Dplyr Introduction

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Introduction to Dplyr

This document gives an overview of many of the features of the dplyr library include in the "tidyverse" of related R pacakges. First we will load the library and a sample dataset.

```
#install.packages("tidyverse")
library(tidyverse)
## Loading tidyverse: ggplot2
## Loading tidyverse: tibble
## Loading tidyverse: tidyr
## Loading tidyverse: readr
## Loading tidyverse: purrr
## Loading tidyverse: dplyr
## Conflicts with tidy packages --
## filter(): dplyr, stats
## lag():
             dplyr, stats
#install.packages("nycflights13")
library(nycflights13)
# Show fewer rows by default in this document
options(tibble.print_min = 5L, tibble.print_max = 5L)
```

We will primarly be using the flights data

flights

```
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 19
##
      year month
                   day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
     <int> <int> <int>
                          <int>
                                          <int>
                                                     <dbl>
                                                              <int>
## 1 2013
               1
                     1
                             517
                                            515
                                                         2
                                                                830
## 2 2013
               1
                     1
                             533
                                            529
                                                         4
                                                                850
## 3
     2013
                             542
                                            540
                                                         2
                                                                923
               1
                      1
## 4
      2013
                             544
                                            545
                                                        -1
                                                               1004
               1
                      1
                             554
                                            600
                                                        -6
## 5
     2013
               1
                      1
                                                                812
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
       arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>,
## #
       origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>,
## #
       minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
```

Filtering Rows

Find all flights from Detroit in June (in 2013)

```
# Same as using base R
# flights[flights$dest=="DTW" & flights$month==6, ]
# subset(flights, dest=="DTW" & month==6)
filter(flights, dest=="DTW" & month==6)
```

```
## # A tibble: 807 x 19
      year month
                   day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                          <int>
                                                     <dbl>
## 1 2013
               6
                                            600
                                                                739
                     1
                             559
                                                        -1
## 2 2013
               6
                     1
                             709
                                            715
                                                        -6
                                                                846
## 3 2013
               6
                     1
                             748
                                            756
                                                        -8
                                                                929
## 4 2013
               6
                     1
                             758
                                            755
                                                         3
                                                                951
## 5 2013
                             832
                                            829
               6
                     1
                                                         3
                                                               1017
## # ... with 802 more rows, and 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
       arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>,
       origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>,
       minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
```

filter() expects a data source as the first parameter, and a single expression as the second parameter. Combine multiple criteria with & for "and" - | for "or".

