Tidy Data

Byteflow Dynamics 9/24/2017

Why tidy data?

- Easier to use the tools in the tidyverse package
- You will spend less time munging data
- And more time on analytics

tidyr

We will use tidyr (part of tidyverse) to organize messy data

library(tidyverse)

What is tidy data?

- 1. Each variable must have its own column.
- 2. Each observation must have its own row.
- 3. Each value must have its own cell.

Example: Load tables 1, 2, 3, 4a, and 4b and observe differences.

table1

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
                        cases population
         country year
##
           <chr> <int>
                        <int>
                                    <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999
                          745
                                19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                  2000
                         2666
                                20595360
## 3
          Brazil
                  1999
                        37737
                               172006362
## 4
          Brazil
                  2000
                        80488
                               174504898
## 5
           China
                 1999 212258 1272915272
## 6
           China 2000 213766 1280428583
```

```
table2
## # A tibble: 12 x 4
##
          country
                   year
                               type
                                          count
##
            <chr> <int>
                              <chr>>
                                          <int>
##
                   1999
                                            745
    1 Afghanistan
                              cases
    2 Afghanistan
                   1999 population
##
                                       19987071
##
    3 Afghanistan
                    2000
                              cases
                                           2666
##
    4 Afghanistan
                    2000 population
                                       20595360
##
                    1999
    5
           Brazil
                              cases
                                          37737
##
    6
           Brazil
                   1999 population
                                      172006362
    7
##
           Brazil
                   2000
                              cases
                                          80488
##
    8
           Brazil
                   2000 population
                                      174504898
   9
                              cases
##
            China
                   1999
                                         212258
## 10
            China
                   1999 population 1272915272
## 11
            China
                   2000
                              cases
                                         213766
## 12
            China
                   2000 population 1280428583
table3
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
         country year
                                      rate
## *
           <chr> <int>
                                     <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999
                             745/19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                   2000
                            2666/20595360
## 3
          Brazil
                  1999
                          37737/172006362
          Brazil
                  2000
                          80488/174504898
## 5
           China
                  1999 212258/1272915272
## 6
                   2000 213766/1280428583
           China
table4a
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
         country `1999` `2000`
## *
           <chr>
                   <int>
                          <int>
                     745
                           2666
## 1 Afghanistan
## 2
          Brazil
                  37737
                          80488
## 3
           China 212258 213766
table4b
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
                      1999
                                  2000`
         country
## *
           <chr>
                       <int>
                                   <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                    19987071
                               20595360
          Brazil
                  172006362
                              174504898
## 3
           China 1272915272 1280428583
Question 1: Which one(s) is/are tidy?
```

How to make data tidy?

Question 2: Are our grade datasets tidy?

Data can be messy in 3 ways. For each problem, there is a tidyr function.

1. One variable is spread across multiple columns (tables4a, 4b)

- Use gather()
- 2. One observation is scattered across multiple rows (table2)
 - Use spread()
- 3. A single cell contains more than one values (table3)
 - Use separate()

How do they work?

- 1. First, pick a data frame
- 2. Then apply a function, describing what to do with the data frame
- 3. The result is a new data frame

Pipe

The pipe operator %>% is used to make codes more readable

gather()

A tibble: 6 x 3

1 Afghanistan

country

Brazil

<chr> <chr>

year

1999

1999

China 1999 212258

cases

<int>

745

##

##

3

If a dataset has a variable spread across multiple columns, we need to gather these columns.

