

# Data Manipulation: Select()

Pilsung Kang
School of Industrial Management Engineering
Korea University

### dplyr Package

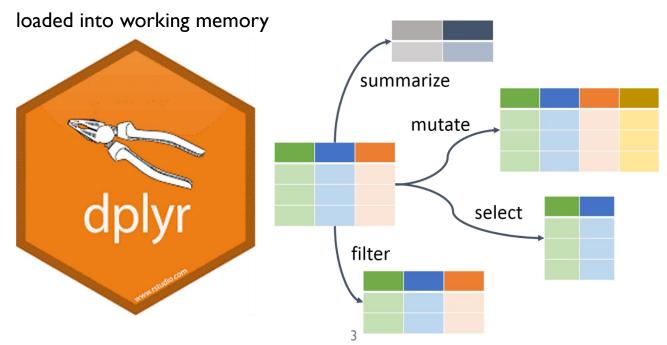
- The data frame is an important data structure in statistics and in R
  - ✓ The basic structure is one observation per row and each column represents a
    variable
- We have learned tools like [] and \$ operator to extract subsets of data frames
- However, the dplyr package allows further operations such as filtering, reordering, and collapsing
  - ✓ Everything dplyr does could already be done with base R, but it greatly simplifies existing functionality in R
  - ✓ It makes the data frames management easier





# dplyr

- dplyr
  - √ A package developed by Hadley Wickham to help transform tabular data
    - Unified, intuitive syntax
    - Fast implementation in C++
    - Support various data backends (dataframe, RDB, etc.)
    - Can work with directly with external DBs: eliminates the limitation that all data must be







#### dplyr: Key Verbs

- The key verbs of dplyr
  - ✓ select(): returns a subset of the columns of a data frame, using a flexible notation
  - √ filter( ): extract a subset of rows from a data frame based on logical conditions
  - √ arrange( ): reorder rows of a data frame
  - ✓ mutate(): add new variables/columns or transform existing variables
  - ✓ summarize( ): generate summary statistics of different variables in the data frame
  - ✓ group\_by( ): generate summary statistics from the data frame within strata defined by
    a variable
  - √ inner\_join() and full\_join(): merge or join two data frames





### dplyr: Common Properties

- Common dplyr function properties
  - √ The first argument is a data frame
  - ✓ The subsequent arguments describe what to do with the data frame specified in the
    first argument, and you can refer to column names in the data frame directly without
    using the \$ operator
  - ✓ The return result of a function is a new data frame
  - ✓ Data frames must be properly formatted and annotated for this to all be useful. i.e. there should be one observation per row, and one variable per column





#### dplyr: Simple Example

Install packages and load "mtcars" dataframe

```
install.packages("dplyr")
library(dplyr)

# load data "mtcars"
data(mtcars)
View(mtcars)
head(mtcars)
```

#### > head(mtcars)

```
mode1
                   mpg cyl disp
                                 hp drat
                                            wt qsec vs am gear carb
                            160 110 3.90 2.620 16.46
Mazda RX4
                  21.0
                                                                              Mazda RX4
                  21.0
                            160 110 3.90 2.875 17.02
Mazda RX4 Wag
                                                                          Mazda RX4 Wag
Datsun 710
                  22.8
                                 93 3.85 2.320 18.61
                                                                             Datsun 710
                  21.4
Hornet 4 Drive
                            258 110 3.08 3.215 19.44
                                                                         Hornet 4 Drive
Hornet Sportabout 18.7
                            360 175 3.15 3.440 17.02
                                                                    2 Hornet Sportabout
                            225 105 2.76 3.460 20.22
Valiant
                  18.1
                                                                                Valiant
```





#### dplyr: Simple Example

#### Question

- ✓ What are the car models with fewer than 6 cylinders and a consumption less than 20 miles/gallon?
  - Using which() function

```
index <- which (mtcars$cyl <= 6 & mtcars$mpg < 20)
mtcars$model[index]
> mtcars$model[index]
[1] "Valiant" "Merc 280" "Merc 280C" "Ferrari Dino"
```

How we can do the same thing with "dplyr"

```
x <- filter(mtcars, cyl <= 6, mpg < 20)
x
select(x, model)
> select(x, model)
```





