R-Helper-Functions

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Contents

Data import and R in-build summary	:
Required libraries and own functions for summary tables	;
Create stratified table of data with statistical testing	;
Cross table for count data with confidence intervals	•
Cross table for a continuous variable with statistical testing	9



Data import and R in-build summary

Standard build-in summary functions are informative but the output looks messy. This is demonstrated by plotting the summary of a standard dataset on chronic ganulotomous disease (CGD) from the survival package. Given the input data, summary produces the following output:

```
library(survival)
cgd = get("cgd")
summary(cgd)
```

```
##
                                         center
                                                       random
##
           : 1.00
                      NIH
                                            :41
                                                          :1989-06-07
    Min.
                                                  Min.
    1st Qu.: 24.50
                      Scripps Institute
                                            :36
                                                  1st Qu.:1989-08-19
##
    Median : 54.00
                      Amsterdam
                                            :28
                                                  Median :1989-09-15
           : 58.09
                      Univ. of Zurich
                                            :21
                                                  Mean
                                                          :1989-09-22
##
    Mean
##
    3rd Qu.: 89.50
                      Mott Children's Hosp:20
                                                  3rd Qu.:1989-11-03
                      L.A. Children's Hosp:13
##
    Max.
            :135.00
                                                          :1989-12-29
##
                      (Other)
                                            :44
##
        treat
                       sex
                                      age
                                                     height
##
    placebo:120
                         :168
                                 Min.
                                        : 1.0
                                                 Min.
                                                         : 76.3
                   \mathtt{male}
    rIFN-g: 83
                   female: 35
                                 1st Qu.: 6.0
                                                 1st Qu.:114.5
##
                                 Median:12.0
                                                 Median :140.0
##
                                 Mean
                                        :13.7
                                                 Mean
                                                         :138.1
##
                                 3rd Qu.:20.0
                                                 3rd Qu.:169.2
##
                                         :44.0
                                                         :189.0
                                 Max.
                                                 Max.
##
##
        weight
                            inherit
                                           steroids
                                                              propylac
##
           : 10.40
                      X-linked:131
                                       Min.
                                               :0.00000
                                                                  :0.0000
    1st Qu.: 20.25
                                       1st Qu.:0.00000
                                                           1st Qu.:1.0000
##
                      autosomal: 72
    Median : 33.40
##
                                       Median :0.00000
                                                           Median :1.0000
##
    Mean
           : 39.34
                                       Mean
                                               :0.03448
                                                           Mean
                                                                   :0.8473
##
    3rd Qu.: 58.70
                                       3rd Qu.:0.00000
                                                           3rd Qu.:1.0000
    Max.
           :101.50
                                               :1.00000
                                                                   :1.0000
##
                                       Max.
                                                           Max.
##
##
                 hos.cat
                                 tstart
                                                   enum
                                                                    tstop
##
    US:NIH
                     : 41
                             Min.
                                    :
                                       0.0
                                              Min.
                                                      :1.000
                                                               Min.
                     :108
##
    US:other
                             1st Qu.:
                                       0.0
                                              1st Qu.:1.000
                                                               1st Qu.:204.5
##
    Europe: Amsterdam: 28
                             Median :
                                       0.0
                                              Median :1.000
                                                               Median :273.0
##
    Europe:other
                     : 26
                                    : 69.5
                                                                       :254.1
                             Mean
                                              Mean
                                                      :1.665
                                                               Mean
##
                             3rd Qu.:121.0
                                              3rd Qu.:2.000
                                                               3rd Qu.:320.0
##
                             Max.
                                    :373.0
                                              Max.
                                                      :8.000
                                                               Max.
                                                                       :439.0
##
##
        status
##
            :0.0000
    Min.
##
    1st Qu.:0.0000
##
    Median : 0.0000
##
    Mean
           :0.3744
##
    3rd Qu.:1.0000
##
    Max.
            :1.0000
##
```



Required libraries and own functions for summary tables

In order to summarize the data stored as a table one can use the strtable for analyzing variable names, variable classes, number of missing values, and basic stats. For factor and logical variable the level names along with their counts are given. For integer and numerical variable mean and standard deviation and quantiles (0%,25%,50%,75%,100%) including upper and lower limits are given. The stargazer package and the stargazer_long modification will plot the content as LaTeX tables. stargazer_long will convert the normal stargazer latex output to a long table which automatically splits the table whenever the table doesn't fit the paper size. Moreover, it is now possible to rotate the table heading by setting the rotation angle and to fix the table width by specifying the output paramater in standard latex notation, e.g. output="cccp{9cm}.

