Data Structures: Data Frames

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PSICOSTAT

A type of data structure you are already familiar with

	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	T
1	Year	Type of course	Title	Teacher	Hours	ECTS	Mandatory	Delivery	Language
2	1	METHODOLOGY	CURRENT ISSUES IN STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR	MASSIMILIANO PASTORE	10	2	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
3	1	METHODOLOGY	LINEAR AND MIXED EFFECT MODELS WITH SPSS	JEFF KIESNER	15	3	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
4	1	METHODOLOGY	BASICS OF STATISTICAL INFERENCE WITH R	UMBERTO GRANZIOL	20	4	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
5	1	PROGRAMMING	BASICS OF R FOR DATA SCIENCE	ENRICO TOFFALINI	10	2	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
6	1	METHODOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGICAL MEASUREMENT	LUCA STEFANUTTI	15	3	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
7	1	METHODOLOGY	POWER AND DESIGN ANALYSIS	GIANMARCO ALTOE	5	1	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
8	1	METHODOLOGY	EVALUATION OF OUTLIERS AND INFLUENTIAL	GIANMARCO ALTOE	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
9	1	METHODOLOGY	QUESTIONABLE MEASUREMENT PRACTICES AND	TATIANA MARCI	5	1	YES	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
10	1	METHODOLOGY	DATA VISUALISATION WITH GGPLOT2	MICHELE VICOVARO	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
11	1	SOFT SKILLS	CRAFTING EFFECTIVE SCIENTIFIC	FILIPPO GAMBAROTA	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
12	1	PROGRAMMING	BASICS OF MATLAB FOR DATA SCIENCE	LUCA STEFANUTTI	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
13	1	PROGRAMMING	BASICS OF PYTHON FOR DATA SCIENCE	ENRICO TOFFALINI	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
14	2-3	SOFT SKILLS	ADVANCING RESEARCH PARADIGMS: OPEN	GIULIA CALIGNANO	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
15	2-3	THEMATIC COURSE	NEUROPSYCHOLOGY OF VISION	LUCA BATTAGLINI	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
16	2-3	METHODOLOGY	METHODOLOGY IN NEUROSCIENCES	SIMONE CUTINI	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
17	2-3	METHODOLOGY	BAYESIAN DATA ANALYSIS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL	MASSIMILIANO PASTORE	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
18	2-3	METHODOLOGY	GENERALISED LINEAR MODELS	FILIPPO GAMBAROTA	15	3	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
19	2-3	METHODOLOGY	STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING	TOMMASO FERACO	20	4	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
20	2-3	METHODOLOGY	CONDUCTING SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS	ENRICO SELLA	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
21	2-3	METHODOLOGY	INTRODUCTION TO ITEM RESPONSE THEORY	MARINA OTTAVIA EPIFANIA	15	3	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
22	2-3	SOFT SKILLS	HOW TO WIN RESEARCH GRANTS	CHRISTIAN AGRILLO	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
23	2-3	SOFT SKILLS	CAREER COUNSELING	NICOLA CELLINI	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
24	2-3	SOFT SKILLS	OUTSIDE ACADEMIA	ALESSIA BASTIANELLI	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
25	2-3	METHODOLOGY	INTRODUCTION TO META-ANALYSIS WITH	GIANMARCO ALTOE	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
26	2-3	METHODOLOGY	DATA SIMULATION IN PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES	MASSIMILIANO PASTORE	10	2	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
27	2-3	SOFT SKILLS	PUBLISHING IN HIGH-IMPACT JOURNALS	MARA CADINU	15	3	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
28	2-3	THEMATIC COURSE	PSYCHONEUROENDOCRINOLOGY	JEFF KIESNER	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH
29	2-3	PROGRAMMING	BASICS OF LINUX FOR DATA SCIENCE	FRANCESCO VESPIGNANI	5	1	NO	IN PERSON	ENGLISH

