Tidy Data

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Introduction to Data Wrangling

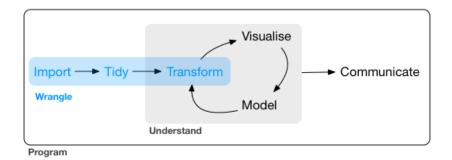


Figure 1: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

Introduction to Data Wrangling

Today we will discuss the often-frustrating but necessary steps that come before we can visualize or model data.

- Importing data (read it into your analysis software)
- ► Tidying data (put it in a tidy format for data analysis)
- Transforming data (perform any transformations necessary)

Together, these steps are often collectively refered to as data wrangling.

We will focus on importing and tidying today.

Tibbles

Tibbles are a type of lightweight data frame used by the tidyverse.

They inherit many behaviors from data.frame.

In fact, as an S3 class, they inherit from data.frame directly.

```
class(mpg)
```

```
## [1] "tbl_df" "tbl" "data.frame"
```

The tbl_df part tells us that it's a tibble that is fully loaded in memory. The data.frame part tells it inherits from data.frame.

tbl is the tidyverse's generic notion of tabular data. They will become important again later when we discuss working with databases.

Differences versus data.frame

- ► Tibbles print only the first 10 rows
- ▶ Tibbles print only as many columns as fit on your console
- ▶ Tibbles print information about the column data type
- ▶ Tibbles don't require row.names
- ▶ Tibbles don't munge column names
- Tibbles don't coerce inputs (stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
- Tibbles always use drop=FALSE when subsetting with data[,j]
- ▶ You can always use as.data.frame to get an ordinary data.frame

Coercing tibbles with as_tibble

as_tibble(iris)

```
## # A tibble: 150 \times 5
      Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
##
##
              dbl>
                           <dbl>
                                         <dbl>
                                                      <dbl> <fct>
##
                5.1
                             3.5
                                           1.4
                                                        0.2 setosa
##
                4.9
                             3
                                           1.4
                                                        0.2 setosa
##
    3
                4.7
                             3.2
                                           1.3
                                                        0.2 setosa
                4.6
##
                             3.1
                                           1.5
                                                        0.2 setosa
                             3.6
##
    5
                5
                                           1.4
                                                        0.2 setosa
##
    6
                5.4
                             3.9
                                           1.7
                                                        0.4 setosa
    7
                4.6
##
                             3.4
                                           1.4
                                                        0.3 setosa
##
    8
                5
                             3.4
                                           1.5
                                                        0.2 setosa
                4.4
                             2.9
##
                                           1.4
                                                        0.2 setosa
   10
                4.9
                             3.1
                                           1.5
##
                                                        0.1 setosa
##
   # ... with 140 more rows
```

Creating tibbles with tibble

```
tibble(x=1:10, y=11:20, z=letters[1:10])
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3
##
       х
##
    <int> <int> <chr>
##
  1
       1
           11 a
##
   2
       2 12 b
##
   3
       3 13 c
   4
       4 14 d
##
##
   5
       5 15 e
   6
       6 16 f
##
##
  7
           17 g
       8 18 h
##
   8
##
  9
       9 19 i
##
  10
       10
           20 j
```

Creating tibbles with tribble

```
tribble(~x, ~y, ~z,

1, 2, 'i',

2, 4, 'j',

3, 8, 'k')
```

A note on factors

- Categorical variables are stored in R as the factor data type
- ▶ Factors are stored as integers with character information about levels
 - This allows them to be smaller than character vectors
 - This is also useful for many statistical methods
- Many base R functions automatically coerce character to factor; most tidyverse functions do not
 - data.frame() vs tibble()
 - read.csv() vs read_csv()
- ordered is an ordered version for categorical variables with order levels
- ► Can change levels with levels()<- or dplyr::recode()
- ▶ Use factor or character?

```
fc <- factor(c("red", "red", "blue"))</pre>
fc.
## [1] red red blue
## Levels: blue red
levels(fc) <- c("blue2", "red1")</pre>
fс
## [1] red1 red1 blue2
## Levels: blue2 red1
dplyr::recode(fc, red1="one", blue2="two")
## [1] one one two
## Levels: two one
```

Importing data

At some point, it is necessary to import outside datasets into your data analysis software (R in our case).

Sometimes this can be easy, but sometimes this can be the most tedious and frustrating step in data science.

Data files can be:

- Messy
- Have errors
- An unknown file format
- Text or binary
- Structured or unstructured

Today, we will focus on ways of importing tabular data in a flat text file.

Next week, we will discuss importing other types of data.

Importing data with readr

The readr package is the part of the tidyverse responsible for importing data.

It provides multiple functions for the importing of tabular data.

