

# Data Cleaning

Data Wrangling in R

# Data Cleaning

In general, data cleaning is a process of investigating your data for inaccuracies, or recoding it in a way that makes it more manageable.

**MOST IMPORTANT RULE - LOOK AT YOUR DATA!**

# Useful checking functions

- `is.na` - is TRUE if the data is FALSE otherwise
- `!` - negation (NOT)
  - if `is.na(x)` is TRUE, then `!is.na(x)` is FALSE
- `all` takes in a logical and will be TRUE if ALL are TRUE
  - `all(!is.na(x))` - are all values of `x` NOT NA
- `any` will be TRUE if ANY are true
  - `any(is.na(x))` - do we have any NA's in `x`?
- `complete.cases()` - returns TRUE if EVERY value of a row is NOT NA
  - very stringent condition
  - FALSE missing one value (even if not important)

# Read in the UFO dataset

- Read in data from RStudio Cloud or download from:  
[http://sisbid.github.io/Module1/data/ufo/ufo\\_data\\_complete.csv.gz](http://sisbid.github.io/Module1/data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv.gz)

```
ufo = read_csv("../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv")
```

Parsed with column specification:

```
cols(
  datetime = col_character(),
  city = col_character(),
  state = col_character(),
  country = col_character(),
  shape = col_character(),
  `duration (seconds)` = col_double(),
  `duration (hours/min)` = col_character(),
  comments = col_character(),
  `date posted` = col_character(),
  latitude = col_character(),
  longitude = col_double()
)
```

Warning: 199 parsing failures.

row	col	expected	actual	file
877	--	11 columns	12 columns	'../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv'
1712	--	11 columns	12 columns	'../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv'
1814	--	11 columns	12 columns	'../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv'
2857	--	11 columns	12 columns	'../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv'
3733	--	11 columns	12 columns	'../data/ufo/ufo_data_complete.csv'

## Data cleaning “before” R

You saw warning messages when reading in this dataset. Let’s just drop those rows for now

```
p = problems(ufo)
ufo = ufo[-p$row,] # brackets can also be used for subsetting
```

# Checking for logical conditions

- `any()` - checks if there are any TRUEs
- `all()` - checks if ALL are true

```
any(is.na(ufo$state)) # are there any NAs?
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
table(is.na(ufo$state)) # are there any NAs?
```

```
FALSE  TRUE  
81268  7408
```

# Recoding Variables

## Example of Recoding: base R

For example, let's say gender was coded as Male, M, m, Female, F, f. Using Excel to find all of these would be a matter of filtering and changing all by hand or using if statements.

In R, you can simply do something like:

```
data$gender[data$gender %in%  
  c("Male", "M", "m")] <- "Male"
```



## Example of Cleaning: more complicated

Sometimes though, it's not so simple. That's where functions that find patterns come in very useful.

```
table(gender)
```

```
gender
  F FeMAle FEMALE      Fm      M      Ma  mAle  Male  MaLe  MALE  Man
80  88  76  87  99  76  84  83  79  93  84
Woman
71
```

# String functions

# Useful String Functions

## Useful String functions

- `toupper()`, `tolower()` - uppercase or lowercase your data:
- `str_trim()` (in the `stringr` package) or `trimws` in base
  - will trim whitespace
- `nchar` - get the number of characters in a string
- `paste()` - paste strings together with a space
- `paste0` - paste strings together with no space as default

## Pasting strings with `paste` and `paste0`

Paste can be very useful for joining vectors together:

```
paste("Visit", 1:5, sep = "_")
```

```
[1] "Visit_1" "Visit_2" "Visit_3" "Visit_4" "Visit_5"
```

```
paste("Visit", 1:5, sep = "_", collapse = " ")
```

```
[1] "Visit_1 Visit_2 Visit_3 Visit_4 Visit_5"
```

```
paste("To", "is going be the ", "we go to the store!", sep = "day ")
```

```
[1] "Today is going be the day we go to the store!"
```

```
# and paste0 can be even simpler see ?paste0  
paste0("Visit", 1:5)
```

```
[1] "Visit1" "Visit2" "Visit3" "Visit4" "Visit5"
```