Selecting Columns

1

```
# List columns
select(flights, dep_time, arr_time, carrier)
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 3
##
     dep_time arr_time carrier
##
        <int>
                  <int>
                          <chr>
## 1
          517
                    830
                             UA
## 2
          533
                    850
                             UA
## 3
          542
                    923
                             AA
## 4
          544
                   1004
                             B6
## 5
          554
                    812
                             DL
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
# Exclude columns
select(flights, -year, -tailnum)
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 17
             day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time sched_arr_time
##
     <int> <int>
                     <int>
                                    <int>
                                               <dbl>
                                                         <int>
                                                                         <int>
## 1
                                                                           819
         1
               1
                       517
                                       515
                                                   2
                                                           830
                                       529
## 2
         1
               1
                       533
                                                   4
                                                           850
                                                                           830
## 3
                       542
                                       540
                                                   2
                                                           923
                                                                           850
         1
               1
## 4
                                       545
                                                          1004
         1
               1
                       544
                                                  -1
                                                                          1022
                                       600
               1
                       554
                                                  -6
                                                           812
                                                                           837
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 10 more variables: arr_delay <dbl>,
       carrier <chr>, flight <int>, origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>,
       distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
# Select column range (in data.frame order)
select(flights, month:dep_delay)
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 5
             day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay
     <int> <int>
                     <int>
                                     <int>
                                               <dbl>
## 1
         1
                       517
                                       515
```

```
## 2
         1
               1
                       533
                                       529
                                                    4
## 3
         1
                       542
                                       540
                                                    2
               1
## 4
         1
                1
                       544
                                       545
                                                   -1
## 5
                                       600
                       554
                                                   -6
         1
                1
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
# Name starts with
select(flights, starts_with("d"))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 5
##
       day dep_time dep_delay dest distance
##
              <int>
                         <dbl> <chr>
     <int>
## 1
         1
                 517
                             2
                                  IAH
                                          1400
## 2
         1
                 533
                             4
                                  IAH
                                          1416
## 3
                             2
         1
                 542
                                  MIA
                                           1089
## 4
                 544
         1
                            -1
                                  BQN
                                           1576
## 5
         1
                 554
                            -6
                                           762
                                  ATL
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
# Name ends with
select(flights, ends_with("time"))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 5
##
     dep_time sched_dep_time arr_time sched_arr_time air_time
##
        <int>
                        <int>
                                  <int>
                                                  <int>
                                                            <dbl>
## 1
                                    830
                                                              227
          517
                          515
                                                    819
## 2
          533
                                    850
                                                    830
                                                              227
                          529
## 3
          542
                                    923
                                                    850
                          540
                                                              160
## 4
          544
                          545
                                   1004
                                                   1022
                                                              183
## 5
          554
                          600
                                    812
                                                    837
                                                              116
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
# Name contains
select(flights, contains("arr"))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 4
##
     arr_time sched_arr_time arr_delay carrier
##
        <int>
                                   <dbl>
                                           <chr>>
                        <int>
## 1
          830
                          819
                                      11
                                               UA
## 2
          850
                          830
                                      20
                                               IJΑ
## 3
          923
                          850
                                      33
                                               AA
## 4
         1004
                         1022
                                     -18
                                               B6
## 5
          812
                                     -25
                                               DL
                          837
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
# Name doesn't start with
select(flights, -starts_with("d"))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 14
      year month sched_dep_time arr_time sched_arr_time arr_delay carrier
##
     <int> <int>
                                                     <int>
                                                                <dbl>
                                                                         <chr>>
                           <int>
                                     <int>
## 1 2013
               1
                             515
                                       830
                                                       819
                                                                   11
                                                                            UA
## 2 2013
                             529
                                       850
                                                       830
                                                                   20
                                                                            UA
                1
## 3 2013
                1
                              540
                                       923
                                                       850
                                                                   33
                                                                            AA
## 4 2013
                1
                             545
                                      1004
                                                      1022
                                                                  -18
                                                                            B6
## 5
      2013
                              600
                                       812
                                                       837
                                                                  -25
                                                                            DL
                1
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 7 more variables: flight <int>,
```

```
tailnum <chr>, origin <chr>, air_time <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>,
## #
       time_hour <dttm>
# Move column to the beginning
select(flights, flight, everything())
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 19
##
     flight year month
                           day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
      <int> <int> <int> <int>
                                  <int>
                                                            <dbl>
                                                  <int>
                                                                      <int>
## 1
       1545 2013
                       1
                                    517
                                                    515
                                                                 2
                                                                        830
       1714 2013
                                    533
                                                    529
                                                                 4
                                                                        850
## 2
                       1
                             1
                                                                2
## 3
       1141
             2013
                             1
                                    542
                                                    540
                                                                        923
                       1
## 4
        725
            2013
                       1
                             1
                                    544
                                                    545
                                                               -1
                                                                       1004
        461 2013
                       1
                             1
                                    554
                                                    600
                                                               -6
                                                                        812
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 11 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
       arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, tailnum <chr>, origin <chr>,
## #
       dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>,
       time_hour <dttm>
```

Look at the ?select help page for a list of function to help you select multiple columns.

Verb composition with pipes

Traditioanly, we combine functions via nesting, which works but is hard to read

```
select(filter(flights, dest=="DTW"), carrier)
## # A tibble: 9,384 x 1
     carrier
##
##
       <chr>>
## 1
          MQ
## 2
          DL
## 3
          DL
## 4
          DL
          DL
## 5
## # ... with 9,379 more rows
```

The %>% allows us to take an object, and pass it as the first parameter to another function. The above is the same as

```
flights %>%
  filter(dest=="DTW") %>%
  select(carrier)
```

```
## # A tibble: 9,384 x 1
##
     carrier
##
       <chr>
## 1
          MQ
## 2
          DL
## 3
          DL
## 4
          DL
## 5
          DL
## # ... with 9,379 more rows
```

