

R language basics, part 3: factor

HUST Bioinformatics course series

Wei-Hua Chen (CC BY-NC 4.0)

03 August, 2021

section 1: TOC

前情提要

data frame and tibble

- declaration & usage
- manipulation (更多相关内容会在介绍 dplyr 时讲到)
- differences between data.frame and tibble
- advantages of using tibble (更多内容以后会介绍)
- with, within, attach, detach 等的用法

IO

- read from files of different formats
- write to files
- use GUI to read files (& get the corresponding code)

今次预报

- ① IO, project management, working environment management
- ② factors: R 中最重要的概念之一
- ③ exercises

section 2: IO and working enviroment management

R session 的概念

每个 R session 是一个单独的工作空间 (work space), 包含各自的数据、变量和操作历史。

```

wchen — R session 1 — R — 70x22
[wchen @mbp: 1] ~ > R
WARNING: ignoring environment value of R_HOME

R version 3.6.1 (2019-07-05) -- "Action of the Toes"
Copyright (C) 2019 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin15.6.0 (64-bit)

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> |

wchen — R session 2 — R — 74x22
[wchen @mbp: 1] ~ > R
WARNING: ignoring environment value of R_HOME

R version 3.6.1 (2019-07-05) -- "Action of the Toes"
Copyright (C) 2019 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin15.6.0 (64-bit)

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> |
  
```

Figure 1: two R sessions

R session in RStudio

Each RStudio session is automatically associated with a R session

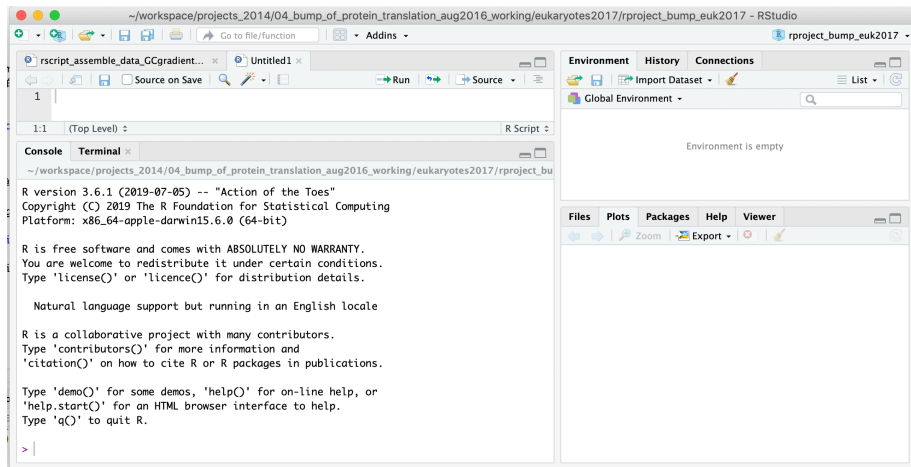


Figure 2: R session in RStudio

start a new RStudio session by creating a new project

- 1 右上角的 Project 按钮，在弹出菜单里选 New Project ...

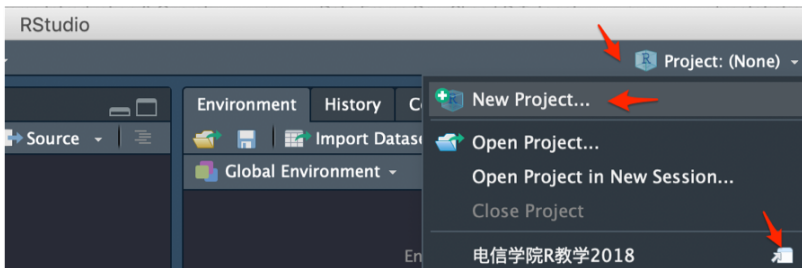


Figure 3: create new project, step 1

create a new project, cont.

