

# Package: certellm (via r-universe)

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**Title** A Certe R Package for working with large language models

**Version** 0.2.4

**Description** A Certe R Package for working with large language models.  
This package is part of the 'certedata' universe.

**URL** <https://certe-medical-epidemiology.github.io/certellm>,  
<https://github.com/certe-medical-epidemiology/certellm>

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**Description**

These functions use the active LLM to assist with data analysis and R code tasks. Each call uses an isolated chat context. Generated code is returned as a character string for the user to review and run manually.

- `llm_analyse()` suggests analyses or answers a question about a dataset.
- `llm_code()` generates R code for a described task.
- `llm_explain()` explains R code in Dutch.
- `llm_suggest_plot()` suggests a `plot2()` call for a dataset.

**Usage**

```
llm_analyse(data, question = NULL, new = FALSE, ...)
```

```
llm_code(data = NULL, task, style = c("tidyverse", "base"), new = FALSE, ...)
```

```
llm_explain(code, detail = c("brief", "detailed"), new = FALSE, ...)
```

```
llm_suggest_plot(data, goal = NULL, new = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	A data frame. Summarised before sending to the LLM; raw rows are never sent verbatim.
<code>question</code>	A specific question about the data. If <code>NULL</code> , the LLM is asked to suggest appropriate analyses.
<code>new</code>	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , re-initiates the LLM before the task call. Default is <code>FALSE</code> .
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed to <code>initiate_llm()</code> .
<code>task</code>	Description of what the R code should accomplish.
<code>style</code>	Coding style for generated R code: <code>"tidyverse"</code> (default) or <code>"base"</code> .
<code>code</code>	A character string containing R code to explain or improve.
<code>detail</code>	Level of detail for explanations: <code>"brief"</code> (one paragraph, default) or <code>"detailed"</code> (step-by-step).
<code>goal</code>	Optional description of what the plot should show.

**Value**

A character string with the LLM response (suggestions, code, or explanation).

## Description

These functions initialise and interact with the active LLM, backed by `ellmer::chat()`. The connection is configured via named presets defined in the secrets YAML under `llm.presets`; individual provider, model, and url arguments override the preset when supplied.

## Usage

```
initiate_llm(  
  preset = read_secret("llm.default.preset"),  
  provider = NULL,  
  model = NULL,  
  url = NULL,  
  system_prompt = read_secret("llm.system_prompt"),  
  user_name = read_secret(paste0("user.", Sys.info()["user"], ".fullname")),  
  user_jobtitle = read_secret(paste0("user.", Sys.info()["user"], ".jobtitle")),  
  ...  
)  
  
list_presets()  
  
new_chat(input, ...)  
  
chat(input, new = FALSE, ...)  
  
chat_in_browser(new = FALSE, ...)  
  
chat_in_console(new = FALSE, ...)  
  
get_chat_object()  
  
get_provider()  
  
get_system_prompt()  
  
get_tools()  
  
get_tokens()
```

## Arguments

preset	Name of a preset defined under <code>llm.presets</code> in the secrets YAML. Defaults to <code>llm.default.preset</code> . Each preset must contain a provider (e.g. "ollama", "anthropic") and a model field; an optional url sets a non-default base URL
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	(e.g. an internal Ollama server). Individual provider, model, and url arguments override the preset when supplied.
provider	Override the provider from the preset.
model	Override the model from the preset.
url	Override the base URL from the preset. Passed as base_url to the provider function; omit for providers with fixed endpoints (e.g. Anthropic).
system_prompt	System prompt text. Defaults to llm.system_prompt from the secrets file.
user_name, user_jobtitle	Name and job title of the person working with the LLM.
...	Arguments passed on to <code>ellmer::chat()</code> .
input	Text for input.
new	Initiate new LLM instance.

## Details

Functions:

- `initiate_llm()` creates a new `ellmer Chat` object, appends user context to the system prompt when the user's name and job title are found in the secrets file, registers the session tools (`get_df_summary`, `list_objects`, `get_colnames`), and probes the model to verify actual tool support. Models that do not support tools are silently recreated without them, so the function always leaves a working instance. The active object is stored in `pkg_env$chat_object`.
- `list_presets()` prints all configured presets with their provider, model, and URL, marking the default.
- `chat()` sends a single message to the active LLM, initiating a new session first if none exists or if `new = TRUE`.
- `new_chat()` is a shorthand that always initiates a fresh session before sending the message.
- `chat_in_browser()` and `chat_in_console()` open an interactive session via `ellmer::live_browser()` and `ellmer::live_console()` respectively.
- `get_chat_object()`, `get_provider()`, `get_system_prompt()`, `get_tools()`, and `get_tokens()` are thin accessors that expose the underlying `ellmer Chat` object's state for inspection.

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chat\_history

*Save and Restore Chat Conversations*

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## Description

These functions manage the turn history of the active LLM conversation so that sessions can be saved, restored, listed, or reset.

- `save_chat()` snapshots the current conversation under a name.
- `restore_chat()` replaces the current conversation with a saved snapshot.
- `list_chats()` returns the names of all saved snapshots.
- `reset_chat()` clears the current conversation turn history.

**Usage**

