

# Manipulating Data in R

Introduction to R for Public Health Researchers

# Reshaping Data

In this module, we will show you how to:

1. Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall)
2. Reshaping data from long (tall) to wide (fat)
3. Merging Data
4. Perform operations by a grouping variable

# Setup

We will show you how to do each operation in base R then show you how to use the `dplyr` or `tidyr` package to do the same operation (if applicable).

See the “Data Wrangling Cheat Sheet using `dplyr` and `tidyr`”:

- <https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/data-wrangling-cheatsheet.pdf>

# What is wide/long data?

See [http://www.cookbook-r.com/Manipulating\\_data/Converting\\_data\\_between\\_wide\\_and\\_long\\_format/](http://www.cookbook-r.com/Manipulating_data/Converting_data_between_wide_and_long_format/)

- Wide - multiple columns per observation
  - e.g. visit1, visit2, visit3

|   | id | visit1 | visit2 | visit3 |
|---|----|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 1  | 10     | 4      | 3      |
| 2 | 2  | 5      | 6      | NA     |

- Long - multiple rows per observation

|   | id | visit | value |
|---|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | 1  | 1     | 10    |
| 2 | 1  | 2     | 4     |
| 3 | 1  | 3     | 3     |
| 4 | 2  | 1     | 5     |
| 5 | 2  | 2     | 6     |

What is wide/long data?

More accurately, data is wide or long **with respect** to certain variables.

## Data used: Charm City Circulator

[http://johnmuschelli.com/intro\\_to\\_r/data/Charm\\_City\\_Circulator\\_Ridership.csv](http://johnmuschelli.com/intro_to_r/data/Charm_City_Circulator_Ridership.csv)

```
circ = read_csv(  
  paste0("http://johnmuschelli.com/intro_to_r/",  
        "data/Charm_City_Circulator_Ridership.csv"))  
head(circ, 2)
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 15  
  day   date orangeBoardings orangeAlightings orangeAverage  
  <chr> <chr>           <dbl>           <dbl>           <dbl>  
1 Mond.. 01/1...           877           1027           952  
2 Tues.. 01/1...           777           815           796  
# ... with 10 more variables: purpleBoardings <dbl>, purpleAlightings <dbl>,  
#   purpleAverage <dbl>, greenBoardings <dbl>, greenAlightings <dbl>,  
#   greenAverage <dbl>, bannerBoardings <dbl>, bannerAlightings <dbl>,  
#   bannerAverage <dbl>, daily <dbl>
```

```
class(circ$date)
```

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

## Creating a Date class from a character date

```
library(lubridate) # great for dates!
```

```
sum(is.na(circ$date))
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
sum( circ$date == "")
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
circ = mutate(circ, date = mdy(date))  
sum( is.na(circ$date) ) # all converted correctly
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
head(circ$date, 3)
```

```
[1] "2010-01-11" "2010-01-12" "2010-01-13"
```

```
class(circ$date)
```

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

## Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall): base R

The `reshape` command exists. It is a **confusing** function. Don't use it.



## tidyr package

`tidyr` allows you to “tidy” your data. We will be talking about:

- `gather` - make multiple columns into variables, (wide to long)
- `spread` - make a variable into multiple columns, (long to wide)
- `separate` - string into multiple columns
- `unite` - multiple columns into one string

## Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall): tidyr

`tidyr::gather` - puts column data into rows.

We want the column names into “var” variable in the output dataset and the value in “number” variable. We then describe which columns we want to “gather:”

```
long = gather(circ, key = "var", value = "number",  
              -day, -date, -daily)  
head(long, 4)
```

```
# A tibble: 4 x 5  
  day      date      daily var      number  
  <chr>   <date>   <dbl> <chr>      <dbl>  
1 Monday 2010-01-11  952 orangeBoardings 877  
2 Tuesday 2010-01-12  796 orangeBoardings 777  
3 Wednesday 2010-01-13 1212. orangeBoardings 1203  
4 Thursday 2010-01-14 1214. orangeBoardings 1194
```

## Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall): tidyr

- Could be explicit on what we want to gather

```
long = gather(circ, key = "var", value = "number",  
              starts_with("orange"), starts_with("purple"),  
              starts_with("green"), starts_with("banner"))  
head(long, 4)
```

```
# A tibble: 4 x 5  
  day      date      daily var      number  
  <chr>   <date>   <dbl> <chr>      <dbl>  
1 Monday  2010-01-11  952  orangeBoardings  877  
2 Tuesday 2010-01-12  796  orangeBoardings  777  
3 Wednesday 2010-01-13 1212. orangeBoardings 1203  
4 Thursday 2010-01-14 1214. orangeBoardings 1194
```

## Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall): tidyr

```
table(long$var)
```

|                  |                  |                  |                 |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| bannerAlightings | bannerAverage    | bannerBoardings  | greenAlightings |
| 1146             | 1146             | 1146             | 1146            |
| greenAverage     | greenBoardings   | orangeAlightings | orangeAverage   |
| 1146             | 1146             | 1146             | 1146            |
| orangeBoardings  | purpleAlightings | purpleAverage    | purpleBoardings |
| 1146             | 1146             | 1146             | 1146            |

# Lab Part 1

[Website](#)

## Making a separator

We will use `str_replace` from `stringr` to put periods in the names (periods are **not** special when in a replacement)

```
long = long %>% mutate(  
  var = var %>% str_replace("Board", ".Board") %>%  
    str_replace("Alight", ".Alight") %>%  
    str_replace("Average", ".Average")  
)  
table(long$var)
```

|                   |                   |                   |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| banner.Alightings | banner.Average    | banner.Boardings  | green.Alightings |
| 1146              | 1146              | 1146              | 1146             |
| green.Average     | green.Boardings   | orange.Alightings | orange.Average   |
| 1146              | 1146              | 1146              | 1146             |
| orange.Boardings  | purple.Alightings | purple.Average    | purple.Boardings |
| 1146              | 1146              | 1146              | 1146             |

## Reshaping data from wide (fat) to long (tall): tidyr

Now each `var` is boardings, averages, or alightings. We want to separate these so we can have these by line. Remember `"."` is special character:

```
long = separate(long, var, into = c("line", "type"),  
                sep = "[.]")  
head(long, 2)
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 6  
  day      date      daily line  type      number  
  <chr>   <date>    <dbl> <chr>  <chr>    <dbl>  
1 Monday 2010-01-11    952 orange Boardings    877  
2 Tuesday 2010-01-12    796 orange Boardings    777
```

```
unique(long$line)
```

```
[1] "orange" "purple" "green"  "banner"
```

```
unique(long$type)
```

```
[1] "Boardings" "Alightings" "Average"
```

## Re-uniting all the lines

If we had the opposite problem, we could use the `unite` function:

```
reunited = long %>%  
  unite(col = var, line, type, sep = ".")  
reunited %>% select(day, var) %>% head(3) %>% print
```

```
# A tibble: 3 x 2  
  day      var  
  <chr>    <chr>  
1 Monday  orange.Boardings  
2 Tuesday orange.Boardings  
3 Wednesday orange.Boardings
```

We could also use `paste/paste0`.



## Making column names a little more separated

Alternative: We could have replaced the column names first **then** reshaped:

```
cn = colnames(circ)
cn = cn %>%
  str_replace("Board", ".Board") %>%
  str_replace("Alight", ".Alight") %>%
  str_replace("Average", ".Average")
colnames(circ) = cn # then reshape using gather!
```

or (with some string working (see data cleaning)):

```
circ = circ %>%
  rename_all(.funs = str_replace,
             pattern = "(orange|purple|green|banner)",
             replacement = "\\1.")
```

# Lab Part 2

[Website](#)

## Reshaping data from long (tall) to wide (fat): tidyr

In `tidyr`, the `spread` function spreads rows into columns. Now we have a long data set, but we want to separate the Average, Alightings and Boardings into different columns:

```
# have to remove missing days
wide = filter(long, !is.na(date))
wide = spread(wide, type, number)
head(wide)
```

```
# A tibble: 6 x 7
```

|   | day    | date       | daily | line   | Alightings | Average | Boardings |
|---|--------|------------|-------|--------|------------|---------|-----------|
|   | <chr>  | <date>     | <dbl> | <chr>  | <dbl>      | <dbl>   | <dbl>     |
| 1 | Friday | 2010-01-15 | 1644  | banner | NA         | NA      | NA        |
| 2 | Friday | 2010-01-15 | 1644  | green  | NA         | NA      | NA        |
| 3 | Friday | 2010-01-15 | 1644  | orange | 1643       | 1644    | 1645      |
| 4 | Friday | 2010-01-15 | 1644  | purple | NA         | NA      | NA        |
| 5 | Friday | 2010-01-22 | 1394. | banner | NA         | NA      | NA        |
| 6 | Friday | 2010-01-22 | 1394. | green  | NA         | NA      | NA        |

