Pandas vs Tidyverse Cheatsheet (Complete with Solutions)

This guide compares common data wrangling operations in **pandas** (Python) and **tidyverse** (R) with detailed examples and **solved exercises**.

1. Reading and Inspecting Data

Task	pandas (Python)	tidyverse (R)
Read CSV	pd.read_csv("file.csv")	read_csv("file.csv")
Read Excel	<pre>pd.read_excel("file.xlsx")</pre>	readxl::read_excel("file.xlsx")
Quick look	<pre>df.head(), df.info(), df.describe()</pre>	head(df), glimpse(df), summary(df)

Exercise (Solved): Load sales.csv, show first 10, dtypes, summary; set missing to 0 on import. Pandas

```
import pandas as pd

df = pd.read_csv("sales.csv", na_values=["", "NA", "NaN"])

df = df.fillna(0)

print(df.head(10))
print(df.dtypes)
print(df.describe(include="all"))
```

Tidyverse

```
library(readr); library(dplyr)

df <- read_csv("sales.csv", na = c("", "NA", "NAN")) %>%
   mutate(across(where(is.numeric), ~replace_na(.x, 0)))

head(df, 10)
glimpse(df)
summary(df)
```

2. Selecting Columns

Method	pandas	tidyverse
Select by name	df[["col1","col2"]]	select(col1, col2)
Range	df.loc[:, "col1":"col3"]	select(col1:col3)
By position	df.iloc[:, 0:3]	select(1:3)
Drop	df.drop(["col1"], axis=1)	select(-col1)
By pattern	df.filter(regex="^col")	select(starts_with("col"))

Exercise (Solved): Keep address*, drop names containing temp, then 1st 3 + last col. Pandas

```
addr = df.filter(regex="^address")
df_no_temp = df.drop(columns=df.filter(regex="temp").columns)
subset = pd.concat([df.iloc[:, 0:3], df.iloc[:, -1]], axis=1)
```

${f Tidy verse}$

```
library(dplyr)
out <- df %>%
  select(starts_with("address")) %>%
  select(-contains("temp")) %>%
  select(1:3, last_col())
```

3. Filtering Rows

Method	pandas	tidyverse
Single	df[df["age"]>30]	filter(df, age>30)
Multiple	(df["a"]>1)&(df["b"]=="X")	filter(df, a>1, b=="X")
Query	df.query("a>1 & b=='X'")	—
By position	df.iloc[0:10]	slice(1:10)

Exercise (Solved): Complex filter + top 20 by salary. Pandas

```
f = ((df["age"]>35) & (df["salary"]>50000)) | \
          ((df["department"]=="Engineering") & (df["years_experience"]>=3))
top20 = df.loc[f].sort_values("salary", ascending=False).head(20)
```

Tidyverse

```
top20 <- df %>%
  filter((age > 35 & salary > 50000) |
         (department == "Engineering" & years_experience >= 3)) %>%
  arrange(desc(salary)) %>%
  slice_head(n = 20)
```

4. Sorting/Arranging

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Basic sort	<pre>df.sort_values("col")</pre>	arrange(col)
Desc	<pre>df.sort_values("col",False)</pre>	arrange(desc(col))
Multi	df.sort_values(["c1","c2"])	arrange(c1, c2)
Mixed	ascending=[True,False]	arrange(c1, desc(c2))

Exercise (Solved): Sort by category↑, price↓, rating↓; top 5 per category. Pandas

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
top5_each <- df %>%
  arrange(category, desc(price), desc(rating)) %>%
  group_by(category) %>%
  slice_head(n = 5) %>%
  ungroup()
```

5. Handling Missing Values

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Check	df.isna().sum()	colSums(is.na(df))
Drop	df.dropna()	drop_na(df)
Fill value	df["c"].fillna(0)	<pre>mutate(c = replace_na(c, 0))</pre>
FFill/BFill	df["c"].ffill()/bfill()	tidyr::fill(df, c, .direction="down
		")

Exercise (Solved): Time series: fill sales with prev day; price with category mean; drop rows where both quantity and price missing.

Pandas

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr); library(tidyr)
df <- df %>%
  arrange(date) %>%
  fill(sales, .direction = "down") %>%
  group_by(category) %>%
  mutate(price = if_else(is.na(price), mean(price, na.rm=TRUE), price)) %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  filter(!(is.na(quantity) & is.na(price)))
```

