



# EXCLUDE LINKS BASED ON GROUP OR OTHER METADATA

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## Summary

This extension is about filtering links using **metadata** (information attached to links and/or their sources), not just factor labels.

Typical examples:

- include only links from a particular **district** / **gender** / **age band**
- exclude links marked with a **caveat tag** (e.g. `?doubtful`)
- include only links with a particular **sentiment** band or code

## When to use it

- **Group comparison:** get a clean view of “group A only” vs “group B only”.
- **Quality control:** exclude links you tagged as weak/hypothetical/needs checking.
- **Scoping:** focus on a section of the material (e.g. a particular question, time period, or separator block) if that exists in your metadata.

## What it does (plain language)

It takes the current links table (already filtered by your chosen sources and any upstream filters) and keeps/removes rows based on:

- a chosen **field** (a column), and
- one or more **values** you want to include or exclude.

## Practical cautions

- **Know what the field means:** some fields live on links (tags, sentiment), others live on sources (custom columns), and some are derived.
- **Order matters:** if you apply transforms that rewrite labels earlier, you may change what you consider “the same” link/factor when comparing groups.

## Formal notes (optional)

This is a links-table filter. Given a predicate  $P(\text{link row})$ , it returns:

- include-mode:  $L' = \ell \in L \mid P(\ell)$
- exclude-mode:  $L' = \ell \in L \mid \neg P(\ell)$

The predicate is usually defined by: (field = f) AND (value  $\in$  allowed set), with UI-specific matching rules (exact match vs substring, case rules, etc.).

## Transformation and interpretation rules `{.banner}###`

Transformation rule `{.rounded}`- **Input:** a links table and a metadata predicate (field + include/exclude values).

- **Transformation:** apply the predicate row-wise to keep or remove matching links.
- **Output:** a filtered links table/map scoped to the chosen metadata condition.### Interpretation rule `{.rounded}`- This is a selection/scoping step, not a truth test.
- Result differences usually indicate contextual/group differences in reported claims.

## See also

- [Formatting your map for what you want to show](#) for how this filter sits in a real workflow.

## Related

- [chapter intro](#)