

R Objects & Programmatic Data Manipulation

Fundamental Techniques in Data Science



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Outline

R Objects & Data Types

- Vectors & Matrices
- Lists & Data Frames
- Factors

Data Manipulation

- Subsetting
- Transforming & Rearranging

Pipes

- The Basic Tidyverse Pipe: `%>%`
- Other Flavors of Pipe



R OBJECTS & DATA TYPES



Vectors

Vectors are the simplest kind of R object.

- There is no concept of a “scalar” in R.

Vectors come in one of six “atomic modes”:

- numeric/double
- logical
- character
- integer
- complex
- raw



Vectors

```
(v1 <- vector("numeric", 3))
```

```
[1] 0 0 0
```

```
(v2 <- vector("logical", 3))
```

```
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE
```

```
(v3 <- vector("character", 3))
```

```
[1] "" "" ""
```

```
(v4 <- vector("integer", 3))
```

```
[1] 0 0 0
```

```
(v5 <- vector("complex", 3))
```

```
[1] 0+0i 0+0i 0+0i
```

```
(v6 <- vector("raw", 3))
```

```
[1] 00 00 00
```

Generating Vectors

We have many ways of generating vectors.

```
(y1 <- c(1, 2, 3))
```

```
[1] 1 2 3
```

```
(y2 <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE, TRUE))
```

```
[1] TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE
```

```
(y3 <- c("bob", "suzy", "danny"))
```

```
[1] "bob" "suzy" "danny"
```

```
1:5
```

```
[1] 1 2 3 4 5
```

```
1.2:5.3
```

```
[1] 1.2 2.2 3.2 4.2 5.2
```

Generating Vectors

```
rep(33, 4)
```

```
[1] 33 33 33 33
```

```
rep(1:3, 3)
```

```
[1] 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3
```

```
rep(y3, each = 2)
```

```
[1] "bob"    "bob"    "suzy"   "suzy"   "danny"  "danny"
```

```
seq(0, 1, 0.25)
```

```
[1] 0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00
```

The Three Most Useful Data Types

Numeric

```
(a <- 1:5)
[1] 1 2 3 4 5
```

Character

```
(b <- c("foo", "bar"))
[1] "foo" "bar"
```

Logical

```
(c <- c(TRUE, FALSE))
[1] TRUE FALSE
```


Combining Data Types in Vectors

What happens if we try to concatenate different data types?

```
c(a, b)
```

```
[1] "1" "2" "3" "4" "5" "foo" "bar"
```

```
c(b, c)
```

```
[1] "foo" "bar" "TRUE" "FALSE"
```

```
c(a, c)
```

```
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 1 0
```

Matrices

Matrices generalize vectors by adding a dimension attribute.

```
(m1 <- matrix(a, nrow = 5, ncol = 2))
```

```
      [,1] [,2]  
[1,]    1    1  
[2,]    2    2  
[3,]    3    3  
[4,]    4    4  
[5,]    5    5
```

```
attributes(v1)
```

```
NULL
```

```
attributes(m1)
```

```
$dim  
[1] 5 2
```

Matrices

Matrices are populated in column-major order, by default.

```
(m2 <- matrix(1:9, 3, 3))
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]
[1,]	1	4	7
[2,]	2	5	8
[3,]	3	6	9

The `byrow = TRUE` option allows us to fill by row-major order.

```
(m3 <- matrix(1:9, 3, 3, byrow = TRUE))
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]
[1,]	1	2	3
[2,]	4	5	6
[3,]	7	8	9

Mixing Data Types in Matrices

Like vectors, matrices can only hold one type of data.

```
cbind(c, letters[1:5])
```

```
      c
[1,] "TRUE"  "a"
[2,] "FALSE" "b"
[3,] "TRUE"  "c"
[4,] "FALSE" "d"
[5,] "TRUE"  "e"
```

```
cbind(c, c(TRUE, TRUE, FALSE, FALSE, TRUE))
```

```
      c
[1,] TRUE TRUE
[2,] FALSE TRUE
[3,] TRUE FALSE
[4,] FALSE FALSE
[5,] TRUE TRUE
```

Lists

Lists are the workhorse of R data objects.

- An R list can hold an arbitrary set of other R objects.