```
save_chat(name = format(Sys.time(), "%Y%m%d_%H%M%S"))

restore_chat(name)

list_chats()

reset_chat()
```

**Arguments**

name	Name under which to save or from which to restore the snapshot. Defaults to a timestamp ("YYYYMMDD_HHMMSS").
------	--

**Value**

`save_chat()` and `reset_chat()` return `invisible(NULL)`. `restore_chat()` returns `invisible(NULL)`. `list_chats()` returns a character vector of snapshot names (or an empty vector if none exist).

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diver

*Diver Database Query Assistance*

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**Description**

These functions help construct and explain `get_diver_data()` calls (from the `certedb` package) using the active LLM. Each call uses an isolated chat context so the main conversation history is not affected.

- `llm_diver_query()` generates a `get_diver_data()` call from a natural language description.
- `llm_diver_explain()` explains an existing `get_diver_data()` call in plain Dutch.

The LLM is primed with a static schema hint describing known Diver column names and conventions. When the exact column name is uncertain, the generated code includes a comment noting the assumption.

**Usage**

```
llm_diver_query(
  description,
  table = NULL,
  columns_hint = NULL,
  new = FALSE,
  ...
)

llm_diver_explain(query, new = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

description	Natural language description of the data to retrieve, e.g. "All E. coli urine cultures from 2024 in Groningen".
table	Optional hint for the Diver table to query.
columns_hint	Optional character vector of known column names to assist the LLM in forming the query.
new	Logical. If TRUE, re-initiates the LLM before the task call. Default is FALSE.
...	Additional arguments passed to <code>initiate_llm()</code> .
query	An existing <code>get_diver_data()</code> call as a character string, to be explained.

**Value**

A character string: the generated R code (`llm_diver_query()`) or the Dutch explanation (`llm_diver_explain()`).

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document

*Rmd / Quarto Document Assistance*


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**Description**

These functions use the active LLM to assist with writing and reviewing R Markdown and Quarto documents. Each call uses an isolated chat context.

- `llm_review_document()` reviews a document for language, structure, or completeness and returns Dutch-language feedback.
- `llm_write_section()` writes a Dutch section (e.g. Methods, Results) for a report, presentation, or article.
- `llm_write_chunk()` generates or improves an R code chunk for a document.

**Usage**

```
llm_review_document(
  file = NULL,
  text = NULL,
  focus = c("all", "language", "structure", "completeness"),
  new = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

```
llm_write_section(
  section,
  data = NULL,
  context = NULL,
  style = c("report", "presentation", "article"),
  new = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

)

```
llm_write_chunk(code = NULL, goal = NULL, new = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

file	Path to an .Rmd or .qmd file. The first 3000 lines are read. Either file or text must be supplied.
text	The document content as a character string. Either file or text must be supplied.
focus	What to focus on during review: "language", "structure", "completeness", or "all" (default).
new	Logical. If TRUE, re-initiates the LLM before the task call. Default is FALSE.
...	Additional arguments passed to the LLM chat method.
section	Name of the section to write, e.g. "Methods", "Results", "Discussion".
data	Optional data frame providing context for the section. Summarised before sending to the LLM.
context	Optional character string with additional background context for the section (e.g. a description of the analysis).
style	Document style: "report" (default), "presentation", or "article".
code	Optional existing R code to improve (as a character string).
goal	Description of what the code chunk should accomplish. Required when code is NULL.

### Value

A character string with the generated or reviewed text.

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narrative

*Generate Dutch Epidemiological Narratives*


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### Description

These functions use the active LLM to produce Dutch-language text based on data from the Medical Epidemiology department. Each call uses an isolated chat context so the main conversation history is not affected.

- `llm_describe()` writes a Dutch epidemiological description of a dataset.
- `llm_interpret()` interprets patterns and suggests epidemiological explanations.
- `llm_conclude()` writes a Dutch conclusion paragraph from results or data.

**Usage**

```
llm_describe(  
  data,  
  topic = NULL,  
  period = NULL,  
  region = NULL,  
  tone = c("formal", "accessible"),  
  length = c("short", "medium", "long"),  
  new = FALSE,  
  ...  
)  
  
llm_interpret(data, hypothesis = NULL, comparison = NULL, new = FALSE, ...)  
  
llm_conclude(..., new = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	A data frame to describe or interpret. Summarised before sending to the LLM; raw rows are never sent verbatim.
<code>topic</code>	Topic or subject of the analysis, e.g. "E. coli resistance".
<code>period</code>	Time period covered, e.g. "2023-2024".
<code>region</code>	Geographic region, e.g. "Noord-Nederland" or "Groningen".
<code>tone</code>	Writing tone: "formal" (default) or "accessible".
<code>length</code>	Approximate length of the output: "short" (1 paragraph), "medium" (2-3 paragraphs), or "long" (4+ paragraphs).
<code>new</code>	Logical. If TRUE, re-initiates the LLM before the task call. Default is FALSE.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed to <code>initiate_llm()</code> .
<code>hypothesis</code>	Optional hypothesis to evaluate against the data.
<code>comparison</code>	Optional second data frame for comparison. Also summarised before sending.

**Value**

A character string with the generated Dutch text.

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