

Building dataframe by hand

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Introduction

This exercise is meant to challenge you to build a dataframe by hand in R. It is based off of the Table 1 in Drake (1991) “A constant rate of spontaneous mutation in DNA-base microbes.”

There are two versions of this tutorial. This versions will guide you through the process of building the dataframe and exploring it. A second version is designed to challenge your understanding of the steps we went through.

Preliminaries

Non-R materials

For this you’ll need a copy of Drake (1991), which can be found at <https://www.pnas.org/content/88/16/7160>

Packages

The only package you will need is ggpubr. Load ggpubr using library()

Ignore this

The data

Table 1 of Drake (1991) has the following columns. Note that the symbol mu (μ) is frequently used to represent mutation rates.

1. A list of organisms (viruses, bacteria and invertebrate eukaryotes)
2. genome sizes (G) for each organism, in scientific notation
3. A target gene, which was assessed for the occurrence of mutations
4. An estimate of the mutation rate per bases (bp) of the genome. This gets log transformed and used as the y variable in figure 1. I’ll use the symbol u.bp for this variable
5. An estimate of the mutaiton rate per genome (u.g). This variable isn’t in scientific notation so we’ll work with it first because its a bit easier to read.

The organism column has gaps in it because there are multiple target gene for these species

1. 3 E. coli genes
2. 3 S. cerevisiae genes
3. 2 N. crassa genes

Note that the ver last numbers that appear in the mutation columns are means, not data!

Creating vectors in R

We can build up a dataframe in R by making a **vector** for each column. This is a bit tedious but will build up our skills, so be patient.

We can make a vector of organism names like this. We need to make sure each word representing an organisms is in quotes, and that there is a comma after each word.

```
org <- c("M13", "lamb", "T2", "T4", "EC", "EC", "EC", "SC", "SC", "SC", "NC", "NC")
```

We can use line breaks while defining an R object, which can make it easier to keep track of what were typing. The following code is equivalent to what we just ran. Because there are multiple E. coli (EC) , SC and NC, I'm putting them on their own lines.

```
org <- c("M13", "lamb", "T2", "T4",  
        "EC", "EC", "EC",  
        "SC", "SC", "SC",  
        "NC", "NC")
```

If you want to be fancy, use rep() for the repeated (I will rarely do this in class though).

```
org <- c("M13", "lamb", "T2", "T4",  
        rep("EC", 3),  
        rep("SC", 3),  
        rep("NC", 2))
```

As always we need to heck to make sure that the object we're making is what we think it is and represents what we want. Use the following commands to check on the object:

- is
- is.vector
- is.matrix
- class
- length
- nchar

Next let's make the next vector. Below is the code you'll need, but I've left off the last 3 numbers. Paste the code into the code chunk and add the necessary numbers. Don't forget the commas. Also note that numbers don't get quotes around them.

```
G.p <- c(6.41, 4.85, 1.60, 1.66, 4.70, 4.70, 4.70, 1.38, 1.38 )
```

Again, we explore this. Run these functions and note the output

- is
- class
- length
- nchar

Checking the length of vectors

Vectors in R have length, not dimension, so to see how big they are we use the length() command; dim() won't work. Neither wil ncol() or nrow().

All of our columns have the same number of elements in them. We can make sure we don't have any errors in our data entry by using a logical operation, ==, to confirm that the length of each vector is the same. This is very useful when vectors are big and/or when we're writing code to automate a process

First, check the length of one of the vectors

Next, run this code to check that the two lengths are the same: `length(G.p) == length(org)`

Exponents and scientific notation

To exponentiate something in R use the up caret `^`

So, if I want to type 1 million I can do this

```
1000000
```

or I can do this

```
1*10^6
```

Note that the output is in “e” notation. I could type this if I wanted

```
1e+06
```

In the chunk below, write a logical expression using `==` to confirm that 1000000 is equal to 1×10^6

To represent the genome size column I could do this (just showing first 3 numbers)

```
G <- c(6.41*10^5, 4.85*10^4, 1.60*10^5)
```

However. when typing up this data I found it easier to break up the columns containing exponents into multiple columns, other wise I was getting cross eyed.

One way to do this would be to split each number into what I’m calling a “prefix” and a “suffix”. Above we made a vector called G.p, which is the prefix of these numbers - the part before the multiplication symbol.

