



University of  
BRISTOL

# Data wrangling

Using dplyr to transform your data I.

Henry W J Reeve

[henry.reeve@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:henry.reeve@bristol.ac.uk)

Statistical Computing & Empirical Methods

# What will we cover today?

- We will explore some foundational concepts of tabular data
- We will then introduce and explore the basics of **data wrangling** using the **dplyr** library.
  - Extracting subsets
  - Adding new columns
  - Rearranging your rows
  - Summarizing your data
  - Fusing together data frames.

# The Palmer penguins data set

- We will also make use of the Palmer penguin data set.



- Introduced by Alison Hill, Allison Horst, Kristen Gorman.

# The Palmer penguins data set

- Load the Tidy verse + the Palmer penguins data set.

```
library(tidyverse)
```

```
library(palmerpenguins)
```

- We can take a look at the data set by using the head function.

```
head(penguins)
```

```
# A tibble: 6 x 8
```

	species	island	bill_length_mm	bill_depth_mm	flipper_length_mm	body_mass_g	sex	year
	<fct>	<fct>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<int>	<int>	<fct>	<int>
1	Adelie	Torgersen	39.1	18.7	181	3750	male	2007
2	Adelie	Torgersen	39.5	17.4	186	3800	female	2007
3	Adelie	Torgersen	40.3	18	195	3250	female	2007
4	Adelie	Torgersen	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2007
5	Adelie	Torgersen	36.7	19.3	193	3450	female	2007
6	Adelie	Torgersen	39.3	20.6	190	3650	male	2007

# Tabular data

- Penguins is an example of a tabular data set represented by an R data frame.

```
# A tibble: 6 x 8
  species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm body_mass_g sex  year
  <fct>   <fct>         <dbl>         <dbl>         <int>         <int> <fct> <int>
1 Adelie Torgersen     39.1          18.7          181          3750 male   2007
2 Adelie Torgersen     39.5          17.4          186          3800 female 2007
3 Adelie Torgersen     40.3           18          195          3250 female 2007
4 Adelie Torgersen     NA           NA           NA           NA NA      2007
5 Adelie Torgersen     36.7          19.3          193          3450 female 2007
6 Adelie Torgersen     39.3          20.6          190          3650 male   2007
```

## Rows

Correspond to an instance of a specific type of thing, in this case an individual penguin.  
Known as examples, observations or cases.

## Columns

Correspond to a property or quality of the individual examples.  
Known as features, variables or covariates.

# What is data wrangling?

- **Data wrangling** is the process of transforming data from one form to another.
- Extracting, transforming, fusing and aggregating information from existing data.
- We can do this all in R with the **Tidyverse**, especially the Hadley Wickham's **dplyr**.

# A grammar for data wrangling

- The “nouns” of data wrangling are the data frames.
- Hadley Wickam identified five key “verbs” which can be applied to data frames:

`select()` - Take a subset of columns.

`filter()` - Take a subset of rows.

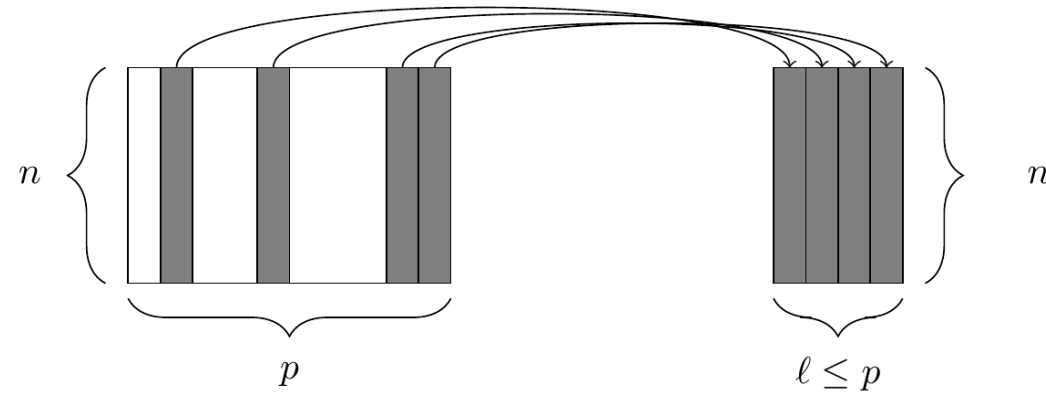
`mutate()` - Add or modify existing columns.

`arrange()` - Sort rows.

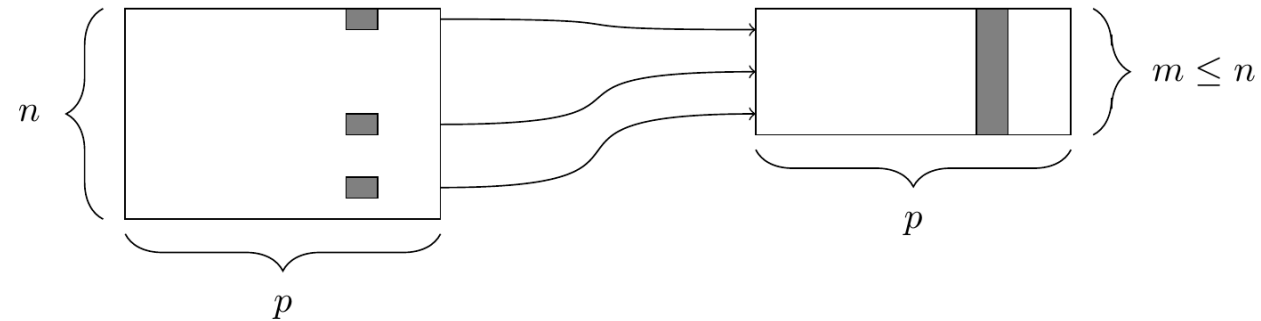
`summarize()` - Aggregate data across existing rows.

# The select and filter functions

Select



Filter



Diagrams from Baumer et al. Modern Data Science with R, 2017.



# The select function

The select function allows us to extract several columns.

```
select(penguins, species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 3
##   species bill_length_mm body_mass_g
##   <fct>      <dbl>         <int>
## 1 Adelie      39.1           3750
## 2 Adelie      39.5           3800
## 3 Adelie      40.3           3250
## 4 Adelie      NA              NA
## 5 Adelie      36.7           3450
## 6 Adelie      39.3           3650
## 7 Adelie      38.9           3625
## 8 Adelie      39.2           4675
## 9 Adelie      34.1           3475
## 10 Adelie      42             4250
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# The select function

The select function also allows us to remove several columns.

