lab_01

February 28, 2019

1 Geographic Data Science - Lab 01

Dani Arribas-Bel

2 Data "munging"

Real world datasets are messy. There is no way around it: datasets have "holes" (missing data), the amount of formats in which data can be stored is endless, and the best structure to share data is not always the optimum to analyze them, hence the need to munge them. As has been correctly pointed out in many outlets (e.g.), much of the time spent in what is called (Geo-)Data Science is related not only to sophisticated modeling and insight, but has to do with much more basic and less exotic tasks such as obtaining data, processing, turning them into a shape that makes analysis possible, and exploring it to get to know their basic properties.

For how labor intensive and relevant this aspect is, there is surprisingly very little published on patterns, techniques, and best practices for quick and efficient data cleaning, manipulation, and transformation. In this session, you will use a few real world datasets and learn how to process them into Python so they can be transformed and manipulated, if necessary, and analyzed. For this, we will introduce some of the bread and butter of data analysis and scientific computing in Python. These are fundamental tools that are constantly used in almost any task relating to data analysis.

This notebook covers the basic and the content that is expected to be learnt by every student. We use a prepared dataset that saves us much of the more intricate processing that goes beyond the introductory level the session is aimed at. As a companion to this introduction, there is an additional notebook (see link on the website page for Lab 01) that covers how the dataset used here was prepared from raw data downloaded from the internet, and includes some additional exercises you can do if you want dig deeper into the content of this lab.

In this notebook, we discuss several patterns to clean and structure data properly, including tidying, subsetting, and aggregating; and we finish with some basic visualization. An additional extension presents more advanced tricks to manipulate tabular data.

Before we get our hands data-dirty, let us import all the additional libraries we will need, so we can get that out of the way and focus on the task at hand:

```
import pandas as pd  # This is the workhorse of data munging in Python
import seaborn as sns  # This allows us to easily and beautifully plot
```

2.1 Dataset

We will be exploring some of the characteristics of the population in Liverpool. To do that, we will use a dataset that contains population counts, split by ethnic origin. These counts are aggregated at the Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA from now on). LSOAs are an official Census geography defined by the Office of National Statistics that is small enough to create variation within cities, but large enough also to preserve privacy. For that reason, many data products (Census, deprivation indices, etc.) use LSOAs as one of their main geographies.

To read a "comma separated values" (.csv) file, we can run:

Let us stop for a minute to learn how we have read the file. Here are the main aspects to keep in mind:

- We are using the method read_csv from the pandas library, which we have imported with the alias pd.
- In this simple form, all that is required is to pass the path to the file we want to read, which
 in this case we have created by concatenating two strings. We can see the full path we have
 used:

```
In [3]: f
Out[3]: 'data/liv_pop.csv'
```

- The argument index_col is not strictly necessary but allows us to choose one of the columns as the index of the table. More on indices below.
- We are using read_csv because the file we want to read is in the csv format. However, pandas allows for many more formats to be read (and written, just replace read by to! For example, read_csv reads in, to_csv writes out). A full list of formats supported may be found here.

2.2 Data, sliced and diced

Now we are ready to start playing and interrogating the dataset! What we have at our fingertips is a table that summarizes, for each of the LSOAs in Liverpool, how many people live in each, by the region of the world where they were born. Now, let us learn a few cool tricks built into pandas that work out-of-the box with a table like ours.

• Inspecting what it looks like. We can check the top (bottom) X lines of the table by passing X to the method head (tail). For example, for the top/bottom five lines:

In [4]:	db.head()										
Out[4]:		Europe	Africa	Middle	East	and	Asia	\			
	GeographyCode	-									
	E01006512	910	106				840				
	E01006513	2225	61				595				
	E01006514	1786	63				193				
	E01006515	974	29				185				
	E01006518	1531	69				73				
		The Ame	ricas an	d the C	aribb	aan	Antar	ctica	and	Ncean	ia
	GeographyCode	THE AME	ricas an	id the o	ar 100	can	AIIUAI	CUICA	ana	ocean	14
	E01006512					24					0
	E01006513					53					7
	E01006513					61					5
	E01006515					18					2
	E01006518					19					4
In [5]·	db.tail()										
111 [0].	ab. dair()										
Out[5]:		Europe	Africa	Middle	East	and	Asia	\			
	${\tt GeographyCode}$										
	E01033764	2106	32				49				
	E01033765	1277	21				33				
	E01033766	1028	12				20				
	E01033767	1003	29				29				
	E01033768	1016	69				111				
		The Ame	ricas an	d the Ca	aribb	ean	Antar	ctica	and	Ocean	ia
	GeographyCode	1110 111110		0110 0				00200		000011	
	E01033764					15					0
	E01033765					17					3
	E01033766					8					7
	E01033767					5					1
	E01033768					21					6
• Ge	etting an overview	of the ta	ble:								
In [6]:	db.info()										
<class< td=""><td>'pandas.core.fr</td><td>ame.Data</td><td>Frame'></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></class<>	'pandas.core.fr	ame.Data	Frame'>								
	298 entries, E0			3768							
	lumns (total 5										
Europe	(,		non-nul	l into	64					
Africa				non-nul							
	East and Asia			non-nul							
	ricas and the C	aribbean		non-null							
	ica and Oceania			non-nul							
111100100		•	200								

dtypes: int64(5)

memory usage: 14.0+ KB

• Getting an overview of the *values* of the table:

In [7]: db.describe()

Out[7]:		Europe	Africa	Middle :	East and Asi	a \
	count	298.00000	298.000000		298.00000	0
	mean	1462.38255	29.818792		62.90939	6
	std	248.67329	51.606065		102.51961	4
	min	731.00000	0.000000		1.00000	0
	25%	1331.25000	7.000000		16.00000	0
	50%	1446.00000	14.000000		33.50000	0
	75%	1579.75000	30.000000		62.75000	0
	max	2551.00000	484.000000		840.00000	0
		The America	s and the Ca	ribbean	Antarctica	and Oceania
	count		298	.000000		298.000000
	mean		8	.087248		1.949664
	std		9	.397638		2.168216
	min		0	.000000		0.000000
	25%		2	.000000		0.000000
	50%		5	.000000		1.000000
	75%		10	.000000		3.000000
	max		61	.000000		11.000000

Note how the output is also a DataFrame object, so you can do with it the same things you would with the original table (e.g. writing it to a file).

In this case, the summary might be better presented if the table is "transposed":

In [8]: db.describe().T

Out[8]:		count	mea	n	std	min	\
	Europe	298.0	1462.38255	0 248.6	573290	731.0	
	Africa	298.0	29.81879	2 51.6	606065	0.0	
	Middle East and Asia	298.0	62.90939	6 102.5	519614	1.0	
	The Americas and the Caribbean	298.0	8.08724	9.3	397638	0.0	
	Antarctica and Oceania	298.0	1.94966	4 2.1	168216	0.0	
		259	% 50%	75%	max		
	Europe	1331.2	5 1446.0	1579.75	2551.0		
	Africa	7.00	14.0	30.00	484.0		
	Middle East and Asia	16.00	33.5	62.75	840.0		
	The Americas and the Caribbean	2.00	5.0	10.00	61.0		
	Antarctica and Oceania	0.00	1.0	3.00	11.0		

