

ECOLOGICAL DATA ANALYSIS IN R
DESCRIPTION - WEEK 5
Spring 2020-1

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Week 5: Making Messy Data Tidy

Most of the datasets that ecologist scientists work with have problems. In this week, we will focus on working with imperfect datasets, and discuss how to identify and reproducibly correct common entry errors in data.

Class 5.1: Lecture Topics

- Identifying common problems:
- Mixed data types
- Impossible values
- Hard-to-detect issues (blanks, numbers with “e”)
- Data entry errors (typos, big or small numbers)
- Data exploration as part of the verification workflow
- Creating a datasheet and appending other data

Resources

The [data wrangling cheat sheet](#) is critical to today’s activity.

Today’s data are adapted from content created by Derek Ogle. His [FishR website](#) is fantastic, and I strongly recommend taking a look at it (and checking out [his book](#)).

Class 5.2: Workshop Activities

Load a dataset

Identify loading errors

Clean up said dataset