- read_csv() and family read delimited files
 - read_csv() and read_csv2() read in comma or semicolon separated files, respectively
 - read_tsv() reads in tab-delimited files
 - read_delim() allows the user to specify the delimiter
- read_fwf() reads fixed-width files
- read_file() and read_lines() simply read in lines or full files as character data or raw (byte) data

We will primarily discuss read_csv().

Differences with read.csv() and related functions

read.csv() and similar functions are also provided in any default R installation (package utils, loaded automatically in most R sessions).

The readr versions such as read_csv() have certain advantages:

- ► They are typically faster (up to 10x)
- They typically use less memory
- ▶ They output data as tibbles
 - character vectors aren't coerced to factor
 - row.names are not added
 - Column names are not munged

Reading csv files with read_csv

First argument is the path to the file.

This may be a relative path or the full path.

R understands typicaly *nix shortcuts.

```
output1 <- read_csv("path/to/file.csv")
output1 <- read_csv("/Users/username/data/path/to/file.csv")
output2 <- read_csv("~/path/to/other/file.csv")
output1 <- read_csv("../data/path/to/file.csv")</pre>
```

```
mtcars2 <- read csv(readr example("mtcars.csv"))</pre>
```

```
## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
##
    mpg = col double(),
##
   cyl = col double(),
##
   disp = col double(),
##
    hp = col double(),
##
    drat = col double(),
##
   wt = col double(),
##
    qsec = col_double(),
##
    vs = col double(),
##
    am = col_double(),
##
    gear = col double(),
##
     carb = col double()
## )
```

```
## # A tibble: 32 x 11
       mpg cyl disp hp drat wt qsec vs
##
                                                    am gea
     <dbl> <dbl
##
##
      21
              6 160
                       110 3.9
                                 2.62
                                      16.5
   1
                                               0
                                                    1
##
   2
      21
              6
                160
                       110 3.9
                                 2.88 17.0
                                               0
##
   3 22.8
              4
                108 93 3.85 2.32 18.6
                       110 3.08 3.22 19.4
##
   4
      21.4
              6
                 258
                                                    0
   5 18.7
##
              8
                 360
                       175 3.15 3.44 17.0
                                               0
                                                    0
              6 225
##
   6 18.1
                       105 2.76 3.46
                                      20.2
                                                    0
     14.3
              8
                 360
                       245 3.21
                                 3.57
##
   7
                                       15.8
                                                    0
##
   8
      24.4
              4
                147.
                     62 3.69
                                 3.19
                                       20
                                                    0
              4 141.
                        95 3.92
                                                    0
##
   9 22.8
                                 3.15 22.9
  10
      19.2
              6 168.
                       123 3.92 3.44 18.3
##
                                                    0
##
  # ... with 22 more rows
```

Inline csv input is also accepted.

```
read_csv("a,b,c
1,2,3
4,5,6")
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## a b c
## < <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> 3
## 1 1 2 3
## 2 4 5 6
```

```
read_csv("a,b,c\n1,2,3\n4,5,6")
```

2

5

3

6

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## a b c
## <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
```

1

1

2 4

Skip lines with skip.

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
## x y z
## <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> = 3
```

Specify comments with comment.

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
## x y z
## <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> ## 1 1 2 3
```

read_csv() assumes the first line gives column names.

Set col names to FALSE if this is not the case.

```
read_csv("1,2,3\n4,5,6", col_names = FALSE)
```

A tibble: 2 x 3

Or use col_names to set your own column names.

```
read_csv("1,2,3\n4,5,6", col_names = c("x", "y", "z"))
```

A tibble: 2 x 3

Use na to tell read_csv() how missing values are specified

```
read_csv("a,b,c
1,2,.", na = ".")
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 3

## a b c

## <dbl> <dbl> <lgl>
## 1 1 2 NA
```

```
read_csv() attempts to guess the correct data type for each column.

Use column data types and cols() to manually specify column data types
```

```
Use col_types and cols() to manually specify column data types.

tmp <- read_csv("a,b,c\n1,2,3\n4,5,6",
```

c=col character()))

col_types = cols(b=col_character(),

You can also set a default column data type.

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## a b c
## <chr> <chr> ## 1 1 2 3
## 2 4 5 6
```

Sometimes read_csv() guesses wrong.