We can make another vector that contains the suffic - the 10^x part.

```
G.s <- c(10^3, 10^4, 10^5, 10^5, 10^6, 10^6, 10^6, 10^7, 10^7, 10^7, 10^7)
```

We can then multiple these together and get the value we want

```
G.p*G.s
```

Note that this is doing is multiplying each element of G.p by the corresponding element of G.s. We could break this up like this

```
G.p[1]*G.s[1]
```

```
G.p[2]*G.s[2]
```

This works pretty well, but I found typing all those exponents to still be a little annoying, especially since many get repeated. I think its easier to just type the exponent. We’ll call this object “G.exp” for exponent

```
G.exp <- c(3, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 7, 7)
```

Again, if you want to be fancy you can play around with the `rep()` function, though this is optional

```
G.exp <- c(3, 4,
  rep(5, 2),
  rep(6, 3),
  rep(7, 5))
```

Now, to get the numbers we want, we can do this: `G.p*10^G.exp` Can you figure out what’s going on? If not, check the next chunk

Here I’ve added some parentheses to clarify the order of operations

```
G.p*(10^G.exp)
```

If its still not clear, then maybe this will help:

```
G.s == 10^G.exp
```

Let's make a final G vector with genome sizes

```
G <- G.p*(10^G.exp)
```

We can make a basic plot showing the distribution of genome sizes using the histogram function in R.

```
hist(G)
```

The far left value is 0e+00, which just means 0.0. The first tick mark is 1e+07. Write this out using an exponent symbol ^

How do you interpret this graph? Ask you neighbor if they know. If you aren't comfortable interpreting histograms see datavizcatalogue.com/methods/histogram.html and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Histogram>

Another way to look at this data would be with a boxplot

```
boxplot(G)
```

This is actually a relly ugly plot, but whatever.

hist() and boxplot() are great for quick and dirty plots. Normally I'll use ggpubr to make plots using gghistogram and ggboxplot

Some more vectors

Next we have the per genome mutation rate. First let's do the "prefix"

```
u.bp.p <- c(7.2, 7.7, 2.7, 2, 4.1, 6.9, 5.1, 2.8, 7.9, 1.7, 4.5, 4.6)
```

Confirm that this vector is the same size as our previous ones (Hint: requires "=")

Confirm that what you just made was a vector

Now let's do the exponent

```
u.bp.exp <- c(1-7,  
             -8, -8,-8,  
             -10,-10,-10,-10,  
             -9,  
             -10,  
             -11,  
             -10)
```

For those who want to be fancy, can you do this using the rep() command?

As before, make sure its the right length

```
length(u.bp.exp)
```

Now, ake the final column by carrying out the math. To do this put the following components together correctly

- The "prefix" u.bp.p
- The caret ^
- The exponent u.bp.exp

Assign the result to an object u.bp

As always, check that the size is correct

The last column is the per genome mutation rate, u.g.

```
u.g <- c(0.0046, 0.0038, 0.0043,  
         0.0033, 0.0019, 0.0033,  
         0.0024, 0.0038, 0.11,  
         0.0024, 0.0019, 0.019)
```

We can confirm that the vector is that same size as the previous ones

```
length(G.s) == length(u.g)
```

I'm not 110% sure about the methods for this paper. I'm wondering if the per genome mutation rate u.g can be calculated from the per base pair mutation rate (u.bp) and the genome size (G). How do you think you could do this calculation in terms of the biology, the math, and in R? Save the output as an object u.g.2 (2nd version of u.g).

Hint: Don't over think it; there's just one mathematical operation, either multiplication or division.

So we have the value of u.g from the column in Table 1 that we typed up above, and now we have our attempt to calculate it. One way to check them against each other is to make a simple dataframe and compare by eye

```
data.frame(u.g, u.g.2)
```

This looks pretty close. Let's round things off so its easier to read. Rounding is done with the round() command.

To round something in R, we need to give it a number (or numbers in a vector) and an indication of how many digits to round off to. In the original table the ubmres are rounded off to 4 digits

```
round(0.0037, 4)
```

Instead of u.g.2, run the previous data.frame code with round(u.g.2, 4). That is, instead of u.g.2, put in round(u.g.2, 4)

Things don't round off perfectly, perhaps because of other rounding they did during their workflow. But there's something weird with the first number. Either I made a type or somethign else is up. Let me know what you think!

Another useful comparison here is ==. See if you can predict what will happen when you run: u.g == round(u.g.2, 4)

When doing comparisons like this, why might it be really important to consider rounding?

