurveys.com/tzktsxomta"
create_urldummy(wt, dummy = code_urls, name = "test_dummy")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

deduplicate

Deduplicate visits

## Description

deduplicate() flags, drops or aggregates duplicates, which are defined as consecutive visits to the same URL within a certain time frame.

## Usage

```
deduplicate(
  wt,
  method = "aggregate",
  within = 1,
  duration_var = "duration",
  keep_nvisits = FALSE,
  same_day = TRUE,
  add_grpvars = NULL
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

wt	webtrack data object.
method	character. One of "aggregate", "flag" or "drop". If set to "aggregate", consecutive visits (no matter the time difference) to the same URL are combined and their duration aggregated. In this case, a duration column must be specified via "duration_var". If set to "flag", duplicates within a certain time frame are flagged in a new column called duplicate. In this case, within argument must be specified. If set to "drop", duplicates are dropped. Again, within argument must be specified. Defaults to "aggregate".
within	numeric (seconds). If method set to "flag" or "drop", a subsequent visit is only defined as a duplicate when happening within this time difference. Defaults to 1 second.
duration_var	character. Name of duration variable. Defaults to "duration".
keep_nvisits	boolean. If method set to "aggregate", this determines whether number of aggregated visits should be kept as variable. Defaults to FALSE.
same_day	boolean. If method set to "aggregate", determines whether to count visits as consecutive only when on the same day. Defaults to TRUE.
add_grpvars	vector. If method set to "aggregate", determines whether any additional variables are included in grouping of visits and therefore kept. Defaults to NULL.

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt with updated duration

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)</pre>
wt <- add_duration(wt, cutoff = 300, replace_by = 300)</pre>
# Dropping duplicates with one-second default
wt_dedup <- deduplicate(wt, method = "drop")</pre>
# Flagging duplicates with one-second default
wt_dedup <- deduplicate(wt, method = "flag")</pre>
# Aggregating duplicates
wt_dedup <- deduplicate(wt[1:1000], method = "aggregate")</pre>
# Aggregating duplicates and keeping number of visits for aggregated visits
wt_dedup <- deduplicate(wt[1:1000], method = "aggregate", keep_nvisits = TRUE)</pre>
# Aggregating duplicates and keeping "domain" variable despite grouping
wt <- extract_domain(wt)</pre>
wt_dedup <- deduplicate(wt, method = "aggregate", add_grpvars = "domain")</pre>
## End(Not run)
```

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## Description

The Dissimilarity Index can be interpreted as the share of Group A visits that would need to be redistributed across media for the share of group A to be uniform across websites.

#### Usage

```
dissimilarity_index(grp_a, grp_b)
```

#### **Arguments**

grp_a	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group A using a website
grp_b	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group B using a website

#### References

Cutler, David M., Edward L. Glaeser, and Jacob L. Vigdor. "The rise and decline of the American ghetto." Journal of political economy 107.3 (1999): 455-506.

## **Examples**

```
# perfect dissimilarity
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 0, 0)
grp_b <- c(0, 0, 5, 5)
dissimilarity_index(grp_a, grp_b)
# no dissimilarity
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
grp_b <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
dissimilarity_index(grp_a, grp_b)</pre>
```

domain\_list

Domain list classification of domains into news, portals, search, and social media

## **Description**

Domain list classification of domains into news, portals, search, and social media

#### Usage

```
domain_list
```

drop\_query 15

## **Format**

An object of class data. table (inherits from data. frame) with 663 rows and 2 columns.

#### References

Stier, S., Mangold, F., Scharkow, M., & Breuer, J. (2022). Post Post-Broadcast Democracy? News Exposure in the Age of Online Intermediaries. American Political Science Review, 116(2), 768-774.

drop\_query

Drop the query and fragment from URL

## **Description**

drop\_query() adds the URL without query and fragment as a new column. The query is defined as the part following a "?" after the path. The fragement is anything following a "#" after the query.