6. Creating New Columns

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Calc	df["bmi"]=df["w"]/df["h"]**2	mutate(bmi=w/h^2)
If-else	np.where(cond,a,b)	<pre>if_else(cond,a,b)</pre>
Case	np.select([],[])	case_when()
Row-wise	<pre>df.apply(f,axis=1)</pre>	rowwise()%>% mutate()

Exercise (Solved): Risk score + DTI and flag. Pandas

```
import numpy as np
high = (df["income"] < 30000) | (df["age"] > 65)
medium = (df["income"] < 50000) & (df["age"].between(25,65, inclusive="both"))
df["risk"] = np.select([high, medium], ["High", "Medium"], default="Low")

df["dti"] = df["debt"] / df["income"].replace(0, np.nan)
df["high_dti"] = df["dti"] > 0.4
```

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
df <- df %>%
  mutate(
    risk = case_when(
        income < 30000 | age > 65 ~ "High",
        income < 50000 & between(age, 25, 65) ~ "Medium",
        TRUE ~ "Low"
    ),
    dti = debt / if_else(income == 0, NA_real_, income),
    high_dti = dti > 0.4
)
```

7. Renaming Columns

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
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Single	<pre>df.rename(columns={"old":"new"})</pre>	rename(new = old)
Multiple	<pre>df.rename(columns={})</pre>	rename()
All	df.columns = []	set_names(c())

Exercise (Solved): Standardize names to snake_case; unify variants (e.g., firstName/first_name/fname). Pandas

```
import re
def to_snake(s):
    s = re.sub('(.)([A-Z][a-z]+)', r'\1_\2', s)
    s = re.sub('([a-z0-9])([A-Z])', r'\1_\2', s)
    s = s.replace(".", "_").replace("-", "_")
    s = re.sub(r'__+', '__', s)
    return s.lower()

df = df.rename(columns=lambda c: to_snake(c))
df = df.rename(columns={"fname":"first_name", "firstname":"first_name"})
```

Tidyverse

```
library(janitor); library(dplyr)
df <- df %>%
  janitor::clean_names() %>%
  rename(first_name = fname, first_name = firstname)
```

8. Grouping and Aggregation

Task	pandas	tidyverse
Mean per group	<pre>groupby("dept")["salary"].mean()</pre>	<pre>group_by(dept)%>% summarise(mean(</pre>
		salary))
Multi stats	agg(["mean","sum"])	<pre>summarise(across(salary, list(mean=</pre>
		mean,sum=sum)))
Rank in group	<pre>groupby("id")["x"].rank()</pre>	<pre>group_by(id)%>% mutate(r=dense_rank(x))</pre>

Exercise (Solved): For region/quarter: total sales, AOV, unique customers, and rank region by total within quarter.

Pandas

```
library(dplyr)
agg <- df %>%
  group_by(region, quarter) %>%
  summarise(
   total_sales = sum(sales, na.rm=TRUE),
   orders = n_distinct(order_id),
   unique_customers = n_distinct(customer_id),
   avg_order_value = mean(sales, na.rm=TRUE),
   .groups = "drop"
) %>%
```

```
group_by(quarter) %>%
mutate(rank_in_qtr = dense_rank(desc(total_sales))) %>%
ungroup()
```

9. Joins

Type	pandas	tidyverse
Inner	pd.merge(df1,df2,on="id")	<pre>inner_join(df1,df2,by="id")</pre>
Left	pd.merge(df1,df2,on="id",how="left")	<pre>left_join(df1,df2,by="id")</pre>
Right	how="right"	right_join()
Full	how="outer"	full_join()
Semi/Anti	_	semi_join()/anti_join()

Exercise (Solved): Join customers—orders—products; customers never ordered; products never sold; revenue per customer category.

Pandas

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
full <- customers %>%
  left_join(orders, by="customer_id") %>%
  left_join(products, by="product_id") %>%
  mutate(revenue = quantity * price)

never_ordered <- customers %>%
  anti_join(orders, by="customer_id")

never_sold <- products %>%
  anti_join(orders, by="product_id")

rev_by_cat <- full %>%
  group_by(customer_category) %>%
  summarise(revenue = sum(revenue, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop")
```