#### dplyr: Simple Example

- Question
  - √ What are the car models with fewer than 6 cylinders and a consumption less than 20 miles/gallon?
    - Do the same thing in one line

Do the same thing in one line using pipeline

```
# Do the same thing in one line using pipeline
mtcars %>% filter(cyl <= 6, mpg < 20) %>% select(model)
```





#### dplyr:Tibble

Dataframe vs. Tibble

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- ✓ Tibble is a more advanced version of data frames
- ✓ It is particularly useful for large datasets

```
# Dataframes and tibbles
 install.packages ("hflights")
library(hflights)
 str(hflights)
 dim(hflights)
 hflights # Not recommended
 head (hflights) # Recommended
6345
           0
                                   0
6346
6347
6348
6349
6350
6351
6352
6353
6354
6355
6356
6357
           0
6358
           0
  reached 'max' / getOption("max.print") -- omitted 227449 rows ]
```



### dplyr:Tibble

#### Dataframe vs. Tibble

```
# Tibble
hflights2 <- tbl df(hflights)
hflights2
glimpse(hflights2) # to catch a glimpse
> hflights2
# A tibble: 227,496 x 21
    Year Month DayofMonth DayOfWeek DepTime ArrTime UniqueCarrier FlightNum TailNum
                               <int>
                                               <int> <chr>
   <int> <int>
                    <int>
                                       <int>
                                                                        <int> <chr>
 1 2011
             1
                                   6
                                        1400
                                               1500 AA
                                                                          428 N576AA
                        1
                                             1501 AA
 2 2011
                                       1401
                                                                          428 N557AA
                                             <u>1</u>502 AA
                                        1352
 3 2011
                                                                          428 N541AA
                                       <u>1</u>403 <u>1</u>513 AA
   2011
                                                                          428 N403AA
   2011
                                       <u>1</u>405 <u>1</u>507 AA
                                                                          428 N492AA
                        6
                                       <u>1</u>359 <u>1</u>503 AA
   2011
             1
                                   4
                                                                          428 N262AA
   2011
             1
                                       1359 1509 AA
                                                                          428 N493AA
   2011
             1
                                   6
                                       1355
                                             1454 AA
                                                                          428 N477AA
    2011
                        9
                                        1443 1554 AA
                                                                          428 N476AA
10
   2011
             1
                       10
                                        1443
                                                1553 AA
                                                                          428 N504AA
# ... with 227,486 more rows, and 12 more variables: ActualElapsedTime <int>,
    AirTime <int>, ArrDelay <int>, DepDelay <int>, Origin <chr>, Dest <chr>,
    Distance <int>, TaxiIn <int>, TaxiOut <int>, Cancelled <int>,
   CancellationCode <chr>>, Diverted <int>
```





- Select()
  - ✓ Selects columns from a data frame
  - ✓ Arguments
    - Data frame
    - The columns you would like to keep
  - ✓ Example: select(surveys, plot\_id, species\_id, weight)





#### Select()

```
# Select()
select (hflights2, Origin, Dest)
# Note that select() does not change the data frame it is called on:
dim (hflights2)
orig dest <- select(hflights2, Origin, Dest)
dim(orig dest)
          > select(hflights2, Origin, Dest)
          # A tibble: 227,496 x 2
             Origin Dest
             <chr> <chr>
           1 TAH
                    DFW
           2 IAH
                   DFW
           3 IAH
                  DFW
           4 IAH
                   DFW
                   DFW
           5 IAH
           6 IAH
                   DFW
           7 IAH
                   DFW
           8 IAH
                   DFW
           9 IAH
                   DFW
          10 IAH
                   DFW
          # ... with 227,486 more rows
          > # Note that select() does not change the data frame it is called on:
          > dim(hflights2)
          [1] 227496
                         21
          > orig_dest <- select(hflights2, Origin, Dest)</pre>
          > dim(orig_dest)
                                            12
          [1] 227496
```