You can unroll any function with this operator

```
round(exp(sin(.5)),2)
## [1] 1.62
.5 %>% sin() %>% exp %>% round(2)
## [1] 1.62
Sorting Data
Use arrange() to sort data. You just specify the column names you want to sort by, use desc() to reverse
the sort order for a given column.
flights %>% arrange(sched_dep_time)
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 19
      year month
                    day dep time sched dep time dep delay arr time
                                           <int>
##
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                                     dbl>
                                                               <int>
## 1
      2013
               7
                     27
                                             106
                              NA
                                                         NA
                                                                  NA
## 2 2013
                      2
                                             500
                                                         -2
                                                                 703
                             458
               1
                                             500
                                                         -2
## 3 2013
               1
                      3
                             458
                                                                 650
## 4
      2013
                      4
                             456
                                             500
                                                         -4
                                                                 631
               1
## 5
     2013
                      5
                             458
                                             500
                                                         -2
                                                                 640
               1
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
       arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>,
       origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>,
       minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
flights %>% arrange(month, desc(day))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 19
##
      year month
                    day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                           <int>
                                                     <dbl>
                                                               <int>
## 1 2013
               1
                     31
                               1
                                            2100
                                                        181
                                                                 124
## 2 2013
                     31
                               4
                                            2359
                                                          5
                                                                 455
               1
                               7
## 3 2013
                     31
                                            2359
                                                          8
                                                                 453
               1
## 4
     2013
                     31
                              12
                                            2250
                                                         82
                                                                 132
## 5 2013
                                                                 328
               1
                     31
                              26
                                            2154
                                                        152
## # ... with 336,771 more rows, and 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
       arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>,
       origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>,
## #
       minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
flights %>% arrange(desc(dep_time-sched_dep_time ))
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 19
                    day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
      year month
##
                                                     <dbl>
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                           <int>
                                                               <int>
## 1 2013
               3
                     17
                            2321
                                             810
                                                        911
                                                                 135
      2013
               7
                                             759
                                                                 121
## 2
                     22
                            2257
                                                        898
               2
                                             830
## 3
      2013
                     10
                            2243
                                                        853
                                                                 100
## 4 2013
               2
                     19
                            2324
                                            1016
                                                        788
                                                                 114
```

615

... with 336,771 more rows, and 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>,
arr_delay <dbl>, carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>,

origin <chr>, dest <chr>, air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>,

786

2135

5

#

2013

2

24

1921

```
## # minute <dbl>, time_hour <dttm>
```

Creating New Variables

Use mutate() to create columns from existing columns or values

```
flights %>%
 mutate(speed = distance/(air_time/60)) %>%
  arrange(desc(speed)) %>%
  select(flight, speed)
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 2
     flight
               speed
##
      <int>
               <dbl>
## 1
       1499 703.3846
## 2
       4667 650.3226
## 3
       4292 648.0000
## 4
       3805 641.1429
## 5
       1902 591.4286
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
```

You can create multiple columns by separating them with a comma; you can use any previously created columns as well

```
flights %>%
  mutate(
    dist_km = distance * 1.61,
    hours = air_time / 60,
    kph = dist_km/hours ) %>%
  select(flight, kph)
```

```
## # A tibble: 336,776 x 2
##
     flight
                 kph
##
      <int>
               <dbl>
## 1
       1545 595.7709
## 2
       1714 602.5797
## 3
       1141 657.4838
## 4
        725 831.9213
## 5
        461 634.5621
## # ... with 336,771 more rows
```

<dbl>

6.895377

##

1

Use summarize() to collapse observations (only keeps columns for which you specified a summarization strategy)

```
flights %>%
  filter(!is.na(arr_delay)) %>%
  summarize(avg_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay))

## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## avg_arr_delay
```

Grouping Data

Perhaps the most powerful feature of dplyr is its grouping abilities. You can specify a column (or columns) for which mutate() and summarize() happen independently for each unique value in that column (or unique combination or values).