See problems(...) for more details.

```
challenge <- read csv(readr example("challenge.csv"))</pre>
## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
## x = col double(),
## y = col logical()
## )
## Warning: 1000 parsing failures.
## row col
                     expected actual
## 1001 y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2015-01-16 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1002 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2018-05-18 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1003 y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2015-09-05 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1004 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2012-11-28 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
          y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2020-01-13 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1005
```

problems(challenge)

##

A tibble: 1,000 x 5

```
##
     <int> <chr> <chr>
                            <chr> <chr>
   1 1001 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2015-01~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
   2 1002 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2018-05~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
##
   3 1003 v
                1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2015-09~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
   4 1004 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2012-11~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
##
   5 1005 v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2020-01~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
   6 1006 y
                1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2016-04~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
   7 1007 y
                1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2011-05~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
                1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2020-07~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
   8 1008 v
                1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2011-04~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
##
   9
      1009 v
      1010 y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/~ 2010-05~ '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 10
## # ... with 990 more rows
```

row col expected actual file

x should be a double

```
challenge <- read csv(readr example("challenge.csv"),
                      col types=cols(x=col double()))
```

```
## Warning: 1000 parsing failures.
##
   row col
                     expected
                              actual
```

```
v 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2015-01-16 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1001
## 1002 y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2018-05-18 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
```

```
## 1003 y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2015-09-05 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## 1004
## 1005
```

```
y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2012-11-28 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
          y 1/0/T/F/TRUE/FALSE 2020-01-13 '/Users/kuwisdelu/Libr
## See problems(...) for more details.
```

challenge

```
## # A tibble: 2,000 x 2
##
         х у
##
     <dbl> <lgl>
## 1 404 NA
##
   2 4172 NA
   3 3004 NA
##
##
   4 787 NA
##
   5 37 NA
## 6 2332 NA
## 7 2489 NA
## 8 1449 NA
## 9 3665 NA
## 10 3863 NA
## # ... with 1,990 more rows
```

Did read_csv() guess correctly for y?

```
challenge[which(!is.na(challenge$y)),]
```

```
## # A tibble: 0 x 2
## # ... with 2 variables: x <dbl>, y <lgl>
```

y should be a date.

By default, $read_csv()$ guesses based on the first 1000 rows.

We can tell ${\tt read_csv}()$ to look at more rows before guessing.

```
## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
##    x = col_double(),
##    y = col_date(format = "")
## )
```

This also fixes the problem in this case.

Writing csv files with write_csv

We can also write out files.

The first argument is the data and the second argument is the path.

```
write_csv(mtcars2, "mtcars2.csv")
```

Because the data is written as text, all type information is lost.

Reading tabular and non-tabular data

There are many other packages for reading other types of data formats.

Some packages for reading other formats of tabular data include:

- haven for reading SPSS, Stata, and SAS files
- readxl for reading Excel files
- ▶ DBI and a database backend allow working with databases

We will also discuss more on importing and tidying non-tabular data next week.

Tidy data

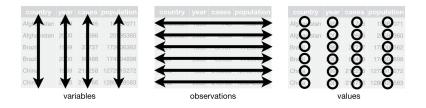


Figure 2: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

Review of tidy data rules

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

```
\#\# \# \# \# tibble: 12 \times 4
##
     country
                 year type
                                      count
     <chr>
               <int> <chr>
                                      <int>
##
   1 Afghanistan 1999 cases
##
                                        745
   2 Afghanistan 1999 population
##
                                   19987071
##
   3 Afghanistan 2000 cases
                                       2666
                  2000 population
##
   4 Afghanistan
                                   20595360
                                      37737
##
   5 Brazil
                  1999 cases
                  1999 population 172006362
##
   6 Brazil
                  2000 cases
                                      80488
##
   7 Brazil
##
   8 Brazil
                  2000 population 174504898
                  1999 cases
##
   9 China
                                     212258
## 10 China
                  1999 population 1272915272
## 11 China
                  2000 cases
                                     213766
## 12 China
                  2000 population 1280428583
```

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

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

Why tidy data?

- Consistent format allows us to work with many datasets with a single set of tools
- Vectorized operations on variables are intuitive and computationally efficient

Tidying data with tidyr

The tidyr package is the part of the tidyverse responsible for helping you make data tidy.

It is primarily designed around solving two common problems:

- ▶ One variable is spread across multiple columns.
- One observation is scattered across multiple rows.

The spread() and gather() functions are designed to fix these problems.

Gathering

Column names are values rather than variables.

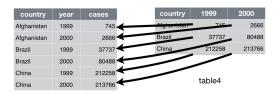


Figure 3: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

1999 and 2000 are values of an omitted variable year.

table4a

```
gather(table4a, `1999`, `2000`, key = "year", value = "cases")
```

```
## country year cases
## <chr> <chr> <ihr> ## 1 Afghanistan 1999 745
## 2 Brazil 1999 37737
## 3 China 1999 212258
## 4 Afghanistan 2000 2666
## 5 Brazil 2000 80488
## 6 China 2000 213766
```

A tibble: 6 x 3

Spreading

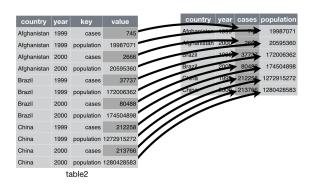


Figure 4: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

Observation is scattered in multiple rows.