10. Reshaping Data

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Wide→Long	df.melt()	<pre>pivot_longer()</pre>
Long→Wide	df.pivot()	pivot_wider()

Exercise (Solved): Wide (Q1..Q4) \rightarrow long; compute YoY growth by region/quarter; pivot back to show growth by quarter and region.

Pandas

Tidyverse

11. String Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Contains	str.contains("a")	str_detect(col,"a")
Replace	str.replace("a","b")	str_replace(col,"a","b")
Split	str.split("-",expand=True)	separate(col, into=, sep="-")

Exercise (Solved): Clean addresses: extract ZIP, standardize state abbrev, split names, flag apartments.

Pandas

```
import re
# ZIP (US 5 digits)
df["zip"] = df["address"].str.extract(r'(\b\d{5}\b)')
state_map = {"Calif.":"CA", "California":"CA", "Tx":"TX"}
df["state"] = df["state"].replace(state_map).str.upper()

names = df["full_name"].str.split(r"\s+", n=1, expand=True)
df["first_name"] = names[0]; df["last_name"] = names[1]

df["has_apartment"] = df["address"].str.contains(
    r'\b(apt|apartment|unit|#)\b', case=False, na=False)
```

```
library(dplyr); library(stringr); library(tidyr)
state_map <- c("Calif."="CA","California"="CA","Tx"="TX")

df <- df %>%
```

```
mutate(
   zip = str_extract(address, "\\b\\d{5}\\b"),
   state = toupper(recode(state, !!!state_map)),
   has_apartment = str_detect(address, "\\b(apt|apartment|unit|#)\\b")
) %>%
separate(full_name, into=c("first_name","last_name"), sep="\\s+", extra="
   merge", fill="right")
```

12. Duplicates and Sampling

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Drop dups	<pre>drop_duplicates()</pre>	distinct()
Sample	sample(n=100)	slice_sample(n=100)
Top-n	nlargest(10,"col")	slice_max(col,n=10)

Exercise (Solved): Remove duplicates by email+phone, sample 20%, top 10% by purchase value. Pandas

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
dedup <- df %>% distinct(email, phone, .keep_all = TRUE)

sample20 <- dedup %>% slice_sample(prop = 0.2)

total <- orders %>%
   group_by(customer_id) %>%
   summarise(total_purchase = sum(purchase_value, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop")

q90 <- quantile(total$total_purchase, 0.90, na.rm=TRUE)
top10pct <- total %>% filter(total_purchase >= q90)
```

13. Concatenating/Binding

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Rows	pd.concat([df1,df2])	bind_rows(df1,df2)
Cols	pd.concat([df1,df2],axis=1)	bind_cols(df1,df2)

Exercise (Solved): Combine monthly files by region, add source id, compute YTD by region and category.

Pandas

```
import glob, os
files = glob.glob("data/region_*_2025-*.csv")
dfs = []
for f in files:
    d = pd.read_csv(f)
    d["source"] = os.path.basename(f)
    dfs.append(d)
master = pd.concat(dfs, ignore_index=True)
```