```
select(penguins,-species,-bill_length_mm,-body_mass_g)
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 5
##   island    bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm sex    year
##   <fct>         <dbl>             <int> <fct> <int>
## 1 Torgersen      18.7               181 male   2007
## 2 Torgersen      17.4               186 female 2007
## 3 Torgersen      18                195 female 2007
## 4 Torgersen      NA                  NA <NA>   2007
## 5 Torgersen      19.3               193 female 2007
## 6 Torgersen      20.6               190 male   2007
## 7 Torgersen      17.8               181 female 2007
## 8 Torgersen      19.6               195 male   2007
## 9 Torgersen      18.1               193 <NA>   2007
## 10 Torgersen     20.2               190 <NA>   2007
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# The filter function

The filter function allows us to extract a subset of rows.

```
filter(penguins, species=="Gentoo")
```

```
## # A tibble: 124 x 8
##   species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_~ body_mass_g
##   <fct>   <fct>         <dbl>         <dbl>         <int>         <int>
## 1 Gentoo  Biscoe          46.1           13.2           211           4500
## 2 Gentoo  Biscoe          50            16.3           230           5700
## 3 Gentoo  Biscoe          48.7           14.1           210           4450
## 4 Gentoo  Biscoe          50            15.2           218           5700
## 5 Gentoo  Biscoe          47.6           14.5           215           5400
## 6 Gentoo  Biscoe          46.5           13.5           210           4550
## 7 Gentoo  Biscoe          45.4           14.6           211           4800
## 8 Gentoo  Biscoe          46.7           15.3           219           5200
## 9 Gentoo  Biscoe          43.3           13.4           209           4400
## 10 Gentoo Biscoe          46.8           15.4           215           5150
## # ... with 114 more rows, and 2 more variables: sex <fct>, year <int>
```

# The filter function

We can also combine two or more conditions within the filter function.

```
filter(penguins, species=="Gentoo" & body_mass_g>5000)
```

```
## # A tibble: 61 x 8
##   species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_~ body_mass_g
##   <fct>    <fct>         <dbl>         <dbl>         <int>         <int>
## 1 Gentoo  Biscoe           50           16.3           230          5700
## 2 Gentoo  Biscoe           50           15.2           218          5700
## 3 Gentoo  Biscoe          47.6           14.5           215          5400
## 4 Gentoo  Biscoe          46.7           15.3           219          5200
## 5 Gentoo  Biscoe          46.8           15.4           215          5150
## 6 Gentoo  Biscoe          49           16.1           216          5550
## 7 Gentoo  Biscoe          48.4           14.6           213          5850
## 8 Gentoo  Biscoe          49.3           15.7           217          5850
## 9 Gentoo  Biscoe          49.2           15.2           221          6300
## 10 Gentoo Biscoe          48.7           15.1           222          5350
## # ... with 51 more rows, and 2 more variables: sex <fct>, year <int>
```

# Combining filter & select functions

We often combine filter with select to get a sub table.

```
select(filter(penguins, species=="Gentoo"), species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

```
## # A tibble: 124 x 3
##   species bill_length_mm body_mass_g
##   <fct>      <dbl>      <int>
## 1 Gentoo     46.1         4500
## 2 Gentoo     50          5700
## 3 Gentoo     48.7         4450
## 4 Gentoo     50          5700
## 5 Gentoo     47.6         5400
## 6 Gentoo     46.5         4550
## 7 Gentoo     45.4         4800
## 8 Gentoo     46.7         5200
## 9 Gentoo     43.3         4400
## 10 Gentoo    46.8         5150
## # ... with 114 more rows
```

# The pipe operator

```
select(filter(penguins, species=="Gentoo"), species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

We can also chain multiple operations with the pipe operator %>%

```
penguins %>%  
  filter(species=="Gentoo") %>%  
  select(species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

```
## # A tibble: 124 x 3  
##   species bill_length_mm body_mass_g  
##   <fct>         <dbl>         <int>  
## 1 Gentoo         46.1           4500  
## 2 Gentoo          50           5700  
## 3 Gentoo         48.7           4450  
## 4 Gentoo          50           5700  
## 5 Gentoo         47.6           5400  
## 6 Gentoo         46.5           4550  
## 7 Gentoo         45.4           4800  
## 8 Gentoo         46.7           5200  
## 9 Gentoo         43.3           4400  
## 10 Gentoo        46.8           5150  
## # ... with 114 more rows
```

# The pipe operator

The pipe operator `%>%` is taken from the `magrittr` package which is also part of the tidyverse.

The `magrittr` package was developed by Stefan Milton Bache and Hadley Wickham.



Image from [renemagritte.org](http://renemagritte.org) and [magrittr.tidyverse.org](http://magrittr.tidyverse.org)

# The pipe operator

The pipe operator `%>%` allows arguments to be implicitly passed as objects to the function after the pipe.

```
f <- function(a,b) { return (a^2+b) }
```

```
f(3,1)
```

```
## [1] 10
```

```
3 %>% f(1)
```

```
## [1] 10
```



# The pipe operator

```
select(filter(penguins, species=="Gentoo"), species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

We can also chain multiple operations with the pipe operator %>%

```
penguins %>%  
  filter(species=="Gentoo") %>%  
  select(species, bill_length_mm, body_mass_g)
```

```
## # A tibble: 124 x 3  
##   species bill_length_mm body_mass_g  
##   <fct>         <dbl>         <int>  
## 1 Gentoo         46.1           4500  
## 2 Gentoo          50           5700  
## 3 Gentoo         48.7           4450  
## 4 Gentoo          50           5700  
## 5 Gentoo         47.6           5400  
## 6 Gentoo         46.5           4550  
## 7 Gentoo         45.4           4800  
## 8 Gentoo         46.7           5200  
## 9 Gentoo         43.3           4400  
## 10 Gentoo        46.8           5150  
## # ... with 114 more rows
```

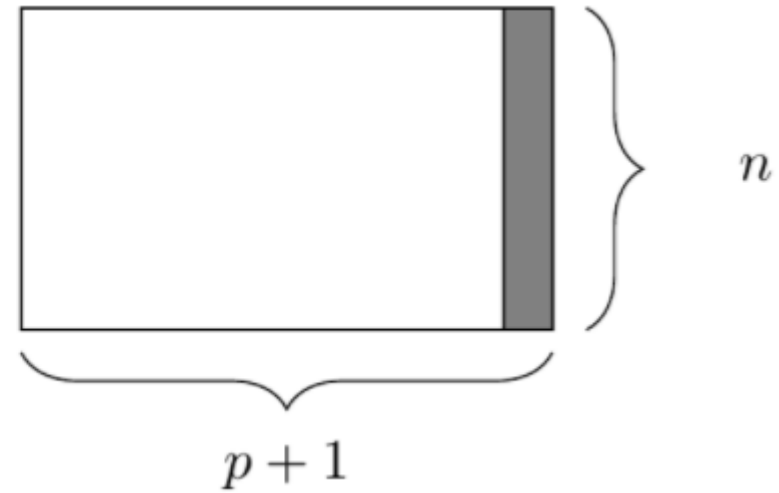
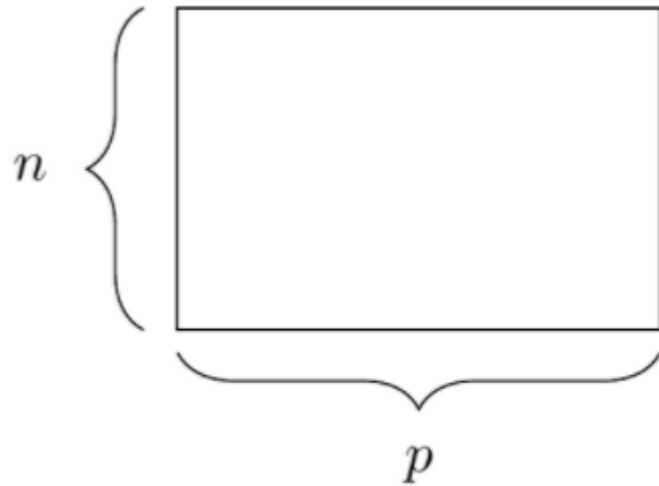
Now take a break!