• Equally, common descriptive statistics are also available:

```
In [9]: # Obtain minimum values for each table
        db.min()
                                            731
Out[9]: Europe
        Africa
                                              0
        Middle East and Asia
                                              1
        The Americas and the Caribbean
                                              0
        Antarctica and Oceania
                                              0
        dtype: int64
In [10]: # Obtain minimum value for the column `Europe`
         db['Europe'].min()
Out[10]: 731
   Note here how we have restricted the calculation of the maximum value to one column only.
   Similarly, we can restrict the calculations to a single row:
In [11]: # Obtain standard deviation for the row `E01006512`,
         # which represents a particular LSOA
         db.loc['E01006512', :].std()
Out[11]: 457.8842648530303
  • Simple creation of new variables: we can generate new variables by applying operations on
     existing ones. For example, we can calculate the total population by area. Here is a couple
     of ways to do it:
In [12]: # Longer, hardcoded
         total = db['Europe'] + db['Africa'] + db['Middle East and Asia'] + \
                  db['The Americas and the Caribbean'] + db['Antarctica and Oceania']
         # Print the top of the variable
         total.head()
Out[12]: GeographyCode
         E01006512
                       1880
         E01006513
                       2941
         E01006514
                       2108
         E01006515
                       1208
         E01006518
                       1696
         dtype: int64
In [13]: # One shot
         total = db.sum(axis=1)
         # Print the top of the variable
         total.head()
Out[13]: GeographyCode
         E01006512
                       1880
         E01006513
                       2941
```

E01006514 2108 E01006515 1208 E01006518 1696 dtype: int64

Note how we are using the command sum, just like we did with max or min before but, in this case, we are not applying it over columns (e.g. the max of each column), but over rows, so we get the total sum of populations by areas.

Once we have created the variable, we can make it part of the table:

```
In [14]: db['Total'] = total
         db.head()
Out[14]:
                         Europe Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                            910
                                    106
                                                            840
                           2225
         E01006513
                                      61
                                                            595
         E01006514
                           1786
                                      63
                                                            193
         E01006515
                            974
                                      29
                                                            185
         E01006518
                           1531
                                      69
                                                             73
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania Total
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                                                      24
                                                                                 0
                                                                                     1880
                                                                                 7
                                                                                     2941
         E01006513
                                                      53
         E01006514
                                                      61
                                                                                     2108
                                                                                 2
         E01006515
                                                      18
                                                                                     1208
         E01006518
                                                      19
                                                                                     1696
```

• Assigning new values: we can easily generate new variables with scalars, and modify those.

```
In [15]: # New variable with all ones
         db['ones'] = 1
         db.head()
Out[15]:
                         Europe Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                            910
                                    106
                                                           840
         E01006513
                           2225
                                     61
                                                           595
         E01006514
                           1786
                                     63
                                                           193
         E01006515
                            974
                                     29
                                                           185
                                                            73
         E01006518
                           1531
                                     69
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania Total \
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                                                      24
                                                                                0
                                                                                    1880
         E01006513
                                                      53
                                                                                7
                                                                                    2941
         E01006514
                                                      61
                                                                                5
                                                                                    2108
         E01006515
                                                      18
                                                                                2
                                                                                    1208
```

	ones
GeographyCode	
E01006512	1
E01006513	1
E01006514	1
E01006515	1
E01006518	1

And we can modify specific values too:

Out[16]:		Europe	Africa	Middle East and Asia	
	GeographyCode				
	E01006512	910	106	840	
	E01006513	2225	61	595	
	E01006514	1786	63	193	
	E01006515	974	29	185	
	E01006518	1531	69	73	

	The Americas and	the Caribbean	Antarctica and Oce	ania	Total
GeographyCode					
E01006512		24		0	1880
E01006513		53		7	2941
E01006514		61		5	2108
E01006515		18		2	1208
E01006518		19		4	1696

ones
GeographyCode
E01006512 3
E01006513 1
E01006514 1
E01006515 1
E01006518 1

• Permanently deleting variables is also trivial:

Out[17]:		Europe	Africa	Middle East	and Asia	\
	GeographyCode					
	E01006512	910	106		840	
	E01006513	2225	61		595	
	E01006514	1786	63		193	

E01006515	974	29			185		
E01006518	1531	69			73		
	The Ameri	cas and	the Ca	ribbean	Antarctica	and Oceania	Total
GeographyCode							
E01006512				24		0	1880
E01006513				53		7	2941
E01006514				61		5	2108
E01006515				18		2	1208
E01006518				19		4	1696

• Simple querying.

We have already seen how to subset parts of a DataFrame if we know exactly which bits we want. For example, if we want to extract the total and European population of the first four areas in the table, we use loc with lists:

```
In [18]: eu_tot_first4 = db.loc[['E01006512', 'E01006513', 'E01006514', 'E01006515'], \
                                ['Total', 'Europe']]
         eu_tot_first4
Out [18]:
                         Total
                                Europe
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                          1880
                                   910
         E01006513
                          2941
                                  2225
         E01006514
                          2108
                                  1786
         E01006515
                          1208
                                   974
```

Querying based on conditions.

However, sometimes, we do not know exactly which observations we want, but we do know what conditions they need to satisfy (e.g. areas with more than 2,000 inhabitants). For these cases, DataFrames support selection based on conditions. Let us see a few examples. Suppose we want to select...

... areas with more than 2,500 people in Total:

```
In [19]: m5k = db.loc[db['Total'] > 2500, :]
         m5k
Out[19]:
                         Europe Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01006513
                           2225
                                     61
                                                           595
         E01006747
                           2551
                                    163
                                                           812
         E01006751
                           1843
                                    139
                                                           568
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania Total
         GeographyCode
         E01006513
                                                      53
                                                                                7
                                                                                    2941
         E01006747
                                                      24
                                                                                2
                                                                                    3552
         E01006751
                                                      21
                                                                                    2572
                                                                                1
```

... areas where there are no more than 750 Europeans:

```
In [20]: nm5ke = db.loc[db['Europe'] < 750, :]</pre>
         nm5ke
Out[20]:
                         Europe Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01033757
                            731
                                      39
                                                            223
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania Total
         GeographyCode
         E01033757
                                                       29
                                                                                 3
                                                                                     1025
   ... areas with exactly ten person from Antarctica and Oceania:
In [21]: oneOA = db.loc[db['Antarctica and Oceania'] == 10, :]
         oneOA
Out [21]:
                         Europe
                                Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01006679
                           1353
                                     484
                                                            354
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania Total
         GeographyCode
         E01006679
                                                                                10
                                                                                     2232
                                                       31
```

Pro-tip: these queries can grow in sophistication with almost no limits. For example, here is a case where we want to find out the areas where European population is less than half the population:

• Combining queries.

Now all of these queries can be combined with each other, for further flexibility. For example, imagine we want areas with more than 25 people from the Americas and Caribbean, but less than 1,500 in total:

Out[23]:		Europe	Africa	Middle East and	Asia \		
	GeographyCode						
	E01033750	1235	53		129		
	E01033752	1024	19		114		
	E01033754	1262	37		112		
	E01033756	886	31		221		
	E01033757	731	39		223		
	E01033761	1138	52		138		
		The Ame	ricas and	d the Caribbean	Antarctica	and Uceania	Total
	${\tt GeographyCode}$						
	E01033750			26		5	1448
	E01033752			33		6	1196
	E01033754			32		9	1452
	E01033756			42		5	1185
	E01033757			29		3	1025
	E01033761			33		11	1372

• Sorting.

Among the many operations DataFrame objects support, one of the most useful ones is to sort a table based on a given column. For example, imagine we want to sort the table by total population:

In [24]:	db_pop_sorted db_pop_sorted.		t_values	(' <mark>Total</mark> ', ascend	ing=False)		
Out[24]:		Europe	Africa	Middle East and	Asia \		
	GeographyCode	-					
	E01006747	2551	163		812		
	E01006513	2225	61		595		
	E01006751	1843	139		568		
	E01006524	2235	36		125		
	E01006787	2187	53		75		
		The Ame	ricas an	d the Caribbean	Antarctica	and Oceania	Total
	GeographyCode						
	E01006747			24		2	3552
	E01006513			53		7	2941
	E01006751			21		1	2572
	E01006524			24		11	2431
	E01006787			13		2	2330

If you inspect the help of db.sort_values, you will find that you can pass more than one column to sort the table by. This allows you to do so-called hiearchical sorting: sort first based on one column, if equal then based on another column, etc.

2.3 Visual exploration

The next step to continue exploring a dataset is to get a feel for what it looks like, visually. We have already learnt how to unconver and inspect specific parts of the data, to check for particular

cases we might be intersted in. Now we will see how to plot the data to get a sense of the overall distribution of values. For that, we will be using the Python library seaborn.

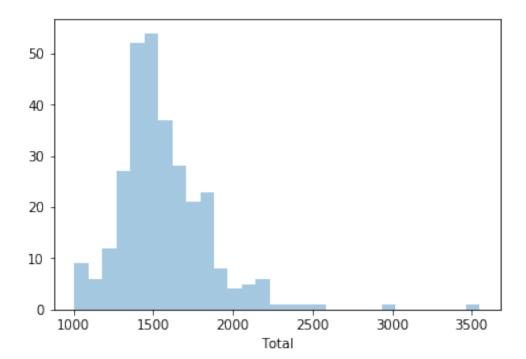
• Histograms.

One of the simplest graphical devices to display the distribution of values in a variable is a histogram. Values are assigned into groups of equal intervals, and the groups are plotted as bars rising as high as the number of values into the group.

A histogram is easily created with the following command. In this case, let us have a look at the shape of the overall population:

```
In [25]: _ = sns.distplot(db['Total'], kde=False)
```

/home/dani/anaconda/envs/gds/lib/python3.6/site-packages/scipy/stats/stats.py:1713: FutureWarnin return np.add.reduce(sorted[indexer] * weights, axis=axis) / sumval



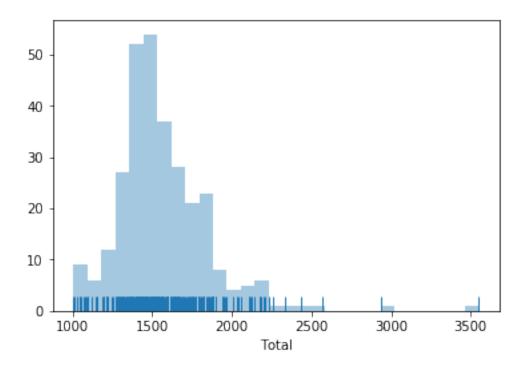
Note we are using sns instead of pd, as the function belongs to seaborn instead of pandas.

We can quickly see most of the areas contain somewhere between 1,200 and 1,700 people, approx. However, there are a few areas that have many more, even up to 3,500 people.

An additinal feature to visualize the density of values is called rug, and adds a little tick for each value on the horizontal axis:

```
In [26]: _ = sns.distplot(db['Total'], kde=False, rug=True)
```

/home/dani/anaconda/envs/gds/lib/python3.6/site-packages/scipy/stats/stats.py:1713: FutureWarnin return np.add.reduce(sorted[indexer] * weights, axis=axis) / sumval

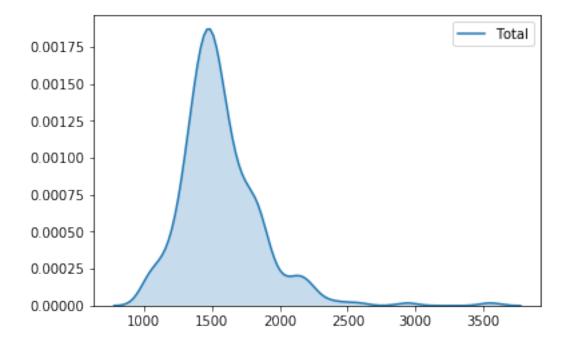


• Kernel Density Plots

Histograms are useful, but they are artificial in the sense that a continuous variable is made discrete by turning the values into discrete groups. An alternative is kernel density estimation (KDE), which produces an empirical density function:

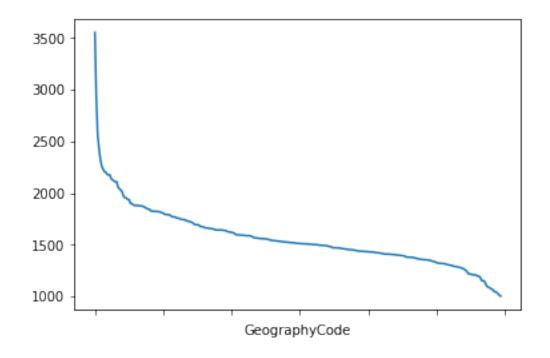
```
In [27]: _ = sns.kdeplot(db['Total'], shade=True)
```