Using summarize() will reduce the total number of rows

```
flights %>%
  filter(!is.na(arr_delay)) %>%
  group_by(carrier) %>%
  summarize(avg_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay))
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier avg_arr_delay
##
       <chr>
                      <dbl>
## 1
          9E
                 7.3796692
## 2
                 0.3642909
          AA
## 3
          AS
                -9.9308886
## 4
          В6
                 9.4579733
## 5
          DL
                 1.6443409
## # ... with 11 more rows
Using mutate() will keep the same number of rows and won't drop any columns
flights %>%
  filter(!is.na(arr_delay)) %>%
  group_by(carrier) %>%
  mutate(avg_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay)) %>%
  select(carrier, arr_delay, avg_arr_delay)
## # A tibble: 327,346 x 3
## # Groups:
               carrier [16]
##
     carrier arr_delay avg_arr_delay
       <chr>
                 <dbl>
##
                                <dbl>
## 1
          UA
                    11
                            3.5580111
## 2
          UA
                    20
                            3.5580111
## 3
          AA
                    33
                            0.3642909
## 4
          B6
                    -18
                            9.4579733
## 5
          DL
                    -25
                            1.6443409
## # ... with 327,341 more rows
```

Joining data

When finding carriers with the largest flight delay, we were left with a carrier code rather than a carrier name; but who exactly is 9E?

```
## 2 AA 0.3642909
## 3 AS -9.9308886
## 4 B6 9.4579733
## 5 DL 1.6443409
## # ... with 11 more rows
```

There is another table that has a lookup from carrier code to carrier name called airlines

airlines

```
## # A tibble: 16 x 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
          DL
               Delta Air Lines Inc.
## # ... with 11 more rows
```

We can use left_join to merge in the carrier name

```
flights %>%
  filter(!is.na(arr_delay)) %>%
  group_by(carrier) %>%
  summarize(avg_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay)) %>%
  left_join(airlines)
```

```
## Joining, by = "carrier"
## # A tibble: 16 x 3
##
     carrier avg_arr_delay
                                               name
##
       <chr>
                                              <chr>
                      <dbl>
## 1
          9E
                 7.3796692
                                 Endeavor Air Inc.
## 2
          AA
                 0.3642909 American Airlines Inc.
                -9.9308886
## 3
          AS
                              Alaska Airlines Inc.
## 4
          B6
                  9.4579733
                                   JetBlue Airways
## 5
          DL
                  1.6443409
                              Delta Air Lines Inc.
## # ... with 11 more rows
```

Here we use two sample tables x and y to demonstrate the other types of joins

```
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## key xval yval
## <dbl> <chr> <chr>
```

```
## 2
         2
               x2
                     у2
left_join(x, y)
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
       key xval yval
##
     <dbl> <chr> <chr>
## 1
         1
               x1
                     у1
## 2
         2
               x2
                     y2
## 3
         3
               xЗ
                   <NA>
right_join(x, y)
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
       key xval yval
     <dbl> <chr> <chr>
##
## 1
         1
               x1
                     y1
## 2
         2
               x2
                     у2
## 3
            <NA>
                     уЗ
full_join(x, y)
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
##
       key xval yval
##
     <dbl> <chr> <chr>
## 1
         1
               x1
                     у1
         2
## 2
               x2
                     у2
## 3
         3
               xЗ
                   <NA>
## 4
         4
            <NA>
                     уЗ
And you can use non-merging joins to keep or drop rows that match keys from another table. Note that no
new columns are added, just the rows of the input tables are filtered
z <- tribble(
  ~key, ~zval,
  1, "z1",
  3, "z2")
semi_join(x,z)
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 2 x 2
##
       key xval
##
     <dbl> <chr>
## 1
         1
               x1
## 2
         3
               xЗ
semi_join(y,z)
## Joining, by = "key"
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
##
       key yval
##
     <dbl> <chr>
```

1

1

x1

у1

```
## 1  1  y1
anti_join(x,z)

## Joining, by = "key"

## # A tibble: 1 x 2

## key xval

## <dbl> <chr>
## 1  2  x2
```

