A Walkthrough of 'dplyr'

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Motivation

• For this blog post I will be discussing the package 'dplyr', which we have used numerous times in our stat133 class. The aim of this post will be to give an understanding of what dplyr is, how its functions can be used, and why it is so useful within the context of data science.

Introduction

- Dplyr uses a grammar for data manipulation, and is the updated version of the original 'plyr' package. The additional 'd' in the name stands for 'data frame', and it is with the dplyr package that we may masterfully play around with data in data frames.
- The data manipulation package is one part of a combination of packages known as 'tidyverse', a name you probably have heard of before when using R. Tidyverse; which includes many other data science packages we have encountered; such as 'ggplot2', 'readr', and 'tidyr'; was created by a group of R developers including R chief scientist Hadley Wickham.

Content

- dplyr contains an impressive amount of functions, all of which can be used for different tasks:
- Reshape data
- Syntax
- Subset Observations (Rows)
- Subset Variables (Cols)
- Summarise Data
- Make New Variables
- Combine Data Sets
- Group Data

Getting Started

• For our walk-through of dplyr and its functions, we will be using a dataset of **pokemon** from generations 1 through 6. For those who are not familiar with Pokemon, it is a game based on fictitious creatures who are used for battle. Each pokemon has a specific type (grass, ground, electric, water, etc.) and specific battle statistics (attack, defense, speed, etc.). Generation refers to the different versions of Pokemon universes that have been used, generation 1 Pokemon contains all the Pokemon from the first version of Pokemon, generation 2 contains all Pokemon from the second, and so on so forth



Pokemon

• Let's begin by loading our dplyr package and readr package using the library() function. The readr package will be used to read the csv of pokemon data

```
library(dplyr)

##
## Attaching package: 'dplyr'

## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
## filter, lag

## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
## intersect, setdiff, setequal, union

library(readr)
dat = read csy('../data/Pokemon.csy')
```

```
## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
##
    `#` = col_integer(),
## Name = col character(),
    Type 1 = col_character(),
##
## `Type 2` = col_character(),
## Total = col_integer(),
## HP = col_integer(),
##
    Attack = col_integer(),
## Defense = col_integer(),
##
    `Sp. Atk` = col integer(),
## `Sp. Def` = col_integer(),
## Speed = col_integer(),
##
   Generation = col_integer(),
## Legendary = col_character()
## )
```

• Let's take a glimpse at our Pokemon dataset to give a sense of what kind of data is used.

```
head(dat)
```

- We observe that our data frame gives us a row of information for each pokemon
- Our columns include Pokemon's
 - o '#' (id number of pokemon)
 - Name
 - ∘ type1
 - o type2 (if pokemon has 2 types)
 - o total stats
 - HP (health points)
 - Attack (points)
 - o Defense (points)
 - o Sp(ecial) Attack
 - o Sp(ecial) Defense
 - o Speed
 - o Generation
 - o Legendary (tells us if the pokemon is a legendary type, which a type of very rare, very powerful pokemon)

-Reshape Data

- Functions used to change the layout of our dataset include:
 - o arrange()
 - o rename()
- arrange(data, column) takes the data frame 'data' and arranges the rows in terms of values of 'column' from lowest to highest
- arrange(data, desc(column)) will order the rows for values of the column from highest to lowest

```
head(arrange(dat, Speed))
```

```
\verb|head(arrange(dat, desc(Speed)))|
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 13
##
      `#`
                           Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total
                                                        HP Attack
##
    <int>
                           <chr>
                                  <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int>
## 1 386
              DeoxysSpeed Forme Psychic
                                           <NA> 600 50
                                                      61
## 2 291 Ninjask Bug
## 3 65 AlakazamMega Alakazam Psychic
                        Ninjask Bug Flying 456
                                                             90
                                          <NA> 590
                                                        55
                                                              50
## 4 142 AerodactylMega Aerodactyl Rock Flying 615 80 135
                                                      50
## 5
     386 DeoxysNormal Forme Psychic <NA> 600
                                                             150
## 6 386
               DeoxysAttack Forme Psychic
                                           <NA>
                                                  600
                                                        50
                                                             180
## # ... with 6 more variables: Defense <int>, `Sp. Atk` <int>, `Sp.
## # Def` <int>, Speed <int>, Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

• The function rename(data, old_column = new_column) will take data frame 'data' and rename column 'old_column' to 'new_column'

*Lets remove the spaces between Type and # in our data frame to make referencing our columns easier.

