pipe and tidyr

Niels Aka

%>%

Example 1

```
x <- rnorm(1000)
mean(x) # standard
## [1] 0.01612787
library(magrittr)
x %>% mean() # piped
## [1] 0.01612787
```

Example 1 - add arguments

```
mean(x, trim = 0.2)

## [1] 0.01455955

x %>% mean(trim = 0.2)

## [1] 0.01455955
```

Example 2 - Chain of functions

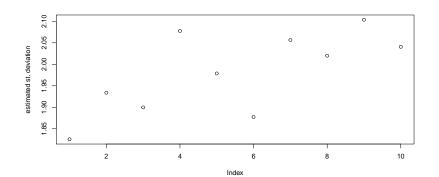
```
sprintf("%.15f", sqrt(var(x)))

## [1] "0.991694976399348"

x %>% var() %>% sqrt() %>% sprintf("%.15f", .)

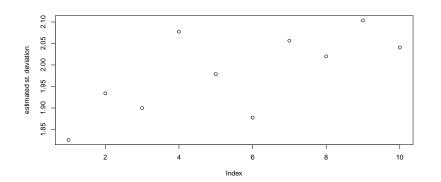
## [1] "0.991694976399348"
```

Example 3 - Read inside out



Example 3 - Read top to bottom, left to right

```
rnorm(1000, sd = 2) %>%
  matrix(ncol = 10) %>%
  apply(MARGIN = 2, FUN = . %>% var() %>% sqrt()) %>%
  plot(ylab = "estimated st. deviation")
```



Example 4 - sequence of objects

```
## cyl kpl kw
## Merc 280 6 8.16192 91.7211
## Merc 280C 6 7.56678 91.7211
## Ferrari Dino 6 8.37447 130.4975
```

Example 4 - piped

```
## cyl kpl kw
## Merc 280 6 8.16192 91.7211
## Merc 280C 6 7.56678 91.7211
## Ferrari Dino 6 8.37447 130.4975
```

Summary

- read top to bottom
- avoid unnecessary naming
- relevant info stands out

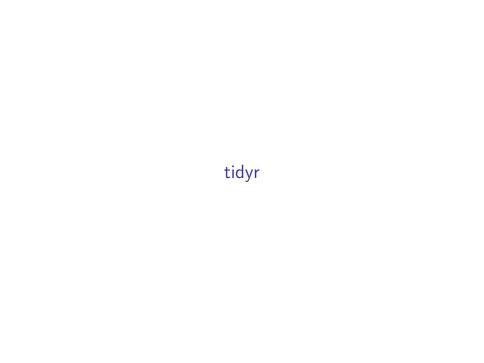
The pipe is particularly useful when operating repeatedly on a single object, e.g. a data.frame. Maybe less useful for actual programming.

In RStudio, insert with ctrl/strg + shift + m.

Best practices

- ▶ Pipe should have several lines.
- ► Each line one comprehensible piece of code.
- Not too long.

Debug: either rely on error message or grow pipe piece by piece until error is thrown.



tidyr principles

Use standardized format

- each observation in one row
- each variable in one column

Other packages (dplyr etc.) will rely on this format.

Before starting, think about what is a variable in your analysis and what isn't.

Tuberculosis Report by the WHO. Tidy?

```
## # A tibble: 7,190 × 18
     country iso2 iso3 year m014 m1524 m2534 m3544 m4554 m5564
       <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <int> <int> <int> <int> <int> <int>
##
    Albania
                    ALB 1996
                                     NA
                                          NA
                                                NΑ
                                                     NA
## 2 Albania
               AL ALB 1997
                                     23
                                                33
                                                           21
## 3 Albania
             AL ALB 1998
                                     17
                                          21
                                                24
                                                           26
                                                     18
## 4 Albania
             AL ALB 1999
                                     13
                                                           15
                                                     19
## 5 Albania
             AL ALB 2000
                                    19
                                          21
                                                14
                                                     24
                                                           19
## 6 Albania
             AL ALB 2001
                                    13
                                          18
                                                     19
                                                           20
## 7 Albania
             AL ALB 2002
                                                           23
                                                     19
## 8 Albania AL ALB 2003
                                0 28 19
                                                32
                                                     16
                                                           22
## 9 Albania
             AL ALB 2004
                                5 12 19
                                                21
                                                     24
                                                           23
## 10 Albania
               AT.
                    ALB 2005
                                     26
                                          21
                                                16
                                                           20
## # ... with 7,180 more rows, and 8 more variables: m6599 <int>,
      f014 <int>, f1524 <int>, f2534 <int>, f3544 <int>, f4554 <int>,
     f5564 <int>, f6599 <int>
```

Hint: m = male; f = female; 014 = age 0 to 14. Cell entries are the number of tuberculosis cases.

tidyr functions

tidyr provides functions to reorganise data.frames by changing the number of columns.

Change wide to long by gather()ing multiple columns into fewer ones.

Change long to wide by spread()ing one column out across many.

Break one column into multiple with separate() or reverse with unite().

Make it tidy

7 Albania

8 Albania

9 Albania

10 Albania

ALB 2002

ALB 2003

ALB 2004

ALB 2005

AT.