# The mutate function

The mutate function allows us to create a new column as a function of existing columns.

```
my_penguins <- penguins %>%  
  mutate(flipper_bill_ratio = flipper_length_mm/bill_length_mm) %>%  
  select(species,bill_length_mm,flipper_length_mm,flipper_bill_ratio)  
my_penguins
```



# The mutate function

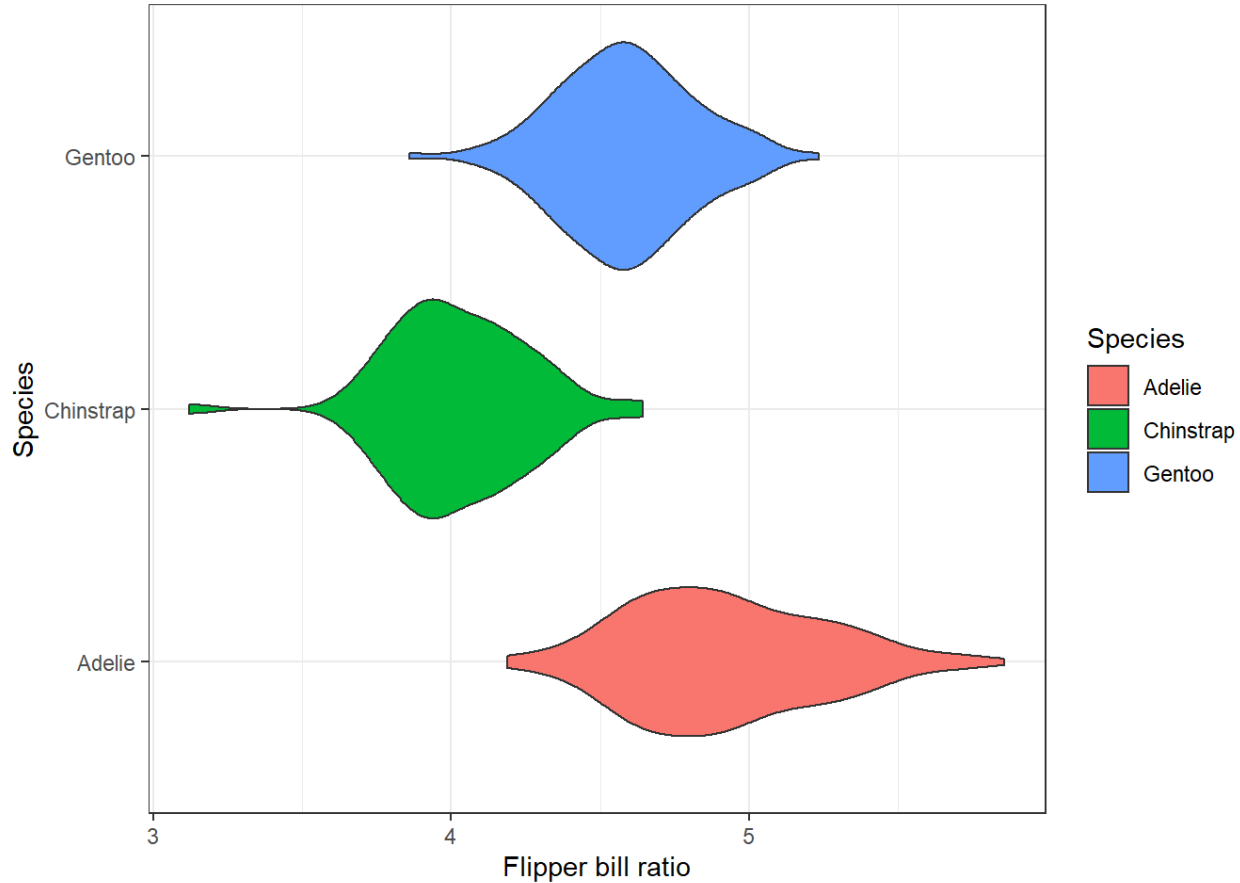
The mutate function allows us to create a new column as a function of existing columns.

```
my_penguins <- penguins %>%  
  mutate(flipper_bill_ratio = flipper_length_mm/bill_length_mm) %>%  
  select(species,bill_length_mm,flipper_length_mm,flipper_bill_ratio)  
my_penguins
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 4  
##   species bill_length_mm flipper_length_mm flipper_bill_ratio  
##   <fct>         <dbl>         <int>         <dbl>  
## 1 Adelie         39.1           181           4.63  
## 2 Adelie         39.5           186           4.71  
## 3 Adelie         40.3           195           4.84  
## 4 Adelie         NA             NA            NA  
## 5 Adelie         36.7           193           5.26  
## 6 Adelie         39.3           190           4.83  
## 7 Adelie         38.9           181           4.65  
## 8 Adelie         39.2           195           4.97  
## 9 Adelie         34.1           193           5.66  
## 10 Adelie        42             190           4.52  
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# The mutate function

```
ggplot(data=rename(my_penguins, Species=species), aes(x=flipper_bill_ratio , y=Species, fill=Species))+  
  geom_violin()+theme_bw()+xlab("Flipper bill ratio")
```



# The rename function

The rename function allows us to rename an existing column.

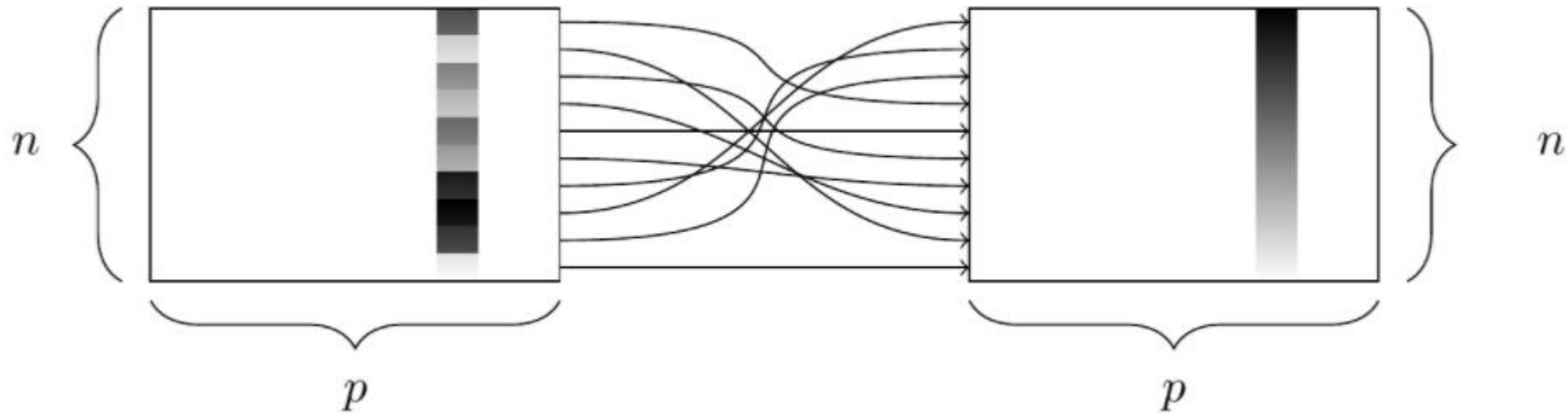
```
my_penguins %>% rename(f_over_b = flipper_bill_ratio)
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 4
##   species bill_length_mm flipper_length_mm f_over_b
##   <fct>         <dbl>         <int>     <dbl>
## 1 Adelie         39.1           181      4.63
## 2 Adelie         39.5           186      4.71
## 3 Adelie         40.3           195      4.84
## 4 Adelie         NA             NA       NA
## 5 Adelie         36.7           193      5.26
## 6 Adelie         39.3           190      4.83
## 7 Adelie         38.9           181      4.65
## 8 Adelie         39.2           195      4.97
## 9 Adelie         34.1           193      5.66
## 10 Adelie        42             190      4.52
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# The arrange function