```
data = rename(dat, Type1 = 'Type 1', Type2 = 'Type 2')
data
```

```
## # A tibble: 800 x 13
       `#`
                            Name Type1 Type2 Total HP Attack Defense
##
                            <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int> <int>
     <int>
       1
                                                           49
## 1
                        Bulbasaur Grass Poison 318 45
                                                                   49
       2
## 2
                          Ivysaur Grass Poison 405
                                                      60
           Venusaur Grass Poison 525 80 82
VenusaurMega Venusaur Grass Poison 625 80 100
## 3
       3
## 4
                                                                   123
                                                                  43
      4
## 5
                       Charmander Fire <NA> 309 39 52
## 6
                        Charmeleon Fire
                                         <NA>
                                               405
                                                      58
                                                            64
                                                                    58
                        Charizard Fire Flying 534 78 84
                                                                   78
## 7
        6
## 8 6 CharizardMega Charizard X Fire Dragon 634 78 130
                                                                 111
        6 CharizardMega Charizard Y Fire Flying 634 78 104
7 Squirtle Water <NA> 314 44 48
## 9
                                                                    78
## 10
## # ... with 790 more rows, and 5 more variables: `Sp. Atk` <int>, `Sp.
## # Def` <int>, Speed <int>, Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

Syntax

- Syntax related function of dplyr include
 - o tbl_df()
 - o alimpse()
- both of these functions take the dataframe as an argument
 - \circ tblr_df converts data to table class. tables are easier to examine than data frames
 - o glimpse() gives a information dense summary of table data

```
tbl_df(dat)
```

```
## # A tibble: 800 x 13
##
      `#`
                            Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total
                            <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int><</pre>
##
     <int>
## 1 1
                                           Poison 318 45
                                                              49
                        Bulbasaur Grass
                                    Grass Poison
## 2
        2
                         Ivysaur
                                                    405
                                                         60
                                                                62
## 3
                         Venusaur Grass Poison 525 80
           VenusaurMega Venusaur Grass Poison 625
Charmander Fire <NA> 309
## 4
      3
                                                         80
                                                               100
                                                        39
                                           <NA> 309 39 52
<NA> 405 58 64
## 5
## 6
                       Charmeleon Fire
                                    Fire Flying 534 78
Fire Dragon 634 78
## 7
                        Charizard
                                                                84
       6
                                                              130
## 8
       6 CharizardMega Charizard X
                                                              104
## 9
       6 CharizardMega Charizard Y
                                    Fire Flying 634 78
## 10
                        Squirtle
                                    Water
                                            <NA>
                                                   314
                                                         44
## # ... with 790 more rows, and 6 more variables: Defense <int>, `Sp.
## # Atk <int>, `Sp. Def` <int>, Speed <int>, Generation <int>,
## # Legendary <chr>
```

```
{\tt glimpse(dat)}
```

```
## Observations: 800
## Variables: 13
## $ `#`
             <int> 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12, ...
## $ Name
             <chr> "Bulbasaur", "Ivysaur", "Venusaur", "VenusaurMega V...
## $ `Type 1`
             <chr> "Grass", "Grass", "Grass", "Fire", "Fire",...
## $ `Type 2` <chr> "Poison", "Poison", "Poison", "Poison", NA, NA, "Fl...
## $ Total
             <int> 318, 405, 525, 625, 309, 405, 534, 634, 634, 314, 4...
             <int> 45, 60, 80, 80, 39, 58, 78, 78, 78, 44, 59, 79, 79,...
## $ HP
## $ Attack
             <int> 49, 62, 82, 100, 52, 64, 84, 130, 104, 48, 63, 83, ...
## $ Defense
             <int> 49, 63, 83, 123, 43, 58, 78, 111, 78, 65, 80, 100, ...
## $ `Sp. Atk` <int> 65, 80, 100, 122, 60, 80, 109, 130, 159, 50, 65, 85...
## $ `Sp. Def` <int> 65, 80, 100, 120, 50, 65, 85, 85, 115, 64, 80, 105,...
            <int> 45, 60, 80, 80, 65, 80, 100, 100, 100, 43, 58, 78, ...
## $ Speed
## $ Legendary <chr> "False", "False", "False", "False", "False", "False...
```

