Lab 1 (705)

2022-06-26

### LAB MATERIALS

* [**R Markdown file for Lab 1**](https://github.com/dghi-biostat/biostatlab/blob/main/assignments/lab1_705%5Bassignment%5D.Rmd) Click link to download. Fill it in with your answers to the following lab tasks. When you’re ready to submit, name it as Lab1\_FirstinitialYourlastname.Rmd, and submit it using the Sakai dropbox.
* [**Excel document for Tables 1 & 2**](https://github.com/dghi-biostat/biostatlab/blob/main/assignments/lab1_705_tables%5Bassignment%5D.xlsx)
* Lab\_1\_kenya.rds - data file available on Sakai

### Lab 1 Goals

* Generate derived variables
* Identify and recode special values
* Run descriptive statistics for continuous and categorical variables
* Generate graphics for continuous variables
* Generate a complete data dictionary

### Lab 2 Grading scheme

| Competency | Points |
| --- | --- |
| .Rmd file runs without error | 10 |
| Task 3 (Histograms) | 15 (5 each) |
| Task 4 (Boxplots) | 15 (5 each) |
| Task 5 (Table 1) | 10 |
| Task 6 (Data Dictionary - original variables) | 20 |
| Task 6 (Data Dictionary - new variables) | 10 |
| Task 7 (short answer) | 20 |
| **Total** | **100** |

## Task 1: Load packages and data

In the chunk of code named load packages, use the function library() to load packages {skimr} and {tidyverse}.

In the following chunk, named load data, use the function readRDS() to load in the dataset named Lab\_1\_kenya.rds. Use the assignment operator, <- to give it the name kenya.

***Reminder:*** To run a line of code from within a code chunk in R Markdown, use the keyboard shortcut ctrl + enter (Windows) / cmd + enter (Mac)

Find more useful keyboard shortcuts [here](help_rstudio.html#rmarkdown-keyboard-shortcuts)

## Task 2: Recode variables

Similar to Lab 0, construct the following derived variables (Tasks 2a - 2e) using a pipe (%>%) and mutate(). For each, examine the component variables for coded special values (i.e. “NA”) and be sure to set derived variable values appropriately. For categorical variables, you will be expected to use case\_when() to create conditional clauses, just as you did [in Lab 0](705_lab_0.html#task-8-create-variable-magec) to derive magec.

**Some helpful links:**

[Using pipes and mutate() in the previous lab](705_lab_0.html#task-6-create-variable-mage)

[Using case\_when() to derive magec](705_lab_0.html#task-8-create-variable-magec)

[More on pipes](help_jargon.html#magrittrpipe)

[More on factors](help_jargon.html#factor)

**For the categorical variables:** Label all variables and the coded values for the categorical ones using the factor() command. That is, add meaningful labels to both the variable name itself and to the levels (i.e. categories) of the categorical variable to make printed output more readable.

In the .Rmd named lab1\_705\_fall2021.Rmd, we have provided you with an example of the correct coding of bord5. Please use this to assist you as you re-code the other variables that follow. Please code each new variable within the code chunk named after that variable.

### **Task2a: bord5**

**bord5**: A dichotomous categorical (i.e. binary) variable indicating birth order of the child. You will use the variable bord (birth order). Create the categories for bord5 according to the following levels and labels:

| Level | Label |
| --- | --- |
| 0 | birth order 1 through 4 |
| 1 | birth order 5+ |

### **Task 2b: male**

**male**: A dichotomous categorical (i.e. binary) variable indicating that the child is male. Based on variable b4. Create the categories for male according to the following levels and labels:

| Level | Label |
| --- | --- |
| 0 | female |
| 1 | male |

### **Task 2c: mweight**

**mweight:** Continuous variable for maternal weight at time of interview (in kilograms). Based on variable v437. Note that v437 contains 1 implied decimal place. Divide by 10 to get kilograms.

### **Task 2d: mheight**

**mheight**: Continuous maternal height at time of interview (in meters). Based on variable v438. Note that this variable is in centimeters and also contains 1 implied decimal place. Divide by 10 to get meters.