# Lab Part 3

[Website](#)

## Merging: Simple Data

```
base <- data.frame(id = 1:10, Age= seq(55,60, length=10))  
head(base, 2)
```

|   | id | Age      |
|---|----|----------|
| 1 | 1  | 55.00000 |
| 2 | 2  | 55.55556 |

```
visits <- data.frame(id = c(rep(1:8, 3), 11), visit= c(rep(1:3, 8), 3),  
                    Outcome = seq(10,50, length=25))  
tail(visits, 2)
```

|    | id | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|-------|----------|
| 24 | 8  | 3     | 48.33333 |
| 25 | 11 | 3     | 50.00000 |

## Joining in `dplyr`

- Merging/joining data sets together - usually on key variables, usually “id”
- `?join` - see different types of joining for `dplyr`
- Let's look at <https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/data-wrangling-cheatsheet.pdf>
- `inner_join(x, y)` - only rows that match for `x` and `y` are kept
- `full_join(x, y)` - all rows of `x` and `y` are kept
- `left_join(x, y)` - all rows of `x` are kept even if not merged with `y`
- `right_join(x, y)` - all rows of `y` are kept even if not merged with `x`

# Inner Join

```
ij = inner_join(base, visits)
```

```
Joining, by = "id"
```

```
dim(ij)
```

```
[1] 24  4
```

```
tail(ij)
```

|    | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 19 | 7  | 58.33333 | 1     | 20.00000 |
| 20 | 7  | 58.33333 | 3     | 33.33333 |
| 21 | 7  | 58.33333 | 2     | 46.66667 |
| 22 | 8  | 58.88889 | 2     | 21.66667 |
| 23 | 8  | 58.88889 | 1     | 35.00000 |
| 24 | 8  | 58.88889 | 3     | 48.33333 |

# Left Join

```
lj = left_join(base, visits)
```

```
Joining, by = "id"
```

```
dim(lj)
```

```
[1] 26  4
```

```
tail(lj)
```

|    | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 21 | 7  | 58.33333 | 2     | 46.66667 |
| 22 | 8  | 58.88889 | 2     | 21.66667 |
| 23 | 8  | 58.88889 | 1     | 35.00000 |
| 24 | 8  | 58.88889 | 3     | 48.33333 |
| 25 | 9  | 59.44444 | NA    | NA       |
| 26 | 10 | 60.00000 | NA    | NA       |



## Right Join

```
rj = right_join(base, visits)
```

```
Joining, by = "id"
```

```
dim(rj)
```

```
[1] 25  4
```

```
tail(rj)
```

|    | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 20 | 4  | 56.66667 | 2     | 41.66667 |
| 21 | 5  | 57.22222 | 3     | 43.33333 |
| 22 | 6  | 57.77778 | 1     | 45.00000 |
| 23 | 7  | 58.33333 | 2     | 46.66667 |
| 24 | 8  | 58.88889 | 3     | 48.33333 |
| 25 | 11 | NA       | 3     | 50.00000 |

## Right Join: Switching arguments

```
rj2 = right_join(visits, base)
```

```
Joining, by = "id"
```

```
dim(rj2)
```

```
[1] 26  4
```

```
tail(rj2)
```

|    | id | visit | Outcome  | Age      |
|----|----|-------|----------|----------|
| 21 | 7  | 2     | 46.66667 | 58.33333 |
| 22 | 8  | 2     | 21.66667 | 58.88889 |
| 23 | 8  | 1     | 35.00000 | 58.88889 |
| 24 | 8  | 3     | 48.33333 | 58.88889 |
| 25 | 9  | NA    | NA       | 59.44444 |
| 26 | 10 | NA    | NA       | 60.00000 |

```
identical(rj2, lj) ## after some rearranging
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

# Full Join

```
fj = full_join(base, visits)
```

```
Joining, by = "id"
```

```
dim(fj)
```

```
[1] 27  4
```

```
tail(fj)
```

|    | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 22 | 8  | 58.88889 | 2     | 21.66667 |
| 23 | 8  | 58.88889 | 1     | 35.00000 |
| 24 | 8  | 58.88889 | 3     | 48.33333 |
| 25 | 9  | 59.44444 | NA    | NA       |
| 26 | 10 | 60.00000 | NA    | NA       |
| 27 | 11 | NA       | 3     | 50.00000 |

# Duplicated

- The `duplicated` command can give you indications if there are duplications in a **vector**:

```
duplicated(1:5)
```

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

```
duplicated(c(1:5, 1))
```

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

# Lab Part 4

[Website](#)

## Reshaping data from long (tall) to wide (fat): tidyr

We can use `rowSums` to see if any values in the row is NA and keep if the row, which is a combination of date and line type has any non-missing data.