## Usage

```
drop_query(wt, varname = "url")
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

varname character. name of the column from which to extract the host. Defaults to "url".

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called '<varname>\_noquery'

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Extract URL without query/fragment
wt <- drop_query(wt)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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extract\_domain

Extract the domain from URL

#### Description

extract\_domain() adds the domain of a URL as a new column. By "domain", we mean the "top private domain", i.e., the domain under the public suffix (e.g., "com") as defined by the Public Suffix List. See details.

Extracts the domain from urls.

#### Usage

```
extract_domain(wt, varname = "url")
```

#### Arguments

wt webtrack data object.

varname character. Name of the column from which to extract the host. Defaults to

"url".

#### **Details**

We define a "web domain" in the common colloquial meaning, that is, the part of an web address that identifies the person or organization in control. is google.com. More technically, what we mean by "domain" is the "top private domain", i.e., the domain under the public suffix, as defined by the Public Suffix List. Note that this definition sometimes leads to counterintuitive results because not all public suffixes are "registry suffixes". That is, they are not controlled by a domain name registrar, but allow users to directly register a domain. One example of such a public, non-registry suffix is blogspot.com. For a URL like www.mysite.blogspot.com, our function, and indeed the packages we are aware of, would extract the domain as mysite.blogspot.com, although you might think of blogspot.com as the domain. For details, see here

## Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called 'domain' (or, if varname not equal to 'url', '<varname>\_domain')

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Extract domain and drop rows without domain
wt <- extract_domain(wt)
# Extract domain and keep rows without domain
wt <- extract_domain(wt)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

extract\_host 17

extract\_host

Extract the host from URL

## Description

extract\_host() adds the host of a URL as a new column. The host is defined as the part following the scheme (e.g., "https://") and preceding the subdirectory (anything following the next "/"). Note that for URL entries like chrome-extension://soomething.or http://192.168.0.1/something, result will be set to NA.

## Usage

```
extract_host(wt, varname = "url")
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

varname character. Name of the column from which to extract the host. Defaults to

"url".

#### Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called 'host' (or, if varname not equal to 'url', '<varname>\_host')

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Extract host and drop rows without host
wt <- extract_host(wt)
# Extract host and keep rows without host
wt <- extract_host(wt)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

extract\_path

Extract the path from URL

## Description

extract\_path() adds the path of a URL as a new column. The path is defined as the part following the host but not including a query (anything after a "?") or a fragment (anything after a "#").

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#### Usage

```
extract_path(wt, varname = "url", decode = TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object

varname character. name of the column from which to extract the host. Defaults to "url".

decode logical. Whether to decode the path (see utils::URLdecode()), default to

**TRUE** 

## Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called 'path' (or, if varname not equal to 'url', '<varname>\_path')

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# Extract path
wt <- extract_path(wt)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

fake\_tracking

Fake data

## **Description**

Small fake webtracking data for testing purpose

## Usage

```
fake_tracking
```

## **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 500 rows and 3 columns.

isolation\_index 19

|--|

## Description

Given two groups (A and B) of individuals, the isolation index captures the extent to which group A disproportionately visit websites whose other visitors are also members of group A.

#### Usage

```
isolation_index(grp_a, grp_b, adjusted = FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

grp_a	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group A using a website
grp_b	vector (usually corresponds to a column in a webtrack data frame) indicating the number of individuals of group B using a website
adjusted	logical. should the index be adjusted (defaults to FALSE)

#### **Details**

a value of 1 indicates that the websites visited by group A and group B do not overlap. A value of 0 means both visit exactly the same websites

#### Value

numeric value between 0 and 1. 0 indicates no isolation and 1 perfect isolation

#### References

Cutler, David M., Edward L. Glaeser, and Jacob L. Vigdor. "The rise and decline of the American ghetto." Journal of political economy 107.3 (1999): 455-506. Gentzkow, Matthew, and Jesse M. Shapiro. "Ideological segregation online and offline." The Quarterly Journal of Economics 126.4 (2011): 1799-1839.

```
# perfect isolation
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 0, 0)
grp_b <- c(0, 0, 5, 5)
isolation_index(grp_a, grp_b)

# perfect overlap
grp_a <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
grp_b <- c(5, 5, 5, 5)
isolation_index(grp_a, grp_b)</pre>
```

20 parse\_path

|--|

## **Description**

Classification of domains into different news types

## Usage

```
news_types
```

#### **Format**

An object of class data.table (inherits from data.frame) with 690 rows and 2 columns.