/home/dani/anaconda/envs/gds/lib/python3.6/site-packages/scipy/stats/stats.py:1713: FutureWarnin return np.add.reduce(sorted[indexer] * weights, axis=axis) / sumval

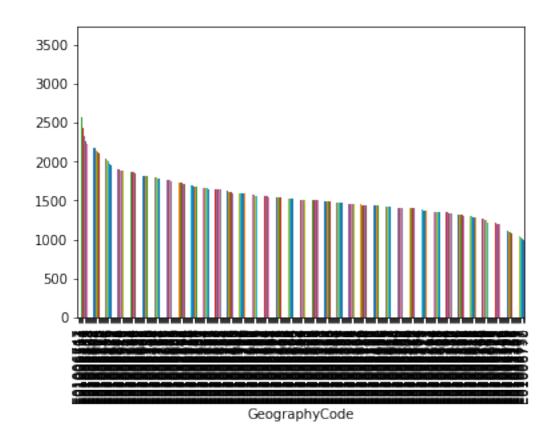


• Line and bar plots

Another very common way of visually displaying a variable is with a line or a bar chart. For example, if we want to generate a line plot of the (sorted) total population by area:

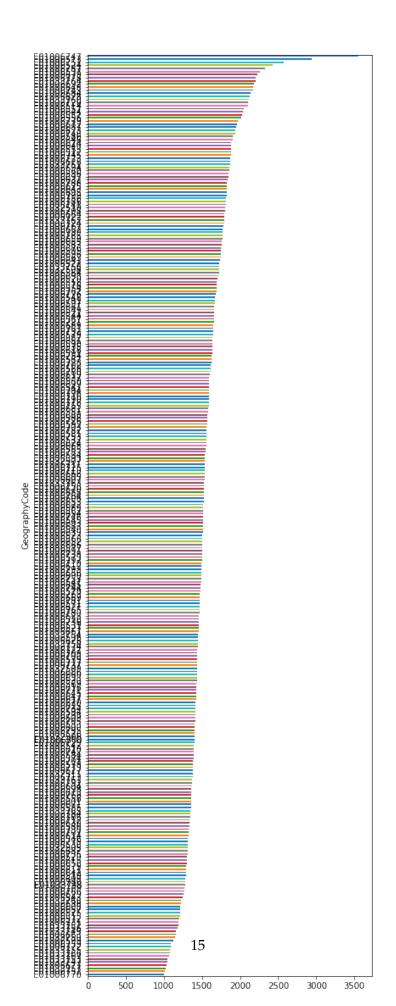


For a bar plot all we need to do is to change an argument of the call:



Note that the large number of areas makes the horizontal axis unreadable. We can try to turn the plot around by displaying the bars horizontally (see how it's just changing bar for barh). To make it readable, let us expand the plot's height:

```
In [30]: _ = db['Total'].sort_values().plot(kind='barh', figsize=(6, 20))
```



2.3.1 Un/tidy data

Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.

Leo Tolstoy.

Once you can read your data in, explore specific cases, and have a first visual approach to the entire set, the next step can be preparing it for more sophisticated analysis. Maybe you are thinking of modeling it through regression, or on creating subgroups in the dataset with particular characteristics, or maybe you simply need to present summary measures that relate to a slightly different arrangement of the data than you have been presented with.

For all these cases, you first need what statistitian, and general R wizard, Hadley Wickham calls "tidy data". The general idea to "tidy" your data is to convert them from whatever structure they were handed in to you into one that allows easy and standardized manipulation, and that supports directly inputting the data into what he calls "tidy" analysis tools. But, at a more practical level, what is exactly "tidy data"? In Wickham's own words:

Tidy data is a standard way of mapping the meaning of a dataset to its structure. A dataset is messy or tidy depending on how rows, columns and tables are matched up with observations, variables and types.

He then goes on to list the three fundamental characteristics of "tidy data":

- 1. Each variable forms a column.
- 2. Each observation forms a row.
- 3. Each type of observational unit forms a table.

If you are further interested in the concept of "tidy data", I recommend you check out the original paper (open access) and the public repository associated with it.

Let us bring in the concept of "tidy data" to our own Liverpool dataset. First, remember its structure:

In [31]: db.head()

Out[31]:		Europe	Africa 1	Middle East a	nd Asia	\		
	GeographyCode							
	E01006512	910	106		840			
	E01006513	2225	61		595			
	E01006514	1786	63		193			
	E01006515	974	29		185			
	E01006518	1531	69		73			
		The Ame	ricas and	the Caribbean	n Antaro	ctica and	Oceania	Total
	GeographyCode							
	E01006512			2	4		0	1880
	E01006513			5	3		7	2941
	E01006514			6	1		5	2108
	E01006515			18	8		2	1208
	E01006518			19	9		4	1696

Thinking through *tidy* lenses, this is not a tidy dataset. It is not so for each of the three conditions:

• Starting by the last one (*each type of observational unit forms a table*), this dataset actually contains not one but two observational units: the different areas of Liverpool, captured by GeographyCode; *and* subgroups of an area. To *tidy* up this aspect, we can create two different tables:

```
In [32]: # Assign column `Total` into its own as a single-column table
         db_totals = db[['Total']]
         db_totals.head()
Out[32]:
                         Total
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                          1880
         E01006513
                          2941
                          2108
         E01006514
         E01006515
                          1208
         E01006518
                          1696
In [33]: # Create a table `db_subgroups` that contains every column in `db` without `Total`
         db_subgroups = db.drop('Total', axis=1)
         db_subgroups.head()
Out [33]:
                         Europe Africa Middle East and Asia \
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                            910
                                    106
                                                           840
         E01006513
                           2225
                                                           595
                                     61
         E01006514
                           1786
                                     63
                                                           193
         E01006515
                            974
                                     29
                                                           185
                                                            73
         E01006518
                           1531
                                     69
                         The Americas and the Caribbean Antarctica and Oceania
         GeographyCode
         E01006512
                                                      24
                                                                                0
                                                                                7
         E01006513
                                                      53
                                                                                5
         E01006514
                                                      61
         E01006515
                                                      18
                                                                                2
         E01006518
                                                      19
```

Note we use drop to exclude "Total", but we could also use a list with the names of all the columns to keep. Additionally, notice how, in this case, the use of drop (which leaves db untouched) is preferred to that of del (which permanently removes the column from db).

At this point, the table db_totals is tidy: every row is an observation, every table is a variable, and there is only one observational unit in the table.

The other table (db_subgroups), however, is not entirely tidied up yet: there is only one observational unit in the table, true; but every row is not an observation, and there are variable values as the names of columns (in other words, every column is not a variable). To obtain a fully tidy version of the table, we need to re-arrange it in a way that every row is a population subgroup

in an area, and there are three variables: GeographyCode, population subgroup, and population count (or frequency).

Because this is actually a fairly common pattern, there is a direct way to solve it in pandas:

The method stack, well, "stacks" the different columns into rows. This fixes our "tidiness" problems but the type of object that is returning is not a DataFrame:

```
In [35]: type(tidy_subgroups)
Out[35]: pandas.core.series.Series
```

It is a Series, which really is like a DataFrame, but with only one column. The additional information (GeographyCode and population group) are stored in what is called an multi-index. We will skip these for now, so we would really just want to get a DataFrame as we know it out of the Series. This is also one line of code away:

```
In [36]: # Unfold the multi-index into different, new columns
         tidy_subgroupsDF = tidy_subgroups.reset_index()
         tidy_subgroupsDF.head()
Out [36]:
           GeographyCode
                                                  level_1
                                                             0
               E01006512
                                                  Europe 910
         0
         1
               E01006512
                                                  Africa 106
         2
               E01006512
                                    Middle East and Asia 840
         3
               E01006512 The Americas and the Caribbean
                                                            24
         4
                                  Antarctica and Oceania
               E01006512
```

