MONASH BUSINESS SCHOOL

ETC3250 Business Analytics: Data Wrangling

Week 7, class 2

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Web scraping data

- Example: NBA salaries
- ESPN provides basketball players' salaries for the 2013-2014 season at http://espn.go.com/nba/salaries

```
library(XML)
nba <- NULL
for (i in 1:11) {
  temp <- readHTMLTable(
    sprintf("http://espn.go.com/nba/salaries/_/page/%d",i))[[]
  nba <- rbind(nba, temp)
}</pre>
```

```
glimpse(nba)
```

```
#> Observations: 447
#> Variables: 4
```

#> \$ TEAM <fctr> Cleveland Cavaliers, Memphis Grizzlies, Bo.

#> \$ SALARY <fctr> \$30,963,450, \$26,540,100, \$26,540,100, \$25

Working with strings

head(nba\$SALARY)

```
# get rid of $ and , in salaries and convert to numeric:
gsub("[$,]", "", head(as.character(nba$SALARY)))
nba$SALARY <- as.numeric(gsub("[$,]", "",
    as.character(nba$SALARY)))

#> [1] $30,963,450 $26,540,100 $26,540,100 $25,000,000 $24,559
#> 313 Levels: $16,073,140 $16,393,443 $16,663,575 $16,957,900
#> [1] "30963450" "26540100" "26540100" "25000000" "24559380"
#> Warning: NAs introduced by coercion
```

■ Where does the warning come from?

Cleaning NBA salaries data: hunting the warning

```
nba %>% filter(is.na(SALARY)) %>% head()

#> RK NAME TEAM SALARY

#> 1 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 2 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 3 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 4 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 5 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 5 RK NAME TEAM NA

#> 6 RK NAME TEAM NA
```

■ We don't need these rows - delete all of them

```
dim(nba)
nba <- nba[-which(nba$RK=="RK"),]
dim(nba)
#> [1] 447   4
#> [1] 416   4
```

Cleaning NBA data

■ Separate names into first, last, and position

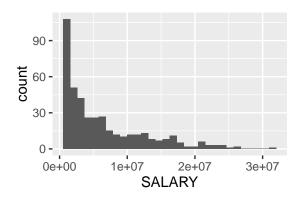
```
nba <- nba %>%
  mutate(NAME = as.character(nba$NAME)) %>%
  separate(NAME, c("full_name", "position"), ",") %>%
  separate(full_name, c("first", "last"), " ")
```

SAI	TEAM	position	last	first	RK		#>
30963	Cleveland Cavaliers	SF	James	LeBron	1	1	#>
26540	Memphis Grizzlies	PG	Conley	Mike	2	2	#>
26540	Boston Celtics	C	Horford	Al	3	3	#>
25000	Dallas Mavericks	PF	Nowitzki	Dirk	4	4	#>
24559	New York Knicks	SF	Anthony	${\tt Carmelo}$	5	5	#>
24328	Portland Trail Blazers	PG	Lillard	Damian	6	6	#>

Cleaned data ...?

Numbers might still be wrong, but now we are in a position to check for that.

ggplot(data=nba, aes(x=SALARY)) + geom_histogram()



Reading different file formats: shapefiles

The Australian Electorate Commission publishes the boundaries of the electorates on their website at http://www.aec.gov.au/Electorates/gis/gis_datadownload.htm.

Once the files (preferably the national files) are downloaded, unzip the file (it will build a folder with a set of files). We want to read the shapes contained in the shp file into R.

```
library(maptools)

# shapeFile contains the path to the shp file:
shapeFile <- "../data/vic-esri-24122010/vic 24122010.shp"
sF <- readShapeSpatial(shapeFile)
class(sF)

#> [1] "SpatialPolygonsDataFrame"

#> attr(,"package")

#> [1] "sp"
```

sF is a spatial data frame containing all of the polygons. We use the rmapshaper package available from ateucher's github page to thin the polygons while preserving the geography:

```
library(rmapshaper)
```

```
sFsmall <- ms_simplify(sF, keep=0.05) # use instead of thinne
```

keep indicates the percentage of points we want to keep in the polygons. 5% makes the electorate boundary still quite recognizable, but reduce the overall size of the map considerably, making it faster to plot.

