

# Package ‘retraction’

July 10, 2026

**Title** Detect Retracted References in Documents and Bibliographies

**Version** 0.1.0

**Description** Scans manuscripts, bibliographies, and reference lists for citations to retracted publications so that authors can avoid citing retracted work. 'retraction' reads bibliographic formats (BibTeX, BibLaTeX, CSL-JSON, RIS, EndNote XML) and document formats (R Markdown, Quarto, 'LaTeX', Markdown, HTML, JATS XML, Word, and PDF), extracts and normalizes identifiers, and checks them against retraction data. The default data source is the Retraction Watch database served through the 'XeraRetractionTracker' API; 'Crossref', 'OpenAlex', 'Europe PMC', 'PubMed', 'DataCite', and a preprint source ('arXiv' and 'bioRxiv' withdrawals) are available as additional sources ('OpenAlex' retraction data is itself derived from Retraction Watch). Within each source, matching proceeds from exact Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and 'PubMed' identifier lookups to fuzzy title matching, and results are returned as a tidy table with a match-quality score and an optional self-contained HTML report.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/choxos/retraction>,  
<https://choxos.github.io/retraction/>

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annotate\_bib *Annotate a BibTeX/BibLaTeX file, marking retracted entries.*

**Description**

Inserts note = {RETRACTED: <reason>} into every flagged entry that does not already carry a RETRACTED note.

**Usage**

```
annotate_bib(bib_path, x, out_path = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

bib_path	Path to the source .bib file.
x	A retraction_result from checking that file (its id values must be the BibTeX keys).
out_path	Where to write the annotated file. Defaults to "<name>-annotated.bib" next to the source.

**Value**

Invisibly, out\_path.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
res <- check_file("refs.bib")
annotate_bib("refs.bib", res)

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
as.data.frame.retraction_result
```

*Coerce a retraction result to a data frame.*

---

### Description

Coerce a retraction result to a data frame.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'retraction_result'  
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    A retraction\_result.  
row.names, optional      Passed to `base::as.data.frame()`.  
...                    Passed to `base::as.data.frame()`.

### Value

A base `data.frame`.

---

```
as_tibble.retraction_result
```

*Coerce a retraction result to a plain tibble.*

---

### Description

Coerce a retraction result to a plain tibble.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'retraction_result'  
as_tibble(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    A retraction\_result.  
...                    Unused.

### Value

A plain `tibble::tibble`.

---

author_retractions	<i>Retractions attributed to an author.</i>
--------------------	---

---

**Description**

Retractions attributed to an author.

**Usage**

```
author_retractions(name, max_pages = 200L)
```

**Arguments**

name	Author name to search (family name is usually enough).
max_pages	Pagination cap; raise it to fetch more than max_pages * 100 records.

**Value**

A data frame of matching retraction records, or NULL if none.

**Examples**

```
author_retractions("Wakefield")
```

---

badge_json	<i>Write a shields.io endpoint badge for a checked result.</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Produces a JSON file suitable for a [shields.io endpoint badge](#), showing the number of retracted citations. Point a badge URL at the hosted file for a README or a paper's landing page.

**Usage**

```
badge_json(x, path = "retraction-badge.json")
```

**Arguments**

x	A <a href="#">retraction_result</a> .
path	Output path for the JSON. Defaults to "retraction-badge.json".

**Value**

Invisibly, path.

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
badge_json(res, tempfile(fileext = ".json"))
```

---

 check\_bib

*Check a BibTeX or BibLaTeX bibliography for retracted references*


---

**Description**

A thin wrapper around [check\\_file\(\)](#) that forces the BibTeX parser.

**Usage**

```
check_bib(
  path,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

path	Path to a .bib file.
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <a href="#">list_backends()</a> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <a href="#">retraction_sync()</a> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, error when any reference cannot be checked (an unchecked row from a network or source failure) instead of returning it, so a failure cannot be mistaken for a clean result. Useful in CI.

**Value**

A [retraction\\_result](#) tibble.