To which we can apply to renaming to make it look better:

```
In [37]: tidy_subgroupsDF = tidy_subgroupsDF.rename(columns={'level_1': 'Subgroup', 0: 'Freq'})
         tidy_subgroupsDF.head()
Out [37]:
           GeographyCode
                                                 Subgroup Freq
               E01006512
                                                   Europe
         0
                                                            910
         1
               E01006512
                                                   Africa
                                                            106
         2
               E01006512
                                    Middle East and Asia
                                                            840
         3
               E01006512 The Americas and the Caribbean
                                                             24
               E01006512
                                   Antarctica and Oceania
                                                              0
```

Now our table is fully tidied up!

2.3.2 Grouping, transforming, aggregating

One of the advantage of tidy datasets is they allow to perform advanced transformations in a more direct way. One of the most common ones is what is called "group-by" operations. Originated in the world of databases, these operations allow you to group observations in a table by one of its labels, index, or category, and apply operations on the data group by group.

For example, given our tidy table with population subgroups, we might want to compute the total sum of population by each group. This task can be split into two different ones:

- Group the table in each of the different subgroups.
- Compute the sum of Freq for each of them.

To do this in pandas, meet one of its workhorses, and also one of the reasons why the library has become so popular: the groupby operator.

Out[38]: <pandas.core.groupby.groupby.DataFrameGroupBy object at 0x7f12ccc0bcf8>

The object pop_grouped still hasn't computed anything, it is only a convenient way of specifying the grouping. But this allows us then to perform a multitude of operations on it. For our example, the sum is calculated as follows:

```
In [39]: pop_grouped.sum()
```

Out[39]:		Freq
	Subgroup	
	Africa	8886
	Antarctica and Oceania	581
	Europe	435790
	Middle East and Asia	18747
	The Americas and the Caribbean	2410

Similarly, you can also obtain a summary of each group:

In [40]: pop_grouped.describe()

Out[40]:		Freq			\	
		count	mean	std	min	
	Subgroup					
	Africa	298.0	29.818792	51.606065	0.0	
	Antarctica and Oceania	298.0	1.949664	2.168216	0.0	
	Europe	298.0	1462.382550	248.673290	731.0	
	Middle East and Asia	298.0	62.909396	102.519614	1.0	
	The Americas and the Caribbean	298.0	8.087248	9.397638	0.0	

25% 50% 75% max

Subgroup

Africa	7.00	14.0	30.00	484.0
Antarctica and Oceania	0.00	1.0	3.00	11.0
Europe	1331.25	1446.0	1579.75	2551.0
Middle East and Asia	16.00	33.5	62.75	840.0
The Americas and the Caribbean	2.00	5.0	10.00	61.0

We will not get into it today as it goes beyond the basics we want to conver, but keep in mind that groupby allows you to not only call generic functions (like sum or describe), but also your own functions. This opens the door for virtually any kind of transformation and aggregation possible.

2.4 If you finish early...

Practice your data tidying skills with a different dataset. For example, you can have a look at the Guardian's version of Wikileaks' Afghanistan war logs. The table is stored on a GoogleDoc on the following address:

```
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EAx8_ksSCmoWW_SlhFyq2QrRn0FNNhcg1TtDFJzZRgc/edit?hl=en#gid=1
```

And its structure is as follows:

Out[41]: <IPython.lib.display.IFrame at 0x7f12cccab320>

Follow these steps:

- Download the table as a csv file (File -> Download as -> .csv, current sheet).
- Read it into Python.
- Explore it by creating a few plots.
- Examine its level of tidiness and turn it into a fully tidy dataset.
- Obtain a monthly total count of casualties and create a line or a bar plot of them.

This notebook, as well as the entire set of materials, code, and data included in this course are available as an open Github repository available at: https://github.com/darribas/gds18

Geographic Data Science'18 by Dani Arribas-Bel is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.