

This homework assignment will follow up on the in-class group work you performed in class, but adds geographic information. You will need the data frame you created in Task 5 in the in-class assignment plus a new data set, `coords.RData`, that contains lat/long coordinates for 252 countries and can be downloaded above.

Perform the following steps and upload a .pdf of your .Rmd file by the due date.

1. Merge the data frame from Task 5 with `coords` via three different techniques: inner, right, and left merge. Compare the dimensions of each of the resulting data frame and explain any differences you see.
2. Suppose a researcher has a hypothesis that there is a relationship between `gdp` and distance from the equator, i.e. latitude. To explore this, the researcher would like to break the `gdp` into quartiles and then look at the mean latitude (in absolute value) for each quartile. To do this, perform the following tasks:
 - a.) Using the data from the inner merge, use the `quantile()` function to determine the quartiles of `gdp`
 - b.) Using the `findInterval()` function and your result from above, create a new factor variable in the data set called `gdp.q` based on the quartile that the a given observation's `gdp` value lies in. Print a table of the levels of this variable. Does your function seem to be working? How can you tell?
 - c.) Reverse the order of the factor levels for `gdp.q` and reprint the table.
 - d.) Find the mean latitude (in absolute value) for each quartile. Does there seem to be a difference?