

Package ‘surveysearch’

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Title Search and Examine Variables Across Survey Datasets

Version 0.1.0

Description Search for variables across multiple survey datasets, examine variable properties (labels, values, missingness), and explore variable context within datasets. Useful for navigating complex survey data with many variables and understanding variable relationships and metadata.

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Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0)

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Author Malo Raballand [aut, cre]

Maintainer Malo Raballand <malo.raballand@sciencespo.fr>

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Contents

examine_variable	1
search_variables	2
show_variable_context	3

Index	5
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examine_variable	<i>Examine a Variable in Detail</i>
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Description

Display detailed information about a specific variable including its label, class, missing values, value labels, and summary statistics.

Usage

```
examine_variable(var_name, data, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

var_name	Character string. Name of the variable to examine.
data	Data frame containing the variable.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, print detailed information to console.

Value

Invisibly returns a list with elements:

name	Variable name
label	Variable label
class	Variable class
n_unique	Number of unique non-missing values
n_missing	Number of missing values

Examples

```
df <- data.frame(age = c(25, 30, 35))
attr(df$age, "label") <- "Age in years"
examine_variable("age", data = df)
```

search_variables	<i>Search for Variables Across Datasets</i>
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Description

Search for variables matching a pattern across multiple datasets. Searches both variable names and variable labels.

Usage

```
search_variables(pattern, data_list, datasets_info = NULL)
```

Arguments

pattern	A regular expression or literal string to match (case-insensitive).
data_list	A named list of data frames to search.
datasets_info	Optional data frame with column name listing dataset names. If NULL, uses names from data_list.

Value

Invisibly returns a data frame with columns:

dataset Name of the dataset

variable Variable name

label Variable label or "No label" if missing

match_type Either "Variable Name" or "Label Text"

Examples

```
# Create sample data with labels
df1 <- data.frame(age = 1:3, income = c(50000, 60000, 70000))
attr(df1$age, "label") <- "Age in years"
attr(df1$income, "label") <- "Annual income"

df2 <- data.frame(education = c("HS", "BA", "MA"), employment = c("Yes", "No", "Yes"))
attr(df2$education, "label") <- "Education level"
attr(df2$employment, "label") <- "Currently employed"

# Create a named list of data frames (NOT a list of text names!)
my_datasets <- list(survey_2023 = df1, survey_2024 = df2)

# Search across multiple datasets
search_variables("age", data_list = my_datasets)

# Search for pattern in labels
search_variables("income", data_list = my_datasets)

# WRONG - do not do this:
# wrong_list <- list(c("survey_2023", "survey_2024")) # List of text!
# search_variables("age", data_list = wrong_list) # Will fail!
```

show_variable_context *Show Variable Context in Dataset*

Description

Display a variable along with specified number of variables before and after it in dataset order.

Usage

```
show_variable_context(var_name, data, before = 5, after = 5, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

<code>var_name</code>	Character string. Name of the variable to show context for.
<code>data</code>	Data frame containing the variable.
<code>before</code>	Integer. Number of variables to show before the target variable. Default is 5.
<code>after</code>	Integer. Number of variables to show after the target variable. Default is 5.
<code>verbose</code>	Logical. If TRUE, print formatted output.

Value

Invisibly returns a data frame with columns:

pos Position of the variable in the dataset

variable Variable name

label Variable label

target Indicator showing target variable

Examples

```
df <- data.frame(a = 1, b = 2, c = 3, d = 4, e = 5, f = 6, g = 7, h = 8)

# Show 5 before and 5 after (default)
show_variable_context("e", data = df)

# Show only 2 before and 2 after
show_variable_context("e", data = df, before = 2, after = 2)

# Show 10 before and 3 after
show_variable_context("e", data = df, before = 10, after = 3)
```

Index

`examine_variable`, [1](#)

`search_variables`, [2](#)

`show_variable_context`, [3](#)