# Paste Depicting How Collapse Works

```
paste(1:5)
```

```
[1] "1" "2" "3" "4" "5"
```

```
paste(1:5, collapse = " ")
```

```
[1] "1 2 3 4 5"
```

# The **stringr** package

Like `dplyr`, the `stringr` package:

- Makes some things more intuitive
- Is different than base R
- Is used on forums for answers
- Has a standard format for most functions
  - the first argument is a string like first argument is a `data.frame` in `dplyr`

# Substringing

stringr

- `str_sub(x, start, end)` - substrings from position start to position end
- `str_split(string, pattern)` - splits strings up - returns list! [we'll revisit in "Functional Programming"]

# Substringing

Examples:

```
str_sub("I like pizza", 8,12)
```

```
[1] "pizza"
```

```
str_sub(c("Site A", "Site B", "Site C"), 6,6)
```

```
[1] "A" "B" "C"
```



# Splitting/Find/Replace and Regular Expressions

- R can do much more than find exact matches for a whole string
- Like Perl and other languages, it can use regular expressions.
- What are regular expressions?
  - Ways to search for specific strings
  - Can be very complicated or simple
  - Highly Useful - think “Find” on steroids

# A bit on Regular Expressions

- <http://www.regular-expressions.info/reference.html>
- They can use to match a large number of strings in one statement
- `.` matches any single character
- `*` means repeat as many (even if 0) more times the last character
- `?` makes the last thing optional
- `^` matches start of vector `^a` - starts with "a"
- `$` matches end of vector `b$` - ends with "b"

## 'Find' functions: **stringr**

`str_detect`, `str_subset`, `str_replace`, and `str_replace_all` search for matches to argument pattern within each element of a character vector: they differ in the format of and amount of detail in the results.

- `str_detect` - returns TRUE if pattern is found
- `str_subset` - returns only the strings which pattern were detected
  - convenient wrapper around `x[str_detect(x, pattern)]`
- `str_extract` - returns only strings which pattern were detected, but ONLY the pattern
- `str_replace` - replaces pattern with replacement the first time
- `str_replace_all` - replaces pattern with replacement as many times matched

## Let's look at modifier for `stringr`

?modifiers

- `fixed` - match everything exactly
- `regex` - default - uses **regular expressions**
- `ignore_case` is an option to not have to use `tolower`

## 'Find' functions: Finding Indices

These are the indices where the pattern match occurs:

```
which(str_detect(ufo$comments, "two aliens"))
```

```
[1] 1728 61579
```

## 'Find' functions: Finding Logicals

These are the indices where the pattern match occurs:

```
str_detect(ufo$comments, "two aliens") %>% head()
```

```
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
```

# 'Find' functions: finding values, stringr and dplyr

```
str_subset(ufo$comments, "two aliens")
```

```
[1] "((HOAX??)) two aliens appeared from a bright light to peacefully investigate the surroundings in the woods"  
[2] "Witnessed two aliens walking along baseball field fence."
```

```
ufo %>% filter(str_detect(comments, "two aliens"))
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 11  
  datetime city state country shape `duration (seco...` `duration (hour... comments  
  <chr>      <chr> <chr> <chr>    <chr>          <dbl> <chr>          <chr>  
1 10/14/2... yuma va us form...      300 5 minutes ((HOAX?...  
2 7/1/200... nort... ct <NA> unkn...      60 1 minute Witness...  
# ... with 3 more variables: `date posted` <chr>, latitude <chr>, longitude <dbl>
```

## Showing difference in `str_extract`

`str_extract` extracts just the matched string

```
ss = str_extract(ufo$comments, "two aliens")  
head(ss)
```

```
[1] NA NA NA NA NA NA
```

```
ss[ !is.na(ss)]
```

```
[1] "two aliens" "two aliens"
```

- Look for any comment that starts with “aliens”

```
str_subset(ufo$comments, "^aliens.*")
```

```
[1] "aliens speak german???" "aliens exist"           "aliens in srilanka"
```



