

Week 2

Structure of Data Analysis

Steps

- define the question (scientific or business question you'd like to be able to answer)
- ideal dataset (one you would collect given no shortage of time & money)
- determine what data you can access
- obtain data
- clean it up (so you can analyse it)
- exploratory data analysis
- statistical modelling / prediction (to answer the question you're interested in)
- interpret results (what does it mean, in plain language)
- challenge the result (what are the potential failings?)
- synthesize / write up all the results (using the data to answer the question - story)

- create reproducible code (so you can share your analysis with other people)

① Refining a question

Start with a general question.

↓ Can I automatically detect messages that are SPAM?

Make it concrete

Can I use quantitative characteristics of emails to classify them SPAM?

② Ideal Dataset

(depends on your goal)

- descriptive - whole population
- exploratory - a random sample with many variables
- inferential - the right population, randomly sampled
- predictive - a training and test data sets from the same population
- causal - data from a randomized study
- mechanistic - data from all ~~or~~ components of the system

③ What data you can access?

- free data on the web
- you may buy
- or generate

⇒ UCI Machine Learning Repository

④ Obtain the [raw] data

reference the source.
you need to record url and
time accessed

⑤ Clean the data

is it good enough?
not → change the data

understand the source (census, sample, etc)

may need reformatting, etc
(record these steps!)

if preprocessed - make sure you understand
how

⑥ Exploratory analysis

(playing in R, etc)

kermlab - data with mails from CRAN

install.packages("kermlab")

library(kermlab)

data(spam)

dim(spam) => 4601 58

We need to sample a test set
and a training set

↑
for prediction

set.seed(13435)

trainIndicator = rbinom(4601, size=1,
prob=0.5)

table(trainIndicator)

↓ (summary)

2314 x 0, 2287 x 1

either 1 or 0

↙

↘

↑
fair coin

train Set = spam[trainIndicator == 1,]
test Set = spam[trainIndicator == 0,]

dim(trainSet)

~~row~~ names(trainSet)

↓

names of columns

head(trainSet)

↓

a first few

table(trainSpam\$type)



nonspam

spam

1381

906

plot(trainSpam\$capital Ave ~ trainSpam\$type)

plot(log10(trainSpam[, 1:4] + 1))



first 4 columns vs each other
(16 plots)

clustering

hCluster = hclust(dist(t(~~transform~~
trainSpam[, 1:57])))

plot(hCluster)



(clustered dendrogram)

puts variables that
have similar patterns
close together

we may
take log10 + 1
to see it better

⑦ Statistical / Prediction / modelling

- should be informed by ^{the} results of your explanatory analysis
- methods depend on questions
- pay attention to what you've done with your data on pre-processing steps (log, etc)
- report all measures of uncertainty (number of mistakes you did on the test set)

⑧ Interpret results

use the appropriate language

describes
correlates with / associated with
leads to / causes
predicts

Give an explanation \Rightarrow Goal: it should be understood by non-tech audience

Interpret coefficients

Example:

The fraction of characters that are dollar signs can be used to predict if an email is spam

Anything with more than 6.6% \$
is classified as spam

More \$s always means more spam
under our prediction

Our test set error ~~was~~ rate was 22.4%

⑨ Challenge the result.

challenge all steps:

- Question (was it right? could you make it more specific/general?)
- Data Source (was it right data? did you get right samples? right population?)
- Processing (correctly identified variables?)
- Analysis (do we pick the right predictors?)
- Conclusions (are you interpreting too much? are you trying to say smth you cannot?)

also challenge points of
uncertainty

challenge choices of terms included
in the models

think of potential alternative
analyses

④ Synthesize / write-up results

State the question you raised

Summarize the analysis into a story

Include an analysis if

- it's needed for the story
- it's needed to address the challenge

Order analyses according to the story rather than chronologically

Include figures

④ Create reproducible code

(R code)

Example

- lead with the question

Can I use quantitative characteristics of the emails to classify them as SPAM/HAM?

- Describe the approach

Collected data from UCI →
created training / test sets

Explored relationships

Choose logistic model on training set
by cross validation

Applied to the test, 78% accuracy

- Interpret results

Number of dollar signs seems reasonable,
e.g. "Make money with Viagra \$\$\$\$!"

- Challenge the results

78% isn't that great

I could use more variables

Why logistic regression?

Organizing a data analysis

Files (directory structure)

/data

 /raw

 /processed (tidy!)

/figures

 /explanatory

 / final

/R

 /raw scripts

 / final

 /R markdown (Code + writing).