### **Task 2e: mbmi**

**mbmi**: maternal body mass index (BMI). mweight / mheight^2.

## Task 3: Frequency histograms

Generate frequency histograms of the continuous variables **mweight**, **mheight** and **mbmi** using {ggplot2}. Put meaningful axis labels and a title on each figure. Note that since we look at histograms of each of the variables individually, these are univariable visualizations (i.e. one variable at a time).

Please read the description below on how to generate histograms in {ggplot}, then use the code chunks named mweight hist, mheight hist, and mbmi hist to generate each plot in its own designated chunk.

### Creating histograms in {ggplot2}

The code for creating histograms using ggplot is fairly straightforward, and we will demonstrate using the starwars dataset. It provides a list of Star Wars characters, with details on their height, weight, gender, home world, and so on:

starwars is loaded into R every time you load the rest of the tidyverse package.

| name | height | mass | hair\_color | skin\_color | eye\_color | birth\_year | sex | gender | homeworld | species |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Luke Skywalker | 172 | 77 | blond | fair | blue | 19.0 | male | masculine | Tatooine | Human |
| C-3PO | 167 | 75 | NA | gold | yellow | 112.0 | none | masculine | Tatooine | Droid |
| R2-D2 | 96 | 32 | NA | white, blue | red | 33.0 | none | masculine | Naboo | Droid |
| Darth Vader | 202 | 136 | none | white | yellow | 41.9 | male | masculine | Tatooine | Human |
| Leia Organa | 150 | 49 | brown | light | brown | 19.0 | female | feminine | Alderaan | Human |
| Owen Lars | 178 | 120 | brown, grey | light | blue | 52.0 | male | masculine | Tatooine | Human |

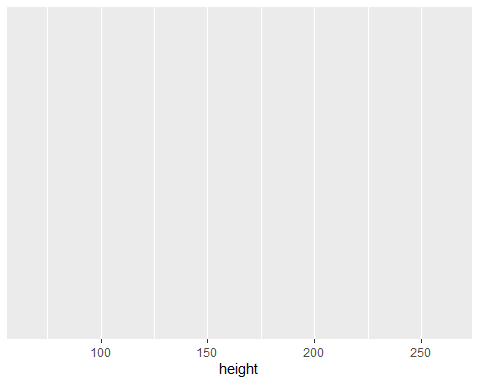
Say we want to use ggplot to create a histogram of character height. Where do we start?

“gg” stands for **Grammar of graphics**. {ggplot2} allows us to follow simple rules, a “grammar”, to construct visually appealing graphics and plots.

Regardless of what kind of visualization we want to create, the first step will always be to initialize a graphical field using the command ggplot(). We supply this function with our dataset using the argument data =.

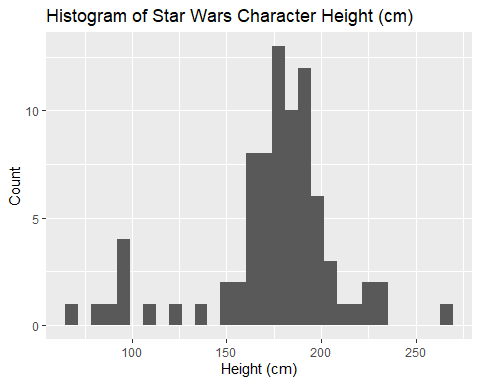
We can also supply it with universal “mapping aesthetics”. What does *that* mean? Generally speaking, “aesthetics” are the different variables we want to use in our plot. Eventually, we are going to add “layers” to the plot. A *universal* aesthetic just means that we want the variable to apply to ALL layers. In the case of our histogram, we want height to always be on the x-axis. So we will designate height as a universal aesthetic. We designate aesthetics by putting them inside the aesthetic function, aes().

ggplot(data = starwars, mapping = aes(x = height))



Notice how the above plotting field is initialized, with character height ***mapped*** to the x axis. Luckily, histograms only take an x aesthetic, so we can generate our histogram by simply adding a layer using geom\_histogram(). {ggplot2} uses a plus sign, + to ***add*** layers to a plot. Here, we will add a histogram layer and a labels layer (labs())

ggplot(data = starwars, mapping = aes(x = height)) +  
 geom\_histogram() +  
 labs(x = "Height (cm)", y = "Count", title = "Histogram of Star Wars Character Height (cm)")



Navigate to [this page](help_ggplot2.html) for {ggplot2} resources. The page also includes [our own tutorial](help_ggplot2.html#core-competencies-for-705-lab) that details the concepts specifically required to complete these labs.