**Examples**

```
bib <- system.file("extdata", "example.bib", package = "retraction")
if (nzchar(bib)) check_bib(bib)
```

---

check\_dois

*Check a set of DOIs or PMIDs for retraction*


---

**Description**

Check a set of DOIs or PMIDs for retraction

**Usage**

```
check_dois(
  x,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

x	A character vector of DOIs and/or PMIDs (mixed is fine; each value is auto-detected).
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <a href="#">list_backends()</a> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <a href="#">retraction_sync()</a> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, error when any reference cannot be checked (an unchecked row from a network or source failure) instead of returning it, so a failure cannot be mistaken for a clean result. Useful in CI.

**Value**

A [retraction\\_result](#) tibble.

**Examples**

```
check_dois(c("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0", "10.1126/science.aac4716"))
```

---

 check\_file

*Check a document or bibliography file for retracted references*


---

**Description**

Reads a file, extracts references and identifiers, and checks them. Supported formats: BibTeX/BibLaTeX (.bib), CSL-JSON (.json), RIS (.ris), EndNote XML and JATS XML (.xml), Word (.docx), PDF (.pdf), and any text-like document (.Rmd, .qmd, .tex, .md, .txt, .html), from which DOIs are scraped.

**Usage**

```
check_file(
  path,
  format = NULL,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

path	One or more file paths.
format	Force a parser (e.g. "bib", "ris", "csljson", "endnote", "jats", "docx", "pdf", "text"). When NULL, inferred from the extension and, for .xml, the root element.
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <code>list_backends()</code> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <code>retraction_sync()</code> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, error when any reference cannot be checked (an unchecked row from a network or source failure) instead of returning it, so a failure cannot be mistaken for a clean result. Useful in CI.

**Value**

A `retraction_result` tibble.

**Examples**

```
bib <- system.file("extdata", "example.bib", package = "retraction")
if (nzchar(bib)) check_file(bib)
```

---

check\_included\_studies

*Check the included studies of a systematic review or meta-analysis.*

---

**Description**

Check the included studies of a systematic review or meta-analysis.

**Usage**

```
check_included_studies(
  ids,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

`ids` A character vector of DOIs or PMIDs for the included studies. Duplicates are collapsed and counted once.

`sources`, `offline`, `flag_nature`, ... Passed to `check_dois()`.

**Value**

A `retraction_review` (a `retraction_result` with `n_included`, `n_unique`, `n_checked`, `n_unchecked`, `n_possible`, and `n_retracted` attributes).

**Examples**

```
check_included_studies(c("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0",
  "10.1136/bmj.331.7531.1512"))
```

---

 check\_pmc

---

*Check the reference lists of open-access PubMed Central articles*


---

## Description

For each input, resolves it to a PubMed Central article, reports whether the open-access full text (with a reference list) is available, and if so checks every reference in that article for retractions. Inputs may be a PMID, PMCID, DOI, article title, or a whole reference string, in any mix.

## Usage

```
check_pmc(
  x,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  cache = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

x	A character (or numeric) vector of PMIDs, PMCIDs, DOIs, titles, or reference strings.
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <code>list_backends()</code> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <code>retraction_sync()</code> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
cache	Cache fetched XML on disk (see <code>pmc_fetch_xml()</code> ).
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, fail closed: abort when any input cannot be resolved to a PubMed Central article or its open-access full text cannot be retrieved, and (as in <code>check_dois()</code> ) when any resulting reference cannot be checked, instead of returning a clean-looking partial result.

## Details

Resolving and fetching the article always use the network, even when `offline = TRUE` (which controls only the retraction data source used for matching). Per-article open-access status is available via `pmc_articles()`.

## Value

A `retraction_result` tibble of the references found across the open-access articles (the `source_file` column records the PMID). The per-article open-access summary is attached and retrievable with `pmc_articles()`.

## See Also

`pmc_articles()`, `pmc_fetch_xml()`

## Examples

```
## Not run:
res <- check_pmc(c("PMC5334499", "10.1371/journal.pone.0000217", "29939664"))
pmc_articles(res) # open-access status per input
retracted(res)   # any retracted references found

## End(Not run)
```

---

check_preprint	<i>Check whether a preprint has been withdrawn</i>
----------------	--

---

## Description

Accepts an arXiv identifier (e.g. "2401.01234" or "arXiv:2401.01234"), an arXiv DOI (10.48550/arXiv.\*), or a bioRxiv DOI (10.1101/\*).

## Usage

```
check_preprint(x)
```

## Arguments

x                    A preprint identifier or DOI.

## Value

A one-row `tibble` with `id`, `server`, `withdrawn`, and `title`; or `NULL` if `x` is not a recognized preprint identifier.