/text

 /readme

 /text of analysis

either

R markdown - for reproducible reports

R + text are integrated

text:

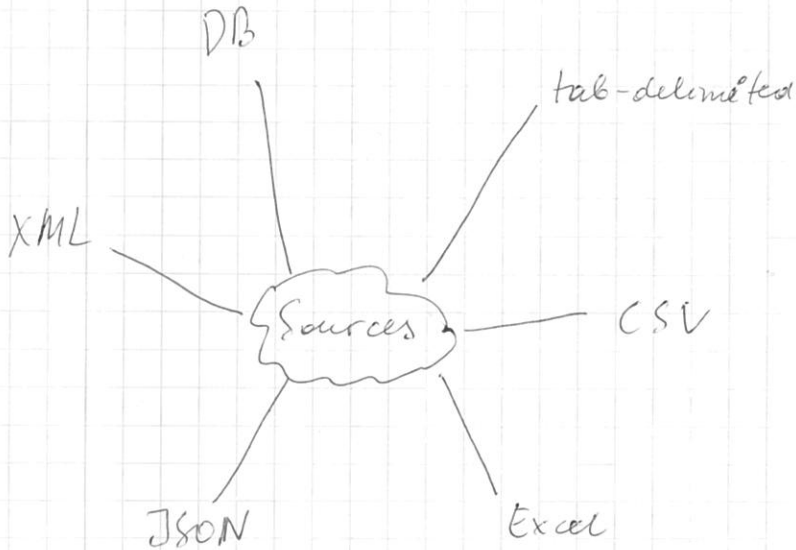
- title
- introduction (motivation)
- methods
- results
- conclusions
- references

project template! (from the course)

Getting Data

getwd()

setwd()



from a ~~colleague~~ colleague
web
application programming int.
scrapping a web page

• download.file()

url
destfile
method

- download.file(fileURL,
dest file = "...",
method = "curl") (for https)

list.files(".", "data")

dateDownload ← date()

(for keeping the date when the
file was downloaded)

- Reading:

read.table() read.csv() read.csv2()

read.xlsx() read.xlsx2 {xlsx package}
(maybe slower) (written in Java)

file.choose() ← opens a file open dialog

- Connections

file, url, gzfile, bzfile
remember to close connection

json {RJSONIO}

fromJSON(con)
 └─ file

• writing

write.table

save ← saves R object

save.image - saves everything in
(Rda files) your working directory

load - opposite of save

paste and paste0

for pasting ~~string~~ character strings
together

paste0 is the same as paste,
but sep=""

• Scrappy

lib(XML)

can = url("~~http...~~")

~~html = readLines~~

html3 ← xmlTreeParse("~~http~~")
xpathSApply(html3, "//title", xmlValue)

RMySQL - mysql connection

big memory - for big datasets

Data Resources

data.gov open government
data.gov.uk
data.gov.uk

gapminder.org public health

etc asdfree.com survey data

kaggle.com - contests

+ lots of resources (see the 6th slide)

Summarizing data

Why?

- too big to look at
- find problems

missing values
outside of ranges
wrong units
mislabeled
wrong class

• `dim()` dimensions

$x \cdot y \cdot z$ (how many rows, cols)
`names(x)` column names
`nrow ncol`

- `quantile(x)` - like percentile

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

range of
variables

- `summary(x)`

Summarizes quantitative
quantitative variables.

- classes:

`sapply(eData[,], class)`

↓

class of every element of 1st row
is it loaded properly?

- `unique(x)` `length(x)`

`table` ← unique + count of each
time it appears

`table(x)` ← one var. (1dim)

`table(x, y)` ← 2-dimensional table

- `any()` `all()`

`any(e[1:10] > 10)`

is there any TRUEs?

`all(e[1:10] > 10)`

are all TRUEs?

edata[edata\$L > 0 & edat\$n > 0,
↑
c("L", "n")]
can be "I" (or)

sum(is.na(a\$L))
how many NAs?

or

table(is.na(a\$L))
⇓
FALSE TRUE
10 20

table by default doesn't show NAs,
table(x, useNA = "ifany")

• summarizing cols/rows

rowSums colSums
rowMeans colMeans

colMeans(reviews, na.rm = TRUE)

Data Munging basics (munge - broom, uproot & grain, obvious reformatting)

Data should be tidy!

+ names are easy to use
and informative

obvious mistakes are removed

variables are internally consistent

appropriately translated

List of Munging operations (partial)

fix var names

create ~~new~~ new vars

merge

reshape

deal with missing data

transform

remove inconsistent

} Should
be
Recorded!

• Character vectors!

tolower, toupper

stringsplit (remove dots, \$, etc)

(g) Sub (" - ", "", names(x))

- `cut()` for quantitative vars in ranges

`cut(x, seq(0, 3600, by=600))`

⇓
cuts into ranges (in what range a value is) ⇒ factor

- adding extra variables

`+ $new.var = data.vector`

- `merge()` for merging data

`merge(x, y, by.x = "sol.id", by.y = "id", all = TRUE)`

- `sort()`, `order()`

- reshaping

`melt(x, id.vars = "people", variable.name = "treatment", value.name = "value")`

↗ what are id
↗ observation

	treatA	treatB	people		people	treatment	value
1	NA	5	John	⇒	1	John	trA
2	1	4	Jane		2	Jane	trA
3	2	3	Mary		3	Mary	trA
					4	John	trB
					5	Jane	trB
					6	Mary	trB

↑
tidy!