```
table4a
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
         country `1999` `2000`
## *
           <chr>>
                  <int>
                          <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                     745
                           2666
## 2
          Brazil
                  37737
                          80488
## 3
           China 212258 213766
table4a %>%
  gather(`1999`, `2000`, key = "year", value = "cases")
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
         country year
                         cases
##
           <chr> <chr>
                         <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999
                           745
## 2
          Brazil
                  1999
                        37737
           China
                  1999 212258
## 4 Afghanistan
                  2000
                          2666
## 5
          Brazil
                  2000
                        80488
## 6
           China
                  2000 213766
These produce the same results
table4a %>%
  gather(2:3, key = "year", value = "cases")
```

```
## 4 Afghanistan 2000
         Brazil 2000 80488
## 6
          China 2000 213766
table4a %>%
  gather(`1999`:`2000`, key = "year", value = "cases")
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
         country year cases
##
           <chr> <chr> <int>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                        745
## 2
        Brazil 1999 37737
## 3
          China 1999 212258
## 4 Afghanistan 2000
                        2666
## 5
         Brazil 2000 80488
## 6
           China 2000 213766
table4a %>%
  gather(-1, key = "year", value = "cases")
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
         country year cases
##
           <chr> <chr>
                       <int>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                        745
        Brazil 1999 37737
## 3
          China 1999 212258
## 4 Afghanistan 2000
## 5
         Brazil
                 2000 80488
           China 2000 213766
Exercise: Use gather() to tidy up table 4b. Use "population" as the value.
table4b %>%
  gather(`1999`, `2000`, key = "year", value = "population")
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
        country year population
           <chr> <chr>
                            <int>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                        19987071
## 2
         Brazil 1999 172006362
## 3
          China 1999 1272915272
## 4 Afghanistan 2000
                        20595360
      Brazil 2000 174504898
## 5
## 6
           China 2000 1280428583
spread()
When an observation is scattered across multiple rows, we need to spread them.
table2
```

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 4
## country year type count
## <chr> <int> <chr> <int> chr> <int> <chr> ## 1 Afghanistan 1999 cases 745
## 2 Afghanistan 1999 population 19987071
```

```
3 Afghanistan
                   2000
                                          2666
                             cases
                                      20595360
##
    4 Afghanistan
                   2000 population
           Brazil
##
                   1999
                             cases
                                         37737
##
   6
           Brazil
                   1999 population
                                     172006362
##
   7
           Brazil
                   2000
                             cases
                                         80488
##
  8
           Brazil 2000 population
                                     174504898
##
   9
            China
                   1999
                             cases
                                        212258
## 10
            China
                   1999 population 1272915272
## 11
            China
                   2000
                              cases
                                        213766
            China 2000 population 1280428583
## 12
table2 %>%
  spread(key = type, value = count)
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
         country year
                        cases population
## *
           <chr> <int>
                        <int>
## 1 Afghanistan
                  1999
                          745
                                19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                         2666
                                20595360
                  2000
## 3
          Brazil
                  1999
                        37737
                              172006362
## 4
                        80488 174504898
          Brazil
                  2000
## 5
           China
                  1999 212258 1272915272
## 6
           China 2000 213766 1280428583
separate()
If there are multiple values in a cell, we separate them.
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
         country year
                                     rate
## *
           <chr> <int>
                                    <chr>>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                            745/19987071
## 2 Afghanistan
                  2000
                           2666/20595360
                         37737/172006362
## 3
          Brazil
                  1999
## 4
                  2000
          Brazil
                         80488/174504898
## 5
           China 1999 212258/1272915272
           China 2000 213766/1280428583
## 6
table3 %>%
  separate(rate, into = c("cases", "population"), sep = "/")
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
         country year
                        cases population
## *
           <chr> <int>
                        <chr>>
                                    <chr>
## 1 Afghanistan 1999
                          745
                                 19987071
                         2666
## 2 Afghanistan
                  2000
                                 20595360
## 3
          Brazil
                  1999
                        37737
                               172006362
```

Exercise: Tidy the lab data

Brazil

4

5

6

Hint: use key = "type" and value = "score"

2000

80488

China 1999 212258 1272915272 China 2000 213766 1280428583

174504898

```
tidylab <- read.csv("lab_grades.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE) %>%
  gather(Lab.1:Lab.14, key = "type", value = "score")
write.csv(tidylab, "tidylab.csv")
```