We create lists using the `list()` function.

```
(l1 <- list(1, 2, 3))
```

```
[[1]]
```

```
[1] 1
```

```
[[2]]
```

```
[1] 2
```

```
[[3]]
```

```
[1] 3
```

Lists

```
(l2 <- list("bob", TRUE, 33, 42+3i))
```

```
[[1]]
```

```
[1] "bob"
```

```
[[2]]
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
[[3]]
```

```
[1] 33
```

```
[[4]]
```

```
[1] 42+3i
```

Lists

List elements have no default names, but we can define our own.

```
(l3 <- list(name = "bob",  
            alive = TRUE,  
            age = 33,  
            relationshipStatus = 42+3i)  
)  
  
$name  
[1] "bob"  
  
$alive  
[1] TRUE  
  
$age  
[1] 33  
  
$relationshipStatus  
[1] 42+3i
```

Lists

We can also assign post hoc names via the `names()` function.

```
names(l1) <- c("first", "second", "third")
l1

$first
[1] 1

$second
[1] 2

$third
[1] 3
```


Lists

We can append new elements onto an existing list.

```
(l4 <- list())  
  
list()  
  
l4$people <- c("Bob", "Alice", "Suzy")  
l4$money <- 0  
l4$logical <- FALSE  
l4  
  
$people  
[1] "Bob" "Alice" "Suzy"  
  
$money  
[1] 0  
  
$logical  
[1] FALSE
```

Lists

The elements inside a list don't really know that they live in a list; they'll pretty much behave as normal.

```
l4$money + 42
```

```
[1] 42
```

```
paste0("Hello, ", l4$people, "!\n") %>% cat()
```

```
Hello, Bob!
```

```
Hello, Alice!
```

```
Hello, Suzy!
```

Data Frames

Data frames are R's way of storing rectangular data sets.

- Each column of a data frame is a vector.
- Each of these vectors can have a different type.

We create data frames using the `data.frame()` function.

```
(d1 <- data.frame(1:6, c(-1, 1), seq(0.1, 0.6, 0.1)))
```

	X1.6	c..1..1.	seq.0.1..0.6..0.1.
1	1	-1	0.1
2	2	1	0.2
3	3	-1	0.3
4	4	1	0.4
5	5	-1	0.5
6	6	1	0.6

Data Frames

```
(d2 <- data.frame(x = 1:6, y = c(-1, 1), z = seq(0.1, 0.6, 0.1)))
```

	x	y	z
1	1	-1	0.1
2	2	1	0.2
3	3	-1	0.3
4	4	1	0.4
5	5	-1	0.5
6	6	1	0.6

Data Frames

```
(d3 <- data.frame(a = sample(c(TRUE, FALSE), 8, replace = TRUE),  
                 b = sample(c("foo", "bar"), 8, replace = TRUE),  
                 c = runif(8))  
)
```

	a	b	c
1	FALSE	bar	0.3218011
2	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
4	FALSE	foo	0.1928677
5	TRUE	bar	0.4708232
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596
7	FALSE	bar	0.6199154
8	TRUE	bar	0.2078104

Data Frames

```
(d4 <- data.frame(matrix(NA, 10, 3)))
```

	X1	X2	X3
1	NA	NA	NA
2	NA	NA	NA
3	NA	NA	NA
4	NA	NA	NA
5	NA	NA	NA
6	NA	NA	NA
7	NA	NA	NA
8	NA	NA	NA
9	NA	NA	NA
10	NA	NA	NA

Data Frames

Data frames are actually lists of vectors (representing the columns).

```
is.data.frame(d3)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
is.list(d3)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

Although they look like rectangular "matrices", from R's perspective a data frame IS NOT a matrix.

```
is.matrix(d3)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

Data Frames

We cannot treat a data frame like a matrix. E.g., matrix algebra doesn't work with data frames.

```
d1 %*% t(d2)
```

```
Error in d1 %*% t(d2): requires numeric/complex matrix/vector arguments
```

```
as.matrix(d1) %*% t(as.matrix(d2))
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	[,4]	[,5]	[,6]
[1,]	2.01	1.02	4.03	3.04	6.05	5.06
[2,]	1.02	5.04	5.06	9.08	9.10	13.12
[3,]	4.03	5.06	10.09	11.12	16.15	17.18
[4,]	3.04	9.08	11.12	17.16	19.20	25.24
[5,]	6.05	9.10	16.15	19.20	26.25	29.30
[6,]	5.06	13.12	17.18	25.24	29.30	37.36

Factors

Factors are R's way of representing nominal variables.

- We can create a factor using the `factor()` function.