#### References

Stier, S., Mangold, F., Scharkow, M., & Breuer, J. (2022). Post Post-Broadcast Democracy? News Exposure in the Age of Online Intermediaries. American Political Science Review, 116(2), 768-774.

parse_path	Parse parts of path for text analysis

## **Description**

parse\_path() parses parts of a path, i.e., anything separated by "/", "-", "\_" or ".", and adds them as a new variable. Parts that do not consist of letters only, or of a real word, can be filtered via the argument keep.

## Usage

```
parse_path(wt, varname = "url", keep = "letters_only", decode = TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

wt	webtrack data object
varname	character. name of the column from which to extract the host. Defaults to "ur1".
keep	character. Defines which types of path components to keep. If set to "all", anything is kept. If "letters_only", only parts containing letters are kept. If "words_only", only parts constituting English words (as defined by the Word Game Dictionary, cf. https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/words/index.html) are kept. Support for more languages will be added in future.
decode	logical. Whether to decode the path (see utils::URLdecode()), default to TRUE

print.wt\_dt 21

## Value

webtrack data.frame with the same columns as wt and a new column called 'path\_split' (or, if varname not equal to 'url', '<varname>\_path\_split') containing parts as a comma-separated string.

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
wt <- parse_path(wt)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

print.wt\_dt

Print web tracking data

## Description

Print web tracking data

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'wt_dt'
print(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

x object of class wt\_dt
... additional parameters for print

#### Value

No return value, called for side effects

 $summary.wt\_dt$ 

Summary function for web tracking data

#### **Description**

Summary function for web tracking data

#### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'wt_dt'
summary(object, ...)
```

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#### **Arguments**

object of class wt\_dt

... additional parameters for summary

#### Value

No return value, called for side effects

sum\_activity

Summarize activity per person

## **Description**

sum\_activity() counts the number of active time periods (i.e., days, weeks, months, years, or waves) by panelist\_id. A period counts as "active" if the panelist provided at least one visit for that period.

## Usage

```
sum_activity(wt, timeframe = "date")
```

#### **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

timeframe character. Indicates for what time frame to aggregate visits. Possible values are

"date", "week", "month", "year" or "wave". If set to "wave", wt must contain

a column call wave. Defaults to "date".

#### Value

a data.frame with columns panelist\_id, column indicating the number of active time units.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# summarize activity by day
wt_sum <- sum_activity(wt, timeframe = "date")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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|--|

#### **Description**

sum\_durations() summarizes the duration of visits by person within a timeframe, and optionally by visit\_class of visit. Note:

- If for a time frame all rows are NA on the duration column, the summarized duration for that time frame will be NA.
- If only some of the rows of a time frame are NA on the duration column, the function will ignore those NA rows.
- If there were no visits to a class (i.e., a value of the 'visit\_class' column) for a time frame, the summarized duration for that time frame will be zero; if there were visits, but NA on duration, the summarized duration will be NA.

## Usage

```
sum_durations(wt, var_duration = NULL, timeframe = NULL, visit_class = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

wt	webtrack data object.
var_duration	character. Name of the duration variable if already present. Defaults to NULL, in which case duration will be approximated with add_duration(wt, cutoff = 300, replace_by = "na", replace_val = NULL)
timeframe	character. Indicates for what time frame to aggregate visit durations. Possible values are "date", "week", "month", "year", "wave" or NULL. If set to "wave", wt must contain a column call wave. Defaults to NULL, in which case the output contains duration of visits for the entire time.
visit_class	character. Column that contains a classification of visits. For each value in this column, the output will have a column indicating the number of visits belonging to that value. Defaults to NULL.

#### Value

a data.frame with columns panelist\_id, column indicating the time unit (unless timeframe set to NULL), duration\_visits indicating the duration of visits (in seconds, or whatever the unit of the variable specified by var\_duration parameter), and a column for each value of visit\_class, if specified.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)</pre>
```