## Examples

```
check_preprint("10.1101/2020.01.30.927871")
```

check\_refs

*Check a data frame of references for retraction***Description**

Check a data frame of references for retraction

**Usage**

```
check_refs(
  data,
  doi_col = NULL,
  pmid_col = NULL,
  title_col = NULL,
  author_col = NULL,
  year_col = NULL,
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

data	A data frame of references.
doi_col, pmid_col, title_col, author_col, year_col	Column names. When NULL (default) they are auto-detected from common names.
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <a href="#">list_backends()</a> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <a href="#">retraction_sync()</a> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, error when any reference cannot be checked (an unchecked row from a network or source failure) instead of returning it, so a failure cannot be mistaken for a clean result. Useful in CI.

**Value**

A `retraction_result` tibble.

**Examples**

```
df <- data.frame(doi = "10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0", title = "Ileal-lymphoid...")
check_refs(df)
```

---

check\_zotero

*Check a Zotero library for retracted references*

---

**Description**

Reads a Zotero SQLite database directly (read-only) and checks every item's DOI and title. If Zotero has the library open the database may be locked; in that case export the library via Better BibTeX and use `check_file()`.

**Usage**

```
check_zotero(
  path = zotero_default_db(),
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),
  offline = FALSE,
  flag_nature = c("Retraction", "Expression of Concern"),
  allow_fuzzy = TRUE,
  resolve_ids = TRUE,
  progress = TRUE,
  strict = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

path	Path to <code>zotero.sqlite</code> , or the directory containing it. Defaults to the standard per-user location.
sources	Sources to query. A character vector of names from <code>list_backends()</code> , or "all". Defaults to <code>getOption("retraction.sources", "xera")</code> .
offline	If TRUE, match against the local snapshot built by <code>retraction_sync()</code> instead of querying the network.
flag_nature	Notice labels that count as "flag this citation". Defaults to Retraction and Expression of Concern.
allow_fuzzy	Allow fuzzy title matching for references without a usable identifier.
resolve_ids	If TRUE, resolve PMID-only references to a DOI via OpenAlex before matching.
progress	Show a progress bar in interactive sessions.
strict	If TRUE, error when any reference cannot be checked (an unchecked row from a network or source failure) instead of returning it, so a failure cannot be mistaken for a clean result. Useful in CI.

**Value**

A `retraction_result` tibble. Requires the suggested DBI and RSQLite packages.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
check_zotero()

## End(Not run)
```

---

classify_timing	<i>Classify each citation relative to the document's date.</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

Adds a timing column. The default date is the document's authoring date (git commit or mtime), which is **not** the date a specific citation was added, so the labels are deliberately conservative: "document\_after\_retraction" means the document was written after the work was retracted, not that the citation was knowingly added post-retraction. Pass `citation_dates` for true citation-level timing.

**Usage**

```
classify_timing(x, document_date = Sys.Date(), citation_dates = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A <code>retraction_result</code> .
<code>document_date</code>	The document's date, Date or YYYY-MM-DD. Defaults to today; see <code>manuscript_date_of()</code> to derive it from a file.
<code>citation_dates</code>	Optional named vector (Date/string) of per-citation dates, named by id or DOI. When supplied for a row, that date is used and the label becomes "cited_after_retraction" / "cited_before_retraction".

**Value**

`x` with an added character timing column (NA when no retraction date is known).

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
classify_timing(res, document_date = "2015-01-01")
```

---

compare_sources	<i>Summarize cross-source (dis)agreement in a result</i>
-----------------	--

---

### Description

The rows where the selected sources disagreed, with which confirmed and which dissented. Meaningful only when more than one source was queried.

### Usage

```
compare_sources(x)
```

### Arguments

x                    A [retraction\\_result](#).

### Value

A [tibble](#) of the disagreeing rows (id, identifier, status, confirmed\_by, dissenting); zero rows when all sources agree.

### Examples

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0",
                 sources = c("xera", "openalex"))
compare_sources(res)
```

---

evaluate_policy	<i>Evaluate a checked result against a fail policy</i>
-----------------	--

---

### Description

Decides whether a [fail\\_policy\(\)](#) is triggered by a result, for building custom gates (the CLI, knit gate, and GitHub Action use it).

### Usage

```
evaluate_policy(res, policy, n_errors = 0L)
```

### Arguments

res                    A [retraction\\_result](#).  
 policy                A [fail\\_policy\(\)](#).  
 n\_errors              Count of files that errored during the scan.

