

Basics of Data Frames

STAT 133

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Data Frames

Data Frame

A `data.frame` is the primary data structure that R provides for handling tabular data sets (eg spreadsheet like).

Function `data.frame()`

The `data.frame()` function allows us to create data frames

Creating a Data Frame

```
# data frame  
df <- data.frame(  
  name = c('Anakin', 'Padme', 'Luke', 'Leia'),  
  gender = c('male', 'female', 'male', 'female'),  
  height = c(1.88, 1.65, 1.72, 1.50),  
  weight = c(84, 45, 77, 49)  
)
```

by default, `data.frame()` converts strings into factors

Simple data frame df

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84
## 2 Padme  female   1.65     45
## 3 Luke    male   1.72     77
## 4 Leia   female   1.50     49
```

Inspecting Data Frames

- ▶ dimensions (number of rows and columns)
- ▶ type of data in each column
- ▶ row names and column names
- ▶ missing data
- ▶ overall summary of each variable

Overall structure

A summary of the structure can be obtained with `str()`

```
# structure of a data frame  
str(df)  
  
## 'data.frame': 4 obs. of 4 variables:  
## $ name : Factor w/ 4 levels "Anakin","Leia",...: 1 4 3 2  
## $ gender: Factor w/ 2 levels "female","male": 2 1 2 1  
## $ height: num 1.88 1.65 1.72 1.5  
## $ weight: num 84 45 77 49
```

Function `str()`

`str()` applied on data frames provides:

- ▶ number of rows
- ▶ number of variables
- ▶ name of each column
- ▶ mode (i.e. type) of each column (e.g. num, int, chr, factor)
- ▶ number of levels for factor variables

`str()` is good for visual inspection, but doesn't give you direct access to the displayed information.

Basic Information of Data Frames

| Function | Description |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <code>dim()</code> | dimensions (rows and columns) |
| <code>nrow()</code> | number of rows |
| <code>ncol()</code> | number of columns |
| <code>names()</code> | name of columns |
| <code>colnames()</code> | name of columns |
| <code>rownames()</code> | names of rows |
| <code>dimnames()</code> | list with names of rows and columns |

Basic Information of Data Frames

```
dim(df) # dimensions in a two element vector
```

```
## [1] 4 4
```

```
nrow(df)
```

```
## [1] 4
```

```
ncol(df)
```

```
## [1] 4
```

Basic Information of Data Frames

```
colnames(df)
```

```
## [1] "name" "gender" "height" "weight"
```

```
rownames(df)
```

```
## [1] "1" "2" "3" "4"
```

```
dimnames(df) # names in a list
```

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

```
## [1] "1" "2" "3" "4"
```

```
##
```

```
## [[2]]
```

```
## [1] "name" "gender" "height" "weight"
```

Function `object.size()`

To know how much memory space is allocated for a data frame (or any other R object) we use `object.size()`

```
object.size(df)
```

```
## 2136 bytes
```

Functions head() and tail

Inspect the first and last rows, respectively:

```
# first 3 rows
```

```
head(df, n = 3)
```

```
##      name gender height weight
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45
## 3  Luke   male   1.72     77
```

```
# last 2 rows
```

```
tail(df, n = 2)
```

```
##      name gender height weight
## 3 Luke   male   1.72     77
## 4 Leia female   1.50     49
```

Function summary()

There's also the function `summary()`, which provides a descriptive summary of each column

```
summary(df)
```

| ## | name | gender | height | weight |
|----|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| ## | Anakin:1 | female:2 | Min. :1.500 | Min. :45.00 |
| ## | Leia :1 | male :2 | 1st Qu.:1.613 | 1st Qu.:48.00 |
| ## | Luke :1 | | Median :1.685 | Median :63.00 |
| ## | Padme :1 | | Mean :1.688 | Mean :63.75 |
| ## | | | 3rd Qu.:1.760 | 3rd Qu.:78.75 |
| ## | | | Max. :1.880 | Max. :84.00 |

Elementary Manipulations

Accessing Elements

There are many different ways in which the elements of a "data.frame" can be accessed (i.e. retrieved, selected).

- ▶ accessing individual cells
- ▶ accessing sets of cells
- ▶ accessing entire rows
- ▶ accessing entire columns

Notation System Reminder

Notation system to extract values from data frames

- ▶ to extract values use brackets: []
- ▶ inside the brackets specify indices for rows and columns
- ▶ each index is separated by comma
- ▶ row indices can be numbers or logicals
- ▶ column indices can be numbers, logicals, or names

Single Cells

Using row and column indices to access a single cell

```
# first cell 1,1
```

```
df[1, 1]
```

```
## [1] Anakin
```

```
## Levels: Anakin Leia Luke Padme
```

```
# cell 3,4
```

```
df[3, 4]
```

```
## [1] 77
```

```
# last cell
```

```
df[4, 4]
```

```
## [1] 49
```

Various Cells

Using vectors of row and column indices to access various cells