A type of data structure you are already familiar with

here is how I would import it in R (download here), and display the first few rows:

```
library(readx1)
df = data.frame(read_excel("data/Courses40Cycle.xlsx"))
head(df)
 Year TypeOfCourse
                                                                      Title
       METHODOLOGY CURRENT ISSUES IN STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR PSYCHOLOGY
2
       METHODOLOGY
                                  LINEAR AND MIXED EFFECT MODELS WITH SPSS
       METHODOLOGY
                                    BASICS OF STATISTICAL INFERENCE WITH R
       PROGRAMMING
                                               BASICS OF R FOR DATA SCIENCE
5
       METHODOLOGY
                                                  PSYCHOLOGICAL MEASUREMENT
       METHODOLOGY
                                                  POWER AND DESIGN ANALYSIS
               Teacher Hours ECTS MandatoryAttendance DeliveryMethod Language
1 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                          10
                                                   YES
                                                            IN PERSON
                                                                      ENGLISH
                                2
          JEFF KIESNER
                          15
                                                            IN PERSON ENGLISH
                                3
                                                    NO
      UMBERTO GRANZIOL
                          20
                                                            IN PERSON ENGLISH
                                                  YES
                          10
                                                  YES
                                                            IN PERSON ENGLISH
4
      ENRICO TOFFALINI
5
      LUCA STEFANUTTI
                          15
                                                  YES
                                                            IN PERSON
                                                                      ENGLISH
      GIANMARCO ALTOE
                                                   YES
                                                            IN PERSON
                                                                       ENGLISH
6
```

Dataframes as collections of vectors

In fact, dataframes are just collections (lists) of vectors of different types, all with the same length. Each column in a dataframe is a vector (a variable):

```
df$Teacher
     "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"
                                "JEFF KIESNER"
     "UMBERTO GRANZIOL"
                                "ENRICO TOFFALINI"
    "LUCA STEFANUTTI"
                               "GIANMARCO ALTOE"
     "GIANMARCO ALTOE"
                               "TATIANA MARCI"
    "MICHELE VICOVARO"
                                "FILIPPO GAMBAROTA"
    "LUCA STEFANUTTI"
                                "ENRICO TOFFALINI"
     "GIULIA CALIGNANO"
                                "LUCA BATTAGLINI"
[15] "SIMONE CUTINI"
                                "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"
    "FILIPPO GAMBAROTA"
                                "TOMMASO FERACO"
[19] "ENRICO SELLA"
                                "MARINA OTTAVIA EPIFANIA"
    "CHRISTIAN AGRILLO"
                                "NICOLA CELLINI"
[23] "ALESSIA BASTIANELLI"
                                "GIANMARCO ALTOE"
[25] "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"
                                "MARA CADINU"
[27] "JEFF KIESNER"
                                "FRANCESCO VESPIGNANI"
df$Hours
                                 5 10 10 5 5 10 10 15 20
                                                             5 15
[26] 15
```

Basic Functions on Dataframes

To know the names of all variables in a dataframe, use the names() function:

Use the dim() function to view the dimensions of a dataframe:

```
# first value is number of rows, second is number of columns (variables)
dim(df)
[1] 28 9
```

Alternatively, you can use nrow() and ncol():

```
nrow(df) # number of rows
[1] 28
ncol(df) # number of columns
[1] 9
```