The join commands will join on all matching column names. You can more explicitly control this as well. The planes table has information about the aircraft used during the flight. It also happens to have a column named "year" indicating when the aircraft was built. When joining this data to flights, we only want to join on "tailnum" – not "tailnum" and "year".

```
flights %>%
  inner_join(planes) %>%
  nrow() # wrong, only planes from 2013 are selected

## Joining, by = c("year", "tailnum")

## [1] 4630

flights %>%
  inner_join(planes, "tailnum") %>%
  nrow() # right

## [1] 284170
```

Subsetting functions

distinct() will return unique combinations of column values and nothing else

```
flights %>%
 distinct(tailnum, carrier)
## # A tibble: 4,067 x 2
##
     carrier tailnum
##
       <chr>
                <chr>>
## 1
              N14228
          UA
## 2
          UA
              N24211
## 3
          AA
              N619AA
## 4
          В6
              N804JB
## 5
          DL
              N668DN
## # ... with 4,062 more rows
```

The count() is like distinct() except it also returns the number of times each value was observed. It's basically a shortcut for group_by() %>% summarize(). For example

```
flights %>% count(carrier)
```

```
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
## carrier n
## 

cchr> <int>
## 1 9E 18460
## 2 AA 32729
## 3 AS 714
## 4 B6 54635
```

```
## 5
          DL 48110
## # ... with 11 more rows
flights %>% group_by(carrier) %>% summarize(n=n())
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier
                 n
##
       <chr> <int>
## 1
          9E 18460
## 2
          AA 32729
## 3
          AS
               714
## 4
          B6 54635
## 5
          DL 48110
## # ... with 11 more rows
sample_n() will randomly choose a set of rows from your table (different each time)
flights %>% sample_n(3)
## # A tibble: 3 x 19
##
      year month
                    day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                           <int>
                                                      <dbl>
                                                                <int>
## 1
     2013
               9
                     24
                            1807
                                            1815
                                                         -8
                                                                 1938
                                                         -2
## 2
      2013
                1
                     16
                              643
                                             645
                                                                  811
                                                         24
      2013
                     17
                                                                 2013
## 3
               11
                            1709
                                             1645
## # ... with 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>, arr_delay <dbl>,
       carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>, origin <chr>, dest <chr>,
       air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>,
       time_hour <dttm>
## #
flights %>% sample_n(3)
## # A tibble: 3 x 19
      year month
                    day dep_time sched_dep_time dep_delay arr_time
##
                                                      <dbl>
     <int> <int> <int>
                           <int>
                                           <int>
                                                                <int>
                                                                 2018
## 1
      2013
               4
                      9
                            1737
                                            1735
                                                          2
## 2 2013
               9
                     27
                                            1130
                                                          0
                                                                 1318
                            1130
## 3
     2013
               7
                     12
                            1915
                                            1840
                                                         35
                                                                 2208
## # ... with 12 more variables: sched_arr_time <int>, arr_delay <dbl>,
       carrier <chr>, flight <int>, tailnum <chr>, origin <chr>, dest <chr>,
       air_time <dbl>, distance <dbl>, hour <dbl>, minute <dbl>,
       time_hour <dttm>
You might also consider anti_join and semi_join to be subsetting commands rather than joining commands.
```

_at/_if/_all

The summarize(), mutate() and group_by() functions all have _all(), _at() and _if() variants that make it easier to apply the same function or functions to multiple columns.

mutate_at(), summarize_at() and group_by_at() allow you to choose columns in the same way you can do with select using the vars () helper function. This will take the mean of all columns that end in "_time"

```
summarize_at(vars(ends_with("time")), mean, na.rm=T)
## # A tibble: 1 x 5
     dep_time sched_dep_time arr_time sched_arr_time air_time
```