Subset Observations

- -We can use dplyr functions to also subset rows of our data frame + filter() + sample_frac() + sample_n + slice()
 - filter() will extract rows based on logical criteria

*Lets see which pokemon have healthpoints (HP) over 100

```
head(filter(dat, HP > 100))
```

- sample_frac(data, 'fraction', 'replace') will randomly select a fraction of rows
 - o fraction argument states what fraction of original rows will be sampled
 - \circ the logical argument 'replace' will determine whether or not rows will be replaced during sampling

```
sample_frac(dat, .01, replace = FALSE)
```

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 13
   '#' Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total HP Attack Defense `Sp. Atk`
<int> <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int> <int> <int><</pre>
55
                                               50
                                         20
## 2 183 Marill Water Fairy 250 70
## 3 481 Mesprit Psychic <NA> 580 80
## 4 440 Happiny Normal <NA> 220 100
                                               105
15
                                                      44
60
25
## 8 592 Frillish Water Ghost 335 55 40 50
                                                      65
## # ... with 4 more variables: `Sp. Def` <int>, Speed <int>,
## # Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

```
sample_frac(dat, .01, replace = TRUE)
```

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 13
##
      `#`
                            Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total HP Attack
                     Lotad Water Grass 220 40

Metagross Steel Psychic 600 80
## 1 270
## 2 376
                                                             30
                      Fraxure Dragon <NA> 410 66 117
## 3 611
## 4 632 Durant Bug
## 5 720 HoopaHoopa Unbound Psychic
                                   Bug Steel 484 58 109
Psychic Dark 680 80 160
## 6 6 CharizardMega Charizard X Fire Dragon 634 78 130
## 7 380 Latias Dragon
## 8 229 HoundoomMega Houndoom Dark
                          Latias Dragon Psychic 600
                                                        8.0
                                                       75
                                          Fire
                                                  600
## # ... with 6 more variables: Defense <int>, `Sp. Atk` <int>, `Sp.
## # Def` <int>, Speed <int>, Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

- sample_n(dat, number, replace) gives a random sample of a stated number of rows
 - o number argument states how many rows will be sampled
 - the logical argument 'replace' will determine whether or not rows will be replaced during sampling

```
sample_n(dat, 10, replace = TRUE)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 13
                ##
     <int>
              Feraligatr
                                      <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int> <int>
## 1 160
                                      Water
                                                 <NA> 530 85
                                                                       105
## 2 334 AltariaMega Altaria Dragon Fairy 590 75 110 110
## 3 147 Dratini Dragon <NA> 300 41 64
## 4 373 Salamence Dragon Flying 600 95 135
                                                                               45
80
## 5 179 Mareep Electric <NA> 280 55 40 40
## 6 240 Magby Fire <NA> 365 45 75 37
## 7 359 Absol Dark <NA> 465 65 130 60
## 8 532 Timburr Fighting <NA> 305 75 80 55
## 9 69 Bellsprout Grass Poison 300 50 75 35
## 10 36 Clefable Fairy <NA> 483 95 70 73
## # ... with 5 more variables: `Sp. Atk` <int>, `Sp. Def` <int>,
## # Speed <int>, Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

- o data argument states which dataframe to be used
- o index vector states which row positions to be selected
- Let's select rows from position 1 to 5