#### Select()

#### ✓ Drop variables

```
# Select(): drop operator
 colnames (hflights2)
 drop hflights2 <- select(hflights2, -c("Year", "Month", "UniqueCarrier"))</pre>
 drop hflights2
> colnames(hflights2)
 [1] "Year"
                                              "DayofMonth"
                                                                  "DayOfWeek"
                                                                                       "DepTime"
                         "Month"
 [6] "ArrTime"
                                              "FlightNum"
                         "UniqueCarrier"
                                                                  "TailNum"
                                                                                      "ActualElapsedTime"
[11] "AirTime"
                         "ArrDelay"
                                              "DepDelay"
                                                                  "Origin"
                                                                                       "Dest"
[16] "Distance"
                         "TaxiIn"
                                              "TaxiOut"
                                                                  "Cancelled"
                                                                                       "CancellationCode"
[21] "Diverted"
> drop hflights2 <- select(hflights2, -c("Year", "Month","UniqueCarrier"))</pre>
> drop hflights2
# A tibble: 227,496 x 18
   DayofMonth DayOfWeek DepTime ArrTime FlightNum TailNum ActualElapsedTi∼ AirTime ArrDelay DepDelay Origin Dest
        <int>
                  <int>
                          <int>
                                  <int>
                                             <int> <chr>
                                                                      <int>
                                                                              <int>
                                                                                        <int>
                                                                                                 <int> <chr>>
                                                                                                              <chr>>
 1
            1
                      6
                           1400
                                   1500
                                               428 N576AA
                                                                         60
                                                                                 40
                                                                                          -10
                                                                                                     0 IAH
                                                                                                              DFW
 2
            2
                      7
                                   1501
                                                                                           -9
                           1401
                                              428 N557AA
                                                                         60
                                                                                 45
                                                                                                     1 IAH
                                                                                                              DFW
 3
            3
                           1352
                                   1502
                                                                                                              DFW
                                              428 N541AA
                                                                         70
                                                                                           -8
                                                                                                    -8 IAH
                                   1513
 4
            4
                           1403
                                              428 N403AA
                                                                         70
                                                                                 39
                                                                                           3
                                                                                                     3 IAH
                                                                                                              DFW
 5
            5
                      3
                           1405
                                   1507
                                              428 N492AA
                                                                         62
                                                                                 44
                                                                                           -3
                                                                                                              DFW
                                                                                                     5 IAH
 6
                           1359
                                   1503
                                                                                          -7
                                                                                                              DFW
                                              428 N262AA
                                                                         64
                                                                                 45
                                                                                                    -1 IAH
 7
            7
                      5
                           1359
                                   1509
                                                                         70
                                                                                 43
                                                                                           -1
                                                                                                              DFW
                                              428 N493AA
                                                                                                    -1 IAH
 8
            8
                      6
                           1355
                                   1454
                                              428 N477AA
                                                                         59
                                                                                 40
                                                                                          -16
                                                                                                    -5 IAH
                                                                                                              DFW
 9
            9
                      7
                           1443
                                   1554
                                              428 N476AA
                                                                         71
                                                                                 41
                                                                                           44
                                                                                                    43 IAH
                                                                                                              DFW
                                              428 N504AA
10
           10
                      1
                           1443
                                   1553
                                                                         70
                                                                                 45
                                                                                          43
                                                                                                    43 TAH
                                                                                                              DFW
```

# ... with 227,486 more rows, and 6 more variables: Distance <int>, TaxiIn <int>, TaxiOut <int>, Cancelled <int>,



#### Helper functions

- ✓ select() is often used in combination with very flexible *helper* functions that help to identify the variables of interest
- ✓ dplyer provides 6 helper functions, each of which only works when used inside select( )

```
starts_with("X"): every name that starts with "x",
ends_with("X"): every name that ends with "x",
contains("X"): every name that contains "x",
matches("X"): every name that matches "x", which can be a regular expression,
num_range("x", 1:5): the variables named x01, x02, x03, x04 and x05,
one_of(x): every name that appears in x, which should be a character vector.
```





- Helper functions
  - ✓ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables starting with "D"

```
# Select(): select variable names based on patterns
colnames (hflights2)
# Let's select the variables starting with "D"
select(hflights2, starts with("D"))
```

#### > colnames(hflights2)

```
"Year"
                          "Month"
                                                "DayofMonth"
                                                                     "DayOfWeek"
     "DepTime"
                                                "UniqueCarrier"
                                                                     "FlightNum"
                          "ArrTime"
     "TailNum"
                          "ActualElapsedTime"
                                               "AirTime"
                                                                     "ArrDelay"
[13]
     "DepDelay"
                          "Origin"
                                                "Dest"
                                                                     "Distance"
                                                "Cancelled"
                                                                     "CancellationCode"
     "TaxiIn"
                          "TaxiOut"
[21] "Diverted"
```