... with 100,650 more rows

```
who %>%
 gather(key = gender_age, value = count, -(country:year))
## # A tibble: 100.660 × 6
##
     country iso2 iso3 year gender_age count
##
       <chr> <chr> <chr> <int>
                                  <chr> <int>
## 1 Albania
               AL ALB 1996
                                  m014
                                          NA
## 2 Albania
             AL ALB 1997
                                  m014
                                           0
## 3 Albania
               AL
                   ALB 1998
                                  m014
## 4 Albania
              AL
                   ALB 1999
                                  m014
## 5 Albania
                   ALB 2000
              AL
                                  m014
## 6 Albania
                   ALB 2001
                                  m014
```

m014

m014

m014

m014

Make it tidy

```
who %>%
gather(key = gender_age, value = count, -(country:year)) %>%
separate(gender_age, into = c("gender", "cohort"), sep = 1)
```

```
## # A tibble: 100,660 × 7
##
     country iso2 iso3 year gender cohort count
       <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <chr> <chr> <int>
## *
## 1 Albania
               AL ALB 1996
                                      014
                                             NΑ
## 2 Albania
               AL
                   ALB 1997
                                      014
## 3 Albania
                                      014
               AL
                   ALB 1998
## 4 Albania
               AL
                   ALB 1999
                                      014
## 5 Albania
              AL
                   ALB 2000
                                      014
## 6 Albania
              AL
                   ALB 2001
                                      014
## 7 Albania
             AL ALB 2002
                                      014
## 8 Albania
                   ALB 2003
                                      014
## 9 Albania
               AT.
                    ALB 2004
                                      014
## 10 Albania
               AT.
                    ALB 2005
                                      014
## # ... with 100,650 more rows
```

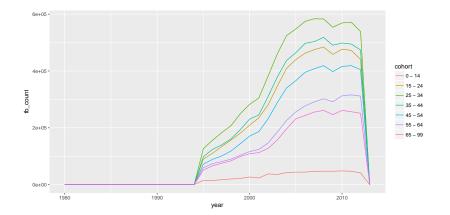
Mutate cohort for better readability

```
library(dplyr)
who %%
gather(key = gender_age, value = count, -(country:year)) %>%
separate(gender_age, into = c("gender", "cohort"), sep = 1) %>%
mutate(cohort = gsub("^(.+)(.{2})$", "\\1 - \\2", cohort))
```

```
## # A tibble: 100,660 × 7
##
     country iso2 iso3 year gender cohort count
##
       <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <chr> <chr> <int>
## 1 Albania
               AL ALB 1996
                                 m \ 0 \ - \ 14
## 2 Albania
               AL ALB 1997
                                 m \cdot 0 - 14
               AL ALB 1998
## 3 Albania
                                 m 0 - 14
               AL ALB 1999
## 4 Albania
                                 m \ 0 - 14
## 5 Albania
               AL
                   ALB 2000
                                 m \cdot 0 - 14
## 6 Albania
              AL ALB 2001
                                 m 0 - 14
             AL ALB 2002
## 7 Albania
                                 m \cdot 0 - 14
             AL ALB 2003
## 8 Albania
                                 m \ 0 \ - \ 14
## 9 Albania
             AL ALB 2004
                                 m 0 - 14
## 10 Albania
               AL ALB 2005
                                 m \cdot 0 - 14
## # ... with 100,650 more rows
```

Easy to plot

```
library(ggplot2)
library(dplyr)
who %>%
  gather(key = gender_age, value = count, -(country:year)) %>%
  separate(gender_age, into = c("gender", "cohort"), sep = 1) %>%
  mutate(cohort = gsub("^(.+)(.{2})$", "\\1 - \\2", cohort)) %>%
  group_by(year, cohort) %>%
  summarise(tb_count = sum(count, na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = year, y = tb_count, colour = cohort)) + geom_line()
```



Remark

Here, cohort is a variable. In other instances, we might be more interested in analysing tuberculosis counts in relation to the maximum or minimum age.

```
who %>%
 gather(key = gender_age, value = count, -(country:year)) %>%
 separate(gender_age, into = c("gender", "cohort"), sep = 1) %>%
 separate(cohort, into = c("min_age", "max_age"), sep = -3)
## # A tibble: 100,660 × 8
     country iso2 iso3 year gender min_age max_age count
       <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <int> <chr>
                                     <chr>>
                                            <chr> <int>
## 1 Albania
               AT. AT.R 1996
                                               14
                                                     NΑ
## 2 Albania AL ALB 1997
                                               14
## 3 Albania AL ALB 1998
                                               14
## 4 Albania AL ALB 1999
                                               14
## 5 Albania AL ALB 2000
                                               14
## 6 Albania AL ALB 2001
                                               14
                                 m
## 7 Albania AL ALB 2002
                                               14
## 8 Albania AL ALB 2003
                                               14
## 9 Albania AL ALB 2004
                                               14
## 10 Albania
               AL ALB 2005
                                               14
## # ... with 100.650 more rows
```

What is a variable depends on the situation.

RStudio Cheatsheet



Use gather() and spread() to reorganize the values of a table into a new layout. Each uses the idea of a key column: value column pair.

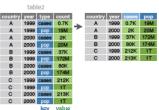
gather(data, key, value, ..., na.rm = FALSE, convert = FALSE, factor_key = FALSE)

Gather moves column names into a key column, gathering the column values into a single value column.



spread(data, key, value, fill = NA, convert = FALSE, drop = TRUE, sep = NULL)

Spread moves the unique values of a key column into the column names, spreading the values of a value column across the new columns that result.



Found here or in

Rstudio: Help > Cheatsheets > Data Manipulation with dplyr, tidyr.

For frequent use, create a hotkey (e.g. ctrl/strg + alt + d) to open this.