```
library(readr); library(dplyr); library(purrr); library(stringr)

files <- Sys.glob("data/region_*_2025-*.csv")
master <- files %>%
    set_names(basename) %>%
    map_dfr(~ read_csv(.x), .id = "source")

ytd <- master %>%
    group_by(region, product_category) %>%
    summarise(ytd_sales = sum(sales, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop")
```

14. Date/Time Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Parse	<pre>pd.to_datetime()</pre>	<pre>lubridate::ymd()</pre>
Parts	dt.year / .month	<pre>year(), month()</pre>
Diff	(d2-d1).dt.days	as.numeric(d2-d1)

Exercise (Solved): Lifetime (first→last), quarters, inactive ¿90 days. Pandas

Tidyverse

15. Applying Custom Functions

	Method	pandas	tidyverse
	Column-wise	apply/transform	mutate/map_*
l	Row-wise	<pre>df.apply(f,axis=1)</pre>	rowwise()

Group apply groupby().apply(f) group_modify()

Exercise (Solved): RFM scoring + segment ranking. Pandas

```
import numpy as np, pandas as pd
orders["date"] = pd.to_datetime(orders["date"])
snapshot = orders["date"].max()
rfm = (orders.groupby("customer_id")
         .agg(Recency=("date", lambda s: (snapshot - s.max()).days),
              Frequency=("order_id","nunique"),
              Monetary=("amount", "sum"))
         .reset_index())
rfm["R_Score"] = pd.qcut(rfm["Recency"], 5, labels=[5,4,3,2,1]).astype(int)
rfm["F_Score"] = pd.qcut(rfm["Frequency"].rank(method="first"), 5, labels
   =[1,2,3,4,5]).astype(int)
rfm["M_Score"] = pd.qcut(rfm["Monetary"].rank(method="first"), 5, labels
   =[1,2,3,4,5]).astype(int)
rfm["RFM_Score"] = rfm[["R_Score", "F_Score", "M_Score"]].sum(axis=1)
rfm["segment"] = np.where(rfm["RFM_Score"]>=12, "Gold",
                   np.where(rfm["RFM_Score"]>=9, "Silver","Bronze"))
rfm = rfm.sort_values(["segment","RFM_Score"], ascending=[True,False])
```

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
snapshot <- max(orders$date)</pre>
rfm <- orders %>%
  group_by(customer_id) %>%
  summarise(
    Recency = as.numeric(snapshot - max(date)),
    Frequency = n_distinct(order_id),
   Monetary = sum(amount, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop"
  ) %>%
  mutate(
   R_Score = ntile(desc(Recency), 5), # smaller Recency => higher score
   F_Score = ntile(Frequency, 5),
   M_Score = ntile(Monetary, 5),
   RFM_Score = R_Score + F_Score + M_Score,
    segment = case_when(
      RFM_Score >= 12 ~ "Gold",
      RFM_Score >= 9 ~ "Silver",
      TRUE "Bronze"
   )
  ) %>%
  arrange(segment, desc(RFM_Score))
```

16. Data Type Conversions

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
To numeric	<pre>pd.to_numeric(,errors="coerce")</pre>	as.numeric()
To datetime	<pre>pd.to_datetime(,errors="coerce")</pre>	<pre>lubridate::parse_date_time()</pre>
Categorical	astype("category")	factor()

Exercise (Solved): Fix numeric-as-strings; parse mixed date formats; optimize with categories. Pandas

```
num_cols = ["qty","price","amount"]
for c in num_cols:
    df[c] = pd.to_numeric(df[c], errors="coerce")

df["date"] = pd.to_datetime(df["date"], errors="coerce", format=None)
mask = df["date"].isna()
df.loc[mask, "date"] = pd.to_datetime(df.loc[mask, "date_str_alt"], errors="coerce")

low_card = [c for c in df.columns if df[c].dtype=="object" and df[c].nunique()
    < 0.2*len(df)]
for c in low_card:
    df[c] = df[c].astype("category")</pre>
```

```
library(dplyr); library(lubridate)
df <- df %>%
  mutate(across(c(qty, price, amount), ~as.numeric(as.character(.x))))

df <- df %>%
  mutate(date = suppressWarnings(parse_date_time(date, orders = c("ymd","dmy"," mdy"))))

low_card <- names(df)[sapply(df, \(x) is.character(x) && dplyr::n_distinct(x) < 0.2*nrow(df))]

df[low_card] <- lapply(df[low_card], factor)</pre>
```

17. Index Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Reset	reset_index()	tibble::rownames_to_column()
Set	set_index("col")	tibble::column_to_rownames("col")

Exercise (Solved): Create MultiIndex (date, product_id), reset for analysis, then restore and resample.