We can sort the rows of a table via the arrange function.

```
my_penguins %>% arrange(desc(bill_length_mm))
```



# The arrange function

We can sort the rows of a table via the arrange function.

```
my_penguins %>% arrange(bill_length_mm)
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 4
##   species bill_length_mm flipper_length_mm flipper_bill_ratio
##   <fct>         <dbl>         <int>         <dbl>
## 1 Adelie         32.1           188           5.86
## 2 Adelie         33.1           178           5.38
## 3 Adelie         33.5           190           5.67
## 4 Adelie         34            185           5.44
## 5 Adelie         34.1           193           5.66
## 6 Adelie         34.4           184           5.35
## 7 Adelie         34.5           187           5.42
## 8 Adelie         34.6           198           5.72
## 9 Adelie         34.6           189           5.46
## 10 Adelie        35            190           5.43
## # ... with 334 more rows
```



# The arrange function

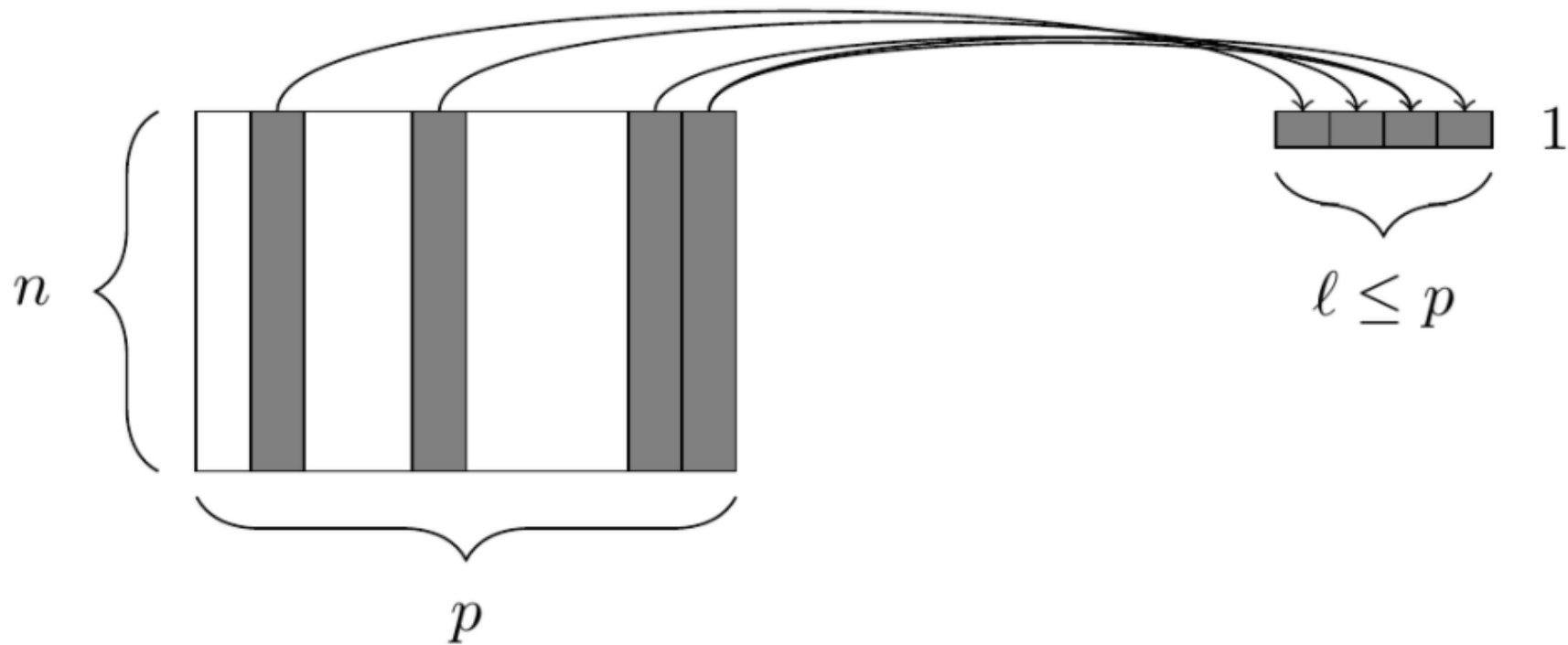
We can sort the rows of a table via the arrange function.

```
my_penguins %>% arrange(desc(bill_length_mm))
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 4
##   species  bill_length_mm flipper_length_mm flipper_bill_ratio
##   <fct>      <dbl>          <int>          <dbl>
## 1 Gentoo      59.6            230            3.86
## 2 Chinstrap   58              181            3.12
## 3 Gentoo      55.9            228            4.08
## 4 Chinstrap   55.8            207            3.71
## 5 Gentoo      55.1            230            4.17
## 6 Gentoo      54.3            231            4.25
## 7 Chinstrap   54.2            201            3.71
## 8 Chinstrap   53.5            205            3.83
## 9 Gentoo      53.4            219            4.10
## 10 Chinstrap  52.8            205            3.88
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# Summarizing data

To understand data we can extract summary statistics from a data frame.



# The summarize function

The summarize function computes vector functions across the entire data frame.

```
penguins %>%  
  summarize(  
    num_rows=n(), avg_weight_kg =mean(body_mass_g/1000,na.rm=TRUE),avg_flipper_bill_ratio =  
    mean(flipper_length_mm/bill_length_mm,na.rm=TRUE)  
  )
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 3  
##   num_rows avg_weight_kg avg_flipper_bill_ratio  
##   <int>      <dbl>          <dbl>  
## 1     344        4.20          4.62
```

# The groupby function

To obtain summaries by group we can combine the summarize and groupby functions.

```
penguins %>%  
  group_by(species) %>%  
  summarize(  
    num_rows=n(), avg_weight_kg =mean(body_mass_g/1000,na.rm=TRUE),avg_flipper_bill_ratio =  
    mean(flipper_length_mm/bill_length_mm,na.rm=TRUE)  
  )
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 4  
##   species    num_rows avg_weight_kg avg_flipper_bill_ratio  
##   <fct>      <int>      <dbl>          <dbl>  
## 1 Adelie      152        3.70          4.92  
## 2 Chinstrap   68        3.73          4.02  
## 3 Gentoo    124        5.08          4.58
```

# The across function

The across function allows us to apply a function within summarize to all columns at once.

```
penguins %>%  
  summarize(across(everything(), ~sum(is.na(.x))))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 8  
##   species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_~ body_mass_g  sex  
##   <int>   <int>         <int>         <int>         <int>         <int> <int>  
## 1      0     0           2           2           2           2    11  
## # ... with 1 more variable: year <int>
```

# The across function combined with where

We can also restrict apply the function to a subset of columns of a prescribed form.