mutate_if(), summarize_if() and group_by_if() allow you run a function on each column to choose only columns that meet a certain criteria. This can use useful for extracting columns of a certain class. Note you can also apply more than one function to these columns if you use the funs() helper function. This example will calculate the mean and variance for all numeric columns.

```
flights %>%
  summarize if(is.numeric, funs(mean, var), na.rm=T)
## # A tibble: 1 x 28
##
     year_mean month_mean day_mean dep_time_mean sched_dep_time_mean
##
                    <dbl>
         <dbl>
                             <dbl>
                                                                 <dbl>
## 1
          2013
                  6.54851 15.71079
                                                             1344.255
                                          1349.11
## #
     ... with 23 more variables: dep_delay_mean <dbl>, arr_time_mean <dbl>,
## #
       sched_arr_time_mean <dbl>, arr_delay_mean <dbl>, flight_mean <dbl>,
## #
       air_time_mean <dbl>, distance_mean <dbl>, hour_mean <dbl>,
## #
       minute_mean <dbl>, year_var <dbl>, month_var <dbl>, day_var <dbl>,
## #
       dep_time_var <dbl>, sched_dep_time_var <dbl>, dep_delay_var <dbl>,
## #
       arr_time_var <dbl>, sched_arr_time_var <dbl>, arr_delay_var <dbl>,
       flight_var <dbl>, air_time_var <dbl>, distance_var <dbl>,
## #
       hour_var <dbl>, minute_var <dbl>
```

The _all() versions of these functions will apply the same transformations to call non-grouped columns in the data source.

Other useful functions

The lead() and lag() functions are useful for selecting the next or previous values in a sequence (especially for time series data).

```
x<-1:5
lead(x)

## [1] 2 3 4 5 NA
lag(x)

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

The coalesce() function will return the first non-missing value from the vectors you pass to it. This is useful when you have multiple columns where only one column contains a value and you want to collapse them to a single vector

```
coalesce(c(NA,2,NA), c(1, NA, NA), 3)
```

```
## [1] 1 2 3
```

When using other dplyr verbs, the n() and n_distinct() functions will return the total number of observations or the number of unique observations respectively. In this example we look at the tail number for each plane to see how many total flights it took and also look at the number of distinct flight numbers that plane was a part of

```
flights %>%
  group_by(tailnum) %>%
  summarize(flights=n(), routes=n_distinct(flight))
```

```
## # A tibble: 4,044 x 3
```

```
##
     tailnum flights routes
##
                       <int>
       <chr>>
                <int>
## 1
      D942DN
                    4
                  371
## 2
      NOEGMQ
                          103
## 3
      N10156
                  153
                          113
## 4
     N102UW
                   48
                           37
## 5
     N103US
                           26
                   46
## # ... with 4,039 more rows
```

The recode() function allows you to swap out certain values in a vector with different values.

```
recode(letters[1:5], b="boo")
```

```
## [1] "a" "boo" "c" "d" "e"
```

The case_when() function allows more complex transformations than recode(). It's a good alternative to a bunch of nested ifelse() calls that you might need to use in base R. Each parameter should be a formula with a left-hand side value that evaluates to TRUE or FALSE and a right-hand side to return when that boolean value is TRUE. Only the value for the first TRUE is returned.

Here's a classic example of the "fizz buzz" problem where you are supposed to return the numbers 1-50 but replace all those values divisible by 5 with "fizz" and the values divisible by 7 with "buzz" and those divisible by both 5 and 7 by "fizz buzz"

```
x <- 1:50
case_when(
    x %% 35 == 0 ~ "fizz buzz",
    x %% 5 == 0 ~ "fizz",
    x %% 7 == 0 ~ "buzz",
    TRUE ~ as.character(x)
)</pre>
```

```
"3"
                                                   "4"
##
    [1] "1"
                                                                 "fizz"
                                     "8"
                                                   11911
##
    [6] "6"
                       "buzz"
                                                                 "fizz"
         "11"
                       "12"
                                     "13"
                                                   "buzz"
## [11]
                                                                 "fizz"
                       "17"
                                                   "19"
                                     "18"
                                                                 "fizz"
         "16"
##
   [16]
                                     "23"
                                                   "24"
##
   [21]
         "buzz"
                       "22"
                                                                 "fizz"
                       "27"
         "26"
   [26]
                                     "buzz"
                                                   "29"
                                                                 "fizz"
                       "32"
                                     "33"
   [31]
         "31"
                                                   "34"
                                                                 "fizz buzz"
                       "37"
                                     "38"
                                                   "39"
   [36]
         "36"
                                                                 "fizz"
         "41"
                       "buzz"
                                     "43"
                                                   "44"
##
   [41]
                                                                 "fizz"
## [46] "46"
                       "47"
                                     "48"
                                                   "buzz"
                                                                 "fizz"
```

Combining data frames

The bind_rows() and bind_columns() functions are alternatives to the base functions rbind() and cbind() that are list-friendly. Many times you end up with data.frames in a list that you want to combine in a single data.frame. These functions can help.

In this example, we have a list of two tibbles. We can combine them with bind_rows

```
x <- list(
  data_frame(a=1:2, z=letters[1:2]),
  data_frame(a=14:20, z=letters[14:20])
)
bind_rows(x)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 9 x 2
```

```
##
         a
                z
##
     <int>
            <chr>
## 1
          1
                a
## 2
         2
                b
## 3
        14
                n
## 4
        15
                0
## 5
        16
                p
## # ... with 4 more rows
bind_rows(x[[1]], x[[2]])
## # A tibble: 9 x 2
##
          a
                z
##
     <int> <chr>
## 1
          1
## 2
         2
                b
## 3
        14
## 4
        15
                0
## 5
        16
                p
## # ... with 4 more rows
```

Programming with dplyr

Since dplyr uses non-standard evaluation to allow you to soecify data.frame column names without quotes, it can be tricky to write functions that use dply commands. Note that the first attempt at writting a function doesn't work

```
# Normal command, works fun
flights %>%
  group_by(carrier) %>%
  summarize(delay=mean(arr_delay, na.rm=T))
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier
                   delay
##
       <chr>>
                   <dbl>
## 1
              7.3796692
          9E
## 2
              0.3642909
          AA
## 3
          AS -9.9308886
## 4
          B6
              9.4579733
## 5
          DL
              1.6443409
## # ... with 11 more rows
# DOESN'T WORK
f <- function(x) {</pre>
  flights %>%
    group_by(x) %>%
    summarize(delay=mean(arr_delay, na.rm=T))
f(carrier)
```

Error in grouped_df_impl(data, unname(vars), drop): Column `x` is unknown

The latest version of dplyr (0.7) introduced new way to write functions. Previously you would use the standard-evaluation version of functions that ended in an underscore (use mutate_ rather than mutate); but the new version now uses "quosures" to allow you to pass column names. Here are two examples of functions that will work

```
f <- function(x) {</pre>
  flights %>% group_by(!!x) %>%
  summarize(delay = mean(arr_delay, na.rm=T))
f(quo(carrier))
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier
##
       <chr>
                  <dbl>
          9E 7.3796692
## 1
## 2
          AA 0.3642909
## 3
          AS -9.9308886
## 4
          B6 9.4579733
## 5
          DL 1.6443409
## # ... with 11 more rows
g <- function(x) {
  x \leftarrow enquo(x)
  flights %>% group_by(!!x) %>%
  summarize(delay = mean(arr_delay, na.rm=T))
g(carrier)
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier
                  delay
##
       <chr>
                  <dbl>
## 1
          9E 7.3796692
## 2
          AA 0.3642909
## 3
          AS -9.9308886
          B6 9.4579733
          DL 1.6443409
## 5
## # ... with 11 more rows
```

We can either use quo() to create our own quosure with the column name, or we can use enquo() to turn a function parameter into a quosure.

Finally, in base R it's complicated to dynamically set the name of a parameter to a function (the name being the part to the left of the = in a call like f(a=b)). The latest dplyr functions now also allow you to use the value of a variable as a parameter name if you use := rather than =. For example

```
h <- function(x) {</pre>
  x \leftarrow enquo(x)
  outname <- paste(quo_name(x), "delay", sep="_")</pre>
  flights %>% group_by(!!x) %>%
  summarize(!!outname := mean(arr_delay, na.rm=T))
}
h(carrier)
## # A tibble: 16 x 2
##
     carrier carrier_delay
##
       <chr>
                       <dbl>
## 1
           9E
                  7.3796692
## 2
           AA
                  0.3642909
## 3
          AS
                 -9.9308886
## 4
           B6
                  9.4579733
## 5
          DL
                  1.6443409
```

... with 11 more rows