```
(f1 <- factor(sample(1:3, 15, TRUE), labels = c("red", "yellow", "blue")))  
  
[1] yellow red    blue  yellow red    yellow blue   red  
[9] blue   blue  yellow red    red    red    yellow  
Levels: red yellow blue
```

Factors

Factors are integer vectors with a *levels* attribute and a *factor* class.

```
typeof(f1)

[1] "integer"

attributes(f1)

$levels
[1] "red"      "yellow" "blue"

$class
[1] "factor"
```

The levels are just group labels.

```
levels(f1)

[1] "red"      "yellow" "blue"
```

Factors

Even though a factor's data are represented by an integer vector, R does not consider factors to be integer/numeric data.

```
is.numeric(f1)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```
is.integer(f1)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

Factors represent nominal variables, so we cannot do math with factors.

```
f1 + 1
```

```
[1] NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
```

```
mean(f1)
```

```
[1] NA
```

DATA MANIPULATION



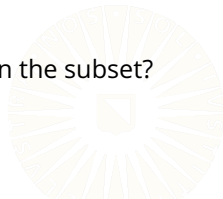
Base R Subsetting

In Base R, we typically use three operators to subset objects:

- `[]`
- `[[]]`
- `$`

Which of these operators we choose to use (and how we implement the chosen operator) will depend on two criteria:

- What type of object are we trying to subset?
- How much of the original typing do we want to keep in the subset?



Atomic Data Objects

To subset vectors and matrices, we can use either `[]` or `[[[]]` .

```
(x <- rnorm(8))
```

```
[1] 1.17766957 -0.16448325 0.94412165 2.07070102
```

```
[5] 1.10427674 0.39615080 -0.09361605 0.13621028
```

```
x[1:3]
```

```
[1] 1.1776696 -0.1644832 0.9441216
```

```
x[2]
```

```
[1] -0.1644832
```

```
x[c(2, 5, 7)]
```

```
[1] -0.16448325 1.10427674 -0.09361605
```

```
x[c(TRUE, FALSE)]
```

```
[1] 1.17766957 0.94412165 1.10427674 -0.09361605
```

Atomic Data Objects

The `[[]]` operator can only select a single element.

```
x[[2]]
```

```
[1] -0.1644832
```

```
x[[1:3]]
```

```
Error in x[[1:3]]: attempt to select more than one element in vectorIndex
```

Atomic Data Objects

To subset matrices, we need to differentiate the dimensions.

```
(y <- matrix(x, 6, 4))
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	[,4]
[1,]	1.1776696	-0.09361605	1.10427674	0.94412165
[2,]	-0.1644832	0.13621028	0.39615080	2.07070102
[3,]	0.9441216	1.17766957	-0.09361605	1.10427674
[4,]	2.0707010	-0.16448325	0.13621028	0.39615080
[5,]	1.1042767	0.94412165	1.17766957	-0.09361605
[6,]	0.3961508	2.07070102	-0.16448325	0.13621028

```
y[2, 2]
```

```
[1] 0.1362103
```

```
y[1:3, 1]
```

```
[1] 1.1776696 -0.1644832 0.9441216
```


Atomic Data Objects

We can select sub-matrices and mix different indexing styles.

```
y[1:2, c(2, 4)]
```

	[,1]	[,2]
[1,]	-0.09361605	0.9441216
[2,]	0.13621028	2.0707010

```
y[c(1:3, 5), c(FALSE, TRUE, TRUE, FALSE)]
```

	[,1]	[,2]
[1,]	-0.09361605	1.10427674
[2,]	0.13621028	0.39615080
[3,]	1.17766957	-0.09361605
[4,]	0.94412165	1.17766957

Atomic Data Objects

Leaving the rows or columns section empty will return all rows or columns, respectively.

