Introduction to R for Data Management and Analysis

Marcel Ramos, MPH

Announcements

- Downloading files from GitHub
  - Use the 'raw' button when at the page
  - Use Git GUI software
    - https://git-scm.com/download/gui/windows
  - Use functions that work with URLs (`read.csv`)
- Additional topics to cover
  - Formulas
  - Aggregating
  - Reshaping your data

Formula notation in R

- Uses the ~ for denoting a formula
  - `y ~ m*x + b`
  - on the left, the outcome (`y`)
  - on the right, the variables (`xs`)
- Good for specifying linear models
- Mainly used in base R code
- Useful for creating crosstabs!
  - `xtabs(~ A + B, data = blue)`
- Look out for `formula` class inputs
  - see `?xtabs`
  - see `?t.test`
  - see `?lm`
- Usually requires a `data` input / argument in a supported function

Sorting and aggregating data

- `order` function - which rows are lowest to highest?
- tidyverse: `arrange` - returns the arranged data
- `aggregate` - summarize data by a categorical variable
  - `aggregate(mtcars$mpg, by = list(mtcars$cyl), FUN = "mean")`
- `tapply`
  - `tapply(mtcars$mpg, mtcars$cyl, mean)`
- tidyverse: `group_by` and `summarize`

Transformations / Manipulations

- long to wide format
- `dplyr` and `tidyr` packages

Outline for today

- Review exercises
- Combining data manipulations
- Reshaping data
- Plotting in base R
- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Intro to ggplot2
- Saving graphics

But first, a quote...

The data may not contain the answer. The combination of some data and an aching desire for an answer does not ensure that a reasonable answer can be extracted from a given body of data.
-John Tukey

Review

- Exercises
- Creating a `data.frame`

Using the `nycflights13` *dataset*

```
library(nycflights13)
library(dplyr)
flights %>% group_by(carrier) %>%
  summarise(avg_depdelay = mean(dep_delay, na.rm = TRUE),
    count = n()) %>% left_join(airlines) %>%
      arrange(avg_depdelay) %>% head
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##   carrier avg_depdelay count name
##   <chr>          <dbl> <int> <chr>
## 1 US              3.78 20536 US Airways Inc.
## 2 HA              4.90   342 Hawaiian Airlines Inc.
## 3 AS              5.80   714 Alaska Airlines Inc.
## 4 AA              8.59 32729 American Airlines Inc.
## 5 DL              9.26 48110 Delta Air Lines Inc.
## 6 MQ             10.6  26397 Envoy Air
```

Reshaping data

- Useful to prepare data for visualizations
- long vs wide
- long format - multiple observations per row (survival data)
- wide format - a single observation per row

Reshaping using `pivot_wider`

```
library(tidyr); library(tidycensus)

us_rent_income
```

```
## # A tibble: 104 x 5
##    GEOID NAME       variable estimate   moe
##    <chr> <chr>      <chr>       <dbl> <dbl>
##  1 01    Alabama    income      24476   136
##  2 01    Alabama    rent          747     3
##  3 02    Alaska     income      32940   508
##  4 02    Alaska     rent         1200    13
##  5 04    Arizona    income      27517   148
##  6 04    Arizona    rent          972     4
##  7 05    Arkansas   income      23789   165
##  8 05    Arkansas   rent          709     5
##  9 06    California income      29454   109
## 10 06    California rent         1358     3
```

Reshaping using `pivot_longer`

```
relig_income
```

```
## # A tibble: 18 x 11
##    religion `<$10k` `$10-20k` `$20-30k` `$30-40k` `$40-50k`
##    <chr>      <dbl>     <dbl>     <dbl>     <dbl>     <dbl>
##  1 Agnostic      27        34        60        81        76
##  2 Atheist       12        27        37        52        35
##  3 Buddhist      27        21        30        34        33
##  4 Catholic     418       617       732       670       638
##  5 Don't k~      15        14        15        11        10
##  6 Evangel~     575       869      1064       982       881
##  7 Hindu          1         9         7         9        11
##  8 Histori~     228       244       236       238       197
##  9 Jehovah~      20        27        24        24        21
## 10 Jewish        19        19        25        25        30
## 11 Mainlin~     289       495       619       655       651
## 12 Mormon        29        40        48        51        56
```

Long dataset

```
relig_income %>% pivot_longer(-religion, names_to = "income",
  values_to = "count") %>% head
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##   religion income  count
##   <chr>    <chr>   <dbl>
## 1 Agnostic <$10k      27
## 2 Agnostic $10-20k    34
## 3 Agnostic $20-30k    60
## 4 Agnostic $30-40k    81
## 5 Agnostic $40-50k    76
## 6 Agnostic $50-75k   137
```

- `-religion` - don't include religion when reshaping
- `names_to` - create an income variable out of the columns
- `values_to` - cell values are counts

`group_by` operations

- Allow users to group different levels of categories of 1 or more variables
- Efficient summirization

Using group_by (1)

```
relig_income %>% pivot_longer(-religion,
  names_to = "income", values_to = "count") %>%
  group_by(income) %>% summarise(totals = sum(count))
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
##    income                totals
##    <chr>                  <dbl>
##  1 $10-20k                 2781
##  2 $100-150k               3197
##  3 $20-30k                 3357
##  4 $30-40k                 3302
##  5 $40-50k                 3085
##  6 $50-75k                 5185
##  7 $75-100k                3990
##  8 <$10k                   1930
##  9 >150k                   2608
## 10 Don't know/refused      6121
```

Using group_by (2)

```
relig_income %>% pivot_longer(-religion,
  names_to = "income", values_to = "count") %>%
  group_by(religion) %>% summarise(totals = sum(count))
```

```
## # A tibble: 18 x 2
##    religion                totals
##    <chr>                    <dbl>
##  1 Agnostic                   826
##  2 Atheist                    515
##  3 Buddhist                   411
##  4 Catholic                  8054
##  5 Don't know/refused         272
##  6 Evangelical Prot          9472
##  7 Hindu                      257
##  8 Historically Black Prot   1995
##  9 Jehovah's Witness          215
## 10 Jewish                     [illegible]
```

Plotting and Graphing

- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Base R graphics
- Intro `ggplot2`
- Saving graphics

Plotting systems in R

- 'Base' graphics
- lattice
- ggplot2

Exploratory Data Analysis

- Informal representation data
- Looking for patterns, outliers, etc.
- Get familiar with your data!

Types of graphs

- Historgram
- Scatterplot
  - Scatterplot matrix
- Boxplots / dotplots (`ggplot2`)
- Violin plots (`ggplot2`)
- Q-Q plots
- Mosaic plots
- and many more!

par function

- Check parameters for graphing
- Allows you to control the finer details of plotting

ggplot2 - Grammar of Graphics

- Different syntax
  - Slight learning curve
- Plots are built in layers
- Operations add layers to the plot

Saving outputs

- Common formats for saving plots:
  - PDF
  - SVG
  - PNG/TIFF
- but there are more

Output sandwhich

- Start with a function `pdf`, `png`, `jpeg`, etc.

- End in `dev.off()` for closing the graphics window

Saving plots in `ggplot2`

- `ggplot2` graphics require a `print` (or a call) before it gets rendered in the file.
- `ggsave` - added to make it easier to save plotting objects

Recommended resources

- Fundamentals of Data Visualization
  - Claus O. Wilke
- R Graphics Cookbook
  - Winston Chang