- Helper functions
  - ✓ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables starting with "D"

```
# Select(): select variable names based on patterns
colnames(hflights2)
# Let's select the variables starting with "D"
select(hflights2, starts_with("D"))
```

```
> select(hflights2, starts_with("D"))
# A tibble: 227,496 x 7
  DayofMonth DayOfWeek DepTime DepDelay Dest Distance Diverted
        <int>
                  <int>
                          <int>
                                    <int> <chr>
                                                   <int>
                                                            <int>
                                                     224
                           1400
                                        0 DFW
                           1401
                                                     224
                                        1 DFW
                           1352
                                                     224
                                       -8 DFW
                           1403
                                                     224
                                        3 DFW
                           1405
                                        5 DFW
                                                     224
                           1359
                                                     224
                                       -1 DFW
                          1359
                                                     224
                                       -1 DFW
                         1355
                                                     224
                                       -5 DFW
                                                     224
                           1443
                                      43 DFW
10
                           1443
                                      43 DFW
                                                     224
# ... with 227,486 more rows
```





- Helper functions
  - √ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables ending with "e"

```
# Let's select the variables ending with "e"
select(hflights2, ends_with("e"))
```

```
> select(hflights2, ends_with("e"))
# A tibble: 227,496 x 6
   DepTime ArrTime ActualElapsedTime AirTime Distande CancellationCode
     <int>
             <int>
                                 <int>
                                         <int>
                                                   <int> <chr>
      1400
                                                     224
             1500
                                    60
                                            40
     1401
             1501
                                    60
                                            45
                                                     224
     1352
                                    70
             <u>1</u>502
                                            48
                                                     224
             <u>1</u>513
                                    70
     1403
                                            39
                                                     224
     1405
             1507
                                    62
                                            44
                                                     224
     1359
             1503
                                    64
                                            45
                                                     224
     1359
             1509
                                   70
                                            43
                                                     224
     1355
             1454
                                    59
                                            40
                                                     224
      1443
             1554
                                    71
                                            41
                                                     224
                                                     224 ""
10
      1443
              1553
                                    70
                                            45
# ... with 227,486 more rows
```





#### Helper functions

✓ We select the variable FlightNum together with the variables DepTime, AirTime,

ActualElapsedTime and ArrTime,

```
# Let's select the variables ending with "Time"
select(hflights2, ends_with("Time"))
```

```
> select(hflights2, ends_with("Time"))
# A tibble: 227,496 x 4
   DepTime ArrTime ActualElapsedTime AirTime
     <int>
             <int>
                                <int>
                                        <int>
              1500
     1400
                                   60
                                           40
     <u>1</u>401
           1501
                                   60
                                           45
     1352
            1502
                                   70
                                           48
             1513
                                   70
     1403
                                           39
     1405
             1507
                                   62
                                           44
             1503
     1359
                                   64
                                           45
     1359
             1509
                                   70
                                           43
     1355
             1454
                                   59
                                           40
     1443
             1554
                                   71
                                           41
10
              1553
                                   70
                                           45
      1443
# ... with 227,486 more rows
```





- Helper functions
  - ✓ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables containing "n"

```
# Let's select the variables containing "n"
 select(hflights2, contains("n"))
> select(hflights2, contains("n"))
# A tibble: 227,496 x 10
   Month DayofMonth UniqueCarrier FlightNum TailNum Origin Distance TaxiIn Cancelled CancellationCode
                                                                <int>
                                                                       <int>
                                                                                  <int> <chr>
   <int>
              <int> <chr>
                                       <int> <chr>
                                                      <chr>>
                                                                                        11.11
                  1 AA
                                         428 N576AA
                                                                   224
                                                                                      0
                                                      IAH
                                                                  224
                                                                                        1111
                  2 AA
                                         428 N557AA
                                                      TAH
                                         428 N541AA
                                                                  224
                                                                                        11 11
                   3 AA
                                                      TAH
                                                                  224
                                         428 N403AA
                                                                                        ....
                  4 AA
                                                      IAH
                                                                  224
                                                                                        11 11
                  5 AA
                                         428 N492AA
                                                      IAH
                                                                  224
                                                                                        11 11
                  6 AA
                                         428 N262AA
                                                      IAH
                                                                  224
                                                                           12
                                                                                        11 11
                                         428 N493AA
                  7 AA
                                                      TAH
                                         428 N477AA
                                                                  224
                                                                                        1111
                  8 AA
                                                      TAH
                                                                                        1111
                                         428 N476AA
                                                                  224
                  9 AA
                                                     IAH
                                                                                      0 ""
10
                                         428 N504AA IAH
                                                                  224
                 10 AA
 ... with 227,486 more rows
```





