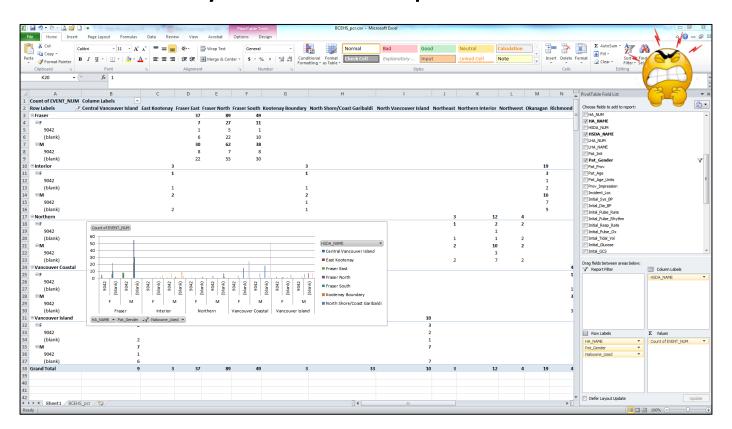
Tidy Data and Efficient Data Wrangling

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BCCDC Biostats Session
Jan 18, 2019

Messy data

 Health datasets are typically too large and complex to be efficiently handled in spreadsheets



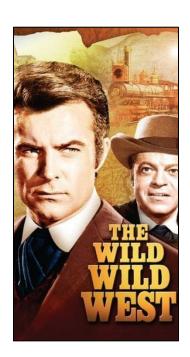
'Wrangling' messy data

 DATA WRANGLING: process of converting raw data into a format allowing convenient 'consumption', including visualization, aggregation, statistical modeling, etc.

 The process typically follows general steps beginning with importing raw data and then "munging" these data using algorithms (e.g., sorting) or parsing the data into *predefined data* structures.

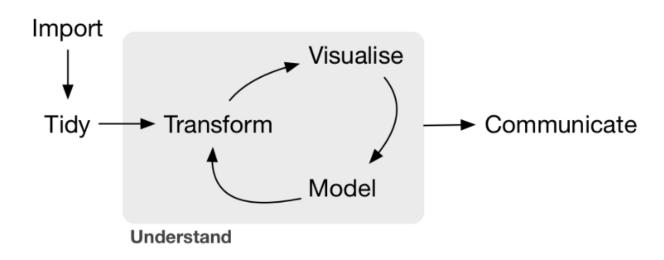
'Wrangling' messy data

- Efficient 'wrangling' or 'munging' of large/messy data requires
- powerful software, e.g.,
 - data management / programming (e.g., SQL)
 - statistical packages (e.g., SAS, R, etc.)
- a framework for data manipulation
 - fly by the seat of your pants?
 - tidy data



Tidy data

- A foundational activity in the analysis of health data is creating a tidy dataset
- Tidy data are clean, efficient and ready for visualization, linkage and analysis



Not tidy 😊

Health Authority	<1 year old	1 to 4 years	5 to 9 years
Fraser		4	3
Vancouver Coastal		7	5
Vancouver Island	1	9	7
Northern	3	1	9
Interior	2		1



"I need these summarised by age group."

Not tidy 😊

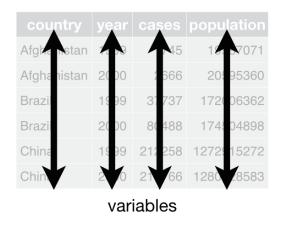
		Vancouv	Vancouver Vancouver			
Age	Fraser	Coastal	Island	■ Northe	rn 🔽 Interior	•
<1 year old			1	3	2	
1 to 4 years	4	7	9	1		
5 to 9 years	3	5	7	9	1	

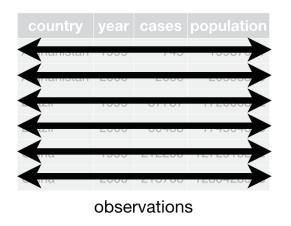


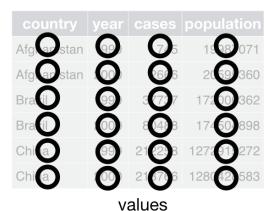
"I changed my mind. I need these summarised by Health Authority."

Tidy data

- Basic structure of tidy data
 - each variable is saved in its own column
 - each observation (individual, or other unit) is saved in its own row
 - data cells contain values of variables







Health Authority	Age 🔻	Cases 🔻
Fraser	<1 year old	
Fraser	1 to 4 years	4
Fraser	5 to 9 years	3
Vancouver Coastal	<1 year old	
Vancouver Coastal	1 to 4 years	7
Vancouver Coastal	5 to 9 years	5
Vancouver Island	<1 year old	1
Vancouver Island	1 to 4 years	9
Vancouver Island	5 to 9 years	7
Northern	<1 year old	3
Northern	1 to 4 years	1
Northern	5 to 9 years	9
Interior	<1 year old	2
Interior	1 to 4 years	
Interior	5 to 9 years	1

Health	Aut	hority 🔻	Age	Cases -
Fraser			<1 year old	
Fraser			1 to 4 years	4
Fraser			5 to 9 years	3
Vancou	ver	Coastal	<1 year old	
Vancou	ver	Coastal	1 to 4 years	7
Vancou	ver	Coastal	5 to 9 years	5
Vancou	ver	Island	<1 year old	1
Vancou	ver	Island	1 to 4 years	9
Vancou	ver	Island	5 to 9 years	7
Northe	rn		<1 year old	3
Northe	rn		1 to 4 years	1
Northe	rn		5 to 9 years	9
Interior			<1 year old	2
Interior			1 to 4 years	
Interior	\/		5 to 9 years	1/

Variables as columns

Health Authority	Age 🔻	Cases 星
Fraser	<1 year old	
Fraser	1 to 4 years	4
Fraser	5 to 9 years	3
Vancouver Coastal	<1 year old	
Vancouver Coastal	1 to 4 years	7
Vancouver Coastal	5 to 9 years	5
Vancouver Island	<1 year old	1
Vancouver Island	1 to 4 years	9
Vancouver Island	5 to 9 years	7
Northern	<1 year old	3
Northern	1 to 4 years	1
Northern	5 to 9 years	9
Interior	<1 year old	2
Interior	1 to 4 years	
Interior	5 to 9 years	1

Observation units as rows

Health Authority	- Age -	Cases 🔻
Fraser	<1 year old	
Fraser	1 to 4 years	4
Fraser	5 to 9 years	3
Vancouver Coastal	<1 year old	
Vancouver Coastal	1 to 4 years	7
Vancouver Coastal	5 to 9 years	5
Vancouver Island	<1 year old	1
Vancouver Island	1 to 4 years	9
Vancouver Island	5 to 9 years	7
Northern	<1 year old	3
Northern	1 to 4 years	1
Northern	5 to 9 years	9
Interior	<1 year old	2
Interior	1 to 4 years	
Interior	5 to 9 years	1

Data cells are values of variables

Why Tidy?

 General benefit: a consistent way of structuring/storing data, making it easier to learn tidy data tools. These tools work consistently with tidy data because of their standardized structure

 Specific benefit: variables as columns allows efficient use of R, which typically functions by using vectors of values

Tidy data

 Principles of tidy data apply regardless of whether you use SAS, R, Stata, SPSS, or Excel (god help you)



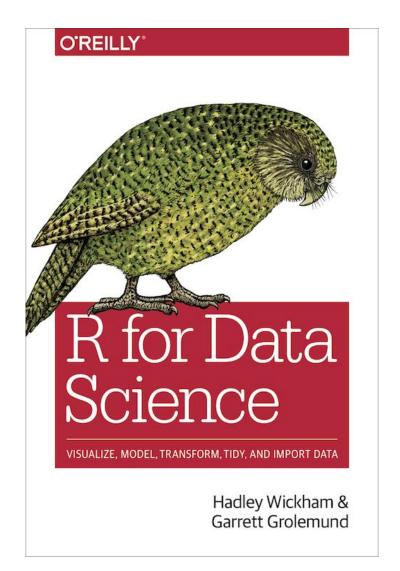
The tidyverse

 In R, tidy data principles are the foundation of a series of packages by Hadley Wickham, built specifically for efficient data wrangling and analysis