```
penguins %>%  
  summarize(across(where(is.numeric), ~mean(.x, na.rm=TRUE)))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 5  
##   bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm body_mass_g  year  
##           <dbl>         <dbl>           <dbl>         <dbl> <dbl>  
## 1           43.9           17.2             201.         4202. 2008.
```

# Combining the summarize, groupby and across functions

To obtain summaries by group we can combine the summarize and groupby functions.

```
penguins %>%  
  select(-year) %>%  
  group_by(species) %>%  
  summarize(across(where(is.numeric), ~mean(.x, na.rm=TRUE)), num_rows=n())
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 6  
##   species    bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm body_mass_g num_rows  
##   <fct>          <dbl>         <dbl>          <dbl>         <dbl>     <int>  
## 1 Adelie         38.8           18.3           190.         3701.       152  
## 2 Chinstrap      48.8           18.4           196.         3733.        68  
## 3 Gentoo        47.5           15.0           217.         5076.       124
```

Now take a break!





# Join functions

Join functions allow us to fuse multiple data frames.

```
##      species      latin_name
## 1   Adelie      Pygoscelis adeliae
## 2   Gentoo      Pygoscelis papua
## 3 Chinstrap Pygoscelis antarcticus
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 2
##   species bill_length_mm
##   <fct>      <dbl>
## 1 Gentoo      59.6
## 2 Chinstrap    58
## 3 Gentoo      55.9
## 4 Chinstrap    55.8
## 5 Gentoo      55.1
## 6 Gentoo      54.3
## 7 Chinstrap    54.2
## 8 Chinstrap    53.5
## 9 Gentoo      53.4
## 10 Chinstrap   52.8
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

Join

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 3
##   species bill_length_mm latin_name
##   <fct>      <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Gentoo      59.6 Pygoscelis papua
## 2 Chinstrap    58 Pygoscelis antarcticus
## 3 Gentoo      55.9 Pygoscelis papua
## 4 Chinstrap    55.8 Pygoscelis antarcticus
## 5 Gentoo      55.1 Pygoscelis papua
## 6 Gentoo      54.3 Pygoscelis papua
## 7 Chinstrap    54.2 Pygoscelis antarcticus
## 8 Chinstrap    53.5 Pygoscelis antarcticus
## 9 Gentoo      53.4 Pygoscelis papua
## 10 Chinstrap   52.8 Pygoscelis antarcticus
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# Join functions

First we extract a data frame of bill lengths by species.

```
penguin_bill_lengths_df <- penguins %>%  
  arrange(desc(bill_length_mm)) %>%  
  select(species, bill_length_mm)  
penguin_bill_lengths_df
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 2  
##   species    bill_length_mm  
##   <fct>         <dbl>  
## 1 Gentoo         59.6  
## 2 Chinstrap      58  
## 3 Gentoo         55.9  
## 4 Chinstrap      55.8  
## 5 Gentoo         55.1  
## 6 Gentoo         54.3  
## 7 Chinstrap      54.2  
## 8 Chinstrap      53.5  
## 9 Gentoo         53.4  
## 10 Chinstrap     52.8  
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# Join functions

Next we create a data frame of latin species names.

```
species<-unique(penguins$species)
latin_name<-c("Pygoscelis adeliae", "Pygoscelis papua", "Pygoscelis antarcticus")
latin_names_df<-data.frame(species, latin_name)
latin_names_df
```

```
##      species      latin_name
## 1   Adelie Pygoscelis adeliae
## 2   Gentoo Pygoscelis papua
## 3 Chinstrap Pygoscelis antarcticus
```

# Join functions

Finally we can fuse these two data frames with a join function.

```
penguin_bill_lengths_df %>%  
  inner_join(latin_names_df)
```

```
## # A tibble: 344 x 3  
##   species    bill_length_mm latin_name  
##   <fct>          <dbl> <chr>  
## 1 Gentoo         59.6 Pygoscelis papua  
## 2 Chinstrap      58   Pygoscelis antarcticus  
## 3 Gentoo         55.9 Pygoscelis papua  
## 4 Chinstrap      55.8 Pygoscelis antarcticus  
## 5 Gentoo         55.1 Pygoscelis papua  
## 6 Gentoo         54.3 Pygoscelis papua  
## 7 Chinstrap      54.2 Pygoscelis antarcticus  
## 8 Chinstrap      53.5 Pygoscelis antarcticus  
## 9 Gentoo         53.4 Pygoscelis papua  
## 10 Chinstrap     52.8 Pygoscelis antarcticus  
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

# Types of join functions

What happens when the set of values on the common column is not the same for both tables?

`band_members`

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
##   name  band
##   <chr> <chr>
## 1 Mick  Stones
## 2 John  Beatles
## 3 Paul  Beatles
```

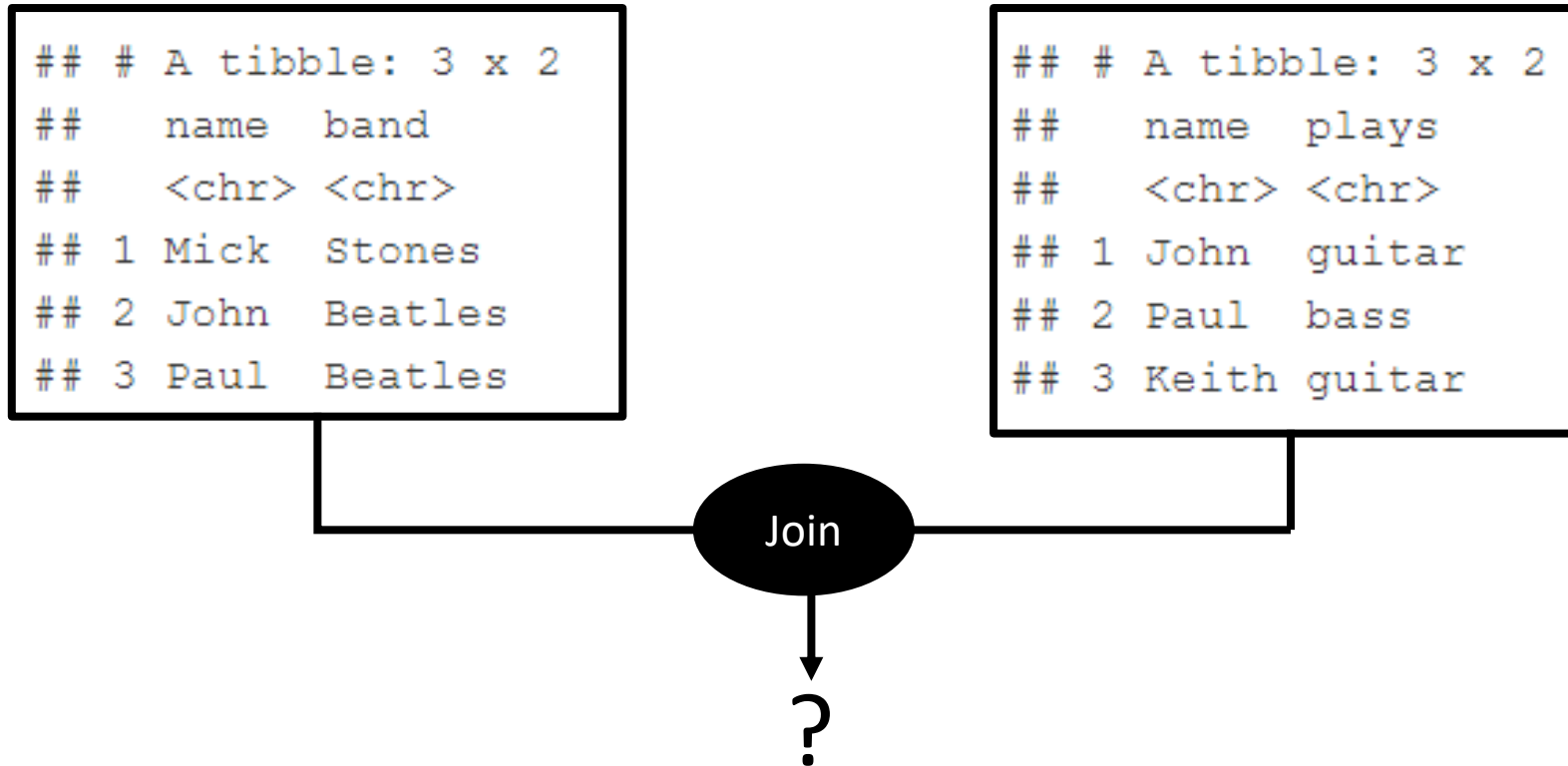
`band_instruments`

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
##   name  plays
##   <chr> <chr>
## 1 John  guitar
## 2 Paul  bass
## 3 Keith guitar
```

