

# Package ‘levitate’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Fuzzy String Comparison

**Version** 0.1.0

**Description** Provides string similarity calculations inspired by the Python 'fuzzywuzzy' package. Compare strings by edit distance, similarity ratio, best matching substring, ordered token matching and set-based token matching. A range of edit distance measures are available thanks to the 'stringdist' package.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://lewinfox.github.io/levitate/>,  
<https://github.com/lewinfox/levitate/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/lewinfox/levitate/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Imports** cli, glue, rlang, stringdist, stringr

**Suggests** knitr, pkgdown, rmarkdown, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Language** en-GB

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

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lev_distance	<i>String distance metrics</i>
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### Description

Uses `stringdist::stringdistmatrix()` to compute a range of [string distance metrics](#).

### Usage

```
lev_distance(a, b, pairwise = TRUE, useNames = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

a	The input strings
b	The input strings
pairwise	Boolean. If TRUE, only the pairwise distances between a and b will be computed, rather than the combinations of all elements.
useNames	Boolean. Use input vectors as row and column names?
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">stringdist::stringdistmatrix()</a> or <a href="#">stringdist::stringsimmatrix()</a> .

### Value

A numeric scalar, vector or matrix depending on the length of the inputs. See "Details".

### Details

This is a thin wrapper around [stringdist::stringdistmatrix\(\)](#) and mainly exists to coerce the output into the simplest possible format (via [lev\\_simplify\\_matrix\(\)](#)).

The function will return the simplest possible data structure permitted by the length of the inputs a and b. This will be a scalar if a and b are length 1, a vector if either (but not both) is length > 1, and a matrix otherwise.

### Other options

In addition to useNames [stringdist::stringdistmatrix\(\)](#) provides a range of options to control the matching, which can be passed using .... Refer to the `stringdist` documentation for more information.

**Examples**

```
lev_distance("Bilbo", "Frodo")  
  
lev_distance("Bilbo", c("Frodo", "Merry"))  
  
lev_distance("Bilbo", c("Frodo", "Merry"), useNames = FALSE)  
  
lev_distance(c("Bilbo", "Gandalf"), c("Frodo", "Merry"))
```

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lev_partial_ratio	<i>Ratio of the best-matching substring</i>
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**Description**

Find the best lev\_ratio() between substrings.

**Usage**

```
lev_partial_ratio(a, b, pairwise = TRUE, useNames = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

a	The input strings
b	The input strings
pairwise	Boolean. If TRUE, only the pairwise distances between a and b will be computed, rather than the combinations of all elements.
useNames	Boolean. Use input vectors as row and column names?
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">stringdist::stringdistmatrix()</a> or <a href="#">stringdist::stringsimmatrix()</a> .

**Value**

A numeric scalar, vector or matrix depending on the length of the inputs.

**Details**

If string a has length len\_a and is shorter than string b, this function finds the highest lev\_ratio() of all the len\_a-long substrings of b (and vice versa).

**Examples**

```
lev_ratio("Bruce Springsteen", "Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band")  
  
# Here the two "Bruce Springsteen" strings will match perfectly.  
lev_partial_ratio("Bruce Springsteen", "Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band")
```

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lev_ratio	<i>String similarity ratio</i>
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### Description

String similarity ratio

### Usage

```
lev_ratio(a, b, pairwise = TRUE, useNames = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

a	The input strings
b	The input strings
pairwise	Boolean. If TRUE, only the pairwise distances between a and b will be computed, rather than the combinations of all elements.
useNames	Boolean. Use input vectors as row and column names?
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <code>stringdist::stringdistmatrix()</code> or <code>stringdist::stringsimmatrix()</code> .

### Value

A numeric scalar, vector or matrix depending on the length of the inputs.

### Details

This is a thin wrapper around `stringdist::stringsimmatrix()` and mainly exists to coerce the output into the simplest possible format (via `lev_simplify_matrix()`).

The function will return the simplest possible data structure permitted by the length of the inputs a and b. This will be a scalar if a and b are length 1, a vector if either (but not both) is length > 1, and a matrix otherwise.

### Examples

```
lev_ratio("Bilbo", "Frodo")

lev_ratio("Bilbo", c("Frodo", "Merry"))

lev_ratio("Bilbo", c("Frodo", "Merry"), useNames = FALSE)

lev_ratio(c("Bilbo", "Gandalf"), c("Frodo", "Merry"))
```

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lev\_token\_set\_ratio    *Matching based on common tokens*

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## Description

Compare stings based on shared tokens.

## Usage

```
lev_token_set_ratio(a, b, pairwise = TRUE, useNames = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

a	The input strings
b	The input strings
pairwise	Boolean. If TRUE, only the pairwise distances between a and b will be computed, rather than the combinations of all elements.
useNames	Boolean. Use input vectors as row and column names?
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">stringdist::stringdistmatrix()</a> or <a href="#">stringdist::stringsimmatrix()</a> .

## Value

A numeric scalar, vector or matrix depending on the length of the inputs.

## Details

Similar to [lev\\_token\\_sort\\_ratio\(\)](#) this function breaks the input down into tokens. It then identifies any common tokens between strings and creates three new strings:

```
x <- {common_tokens}
y <- {common_tokens}{remaining_unique_tokens_from_string_a}
z <- {common_tokens}{remaining_unique_tokens_from_string_b}
```

and performs three pairwise [lev\\_ratio\(\)](#) calculations between them (x vs y, y vs z and x vs z). The highest of those three ratios is returned.

## See Also

[lev\\_token\\_sort\\_ratio\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
x <- "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog"
y <- "my lazy dog was jumped over by a quick brown fox"

lev_ratio(x, y)

lev_token_sort_ratio(x, y)

lev_token_set_ratio(x, y)
```

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lev\_token\_sort\_ratio *Ordered token matching*

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## Description

Compares strings by tokenising them, sorting the tokens alphabetically and then computing the [lev\\_ratio\(\)](#) of the result. This means that the order of words is irrelevant which can be helpful in some circumstances.

## Usage

```
lev_token_sort_ratio(a, b, pairwise = TRUE, useNames = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

a	The input strings
b	The input strings
pairwise	Boolean. If TRUE, only the pairwise distances between a and b will be computed, rather than the combinations of all elements.
useNames	Boolean. Use input vectors as row and column names?
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">stringdist::stringdistmatrix()</a> or <a href="#">stringdist::stringsimmatrix()</a> .

## Value

A numeric scalar, vector or matrix depending on the length of the inputs.

## See Also

[lev\\_token\\_set\\_ratio\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- "Episode IV - Star Wars: A New Hope"
y <- "Star Wars Episode IV - New Hope"

# Because the order of words is different the simple approach gives a low match ratio.
lev_ratio(x, y)

# The sorted token approach ignores word order.
lev_token_sort_ratio(x, y)
```

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