Pandas

```
# Tidyverse doesn't use row indexes the same way; keep explicit cols
library(dplyr); library(lubridate)
sales <- sales %>% mutate(date = ymd(date)) %>% arrange(date, product_id)

monthly <- sales %>%
  group_by(product_id, month = floor_date(date, "month")) %>%
  summarise(units = sum(units, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop")
```

18. Categorical Data

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Create	pd.Categorical()	factor()
Order	Categorical(, ordered=True)	factor(, ordered=TRUE)
Recode	cat.rename_categories	forcats::fct_recode

Exercise (Solved): Ordered factors (Poor;Fair;Good;Excellent), reorder product categories by avg rating, recode inconsistent names.

Pandas

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr); library(forcats)
df <- df %>%
  mutate(
    satisfaction = factor(satisfaction, levels=c("Poor","Fair","Good","
        Excellent"), ordered=TRUE),
  product_category = fct_recode(product_category, Electronics="elec",
        Electronics="Elec")
)

cat_order <- df %>% group_by(product_category) %>%
  summarise(avg = mean(rating, na.rm=TRUE), .groups="drop") %>%
  arrange(avg) %>% pull(product_category)

df$product_category <- fct_relevel(df$product_category, cat_order)</pre>
```

19. Value Counts and Frequency Tables

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Counts	value_counts()	count(col, sort=TRUE)
Proportions	value_counts(normalize=True)	<pre>count(col)%>% mutate(prop=n/sum(n))</pre>
Crosstab	pd.crosstab(c1,c2)	janitor::tabyl(c1,c2)

Exercise (Solved): Purchase freq by segment; payment vs customer type; popular product pairs. Pandas

```
for a,b in combinations(sorted(prods), 2):
    rows.append((a,b))
pairs_df = pd.DataFrame(rows, columns=["prod_a","prod_b"])
popular_pairs = pairs_df.value_counts().reset_index(name="count").sort_values("
    count", ascending=False)
```

```
library(dplyr); library(tidyr); library(purrr); library(janitor)
freq <- customers %>% count(segment, sort = TRUE)

cros <- janitor::tabyl(orders$payment_method, orders$customer_type)

pairs <- orders %>%
    group_by(order_id) %>%
    summarise(items = list(unique(product_id)), .groups="drop") %>%
    mutate(pairs = map(items, ~ t(combn(sort(.x), 2)) %>% as.data.frame())) %>%
    select(pairs) %>%
    unnest(pairs) %>%
    rename(prod_a = V1, prod_b = V2) %>%
    count(prod_a, prod_b, sort = TRUE)
```

20. Row/Column Summary Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Row sums	df.sum(axis=1)	rowSums(across(where(is.numeric)))
Row means	df.mean(axis=1)	rowMeans(across(where(is.numeric)))

Exercise (Solved): Portfolio value, diversification count, incomplete accounts. Pandas

```
hold_cols = ["asset_a","asset_b","asset_c","asset_d"]
df ["portfolio_value"] = df [hold_cols].sum(axis=1)
df ["diversification"] = (df [hold_cols] != 0).sum(axis=1)
incomplete = df [df [hold_cols].isna().any(axis=1)]
```

Tidyverse

```
library(dplyr)
hold_cols <- c("asset_a","asset_b","asset_c","asset_d")
df <- df %>%
  mutate(
    portfolio_value = rowSums(across(all_of(hold_cols)), na.rm=TRUE),
    diversification = rowSums(across(all_of(hold_cols), ~.x != 0))
)
incomplete <- df %>% filter(if_any(all_of(hold_cols), is.na))
```

21. Advanced Text Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Count patt.	str.count("pat")	str_count(col,"pat")
Find all	str.findall("pat")	str_extract_all(col,"pat")

Exercise (Solved): Feedback: count sentiment words, extract emails/phones, normalize product mentions, length categories.

Pandas