Make a dataframe

We can put all our pieces together into a dataframe like this with data.frame()

```
table1 <- data.frame(organism = org,  
                     G = G,  
                     target = NA,  
                     u.bp = u.bp,  
                     u.g = u.g)
```

For each column I am specifying a name and telling it the vector to turn into a column. For target I'm telling it just to fill it in wiht NA, which means there is no data

As always, we want to check what we just made. Run at least 2 commands exploring the size, share or content of the datarame

Make Figure 1 with base R

We can make figure 1 with the basic R `plot()` command. First let's plot the raw data.

```
plot(u.bp ~ G, data = table1)
```

If you look at the figure its actually on the log scale. We can nest the log function within the plot function like this

```
plot(log(u.bp) ~ log(G), data = table1)
```

Check out the y axis and the x axis of the plot and compare it to the figure (ge the figure at <https://www.pnas.org/content/88/16/7160>). What's wrong?

R's default `log()` functions uses the natural log \ln . To do the base 10 log change the code to use `log10`

Make Figure 1 with ggpubr

ggpubr makes nicer plots than base R, but you can't nest functions in it. So what we need to do is make a column of the logged variables. For Genome size it requires this:

```
table1$log10.G <- log10(table1$G)
```

Now make a new column for logged u.bp, using `log10`. Call it `log10.u.bp`

While we're at it lets make a `log10` mutation rate per genome column called `log10.u.g`

We can make scatter plot using `ggscatter`

```
library(ggpubr)
ggscatter(data = table1,
  y = "log10.u.bp",
  x = "log10.G")
```

We can make lots of nice tweaks with ggpubr. Let's vary the size of our data points based on the log of the mutation rate per genome, `log10.u.g`. This lets assess another pattern on top of the main correlation between G and u.bp

```
ggscatter(data = table1,
  y = "log10.u.bp",
  x = "log10.G",
  size = "log10.u.g") #size
```

Now let's add color based on `log10.u.g` also

```
ggscatter(data = table1,
  y = "log10.u.bp",
  x = "log10.G",
  size = "log10.u.g", #size
  color = "log10.u.g") #color
```

The x axis isn't very clear using the normal column name. Can you spot what is different about the code below?

```
ggscatter(data = table1,
  y = "log10.u.bp",
  x = "log10.G",
  size = "log10.u.g",
```

```

        color = "log10.u.g") +
xlab("log(Genome size)")

```

Now let's re-label the y axis. Note the plus signs after the lines with xlab() and ylab(). What do you think they are doing?

```

ggscatter(data = table1,
          y = "log10.u.bp",
          x = "log10.G",
          size = "log10.u.g",
          color = "log10.u.g") +
xlab("log(Genome size)") +
ylab("log(mutations per bp)")

```

There is a strong correlation between genome size and mutation rate (on the log scale). We can further emphasize this pattern with a regression line. Note that within the call to ggscatter() I've added add = "reg.line"

```

ggscatter(data = table1,
          y = "log10.u.bp",
          x = "log10.G",
          size = "log10.u.g",
          color = "log10.u.g",
          add = "reg.line") +
xlab("log(Genome size)") +
ylab("log(mutations per bp)")

```

We can also fit curved lines easily if we want. See if you can figure out what's different about this plot. (The line I've added is called a **smoother** made using a specific statistical method called **loess**.)

```

ggscatter(data = table1,
          y = "u.bp",
          x = "log10.G",
          size = "log10.u.g",
          color = "log10.u.g",
          add = "loess") +
xlab("log(Genome size)") +
ylab("log(mutations per bp)")

```

Add statistics

We can do some quick statistics on the fly here by adding cor.coef = TRUE. What this does is calculates the strength of the relationship between the x and the y variable (on the log) scale, quantifies it with a statistics R, and calculates statistically a p-value to give us a sense of whether R is not 0. This is a very strong relationship, so R is almost -1 (R varies between -1 and 1) and the p-value is very small. Note that the technical definition of a p-value has a very precise meaning; generally consider $p < 0.05$ to be "significant". This means that the pattern we're seeing in the data is unlikely to have occurred due to chance; however, it does not mean that if we repeated the study with a new data set that we wouldn't get a different result. That is, it doesn't mean that our conclusions are true!

```

ggscatter(data = table1,
          y = "log10.u.bp",
          x = "log10.G",
          size = "log10.u.g",
          color = "log10.u.g",
          cor.coef = TRUE)

```

```
add = "reg.line",  
cor.coef = TRUE) +  
xlab("log(Genome size)") +  
ylab("log(mutations per bp)")
```