Jeffrey Leek

May 18, 2016

The data frame is a key data structure in statistics and in R.

- There is one observation per row
- ► Each column represents a variable or measure or characteristic
- Primary implementation that you will use is the default R implementation
- Other implementations, particularly relational databases systems

- Developed by Hadley Wickham of RStudio
- An optimized and distilled version of plyr package (also by Hadley)
- Does not provide any "new" functionality per se, but greatly simplifies existing functionality in R
- Provides a "grammar" (in particular, verbs) for data manipulation
- ▶ Is **very** fast, as many key operations are coded in C++

dplyr Verbs

- select: return a subset of the columns of a data frame
- ▶ filter: extract a subset of rows from a data frame based on logical conditions
- arrange: reorder rows of a data frame
- rename: rename variables in a data frame
- mutate: add new variables/columns or transform existing variables
- summarise / summarize: generate summary statistics of different variables in the data frame, possibly within strata

There is also a handy print method that prevents you from printing a lot of data to the console.

dplyr Properties

- ▶ The first argument is a data frame.
- The subsequent arguments describe what to do with it, and you can refer to columns in the data frame directly without using the \$ operator (just use the names).
- The result is a new data frame
- Data frames must be properly formatted and annotated for this to all be useful

Load the dplyr package

This step is important!

```
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
```

select

```
chicago <- readRDS("chicago.rds")
dim(chicago)</pre>
```

[1] 6940 8

```
head(select(chicago, 1:5))
```

```
## city tmpd dptp date pm25tmean2
## 1 chic 31.5 31.500 1987-01-01 NA
## 2 chic 33.0 29.875 1987-01-02 NA
## 3 chic 33.0 27.375 1987-01-03 NA
## 4 chic 29.0 28.625 1987-01-04 NA
## 5 chic 32.0 28.875 1987-01-05 NA
## 6 chic 40.0 35.125 1987-01-06 NA
```

select

```
names(chicago)[1:3]
## [1] "city" "tmpd" "dptp"
head(select(chicago, city:dptp))
## city tmpd dptp
## 1 chic 31.5 31.500
## 2 chic 33.0 29.875
## 3 chic 33.0 27.375
## 4 chic 29.0 28.625
## 5 chic 32.0 28.875
## 6 chic 40.0 35.125
```

select

In dplyr you can do

```
head(select(chicago, -(city:dptp)))
```

Equivalent base R

```
i <- match("city", names(chicago))
j <- match("dptp", names(chicago))
head(chicago[, -(i:j)])</pre>
```

filter

```
chic.f <- filter(chicago, pm25tmean2 > 30)
head(select(chic.f, 1:3, pm25tmean2), 10)
```

```
##
     city tmpd dptp pm25tmean2
## 1
    chic 23 21.9
                      38.10
## 2 chic 28 25.8
                      33.95
## 3 chic 55 51.3
                      39.40
## 4
    chic 59 53.7
                     35.40
## 5 chic 57 52.0
                     33.30
## 6 chic 57 56.0
                      32.10
## 7 chic 75 65.8
                      56.50
## 8 chic 61 59.0
                      33.80
## 9
    chic 73 60.3
                      30.30
## 10 chic
         78 67.1
                      41.40
```

filter

```
chic.f <- filter(chicago, pm25tmean2 > 30 & tmpd > 80)
head(select(chic.f, 1:3, pm25tmean2, tmpd), 10)
```

```
##
     city tmpd dptp pm25tmean2
## 1
    chic 81 71.2
                    39,6000
    chic 81 70.4
                    31.5000
## 2
    chic 82 72.2
                    32,3000
## 3
    chic 84 72.9
                    43,7000
## 4
## 5 chic 85 72.6
                    38.8375
## 6
    chic 84 72.6
                    38,2000
## 7 chic 82 67.4
                    33,0000
## 8 chic 82 63.5
                    42,5000
## 9
    chic 81 70.4
                    33,1000
## 10 chic
          82 66.2
                    38.8500
```

arrange

Reordering rows of a data frame (while preserving corresponding order of other columns) is normally a pain to do in R.

```
tail(select(chicago, date, pm25tmean2), 3)
```

```
## date pm25tmean2
## 6938 2005-12-29 7.45000
## 6939 2005-12-30 15.05714
## 6940 2005-12-31 15.00000
```

arrange

Columns can be arranged in descending order too.

```
chicago <- arrange(chicago, desc(date))</pre>
head(select(chicago, date, pm25tmean2), 3)
##
          date pm25tmean2
## 1 2005-12-31 15.00000
## 2 2005-12-30 15.05714
## 3 2005-12-29 7.45000
tail(select(chicago, date, pm25tmean2), 3)
```

```
## date pm25tmean2
## 6938 1987-01-03 NA
## 6939 1987-01-02 NA
## 6940 1987-01-01 NA
```

rename

Renaming a variable in a data frame in R is surprising hard to do!

```
head(chicago[, 1:5], 3)
## city tmpd dptp date pm25tmean2
## 1 chic 35 30.1 2005-12-31 15.00000
## 2 chic 36 31.0 2005-12-30 15.05714
## 3 chic 35 29.4 2005-12-29 7.45000
chicago <- rename(chicago, dewpoint = dptp,
                pm25 = pm25tmean2)
head(chicago[, 1:5], 3)
```

```
## city tmpd dewpoint date pm25
## 1 chic 35 30.1 2005-12-31 15.00000
## 2 chic 36 31.0 2005-12-30 15.05714
## 3 chic 35 29.4 2005-12-29 7.45000
```



mutate

```
chicago <- mutate(chicago,</pre>
                 pm25detrend=pm25-mean(pm25, na.rm=TRUE))
head(select(chicago, pm25, pm25detrend))
        pm25 pm25detrend
##
## 1 15.00000 -1.230958
## 2 15.05714 -1.173815
## 3 7.45000 -8.780958
## 4 17.75000
             1.519042
## 5 23.56000
             7.329042
## 6 8.40000 -7.830958
```

group_by

Generating summary statistics by stratum

```
## Source: local data frame [3 x 4]
##
## tempcat pm25 o3 no2
## (fctr) (dbl) (dbl) (dbl)
## 1 cold 15.97807 66.587500 24.54924
## 2 hot 26.48118 62.969656 24.93870
## 3 NA 47.73750 9.416667 37.44444
```

group_by

Generating summary statistics by stratum

Source: local data frame [19 x 4]

```
##
##
     year
             pm25 o3
                            no2
     (dbl)
             (dbl) (dbl) (dbl)
##
## 1 1987
              NaN 62.96966 23.49369
## 2 1988
              NaN 61.67708 24.52296
## 3 1989
              NaN 59.72727 26.14062
## 4 1990
              NaN 52.22917 22.59583
## 5 1991
              NaN 63.10417 21.38194
                                ト 4 個 ト 4 差 ト 4 差 ト 差 め 9 0 0 0
```

```
%>%
```

```
## Source: local data frame [12 x 4]
##
##
    month
          pm25 o3
                             no2
##
     (dbl) (dbl) (dbl)
        1 17.76996 28.22222 25.35417
## 1
## 2
        2 20.37513 37.37500 26.78034
## 3
        3 17.40818 39.05000 26.76984
## 4
        4 13.85879 47.94907 25.03125
        5 14.07420 52.75000 24.22222
## 5
        6 15.86461 66.58750 25.01140
## 6
## 7
        7 16.57087 59.54167 22.38442
        ## 8
```

Once you learn the dplyr "grammar" there are a few additional benefits

- dplyr can work with other data frame "backends"
- data.table for large fast tables
- ► SQL interface for relational databases via the DBI package