#### Socio-Informatics 348

Data Transformation Joins

#### Dr Lisa Martin

Department of Information Science Stellenbosch University

# Today's Reading



R for Data Science, Chapter 19

#### Introduction

- Analyses usually involve multiple data frames.
- Two main types of joins:
  - Mutating joins add new variables to one data frame from matching observations in another.
  - Filtering joins filter observations from one data frame based on whether or not they match an observation in another.

- Primary key: uniquely identifies observations in a table.
- Foreign key: matches a primary key in another table.

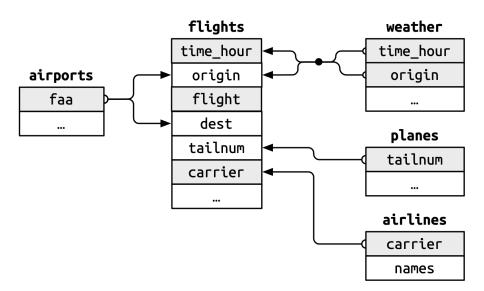
```
airlines
\# \times \# \wedge tibble: 16 \times 2
#> carrier name
#> <chr> <chr>
#> 1 9E
            Endeavor Air Inc.
#> 2 AA
            American Airlines Inc.
#> 3 AS
            Alaska Airlines Inc.
#> 4 B6
            JetBlue Airways
#> 5 DI
            Delta Air Lines Inc.
#> 6 EV
            ExpressJet Airlines Inc.
#> # i 10 more rows
```

- Primary key: uniquely identifies observations in a table.
- Foreign key: matches a primary key in another table.

```
planes
#> # A tibble: 3,322 × 9
#> tailnum year type
                               manufacturer model engine
#> <chr> <int> <chr>
                               <chr>
                                          <chr> <int
#> 1 N10156 2004 Fixed wing multi... EMBRAER EMB-145XR
#> 2 N102UW 1998 Fixed wing multi... AIRBUS INDUSTR... A320-214
#> 3 N103US 1999 Fixed wing multi... AIRBUS INDUSTR... A320-214
#> 4 N104UW 1999 Fixed wing multi... AIRBUS INDUSTR... A320-214
#> 5 N10575 2002 Fixed wing multi... EMBRAER EMB-145LR
#> 6 N105UW 1999 Fixed wing multi... AIRBUS INDUSTR... A320-214
#> # i 3,316 more rows
#> # i 3 more variables: seats <int>, speed <int>, engine <chr>
```

 Composite keys: multiple variables together uniquely identify observations.

```
weather
#> # A tibble: 26,115 × 15
#> origin year month day hour temp dewp humid wind dir
   <chr> <int> <int> <int> <int> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <</pre>
#>
                                               <dbl>
#> 1 FWR
          2013
                 1
                            1 39.0 26.1 59.4
                                                 270
#> 2 EWR 2013 1
                            2 39.0 27.0 61.6 250
#> 3 EWR 2013 1 1 3 39.0 28.0 64.4 240
#> 4 EWR 2013 1 1
                            4 39.9 28.0 62.2 250
#> 5 EWR 2013 1
                            5 39.0 28.0 64.4
                                                260
#> 6 EWR 2013
                            6 37.9 28.0 67.2
                                                240
#> # i 26,109 more rows
#> # i 6 more variables: wind speed <dbl>, wind gust <dbl>, ...
```



# Checking Keys

- Verify uniqueness of primary keys.
- Check for missing values NAs can't identify observations.
- Use count() and filter(n > 1).

# Checking Keys

```
planes |>
  count(tailnum) |>
  filter(n > 1)
#> # A tibble: 0 x 2
#> # i 2 variables: tailnum <chr>, n <int>
weather |>
  count(time_hour, origin) |>
  filter(n > 1)
#> # A tibble: 0 x 3
#> # i 3 variables: time_hour <dttm>, origin <chr>, n <int>
```

## Surrogate Keys

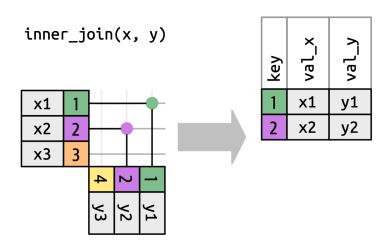
- Useful when no obvious key exists.
- Can take the form of a row number or other machine generated identifier.

