

8. Preparing Data for Analysis

The tidyr Package

Tidy Data - Overview

- ▶ What is data tidying?
 - ▶ Structuring datasets to facilitate analysis
- ▶ The tidy data standard is designed to:
 - ▶ Facilitate initial exploration and analysis of data
 - ▶ Simplify the development of data analysis tools that work well together
- ▶ Principles closely related to relational algebra (Codd 1990)

Why Tidy Data (Wickham 2017)

- ▶ Advantage to picking one consistent way of storing data.
Easier to learn tools that work with tidy data because they have a underlying uniformity
- ▶ Specific advantage to placing variables in columns because it allows R's vectorised functions to shine.
- ▶ dplyr, ggplot2 designed to work with tidy data

A Typical Presentation Data Set (Wickham 2014)

	treatmenta	treatmentb
John Smith	—	2
Jane Doe	16	11
Mary Johnson	3	1

Table 1: Typical presentation dataset.

	John Smith	Jane Doe	Mary Johnson
treatmenta	—	16	3
treatmentb	2	11	1

Table 2: The same data as in Table 1 but structured differently.

Figure 1: Sample Medical Trial Data

In R

```
untidy <- tibble(name=c("John Smith","Jane Doe",  
                        "Mary Johnson"),  
                 treatmenta=c(NA, 16, 3),  
                 treatmentb = c(2, 11, 1))  
untidy
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3  
##   name          treatmenta treatmentb  
##   <chr>          <dbl>         <dbl>  
## 1 John Smith      NA             2  
## 2 Jane Doe        16            11  
## 3 Mary Johnson    3             1
```

Rules for a Tidy Data Set

- ▶ Each variable must have its own column
- ▶ Each observation must have its own row
- ▶ Each value must have its own cell

In a tidy
data set:



Each **variable** is saved
in its own **column**

&



Each **observation** is
saved in its own **row**

Figure 2: Rules for Tidy Data

Problems with the data set

- ▶ Person (John, Jane, and Mary)
- ▶ Treatments (treatmenta or treatmentb)
- ▶ 6 observations

```
untidy
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##   name          treatmenta treatmentb
##   <chr>          <dbl>         <dbl>
## 1 John Smith      NA             2
## 2 Jane Doe        16            11
## 3 Mary Johnson    3             1
```

The Goal

```
> untidy
```

	name	treatmenta	treatmentb
1	John Smith	NA	2
2	Jane Doe	16	11
3	Mary Johnson	3	1



```
> tidy
```

	name	Treatment	Outcome
1	John Smith	treatmenta	NA
2	Jane Doe	treatmenta	16
3	Mary Johnson	treatmenta	3
4	John Smith	treatmentb	2
5	Jane Doe	treatmentb	11
6	Mary Johnson	treatmentb	1

Figure 3: Target Transformation

tidyr package - 4 key functions

- ▶ **gather()** takes multiple columns, and gathers them into key-value pairs: it makes “wide” data longer
- ▶ **separate()** splits a single column into multiple columns
- ▶ **spread()** takes two columns (key and value) and spreads into multiple columns, it makes long data wider
- ▶ **unite()** combines multiple columns into a single column

The Gather Process

```
>
> untidy
```

	name	treatmenta	treatmentb
1	John Smith	NA	2
2	Jane Doe	16	11
3	Mary Johnson	3	1

```
>
```

```
> tidy
```

	name	Treatment	Outcome
1	John Smith	treatmenta	NA
2	Jane Doe	treatmenta	16
3	Mary Johnson	treatmenta	3
4	John Smith	treatmentb	2
5	Jane Doe	treatmentb	11
6	Mary Johnson	treatmentb	1

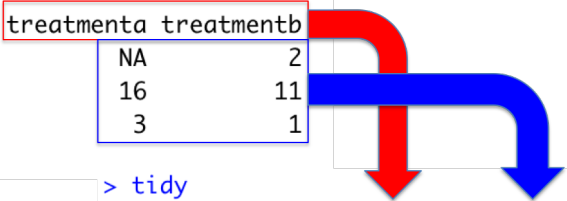


Figure 4: The gather process

Function Call

https://rpubs.com/bradleyboehmke/data_wrangling

```
Function:      gather(data, key, value, ..., na.rm = FALSE, convert = FALSE)
Same as:      data %>% gather(key, value, ..., na.rm = FALSE, convert = FALSE)

Arguments:
  data:        data frame
  key:         column name representing new variable
  value:       column name representing variable values
  ...:        names of columns to gather (or not gather)
  na.rm:      option to remove observations with missing values (represented by NAs)
  convert:    if TRUE will automatically convert values to logical, integer, numeric, complex or
              factor as appropriate
```

```
> tidy <- gather(untidy, key=Treatment, value=Outcome, treatmenta:treatmentb)
>
> tidy
```

	name	Treatment	Outcome
1	John Smith	treatmenta	NA
2	Jane Doe	treatmenta	16
3	Mary Johnson	treatmenta	3
4	John Smith	treatmentb	2
5	Jane Doe	treatmentb	11
6	Mary Johnson	treatmentb	1

> untidy

	name	treatmenta	treatmentb
1	John Smith	NA	2
2	Jane Doe	16	11
3	Mary Johnson	3	1

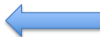


Figure 5: Calling gather()

Challenge 3.2

Convert the following data to tidy data format. Process the resulting data using ggplot2 and dplyr.

StudentID	CX1000	CX1001	CX1002	CX1003	CX1004	CX1005	CX1006	CX1007	CX1008	CX1009
1111111	56	51	78	85	63	45	55	59	52	76
1111112	56	64	68	80	70	39	46	60	55	74
1111113	52	61	63	81	71	49	54	61	54	76
1111114	50	42	72	81	63	44	62	59	56	68
1111115	67	53	77	84	65	52	63	62	52	71
1111116	45	57	62	32	61	56	62	51	55	79
1111117	67	58	54	77	75	44	58	62	57	77
1111118	69	50	66	78	72	39	60	58	57	84
1111119	70	56	62	80	71	52	60	63	54	70
1111120	51	52	46	82	74	42	66	63	55	73

Figure 6: Tidy Data Challenge

separate()

- ▶ Separate pulls apart one column into multiple columns
- ▶ It splits the information based on finding a non-alphanumeric character
- ▶ Separator can be defined (sep="/")
- ▶ A converter can find best type for the result, if needed.

Example using tidyr::table3

Function: `separate(data, col, into, sep = " ", remove = TRUE, convert = FALSE)`
Same as: `data %>% separate(col, into, sep = " ", remove = TRUE, convert = FALSE)`

Arguments:

- `data`: data frame
- `col`: column name representing current variable
- `into`: names of variables representing new variables
- `sep`: how to separate current variable (char, num, or symbol)
- `remove`: if TRUE, remove input column from output data frame
- `convert`: if TRUE will automatically convert values to logical, integer, numeric, complex or factor as appropriate

```
> table3
# A tibble: 6 x 3
  country year      rate
  <chr> <int> <chr>
1 Afghanistan 1999 745/19987071
2 Afghanistan 2000 2666/20595360
3 Brazil 1999 37737/172006362
4 Brazil 2000 80488/174504898
5 China 1999 212258/1272915272
6 China 2000 213766/1280428583
```

```
> table3 %>%
+   separate(rate,into=c("cases","population"),
+             convert=TRUE)
# A tibble: 6 x 4
  country year cases population
  <chr> <int> <int> <int>
1 Afghanistan 1999 745 19987071
2 Afghanistan 2000 2666 20595360
3 Brazil 1999 37737 172006362
4 Brazil 2000 80488 174504898
5 China 1999 212258 1272915272
6 China 2000 213766 1280428583
```

Figure 7: Example of separate()

spread() function

- ▶ Spreading is the opposite of gathering
- ▶ Useful when observations are scattered across multiple rows

```
untidy <- spread(tidy,Treatment,Outcome)
untidy
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##   name          treatmenta treatmentb
##   <chr>          <dbl>         <dbl>
## 1 Jane Doe          16            11
## 2 John Smith         NA             2
## 3 Mary Johnson        3             1
```

unite()

- ▶ The inverse of **separate()**
- ▶ Combines multiple columns into a single column
- ▶ Can use this to revert the transformed table3 back to its original

```
table3new <- separate(table3, rate,  
                      into=c("cases", "population"),  
                      convert=T)
```

```
table3new
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4  
##   country      year  cases population  
##   <chr>      <int> <int>      <int>  
## 1 Afghanistan 1999     745  19987071  
## 2 Afghanistan 2000    2666  20595360  
## 3 Brazil      1999   37737  172006362  
## 4 Brazil      2000   80488  174504898  
## 5 China       1999  212258 1272915272  
## 6 China       2000  213766 1280428583
```


unite() - sample code

```
unite(table3new, "rate", c("cases", "population"),  
      sep = "/")
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3  
##   country      year rate  
##   <chr>      <int> <chr>  
## 1 Afghanistan  1999 745/19987071  
## 2 Afghanistan  2000 2666/20595360  
## 3 Brazil       1999 37737/172006362  
## 4 Brazil       2000 80488/174504898  
## 5 China        1999 212258/1272915272  
## 6 China        2000 213766/1280428583
```

Test Slide with Plot