variable	W.	sse/13	\$1 ₆₃ 5
center	0	Factor w/ 13 levels	"Harvard Medical Sch" (4), "Scripps Institute" (36), "Copenhagen" (5), "NIH" (41), "L.A. Children's Hosp" (13), "Mott Children's Hosp" (20), "Univ. of Utah" (5), "Univ. of Washington" (4), "Univ. of Minnesota" (10), "Univ. of Zurich" (21),
random	0	Date	
treat	0	Factor w/ 2 levels	"placebo" (120), "rIFN-g" (83)
sex	0	Factor w/ 2 levels	"male" (168), "female" (35)
age	0	integer	m=13.70, sd=9.34, q=[1.00, 6.00, 12.00, 20.00, 44.00]
height	0	numeric	m=138.12, sd=31.41, q=[76.30, 114.50, 140.00, 169.50, 189.00]
weight	0	numeric	m=39.34, sd=21.83, q=[10.40, 20.10, 33.40, 59.00, 101.50]
inherit	0	Factor w/ 2 levels	"X-linked" (131), "autosomal" (72)
steroids	0	numeric	m=0.03, sd=0.18, q=[0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 1.00]
propylac	0	numeric	m=0.85, sd=0.36, q=[0.00, 1.00, 1.00, 1.00]
hos.cat	0	Factor w/ 4 levels	"US:NIH" (41), "US:other" (108), "Europe:Amsterdam" (28), "Europe:other" (26)
tstart	0	integer	m=69.50, sd=111.62, q=[0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 121.00, 373.00]
enum	0	integer	m=1.67, sd=1.16, q=[1.00, 1.00, 1.00, 2.00, 8.00]
tstop	0	integer	m=254.11, sd=96.38, q=[4.00, 203.00, 273.00, 322.00, 439.00]
status	0	integer	m=0.37, sd=0.49, q=[0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 1.00, 1.00]

```
# as HTML or text:
stargazer(s, summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE, type = "html")
```

##

##



```
## style="text-align:left"
## treat0Factor w/ 2 levels"placebo" (120),
## sex0Factor w/ 2 levels"male" (168), "fema
## age0integerm=13.70, sd=9.34, q=[1.00, 6.0
## height0numericnumeric138.12, sd=31.41, q=[76.3]
## weight0numericm=39.34, sd=21.83, q=[10.40]
## inherit0Factor w/ 2 levelsX-linked" (131
## steroids0numericm=0.03, sd=0.18, q=[0.00,
## propylac0numericm=0.85, sd=0.36, q=[0.00,
## hos.cat0Factor w/ 4 levels"US:NIH" (41),
## tstart0integerm=69.50, sd=111.62, q=[0.00]
## enum0integerm=1.67, sd=1.16, q=[1.00, 1.0
## tstop0integerm=254.11, sd=96.38, q=[4.00,
## status0integerm=0.37, sd=0.49, q=[0.00, 0]
## 
stargazer(s, summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE, type = "text")
##
## variable NAs
           class
      O Factor w/ 13 levels "Harvard Medical Sch" (4), "Scripps Institute" (36), "Copenhagen" (
## random 0
           Date
## treat
     0 Factor w/ 2 levels
      0 Factor w/ 2 levels
## sex
## age
      0
           integer
## height
      0
           numeric
## weight
           numeric
## inherit 0 Factor w/ 2 levels
## steroids 0
           numeric
## propylac 0
           numeric
      0 Factor w/ 4 levels
## hos.cat
## tstart
      0
           integer
## enum
      0
           integer
## tstop
      0
           integer
```

status

integer



Create stratified table of data with statistical testing

Many studies starts with a characteristics table of the study population with separate columns for each cohort, e.g. treatment vs. control. In our example data set we stratify by treat which has two treatment levels: placebo and gamma interferon (rIFN-g). characteristics_table.R will do the job of printing characteristics separated by a binary response (treat). P-values are the results of statistical testing comparing both groups: T test and Wilcoxon ranksum test for continuous variables with mean and SD or median and quartiles respectively. Statistical testing with categorical data is conducted with Fishers exact test or X^2 -Test (categorical with more than 3 levels). Missing values (NA's) was omitted for this analysis. Precision of numerials can be set individually for continuous values and p values. Default is one digit after decimal place $prec="\%.1f", prec_continuous="\%.0f"$ and 4 digits for p values $prec_p="\%.4f"$.

```
source("characteristics_table.R")
characteristics_table(-2, "treat", cgd[, -c(1:2)], "col", prec = "%.1f",
    prec_continuous = "%.1f", latex = "p{1.5cm}p{4cm}rrrr", tablefootnote = TRUE)
```

