Package: spell.replacer (via r-universe)

June 7, 2026

Title Probabilistic Spelling Correction in a Character Vector

Version 1.0.1

Description Automatically replaces ``misspelled" words in a character vector based on their string distance from a list of words sorted by their frequency in a corpus. The default word list provided in the package comes from the Corpus of Contemporary American English. Uses the Jaro-Winkler distance metric for string similarity as implemented in van der Loo (2014) <doi:10.32614/RJ-2014-011>. The word frequency data is derived from Davies (2008-) ``The Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA)" <https://www.english-corpora.org/coca/>.

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Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Depends R (>= 2.10)

Imports hunspell, stringr, stringdist, textclean

Suggests rmarkdown, knitr, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

VignetteBuilder knitr

Config/testthat/edition 3

Config/pak/sysreqs libicu-dev

Repository https://browndw.r-universe.dev

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RemoteUrl https://github.com/browndw/spell.replacer

RemoteRef HEAD

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Contents

`coca_list` *COCA Word List*

Description

A character vector containing the 100,000 most frequent words from the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), sorted by frequency from most to least frequent. This word list serves as the default reference for spelling correction in the spell_replace function.

Usage

```
coca_list
```

Format

A character vector with 100,000 elements:

Each element is a word from COCA, with the first element being the most frequent word ("the") and subsequent elements decreasing in frequency.

Source

Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) https://www.english-corpora.org/coca/

Examples

```
# View the first 10 most frequent words
head(coca_list, 10)

# Check if a word is in the list
"hello" %in% coca_list

# Find the rank of a specific word
which(coca_list == "hello")
```

correct *Correct a Single Misspelled Word*

Description

Finds the best correction for a single misspelled word using string distance and frequency-based ranking from a sorted word list.

Usage

```
correct(word, sorted_words, ignore_punct = FALSE, threshold = 0.12)
```

Arguments

word	A character string representing the misspelled word
sorted_words	A character vector of correctly spelled words sorted by frequency
ignore_punct	Logical. If TRUE, ignores punctuation when calculating string distance
threshold	Numeric. Maximum string distance threshold for considering a word as a correction candidate

Value

A character string with the corrected word

spell_replace *Probabilistic Spelling Correction*

Description

Automatically replaces misspelled words in a character vector based on their string distance from a list of words sorted by frequency in a corpus.

Usage

```
spell_replace(
  txt,
  word_list = coca_list,
  ignore_names = TRUE,
  threshold = 0.12,
  ignore_punct = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

txt	A character vector containing text to be spell-checked
word_list	A character vector of correctly spelled words sorted by frequency (default: coca_list)
ignore_names	Logical. If TRUE, ignores potential proper names (capitalized words that appear multiple times)
threshold	Numeric. Maximum string distance threshold for considering a word as a correction candidate (default: 0.12)
ignore_punct	Logical. If TRUE, ignores punctuation when calculating string distance

Value

A character vector with corrected spellings

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