```
slice(dat, 5:10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 13
##
     `#`
                          Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total HP Attack
                  ##
   <int>
## 1 4
## 2 5
                    Charmander Fire <NA> 309 39
Charmeleon Fire <NA> 405 58
                                                            52
                    Charmeleon
                                                             64
## 3 6
                      Charizard Fire Flying 534 78 84
## 4 6 CharizardMega Charizard X ## 5 6 CharizardMega Charizard Y
                                  Fire Dragon 634 78
Fire Flying 634 78
                                                           130
104
## 6
                       Squirtle Water <NA> 314 44 48
## # ... with 6 more variables: Defense <int>, `Sp. Atk` <int>, `Sp.
## # Def` <int>, Speed <int>, Generation <int>, Legendary <chr>
```

Subset Variables

- dplyr functions that can be used to subset certain variables (columns) of a data frame:
 - select()
- select(dat, column1, column1, contain, column1:column3)
 - o will return the dataframe with columns 'columns1', and 'column'2
 - one column to n columns can be selected in a data frame with n columns
 - o index of columns can be used or title of column
 - o the '-' operator can be used in front of a column name to choose all columns except that one
 - o the contains ('char') argument can be used to select all columns that contain 'char'
 - o we can use a vector of columns (column1: column4) to select all columns between column 1 and 4
- selecting variable of index 1,2,3, and 4

```
head(select(dat, 1,2,3,4))
```

*selecting variables of name 'Name' and 'Legendary'

```
head(select(dat, 'Name', 'Legendary'))
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
    Name Legendary
##
               <chr> <chr>
## 1
           Bulbasaur
                       False
## 2
            Ivysaur
                      False
## 3
             Venusaur
                       False
## 4 VenusaurMega Venusaur
                      False
      Charmander False
## 5
           Charmeleon
                     False
```

• selecting all variable except 'Name' and 'Legendary'

```
head(select(dat, -Name, -Legendary))
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 11
      `#` `Type 1` `Type 2` Total
##
                                    HP Attack Defense `Sp. Atk` `Sp. Def`
            ## <int>
                                                            65
                                                                      65
## 1 1 Grass Poison 318 45 49
                                                 49
      2 Grass Poison 405 60 62 63 80 80
3 Grass Poison 525 80 82 83 100 100
3 Grass Poison 625 80 100 123 122 120
4 Fire <NA> 309 39 52 43 60 50
5 Fire <NA> 405 58 64 58 80 65
## 2
## 3
## 4
## 5
## 6
## # ... with 2 more variables: Speed <int>, Generation <int>
```

• selecting variables that contain the character 'Def'

```
head(select(dat, contains('Def')))
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
## Defense `Sp. Def`
##
    <int>
      49
             65
## 1
      63
## 2
              80
## 3
       83
             100
## 4 123 120
      43 50
58 65
## 5
## 6
```

*selecting variable including and inbetween Name and HP

```
head(select(dat, Name:HP))
## # A tibble: 6 x 5
                       Name `Type 1` `Type 2` Total
##
                                                             ΗР
                      <chr> <chr>
                                          <chr> <int> <int>
## 1
                Bulbasaur Grass Poison 318 45
## 2
## 3
                Ivysaur Grass Poison 405 60
Venusaur Grass Poison 525 80
## 4 VenusaurMega Venusaur Grass Poison 625
## 5 Charmander Fire <NA> 309
## 6 Charmalean Fire (NA) 405
```

80 39

Summarise Data

6

• functions in dplyr can also be used to summarise data in our dataframe:

Charmeleon Fire <NA> 405 58

- o summarise(data, avg = mean(column))
- o summarise_each(data, funs(mean))
- o count(data, column)
- The summarise(data, avg = function(column)) function will summarise 'data' into a single row of values using a function 'function' applied to all values of column 'column'
- Summarise_all(data, funs(function)) will apply the function 'function' to each column in dataframe 'data'. Keep in mind, this will only for numeric functions work if all columns are a numeric type.
- the count function will count the number of rows with each unique value of variable
- Let's summarise our data by finding the average HP of all our Pokemon in the dataframe
- then find the average value of all our numeric values in our data frame
- Finally, we will count the number of pokemon with 'type 1'

