Introduction to R Data Processing

Jan-Philipp Kolb

09 März, 2020

FIRST THINGS TO DO

- Don't try to kiss your data on the first date; rather, you just want to get to know the data:
- 1. Import the data
- 2. Review the codebook
- 3. Learn about the data
- 4. Quick (visual) understanding of the data

LEARN ABOUT THE DATA

So what are the first things we want to know about our data?

- dimensions
- data types (i.e. character, integer, factor, etc.)
- missing values
- summary statistics

What are some functions to extract this information?

LEARN ABOUT THE DATA

- dimensions: dim(), ncol(), nrow(), names()
- data types: str(), class(), is., as.
- missing values: is.na(), sum(is.na()), colSums(is.na())
- summary statistics: summary(), quantile(), var(), sd(), table()

Data Frames

Example data:

```
install.packages("AmesHousing")
ames_data <- AmesHousing::make_ames()</pre>
typeof(ames_data)
## [1] "list"
head(names(ames_data))
                                      "Alley"
                                                      "Lot_Shape"
                                                                     "Land_Cont
## [1] "Lot_Area" "Street"
# Transfer data to a `data.frame`:
ames_df <- data.frame(ames_data)</pre>
```

Number of rows/columns

• Find out the number of rows/columns

```
nrow(ames_data) # rows

## [1] 2930

ncol(ames_data) # columns

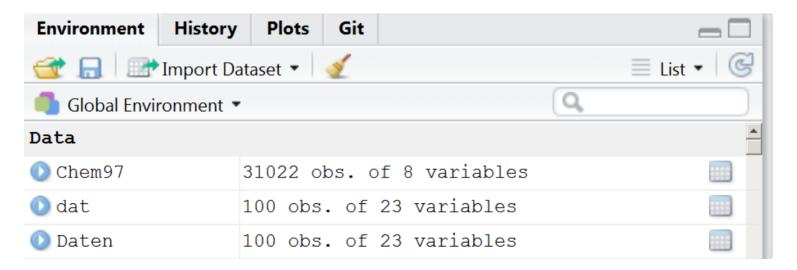
## [1] 81
```

View the data

• See some lines:

```
head(ames_df) # first lines
tail(ames_df) # last lines
```

• Overview with Rstudio:



Indexing

Accessing Columns with the dollar sign

• The dollar sign can also be used to address individual columns

```
head(ames_df$Lot_Area)

## [1] 31770 11622 14267 11160 13830 9978

ames_df$Lot_Area[1:6]

## [1] 31770 11622 14267 11160 13830 9978
```

Accessing Columns with the number or the name

```
head(ames_df[,5])
head(ames_df[,"Street"]) # the same result
```

Subsetting dataset

```
Street <- ames_df$Street
table(Street)

## Street
## Grvl Pave
## 12 2918

ames_df[Street=="Grvl",]
# same result:
ames_df[Street!="Pave",]</pre>
```

Logical operations in indexing

Select only homes with a area size bigger than 9000

ames_df[ames_df\$Lot_Area>9000,]

	Lot_Area	Street	Alley
1	31770	Pave	No_Alley_Access
2	11622	Pave	No_Alley_Access
3	14267	Pave	No_Alley_Access
4	11160	Pave	No_Alley_Access
5	13830	Pave	No_Alley_Access
6	9978	Pave	No_Alley_Access
11	10000	Pave	No_Alley_Access
14	10176	Pave	No_Alley_Access
16	53504	Pave	No_Alley_Access
17	12134	Pave	No_Alley_Access

Exercise: Vectors and Indexing

Assume that we have registered the height and weight for four people: Heights in cm are 180, 165, 160, 193; weights in kg are 87, 58, 65, 100. Make two vectors, height and weight, with the data. The bodymass index (BMI) is defined as

$$\frac{\text{weight in kg}}{\left(\text{height in m}\right)^2}$$

Make a vector with the BMI values for the four people, and a vector with the natural logarithm to the BMI values. Finally make a vector with the weights for those people who have a BMI larger than 25.

The airquality data

```
data(airquality)
Ozone <- airquality$Ozone</pre>
```

airquality {datasets}

R Documentation

New York Air Quality Measurements

Description

Daily air quality measurements in New York, May to September 1973.

Usage

airquality

Format

A data frame with 154 observations on 6 variables.

- [,1] Ozone numeric Ozone (ppb)
- [,2] Solar.R numeric Solar R (lang)
- [,3] Wind numeric Wind (mph)
- [, 4] Temp numeric Temperature (degrees F)

Other important options

• save result to an object

```
subDat <- airquality[0zone>30,]
```

multiple conditions can be linked with &

```
airquality[Ozone>18 & airquality$Month==5,]
```

• the or argument - one of the two conditions must be fullfilled

```
airquality[Ozone>18 | airquality$Month==5,]
```

Missing values

- Missing values are defined as NA in R
- Math functions usually have a way to exclude missing values in their calculations.
- mean(), median(), colSums(), var(), sd(), min() and max() all take the na.rm argument.

```
mean(0zone)

## [1] NA

mean(0zone,na.rm=T)

## [1] 42.12931
```

Find the missing values:

```
head(is.na(Ozone))
## [1] FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE
which(is.na(Ozone))
    \lceil 1 \rceil
          5 10 25
                    26
##
                         27
                             32
                                 33
                                     34 35
                                              36
                                                  37
                                                      39
                                                          42
## [26]
                 72
                     75
                         83
         61 65
                             84 102 103 107 115 119 150
table(is.na(Ozone))
##
## FALSE
          TRUE
     116
##
            37
```

Missing Data Visualisations

```
# Data Structures, Summaries, and Visualisations
# for Missing Data
library(naniar)
vis_miss(airquality)
```

The command complete.cases()

• returns a logical vector indicating which cases are complete.

```
nrow(airquality)

## [1] 153

# list rows of data without missing values
airq_comp <- airquality[complete.cases(airquality),]
nrow(airq_comp)

## [1] 111</pre>
```

A shorthand alternative

• An shorthand alternative is to simply use na.omit() to omit all rows containing missing values.

```
airq_comp <- na.omit(airquality)
nrow(airq_comp)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 111
```

Very simple imputation

```
airq <- airquality
airq$0zone[is.na(airq$0zone)] <-mean(airq$0zone,na.rm = T)</pre>
```

Comparing mean and variance

```
mean(airquality$0zone, na.rm = T) ; mean(airq$0zone)

## [1] 42.12931

## [1] 42.12931

var(airquality$0zone, na.rm = T)

## [1] 1088.201

var(airq$0zone)

## [1] 823.3096
```

NAs per column

• For data frames, a convenient shortcut to compute the total missing values in each column is to use colSums():

```
colSums(is.na(airquality))
##
     Ozone Solar.R
                       Wind
                                Temp
                                       Month
                                                  Day
##
        37
                           0
                                   0
                                            0
                                                     0
colSums(is.na(airq))
     Ozone Solar.R
                       Wind
                                        Month
##
                                Temp
                                                  Day
##
                           0
                                   0
                                            0
                                                     0
```

CRAN Task View: Missing Data

CRAN Task View: Missing Data

Maintainer: Julie Josse, Nicholas Tierney and Nathalie Vialaneix (r-miss-tastic team)

Contact: r-miss-tastic at clementine.wf

Version: 2019-07-02

URL: https://CRAN.R-project.org/view=MissingData

Missing data are very frequently found in datasets. Base R provides a few options to handle them using computations that involve only observed data (na.rm = TRUE in functions mean, var, ... or use =

complete.obs|na.or.complete|pairwise.complete.obs in functions cov, cor, ...). The base package stats also contains the generic function na.action that extracts information of the NA action used to create an object.

These basic options are complemented by many packages on CRAN, which we structure into main topics:

- Exploration of missing data
- Likelihood based approaches
- Single imputation
- Multiple imputation
- Weighting methods
- Specific types of data
- Specific application fields

Exercise: Missing values

- 1. How many missing values are in the built-in data set airquality?
- 2. Which variables are the missing values concentrated in?
- 3. How would you impute the mean or median for these values?
- 4. How would you omit all rows containing missing values?

Rename the column names

• With the command colnames you get the column names

"Solar.R" "Wind"

```
colnames(airquality)

## [1] "Ozone" "Solar.R" "Wind" "Temp" "Month" "Day"

• We can rename the column names:

colnames(airquality)[1] <- "var1"</pre>
```

• The same applies to the row names

[1] "var1"

```
rownames(airquality)
##
      \lceil 1 \rceil
          "1"
                  "2"
                         "3"
                                 "4"
                                        "5"
                                               "6"
                                                       "7"
                                                              "8"
                                                                     "9"
                                                                             "10"
                                                                                    "11"
##
          "17"
                  "18"
                         "19"
                                "20"
                                        "21"
                                               "22"
                                                       "23"
                                                              "24"
                                                                     "25"
                                                                             "26"
                                                                                    "27"
     [17]
                                        "37"
                                               "38"
                                                       "39"
                                                              "40"
                                                                     "41"
                                                                             "42"
                                                                                    "43"
##
     [33]
          "33"
                  "34"
                         "35"
                                "36"
     [49]
           "49"
                  "50"
                         "51"
                                "52"
                                        "53"
                                               "54"
                                                       "55"
                                                              "56"
                                                                     "57"
                                                                             "58"
                                                                                    "59"
                                                                                            "6
##
                                                                                    "75"
##
     [65]
          "65"
                  "66"
                         "67"
                                 "68"
                                        "69"
                                               "70"
                                                       "71"
                                                              "72"
                                                                     "73"
                                                                             "74"
                  "82"
                         "83"
                                 "84"
                                        "85"
                                                       "87"
                                                              "88"
                                                                     "89"
                                                                             "90"
                                                                                    "91"
                                                                                            11 0
           "81"
                                               "86"
##
     [81]
```

"Temp"

"Month"

"Day"

Excursus: loops

```
airq2 <- airquality # create a dublette
for (i in 1:ncol(airq)){
   airq2[,i] <- as.character(airq2[,i])
}</pre>
```

```
str(airquality)
                                  str(airq2)
                                    'data.frame':
                                                    153 obs. of 6 varia
   'data.frame': 153 obs.
##
                                                    "41" "36" "12" "18"
                                     $ var1
                                             : chr
##
    $ var1
           : int 41 36 12
                                                    "190" "118" "149" "3
                                     $ Solar.R: chr
                                 ##
##
    $ Solar.R: int 190 118
                                                    "7.4" "8" "12.6" "11
                                 ##
                                     $ Wind
                                             : chr
##
    $ Wind : num 7.4 8 12
                                                    "67" "72" "74" "62"
                                 ##
                                     $ Temp
                                             : chr
    $ Temp : int 67 72 74
##
                                                    "5" "5" "5" "5"
                                     $ Month : chr
                                 ##
    $ Month : int 5 5 5 5 !
##
                                                    "1" "2" "3" "4"
                                 ##
                                     $ Day
                                              : chr
    $ Day
             : int
##
                     1 2 3 4 !
```

The apply family

```
apply(airq,2,mean)
      Ozone Solar.R
                        Wind
##
                                  Temp
                                          Month
                                                     Day
## 42.129310 NA 9.957516 77.882353 6.993464 15.803922
apply(airq,2,mean,na.rm=T)
##
       Ozone
               Solar.R
                           Wind
                                     Temp
                                              Month
                                                          Day
## 42.129310 185.931507 9.957516 77.882353 6.993464 15.803922
# the following is possible but doesn't make sense
# for this case:
apply(airq,1,mean)
```

The command apply()

```
apply(airq,2,var)
## Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
## 823.309608 NA 12.411539 89.591331 2.006536 78.579721
apply(airq,2,sd)
## Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
## 28.693372 NA 3.523001 9.465270 1.416522 8.864520
apply(X = airq, MARGIN = 2, FUN = range)
## Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
## [1,] 1 NA 1.7 56 5 1
## [2,] 168 NA 20.7 97 9 31
```

The arguments of the command apply()

- If MARGIN=1 the function mean is applied for rows,
- If MARGIN=2 the function mean is applied for columns,
- Instead of mean you could also use var, sd or length.

Example command tapply()

```
tapply(airq$Wind, airq$Month,mean)

## 5 6 7 8 9

## 11.622581 10.266667 8.941935 8.793548 10.180000
```

• Other commands can also be used..... also self-scripted commands

Exercise: using the tapply () command

• Calculate the average ozone value by month using the airquality dataset and the tapply command.

Links and resources

- Tidy data the package tidyr
- Homepage for the tidyverse collection
- Data wrangling with R and RStudio
- Hadley Wickham Tidy Data
- Hadley Wickham Advanced R
- Colin Gillespie and Robin Lovelace Efficient R programming
- Quick-R about missing values
- Recode missing values