- Helper functions
  - ✓ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables with certain names if they exist

```
# Let's select the variables with certain names if they exist
select(hflights2, FlightNum, Distance, Cancelled, Pilsung)
# Let's select the variables with certain names if they exist
select(hflights2, one_of(c("FlightNum", "Distance", "Cancelled", "Pilsung")))
```

```
> select(hflights2, FlightNum, Distance, Cancelled, Pilsung)
Error in .f(.x[[i]], ...) : object 'Pilsung' not found
```





- Helper functions
  - ✓ Select variable names based on patterns
    - Select the variables with certain names if they exist

```
# Let's select the variables with certain names if they exist
select (hflights2, FlightNum, Distance, Cancelled, Pilsung)
# Let's select the variables with certain names if they exist
select(hflights2, one of(c("FlightNum", "Distance", "Cancelled", "Pilsung")))
    > select(hflights2, one_of(c("FlightNum", "Distance", "Cancelled", "Pilsung")))
    # A tibble: 227,496 x 3
       FlightNum Distance Cancelled
                   <int>
                             <int>
           <int>
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
     3
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
            428
                     224
    10
            428
                     224
    # ... with 227,486 more rows
```



- Pipe operator %>%
  - ✓ Allows you to combine multiple "verb" operations
  - ✓ Syntax: %>% at the end of the line
  - ✓ Output of the first line becomes the input of next line
  - √ Final output to the screen or a variable
  - ✓ Example: surveys %>%

```
filter(weight < 5) %>%
```

select(species\_id, sex, weight)





- Pipe operator %>%
  - ✓ We are interested in the number of different destinations of flights departing from Houston
    - We can use unique() to eliminates multiple values in Dest and then nrow() to compute the number of (now distinct) observations in the resulting column:

```
# Pipe operator %>%
nrow(unique(select(hflights2, Dest)))
> nrow(unique(select(hflights2, Dest)))
[1] 116
```

✓ This is not very easy to read nor to write.





- Pipe operator %>%
  - ✓ Instead we can use the pipe operator %>% to concatenate the different steps of our analysis into a pipeline
    - we take hflights, then we select Dest, then we take its values without considering repetitions, and at last we count the number of resulting values:

```
# With pipe operator
hflights2 %>% select(Dest) %>% unique %>% nrow()

# With pipe operator and n_distinct() function
hflights2 %>% select(Dest) %>% n_distinct()
```

```
> hflights2 %>% select(Dest) %>% unique %>% nrow()
[1] 116
> # With pipe operator and n_distnct() function
> hflights2 %>% select(Dest) %>% n_distinct()
[1] 116
```





- Pipe operator %>%
  - √ The %>% operators passes the object on the left to the first argument of the
    function on the right:

$$x \%\% f(y) gives f(x,y)$$

- ✓ This corresponds to our way of thinking and makes it possible to code in a progressively and more readable fashion
- ✓ In other words, when coding we do not have to start from the last function and then go backward, as we would normally do using basic R
- ✓ Instead we are now free to build our sequence of instructions from the very first object, that is data.
- √ This approach is much more flexible and allows to change very quickly our queries to explore data.





- Pipe operator %>%
  - ✓ The %>% operator can also be used to pass the object on the left to any argument of the function on the right, not only the first one.
  - $\checkmark$  In this case, the argument position is to be indicated with the placeholder .

```
x \% \% f(y, .) gives f(y,x)
```

```
# Placeholder (.) example
ratio <- function(x,y) x/y
1 %>% ratio(2)
2 %>% ratio(1, .)

> 1 %>% ratio(2)
[1] 0.5
> 2 %>% ratio(1, .)
[1] 0.5
```