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```
# summarize for whole period
wt_summ <- sum_durations(wt)
# summarize by week
wt_summ <- sum_durations(wt, timeframe = "week")
# create a class variable to summarize by class
wt <- extract_domain(wt)
wt$google <- ifelse(wt$domain == "google.com", 1, 0)]
wt_summ <- sum_durations(wt, timeframe = "week", visit_class = "google")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

sum\_visits

Summarize number of visits by person

#### **Description**

sum\_visits() summarizes the number of visits by person within a timeframe, and optionally by visit\_class of visit.

#### Usage

```
sum_visits(wt, timeframe = NULL, visit_class = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

timeframe character. Indicates for what time frame to aggregate visits. Possible values are

"date", "week", "month", "year", "wave" or NULL. If set to "wave", wt must contain a column call wave. Defaults to NULL, in which case the output contains

number of visits for the entire time.

visit\_class character. Column that contains a classification of visits. For each value in this

column, the output will have a column indicating the number of visits belonging

to that value. Defaults to NULL.

## Value

a data.frame with columns panelist\_id, column indicating the time unit (unless timeframe set to NULL), n\_visits indicating the number of visits, and a column for each value of visit\_class, if specified.

```
## Not run:
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
# summarize for whole period
wt_summ <- sum_visits(wt)
# summarize by week</pre>
```

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```
wt_summ <- sum_visits(wt, timeframe = "week")
# create a class variable to summarize by class
wt <- extract_domain(wt)
wt$google <- ifelse(wt$domain == "google.com", 1, 0)]
wt_summ <- sum_visits(wt, timeframe = "week", visit_class = "google")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

testdt\_survey\_l

Test survey

## **Description**

Same randomly generated survey data, one row per person/wave (long format)

## Usage

```
testdt_survey_l
```

#### **Format**

An object of class tbl\_df (inherits from tbl, data.frame) with 15 rows and 7 columns.

testdt\_survey\_w

Test survey

## Description

Randomly generated survey data only used for illustrative purposes (wide format)

## Usage

```
testdt_survey_w
```

## **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 5 rows and 8 columns.

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testdt\_tracking

Test data

## Description

Sample of fully anomymized webtrack data from a research project with US participants

## Usage

```
testdt_tracking
```

#### **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 49612 rows and 5 columns.

vars\_exist

Check if columns are present

## **Description**

vars\_exist() checks if columns are present in a webtrack data object. By default, checks whether
the data has a panelist\_id, a ulr and a timestamp column.#'

#### Usage

```
vars_exist(wt, vars = c("panelist_id", "url", "timestamp"))
```

## **Arguments**

wt webtrack data object.

vars character vector of variables. Defaults to c("panelist\_id", "url", "timestamp").

## Value

A data.table object.

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wt\_dt

An S3 class to store web tracking data

#### Description

An S3 class to store web tracking data

Convert a data.frame containing web tracking data to a wt\_dt object

#### Usage

```
as.wt_dt(
    x,
    timestamp_format = "%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%OS",
    tz = "UTC",
    varnames = c(panelist_id = "panelist_id", url = "url", timestamp = "timestamp")
)
is.wt_dt(x)
```

## **Arguments**

x data.frame containing a necessary set of columns, namely panelist's ID, visit URL and visit timestamp.

timestamp\_format

string. Specifies the raw timestamp's formatting. Defaults to "%Y-%m-%d %H: %M: %OS".

tz

timezone of date. defaults to UTC

varnames

Named vector of column names, which contain the panelist's ID (panelist\_id), the visit's URL (url) and the visit's timestamp (timestamp).

## **Details**

A wt\_dt table is a data.frame.

#### Value

a webtrack data object with at least columns panelist\_id, url and timestamp logical. TRUE if x is a webtrack data object and FALSE otherwise

```
data("testdt_tracking")
wt <- as.wt_dt(testdt_tracking)
is.wt_dt(wt)</pre>
```

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