

# Package ‘vecompare’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Perform Set Operations on Vectors, Automatically Generating All n-Wise Comparisons, and Create Markdown Output

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**Description** Automates set operations (i.e., comparisons of overlap) between multiple vectors. It also contains a function for automating reporting in 'RMarkdown', by generating mark-down output for easy analysis, as well as an 'RMarkdown' template for use with 'RStudio'.

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**URL** <https://github.com/publicus/r-vecompare>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/publicus/r-vecompare/issues>

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## R topics documented:

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| vecompare-package | <i>vecompare: Automatically Generate All n-Wise Set Comparisons on Vectors</i> |
|-------------------|--|

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### Description

The **vecompare** package contains functions for automating set operations. Given a named list of 5 vectors, for example, **vecompare** can calculate all 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-way comparisons between those vectors, recording information for each comparison about the set "union" (combined elements), "intersection" (overlap / shared elements), and compliments (which elements are unique to each vector involved in the comparison).

### Details

The vecompare package contains functions for automating set operations (i.e., comparisons of overlap) between multiple vectors.

The package also contains a function for automating reporting in RMarkdown, by generating markdown output for easy analysis, as well as an RMarkdown template for use with RStudio.

The primary function from **vecompare** is `compare.vectors`. Complementarily, `compare.vectors.and.return.text.analysis.of.overlap` will call `compare.vectors` and generate Markdown-style output from it (for example, for use within an RMarkdown file).

An RMarkdown template illustrating several of **vecompare**'s features can be used from within RStudio by clicking File -> New File -> R Markdown... -> From Template -> Vecompare Overlap Report.

**vecompare** also provides a function, `summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap`, that can create correlation-plot-style images and network graphs for all two-way comparisons between vectors. This function is also demonstrated in the Vecompare Overlap Report described above.

**Author(s)**

**Maintainer:** Jacob Gerard Levernier <jlevern@upenn.edu> (Designed and authored the package source code and documentation. Roles: author, creator, designer, engineer, programmer)

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**See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/publicus/r-veccompare>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/publicus/r-veccompare/issues>