```
# various adjacent cells
```

```
df[1:3, 2:4]
```

```
##      gender height weight
```

```
## 1    male    1.88     84
```

```
## 2 female    1.65     45
```

```
## 3    male    1.72     77
```

```
# various adjacent cells
```

```
# (permuted order)
```

```
df[4:1, 3:2]
```

```
##      height gender
```

```
## 4    1.50 female
```

```
## 3    1.72  male
```

```
## 2    1.65 female
```

```
## 1    1.88  male
```

Various Cells

Using vectors of row and column indices to access various cells

```
# non-adjacent cells  
df[c(2, 4), c(1, 3)]
```

```
##      name height  
## 2 Padme    1.65  
## 4  Leia    1.50
```

Various Cells

Using excluding indices

```
# excluding various adjacent cells
```

```
df[-c(1:2), -c(2:3)]
```

```
##   name weight
```

```
## 3 Luke      77
```

```
## 4 Leia      49
```

Retrieving Rows

Selecting rows

```
# first row
```

```
df[1, ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84
```

```
# rows 1 to 3
```

```
df[1:3, ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84  
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45  
## 3  Luke   male   1.72     77
```

Retrieving Rows

Selecting rows (by excluding indices)

```
# all rows except first one
```

```
df[-1, ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight
```

```
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45
```

```
## 3 Luke   male   1.72     77
```

```
## 4 Leia female   1.50     49
```

```
# rows except 2 to 3
```

```
df[-c(2:3), ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight
```

```
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84
```

```
## 4  Leia female   1.50     49
```

Retrieving Columns

Selecting columns

```
# 1st column (as a vector)
df[, 1]

## [1] Anakin Padme Luke Leia
## Levels: Anakin Leia Luke Padme
```

Using argument drop=FALSE

```
# 1st column (as a column)
df[, 1, drop = FALSE]

##      name
## 1 Anakin
## 2 Padme
## 3 Luke
## 4 Leia
```

Retrieving Columns

```
# columns 1 to 3
```

```
df[ , 1:3]
```

```
##      name gender height
```

```
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88
```

```
## 2 Padme  female   1.65
```

```
## 3  Luke   male   1.72
```

```
## 4  Leia  female   1.50
```

```
# columns 2, 4
```

```
df[ , c(2,4)]
```

```
##      gender weight
```

```
## 1    male      84
```

```
## 2 female      45
```

```
## 3    male      77
```

```
## 4 female      49
```


Retrieving Columns

Selecting columns by excluding indices

```
# all columns but 2, 4,  
df[ , -c(2,4)]
```

```
##      name height  
## 1 Anakin   1.88  
## 2 Padme    1.65  
## 3 Luke     1.72  
## 4 Leia     1.50
```

Accessing Single Columns

Besides using numeric indices, we can also access a single column using its name and following different syntax options:

- ▶ `df[, "name"]`
- ▶ `df[["name"]]`
- ▶ `df$name` or `df$"name"`
- ▶ `df["name"]`

Column by Name

```
# equivalent ways to retrieve one column
```

```
df[, "name"]
```

```
## [1] Anakin Padme Luke Leia
```

```
## Levels: Anakin Leia Luke Padme
```

```
df[["gender"]]
```

```
## [1] male female male female
```

```
## Levels: female male
```

```
df$height
```

```
## [1] 1.88 1.65 1.72 1.50
```

Columns by Name

Retrieve various columns by name:

```
# vector of names  
df[, c("name", "gender", "height")]
```

```
##      name gender height  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88  
## 2 Padme  female   1.65  
## 3 Luke    male   1.72  
## 4 Leia   female   1.50
```

Adding New Elements

A typical data frame modification consists in adding new elements, that is, new rows and columns.

Adding One Column

Adding a single column to a data frame

```
# adding 'a_vector' as a 'new' column  
df$eyecolor <- c('blue', 'brown', 'blue', 'brown')
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight eyecolor  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88    84     blue  
## 2 Padme female   1.65    45     brown  
## 3 Luke    male   1.72    77     blue  
## 4 Leia   female   1.50    49     brown
```

Adding One Column

Using *column binding* `cbind()` to add a column to a data frame

```
haircolor <- c('blond', 'brown', 'blond', 'brown')
```

```
# binding a column
```

```
df <- cbind(df, haircolor)
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight eyecolor haircolor
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88    84      blue      blond
## 2 Padme  female  1.65    45     brown     brown
## 3 Luke   male   1.72    77      blue     blond
## 4 Leia   female  1.50    49     brown     brown
```

Adding One Column

Remember the recycling rule:

```
# "human" will be recycled!
```

```
df$species <- "human"
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight eyecolor haircolor species
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88    84      blue      blond   human
## 2 Padme female   1.65    45     brown     brown   human
## 3 Luke    male   1.72    77      blue      blond   human
## 4 Leia   female   1.50    49     brown     brown   human
```


Adding Several Columns

Equivalent ways to add several columns to a data frame

```
# adding vectors x and y
```

```
df[, c("x", "y")] <- cbind(1:4, 5:8)
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight eyecolor haircolor species x y
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88    84      blue      blond   human 1 5
## 2 Padme  female   1.65    45     brown     brown   human 2 6
## 3 Luke    male   1.72    77      blue      blond   human 3 7
## 4 Leia   female   1.50    49     brown     brown   human 4 8
```

Adding Several Columns

Equivalent ways to add several columns to a data frame

```
# adding vectors u and v  
uv <- cbind(u = 1:4, v = 5:8)  
  
df <- cbind(df, uv)
```

Removing Columns

Removing columns with the NULL object

```
# removing x and y
```

```
df$x <- NULL
```

```
df$y <- NULL
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight eyecolor haircolor species
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88    84      blue      blond    human
## 2 Padme  female  1.65    45     brown     brown    human
## 3 Luke   male   1.72    77     blue     blond    human
## 4 Leia   female  1.50    49     brown     brown    human
```

Removing Columns

Removing columns by reassignment

```
# removing columns 5, 6, ...
```

```
df <- df[ , 1:4]
```

```
df
```

```
##      name gender height weight
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45
## 3 Luke    male   1.72     77
## 4 Leia   female   1.50     49
```

Adding Rows

- ▶ Another operation is adding rows
- ▶ This can be done with *row binding* `rbind()`
- ▶ When adding rows to a data frame, we need to take into account the mode of each column
- ▶ If all columns have the same mode, then we can add a vector
- ▶ If columns have different modes, then we need to add data.frames

Adding Rows

Be careful when adding vector rows to data frames!

```
# new vector
```

```
newone <- c("Han", 'male', 1.8, 80)
```

```
# trying to add a vector to data frame
```

```
rbind(df, newone)
```

```
## Warning in '[<-.factor'('*tmp*', ri, value = "Han"):  
invalid factor level, NA generated
```

```
##      name gender height weight  
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88     84  
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45  
## 3 Luke   male   1.72     77  
## 4 Leia  female   1.5     49  
## 5 <NA>   male   1.8     80
```

Adding Rows

Since columns in `df` are of different modes, we must create a new row "vector" in `data.frame` format

```
# creating a data frame "vector"
```

```
han <- data.frame(  
  name = "Han",  
  gender = 'male',  
  height = 1.8,  
  weight = 80)
```

```
han
```

```
##   name gender height weight  
## 1  Han   male    1.8     80
```

Adding Rows

Use row binding `rbind()` to add one or more rows:

```
# adding 'han' with rbind()  
df <- rbind(df, han)
```

df

| ## | | name | gender | height | weight |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| ## 1 | Anakin | male | 1.88 | 84 | |
| ## 2 | Padme | female | 1.65 | 45 | |
| ## 3 | Luke | male | 1.72 | 77 | |
| ## 4 | Leia | female | 1.50 | 49 | |
| ## 5 | Han | male | 1.80 | 80 | |

Arranging Columns

A less common, but equally important type of `data.frame` modification involves rearranging or moving its columns.

The common approach to move columns is to define a vector with the column names in the desired order, and then redefine the current data frame.

Rearranging columns

```
# rearranging columns
```

```
df[, c(1, 4, 3, 2)]
```

```
##      name weight height gender
## 1 Anakin      84    1.88   male
## 2 Padme      45    1.65 female
## 3 Luke       77    1.72   male
## 4 Leia       49    1.50 female
## 5 Han        80    1.80   male
```

Column Names

Changing column names

```
# change first column  
names(df)[1] <- "Name"
```

```
# change weight  
names(df)[4] <- "wgt"
```

```
df
```

```
##      Name gender height wgt  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88   84  
## 2 Padme female   1.65   45  
## 3 Luke    male   1.72   77  
## 4 Leia   female   1.50   49  
## 5 Han     male   1.80   80
```

Column Names

Changing column names

```
# rename first column  
names(df)[1] <- "name"  
  
# rename weight  
names(df)[4] <- "weight"
```

df

```
##      name gender height weight  
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84  
## 2 Padme female   1.65     45  
## 3 Luke    male   1.72     77  
## 4 Leia   female   1.50     49  
## 5 Han     male   1.80     80
```

Exercise

Creating new column