```
pos_words = ["good", "great", "excellent", "love"]
neg_words = ["bad", "poor", "terrible", "hate"]

df["pos_count"] = df["feedback"].str.lower().apply(
    lambda s: sum(s.count(w) for w in pos_words))

df["neg_count"] = df["feedback"].str.lower().apply(
    lambda s: sum(s.count(w) for w in neg_words))

df["emails"] = df["feedback"].str.findall(r'[A-Za-z0-9._%+-]+@[A-Za-z0-9.-]+\.[
    A-Za-z]{2,}')

df["phones"] = df["feedback"].str.findall(r'\+?\d[\d\s\-]{7,}\d')

# Standardize product names (e.g., iPhone 12 -> IPHONE12)

df["feedback_std"] = df["feedback"].str.replace(r'iPhone\s*12', 'IPHONE12',
    regex=True)

df["text_len"] = df["feedback"].str.len()
df["len_bucket"] = pd.cut(df["text_len"], bins=[0,50,150,1e9],
    labels=["short", "medium", "long"])
```

```
library(dplyr); library(stringr); library(purrr)
pos_words <- c("good", "great", "excellent", "love")</pre>
neg_words <- c("bad", "poor", "terrible", "hate")</pre>
count_words <- function(txt, words) sum(map_int(words, ~ str_count(str_to_lower</pre>
    (txt), .x)))
df <- df %>%
  mutate(
    pos_count = map_int(feedback, ~ count_words(.x, pos_words)),
neg_count = map_int(feedback, ~ count_words(.x, neg_words)),
    emails = str_extract_all(feedback, "[A-Za-z0-9._%+-]+0[A-Za-z0-9.-]+\\\.[A-Za-z0-9..]+
        Za-z]{2,}"),
    phones = str_extract_all(feedback, "\\+?\\d[\\d\\s\\-]{7,}\\d"),
    feedback_std = str_replace_all(feedback, regex("iPhone\\s*12", ignore_case=
        TRUE), "IPHONE12"),
    text_len = str_length(feedback),
    len_bucket = cut(text_len, breaks=c(0,50,150,Inf), labels=c("short","medium
        ","long"))
  )
```

22. Conditional Operations

Operation	pandas	tidyverse
Mask/Where	mask()/where()	if_else()/case_when()
Clip	<pre>clip(lower,upper)</pre>	pmax/pmin

Exercise (Solved): Cap at 99th pct; negative revenues to 0; mask junior salaries. Pandas

```
p99 = df["value"].quantile(0.99)
df["value_capped"] = df["value"].clip(upper=p99)

df["revenue"] = df["revenue"].clip(lower=0)

df["salary_masked"] = df["salary"].where(df["level"]!="Junior", other=pd.NA)
```

```
library(dplyr)
p99 <- quantile(df$value, 0.99, na.rm=TRUE)
df <- df %>%
  mutate(
   value_capped = pmin(value, p99),
   revenue = pmax(revenue, 0),
   salary_masked = if_else(level == "Junior", NA_real_, salary)
)
```

23. Exporting Data

Format	pandas	tidyverse
CSV	to_csv("out.csv", index=False)	readr::write_csv(df,"out.csv")
Excel	to_excel("out.xlsx", index=False)	writexl::write_xlsx(df,"out.xlsx")
Parquet	to_parquet("out.parquet")	arrow::write_parquet(df,"out.parquet
		")

Exercise (Solved): Export CSV; Excel by department (sheets); Parquet. Pandas

```
df.to_csv("processed.csv", index=False)
with pd.ExcelWriter("by_department.xlsx") as xw:
    for dept, sub in df.groupby("department"):
        sub.to_excel(xw, sheet_name=str(dept)[:31], index=False)
df.to_parquet("processed.parquet")
```

```
library(readr); library(writexl); library(dplyr); library(arrow)

write_csv(df, "processed.csv")

sheets <- df %>% group_split(department) %>%
    setNames(df %>% distinct(department) %>% pull(department))
write_xlsx(sheets, "by_department.xlsx")

arrow::write_parquet(df, "processed.parquet")
```