- 2 Select: New directory -> New Project in the popup window

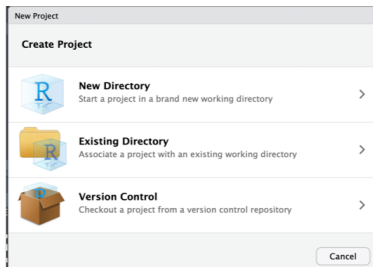
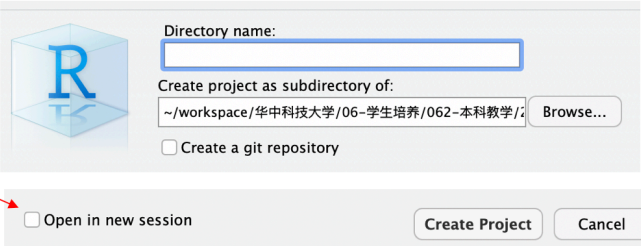


Figure 4: create new project, step 2

create a new project, cont.

- 3 Enter a new directory name, choose its mother directory ...



The image shows the 'Create New Project' dialog box in RStudio. On the left is the R logo. The main area contains a 'Directory name:' text box, a 'Create project as subdirectory of:' text box with a file path, a 'Browse...' button, and a checkbox for 'Create a git repository'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'Open in new session' which is highlighted by a red arrow, and two buttons: 'Create Project' and 'Cancel'.

Directory name:

Create project as subdirectory of:

~/workspace/华中科技大学/06-学生培养/062-本科教学/...

Browse...

☐ Create a git repository

☐ Open in new session

Create Project Cancel

Figure 5: create new project, step 3

现场演示

演示 ~~

working space

当前工作空间，包括所有已装入的数据、包和自制函数

可通过以下代码管理变量

```
ls(); ## 显示当前环境下所有变量
```

```
## [1] "color_block"
```

```
rm( x ); ## 删除一个变量
```

```
## Warning in rm(x): object 'x' not found
```

```
ls();
```

```
## [1] "color_block"
```

```
##rm(list=ls()); ## 删除当前环境下所有变量!!!
```

variables in working space in RStudio

在 RStudio 右上角的 “Environment” 窗口显示了所有当前工作间的变量

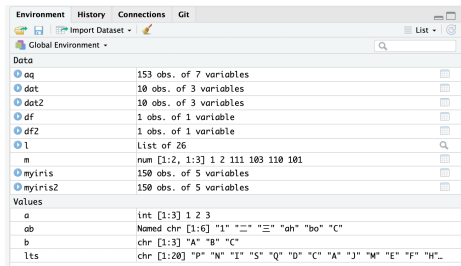


Figure 6: RStudio environment window

save and restore work space

```
## -- save all loaded variables into an external .RData file
save.image( file = "prj_r_for_bioinformatics_aug3_2019.RData" );

## -- restore ( load ) saved work space
load( file = "prj_r_for_bioinformatics_aug3_2019.RData" );
```

Notes

- existing variables will be kept, however, those with the same names will be replaced by loaded variables
- please consider using `rm(list=ls())` to remove all existing variables to have a clean start
- you may need to reload all the packages

save selected variables

Sometimes you need to transfer processed data to a collaborator ...

```
## save selected variables to external
save(city, country, file="1.RData"); ## you can specify directory name

## --
load( "1.RData" );
```

close and (re)open a project

close a project is easy:

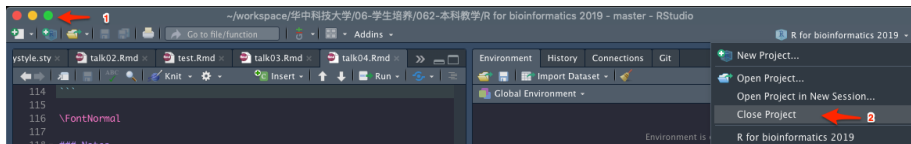


Figure 7: Two ways of closing a project

however ...