We can use base graphics to plot this map:

plot(sFsmall)



Extracting the electorate information

A spatial polygons data frame consists of both a data set with information on each of the entities (in this case, electorates), and a set of polygons for each electorate (sometimes multiple polygons are needed, e.g. if the electorate has islands). We want to extract both of these parts.

```
nat data <- sF@data
head(nat data)
#>
     GEODB_OID OBJECTID DIV_NUMBER ELECT_DIV NUMCCDS ACTUAL
#> 0
                                      Aston
                                                190
                                                     92370
#> 1
                                  Ballarat
                                                274
                                                     95003
#> 2
                                     Batman
                                                265
                                                     96909
#> 3
                                4 Bendiqo
                                                284
                                                     95729
                     5
#> 4
                                      Bruce
                                                226
                                                     95472
#> 5
                     6
                                6
                                    Calwell
                                                214 99031
                                                         MAP
#>
    POPULATION
               OVER 18 AREA SQKM SORTNAME
#> 0
                         98.9337 Aston Final Divisional Be
              0
#> 1
                     0 4651.6400 Ballarat Final Divisional B
                         65.6887 Batman Final Divisional Be
#> 2
#> 3
                       6255.0000 Bendiqo Final Divisional Be
#> 4
                         72.6900
                                    Bruce Final Divisional Be
#> 5
                        174.7130 Calwell Final Divisional Bo
       LENGTH SHAPE AREA
#>
     58422.89
                99056594
```

The row names of the data file are identifiers corresponding to the polygons - we want to make them a separate variable:

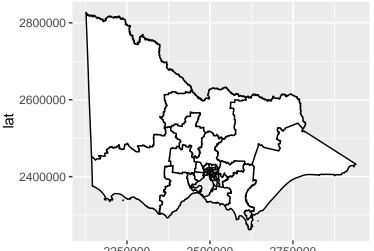
Extracting the polygon information

The fortify function in the ggplot2 package extracts the polygons into a data frame.

We need to make sure that group and piece are kept as factor variables if they are allowed to be converted to numeric values, it messes things up, because as factor levels 9 and 9.0 are distinct, whereas they are not when interpreted as numbers . . .

Plot it

```
ggplot(nat_map, aes(x=long, y=lat, group=group)) +
geom_polygon(fill="white", colour="black")
```



Handling missing values

- Need to know how the missings are coded, hopefully clearly missing, treated as NA in R, not 0, or -9, or -9999, or . Recode as need be.
- Study the distribution of missing vs not missing, which will help determine how to handle them.

What ways can these affect analysis?

- If missings happen when conditions are special, eg sensor tends to stop when temperature drops below 3 degrees Celsius, estimation of model parameters may not reflect the population parameters
- Some techniques, particularly multivariate methods like many used in data mining require complete records over many variables. Just a few missing numbers can mean a lot of cases that cannot be used.

Terminology

- missing completely at random (MCAR) means that values that are missing appaear to be independent of everything else, just sporadically occur
- missing at random (MAR) means that missings can dependent on other known information, eg temperature, and this information can be used to help estimate values to substitute the missing values
- missing not at random (MNAR) means that the missings are dependent on something else, but we may not have that information, which makes it impossible to appropriately estimate substitute values.

Making it Easy - MissingDataGUI

- Methods for summarising missings in a data set
- Ways to plot to examine dependence between missing vs not missing
- Imputation methods to substitute missings

```
library(MissingDataGUI)
data(tao)
MissingDataGUI(tao)
```

References

- eechida package vignettes
- AEC electorate polygons
- Paper on the MissingDataGUI

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