---

compare.vectors

*Compare all combinations of vectors using set operations*

---

**Description**

Compare all combinations of vectors using set operations

**Usage**

```
compare.vectors(named_list_of_vectors_to_compare,  
degrees_of_comparison_to_include = NULL, draw_venn_diagrams = FALSE,  
vector_colors_for_venn_diagrams = NULL, save_venn_diagram_files = FALSE,  
location_for_venn_diagram_files = "", prefix_for_venn_diagram_files = "",  
saved_venn_diagram_resolution_ppi = 300,  
saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units = "in", saved_venn_diagram_width = 8,  
saved_venn_diagram_height = 6, viewport_npc_width_height_for_images = 1,  
suppress_messages = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

named\_list\_of\_vectors\_to\_compare

A named list of vectors to compare (see, for example, [example.vectors.list](#)). Duplicate values in a given vector will only be counted once (for example, c("a", "a", "b", "c") will be treated identically to c("a", "b", "c").

degrees\_of\_comparison\_to\_include

A number or vector of numbers of which degrees of comparison to print (for example, 'c(2, 5)' would print only 2- and 5-way vector comparisons).

draw\_venn\_diagrams

A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to draw Venn diagrams for all 2-through 5-way comparisons of vectors.

- vector\_colors\_for\_venn\_diagrams**  
An optional vector of color names for Venn diagrams (if `draw_venn_diagrams` is TRUE). Color names are applied to the named vectors in `named_list_of_vectors_to_compare` in their order in `named_list_of_vectors_to_compare`. If this is blank, a random color will be selected for each vector. Either way, each vector will have a consistent color across the Venn diagrams in which it appears.
- save\_venn\_diagram\_files**  
A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to save Venn diagrams as PNG files.
- location\_for\_venn\_diagram\_files**  
An optional string giving a directory into which to save Venn diagram PNG files (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE). This location must already exist on the filesystem.
- prefix\_for\_venn\_diagram\_files**  
An optional string giving a prefix to prepend to saved Venn diagram PNG files (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).
- saved\_venn\_diagram\_resolution\_ppi**  
An optional number giving a resolution (PPI) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).
- saved\_venn\_diagram\_dimension\_units**  
An optional string giving units for specifying `saved_venn_diagram_width` and `saved_venn_diagram_height` (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE). Can be px (pixels), in (inches, the default), cm, or mm.
- saved\_venn\_diagram\_width**  
The width (in `saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units` units) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).
- saved\_venn\_diagram\_height**  
The height (in `saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units` units) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).
- viewport\_npc\_width\_height\_for\_images**  
The scale at which to print an image. If the image is cut off at its edges, for example, this can be set lower than 1.0.
- suppress\_messages**  
A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to suppress messages. Even if this is TRUE, warnings will still be printed.

## Value

A list, with one object for each comparison of vectors. The list contains the following elements:

- elements\_involved** The vector names involved in the comparison.
- union\_of\_elements** A vector of all (deduplicated) items involved in the comparison, across all of the vectors.
- overlap\_of\_elements** A vector of the deduplicated elements that occurred in all of the compared vectors.

**elements\_unique\_to\_first\_element** This element will have a sub-element named for each vector being compared (i.e., for each of the names in `$elements_involved`). The (deduplicated) items that were unique to that vector (i.e., not overlapping with any other vector in the comparison).

**venn\_diagram** If `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE, and the comparison is of 2 through 5 vectors, a Venn diagram object produced using the **VennDiagram** package. This diagram can be rendered using `render.venn.diagram`.

To compile this list object into a Markdown report, use `compare.vectors.and.return.text.analysis.of.overlap`. For an example of this usage, see the `Veccompare Overlap Report` RMarkdown template for RStudio that is installed as part of the **veccompare** package.

## Examples

```
example <- veccompare::compare.vectors(veccompare::example.vectors.list)

# To extract similar elements across list items:
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  elements_of_output = "elements_involved"
)

# To extract all comparisons that involve "vector_a":
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  vector_names = "vector_a"
)

# To find all comparisons that were about "vector_a" and "vector_c":
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  vector_names = c("vector_a", "vector_c"),
  only_match_vector_names = TRUE
)

# To get all elements that did a two-way comparison:
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  degrees_of_comparison = 2
)
```

---

`compare.vectors.and.return.text.analysis.of.overlap`

*Create a Markdown report from the output of `compare.vectors`*

---

## Description

This function is a wrapper for `compare.vectors`. It creates a Markdown report of all degrees of set comparisons between a named list of vectors.

**Usage**

```
compare.vectors.and.return.text.analysis.of.overlap(named_list_of_vectors_to_compare,
degrees_of_comparison_to_include = NULL, cat_immediately = FALSE,
draw_venn_diagrams = FALSE, viewport_npc_width_height_for_images = 1,
vector_colors_for_venn_diagrams = NULL, save_venn_diagram_files = FALSE,
location_for_venn_diagram_files = "", prefix_for_venn_diagram_files = "",
saved_venn_diagram_resolution_ppi = 300,
saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units = "in", saved_venn_diagram_width = 8,
saved_venn_diagram_height = 6, base_heading_level_to_use = 1)
```

**Arguments**

`named_list_of_vectors_to_compare`

A named list of vectors to compare (see, for example, [example.vectors.list](#)). Duplicate values in a given vector will only be counted once (for example, `c("a", "a", "b", "c")` will be treated identically to `c("a", "b", "c")`).

`degrees_of_comparison_to_include`

A number or vector of numbers of which degrees of comparison to print (for example, `'c(2, 5)'` would print only 2- and 5-way vector comparisons).

`cat_immediately`

A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to immediately print the output, as in an RMarkdown document.

`draw_venn_diagrams`

A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to draw Venn diagrams for all 2-through 5-way comparisons of vectors.

`viewport_npc_width_height_for_images`

The scale at which to print an image. If the image is cut off at its edges, for example, this can be set lower than 1.0.

`vector_colors_for_venn_diagrams`

An optional vector of color names for Venn diagrams (if `draw_venn_diagrams` is TRUE). Color names are applied to the named vectors in `named_list_of_vectors_to_compare` in their order in `named_list_of_vectors_to_compare`. If this is blank, a random color will be selected for each vector. Either way, each vector will have a consistent color across the Venn diagrams in which it appears.

`save_venn_diagram_files`

A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to save Venn diagrams as PNG files.

`location_for_venn_diagram_files`

An optional string giving a directory into which to save Venn diagram PNG files (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE). This location must already exist on the filesystem.

`prefix_for_venn_diagram_files`

An optional string giving a prefix to prepend to saved Venn diagram PNG files (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).

`saved_venn_diagram_resolution_ppi`

An optional number giving a resolution (PPI) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).

`saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units`  
An optional string giving units for specifying `saved_venn_diagram_width` and `saved_venn_diagram_height` (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE). Can be px (pixels), in (inches, the default), cm, or mm.

`saved_venn_diagram_width`  
The width (in `saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units` units) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).

`saved_venn_diagram_height`  
The height (in `saved_venn_diagram_dimension_units` units) for saved Venn diagrams (if `save_venn_diagram_files` is TRUE).

`base_heading_level_to_use`  
An integer indicating the highest-level heading to print. Defaults to 1 (i.e., start by using first-level headings); 1 is also the minimum value used.

### Details

Use of this function is illustrated with the `Veccompare Overlap Report RMarkdown` template for RStudio that is installed as part of the **veccompare** package.

### Value

A string of Markdown (and Venn diagrams, if `draw_venn_diagrams` is TRUE).

If `cat_immediately` is TRUE, nothing is returned by the function; rather, the output Markdown is printed immediately (for example, as part of a Knitted RMarkdown document, or to the console).

If `cat_immediately` is FALSE, the output can be saved to an object (as in the example below). This object can then be printed using `cat()`.

NOTE WELL: If `cat_immediately` is FALSE, the output *should* be saved to an object. If it is not, R will give an error message when printing to the console, because of unescaped special characters (which work correctly when `cat()` is used).

### Examples

```
example <- compare.vectors.and.return.text.analysis.of.overlap(  
  veccompare::example.vectors.list,  
  cat_immediately = FALSE,  
  draw_venn_diagrams = FALSE  
)  
cat(example)
```

---

`example.vectors.list` *Example Vectors List*

---

### Description

An example dataset containing several named vectors, which can be compared to one another for overlaps, unique elements, etc.

**Usage**

```
example.vectors.list
```

**Format**

A list of named vectors.

---

```
extract.compared.vectors
```

*Extract elements from the output of [compare.vectors](#)*

---

**Description**

Straightforwardly extract particular elements from the output of [compare.vectors](#).

**Usage**

```
extract.compared.vectors(output_from_compare.vectors, vector_names = NULL,
  only_match_vector_names = FALSE, degrees_of_comparison = NULL,
  elements_of_output = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

output\_from\_compare.vectors

The list output of [compare.vectors](#).

vector\_names An optional vector of names to extract from the named list (named\_list\_of\_vectors\_to\_compare) used with [compare.vectors](#).

only\_match\_vector\_names

A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to match **only** vector\_names. If vector\_names is c("a", "b"), for example, and only\_match\_vector\_names is TRUE, this function will output only the comparison between a and b. If only\_match\_vector\_names is FALSE, however, this function will output the comparison between a and b, as well as between a, b, and c, etc.

degrees\_of\_comparison

An optional number of vector of numbers indicating which degrees of comparison to return (for example, 2 will return only two-way comparisons from output\_from\_compare.vectors).

elements\_of\_output

An optional vector of element names from output\_from\_compare.vectors to return (for example, "elements\_involved"). See the **Value** section of [compare.vectors](#) for a list of the elements to choose from.

**Value**

A winnowed version of output\_from\_compare.vectors. Depending on arguments, either a list, a vector, or a string.



## Examples

```
example <- veccompare::compare.vectors(veccompare::example.vectors.list)

# To extract similar elements across list items:
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  elements_of_output = "elements_involved"
)

# To extract all comparisons that involve "vector_a":
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  vector_names = "vector_a"
)

# To find all comparisons that were about "vector_a" and "vector_c":
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  vector_names = c("vector_a", "vector_c"),
  only_match_vector_names = TRUE
)

# To get all elements that did a two-way comparison:
veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  degrees_of_comparison = 2
)

# A more complex / specific example:
extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  vector_names = c("vector_a", "vector_c"),
  only_match_vector_names = FALSE,
  degrees_of_comparison = c(2, 3),
  elements_of_output = "elements_involved"
)
```

---

generate.random.colors

*Generate Random Colors*

---

## Description

An function to generate a given number of random colors.

## Usage

```
generate.random.colors(number_of_colors_to_get)
```

**Arguments**

number\_of\_colors\_to\_get  
The number of colors to generate.

**Value**

A vector of R color names.

**Examples**

```
generate.random.colors(5)
```

---

```
render.venn.diagram Render (Print) a Previously-Computed Venn Diagram
```

---

**Description**

A wrapper function for printing a grid-based image using `grid::grid.draw()`.

**Usage**

```
render.venn.diagram(venn_diagram_created_with_VennDiagram_package,  
  viewport_npc_width_height_for_images = 1)
```

**Arguments**

venn\_diagram\_created\_with\_VennDiagram\_package  
A grid-based diagram object. For example, a Venn diagram previously generated using `veccompare::compare.vectors()`.

viewport\_npc\_width\_height\_for\_images  
The scale at which to print an image. If the image is cut off at its edges, for example, this can be set lower than 1.0.

**Value**

The function will not return a value; rather, it will print the image.

**Examples**

```
# Create comparisons across 5 vectors, specifically creating all 4-way venn diagrams from them:
example <- veccompare::compare.vectors(
  veccompare::example.vectors.list[1:5],
  draw_venn_diagrams = TRUE,
  suppress_messages = TRUE,
  degrees_of_comparison_to_include = 4
)

# Get the first 4-way comparison that includes a diagram:
```

```

diagram <- veccompare::extract.compared.vectors(
  example,
  degrees_of_comparison = 4,
  elements_of_output = "venn_diagram"
)[[1]]$venn_diagram

# Print the diagram:
veccompare::render.venn.diagram(
  diagram,
  viewport_npc_width_height_for_images = .7
  # Scale the image down to 70%,
  # in case it otherwise gets cut off at the margins.
)

```

---

```
summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap
```

*Summarize Percentage Overlap for Two-Way Comparisons between Vectors*

---

## Description

Summarize Percentage Overlap for Two-Way Comparisons between Vectors

## Usage

```
summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap(named_list_of_vectors_to_compare,
  output_type = "table", melt_table = FALSE, network_graph_minimum = 0,
  margins_for_plot = NULL)
```

## Arguments

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| named_list_of_vectors_to_compare | A named list of vectors to compare (see, for example, <a href="#">example.vectors.list</a> ). Duplicate values in a given vector will only be counted once (for example, <code>c("a", "a", "b", "c")</code> will be treated identically to <code>c("a", "b", "c")</code> ).  |
| output_type                      | Either <code>"table"</code> , <code>"matrix_plot"</code> , or <code>"network_graph"</code> . <code>"table"</code> will return a matrix showing percentage overlap between each pair of vectors. <code>"matrix_plot"</code> will plot this table, coloring it by the amount of overlap. <code>"network_graph"</code> will return a network graph image illustrating the overlap percentages between each pair of vectors. |
| melt_table                       | A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator, when <code>output_type</code> is <code>"table"</code> , whether to print the output in <code>melt</code> d form (using the <b>reshape2</b> package).   |
| network_graph_minimum            | minimum argument from <a href="#">qgraph</a> , for when <code>output_type</code> is <code>"network_graph"</code> .   |

**margins\_for\_plot**

The margins for image output (if `output_type` is `matrix_plot` or `network_graph`). Specified as a vector of numbers, in the form `c(bottom, left, top, right)`. If `output_type` is `matrix_plot`, defaults to `c(2, 0, 1, 0)`; if `output_type` is `network_graph`, defaults to `c(3, 3, 3, 0.5)`.

**Value**

Either a matrix (if output is "table"), or an image (if output is "matrix\_plot" or "network\_graph"). If an image is printed, nothing is returned by the function; rather, the output is printed immediately.

If output is "table" and `melt_table` is `FALSE`, the output will be a matrix with `nrow` and `ncol` both equal to the number of vectors in `named_list_of_vectors_to_compare`. This table shows the decimal percentage overlap (e.g., "0.20" = 20%) between each combination of vectors. *This table is intended to be read with row names first, in this form:* "[row title] overlaps with [column title] [cell value] percent."

If output is "table" and `melt_table` is `TRUE`, the output will be a `melted` data.frame with three columns: `Vector_Name`, `Overlaps_With`, and `Decimal_Percentage`.

**Examples**

```
summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap(veccompare::example.vectors.list)
summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap(
  veccompare::example.vectors.list,
  output_type = "table",
  melt_table = TRUE
)

summarize.two.way.comparisons.percentage.overlap(
  veccompare::example.vectors.list,
  output_type = "matrix_plot" # You can also choose "network_graph"
)
```

---

`vector.print.with.and` *Print a vector with commas and a final "and".*

---

**Description**

Print a vector with commas and a final "and".

**Usage**

```
vector.print.with.and(vector_to_print,
  string_to_return_if_vector_is_empty = "", use_oxford_comma = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

`vector_to_print`  
A vector of strings (or elements able to be coerced into strings) to print.

`string_to_return_if_vector_is_empty`  
If `vector_to_print` is empty, the string that should be returned (for example, "", "(None)", etc.)

`use_oxford_comma`  
A logical (TRUE/FALSE) value indicating whether to use an Oxford comma ("One, two, and three" vs. "One, two and three").

**Value**

A single string that concatenates the input, separating with commas and adding "and" before the final item.

**Examples**

```
vector.print.with.and(c("One", "Two", "Three", "Four"))
vector.print.with.and(c("One", "Two", "Three", "Four"), use_oxford_comma = FALSE)
vector.print.with.and(c("One", "Two"))
vector.print.with.and(c("One"))
vector.print.with.and(c(), string_to_return_if_vector_is_empty = "(None)") # Outputs "(None)"
vector.print.with.and(c(""), string_to_return_if_vector_is_empty = "(None)") # Outputs ""
```

---

```
which.of.one.set.is.not.in.another
```

*Which of One Set is not in Another*

---

**Description**

This function is a wrapper for `setdiff`. It makes it easier to remember which vector is being subtracted from the other, by displaying an explicit message.

**Usage**

```
which.of.one.set.is.not.in.another(set_1, set_2, suppress_messages = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

`set_1` A vector to be subtracted from.

`set_2` A vector to subtract from `set_1`.

`suppress_messages`  
A logical (TRUE/FALSE) indicator whether to suppress messages.

**Value**

A vector of the values of `set_1` that are not present in `set_2`. Put differently, a vector resulting from subtracting `set_2` from `set_1`.

**Examples**

```
veccompare::which.of.one.set.is.not.in.another(  
  veccompare::example.vectors.list$vector_a,  
  veccompare::example.vectors.list$vector_b  
)
```

```
veccompare::which.of.one.set.is.not.in.another(  
  veccompare::example.vectors.list$vector_b,  
  veccompare::example.vectors.list$vector_a  
)
```

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