```
y[ , 2]
```

```
[1] -0.09361605  0.13621028  1.17766957 -0.16448325  
[5]  0.94412165  2.07070102
```

```
y[2:5, ]
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	[,4]
[1,]	-0.1644832	0.1362103	0.39615080	2.07070102
[2,]	0.9441216	1.1776696	-0.09361605	1.10427674
[3,]	2.0707010	-0.1644832	0.13621028	0.39615080
[4,]	1.1042767	0.9441216	1.17766957	-0.09361605

Atomic Data Objects

The `[[]]` operator can still select only a single element.

```
y[[2, 2]]
```

```
[1] 0.1362103
```

```
y[[1:3, 2]]
```

```
Error in y[[1:3, 2]]: attempt to select more than one element in get1index
```

Lists

We can use all three operators to subset lists.

```
l4$people
```

```
[1] "Bob" "Alice" "Suzy"
```

```
l4[1]
```

```
$people
```

```
[1] "Bob" "Alice" "Suzy"
```

```
l4[["people"]]
```

```
[1] "Bob" "Alice" "Suzy"
```

Lists

As expected, we cannot select multiple list elements with `[[]]` .

```
l4[1:2]
```

```
$people
```

```
[1] "Bob"    "Alice"  "Suzy"
```

```
$money
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
l4[[1:2]]
```

```
[1] "Alice"
```

Lists

The relative behavior of `[]` and `[[[]]]` is more important for lists.

```
(tmp1 <- l4[1])  
  
$people  
[1] "Bob"    "Alice"  "Suzy"  
  
class(tmp1)  
[1] "list"  
  
(tmp2 <- l4[[1]])  
  
[1] "Bob"    "Alice"  "Suzy"  
  
class(tmp2)  
[1] "character"
```

Data Frames

We can subset the columns of a data frame using list semantics.

```
d3$a
```

```
[1] FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE FALSE TRUE
```

```
d3[1]
```

```
  a
```

```
1 FALSE
```

```
2 TRUE
```

```
3 TRUE
```

```
4 FALSE
```

```
5 TRUE
```

```
6 FALSE
```

```
7 FALSE
```

```
8 TRUE
```

Data Frames

```
d3["a"]
```

```
      a
```

```
1 FALSE
```

```
2  TRUE
```

```
3  TRUE
```

```
4 FALSE
```

```
5  TRUE
```

```
6 FALSE
```

```
7 FALSE
```

```
8  TRUE
```

```
d3[["a"]]
```

```
[1] FALSE  TRUE  TRUE FALSE  TRUE FALSE FALSE  TRUE
```


Data Frames

We can also use matrix-style subsetting.

```
d3[1:5, 1:2]
```

	a	b
1	FALSE	bar
2	TRUE	bar
3	TRUE	foo
4	FALSE	foo
5	TRUE	bar

```
d3[c(1, 3, 5, 7), letters[2:3]]
```

	b	c
1	bar	0.3218011
3	foo	0.8472829
5	bar	0.4708232
7	bar	0.6199154

Data Frames

The list-style subsetting can have advantages.

```
(tmp1 <- d3[ , 2])  
[1] "bar" "bar" "foo" "foo" "bar" "bar" "bar" "bar"  
  
(tmp2 <- d3[2])  
  
      b  
1 bar  
2 bar  
3 foo  
4 foo  
5 bar  
6 bar  
7 bar  
8 bar
```

Data Frames

Single columns are returned as $N \times 1$ data frames, rather than N -element vectors.

```
class(tmp1)
[1] "character"

class(tmp2)
[1] "data.frame"
```

Overwriting Values

We also use subsetting syntax to overwrite values in an R object.

```
x[2:3] <- NA
```

```
x
```

```
[1] 1.17766957      NA      NA 2.07070102  
[5] 1.10427674 0.39615080 -0.09361605 0.13621028
```

```
l4$people <- "None"
```

```
l4
```

```
$people  
[1] "None"
```

```
$money  
[1] 0
```

```
$logical  
[1] FALSE
```

Overwriting Values

```
y[1:3, 2:4] <- -1  
print(y, digits = 3)
```

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	[,4]
[1,]	1.178	-1.000	-1.000	-1.0000
[2,]	-0.164	-1.000	-1.000	-1.0000
[3,]	0.944	-1.000	-1.000	-1.0000
[4,]	2.071	-0.164	0.136	0.3962
[5,]	1.104	0.944	1.178	-0.0936
[6,]	0.396	2.071	-0.164	0.1362

```
d4 <- d3  
d4[1:2] <- rgamma(nrow(d4) * 2, 10)  
print(d4, digits = 3)
```

	a	b	c
1	9.99	11.53	0.322
2	10.35	10.23	0.511
3	16.20	5.39	0.847
4	16.81	8.01	0.193
5	15.30	8.24	0.471
6	12.66	8.96	0.270
7	9.95	10.17	0.620
8	11.74	12.88	0.208

Tidyverse Subsetting

The **dplyr** package provides many ways to subset data, but two functions are most frequently useful.

