Starting with data frames

Data analysis and visualization in R UC Merced

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last time

- we setup a project and its file structure
- we started using R inside RStudio
- we created numerical, character and logical vectors with c()
- we learned to subset vectors with brackets [] and other functions: length(),:,
 seq(from, to, interval)
- vector subset can be done via numeric or logical indexes

data structures in R

- **vector**: lineal arrays (one dimension: only length)
- matrices: arrays of vectors of the same type (all numeric or all character, for instance) (two dimensions: width and length)
- data frames: two-dimensional structures ("rectangular") but might be of combined types (i.e., column 1 with names, column 2 with numbers)
- factors: vectors (one-dimensional) representing categorical variables and thus having levels
- **lists**: literally lists, of objects that can be of any type (a list of data frames, or different objects)
- arrays are similar to matrices and dataframes but may be three-dimensional ("layered" data frames)

data have to be of the same type

```
?matrix
matrix(nrow = 4, ncol = 3)
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
##
  [1,]
       NA
             NA
                  NA
## [2,]
       NA
             NA
                  NA
  [3,]
##
       NA
             NA
                 NA
## [4,]
        NA
             NA
                  NA
```

you can also fit vectors with the correct dimensions

```
nums <- 1:12
matrix(data = nums, nrow = 3)
matrix(data = nums, nrow = 3, byrow = TRUE)</pre>
```

• naming a matrix: NULL or a list of length 2 giving the row and column names respectively. (?) look at the examples!

 you can convert easily between data types data.frame("m"), as.data.frame("m"), as.vector(m). (the same goes for changes between "numeric", "logical")

starting with data frames

the survey dataset

• Data frames: one row per sampling unit (individual), one column per variable

| Column | Description |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| record_id | Unique id for the observation |
| month | month of observation |
| day | day of observation |
| year | year of observation |
| plot_id | ID of a particular plot |
| species_id | 2-letter code |
| sex | sex of animal ("M", "F") |
| hindfoot_length | length of the hindfoot in mm |
| weight | weight of the animal in grams |
| genus | genus of animal |
| species | species of animal |
| taxon | e.g. Rodent, Reptile, Bird, Rabbit |
| plot_type | type of plot |

downloading the dataset

We are going to download the file to our ./data/raw sub folder:

reading files into R

Functions to read data are key to any project. for data frames: read.csv(), read.delim()

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

reading files into R

- Package readr
- Package data.table (data.table::fread()) when you need to open a large file
- Excel spreadsheets: readxl::read_excel()
- Graphic interface

There are **many other ways** to read data into R, some are specific for the type of data (GIS shapefiles or raster, and specific packages may come with their own reader functions)

inspecting data.frame objects

```
str(surveys)
dim(surveys)
nrow(surveys)
ncol(surveys)
head(surveys) # 6 rows by default
tail(surveys)
names(surveys)
rownames(surveys)
length(surveys) # number of columns
summary(surveys)
```

inspecting data. frame objects

Based on the output of str(surveys), can you answer the following questions?

- What is the class of the object surveys?
- How many rows and how many columns are in this object?
- What is the type of data of the columns?

indexing and subsetting data frames

- a vector has only one dimension, so:
 - length() refers to number of elements
 - o dim()
 - selection between brackets []
- a data.frame has two dimensions: dim(), ncol(), nrow() selection between brackets []
 BUT with the two dimensions separated by a comma: [rows, columns]
- we'll try to refer to these operations as selecting columns and filtering rows

selecting columns

with numeric indexes and vectors

```
surveys[, 6]
surveys[1, ]
surveys[, 13]
surveys[4, 13]
surveys[1:4, 1:3]
```

indexing and subsetting data frames

• minus sign to **remove** the indexed column or row

```
# The whole data frame, except the first column
surveys[, -1]
nrow(surveys)
surveys[-(7:34786), ] # Equivalent to head(surveys)
```

selecting columns by name

```
names(surveys)

surveys["species_id"]  # Result is a data.frame
surveys[["species_id"]]  # Result is a vector
surveys[, "species_id"]  # Result is a vector
surveys$species_id  # Result is a vector
```

R has several ways to do some things

indexing and subsetting data frames

```
sub <- surveys[1:10,]</pre>
# first element in the first column of the data frame
# first element in the 6th column
# first column of the data frame (as a vector)
# first column of the data frame (as a dataframe)
# first three elements in the 7th column (as a vector)
# the 3rd row of the data frame
# equivalent to head_surveys <- head(surveys)</pre>
```

indexing and subsetting data frames

```
sub <- surveys[1:10,]</pre>
# first element in the first column of the data frame
sub[1, 1]
# first element in the 6th column
sub[1, 6]
# first column of the data frame (as a vector)
sub[, 1]
# first column of the data frame (as a dataframe)
sub[1]
# first three elements in the 7th column (as a vector)
sub[1:3, 7]
# the 3rd row of the data frame
sub[3, ]
# equivalent to head_surveys <- head(surveys)</pre>
head surveys <- surveys[1:6, ]
```

challenge

- Create a data.frame (surveys_200) containing only the data in row 200 of the surveys dataset
- Notice how nrow() gave you the number of rows in a data.frame? Use that number to pull out just that last row in the data frame
- Compare that with what you see as the last row using tail() to make sure it's meeting expectations
- Pull out that last row using nrow() instead of the row number.
- Create a new data frame (surveys_last) from that last row.
- Use nrow() to extract the row that is in the middle of the data frame. Store the content of this row in an object named surveys_middle.
- Combine nrow() with the notation above to reproduce the behavior of head(surveys), keeping just the first through 6th rows of the surveys dataset.