Please pay special attention to how you label your visualizations, and be specific! Statisticians and others reviewing your research tend to be quite persnickety when it comes to titles and axis labels. And with good reason! What use is a visualization without proper labels?

Find many an anecdotal answer on [r/dataisugly](https://www.reddit.com/r/dataisugly/)

As time permits, we encourage you to take advantage of the external resources provided in the sidebar in order to gain a better understanding of plotting with {ggplot2}

## Task 4: Boxplots

Now you’re going to generate boxplots of mweight, mheight, and mbmi for the levels of magec. Put meaningful axis labels and a title on each figure. Note that since we look at boxplots of each of the variables according to the levels of magec, these are bivariable visualizations (i.e. showing two variables at a time).

Please use the appropriately labelled code chunks provided in your R Markdown assignment document (labelled mweight box, mheight box, etc.) to generate your boxplots.

### Creating a boxplot in {ggplot2}

The steps to creating a boxplot are the same as those for creating a histogram, except we will create the boxplot layer using geom\_boxplot() instead of geom\_histogram(). Additionally, in order to stratify our plot, we will need to provide the plotting space with a y aesthetic, magec.

If you need a little more guidance, learn to create a boxplot [here](help_ggplot2.html#create-a-boxplot-with-geom_boxplot)

And learn how to create a stratified boxplot [here](help_ggplot2.html#generate-a-stratified-boxplot-by-adding-a-y-aesthetic)

## Task 5: Frequency table (Table 1)

If you haven’t already, download the Excel file that’s linked [at the top of this webpage](705_lab_1.html#lab-materials). Then open the file, which is named Lab1\_Tables.xlsx.

Fill in the sheet called **Table 1** with the frequency counts and percentages for the levels of the 3 categorical variables you have generated. Calculate percentages only for the non-missing values. ***Round percentages to 1 decimal place***.

In the code chunks named bord5 freq, etc., we would like you to use a pipe (%>%) with group\_by(), summarize(), and mutate() to generate summary statistics. Please read the tutorial below to gain a better understanding of group\_by() and summarize().

**Hint:** To generate percentages based on sub-group frequency counts, you will need to use mutate() to create another column on your summary data frame that divides each frequency count by the sum() of each subgroup’s total count.

### Cross-tabulation with group\_by() and summarize()

group\_by() works by grouping rows into discrete categories based on categorical variables in the data frame. It then allows a function like summarize() to calculate summary statistics on those sub-groups, including percentages and frequency counts.

As an example, we can use the mtcars dataset, which is always available from within R:

head(mtcars)

|  | mpg | cyl | disp | hp | drat | wt | qsec | vs | am | gear | carb |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mazda RX4 | 21.0 | 6 | 160 | 110 | 3.90 | 2.620 | 16.46 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Mazda RX4 Wag | 21.0 | 6 | 160 | 110 | 3.90 | 2.875 | 17.02 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Datsun 710 | 22.8 | 4 | 108 | 93 | 3.85 | 2.320 | 18.61 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Hornet 4 Drive | 21.4 | 6 | 258 | 110 | 3.08 | 3.215 | 19.44 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Hornet Sportabout | 18.7 | 8 | 360 | 175 | 3.15 | 3.440 | 17.02 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Valiant | 18.1 | 6 | 225 | 105 | 2.76 | 3.460 | 20.22 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |

Find out what other datasets are available within R by running the command library(help = "datasets")

Say we want to know the frequency counts of cars with 4, 6, and 8 cylinders (variable: cyl) based on whether or not a car has an automatic or manual transmission (variable am, 0 = automatic, 1 = manual).