退出 projects 时的一些选项 (RStudio)

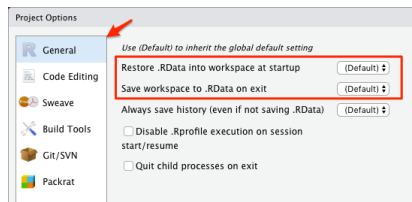


Figure 8: Project options

notes

- 退出时保存
- 打开时装入
- 但数据较大时，装入时间可能过长 ...

open a project

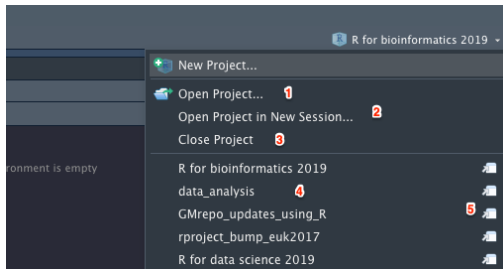


Figure 9: Open a project

演示项目的不同打开姿式（1-5）。

练习

- 创建一个项目
- 定义一些变量
- 从外部文件装入一些数据
- 保存 workspace 到.RData
- 退出 project
- 重新打开 project 并恢复 workspace

section 3: factors

什么是 factors ?

Factor is a data structure used for fields that takes only predefined, finite number of values (categorical data).

Factor 用于限制某个字段 (列), 只允许其接受某些值

```
x <- c("single", "married", "married", "single");
str(x);
```

```
## chr [1:4] "single" "married" "married" "single"
```

```
## create factor as it is ...
```

```
x <- as.factor(x);
```

```
## please note the change in the displayed values ...
```

```
str(x);
```

```
## Factor w/ 2 levels "married","single": 2 1 1 2
```

```
## create factor from scratch ...
```

```
x <- factor( c( "single", "married", "married", "single" ) );
```

```
str(x);
```

```
## Factor w/ 2 levels "married","single": 2 1 1 2
```

factors, cont.

Factors 会限制输入数据的选择范围

```
str(x);
```

```
## Factor w/ 2 levels "married","single": 2 1 1 2
```

```
x[ length(x) + 1 ] <- "widowed";
```

```
## Warning in `[<-.factor`(`*tmp*`, length(x) + 1, value = "widowed"): invalid
## factor level, NA generated
```

```
x;
```

```
## [1] single married married single <NA>
## Levels: married single
```

Use levels() function to add new factors

```
levels(x) <- c(levels(x), "widowed");
x[ length(x) + 1 ] <- "widowed";
str(x);
```

```
## Factor w/ 3 levels "married","single",...: 2 1 1 2 NA 3
```

factors, cont.

Play around with `levels()`:

```
## other ways of assigning factors ...
y <- as.factor( c( "single", "married", "married", "single" ) );
levels( y );
```

```
## [1] "married" "single"
```

```
levels(y) <- c("single", "married", "widowed");
str(y);
```

```
## Factor w/ 3 levels "single","married",...: 2 1 1 2
```

```
## 这个代码现在就没有问题了
y[ length(y) + 1 ] <- "widowed";
```

**** 注意 **** 用 `as.factor` 创建 factor 时, 得到的 levels 按字母表排列;

但是, 用 `levels(y)` 方式指定 levels 时, 则按照指定的顺序;

levels 的顺序决定了排序的顺序

```
##
y <- as.factor( c( "single", "married", "married", "single" ) );
levels(y);
```

```
## [1] "married" "single"
```

```
sort(y);
```

```
## [1] married married single single
## Levels: married single
```

```
##
y2 <- y;
levels(y2) <- c("single", "married", "widowed");
sort(y2);
```

```
## [1] single single married married
## Levels: single married widowed
```


sort data in a meaningful way ...

```
## Month
x1 <- c("Dec", "Apr", "Jan", "Mar");
sort(x1);
```

```
## [1] "Apr" "Dec" "Jan" "Mar"
```

```
month_levels <- c(
  "Jan", "Feb", "Mar", "Apr", "May", "Jun",
  "Jul", "Aug", "Sep", "Oct", "Nov", "Dec"
)

y1 <- factor(x1, levels = month_levels)
sort(y1);
```

```
## [1] Jan Mar Apr Dec
## Levels: Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
```

以出现的顺序为 factor

```
## Sometimes you'd prefer that the order of the levels match the order of the first appearance ...
f1 <- factor(x1, levels = unique(x1));
f1;
```

```
## [1] Dec Apr Jan Mar
## Levels: Dec Apr Jan Mar
```

```
library(forcats); ## just to make sure the codes will run smoothly ...
## you can also use fct_inorder in the forcats package ...
f2 <- x1 %>% factor() %>% fct_inorder()
f2
```

```
## [1] Dec Apr Jan Mar
## Levels: Dec Apr Jan Mar
```

use factor to clean data

```
## 假设我有一组性别数据，其写法非常不规整；
gender <- c("f", "m ", "male ", "male", "female", "FEMALE", "Male", "f", "m");
```

```
## 要求：都改为 Female, Male
gender <- as_factor( gender );
fct_count( gender );
```

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 2
##   f           n
##   <fct>     <int>
## 1 "f"         2
## 2 "m "        1
## 3 "male "     1
## 4 "male"      1
## 5 "female"    1
## 6 "FEMALE"    1
## 7 "Male"      1
## 8 "m"         1
```

```
gender <- fct_collapse(
  gender,
  Female = c("f", "female", "FEMALE"),
  Male   = c("m ", "m", "male ", "male", "Male")
)
fct_count(gender)
```

or use fct_relabel

```
gender <- c("f", "m ", "male ", "male", "female", "FEMALE", "Male", "f", "m")
gender <- as_factor(gender)
gender <- fct_relabel(gender, ~ ifelse(tolower(substring(., 1, 1)) == "f", "Female", "Male"))

fct_count(gender)
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 2
##   f      n
##   <fct> <int>
## 1 Female     4
## 2 Male       5
```

factor 在做图中的应用（真正精髓）

```
## 一项 mock 调查结果数据
```

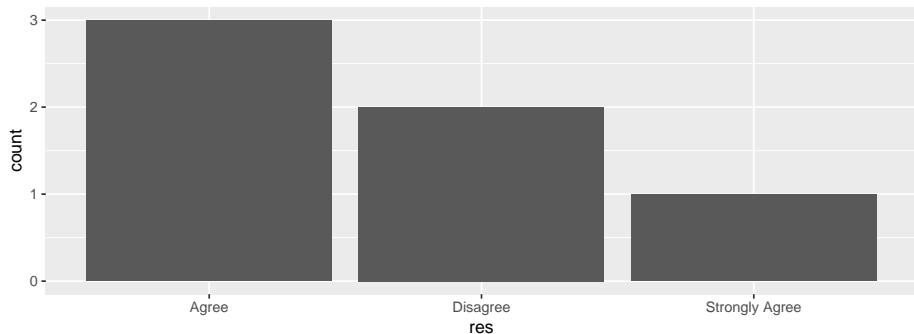
```
( responses <- factor( c("Agree", "Agree", "Strongly Agree", "Disagree",  
                        "Disagree", "Agree") ) );
```

```
## [1] Agree          Agree          Strongly Agree Disagree          Disagree  
## [6] Agree  
## Levels: Agree Disagree Strongly Agree
```

```
## -- plot the results --
```

```
library(ggplot2);  
barplot <-  
  ggplot( data = data.frame( res = responses ), aes( x = res ) ) +  
  geom_bar();
```

factor 在做图中的应用, cont.



默认情况下, factor 按字母表排序: Agree -> Disagree -> Strong Agree 。
ggplot2 也会按 factor 的排序作图

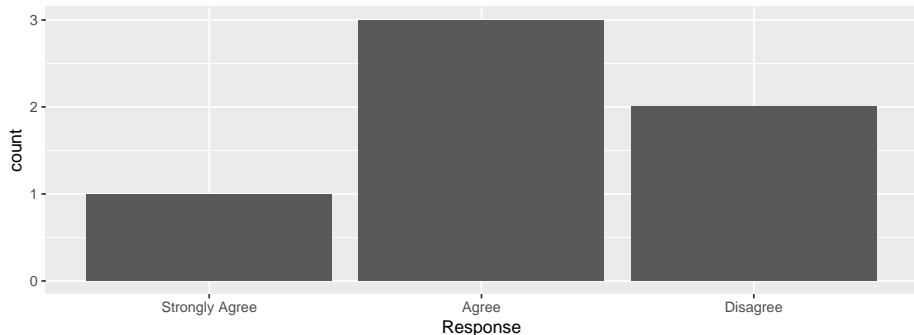
调整 factor 以调整画图顺序

```
res <- data.frame( res=responses );
## -- 按照同意程度从强-> 弱 排序
res$res <- factor( res$res, levels = c( "Strongly Agree", "Agree", "Disagree" ) );
str(res);
```

```
## 'data.frame':    6 obs. of  1 variable:
## $ res: Factor w/ 3 levels "Strongly Agree",...: 2 2 1 3 3 2
```

```
plot2 <-
  ggplot( data = res, aes( x = res ) ) +
  geom_bar() +
  xlab( "Response" );
```

调整 factor 以调整画图顺序, cont.



**** 练习 **** 按意程度从弱-> 强排序并作图!!

ordered factor

通过 ordered 参数，让用户知道 factors 是经过精心排序的

```
( responses <- factor( c("Agree", "Agree", "Strongly Agree", "Disagree", "Disagree", "Agree"),
  ordered = T ) );
```

```
## [1] Agree          Agree          Strongly Agree Disagree          Disagree
## [6] Agree
## Levels: Agree < Disagree < Strongly Agree
```

```
is.ordered( responses );
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

通过 factor 改变值

使用 dplyr 包的 recode() 函数改变 value

```
( x <- factor( c( "alpha", "beta", "gamma", "theta", "beta", "alpha" ) ) );
```

```
## [1] alpha beta  gamma theta beta  alpha
## Levels: alpha beta gamma theta
```

```
## --
library( dplyr );
```

```
##
## Attaching package: 'dplyr'

## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
##      filter, lag
```

```
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
##      intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
```

```
x <- recode( x, "alpha" = "one", "beta" = "two" );
str(x);
```

```
## Factor w/ 4 levels "one","two","gamma",...: 1 2 3 4 2 1
```

去除不用的 levels

? 什么时候会用到:

```
mouse.genes <- read.delim( file = "data/talk04/mouse_genes_biomart_sep2018.txt",
                           sep = "\t", header = T, stringsAsFactors = T );

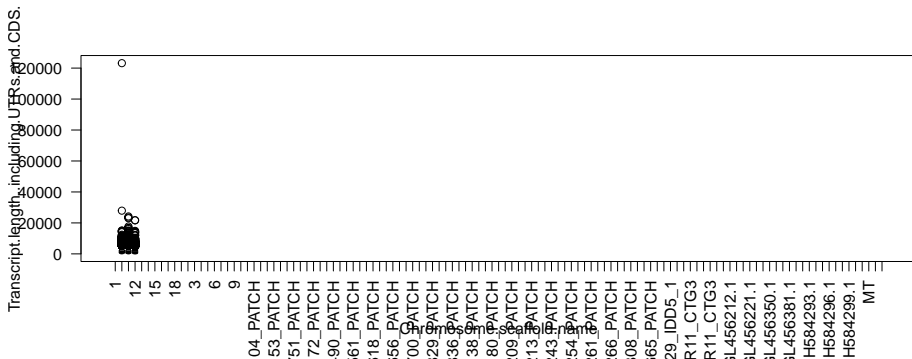
str(mouse.genes);
```

```
## 'data.frame':    138532 obs. of  6 variables:
## $ Gene.stable.ID          : Factor w/ 55029 levels "ENSMUSG000000000001",.
## $ Transcript.stable.ID    : Factor w/ 138532 levels "ENSMUST000000000001",
## $ Protein.stable.ID      : Factor w/ 65897 levels "", "ENSMUSP000000000001
## $ Transcript.length..including.UTRs.and.CDS.: int  67 67 1144 69 519 1824 71 59 67 1378 ..
## $ Transcript.type         : Factor w/ 48 levels "3prime_overlapping_ncRNA
## $ Chromosome.scaffold.name : Factor w/ 117 levels "1","10","11",...: 115 11
```