**Value**

A list: fail (logical), triggered (character reasons), counts (the per-state counts), and n\_errors.

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
evaluate_policy(res, fail_policy("flagged"))$fail
```

---

explain_result	<i>Explain the verdict for each reference in a result</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

A human-readable sentence per row: what matched, on which identifier, at what confidence, which sources confirmed, and any disagreement.

**Usage**

```
explain_result(x, rows = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	A <a href="#">retraction_result</a> .
rows	Optional integer or logical row selector; defaults to all rows.

**Value**

A [tibble](#) with id, status, and explanation.

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
explain_result(res)
```

---

export_result	<i>Export a checked result to CSV, JSON, or Excel.</i>
---------------	--

---

**Description**

Format is chosen from the file extension: .csv, .json, or .xlsx (Excel requires the suggested writexl package).

**Usage**

```
export_result(x, path)
```

**Arguments**

x	A retraction_result.
path	Output path; its extension selects the format.

**Value**

Invisibly, path.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
res <- check_file("refs.bib")  
export_result(res, "results.xlsx")  
export_result(res, "results.csv")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

exposure_score	<i>Retraction-exposure summary, with denominator diagnostics.</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

A bare flagged / n headline is misleading when many rows are unchecked or only "possible", so this reports the full breakdown and two rates: per total, and per successfully-checked.

**Usage**

```
exposure_score(x)
```

**Arguments**

x	A retraction_result.
---	----------------------

**Value**

A named list: n\_total, n\_checked, n\_flagged, n\_possible, n\_unchecked, flagged\_per\_total, flagged\_per\_checked.

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
exposure_score(res)
```

---

fail_policy	<i>A fail policy shared by the CLI, GitHub Action, and knit gate.</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

A fail policy shared by the CLI, GitHub Action, and knit gate.

**Usage**

```
fail_policy(on = "flagged")
```

**Arguments**

on	Which result states should cause failure. Any of "flagged", "possible", "unchecked", "error" (a file that failed to parse or fetch). Default fails only on confirmed flags.
----	---

**Value**

A retraction\_fail\_policy object.

---

journal_retractions	<i>Retraction summary for a journal.</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

Retraction summary for a journal.

**Usage**

```
journal_retractions(journal, max_pages = 200L)
```

**Arguments**

journal	Journal name to search.
max_pages	Pagination cap; journals can have thousands of retractions, so raise this if you need the complete set.

**Value**

A list: n, by\_reason, by\_year, records. NULL if none found.

**Examples**

```
journal_retractions("The Lancet")
```

---

list_backends	<i>Names of all registered backends.</i>
---------------	--

---

**Description**

Names of all registered backends.

**Usage**

```
list_backends()
```

**Value**

A character vector of source names.

**Examples**

```
list_backends()
```

---

manuscript_date_of	<i>Best-effort authoring date of a manuscript file (git commit date, else mtime).</i>
--------------------	---

---

**Description**

Best-effort authoring date of a manuscript file (git commit date, else mtime).

**Usage**

```
manuscript_date_of(path)
```

**Arguments**

path                    Path to the manuscript.

**Value**

A Date, or today's date if nothing better is available.

---

normalize_doi	<i>Normalize a DOI.</i>
---------------	-------------------------

---

**Description**

Strips resolver prefixes (<https://doi.org/>, doi:), lowercases, and trims trailing punctuation, following Crossref's canonicalization guidance. Empty results become NA.

**Usage**

```
normalize_doi(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A character vector of DOIs.

**Value**

A character vector of normalized DOIs, with NA for unparseable input.

**Examples**

```
normalize_doi("https://doi.org/10.1234/ABC. ")  
normalize_doi("doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
```

---

normalize_pmcid	<i>Normalize a PubMed Central identifier</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

Canonicalizes a PMCID to the PMC##### form, accepting "PMC123", "123", or 123.

**Usage**

```
normalize_pmcid(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A character or numeric vector of PMCIDs.

**Value**

A character vector of PMC-prefixed identifiers, NA where none is present.

**Examples**

```
normalize_pmcid(c("PMC5334499", "5334499", "pmc 5334499"))
```

---

normalize_pmid	<i>Normalize a PubMed identifier to bare digits.</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Accepts an optional PMID: prefix. Input that is not a bare run of digits after the prefix is rejected as NA rather than coerced, so a PMCID or DOI placed in a PMID field is not silently turned into a fabricated PMID.