“Mick” only appears in “band\_members” and “Keith” only appears in “band\_instruments”.

# Types of join functions

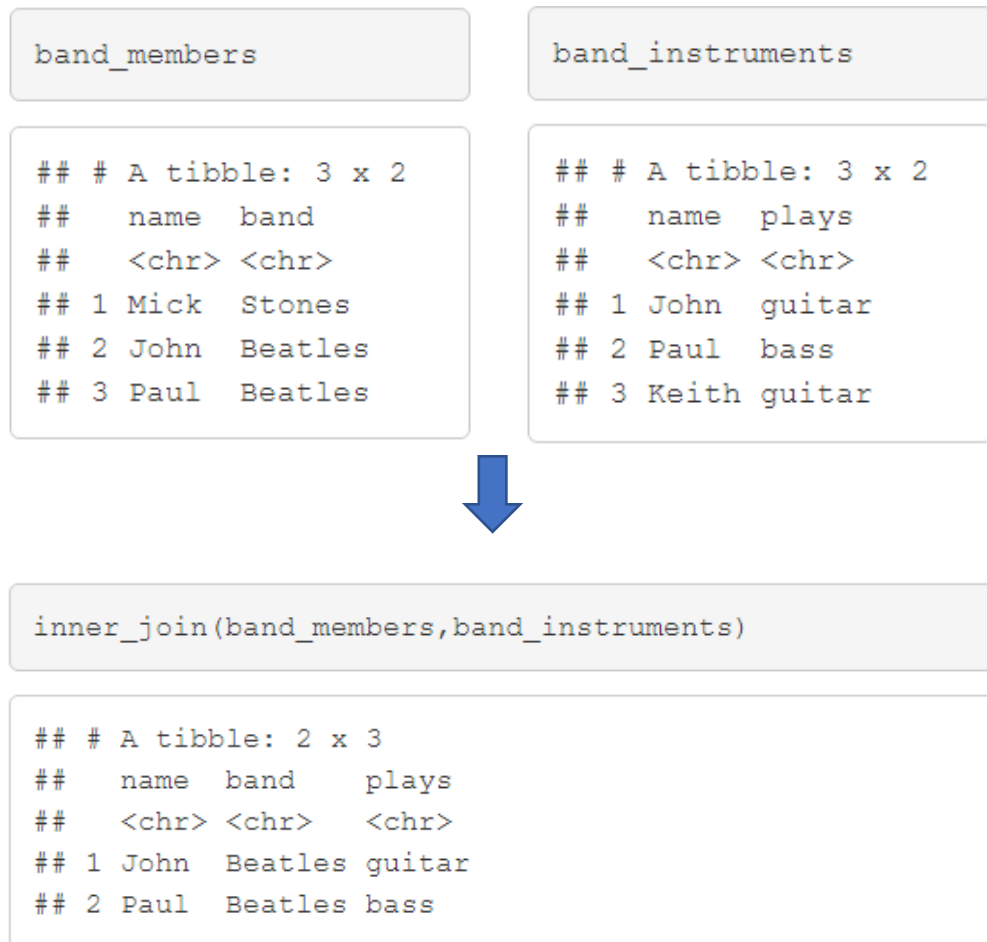
What happens when the set of values on the common column is not the same for both tables?



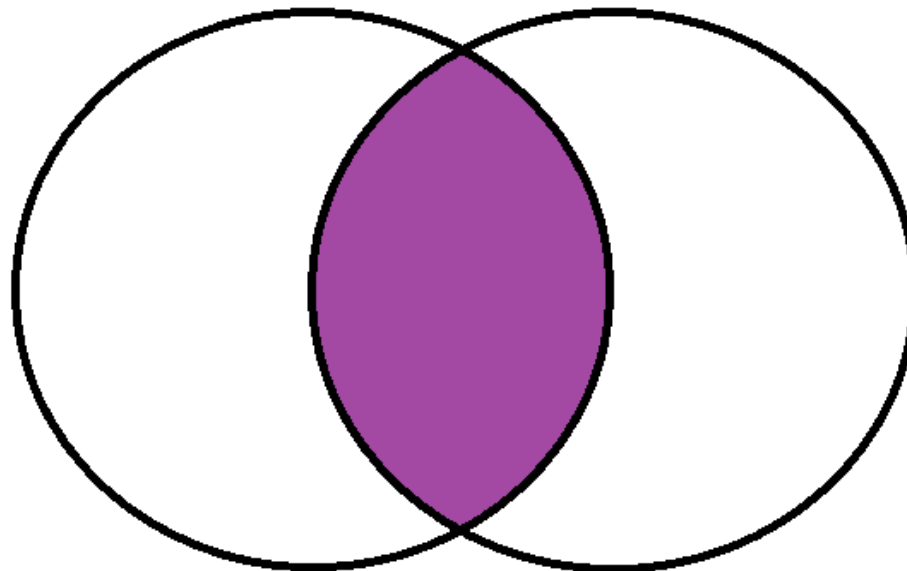
There are four basic join functions, each of which deals with missing rows differently.

# Types of join functions

The inner join extracts the rows with a common entry in both tables.

