

Data Manipulation

The dplyr way

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Motivation

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- First names given to newborns along years (*par départements français*)
- Link to `dpt2015_txt.zip` (12.24Mb, zipped – 85Mb pure text)
 - It has 3405312 rows, 5 variables

Some questions that may arise

- 1 First name frequency evolves along time?
- 2 What can we say about “ *Your name here* ” (for each state, FR)?
- 3 Is there some sort of geographical correlation with the data?
- 4 Which state has a larger variety of names along time?

What would be your approach to tackle this?

- Need to manipulate data in a reproducible manner
- Leading to well elaborated plots for data interpretation

The dplyr R package (part of tidyverse)

Set of functions (called **verbs**) to perform common data manipulation

- Requirements: tidy data (columns are variables, rows are observations)
- With magrittr (the pipe operator `%>%`), it becomes a true workflow
 - Pipelining data manipulation

These are the basic verbs

- `select()`: select columns
- `filter()`: filter rows
- `arrange()`: reorder rows
- `mutate()`: create new columns
- `summarize()`: summarize values
- `group_by()`: group operations using *split-apply-combine*

Let's see them in action now → TD5.Rmd

References

Books/articles

- R for Data Science, by Garrett Golemund and Hadley Wickham
 - Chapter 5 on Data transformation
- Tidy Data, by Hadley Wickham
 - See Section 2, or check directly the Table 3
- The Split-Apply-Combine Strategy for Data Analysis, by H Wickham
 - See Figures 4 and 7 (note that the paper uses an old version of dplyr)

Tutorials

- Introduction to dplyr 2016-06-23

Tools/packages

- magrittr
- dplyr