```
summarise(dat, avg = mean(HP))
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
##
          avg
##
         <dbl>
## 1 69.25875
numericdat = select(dat, -c(1,2,3,4,13))
summarise all(numericdat, funs(mean))
## # A tibble: 1 x 8
## Total HP Attack Defense Sp. Atk Sp. Def Speed
## <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <73.8425 72.82 71.9025 68.2775
## # ... with 1 more variables: Generation <dbl>
count(dat, 'Type 1')
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
     `"Type 1"`
##
           <chr> <int>
```

Make New Variables

Type 1 800

1

- We can also use function in dplyr to make new variables (columns) and add them to our dataframe:
 - ∘ mutate(data, new_col = col1 + col2)
 - ∘ transmute(data, new_col = col1 + col2)
- mutate(data, new_col = col1 + col2) will take the dataframe 'data', and add a new column 'new_col', whose values are 'col1' added by 'col2'
- Here, we will create a new variable 'Strength', that will be the combined number of Attack and Defense points each Pokemon has

```
head(mutate(dat, Strength = Attack + Defense))
```

• transmute(data, new_col = col1 + col2) will replace original columns in dataframe 'data' with the newly computed column 'new_col'

```
head(transmute(dat, Strength = Attack + Defense))
## # A tibble: 6 x 1
## Strength
##
      <int>
## 1
        98
## 2
        125
       165
## 3
       223
## 4
## 5
         95
       122
## 6
```

Group Data

- Dplyr functions can be also be used to group or ungroup data in dataframes:
 - o group_by()
 - o ungroup()
- group_by(data, variable, function) will take a dataframe 'data' and group the data into rows with the same values of 'variable', and will apply the 'function' to all the other variables

*The result of grouping will create a dataframe identical to our original data, but will create groups categorized by the selected variable.

• Grouping is very useful for showing a summary of statistical information. For our example we will see the average attack points for pokemon of each type.lets group our pokemon dataset by 'Type 1', and then show the average Attack points for eac type of pokemon

```
grouped = group_by(data, Type1)
summarise(grouped, avg_attack = mean(Attack))
```

```
## # A tibble: 18 x 2
##
       Type1 avg_attack
         <chr>
##
                    <dbl>
       Bug 70.97101
Dark 88.38710
## 1
## 2
## 3 Dragon 112.12500
## 4 Electric 69.09091
## 5 Fairy 61.52941
## 6 Fighting 96.77778
## 7 Fire 84.76923
## 8 Flying 78.75000
## 9 Ghost 73.78125
## 10 Grass 73.21429
## 11 Ground 95.75000
## 12 Ice 72.75000
## 13 Normal 73.46939
## 14 Poison 74.67857
## 15 Psychic 71.45614
## 16 Rock 92.86364
## 17
        Steel 92.70370
## 18
        Water 74.15179
```

- The ungroup(data) function will ungroup any grouped data frame 'data'
- Notice how when we summarise our data by average attack points, it now gives us the average Attack of all pokemon, and not the average attack of each group.

```
ungrouped = ungroup(grouped)
summarise(ungrouped, avg_attack = mean(Attack))

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

Conclusion

<dbl>

avg_attack

1 79.00125

##

Overall, the versatility and expansiveness of dplyr makes manipulating data frames simple and quick. With its many functions we may be
able to perform many different types of tasks on data frames; including: Reshape data, Syntax, Subset Observations (Rows), Subset

Variables (Cols), Summarise Data, Make New Variables, Combine Data Sets, and Group Data.

• From this blog I hope you have noticed the many ways in which dplyr and its functions can be utilized to manipulate our data. In Data Science it is crucial for us to be able to manipulate data in order to extract key information, and by using dplyr, this process has become extremeley easy. Thanks dplyr!

References

Syntax and Documentation:

- $1. \ https://github.com/ucb-stat133/stat133-fall-2017/blob/master/slides/12-dplyr-introduction.pdf$
- ${\bf 2.\ https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/data-wrangling-cheatsheet.pdf}$
- 3. http://dplyr.tidyverse.org/
- 4. https://www.rdocumentation.org/packages/dplyr/versions/0.5.0
- 5. http://r4ds.had.co.nz/transform.html

Dataset:

6. https://www.kaggle.com/abcsds/pokemon

Picture:

7. https://www.google.com/search?q=pokemon&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjb9bCkk-_XAhXIKCYKHRpMDI8Q_AUICygC&biw=1280&bih=640#imgrc=JJPo-pmtd4sjTM: