

**POLI 30 D: Political Inquiry**  
**TA Sessions**

**Lab 03 | R Basics II**

## Before we start

### Announcements:

- ▶ Github page:  
<https://github.com/umbertomig/POLI30Dpublic>
- ▶ Piazza forum: <https://piazza.com/ucsd/winter2023/17221>

## Before we start

**Recap:** In the Lab sessions you learned:

- ▶ How to install R and R Studio in your computer.
- ▶ How to do basic math operations in R.

**Great job!**

- ▶ Do you have any questions about these contents?

## Plan for Lab 03

- Learn R data types
- Learn how to create datasets
- Learn how to load a dataset
- Learn how to explore a dataset

# R Data Types

## R Numeric and R Character

You can create numeric and character variables in R easily:

```
# Numeric  
x <- 20  
# Character (or string, same thing!)  
y <- 'POLI 30 D'  
print(x)
```

```
## [1] 20
```

```
print(y)
```

```
## [1] "POLI 30 D"
```

## R Numeric and R Character

We can easily check the types with the `class(.)` function:

```
class(x)
```

```
## [1] "numeric"
```

```
class(y)
```

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

## R Numeric and R Character

The `str(.)` function also gives a neat description of what is going on.

► `str` is short for structure of the data:

```
str(x)
```

```
##  num 20
```

```
str(y)
```

```
##  chr "POLI 30 D"
```



## R Vectors

To create a vector, you use the function `c()`, and separate the values with a comma:

```
voted    <- c(1, 0, 0, 1) # Binary vector (1=yes; 0=no)
age      <- c(48, 23, 18, 33) # Numeric vector with ages
message  <- c('yes', 'yes', 'no', 'no') # Got message?
place    <- c('La Jolla', 'Del Mar',
              'Del Mar', 'Poway') # Character with places
```

Each of the variables have four positions (like four observations).

## R Vectors

We can check the data for each of the four observations we have. We use square brackets (`[` and `]`) to index.

First person in the `voted` variable:

```
voted[1]
```

```
## [1] 1
```

Ages of first three people. Note `1:3` (try it on the console!). It creates sequences.

```
age[1:3]
```

```
## [1] 48 23 18
```

## R Vectors

Messages for all people but the second person:

```
message[-2]
```

```
## [1] "yes" "no"  "no"
```

Checking all the places vector:

```
place
```

```
## [1] "La Jolla" "Del Mar"  "Del Mar"  "Poway"
```

Changing the age of the second person:

```
age[2] <- 24
```

```
age
```

```
## [1] 48 24 18 33
```

## R Vectors

You can also create a numeric vector from a character vector. You should use the function `ifelse(.)`:

```
message
```

```
## [1] "yes" "yes" "no"  "no"
```

```
message_num <-
```

```
  ifelse(message == 'yes', # Check if message is yes  
          1, # change to 1 if yes  
          0) # change to 0 if no
```

```
message_num
```

```
## [1] 1 1 0 0
```

## R Vectors

You can also check the length of the vector:

```
length(message)
```

```
## [1] 4
```

And if you don't need something anymore, you can remove it:

```
rm(message_num)
```

Now check the environment. `message_num` should have disappeared!

R data.frame

## Creating a data.frame from scratch

To create a `data.frame(.)` from scratch, you can just add variables inside it:

```
dat <- data.frame(  
  v1 = c(1,2,3),  
  v2 = c('a', 'b', 'c'),  
  v3 = c('Treatment', 'Control', 'Control')  
)  
dat
```

```
##      v1 v2      v3  
## 1    1  a Treatment  
## 2    2  b  Control  
## 3    3  c  Control
```

## Creating a data.frame from scratch

**Your turn:** Create a data frame with the following info and call it dat2:

	A	B	C	D	
1	age	college	voted	work	
2	23	Yes	1	FT	
3	33	No	0	FT	
4	67	No	1	PT	
5	81	Yes	1	RT	
6	18	No	0	UN	
7					



## Creating a data.frame from scratch

If you are curious, these are the meanings:

---

Variable	Meaning
----------	---------

---

age	Age in years
college	Yes means college complete
voted	1 means voted
work	FT means full-time worker; PT means partial-time worker; UN means unemployed; RT means retired

---

## Creating a data.frame from existing variables

If you recall, we created the following variables: voted, age, message, and place.

Here is how to create a data.frame with them:

```
dat3 <- data.frame(voted, age, message, place)
dat3
```

```
##      voted age message    place
## 1         1  48      yes La Jolla
## 2         0  24      yes  Del Mar
## 3         0  18       no  Del Mar
## 4         1  33       no   Poway
```

## Loading CSV data in R

## Loading a CSV dataset from locale

- ▶ CSV stands for Comma Separated Values. It is a special way to organize data:
  - ▶ Each line corresponds to one observation
  - ▶ Within lines, information for each variable is separated by a comma.
- ▶ To load data from the locale (i.e., your computer), you need to find and change your working directory.
- ▶ The book explains more on that. We are not going to deal with these cases in here.
- ▶ We will frequently analyze data from **GitHub**.

## Loading a CSV dataset from GitHub

To load a CSV dataset from the GitHub:

1. Open the GitHub
2. Go to the GitHub data folder
3. Select the Dataset you want to open (in the case, `countries.csv`)
4. Find the *Raw* Version of it
5. Copy the URL (CMD + C / Ctrl + C). In the case of countries: <https://raw.githubusercontent.com/umbertomig/POLI30Dpublic/main/data/countries.csv>
6. Do `name_data_frame <- read.csv('paste_URL_in_here')`

## Example: countries.csv

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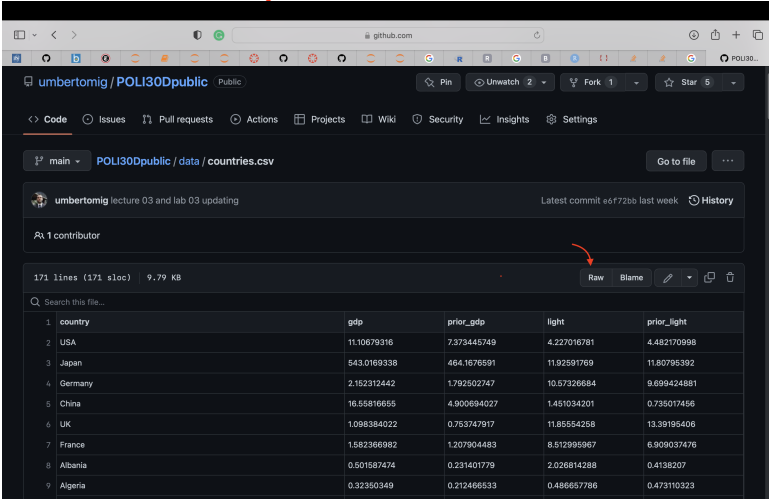
main POLI30Dpublic / data /

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BES.csv	lecture 03 and lab 03 updating
STAR.csv	lecture 03 and lab 03 updating
UA_precincts.csv	lecture 03 and lab 03 updating
UA_survey.csv	lecture 03 and lab 03 updating
UK_districts.csv	lecture 03 and lab 03 updating

# Example: countries.csv



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main ▾ POLI30Dpublic / data / countries.csv Go to file ...

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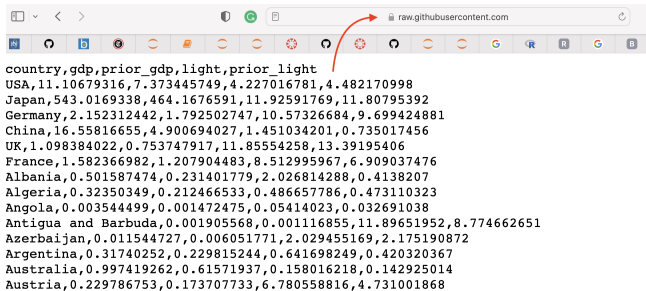
1 contributor

171 lines (171 sloc) | 9.79 KB Raw Blame

Search this file...

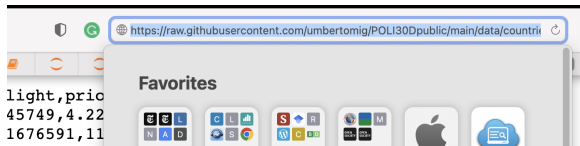
	country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
1	country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
2	USA	11.10679316	7.373445749	4.227016781	4.482170998
3	Japan	543.0169338	464.1676591	11.92591769	11.80795392
4	Germany	2.152312442	1.792502747	10.57326684	9.699424881
5	China	16.55816655	4.900694027	1.451034201	0.735017456
6	UK	1.098384022	0.763747917	11.85554258	13.39195406
7	France	1.582366982	1.207904483	8.512995967	6.909037476
8	Albania	0.501587474	0.231401779	2.026814288	0.4138207
9	Algeria	0.32350349	0.212466533	0.486657786	0.473110323

## Example: countries.csv



A screenshot of a web browser displaying the raw.githubusercontent.com website. The address bar shows the URL [raw.githubusercontent.com](https://raw.githubusercontent.com). Below the address bar, there is a list of countries and their corresponding values for GDP, prior GDP, light, and prior light. The data is presented in a table-like format with columns: country, gdp, prior\_gdp, light, prior\_light. The countries listed include USA, Japan, Germany, China, UK, France, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Argentina, Australia, and Austria. The values are numerical, representing various economic and light-related metrics.

country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
USA	11.10679316	7.373445749	4.227016781	4.482170998
Japan	543.0169338	464.1676591	11.92591769	11.80795392
Germany	2.152312442	1.792502747	10.57326684	9.699424881
China	16.55816655	4.900694027	1.451034201	0.735017456
UK	1.098384022	0.753747917	11.85554258	13.39195406
France	1.582366982	1.207904483	8.512995967	6.909037476
Albania	0.501587474	0.231401779	2.026814288	0.4138207
Algeria	0.32350349	0.212466533	0.486657786	0.473110323
Angola	0.003544499	0.001472475	0.05414023	0.032691038
Antigua and Barbuda	0.001905568	0.001116855	11.89651952	8.774662651
Azerbaijan	0.011544727	0.006051771	2.029455169	2.175190872
Argentina	0.31740252	0.229815244	0.641698249	0.420320367
Australia	0.997419262	0.61571937	0.158016218	0.142925014
Austria	0.229786753	0.173707733	6.780558816	4.731001868





## Example: countries.csv

And since the link is:

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/umbertomig/POLI30Dpub>

```
countries <- read.csv('https://raw.githubusercontent.com/um  
head(countries)
```

##	country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
## 1	USA	11.106793	7.3734457	4.227017	4.4821710
## 2	Japan	543.016934	464.1676591	11.925918	11.8079539
## 3	Germany	2.152312	1.7925027	10.573267	9.6994249
## 4	China	16.558167	4.9006940	1.451034	0.7350175
## 5	UK	1.098384	0.7537479	11.855543	13.3919541
## 6	France	1.582367	1.2079045	8.512996	6.9090375

## Exploring a dataset

## head and tail

`head(.)` shows the first six observations:

```
head(countries)
```

##	country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
## 1	USA	11.106793	7.3734457	4.227017	4.4821710
## 2	Japan	543.016934	464.1676591	11.925918	11.8079539
## 3	Germany	2.152312	1.7925027	10.573267	9.6994249
## 4	China	16.558167	4.9006940	1.451034	0.7350175
## 5	UK	1.098384	0.7537479	11.855543	13.3919541
## 6	France	1.582367	1.2079045	8.512996	6.9090375

## head and tail

`tail(.)` shows the last six observations:

```
tail(countries)
```

##	country	gdp	prior_gdp	light	prior_light
## 165	Uruguay	0.434783819	0.341299579	0.5807991	0.48451899
## 166	Uzbekistan	1.486802454	0.983226379	1.6353821	1.83231197
## 167	Venezuela	0.048871355	0.038868261	1.4243972	1.21489199
## 168	Samoa	0.001036411	0.000620675	0.5527025	0.38445127
## 169	Yemen	0.270938873	0.142525797	0.6498414	0.34853987
## 170	Zambia	3.252155015	2.372258356	0.0968198	0.08652917

## str

Nice and neat description of the data.frame. You can try with other objects too!

```
str(countries)
```

```
## 'data.frame':    170 obs. of  5 variables:
## $ country      : chr  "USA" "Japan" "Germany" "China" ...
## $ gdp          : num  11.11 543.02 2.15 16.56 1.1 ...
## $ prior_gdp    : num  7.373 464.168 1.793 4.901 0.754 ...
## $ light        : num  4.23 11.93 10.57 1.45 11.86 ...
## $ prior_light  : num  4.482 11.808 9.699 0.735 13.392 ...
```

## summary, View, and dim

- ▶ `dim(.)` gives you the dimension of the data.frame.
  - ▶ The first number is the number of rows (observations).
  - ▶ The second number is the number of columns (variables).

```
dim(countries)
```

```
## [1] 170    5
```

- ▶ The `View(.)` function is also useful. In your console, type the following:

```
View(countries)
```

- ▶ Very cool, right?!

## summary, View, and dim

And for a quick summary of the variables in your dataset, you can use the function `summary(.)`:

```
summary(countries)
```

```
##      country          gdp          prior_gdp          light
## Length:170      Min.   : 0.0000      Min.   : 0.0000      Min.   : 0.00494
## Class :character 1st Qu.: 0.0117      1st Qu.: 0.0086      1st Qu.: 0.19885
## Mode  :character Median : 0.2588      Median : 0.1419      Median : 1.24459
##                      Mean  : 27.5893      Mean  : 16.6594      Mean  : 3.56543
##                      3rd Qu.: 1.5106      3rd Qu.: 0.9746      3rd Qu.: 3.64854
##                      Max.   :1798.3271      Max.   :1111.8674      Max.   :45.69160
## prior_light
## Min.   : 0.00299
## 1st Qu.: 0.16311
## Median : 0.89487
## Mean   : 2.95033
## 3rd Qu.: 3.37282
## Max.   :44.18754
```

## Today's Lab

- Learn R data types
- Learn how to create datasets
- Learn how to load a dataset
- Learn how to explore a dataset

## Next Lab

- How to operate with data.frames
- Learn how to use R Markdown



Questions?

See you in the next lab!