

Data Science for Operational Researchers Using R Online

8. Tibble Manipulation with `purrr` and `tidyr`

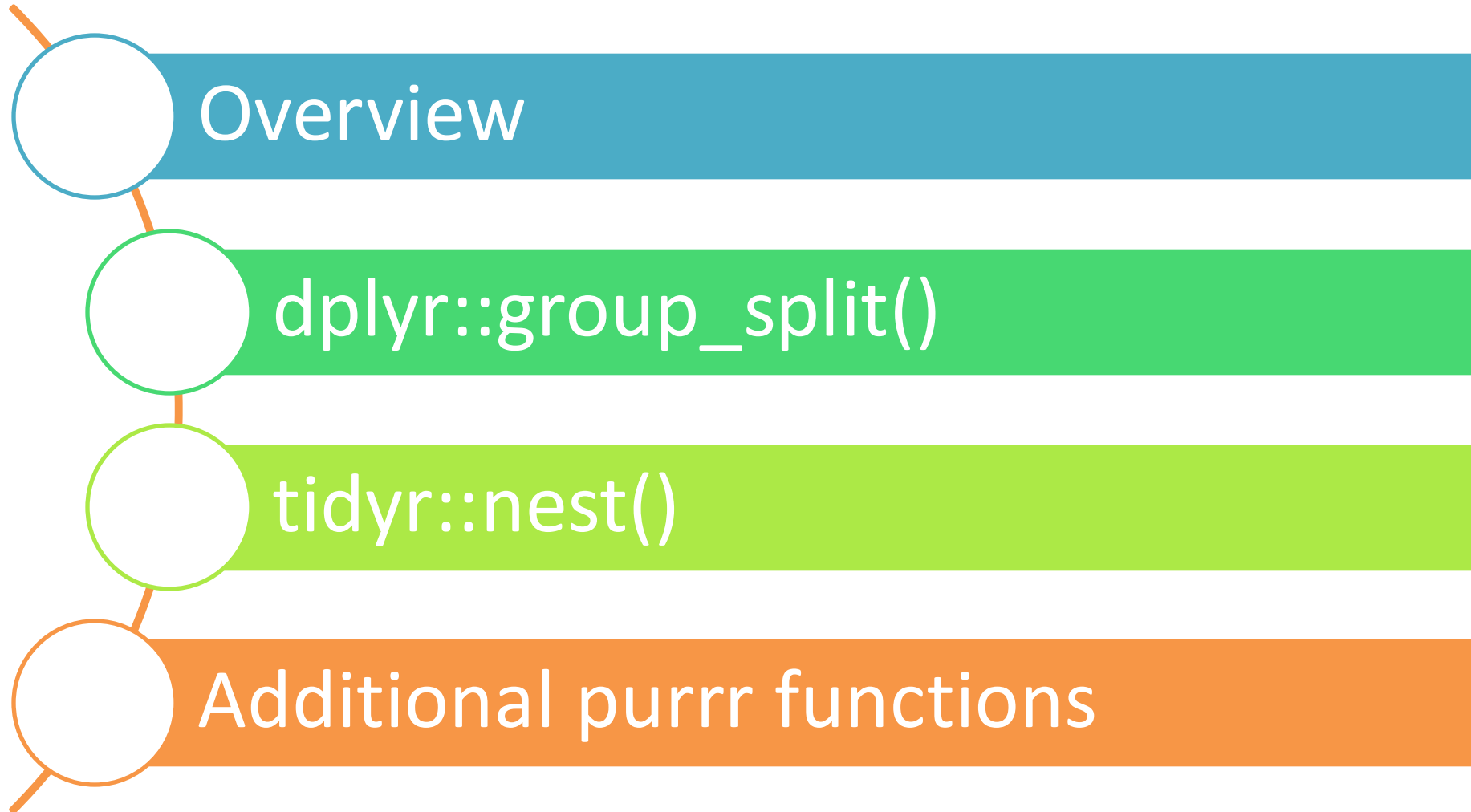
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https://github.com/JimDuggan/explore_or

R has numerous ways to iterate over elements of a list (or vector), and Hadley Wickham aimed to improve on and standardise that experience with the `purrr` package.

— Jared P. Lander ([Lander, 2017](#))

Overview



1. Overview

- A benefit of using the `tidyverse` is having the facility to combine tools from different packages, and switching between the use of lists and tibbles where appropriate.
- A common task is to divide a tibble into sub-groups, and perform operations on these.
- We have already seen how this can work using the package `dplyr`, which allows you to use the functions `group_by()` and `summarize()` to aggregate data
- The two functions we use with `purrr` are `dplyr::group_split()` and `tidyr::nest()`

2. `group_split()`

- This function, contained in the package `dplyr`, can be used to split a tibble into a list of tibbles, based on groupings specified by `group_by()`.
- This list can be processed using the `map()` family of functions.

Create a subset of `mpg`

```
set.seed(100)
test <- mpg %>%
  dplyr::select(manufacturer:displ,cty,class) %>%
  dplyr::filter(class %in% c("compact","midsize")) %>%
  dplyr::sample_n(5)

test
#> # A tibble: 5 x 5
#>   manufacturer model  displ   cty class
#>   <chr>          <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr>
#> 1 volkswagen   jetta     2     21 compact
#> 2 volkswagen   jetta    2.5    21 compact
#> 3 chevrolet    malibu    3.6    17 midsize
#> 4 volkswagen   gti       2     21 compact
#> 5 audi         a4        2     21 compact
```

Use `group_by()` and `group_split()`

```
test_s <- test %>%  
  dplyr::group_by(class) %>%  
  dplyr::group_split()
```

```
#> [[1]]  
#> # A tibble: 4 x 5  
#>   manufacturer model displ  cty class  
#>   <chr>         <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr>  
#> 1 volkswagen  jetta    2      21 compact  
#> 2 volkswagen  jetta   2.5     21 compact  
#> 3 volkswagen  gti      2      21 compact  
#> 4 audi        a4       2      21 compact
```

```
#> [[2]]  
#> # A tibble: 1 x 5  
#>   manufacturer model displ  cty class  
#>   <chr>         <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr>  
#> 1 chevrolet   malibu  3.6     17 midsize
```

Processing the list with purrr::map_int()

```
test_s %>% purrr::map_int(~nrow(.x))  
#> [1] 4 1
```

```
#> [[1]]  
#> # A tibble: 4 x 5  
#>   manufacturer model displ  cty class  
#>   <chr>          <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr>  
#> 1 volkswagen   jetta    2     21 compact  
#> 2 volkswagen   jetta   2.5    21 compact  
#> 3 volkswagen    gti      2     21 compact  
#> 4 audi         a4       2     21 compact
```

```
#> [[2]]  
#> # A tibble: 1 x 5  
#>   manufacturer model displ  cty class  
#>   <chr>          <chr> <dbl> <int> <chr>  
#> 1 chevrolet    malibu  3.6    17 midsize
```


More detailed example...

- Our goal is to calculate the **correlation coefficient** between two variables: mean sea level pressure and average wind speed.
- We simplify the dataset to daily values, where we take (1) the maximum wind speed (**wdsp**) recorded and (2) the average mean sea level pressure (**msl**).
- Our first task is to use **dplyr** to generate a summary tibble, and we also exclude any cases that have missing values, by combining **complete.cases()** within **filter()**.
- Note that the function **complete.cases()** returns a logical vector indicating which rows are complete.
- The new tibble is stored in the variable **d_data**.

```

d_data <- observations %>%
  dplyr::filter(complete.cases(observations)) %>%
  dplyr::group_by(station, month, day) %>%
  dplyr::summarize(MaxWdsp=max(wdsp, na.rm=TRUE),
                   DailyAverageMSL=mean(msl, na.rm=TRUE)) %>%
  dplyr::ungroup()

d_data
#> # A tibble: 8,394 x 5
#>   station month   day MaxWdsp DailyAverageMSL
#>   <chr>    <dbl> <int>    <dbl>         <dbl>
#> 1 ATHENRY     1     1      12      1027.
#> 2 ATHENRY     1     2       8      1035.
#> 3 ATHENRY     1     3       6      1032.
#> 4 ATHENRY     1     4       4      1030.
#> 5 ATHENRY     1     5       9      1029.
#> 6 ATHENRY     1     6       9      1028.
#> 7 ATHENRY     1     7       6      1032.
#> 8 ATHENRY     1     8       9      1029.
#> 9 ATHENRY     1     9      16      1015.
#> 10 ATHENRY    1    10      13      1013.
#> # ... with 8,384 more rows

```

```

cor7 <- d_data %>%
  dplyr::group_by(station) %>%
  dplyr::group_split() %>%
  purrr::map_df(~{
    corr <- cor(.x$MaxWdsp,.x$DailyAverageMSL)
    tibble(Station=first(.x$station),
           CorrCoeff=corr)
  }) %>%
  dplyr::arrange(CorrCoeff) %>%
  dplyr::slice(1:7)

```

```

cor7
#> # A tibble: 7 x 2
#>   Station                CorrCoeff
#>   <chr>                  <dbl>
#> 1 SherkinIsland         -0.589
#> 2 VALENTIA OBSERVATORY  -0.579
#> 3 ROCHES POINT          -0.540
#> 4 MACE HEAD             -0.539
#> 5 MOORE PARK            -0.528

```

Using `summarize()`

```
cor7_b <- d_data %>%  
  dplyr::group_by(station) %>%  
  dplyr::summarize(CorrCoeff=cor(MaxWdsp,DailyAverageMSL)) %>%  
  dplyr::arrange(CorrCoeff) %>%  
  dplyr::slice(1:7)  
  
cor7_b  
#> # A tibble: 7 x 2  
#>   station          CorrCoeff  
#>   <chr>          <dbl>  
#> 1 SherkinIsland    -0.589  
#> 2 VALENTIA OBSERVATORY -0.579  
#> 3 ROCHES POINT    -0.540  
#> 4 MACE HEAD       -0.539  
#> 5 MOORE PARK      -0.528
```

3. nest()

- The function `nest()`, which is part of the package `tidyr`, can be used to create a list column within a `tibble` that contains a `tibble`.
- Nesting generates one row for each defined group, which is identified using the function `group_by()`.
- The second column is named `data`, and is a list, and each list element contains all of the `tibble`'s data for a particular group.

```
data_n <- d_data %>%  
  dplyr::group_by(station) %>%  
  tidyr::nest()
```

```
data_n %>% head()  
#> # A tibble: 6 x 2  
#> # Groups:   station [6]  
#>   station      data  
#>   <chr>      <list>  
#> 1 ATHENRY    <tibble [365 x 4]>  
#> 2 BALLYHAISE <tibble [365 x 4]>  
#> 3 BELMULLET  <tibble [365 x 4]>  
#> 4 CASEMENT   <tibble [365 x 4]>  
#> 5 CLAREMORRIS <tibble [365 x 4]>  
#> 6 CORK AIRPORT <tibble [365 x 4]>
```

```
data_n %>% head()
#> # A tibble: 6 x 2
#> # Groups:   station [6]
#>   station      data
#>   <chr>      <list>
#> 1 ATHENRY    <tibble [365 x 4]>
#> 2 BALLYHAISE <tibble [365 x 4]>
#> 3 BELMULLET  <tibble [365 x 4]>
#> 4 CASEMENT   <tibble [365 x 4]>
#> 5 CLAREMORRIS <tibble [365 x 4]>
#> 6 CORK AIRPORT <tibble [365 x 4]>
```

```
data_n %>%
  dplyr::pull(data) %>%
  dplyr::first()
```

```
#> # A tibble: 365 x 4
#>   month   day MaxWdsp DailyAverageMSL
#>   <dbl> <int>   <dbl>         <dbl>
#> 1     1     1     12         1027.
#> 2     1     2      8         1035.
#> 3     1     3      6         1032.
#> 4     1     4      4         1030.
#> 5     1     5      9         1029.
#> 6     1     6      9         1028.
#> 7     1     7      6         1032.
#> 8     1     8      9         1029.
#> 9     1     9     16         1015.
#> 10    1    10     13         1013.
#> # ... with 355 more rows
```