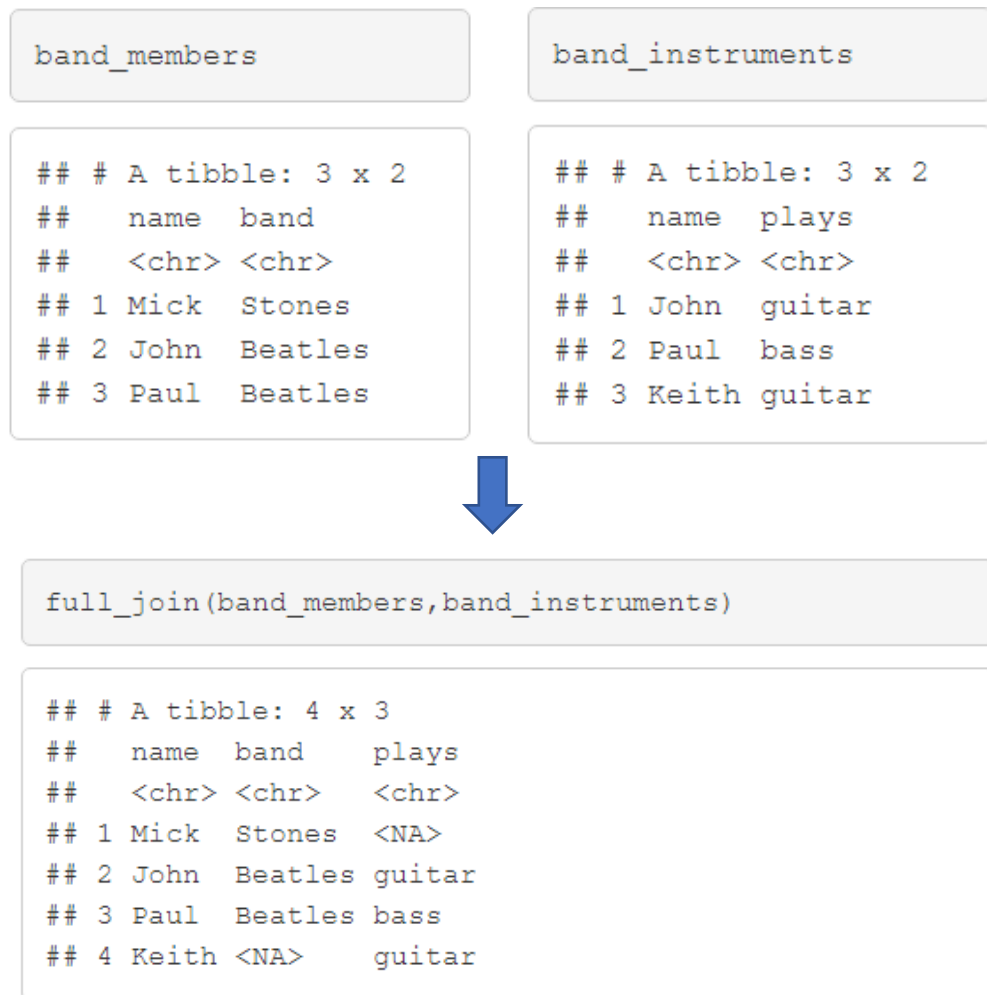


Inner join

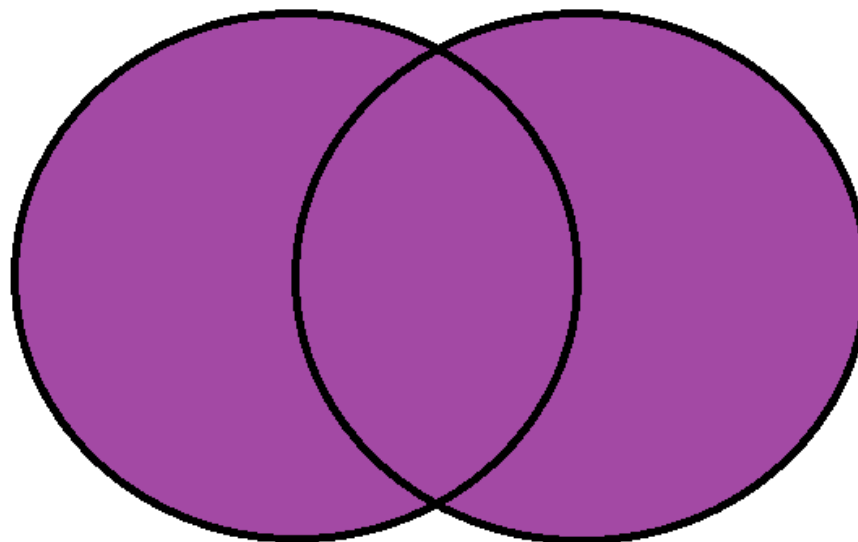


# Types of join functions

The full join (also known as an outer join) extracts the rows with an entry in either tables.