- `select()` : subset columns
- `filter()` : subset rows

```
library(dplyr)
```



Subsetting Columns: `select()`

The `dplyr::select()` function provides a very intuitive syntax for variable selection and column-wise subsetting.

```
select(d3, a, b)
```

	a	b
1	FALSE	bar
2	TRUE	bar
3	TRUE	foo
4	FALSE	foo
5	TRUE	bar
6	FALSE	bar
7	FALSE	bar
8	TRUE	bar

```
select(d3, -a)
```

	b	c
1	bar	0.3218011
2	bar	0.5110387
3	foo	0.8472829
4	foo	0.1928677
5	bar	0.4708232
6	bar	0.2701596
7	bar	0.6199154
8	bar	0.2078104

Subsetting Rows

The `dplyr::filter()` function provides easy row subsetting:

```
filter(d3, c > 0.5)
```

	a	b	c
1	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
2	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
3	FALSE	bar	0.6199154

```
filter(d3, c > 0.15, b == "foo")
```

	a	b	c
1	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
2	FALSE	foo	0.1928677

We can achieve the same effect via logical indexing in Base R:

```
d3[d3$c > 0.5, ]
```

	a	b	c
2	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
7	FALSE	bar	0.6199154

```
d3[d3$c > 0.15 & d3$b == "foo", ]
```

	a	b	c
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
4	FALSE	foo	0.1928677

Base R Variable Transformations

There is nothing very special about the process of transforming variables in Base R.

```
d4 <- d3
d4$d <- scale(d4$c)
d4$e <- !d4$a
d4
```

	a	b	c	d	e
1	FALSE	bar	0.3218011	-0.4771996	TRUE
2	TRUE	bar	0.5110387	0.3557774	FALSE
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829	1.8358417	FALSE
4	FALSE	foo	0.1928677	-1.0447329	TRUE
5	TRUE	bar	0.4708232	0.1787590	FALSE
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596	-0.7045129	TRUE
7	FALSE	bar	0.6199154	0.8350260	TRUE
8	TRUE	bar	0.2078104	-0.9789586	FALSE

```
d4 <- d3
d4$c <- scale(d4$c, scale = FALSE)
d4$a <- as.numeric(d4$a)
d4
```

	a	b	c
1	0	bar	-0.10841126
2	1	bar	0.08082628
3	1	foo	0.41707055
4	0	foo	-0.23734472
5	1	bar	0.04061085
6	0	bar	-0.16005280
7	0	bar	0.18970305
8	1	bar	-0.22240197

Tidyverse Variable Transformations

The `mutate()` function from **dplyr** is the workhorse of Tidyverse transformation functions.

```
mutate(d3, d = rbinom(nrow(d3), 1, c))
```

	a	b	c	d
1	FALSE	bar	0.3218011	0
2	TRUE	bar	0.5110387	1
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829	1
4	FALSE	foo	0.1928677	0
5	TRUE	bar	0.4708232	1
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596	0
7	FALSE	bar	0.6199154	1
8	TRUE	bar	0.2078104	0

```
mutate(d3,  
  d = rbinom(nrow(d3), 1, c),  
  e = d * c  
)
```

	a	b	c	d	e
1	FALSE	bar	0.3218011	1	0.3218011
2	TRUE	bar	0.5110387	0	0.0000000
3	TRUE	foo	0.8472829	1	0.8472829
4	FALSE	foo	0.1928677	0	0.0000000
5	TRUE	bar	0.4708232	1	0.4708232
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596	0	0.0000000
7	FALSE	bar	0.6199154	1	0.6199154
8	TRUE	bar	0.2078104	0	0.0000000

Sorting & Ordering

To sort a single vector, the best option is the Base R `sort()` function.

```
sort(d3$c)
```

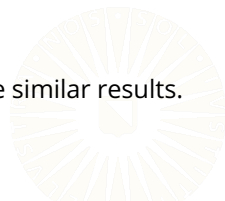
```
[1] 0.1928677 0.2078104 0.2701596 0.3218011 0.4708232  
[6] 0.5110387 0.6199154 0.8472829
```

```
sort(d3$c, decreasing = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 0.8472829 0.6199154 0.5110387 0.4708232 0.3218011  
[6] 0.2701596 0.2078104 0.1928677
```

To sort the rows of a data frame according to the order of one of its columns, the `dplyr::arrange()` works best.