去除不用的 levels, cont.

```
mouse.chr_10_12 <- subset( mouse.genes, Chromosome.scaffold.name %in% c( "10", "11", "12" ) );
## plot length distribution --

boxplot( Transcript.length..including.UTRs.and.CDS. ~ Chromosome.scaffold.name,
         data = mouse.chr_10_12, las = 2 );
```



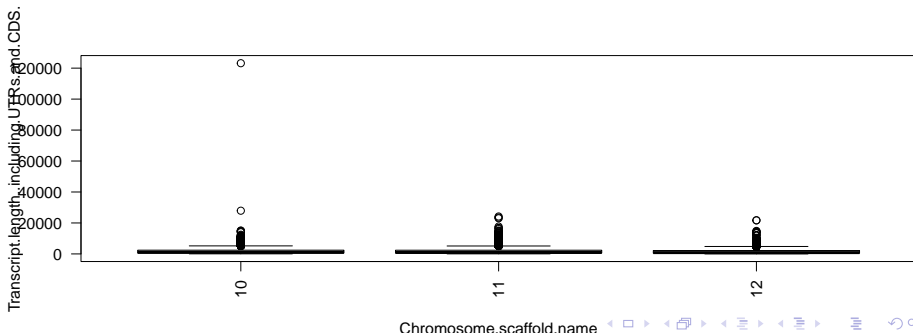
subset() 无法去除不用的 factors ...

去除不用的 levels, cont.

```
mouse.chr_10_12$Chromosome.scaffold.name <-  
  droplevels( mouse.chr_10_12$Chromosome.scaffold.name );  
  
levels( mouse.chr_10_12$Chromosome.scaffold.name );
```

```
## [1] "10" "11" "12"
```

```
## 再次 plot ...  
boxplot( Transcript.length..including.UTRs.and.CDS. ~ Chromosome.scaffold.name,  
  data = mouse.chr_10_12, las = 2 );
```



也可以使用 tibble，完全不用担心 factor 的问题 ...

```
library( readr );
mouse.tibble <- read_delim( file = "data/talk04/mouse_genes_biomart_sep2018.txt",
                             delim = "\t", quote = "" )

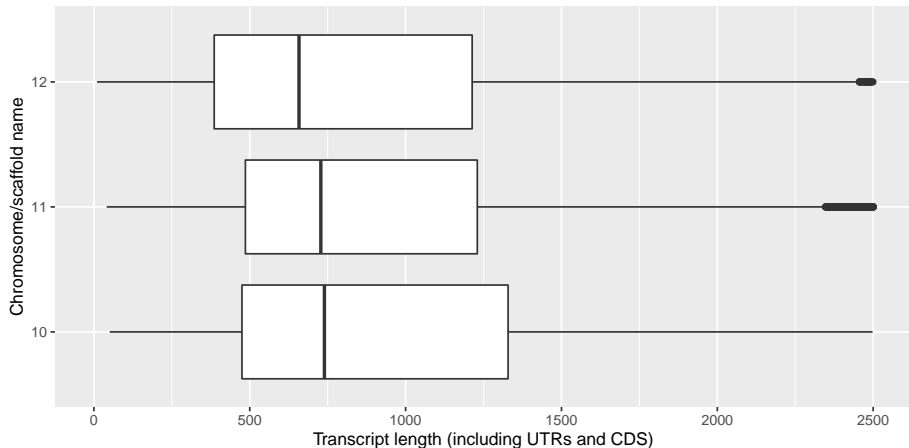
##
## -- Column specification -----
## cols(
##   `Gene stable ID` = col_character(),
##   `Transcript stable ID` = col_character(),
##   `Protein stable ID` = col_character(),
##   `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)` = col_double(),
##   `Transcript type` = col_character(),
##   `Chromosome/scaffold name` = col_character()
## )

mouse.tibble.chr10_12 <-
  mouse.tibble %>% filter( `Chromosome/scaffold name` %in% c( "10", "11", "12" ) );

plot3 <-
  ggplot( data = mouse.tibble.chr10_12,
          aes( x = `Chromosome/scaffold name`,
                y = `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)` ) ) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  coord_flip() +
  ylim( 0, 2500 ) ;
```