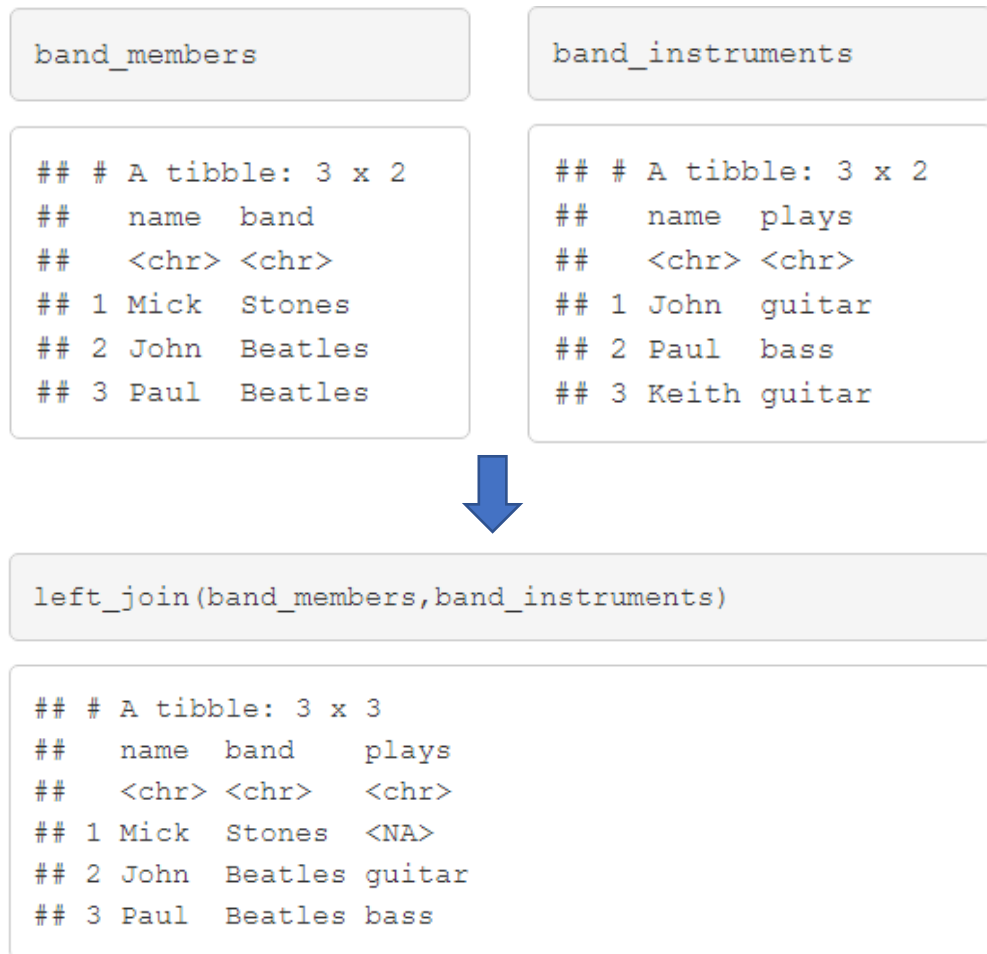
Full join



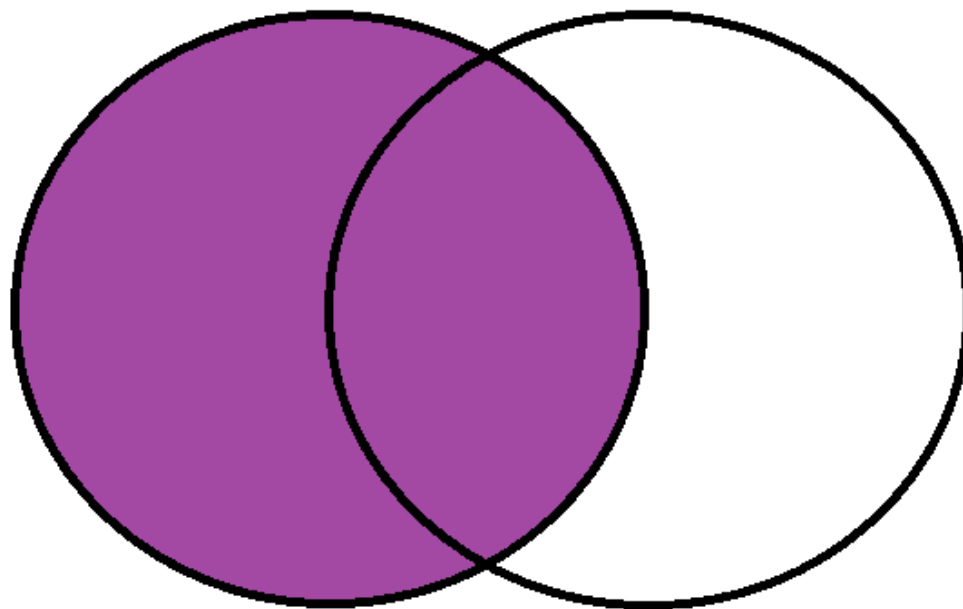


# Types of join functions

The left join extracts the rows with an entry in the left table.

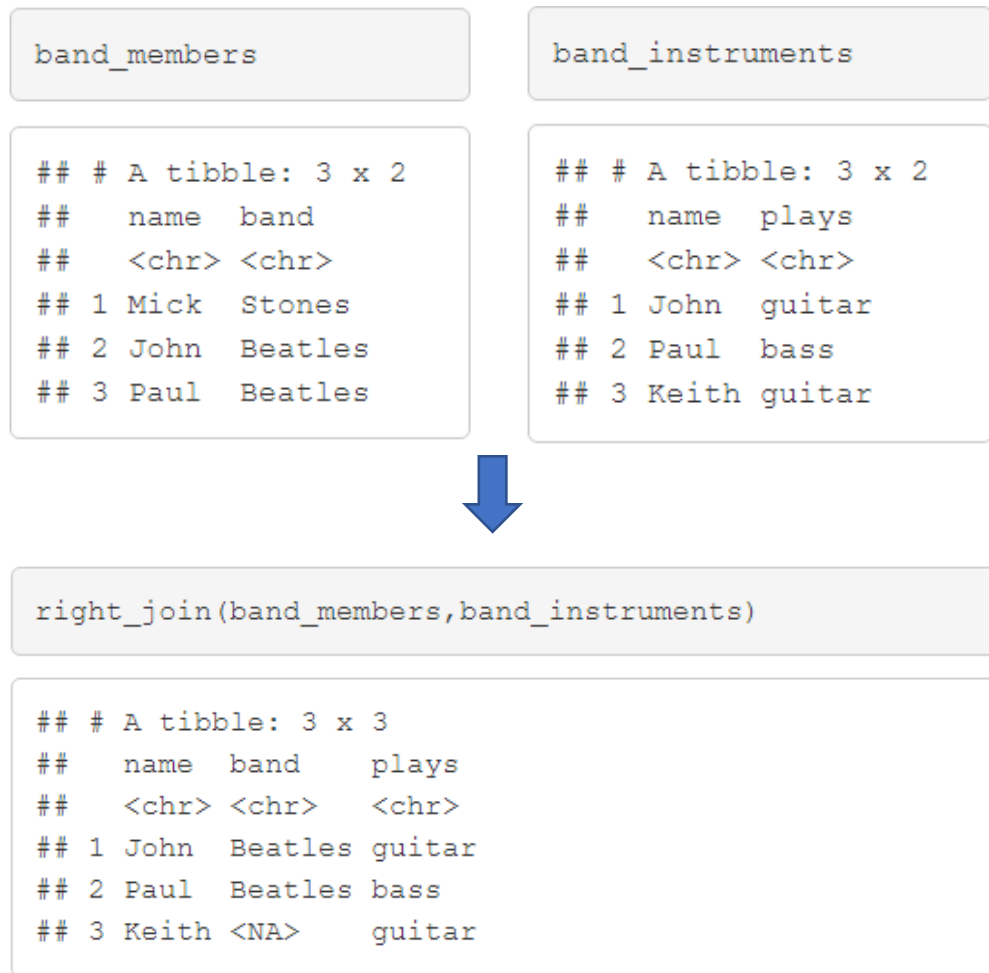


Left join

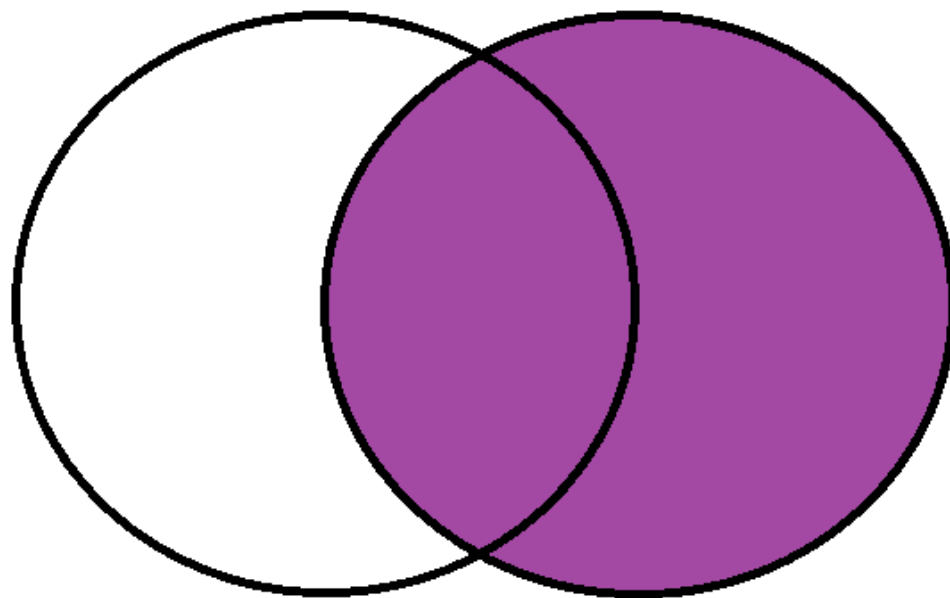


# Types of join functions

The right join extracts the rows with an entry in the right table.



Right join



# What have we covered?

- We introduced the dplyr library for data wrangling.
- We saw how the select and filter functions allow us to extract sub-tables.
- We saw that the mutate function allows us to add new columns.
- We explored fast ways to get summary data frames with the summarize and groupby functions.
- We learnt how to fuse tables together with different types of join function.



University of  
BRISTOL

Thanks for listening!

Henry W J Reeve

[henry.reeve@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:henry.reeve@bristol.ac.uk)

Include EMATM0061 in the subject of your email.

Statistical Computing & Empirical Methods