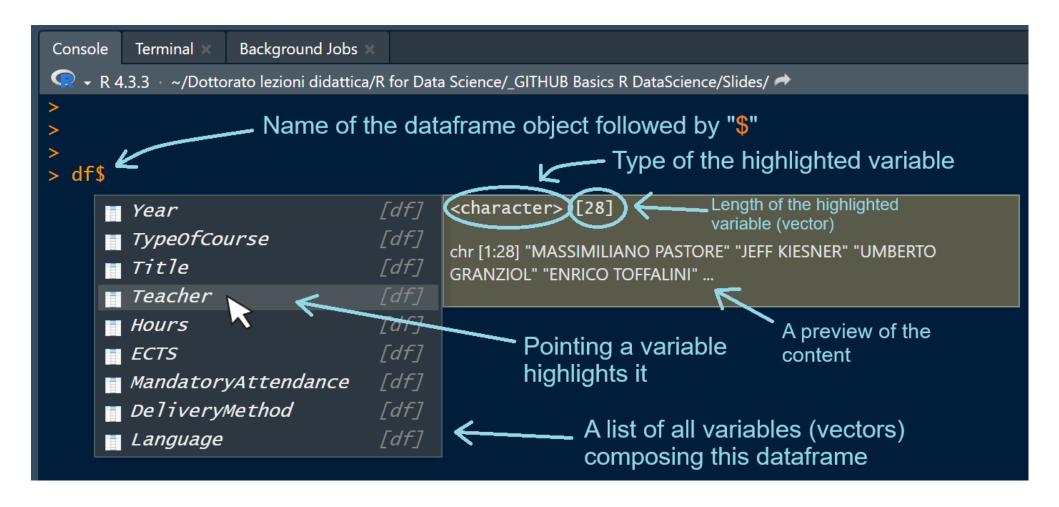
Basic Functions on Dataframes

The **str()** function provides a quick overview of the structure of a dataframe, including its dimensions, variables, their data types, and first few observations:

```
str(df)
'data.frame': 28 obs. of 9 variables:
                     : chr "1" "1" "1" "1" ...
$ Year
                    : chr "METHODOLOGY" "METHODOLOGY" "METHODOLOGY" "PROGRAMMING"
$ TypeOfCourse
$ Title
                           "CURRENT ISSUES IN STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR PSYCHOLOGY"
"LINEAR AND MIXED EFFECT MODELS WITH SPSS" "BASICS OF STATISTICAL INFERENCE WITH R"
"BASICS OF R FOR DATA SCIENCE" ...
$ Teacher
                     : chr "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE" "JEFF KIESNER" "UMBERTO GRANZIOL"
"ENRICO TOFFALINI" ...
$ Hours
                     : num
                           10 15 20 10 15 5 5 5 5 5 . . .
$ ECTS
                     : num
$ MandatoryAttendance: chr "YES" "NO" "YES" "YES" ...
$ DeliveryMethod : chr
                           "IN PERSON" "IN PERSON" "IN PERSON" "IN PERSON" ...
$ Language
                            "ENGLISH" "ENGLISH" "ENGLISH" ...
                  : chr
```

Accessing Elements in Dataframes

The "\$" (dollar) operator is essential to access variables in a dataframe:



Accessing and Working with Elements in Dataframes

As an exercise, let's check whether ECTS is actually always Hours*5

We may use many different, increasingly sophisticated, strategies:

```
df$Hours / df$ECTS
(df$Hours / df$ECTS) == 5
TRUF TRUF
sum((df$Hours / df$ECTS) == 5)
[1] 28
sum((df$Hours / df$ECTS) == 5) == nrow(df)
[1] TRUE
sum((df$Hours / df$ECTS) != 5)
[1] 0
```

Accessing and Working with Elements in Dataframes

Variables in a dataframe can be manipulated like any other vector:

```
log(df$Hours)

[1] 2.302585 2.708050 2.995732 2.302585 2.708050 1.609438 1.609438 1.609438

[9] 1.609438 1.609438 2.302585 2.302585 1.609438 1.609438 2.302585 2.302585

[17] 2.708050 2.995732 1.609438 2.708050 1.609438 2.302585 1.609438 1.609438

[25] 2.302585 2.708050 1.609438 1.609438
```

Also, new variables can easily be created and added at any time:

```
df$newVar = log(df$Hours)
names(df)
                           "TypeOfCourse"
 [1] "Year"
                                                  "Title"
                                                  "ECTS"
 [4] "Teacher"
                           "Hours"
 [7] "MandatoryAttendance" "DeliveryMethod"
                                                 "Language"
[10] "newVar"
df$newVar
 [1] 2.302585 2.708050 2.995732 2.302585 2.708050 1.609438 1.609438 1.609438
 [9] 1.609438 1.609438 2.302585 2.302585 1.609438 1.609438 2.302585 2.302585
[17] 2.708050 2.995732 1.609438 2.708050 1.609438 2.302585 1.609438 1.609438
[25] 2.302585 2.708050 1.609438 1.609438
```

Indexing Elements in a Dataframe

In addition to using the "\$" (dollar) operator, you can directly access a variable of a dataframe using indexing with square brackets []:

```
df[ , "Hours"]
[1] 10 15 20 10 15 5 5 5 5 5 10 10 5 5 10 10 15 20 5 15 5 10 5 5 10
[26] 15 5 5
```

Notice the comma "," above.

Unlike vectors, dataframes must be indexed by **both row and column**. In the example above, we're specifying only the desired column ("Hours"), leaving the row index blank before the comma, This selects all rows for the column named "Hours". Remember that blank index means "all". Importantly, the "," must always be there when indexing dataframes!

Indexing Elements in a Dataframe - Examples

```
df[ 1 , "Hours"]
[1] 10
df[ 1:5 , "Hours"]
[1] 10 15 20 10 15
df[ 1 , c("Teacher","Hours","TypeOfCourse")]
              Teacher Hours TypeOfCourse
1 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                         10 METHODOLOGY
df[ 1:5 , c("Teacher", "Hours", "TypeOfCourse")]
              Teacher Hours TypeOfCourse
1 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                         10 METHODOLOGY
         JEFF KIESNER 15 METHODOLOGY
     UMBERTO GRANZIOL 20 METHODOLOGY
     ENRICO TOFFALINI
                         10 PROGRAMMING
     LUCA STEFANUTTI 15 METHODOLOGY
df[1, c(4, 5, 2)]
              Teacher Hours TypeOfCourse
                         10 METHODOLOGY
1 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
```