用 tibble 解决 factor 的问题, cont.

```
## Warning: Removed 4770 rows containing non-finite values (st
```



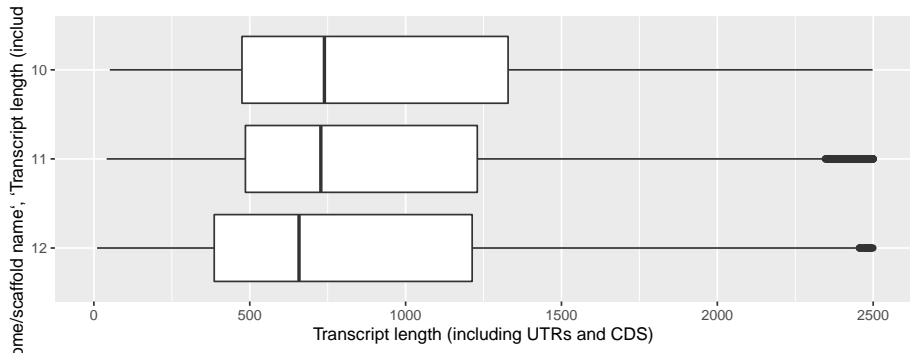
按基因长度中值从大 -> 小排序

```
plot4 <-
  ggplot( data = mouse.tibble.chr10_12,
    aes( x = reorder( `Chromosome/scaffold name`,
      `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)`,
      median ),
      y = `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)` ) ) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  coord_flip() +
  ylim( 0, 2500 ) ;
```

`reorder(vector_with_factor, numeric_value , FUN = mean)` 的用法

按基因长度中值从大 -> 小排序, cont.

Warning: Removed 4770 rows containing non-finite values (st



**** 注意 **** `reorder(`Chromosome/scaffold name`, - `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)`, median)` 的作用

按基因长度中值从大 -> 小排序, cont.

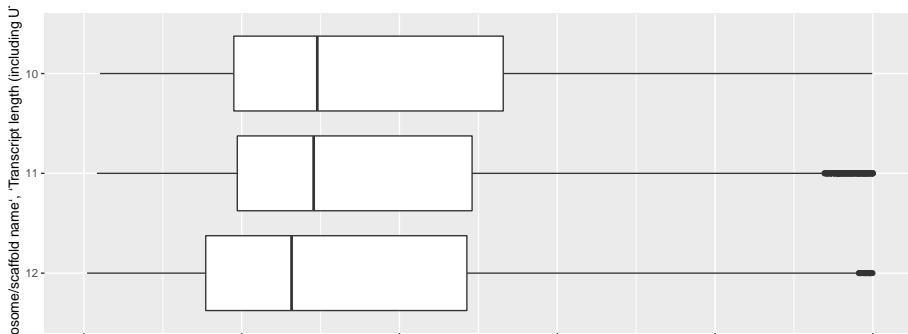
**** 问题 ****

- 1 如果要按小 -> 大的顺序排序呢 ? (`reorder(Chromosome/scaffold name, -Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)', median)`)
- 2 `reorder` 的作用是什么 ?? 只在 `ggplot2` 里有用吗 ??

use `forcats::fct_reorder` to reorder factors

```
ggplot( data = mouse.tibble.chr10_12,
  aes( x = fct_reorder( `Chromosome/scaffold name`,
    `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)`,
    median ),
    y = `Transcript length (including UTRs and CDS)` ) ) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  coord_flip() +
  ylim( 0, 2500 ) ;
```