The values of type should be their own variables.

table2

```
## # A tibble: 12 \times 4
##
     country year type
                                      count
##
     <chr>
                 <int> <chr>
                                      <int>
##
   1 Afghanistan 1999 cases
                                        745
   2 Afghanistan 1999 population
                                   19987071
##
   3 Afghanistan 2000 cases
                                       2666
##
##
   4 Afghanistan
                  2000 population 20595360
##
   5 Brazil
                  1999 cases
                                      37737
##
   6 Brazil
                  1999 population 172006362
##
   7 Brazil
                  2000 cases
                                      80488
##
   8 Brazil
                  2000 population 174504898
##
   9 China
                  1999 cases
                                     212258
## 10 China
                  1999 population 1272915272
                  2000 cases
                                     213766
## 11 China
## 12 China
                  2000 population 1280428583
```

spread(table2, key = type, value = count)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4

## country year cases population

## <chr> <int> <int> <int> <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

Separating

Sometimes character strings are used to encode values for more than one variable.

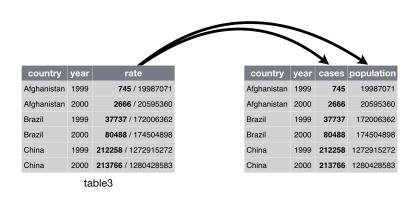


Figure 5: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

rate encodes both cases and population as a single string.

table3

separate(table3, rate, into = c("cases", "population"))

"Yuma", "DOG F")

Sometimes you want to separate at a specific character.

```
separate(pets, description, into=c("species", "sex"), sep="_")
```

```
## <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> ## 1 Daisy CAT F
## 2 Johnny CAT M
## 3 Patsy CAT F
## 4 Yuma DOG F

separate(pets, description, into=c("species", "sex"), sep=4)
```

name species sex

A tibble: 4 x 3

##

Uniting

Sometimes you want to create a variable that combines character encodings from multiple rows.



Figure 6: Wickham and Grolemund, R for Data Science

unite(pets, id, name, description)

<chr>

1 Daisy_CAT_F
2 Johnny_CAT_M

3 Patsy_CAT_F ## 4 Yuma DOG F

```
unite(addressbook, address, city, state, sep=", ")
```

```
## name address
## <chr> <chr>
## 1 Kylie Jamaica Plain, MA
## 2 Olga Brookline, MA
```

A tibble: 2 x 2

When to make data 'untidy'?

Sometimes it can be helpful to transform a dataset into an 'untidy' format for a particular purpose.

For example, consider a survey that allows you to select more than one option for a particular question.

The following tibble contains information on students and the classes in which they are enrolled.

```
classes <- tibble(student = c(0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), year = c(1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 3), algrthm = c(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1), datastr = c(1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0), opersys = c(0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1), prglang = c(0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0))
```

What if we want to calculate summaries based on each class?

We would like to group_by(class) using dplyr. To do that, we need to create a class variable.

```
lo do that, we need to create a class variable.

classes2 <- classes %>%
```

filter(is enrolled == 1) %>%

select(-is enrolled)

gather(key="class", value="is_enrolled",

algrthm, datastr, opersys, prglang) %>%

A student may now appear in more than one row.

classes2

##	# A	tibble:	18 x	3
##	\$	student	year	class
##		<dbl> <</dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<chr></chr>
##	1	0	1	algrthm
##	2	1	2	algrthm
##	3	2	1	algrthm
##	4	6	3	algrthm
##	5	7	4	algrthm
##	6	8	4	algrthm
##	7	9	3	algrthm
##	8	0	1	datastr
##	9	3	1	datastr
##	10	5	3	datastr
##	11	4	2	opersys
##	12	5	3	opersys
##	13	6	3	opersys
##	14	9	3	opersys
##	15	1	2	prglang
##	16	4	2	prglang

Get the number of students in each class.

```
classes2 %>% group_by(class) %>% count()
## # A tibble: 4 x 2
```

```
## # Groups: class [4]
## class n
## 

## 1 algrthm 7
## 2 datastr 3
## 3 opersys 4
## 4 prglang 4
```

We can use a similar technique for when a categorical variable is spread

```
across multiple rows.
pets2 <- tribble(~name, ~is cat, ~is dog,</pre>
                  "Daisy", "yes", "no",
```

"Johnny", "yes", "no", "Patsy", "yes", "no", "Yuma", "no", "ves")

A tibble: 4 x 2