**Usage**

```
normalize_pmid(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A character (or numeric) vector of PMIDs, optionally PMID: -prefixed.

**Value**

A character vector of digit-only PMIDs, NA where none is present.

**Examples**

```
normalize_pmid("PMID: 12345678")
normalize_pmid("PMC12345") # NA: a PMCID is not a PMID
```

---

normalize_title	<i>Normalize a title for fuzzy comparison only.</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

Transliterates to lowercase ASCII Latin (so diacritics, ligatures, and full-width forms fold to a comparable base form), removes a leading "Retracted:" style marker, strips markup and punctuation, and collapses whitespace. The original title is retained elsewhere for reporting; this form is used solely for string distance. If the optional stringi package is installed, non-Latin scripts (such as CJK) are also romanized; otherwise they are dropped by the base fallback.

**Usage**

```
normalize_title(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A character vector of titles.

**Value**

A character vector of normalized titles.

**Examples**

```
normalize_title("Résumé of a Study") # accents folded
```

---

pmc_articles	<i>Per-article open-access summary from a <a href="#">check_pmc()</a> result</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Per-article open-access summary from a [check\\_pmc\(\)](#) result

**Usage**

```
pmc_articles(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A retraction\_result returned by [check\\_pmc\(\)](#).

**Value**

A tibble with input, pmcid, doi, resolved (a PMC article was found), retrieved (its full text was fetched), is\_open\_access (equal to retrieved), n\_references, and n\_retracted.

---

pmc_fetch_xml	<i>Retrieve open-access PMC full-text XML for a PMCID</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

Tries NCBI EFetch (db = pmc) first, then the PMC OAI-PMH service. Results are cached on disk under [retraction\\_cache\\_dir\(\)](#); an existing non-empty cache file is reused unless `overwrite = TRUE`.

**Usage**

```
pmc_fetch_xml(pmcid, cache = TRUE, overwrite = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

pmcid                A PMCID (any form accepted by [normalize\\_pmcid\(\)](#)).

cache                Cache the XML on disk and reuse it on later calls.

overwrite            Re-fetch even if a cache file exists.

**Value**

An xml\_document, or NULL if the article could not be retrieved.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
doc <- pmc_fetch_xml("PMC5334499")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

primary\_reason\_bucket *Primary (lossy) reason bucket: the first matching bucket.*

---

**Description**

Coarse and English-only; for reasons with several causes it keeps only the first match in bucket order (misconduct > plagiarism > error > ethical > process). Use [reason\\_buckets\(\)](#) to keep all causes.

**Usage**

```
primary_reason_bucket(reason)
```

**Arguments**

reason            A character vector of reason strings.

**Value**

A character vector of primary buckets.

**Examples**

```
primary_reason_bucket(c("Fabrication of data", "Duplicate publication", "Unknown"))
```

```
print.retraction_result
    Print a retraction result.
```

---

**Description**

Print a retraction result.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x	A retraction_result.
...	Unused.

**Value**

The input x, invisibly.

---

```
print.retraction_review
    Print a systematic-review check, leading with denominators.
```

---

**Description**

Print a systematic-review check, leading with denominators.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x	A retraction_review.
...	Unused.

**Value**

x, invisibly.

---

reason_buckets	<i>All matching reason buckets (multi-label).</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

All matching reason buckets (multi-label).

**Usage**

```
reason_buckets(reason)
```

**Arguments**

reason            A single free-text reason string.

**Value**

A character vector of every matching bucket (possibly several), or "other" if none match.

**Examples**

```
reason_buckets("Fabrication of data; Authorship disputes")
```

---

reason_summary	<i>Tabulate primary reason buckets across a checked result.</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

Tabulate primary reason buckets across a checked result.

**Usage**

```
reason_summary(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                A retraction\_result.

**Value**

A named integer table of primary-bucket counts over the matched rows.

**Examples**

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
reason_summary(res)
```

---

render_report	<i>Render a retraction result as an HTML or Markdown report</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Produces a shareable, self-contained report. HTML output embeds its own CSS and needs no other software to view.