Warning: Removed 4770 rows containing non-finite values (stat_boxplot).



play around with gss_cat: General Social Survey

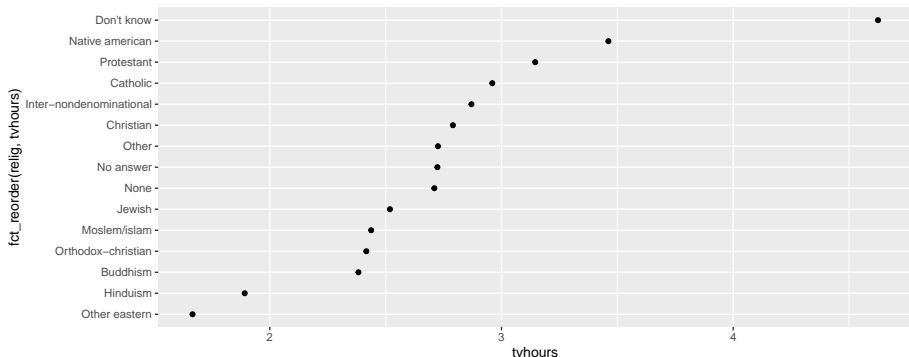
先看一下数据：

```
## # A tibble: 15 x 9
##   year marital    age race rincome partyid relig denom tvhours
##   <int> <fct>    <int> <fct> <fct>    <fct>    <fct>    <fct>    <int>
## 1 2000 Never ma~    26 White $8000 to ~ Ind,near r~ Protesta~ Souther~    12
## 2 2000 Divorced    48 White $8000 to ~ Not str re~ Protesta~ Baptist~    NA
## 3 2000 Widowed     67 White Not appli~ Independent Protesta~ No deno~     2
## 4 2000 Never ma~    39 White Not appli~ Ind,near r~ Orthodox~ Not app~     4
## 5 2000 Divorced    25 White Not appli~ Not str de~ None      Not app~     1
## 6 2000 Married     25 White $20000 - ~ Strong dem~ Protesta~ Souther~    NA
## 7 2000 Never ma~    36 White $25000 or~ Not str re~ Christian Not app~     3
## 8 2000 Divorced    44 White $7000 to ~ Ind,near d~ Protesta~ Luthera~    NA
## 9 2000 Married     44 White $25000 or~ Not str de~ Protesta~ Other      0
## 10 2000 Married     47 White $25000 or~ Strong rep~ Protesta~ Souther~     3
## 11 2000 Married     53 White $25000 or~ Not str de~ Protesta~ Other      2
## 12 2000 Married     52 White $25000 or~ Ind,near r~ None      Not app~    NA
## 13 2000 Married     52 White $25000 or~ Strong dem~ Protesta~ Souther~     1
## 14 2000 Married     51 White $25000 or~ Strong rep~ Protesta~ United ~    NA
## 15 2000 Divorced     52 White $25000 or~ Ind,near d~ None      Not app~     1
```

tv hours vs. religion

```
relig_summary <- gss_cat %>% group_by(relig) %>%
  summarise(
    age = mean(age, na.rm = TRUE),
    tvhours = mean(tvhours, na.rm = TRUE),
    n = n()
  )

ggplot(relig_summary, aes(tvhours, fct_reorder(relig, tvhours))) + geom_point()
```



section 4: 练习 & 作业

练习 & 作业

- Exercises and homework 目录下 talk04-homework.Rmd 文件;
- 完成时间: 见钉群的要求

小结

今次提要

- IO, project management, working environment management
- factor : R 另一个超级重要且难以上手的概念
 - 定义
 - 操作
 - 使用
- 基础和进阶绘图 (配合 factor 讲解)

下次预告

- data-wrangler: dplyr

important

- all codes are available at Github:
<https://github.com/evolgeniusteam/R-for-bioinformatics>