```
# height x weight
```

```
df$htwt <- df$height * df$weight
```

```
# gender and species
```

```
df$new <- paste(df$name, df$gender, sep = "_")
```

```
df
```

| ## | name | gender | height | weight | htwt | new |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| ## 1 | Anakin | male | 1.88 | 84 | 157.92 | Anakin_male |
| ## 2 | Padme | female | 1.65 | 45 | 74.25 | Padme_female |
| ## 3 | Luke | male | 1.72 | 77 | 132.44 | Luke_male |
| ## 4 | Leia | female | 1.50 | 49 | 73.50 | Leia_female |
| ## 5 | Han | male | 1.80 | 80 | 144.00 | Han_male |

Subsetting

Subsetting

Subsetting using comparisons (logical vectors TRUE, FALSE)

```
df$name == "Luke"
```

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

```
# Luke's info
```

```
df[df$name == "Luke", ]
```

```
##   name gender height weight   htw      new  
## 3 Luke   male   1.72     77 132.44 Luke_male
```

Subsetting

Subsetting using comparisons (logical vectors TRUE, FALSE)

```
df$gender == "male"
```

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

```
# male subjects
```

```
df[df$gender == "male", ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight   htwt      new
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84 157.92 Anakin_male
## 3  Luke   male   1.72     77 132.44  Luke_male
## 5   Han   male   1.80     80 144.00   Han_male
```


Subsetting

Subsetting with composed statements

```
# male with height > 1.75
```

```
df[df$gender == "male" & df$height > 1.75, ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight   htwt      new
## 1 Anakin   male   1.88     84 157.92 Anakin_male
## 5   Han    male   1.80     80 144.00   Han_male
```

Subsetting

Subsetting statements can become very verbose

```
# male with height > 1.75 and weight > 80
```

```
df[df$gender == "male"  
   & df$height > 1.75  
   & df$weight > 80, ]
```

```
##      name gender height weight  htwt      new  
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88     84 157.92 Anakin_male
```

Subsetting with subset()

To reduce verbose subsetting statements we can use subset()

```
# male with height > 1.75
```

```
subset(df, gender == "male" & height > 1.75)
```

```
##      name gender height weight  htwt      new
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88     84 157.92 Anakin_male
## 5   Han   male   1.80     80 144.00   Han_male
```

```
# male with height > 1.75 and weight > 80
```

```
subset(df, gender == "male" & height > 1.75 & weight > 80)
```

```
##      name gender height weight  htwt      new
## 1 Anakin  male   1.88     84 157.92 Anakin_male
```

Subsetting with subset()

subset() also allows you to select columns according to a specified condition

```
# name and weight of male subjects  
subset(df,  
        gender == "male",  
        select = c(name, weight))
```

```
##      name weight  
## 1 Anakin      84  
## 3   Luke      77  
## 5    Han      80
```

Subsetting with subset()

subset() also allows you to select columns according to a specified condition

```
# excluding height of male subjects
```

```
subset(df,  
       gender == "male",  
       select = -height)
```

| ## | name | gender | weight | htwt | new |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| ## 1 | Anakin | male | 84 | 157.92 | Anakin_male |
| ## 3 | Luke | male | 77 | 132.44 | Luke_male |
| ## 5 | Han | male | 80 | 144.00 | Han_male |

Ordering Rows

Sorting rows

Remember `sort()` and `order()`

```
# sort() sorts the values
```

```
sort(df$weight)
```

```
## [1] 45 49 77 80 84
```

```
# order() gives you the position
```

```
order(df$weight)
```

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

When sorting rows, we want to work with the ordered positions

Sorting rows

```
# sorting rows by weight
```

```
df[order(df$weight), ]
```

| ## | name | gender | height | weight | htwt | new |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| ## 2 | Padme | female | 1.65 | 45 | 74.25 | Padme_female |
| ## 4 | Leia | female | 1.50 | 49 | 73.50 | Leia_female |
| ## 3 | Luke | male | 1.72 | 77 | 132.44 | Luke_male |
| ## 5 | Han | male | 1.80 | 80 | 144.00 | Han_male |
| ## 1 | Anakin | male | 1.88 | 84 | 157.92 | Anakin_male |

Sorting rows

```
# sorting subjects by height
```

```
df[order(df$height), c('name', 'height')]
```

```
##      name height
```

```
## 4    Leia   1.50
```

```
## 2   Padme   1.65
```

```
## 3    Luke   1.72
```

```
## 5     Han   1.80
```

```
## 1 Anakin   1.88
```

Sorting rows

```
# sorting subjects by height in decreasing order  
ht_sort <- order(df$height, decreasing = TRUE)  
df[ht_sort, c('name', 'height')]
```

```
##      name height  
## 1 Anakin   1.88  
## 5   Han    1.80  
## 3   Luke   1.72  
## 2 Padme   1.65  
## 4   Leia   1.50
```