- You can use the Base R `order()` function to achieve similar results.
- The behavior of `order()` is (extremely) unintuitive.



Tidyverse Ordering

Using `dplyr::arrange()` could not be simpler.

```
arrange(d3, a)
```

	a	b	c
1	FALSE	bar	0.3218011
2	FALSE	foo	0.1928677
3	FALSE	bar	0.2701596
4	FALSE	bar	0.6199154
5	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
6	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
7	TRUE	bar	0.4708232
8	TRUE	bar	0.2078104

```
arrange(d3, -c)
```

	a	b	c
1	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
2	FALSE	bar	0.6199154
3	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
4	TRUE	bar	0.4708232
5	FALSE	bar	0.3218011
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596
7	TRUE	bar	0.2078104
8	FALSE	foo	0.1928677

```
arrange(d3, -a, c)
```

	a	b	c
1	TRUE	bar	0.2078104
2	TRUE	bar	0.4708232
3	TRUE	bar	0.5110387
4	TRUE	foo	0.8472829
5	FALSE	foo	0.1928677
6	FALSE	bar	0.2701596
7	FALSE	bar	0.3218011
8	FALSE	bar	0.6199154

PIPES



What are pipes?

The %>% symbol represents the *pipe* operator.

- We use the pipe operator to compose functions into a *pipeline*.

The following code represents a pipeline.

```
firstBoys <-  
  read_sav("../data/boys.sav") %>%  
  head()
```

This pipeline replaces the following code.

```
firstBoys <- head(read_sav("../data/boys.sav"))
```

Why are pipes useful?

Let's assume that we want to:

1. Load data
2. Transform a variable
3. Filter cases
4. Select columns

Without a pipe, we may do something like this:

```
library(haven)
library(dplyr)

boys <- read_sav("../data/boys.sav")
boys <- transform(boys, hgt = hgt / 100)
boys <- filter(boys, age > 15)
boys <- subset(boys, select = c(hgt, wgt, bmi))
```

Why are pipes useful?

With the pipe, we could do something like this:

```
library(haven)
library(dplyr)

boys <-
  read_sav("../data/boys.sav") %>%
  transform(hgt = hgt / 100) %>%
  filter(age > 15) %>%
  subset(select = c(hgt, wgt, bmi))
```

With a pipeline, our code more clearly represents the sequence of steps in our analysis.

Benefits of Pipes

When you use pipes, your code becomes more readable.

- Operations are structured from left to right instead of in to out.
- You can avoid many nested function calls.
- You don't have to keep track of intermediate objects.
- It's easy to add steps to the sequence.

In RStudio, you can use a keyboard shortcut to insert the `%>%` symbol.

- Windows/Linux: *ctrl + shift + m*
- Mac: *cmd + shift + m*



What do pipes do?

Pipes compose R functions without nesting.

- `f(x)` becomes `x %>% f()`

```
mean(rnorm(10))
```

```
[1] 0.05223587
```

```
rnorm(10) %>% mean()
```

```
[1] 0.04802827
```

What do pipes do?

Multiple function arguments are fine.

- `f(x, y)` becomes `x %>% f(y)`

```
cor(boys, use = "pairwise.complete.obs")
```

	hgt	wgt	bmi
hgt	1.0000000	0.6100784	0.1758781
wgt	0.6100784	1.0000000	0.8841304
bmi	0.1758781	0.8841304	1.0000000

```
boys %>% cor(use = "pairwise.complete.obs")
```

	hgt	wgt	bmi
hgt	1.0000000	0.6100784	0.1758781
wgt	0.6100784	1.0000000	0.8841304
bmi	0.1758781	0.8841304	1.0000000

What do pipes do?

Composing more than two functions is easy, too.