```
head(wide, 3)
```

```
# A tibble: 3 x 7
  day      date      daily line Alightings Average Boardings
  <chr>   <date>    <dbl> <chr>    <dbl>    <dbl>    <dbl>
1 Friday 2010-01-15  1644 banner      NA      NA      NA
2 Friday 2010-01-15  1644 green      NA      NA      NA
3 Friday 2010-01-15  1644 orange    1643    1644    1645
```

```
not_namat = !is.na(select(wide, Alightings, Average, Boardings))
head(not_namat, 2)
```

```
      Alightings Average Boardings
[1,]      FALSE      FALSE      FALSE
[2,]      FALSE      FALSE      FALSE
```

```
wide$good = rowSums(not_namat) > 0
```

## Reshaping data from long (tall) to wide (fat): tidyr

Now we can filter only the good rows and delete the `good` column.

```
wide = wide %>% filter(good) %>% select(-good)
head(wide)
```

```
# A tibble: 6 x 7
  day      date      daily line Alightings Average Boardings
  <chr>   <date>    <dbl> <chr>      <dbl>    <dbl>      <dbl>
1 Friday 2010-01-15 1644  orange      1643     1644       1645
2 Friday 2010-01-22 1394. orange      1388     1394.       1401
3 Friday 2010-01-29 1332  orange      1322     1332       1342
4 Friday 2010-02-05 1218. orange      1204     1218.       1231
5 Friday 2010-02-12  671  orange        678      671        664
6 Friday 2010-02-19 1642  orange      1647     1642       1637
```

## Finding the First (or Last) record

- `slice` allows you to select **records** (compared to first/last on a **vector**)

```
long = long %>% filter(!is.na(number) & number > 0)
first_and_last = long %>% arrange(date) %>% # arrange by date
  filter(type == "Boardings") %>% # keep boardings only
  group_by(line) %>% # group by line
  slice( c(1, n())) # select ("slice") first and last (n() command) lines
first_and_last %>% head(4)
```

```
# A tibble: 4 x 6
# Groups:   line [2]
  day      date      daily line  type      number
<chr>    <date>    <dbl> <chr> <chr>    <dbl>
1 Monday  2012-06-04 13342. banner Boardings    520
2 Friday  2013-03-01     NA  banner Boardings    817
3 Tuesday 2011-11-01  8873  green  Boardings    887
4 Friday  2013-03-01     NA  green  Boardings   2592
```



## Finding the First (or Last) record

`pivot_longer` and `pivot_wider` are new (as of 2019) `tidyr` functions.

See link below:

<https://tidyr.tidyverse.org/dev/articles/pivot.html>

Website

[Website](#)

Merging in base R (not covered)

## Data Merging/Append in Base R

- `merge()` is the most common way to do this with data sets
  - we will use the “join” functions from `dplyr`
- `rbind/cbind` - row/column bind, respectively
  - `rbind` is the equivalent of “appending” in Stata or “setting” in SAS
  - `cbind` allows you to add columns in addition to the previous ways
- `t()` can transpose data but doesn't make it a `data.frame`

# Merging

```
merged.data <- merge(base, visits, by = "id")  
head(merged.data, 5)
```

|   | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|---|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 1 | 1  | 55.00000 | 1     | 10.00000 |
| 2 | 1  | 55.00000 | 3     | 23.33333 |
| 3 | 1  | 55.00000 | 2     | 36.66667 |
| 4 | 2  | 55.55556 | 2     | 11.66667 |
| 5 | 2  | 55.55556 | 1     | 25.00000 |

```
dim(merged.data)
```

```
[1] 24  4
```

# Merging

```
all.data <- merge(base, visits, by = "id", all = TRUE)
tail(all.data)
```

|    | id | Age      | visit | Outcome  |
|----|----|----------|-------|----------|
| 22 | 8  | 58.88889 | 2     | 21.66667 |
| 23 | 8  | 58.88889 | 1     | 35.00000 |
| 24 | 8  | 58.88889 | 3     | 48.33333 |
| 25 | 9  | 59.44444 | NA    | NA       |
| 26 | 10 | 60.00000 | NA    | NA       |
| 27 | 11 | NA       | 3     | 50.00000 |

```
dim(all.data)
```

```
[1] 27  4
```