Variable	Level	placebo	rIFN-g	P	NAs
sex	male	100 (83.3)	68 (81.9)	0.8510 ²	0
	female	20 (16.7)	15 (18.1)		
inherit	X-linked	74 (61.7)	57 (68.7)	0.3709 ²	0
	autosomal	46 (38.3)	26 (31.3)		
hos.cat	US:NIH	20 (16.7)	21 (25.3)	0.4469 ¹	0
	US:other	67 (55.8)	41 (49.4)		
	Europe:Amsterdam	16 (13.3)	12 (14.5)		
	Europe:other	17 (14.2)	9 (10.8)		
age	Median (Quartiles)	11.5 (5.0,21.2)	12.0 (7.0,18.5)	0.75094	0
age	Mean (SD)	13.6 (9.4)	13.9 (9.3)	0.8008□	0
height	Median (Quartiles)	140.1 (107.8,169.8)	140.0 (120.0,166.5)	0.63294	0
height	Mean (SD)	136.7 (34.9)	140.2 (25.7)	0.4108□	0
weight	Median (Quartiles)	33.4 (18.1,63.5)	34.4 (22.2,52.0)	0.73734	0
weight	Mean (SD)	39.7 (23.7)	38.9 (19.0)	0.7879□	0
steroids	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.14724	0
steroids	Mean (SD)	0.1 (0.2)	0.0 (0.1)	0.1055□	0
propylac	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.50854	0
propylac	Mean (SD)	0.8 (0.4)	0.9 (0.3)	0.5015□	0
tstart	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,170.5)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.00494	0
tstart	Mean (SD)	82.1 (116.1)	51.3 (102.8)	0.0486□	0
enum	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.00074	0
enum	Mean (SD)	1.9 (1.4)	1.3 (0.6)	0.0001	0
tstop	Median (Quartiles)	267.0 (194.2,306.2)	279.0 (241.5,338.0)	0.00514	0
tstop	Mean (SD)	236.4 (103.9)	279.7 (78.0)	0.0009□	0
status	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.00114	0
status	Mean (SD)	0.5 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)	0.0007□	0

¹ Chi-squared test

It works also for categorical variables with more than 2 levels. Statistical testing will change to X^2 -Test, Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test and One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). Footnotes will tell you the statistical test behind the p values. You may change the footnote labeling as follows:

```
characteristics_table(-2, "hos.cat", cgd[, -c(1:2)], "col", prec = "%.1f",
    prec_continuous = "%.1f", latex = "p{1cm}p{2cm}rrrrrr", tablefootnote = TRUE,
    fn = c("'", "_", "''", "_", "'''", "_"))
```

.....

² Fisher's exact test

⁴ Wilcoxon rank sum test

[☐] Student's t-test



Variable	Level	US:NIH	US:other	Europe:Amsterdam	Europe:other	P	NAs
treat	placebo	20 (48.8)	67 (62.0)	16 (57.1)	17 (65.4)	0.4469'	0
	rIFN-g	21 (51.2)	41 (38.0)	12 (42.9)	9 (34.6)		
sex	male	34 (82.9)	92 (85.2)	20 (71.4)	22 (84.6)	0.3873'*	0
	female	7 (17.1)	16 (14.8)	8 (28.6)	4 (15.4)		
inherit	X-linked	26 (63.4)	74 (68.5)	14 (50.0)	17 (65.4)	0.3388'	0
	autosomal	15 (36.6)	34 (31.5)	14 (50.0)	9 (34.6)		
age	Median (Quartiles)	14.0 (9.0,25.0)	8.5 (5.0,15.5)	19.5 (12.5,25.0)	11.0 (6.5,21.5)	0.0003"	0
age	Mean (SD)	15.8 (8.6)	11.5 (9.0)	18.3 (8.9)	14.6 (9.9)	0.0015"	0
height	Median (Quartiles)	145.2 (135.0,168.0)	129.5 (107.4,159.0)	154.5 (137.6,170.6)	141.1 (120.3,169.6)	0.0017"	0
height	Mean (SD)	147.6 (24.5)	130.3 (32.2)	151.3 (28.4)	141.2 (32.8)	0.0011"	0
weight	Median (Quartiles)	42.9 (33.4,63.7)	27.9 (18.0,47.9)	49.0 (30.5,65.0)	35.5 (20.7,62.8)	0.0013"	0
weight	Mean (SD)	46.0 (20.6)	34.7 (21.4)	47.0 (21.8)	39.8 (21.5)	0.0062"	0
steroids	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0000"	0
steroids	Mean (SD)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.1)	0.2 (0.4)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0000"	0
propylac	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	1.0 (0.0,1.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.0000"	0
propylac	Mean (SD)	1.0 (0.0)	0.8 (0.4)	0.6 (0.5)	0.9 (0.3)	0.0000"	0
tstart	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,118.0)	0.0 (0.0,166.0)	0.0 (0.0,127.2)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.1957"	0
tstart	Mean (SD)	75.6 (122.5)	79.8 (118.0)	62.9 (100.2)	24.3 (59.4)	0.1444"	0
enum	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.1873"	0
enum	Mean (SD)	1.4 (0.6)	1.9 (1.4)	1.5 (0.8)	1.3 (0.7)	0.0445"	0
tstop	Median (Quartiles)	294.0 (246.0,365.0)	268.0 (198.5,331.2)	286.0 (257.0,304.0)	269.0 (198.5,286.2)	0.0948"	0
tstop	Mean (SD)	277.0 (102.9)	248.7 (102.1)	263.4 (62.4)	230.6 (87.6)	0.2160"	0
status	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.3239"	0
status	Mean (SD)	0.4 (0.5)	0.4 (0.5)	0.3 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)	0.3256"	0

^{*} Chi-squared approximation may be incorrect

Or you just store the output table and show the results in a different way, e.g. using stargazer_long to set more options.

```
s = characteristics_table(-2, "treat", cgd[, -c(1:2)], "col",
    prec = "%.1f", prec_continuous = "%.1f", tablefootnote = FALSE)
stargazer_long(s, summary = FALSE, rownames = FALSE, output = "p{1.5cm}p{4cm}rrrr")
```

Variable	Level	placebo	rIFN-g	P	NAs
sex	male	100 (83.3)	68 (81.9)	0.8510	0
	female	20 (16.7)	15 (18.1)		
inherit	X-linked	74 (61.7)	57 (68.7)	0.3709	0
	autosomal	46 (38.3)	26 (31.3)		
hos.cat	US:NIH	20 (16.7)	21 (25.3)	0.4469	0
	US:other	67 (55.8)	41 (49.4)		
	Europe:Amsterdam	16 (13.3)	12 (14.5)		
	Europe:other	17 (14.2)	9 (10.8)		
age	Median (Quartiles)	11.5 (5.0,21.2)	12.0 (7.0,18.5)	0.7509	0
age	Mean (SD)	13.6 (9.4)	13.9 (9.3)	0.8008	0
height	Median (Quartiles)	140.1 (107.8,169.8)	140.0 (120.0,166.5)	0.6329	0
height	Mean (SD)	136.7 (34.9)	140.2 (25.7)	0.4108	0
weight	Median (Quartiles)	33.4 (18.1,63.5)	34.4 (22.2,52.0)	0.7373	0
weight	Mean (SD)	39.7 (23.7)	38.9 (19.0)	0.7879	0

^{&#}x27;Chi-squared test

[&]quot; Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test

[&]quot; One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA)



steroids	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.1472	0
steroids	Mean (SD)	0.1 (0.2)	0.0 (0.1)	0.1055	0
propylac	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.5085	0
propylac	Mean (SD)	0.8 (0.4)	0.9 (0.3)	0.5015	0
tstart	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,170.5)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0049	0
tstart	Mean (SD)	82.1 (116.1)	51.3 (102.8)	0.0486	0
enum	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.0007	0
enum	Mean (SD)	1.9 (1.4)	1.3 (0.6)	0.0001	0
tstop	Median (Quartiles)	267.0 (194.2,306.2)	279.0 (241.5,338.0)	0.0051	0
tstop	Mean (SD)	236.4 (103.9)	279.7 (78.0)	0.0009	0
status	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0011	0
status	Mean (SD)	0.5 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)	0.0007	0

Alternatively xtable with longtable replacement will do the printing job too.

```
s = characteristics_table(-2, "treat", cgd[, -c(1:2)], "col", prec = "%.1f",
    prec_continuous = "%.1f", tablefootnote = FALSE)
library(xtable)
# Longtable LaTeX output
out = capture.output(xtable(s, align = "rp{1.5cm}p{4cm}rrrr"))
out = out[6:NROW(out) - 1]
out = sub("\\{tabular\\}", "\\{longtable\\}", out)
cat(out)
```

	Variable	Level	placebo	rIFN-g	P	NAs
NA	sex	male	100 (83.3)	68 (81.9)	0.8510	0
NA1		female	20 (16.7)	15 (18.1)		
NA2	inherit	X-linked	74 (61.7)	57 (68.7)	0.3709	0
NA3		autosomal	46 (38.3)	26 (31.3)		
NA4	hos.cat	US:NIH	20 (16.7)	21 (25.3)	0.4469	0
NA5		US:other	67 (55.8)	41 (49.4)		
NA6		Europe:Amsterdam	16 (13.3)	12 (14.5)		
NA7		Europe:other	17 (14.2)	9 (10.8)		
NA8	age	Median (Quartiles)	11.5 (5.0,21.2)	12.0 (7.0,18.5)	0.7509	0
NA9	age	Mean (SD)	13.6 (9.4)	13.9 (9.3)	0.8008	0
NA10	height	Median (Quartiles)	140.1 (107.8,169.8)	140.0 (120.0,166.5)	0.6329	0
NA11	height	Mean (SD)	136.7 (34.9)	140.2 (25.7)	0.4108	0
NA12	weight	Median (Quartiles)	33.4 (18.1,63.5)	34.4 (22.2,52.0)	0.7373	0
NA13	weight	Mean (SD)	39.7 (23.7)	38.9 (19.0)	0.7879	0
NA14	steroids	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.1472	0
NA15	steroids	Mean (SD)	0.1 (0.2)	0.0 (0.1)	0.1055	0
NA16	propylac	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.5085	0
NA17	propylac	Mean (SD)	0.8 (0.4)	0.9 (0.3)	0.5015	0
NA18	tstart	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,170.5)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0049	0
NA19	tstart	Mean (SD)	82.1 (116.1)	51.3 (102.8)	0.0486	0
NA20	enum	Median (Quartiles)	1.0 (1.0,2.0)	1.0 (1.0,1.0)	0.0007	0
NA21	enum	Mean (SD)	1.9 (1.4)	1.3 (0.6)	0.0001	0
NA22	tstop	Median (Quartiles)	267.0 (194.2,306.2)	279.0 (241.5,338.0)	0.0051	0
NA23	tstop	Mean (SD)	236.4 (103.9)	279.7 (78.0)	0.0009	0
NA24	status	Median (Quartiles)	0.0 (0.0,1.0)	0.0 (0.0,0.0)	0.0011	0
NA25	status	Mean (SD)	0.5 (0.5)	0.2 (0.4)	0.0007	0



Cross table for count data with confidence intervals

Printing a cross table with p value and percentages (rows sums up to 100%).

```
library(PropCIs)
source("mytable.R")
mytable(cgd$sex, cgd$treat, ci = FALSE, prec = "%.2f", latex = TRUE)
```

	placebo	rIFN-g
male	100 (59.52)	68 (40.48)
female	20 (57.14)	15 (42.86)

Overall: Fisher's exact test: p-Value=8.51e-01

Printing the same table with 95% exact Clopper-Pearson confidence intervals (PropCIs package required) and less digits with % sign, a fixed column width and floating point p-value style:

	placebo	rIFN-g
male	100 (59.5%, 51.7% to 67.0%)	68 (40.5%, 33.0% to 48.3%)
female	20 (57.1%, 39.4% to 73.7%)	15 (42.9%, 26.3% to 60.6%)

Overall: Fisher's exact test: p-Value=0.8510



Cross table for a continuous variable with statistical testing

For group-wise testing of a continuous variable pass a third variable to mytable, e.g. comparing weights in each group or the body mass index:

```
mytable(cgd$sex, cgd$treat, cgd$weight, prec = "%.1f", prec_p = "%.4f", latex = TRUE)
```

	placebo	rIFN-g	p
male	33.4 (15.3,63.7)	31.4 (20.6,49.0)	0.6957
female	33.6 (20.4,49.8)	60.8 (40.5,64.3)	0.0288*

Line by line: med (q_{25},q_{75}), Wilcoxon rank sum test Overall: Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test: p-Value=0.0752

mytable(cgd\$sex, cgd\$treat, cgd\$weight/(cgd\$height/100)^2, prec = "%.1f", prec_p = "%.4f",
 latex = TRUE)

	placebo	rIFN-g	р
male	18.0 (16.3,21.0)	17.2 (15.6,18.9)	0.0248
female	18.3 (14.4,21.0)	21.8 (18.2,28.4)	0.0222*

Line by line: med (q_{25},q_{75}), Wilcoxon rank sum test Overall: Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test: p-Value=0.0035

^{*} Cannot compute exact p-value with ties

^{*} Cannot compute exact p-value with ties