Editing/modifying elements in a dataframe is similar to what you do in vectors

```
dx = data.frame(name = letters[1:10],
                score = rnorm(10))
dx
```

```
# Replace some elements with 'NA'
dx[3:5, "score"] = NA
dx
```

	name	score		name	score
1	a	1.262954285	1	а	1.262954285
2	b	-0.326233361	2	b	-0.326233361
3	C	1.329799263	3	С	NA
4	d	1.272429321	4	d	NA
5	е	0.414641434	5	е	NA
6	f	-1.539950042	6	f	-1.539950042
7	g	-0.928567035	7	g	-0.928567035
8	h	-0.294720447	8	h	-0.294720447
9	i	-0.005767173	9	i	-0.005767173
10	j	2.404653389	16) j	2.404653389

Editing/modifying elements in a dataframe is similar to what you do in vectors

```
# Multiply all elements times 10
dx$score = dx$score * 10
dx
```

	name	score		name
1	a	1.262954285	1	
2	b	-0.326233361	2	I
3	С	1.329799263	3	(
4	d	1.272429321	4	(
5	е	0.414641434	5	(
6	f	-1.539950042	6	-
7	g	-0.928567035	7	
8	h	-0.294720447	8	I
9	i	-0.005767173	9	:
10	j	2.404653389	10	-

	name	score
1	а	12.62954285
2	b	-3.26233361
3	С	13.29799263
4	d	12.72429321
5	е	4.14641434
6	f	-15.39950042
7	g	-9.28567035
8	h	-2.94720447
9	i	-0.05767173
10	i	24.04653389

Editing/modifying elements in a dataframe is similar to what you do in vectors

```
# Linearly transform all elements
dx$score = round( 100 + dx$score * 15 )
dx
```

	name	score	
1	a	1.262954285	
2	b	-0.326233361	
3	C	1.329799263	
4	d	1.272429321	
5	е	0.414641434	
6	f	-1.539950042	
7	g	-0.928567035	
8	h	-0.294720447	
9	i	-0.005767173	
10	j	2.404653389	

```
name score

1 a 119
2 b 95
3 c 120
4 d 119
5 e 106
6 f 77
7 g 86
8 h 96
9 i 100
10 i 136
```

Assigning a single value to a column replaces the value for all rows (this is unlike vectors)

```
# Replace all elements with a constant
dx$score = 3
dx
```

```
name
               score
         1,262954285
      b -0.326233361
      c 1.329799263
      d 1.272429321
      e 0.414641434
                                             6
      f -1.539950042
      g -0.928567035
8
      h -0.294720447
                                             8
      i -0.005767173
10
         2.404653389
```

```
name score

1 a 3
2 b 3
3 c 3
4 d 3
5 e 3
6 f 3
7 g 3
8 h 3
9 i 3
10 i 3
```

Indexing Dataframes by Logical Conditions

Just like for vectors, you can use **logical conditions** for indexing a dataframe.

How do you extract **only the rows** related to "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"?

h	head(df)						
	Year TypeOfCourse Title						
1	1	METHODOLOGY CUF	RRENT	ISSUES	S IN STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR PSYCHOLOGY		
2	1	METHODOLOGY			LINEAR AND MIXED EFFECT MODELS WITH SPSS		
3	1	METHODOLOGY			BASICS OF STATISTICAL INFERENCE WITH R		
4	1	PROGRAMMING			BASICS OF R FOR DATA SCIENCE		
5	1	METHODOLOGY			PSYCHOLOGICAL MEASUREMENT		
6	1	METHODOLOGY			POWER AND DESIGN ANALYSIS		
	Teacher Hours ECTS MandatoryAttendance DeliveryMethod Language						
1	MASSI	MILIANO PASTORE	10	2	YES IN PERSON ENGLISH		
2		JEFF KIESNER	15	3	NO IN PERSON ENGLISH		
3	l	JMBERTO GRANZIOL	20	4	YES IN PERSON ENGLISH		
4	E	ENRICO TOFFALINI	10	2	YES IN PERSON ENGLISH		
5		LUCA STEFANUTTI	15	3	YES IN PERSON ENGLISH		
6		GIANMARCO ALTOE	5	1	YES IN PERSON ENGLISH		

Indexing Dataframes by Logical Conditions

Just like for vectors, you can use logical conditions for indexing a dataframe.