We can use group\_by() to create subgroups according to am and cyl. Using group\_by() by itself doesn’t alter the appearance of our data frame, but our observations will now be grouped implicitly according to transmission type and number of cylinders.

mtcars %>%  
 group\_by(am, cyl)

| mpg | cyl | disp | hp | drat | wt | qsec | vs | am | gear | carb |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 21.0 | 6 | 160 | 110 | 3.90 | 2.620 | 16.46 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| 21.0 | 6 | 160 | 110 | 3.90 | 2.875 | 17.02 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| 22.8 | 4 | 108 | 93 | 3.85 | 2.320 | 18.61 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 21.4 | 6 | 258 | 110 | 3.08 | 3.215 | 19.44 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| 18.7 | 8 | 360 | 175 | 3.15 | 3.440 | 17.02 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| 18.1 | 6 | 225 | 105 | 2.76 | 3.460 | 20.22 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |

We might use summarize() to operate on these sub-groups. summarize() works with the following syntax:

mtcars %>%  
 group\_by(am, cyl) %>%  
 summarize(columnName = Function(variable),   
 anotherColumnName = anotherFunction(variable),  
 etc., etc....)

If you prefer the British English spelling of “summarise”, R also recognizes summarise().

Depending on whether our variable of interest is categorical or continuous, we can use summary statistic functions like n() (for raw counts), mean(), sd(), median(), IQR(), min(), and max() within our summarize() function. Except for certain functions like n(), which doesn’t take any arguments, the rest of these functions take a variable name specifying which variable should be used in the calculation.

We can start by using n() for sub-group frequency counts. Notice that, similar to the syntax used with mutate(), we name the summary statistic to the left of the equals sign, and specify the function to the right.

mtcars %>%  
 group\_by(am, cyl) %>%  
 summarize(Counts = n())

## `summarise()` has grouped output by 'am'. You can override using the `.groups` argument.

| am | cyl | Counts |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 4 | 3 |
| 0 | 6 | 4 |
| 0 | 8 | 12 |
| 1 | 4 | 8 |
| 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 |

We can also use mutate() to operate on our summary table as if it were its own data frame.

Within mutate(), we create a new variable with NewVariable =, and equate it to the following operation: Counts / sum(Counts, na.rm = TRUE) (sub-group counts divided by the sum of sub-group counts).

**Note**: na.rm = TRUE instructs the function to remove NA values from the sum of values in our sub-group.

mtcars %>%  
 group\_by(am, cyl) %>%  
 summarize(Counts = n()) %>%  
 mutate(Proportions = Counts / sum(Counts, na.rm = TRUE))

## `summarise()` has grouped output by 'am'. You can override using the `.groups` argument.

| am | cyl | Counts | Proportions |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | 4 | 3 | 0.1578947 |
| 0 | 6 | 4 | 0.2105263 |
| 0 | 8 | 12 | 0.6315789 |
| 1 | 4 | 8 | 0.6153846 |
| 1 | 6 | 3 | 0.2307692 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 0.1538462 |

Also notice that we’re able to do this all within a single string of code using %>%!

## Task 6: Data dictionary (Table 2)

In your Excel spreadsheet, the sheet titled **Table 2** is our own data dictionary for the Kenya DHS dataset, with columns added to annotate the variables and provide summary statistics. Using output from skim():

1. Fill in the columns in this table for the variables originally in the dataset.
2. Add rows for the 7 new variables that you have created in both Labs 0 and 1.

## Task 7: Short answer

***Enter your response into your own RMarkdown file, under the heading called “Task 7: Short answer”***

**Prompt:** Examine the range and proportion of missing values for each of the 7 variables you have created in Labs 0 and 1. Are there characteristics of any of these variables that are concerning (e.g., missing, suspicious or impossible values)? In contemplating analysis of these data, what do you think should be done with anomalous information? What effect would missing values have on the validity of your analyses (e.g., how might missing or extreme values affect inferences)?(Response no longer than 250 words, please)