Tidy data

CLEANING DATA IN PYTHON



Daniel Chen Instructor



Tidy data

- "Tidy Data" paper by Hadley Wickham, PhD
- Formalize the way we describe the shape of data
- Gives us a goal when formatting our data
- "Standard way to organize data values within a dataset"

Motivation for tidy data

	name	treatment a	treatment b
0	Daniel	-	42
1	John	12	31
2	Jane	24	27

	0	1	2
name	Daniel	John	Jane
treatment a	-	12	24
treatment b	42	31	27

Principles of tidy data

- Columns represent separate variables
- Rows represent individual observations
- Observational units form tables

	name	treatment a	treatment b
0	Daniel	-	42
1	John	12	31
2	Jane	24	27

Converting to tidy data

	name	treatment a	treatment b		name	treatment	
	Daniel	-	42	0	Daniel	treatment a	
1	John	12	31	1	John	treatment a	
2	Jane	24	27	2	Jane	treatment a	
				3	Daniel	treatment b	
				4	John	treatment b	
				5	Jane	treatment b	İ

- Better for reporting vs. better for analysis
- Tidy data makes it easier to fix common data problems

Converting to tidy data

- The data problem we are trying to fix:
 - Columns containing values, instead of variables
- Solution: pd.melt()

Melting

```
variable value
name
Daniel treatment a
  John
        treatment a
                        12
        treatment a
                        24
  Jane
Daniel
       treatment b
                        42
        treatment b
                        31
  John
                        27
  Jane
        treatment b
```



Melting

```
pd.melt(frame=df, id_vars='name',
value_vars=['treatment a', 'treatment b'],
var_name='treatment', value_name='result')
```

```
treatment
                     result
name
Daniel
        treatment a
                        12
  John
        treatment a
                        24
        treatment a
  Jane
Daniel
       treatment b
                        42
       treatment b
                        31
  John
       treatment b
                        27
  Jane
```



Let's practice!

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Pivoting data

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pivot(): un-melting data

- Opposite of melting
- In melting, we turned columns into rows
- Pivoting: turn unique values into separate columns
- Analysis-friendly shape to reporting-friendly shape
- Violates tidy data principle: rows contain observations
 - Multiple variables stored in the same column

pivot(): un-melting data

	date	element	value
0	2010-01-30	tmax	27.8
1	2010-01-30	tmin	14.5
2	2010-02-02	tmax	27.3
3	2010-02-02	tmin	14.4

pivot(): un-melting data

	date	element	value	
0	2010-01-30	tmax	27.8	
1	2010-01-30	tmin	14.5	
2	2010-02-02	tmax	27.3	
3	2010-02-02	tmin	14.4	

element	tmax	tmin
date		
2010-01-30	27.8	14.5
2010-02-02	27.3	14.4

pivot()

```
element tmax tmin
date
2010-01-30 27.8 14.5
2010-02-02 27.3 14.4
```

pivot()

	date	element	value
0	2010-01-30	tmax	27.8
1	2010-01-30	tmin	14.5
2	2010-02-02	tmax	27.3
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	date	element	value
0	2010-01-30	tmax	27.8
1	2010-01-30	tmin	14.5
2	2010-02-02	tmax	27.3
3	2010-02-02	tmin	14.4
4	2010-02-02	tmin	16.4

Using pivot() when you have duplicate entries



pivot_table()

- Has a parameter that specifies how to deal with duplicate values
- Example: Can aggregate the duplicate values by taking their average

pivot_table()

```
element tmax tmin
date
2010-01-30 27.8 14.5
2010-02-02 27.3 15.4
```

Let's practice!

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- Melting and pivoting are basic tools
- Another common problem:
 - Columns contain multiple bits of information

	country	year	m014	m1524
0	AD	2000	0	0
1	AE	2000	2	4
2	AF	2000	52	228

	country	year	m014	m1524
0	AD	2000	0	0
1	AE	2000	2	4
2	AF	2000	52	228

	country	year	m014	m1524
0	AD	2000	0	0
1	AE	2000	2	4
2	AF	2000	52	228



Melting and parsing

```
pd.melt(frame=tb, id_vars=['country', 'year'])
```

```
year variable value
country
     AD
         2000
                   m014
                           0
     ΑE
         2000
                   m014
         2000
                   m014
                          52
     AF
                  m1524
     AD
         2000
                           0
     ΑE
         2000
                  m1524
                           4
         2000
                  m1524
     AF
                         228
```

- Nothing inherently wrong about original data shape
- Not conducive for analysis

Melting and parsing

```
tb_melt['sex'] = tb_melt.variable.str[0]
tb_melt
```

```
country
           year variable value
                                  sex
        AD
           2000
0
                      m014
                                   m
        ΑE
           2000
                      m014
                              2
                                   m
        AF
            2000
                      m014
                             52
                                   m
        AD
            2000
                     m1524
                                   m
            2000
        AE
                     m1524
                                   m
        AF
            2000
                     m1524
                            228
                                   m
```

Let's practice!

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