# Using Regular Expressions

That contains space then ship maybe with stuff in between

```
str_subset(ufo$comments, "space.?ship") %>% head(7)
```

```
[1] "I saw the cylinder shaped looked like a spaceship hovering above the east  
[2] "description of a spaceship spotted over Birmingham Alabama in 1967."  
[3] "A space ship was descending to the ground"  
[4] "On Monday october 3&#44; 2005&#44; I spotted two spaceships in the sky. Th  
[5] "Me and my daughter seen the most beautiful shiney spaceship. Not a UFO it  
[6] "I saw a Silver space ship rising into the early morning sky over Houston&  
[7] "Saw a space ship hanging over the southern (Manzano) portion of the Sandi
```

# Replace

Let's say we wanted to sort the data set by latitude and longitude:

```
class(ufo$latitude)
```

```
[1] "character"
```

```
sort(c("1", "2", "10")) # not sort correctly (order simply ranks the data)
```

```
[1] "1"  "10" "2"
```

```
order(c("1", "2", "10"))
```

```
[1] 1 3 2
```

# Replace

So we must change the coordinates into a numeric:

```
head(ufo$latitude, 4)
```

```
[1] "29.8830556" "29.38421"   "53.2"        "28.9783333"
```

```
head(as.numeric(ufo$latitude), 4)
```

```
Warning in head(as.numeric(ufo$latitude), 4): NAs introduced by coercion
```

```
[1] 29.88306 29.38421 53.20000 28.97833
```

# Dropping bad observations

```
dropIndex = which(is.na(as.numeric(ufo$latitude)) |  
                  is.na(as.numeric(ufo$longitude)))
```

```
Warning in which(is.na(as.numeric(ufo$latitude)) |  
is.na(as.numeric(ufo$longitude))): NAs introduced by coercion
```

```
ufo_clean = ufo[-dropIndex,]  
dim(ufo_clean)
```

```
[1] 88675    11
```

# Replacing and subbing: **stringr**

We can do the same thing (with 2 piping operations!) in dplyr

```
ufo_dplyr = ufo_clean
ufo_dplyr = ufo_dplyr %>% mutate(
  latitude = latitude %>% as.numeric,
  longitude = longitude %>% as.numeric) %>%
  arrange(latitude, longitude)
ufo_dplyr[1:5, c("datetime", "latitude", "longitude")]
```

```
# A tibble: 5 x 3
  datetime      latitude longitude
  <chr>          <dbl>     <dbl>
1 5/15/1994 13:00    -82.9     -135
2 4/14/2002 22:22    -46.4      168.
3 7/3/2002 22:35    -46.4      168.
4 10/23/2008 04:45   -46.2      170.
5 6/1/1998 22:00    -45.7      171.
```

# Special characters

```
money = tibble(group = letters[1:5],  
  amount = c("$12.32", "$43.64", "$765.43", "$93.31", "$12.13"))  
money %>% arrange(amount)
```

```
# A tibble: 5 x 2  
  group amount  
  <chr> <chr>  
1 e     $12.13  
2 a     $12.32  
3 b     $43.64  
4 c     $765.43  
5 d     $93.31
```

```
as.numeric(money$amount)
```

Warning: NAs introduced by coercion

```
[1] NA NA NA NA NA
```

## Special characters

In the past, we would recommend just replacing the \$ sign with an empty string and convert to numeric:

```
money$amountNum = as.numeric(str_replace(money$amount, fixed("$"), ""))  
money %>% arrange(amountNum)
```

```
# A tibble: 5 x 3  
  group amount amountNum  
  <chr> <chr>      <dbl>  
1 e     $12.13      12.1  
2 a     $12.32      12.3  
3 b     $43.64      43.6  
4 d     $93.31      93.3  
5 c     $765.43     765.
```

# Special characters

But now there are better helper functions for this:

```
money$amount = parse_number(money$amount)
money %>% arrange(amount)
```

```
# A tibble: 5 x 3
  group amount amountNum
  <chr>   <dbl>      <dbl>
1 e      12.1       12.1
2 a      12.3       12.3
3 b      43.6       43.6
4 d      93.3       93.3
5 c     765.       765.
```



# Special characters

Also works for internal commas:

```
parse_number(c("12,123,123.00", "12,465.10"))
```

```
[1] 12123123.0    12465.1
```