dealing with missing data

```
sub <- surveys[1:10,]
#str(sub)
sub$hindfoot_length
sub$hindfoot_length == NA #it cannot compare! because it's NA
#we use is.na:
#is.na(sub$hindfoot_length) # yes! returns a logical vector
sub$hindfoot[!is.na(sub$hindfoot_length)]</pre>
```

dealing with missing data

• in some functions: na.rm

```
mean(sub$hindfoot_length)

## [1] NA

mean(sub$hindfoot_length, na.rm = T)

## [1] 31.5
```

dealing with missing data

• Dealing with missing data in dataframes: **filtering rows that have NAs**

```
non_NA_w <- surveys[!is.na(surveys$weight),]</pre>
 dim(non NA w)
## [1] 32283
                 13
 non_NA <- surveys[!is.na(surveys$weight) &</pre>
                       !is.na(surveys$hindfoot_length),]
 dim(non_NA)
                 13
## [1] 30738
```

dealing with NAs

```
#complete.cases(surveys)
 surveys1 <- surveys[complete.cases(surveys) , ]</pre>
 surveys2 <- na.omit(surveys)</pre>
 dim(surveys1)
## [1] 30738
               13
 dim(surveys2)
## [1] 30738
                 13
```

write csv objects to disk

```
if (!dir.exists("data/processed")) dir.create("data/processed", recursive write.csv(surveys1, "data/processed/surveys_mod.csv")
```

remember you never overwrite your original, raw data!

read the modified csv

```
surveys <- read.csv("data/processed/surveys_mod.csv")
str(surveys)</pre>
```

factors

- factors: vectors (one-dimensional) representing categorical variables and thus having levels. ordered (c("low", "medium", "high") or unordered (c("green", "blue", "red"))
- R < 4.0 had a default behavior stringsAsFactors = TRUE so any character column
 was transformed into a factor

```
`?read.csv()`
?default.stringsAsFactors
```

today if we want factors we have to transform the vectors

factors

factors

Convert the column "plot_type" and "sex" into a factor:

```
surveys$plot_type <- factor(surveys$plot_type)
surveys$sex <- factor(surveys$sex)</pre>
```

(actually this is a way to create new columns)

working with factors

```
sex <- factor(c("male", "female", "female", "male"))
levels(sex) # in alphabetical order!
nlevels(sex)
sex
sex <- factor(sex, levels = c("male", "female"))
sex # after re-ordering
as.character(sex)</pre>
```

let's make a plot of a factor variable

```
plot(as.factor(surveys$sex))
```

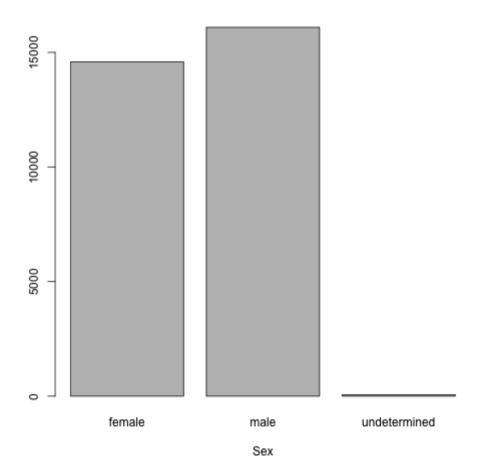
let's rename this label

let's make a plot of a factor variable

plot(sex)

let's rename this label

challenge



- Rename "F" and "M" to "female" and "male" respectively.
- Now that we have renamed the factor level to "undetermined", can you recreate the barplot such that "undetermined" is last (after "male")?

some basic plotting

```
plot(surveys$hindfoot_length)
plot(surveys$weight)
plot(sort(surveys$hindfoot_length))
plot(sort(surveys$weight))
```

scatterplots

two continuous variables

```
x <- surveys$weight
y <- surveys$hindfoot_length
plot(x, y)
#but you can also avoid creating the vectors
plot(surveys$weight, surveys$hindfoot_length) #check the help for param</pre>
```

boxplots

```
head(surveys$plot_type)
levels(surveys$plot_type)
```

boxplots

```
plot(surveys$weight ~ surveys$plot_type)
```

• check the **tilde** ~ notation, formula: "as a function of"

```
plot(a ~ b) plot(b, a)
```

plotting basics

all parameters for plotting are in function par()

```
plot(x, y)
plot(x, y, xlab = "Hindfoot length", ylab = "Weight", cex = 0.9, pch =
plot(x, y, xlab = "Hindfoot length", ylab = "Weight", cex = 0.9, pch =
plot(x, y, xlab = "Hindfoot length", ylab = "Weight", cex = 0.9, pch =
```

- pch, cex, xlab, ylab,
- saving a plot!

¡Thanks!

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