## Types of Joins

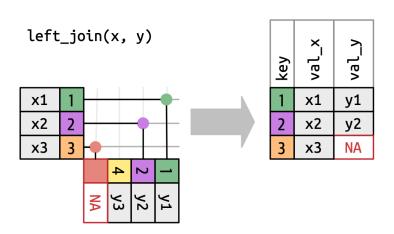
dplyr provides 6 join functions:

- left\_join()
- inner\_join()
- right\_join()
- full\_join()
- semi\_join()
- anti\_join()

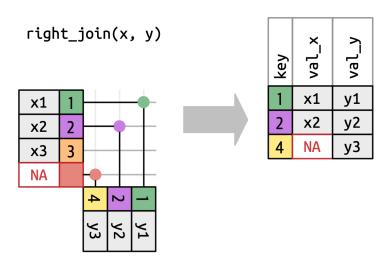
- Add variables from one table to another.
- Four types: inner, left, right, full.
- left\_join() as the most common example.
- ullet Unmatched rows o NA.



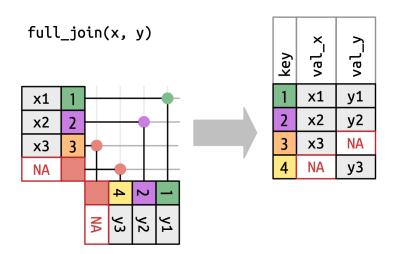
R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.4



R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.5



R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.6



R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.7

# Specifying Join Keys

- Default: use variables with same name (so called natural join).
- Potential Problem: same name, different meaning.

# Specifying Join Keys

Potential Problem: same name, different meaning.

```
flights2 |>
 left join(planes)
#> Joining with `by = join by(year, tailnum)`
#> # A tibble: 336,776 × 13
    year time hour origin dest tailnum carrier type manufacturer
#>
    2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 FWR
                               TAH
                                   N14228 UA
                                                 <NA> <NA>
#> 2 2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 LGA
                              TAH
                                  N24211 UA
                                                 <NA> <NA>
#> 3 2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 TEK
                               MΤΔ
                                   Ν619ΔΔ ΔΔ
                                                 <NA> <NA>
#> 4 2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 JFK
                               BON
                                  N804JB B6
                                                 <NA> <NA>
                                                 <NA> <NA>
    2013 2013-01-01 06:00:00 LGA
                               ATL
                                   N668DN DL
    2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 FWR
                               ORD
                                  N39463 UA
                                                 <NA> <NA>
#> # i 336,770 more rows
#> # i 5 more variables: model <chr>, engines <int>, seats <int>, ...
```

## Specifying Join Keys

- Solution: join\_by() to specify matches.
- join\_by(tailnum) is the same as join\_by(tailnum == tailnum).
- Multiple matching variables: join\_by(a, b, c == d).
- Control suffixes for overlapping names.

```
flights2 |>
 left_join(planes, join_by(tailnum))
#> # A tibble: 336,776 × 14
    year.x time_hour
                     origin dest tailnum carrier year.y
    <int> <dttm>
                            <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr>
                                                         <int>
#>
#> 1 2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 EWR
                                   IAH
                                        N14228
                                                UA
                                                          1999
#> 2 2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 LGA
                                  IAH
                                        N24211
                                                UA
                                                          1998
#> 3
      2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 JFK
                                   MIA
                                        N619AA AA
                                                          1990
#> 4
      2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 JFK
                                   BON
                                         N804JB
                                                 B6
                                                          2012
#> 5
      2013 2013-01-01 06:00:00 LGA
                                   ATL
                                         N668DN
                                                DL
                                                          1991
#> 6
      2013 2013-01-01 05:00:00 EWR
                                   ORD
                                         N39463 UA
                                                          2012
#> # i 336,770 more rows
#> # i 7 more variables: type <chr>, manufacturer <chr>, model <chr>, ...
```

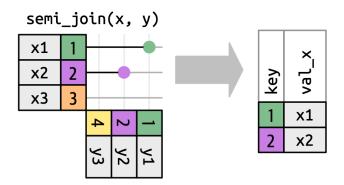
# Multiple Matching keys?