Let's consider this logical condition:

```
df$Teacher == "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"

[1] TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
[13] FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
[25] TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

Let's use it to extract some dataframe rows:

```
df[df$Teacher == "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE" , ] # some rows by condition , all columns
  Year TypeOfCourse
                                                                     Title
        METHODOLOGY CURRENT ISSUES IN STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR PSYCHOLOGY
  2-3 METHODOLOGY
                          BAYESIAN DATA ANALYSIS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH
  2-3 METHODOLOGY
                                  DATA SIMULATION IN PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES
               Teacher Hours ECTS MandatoryAttendance DeliveryMethod Language
                          10
                                                  YES
  MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                                                           IN PERSON
                                                                      ENGLISH
16 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                                                           IN PERSON ENGLISH
                          10
                                                   NO
25 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                          10
                                                   NO
                                                           IN PERSON ENGLISH
    newVar
  2.302585
```

- 16 2.302585
- 25 2.302585

Indexing Elements in a Dataframe - A Summary

	[,"Type"]	[,"Teacher"]	[,]	"Hour	s"]
[1,]	"METHODOLOGY"	"MASSIMILIANO PASTORE"		10	
[2,]	"METHODOLOGY"	"JEFF KIESNER"		15	
[3,]	"METHODOLOGY"	"UMBERTO GRANZIOL"		20	
[4,]	"PROGRAMMING"	"ENRICO TOFFALINI"		10	
	• • •	• • •		• • •	
[28,]	"PROGRAMMING"	"FRANCESCO VESPIGNANI"	• • •	5	

Subset

Base function subset() can also be used as an alternative to indexing

```
subset(df, Teacher == "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE", select=c("Teacher", "Hours", "TypeOfCourse
                Teacher Hours TypeOfCourse
  MASSIMII TANO PASTORE
                           10
                               METHODOLOGY
16 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                           10
                               METHODOLOGY
25 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                               METHODOLOGY
                           10
df[df$Teacher == "MASSIMILIANO PASTORE" , c("Teacher", "Hours", "TypeOfCourse")]
                Teacher Hours TypeOfCourse
                               METHODOLOGY
  MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                           10
16 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                               METHODOLOGY
                           10
25 MASSIMILIANO PASTORE
                               METHODOLOGY
                           10
```

However, indexing with [] is more "computationally focused", computationally faster (especially if working with large datasets), and more similar to programming in other languages (e.g., **Python**), so should probably be favoured by data scientists!

Combine Two Dataframes Using rbind()

Imagine you have two datasets collected by two students, each including different participants:

```
df1
 subjName age accuracy
    Julie
                  0.92
           12
           10
               0.78
    Tommy
     Phil 10
                  0.85
df2
 subjName age accuracy
    Amber
                  0.87
                  0.90
      Max 13
```

Our goal is to get one single dataset including all participant's data for the final analysis. Of course, you could combined these files manually outside R (e.g., in Excel). However, it's simpler and more efficient to do this directly in R using rbind()

Combine Two Dataframes Using rbind()

```
dfTotal = rbind(df1, df2)

dfTotal
```

```
subjName age accuracy

1 Julie 12 0.92

2 Tommy 10 0.78

3 Phil 10 0.85

4 Amber 9 0.87

5 Max 13 0.90
```

Important: for rbind() to work, the two to-be-combined dataframes must:

- have the exact same number of columns;
- the column names must be identical (remember that R is case-sensitive).

Merge Two Dataframes Using merge()

Another frequent case is having data collected from the **same participants** across **different dataframes**, and having to analyze all information together:

```
df1
 subjName age
    Julie
          12
    Amber
3
    Tommy
           10
     Phil
           10
df2
 subjName accuracy time
    Julie
          0.92 1203
    Tommy 0.78 3302
     Phil 0.85 994
    Amber
4
         0.87 1163
```

Merge Two Dataframes Using merge()

You can merge the two dataframes into a single, comprehensive dataframe:

```
dfTotal = merge(df1, df2, by="subjName")

dfTotal

subjName age accuracy time

Amber 9 0.87 1163

Julie 12 0.92 1203

Phil 10 0.85 994

Tommy 10 0.78 3302
```

Important: merge() will work even if some or even all values that should be used for merging do not match... but in that case part of or all data will be lost

Contingency Tables

The table() function, which counts frequencies, can also be used on dataframes. Importantly, it can also create contingency tables when applied to multiple variables at once

```
table(df$Hours) # just counts frequencies

5 10 15 20
13 8 5 2

table(df$TypeOfCourse, df$Hours) # creates contingency table
```

```
METHODOLOGY 6 4 4 2
PROGRAMMING 1 3 0 0
SOFT SKILLS 4 1 1 0
THEMATIC COURSE 2 0 0 0
```