### Usage

```
render_report(
  x,
  output_file = NULL,
  format = c("html", "md"),
  title = "Retraction report",
  open = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

x	A <a href="#">retraction_result</a> .
output_file	Output path. When NULL, a temporary file is used.
format	"html" (default) or "md".
title	Report title.
open	Open the report in a browser (interactive HTML only).

### Value

Invisibly, the path to the written report.

### Examples

```
res <- check_dois("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
report <- render_report(res, tempfile(fileext = ".html"))
```

---

retracted	<i>Subset of references flagged as retracted (or otherwise notable).</i>
-----------	--

---

### Description

Subset of references flagged as retracted (or otherwise notable).

### Usage

```
retracted(x, which = c("flagged", "possible", "all_matched"))
```

**Arguments**

x                    A `retraction_result`.

which                "flagged" (default; high-confidence flagged citations), "possible" (matched to a flagged record but below the confidence threshold), or "all\_matched".

**Value**

A `retraction_result` with the selected rows.

---

retraction\_addin\_check\_active

*RStudio addin: check retractions in the active source document.*

---

**Description**

For a **saved** document, checks the file in place, so relative bibliography: paths in the YAML header resolve. For an **unsaved** buffer it can only scan inline identifiers (DOIs in the text), not an external bibliography, and says so. Prints the result and moves the cursor to the first flagged citation when a location is known.

**Usage**

```
retraction_addin_check_active()
```

**Value**

Invisibly, the `retraction_result`.

---

retraction\_app

*Launch the retraction triage Shiny app*

---

**Description**

Opens a small web app to upload a bibliography or document and browse the flagged, possible, and clean references interactively.

**Usage**

```
retraction_app(...)
```

**Arguments**

...                    Passed to `shiny::runApp()`.

**Value**

Runs the app; does not return a value. Requires the suggested shiny and DT packages.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
retraction_app()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

retraction\_cache\_dir *Location of the retraction cache directory*

---

**Description**

Location of the retraction cache directory

**Usage**

```
retraction_cache_dir(create = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

create            Create the directory if it does not exist.

**Value**

The cache directory path (via `tools::R_user_dir()`).

**Examples**

```
retraction_cache_dir()
```

---

retraction\_clear\_cache  
*Clear the package cache*

---

**Description**

Removes the local retraction snapshot and any cached PubMed Central XML, and resets the in-memory cache.

**Usage**

```
retraction_clear_cache()
```

**Value**

Invisibly TRUE.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
retraction_clear_cache()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

retraction\_example      *Example references for demonstrating retraction checks*

---

**Description**

A small, stable set of references used in examples and tests. The first reference (Wakefield et al. 1998) was retracted by The Lancet in 2010; the other two are controls that have not been retracted. Bundled so that examples can run without network access.

**Usage**

```
retraction_example
```

**Format**

A data frame with 3 rows and 4 variables:

**doi** Digital Object Identifier of the reference.

**title** Article title.

**year** Publication year.

**note** Whether the item is retracted, for reference.

**Source**

Retraction Watch via the XeraRetractionTracker API, <https://openscience.xera.ac/retractions>.

**Examples**

```
retraction_example  
  
check_refs(retraction_example)
```

---

retraction\_knit\_check *Fail (or warn) a knit when the document cites retracted work.*

---

## Description

Call from a setup chunk. Checks the document and/or its bibliography; if the fail policy is triggered it aborts (or warns) the render.

## Usage

```
retraction_knit_check(  
  input = NULL,  
  bib = NULL,  
  on = "flagged",  
  action = c("error", "warn"),  
  sources = getOption("retraction.sources", "xera"),  
  offline = FALSE  
)
```

## Arguments

input	Path to the document being knit. Defaults to <code>knitr::current_input()</code> when knitting.
bib	Optional path(s) to bibliography files to check as well.
on	Fail policy states (see <code>fail_policy()</code> ): any of "flagged", "possible", "unchecked", "error". Default "flagged".
action	"error" (default; abort the render) or "warn".
sources, offline	Passed to <code>check_file()</code> .

## Value

Invisibly, the combined `retraction_result`.

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
retraction::retraction_knit_check(bib = "refs.bib",  
                                 on = c("flagged", "unchecked"))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

retraction_main	<i>CLI main: scan files and exit per a fail policy.</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

For Rscript -e 'retraction::retraction\_main()' [--fail-on=flagged,unchecked] file ...  
 Prints per-state counts and any file errors, then exits: 0 = policy satisfied, 1 = policy triggered, 2 = usage/argument error.