- If row in x matches more than 1 row in x duplicated once for each match.
- What if multiple rows in x match multiple rows in y?
- Warning: Detected an unexpected many-to-many relationship between 'x' and 'y'.
- If this is expected, use relationship = "many-to-many" to silence the warning.

## Filtering Joins

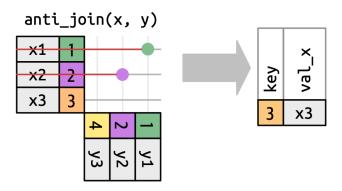
- Keep or drop rows depending on matches.
- semi\_join(): keep rows in x if match exists in y.
- anti\_join(): keep rows in x if no match exists in y.

# Filtering Joins



R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.10

# Filtering Joins

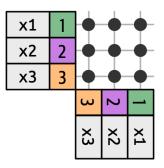


R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.11

# Non-equi Joins

- Previous joins have been equi-joins (exact matches).
- Sometimes you want to match on inequalities.
- Types:
  - Cross joins (Cartesian product)
  - Inequality joins
  - Rolling joins (closest match)
  - Overlap joins (range matching)

#### **Cross Joins**



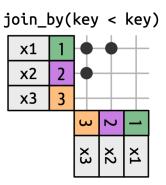
R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.14

#### Cross Joins

#### Note function: cross\_join()

```
df <- tibble(name = c("John", "Simon", "Tracy", "Max"))
df |> cross_join(df)
#> # A tibble: 16 × 2
#> name.x name.y
#> <chr> <chr>
#> 1 John John
#> 2 John Simon
#> 3 John Tracy
#> 4 John Max
#> 5 Simon John
#> 6 Simon Simon
#> # i 10 more rows
```

# Inequality Joins



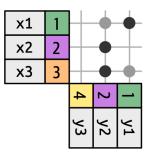
R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.15

### Inequality Joins

```
df \leftarrow tibble(id = 1:4, name = c("John", "Simon", "Tracy", "Max"))
df |> inner_join(df, join_by(id < id))</pre>
#> # A tibble: 6 × 4
  id.x name.x id.y name.y
  <int> <chr> <int> <chr>
     1 John 2 Simon
#> 1
#> 2
    1 John 3 Tracy
#> 3 1 John 4 Max
#> 4 2 Simon 3 Tracy
#> 5 2 Simon
               4 Max
#> 6
    3 Tracy 4 Max
```

## Rolling Joins





R for Data Science, Chapter 19, Figure 19.16

#### Rolling Joins

```
parties <- tibble(
 a = 1:4
 party = ymd(c("2022-01-10", "2022-04-04", "2022-07-11", "2022-10-03"))
set.seed(123)
employees <- tibble(
  name = sample(babynames::babynames$name, 100),
  birthday = ymd("2022-01-01") + (sample(365, 100, replace = TRUE) - 1)
employees
#> # A tibble: 100 × 2
#> name birthday
#> <chr> <date>
#> 1 Kemba 2022-01-22
#> 2 Orean 2022-06-26
#> 3 Kirstyn 2022-02-11
#> 4 Amparo 2022-11-11
#> 5 Belen 2022-03-25
#> 6 Rayshaun 2022-01-11
#> # i 94 more rows
```

# Rolling Joins

• Note: Birthdays before 2022-01-10 don't get matched (>=).

# Overlap Joins

- between(), within(), overlaps()
- Solve problem of unmatched birthdays by using ranges.

```
parties <- tibble(
    q = 1:4,
    party = ymd(c("2022-01-10", "2022-04-04", "2022-07-11", "2022-10-03")),
    start = ymd(c("2022-01-01", "2022-04-04", "2022-07-11", "2022-10-03")),
    end = ymd(c("2022-04-03", "2022-07-10", "2022-10-02", "2022-12-31"))
)</pre>
```

### Overlap Joins

- unmatched = "error"
- between(x, y\_lower, y\_upper)
- x is from employees, y\_lower and y\_upper are from parties.