- `h(g(f(x)))` becomes `x %>% f %>% g %>% h`

```
max(na.omit(subset(boys, select = wgt)))
```

```
[1] 117.4
```

```
boys %>%
```

```
  subset(select = wgt) %>%
```

```
  na.omit() %>%
```

```
  max()
```

```
[1] 117.4
```

The Role of `.` in a Pipeline

In the expression `a %>% f(arg1, arg2, arg3)`, `a` will be "piped into" `f()` as `arg1`.

```
data(cats, package = "MASS")  
cats %>% plot(Hwt ~ Bwt)
```

```
Error in text.default(x, y, txt, cex = cex, font = font): invalid  
mathematical annotation
```

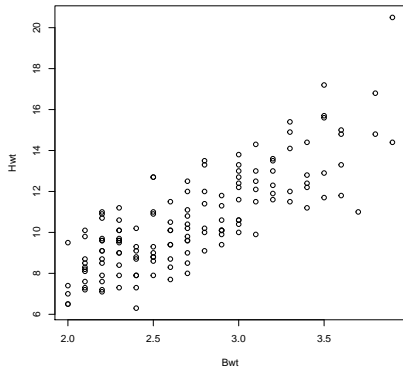
Clearly, we have a problem if we pipe our data into the wrong argument.

- We can change this behavior with the `.` symbol.
- The `.` symbol acts as a placeholder for the data in a pipeline.



The Role of `.` in a Pipeline

```
cats %>% plot(Hwt ~ Bwt, data = .)
```

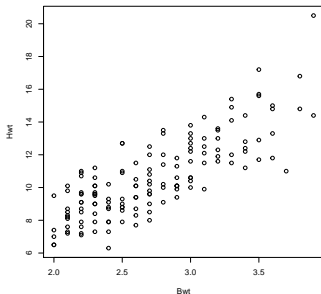


Exposition Pipe: %\$%

There are several different flavors of pipe. The *exposition pipe*, %\$%, is a particularly useful variant.

- The exposition pipe *exposes* the contents of an object to the next function in the pipeline.

```
cats %$% plot(Hwt ~ Bwt)
```



Performing a T-Test in a Pipeline

```
cats %$% t.test(Hwt ~ Sex)
```

Welch Two Sample t-test

data: Hwt by Sex

t = -6.5179, df = 140.61, p-value = 1.186e-09

alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:

-2.763753 -1.477352

sample estimates:

mean in group F mean in group M

9.202128

11.322680

The above is equivalent to either of the following.

```
cats %>% t.test(Hwt ~ Sex, data = .)
```

```
t.test(Hwt ~ Sex, data = cats)
```


Storing the Results

We can use normal assignment to save the result of a pipeline.

```
tomcatSummary <- cats %>%  
  filter(Sex == "M") %>%  
  select(-Sex) %>%  
  summary()
```

tomcatSummary

	Bwt	Hwt
Min.	:2.0	Min. : 6.50
1st Qu.:	2.5	1st Qu.: 9.40
Median :	2.9	Median :11.40
Mean :	2.9	Mean :11.32
3rd Qu.:	3.2	3rd Qu.:12.80
Max. :	3.9	Max. :20.50

Assignment Pipe: %<>%

We can use normal assignment to overwrite an object with the result of a pipeline originating from that object.

```
summary(cats)
```

Sex	Bwt	Hwt
F:47	Min. :2.000	Min. : 6.30
M:97	1st Qu.:2.300	1st Qu.: 8.95
	Median :2.700	Median :10.10
	Mean :2.724	Mean :10.63
	3rd Qu.:3.025	3rd Qu.:12.12
	Max. :3.900	Max. :20.50

Assignment Pipe: %<>%

```
cats <- cats %>%  
  filter(Sex == "M") %>%  
  select(-Sex)
```

```
summary(cats)
```

Bwt		Hwt	
Min.	:2.0	Min.	: 6.50
1st Qu.	:2.5	1st Qu.	: 9.40
Median	:2.9	Median	:11.40
Mean	:2.9	Mean	:11.32
3rd Qu.	:3.2	3rd Qu.	:12.80
Max.	:3.9	Max.	:20.50

Assignment Pipe: %<>%

The *assignment pipe*, %<>%, provides a more elegant syntax.

```
data(cats, package = "MASS")  
  
cats %<>% filter(Sex == "M") %>% select(-Sex)  
  
summary(cats)
```

	Bwt		Hwt
Min.	:2.0	Min.	: 6.50
1st Qu.	:2.5	1st Qu.	: 9.40
Median	:2.9	Median	:11.40
Mean	:2.9	Mean	:11.32
3rd Qu.	:3.2	3rd Qu.	:12.80
Max.	:3.9	Max.	:20.50