**Usage**

```
retraction_main(args = commandArgs(trailingOnly = TRUE))
```

**Arguments**

args	Character vector of arguments (default: command-line trailing args).
------	--

**Value**

Does not return; exits the R session.

---

retraction_scan	<i>Scan files for retracted citations.</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

The testable core of the CLI (no quit()). Missing files error by default.

**Usage**

```
retraction_scan(files, on_missing = c("error", "skip"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

files	Character vector of file paths.
on_missing	"error" (default) or "skip" (record as a file error).
...	Passed to <a href="#">check_file()</a> .

**Value**

A list: result (a retraction\_result), n\_errors (files that could not be scanned), and errors (a named list of error messages).

---

```
retraction_snapshot_parquet
```

*Export the local snapshot to a Parquet file*

---

### Description

Writes the current offline snapshot (built by `retraction_sync()`) to Parquet so it can be queried at scale with the arrow package, e.g. `arrow::open_dataset(path)`.

### Usage

```
retraction_snapshot_parquet(path = NULL)
```

### Arguments

`path` Output path. Defaults to `snapshot.parquet` in the cache directory (`retraction_cache_dir()`).

### Value

Invisibly, the path written. Requires the suggested arrow package.

### Examples

```
## Not run:
retraction_sync()
p <- retraction_snapshot_parquet()
arrow::open_dataset(p)

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
retraction_sync
```

*Download or update a local snapshot of the retraction corpus*

---

### Description

The first call downloads the full corpus (sliced by retraction year to respect the export endpoint's row cap and rate limit). Later calls are incremental by default: only recent years are re-fetched and merged into the existing snapshot by record id, so new retractions are added without re-downloading everything. Use `force = TRUE` for a complete refresh.

### Usage

```
retraction_sync(force = FALSE, incremental = TRUE, quiet = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

force	Re-download the entire corpus, replacing any existing snapshot.
incremental	When a snapshot exists, fetch only recent years and merge (default). Ignored when force = TRUE or no snapshot exists.
quiet	Suppress progress messages.

**Details**

Once a snapshot exists, pass `offline = TRUE` to any `check_*()` function to match locally without the network.

**Value**

Invisibly, the snapshot data frame.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
retraction_sync()           # first run: full download
retraction_sync()           # later: incremental update
retraction_sync(force = TRUE) # occasional full refresh
check_bib("refs.bib", offline = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

`retraction_watch_diff` *Report references newly flagged since the saved baseline.*

---

**Description**

Re-checks the same bibliography and returns rows that are flagged now but were not at save time, matched by normalized identifier.

**Usage**

```
retraction_watch_diff(x, name)
```

**Arguments**

x	A freshly checked <code>retraction_result</code> for the same bibliography.
name	The identifier used when saving the baseline.

**Value**

A `retraction_result` with only the newly-flagged rows (zero rows if nothing changed).

---

retraction\_watch\_save *Save a checked result as a named watch baseline.*

---

### Description

Save a checked result as a named watch baseline.

### Usage

```
retraction_watch_save(x, name)
```

### Arguments

x	A retraction_result.
name	A short identifier for this bibliography (e.g. "my-review").

### Value

Invisibly, the path written.

---

snapshot\_info *Report the local snapshot's data version and freshness*

---

### Description

Which retraction-database version an offline check runs against, for reproducible checks.

### Usage

```
snapshot_info()
```

### Value

Invisibly, a list with path, records, synced\_at, and newest\_retraction; or NULL if no snapshot exists. Also prints a summary.

### Examples

```
## Not run:
snapshot_info()

## End(Not run)
```

---

suggest\_alternatives *Suggest alternatives to a retracted work*

---

### Description

Given a retracted work's DOI, return the records the corpus links to it, such as a later correction or reinstatement, to help decide what (if anything) to cite instead.

### Usage

```
suggest_alternatives(doi)
```

### Arguments

doi                    A DOI (of the retracted work).

### Value

A [tibble](#) of related records (record\_id, title, nature, date), or NULL if the DOI is unknown or has no related records.

### Examples

```
suggest_alternatives("10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0")
```

---

summary.retraction\_result  
*Summarize a retraction result as a status tally.*

---

### Description

Summarize a retraction result as a status tally.

### Usage

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

### Arguments

object                A retraction\_result.  
...                    Unused.

### Value

A tibble with one row per status category and its count.

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