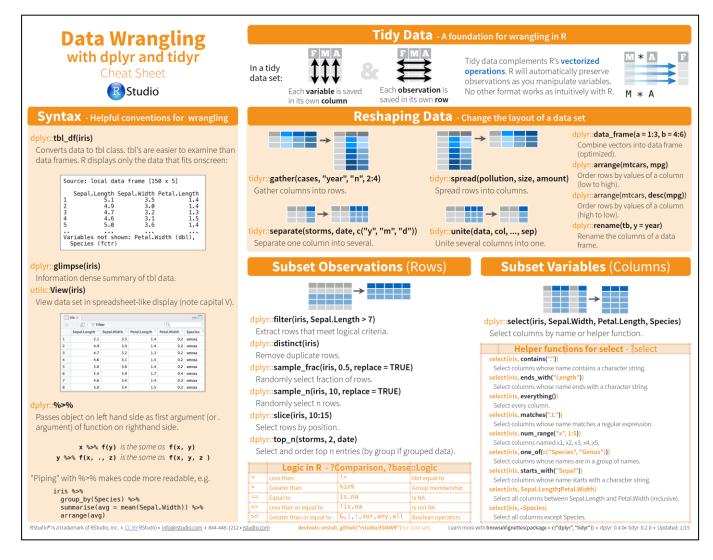


Introduction to tidy data work

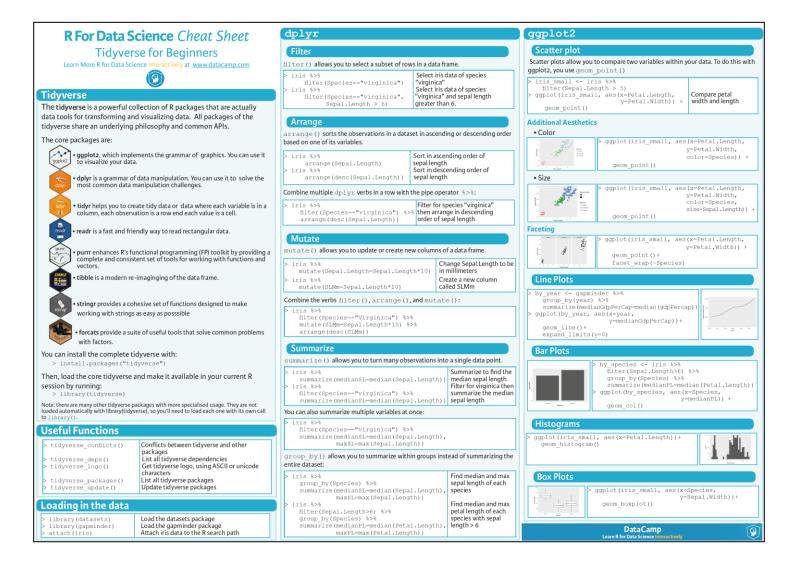
https://r4ds.had.co.nz/



Tidy data tools in R



Tidy data tools in R



Tidy data tools in R

• In the Tidyverse, you'll note that all packages function together seamlessly

 Many of the core commands have counterparts in SQL (e.g., select) and so are intuitive and transferable

• Typically the tidyverse commands will have the form: command (data, optional variables)

Example dataset iris.t

```
> iris.t
# A tibble: 150 x 5
   Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
            \langle db 7 \rangle
                           \langle db 7 \rangle
                                           \langle db 7 \rangle
                                                          <db1> <fct>
              5.1
                             3.5
                                                            0.2 setosa
                                             1.4
              4.9
                             3
                                             1.4
                                                            0.2 setosa
              4.7
                                             1.3
                                                            0.2 setosa
              4.6
                             3.1
                                                            0.2 setosa
                             3.6
                                                            0.2 setosa
                             3.9
                                                            0.4 setosa
              4.6
                             3.4
                                             1.4
                                                            0.3 setosa
 8
               5
                             3.4
                                                            0.2 setosa
 9
                             2.9
                                             1.4
                                                            0.2 setosa
                             3.1
                                             1.5
                                                            0.1 setosa
       with 140 more rows
```

```
> summary(iris.t)
                   Sepal.Width
  Sepal.Length
                                    Petal.Length
                                                     Petal.Width
                                                                            Species
                                   Min.
Min.
        :4.300
                  Min.
                         :2.000
                                          :1.000
                                                    Min.
                                                           :0.100
                                                                                : 50
                                                                     setosa
                                                                     versicolor:50
 1st Qu.:5.100
                  1st Qu.:2.800
                                   1st Qu.:1.600
                                                    1st Qu.:0.300
                  Median:3.000
                                   Median :4.350
Median : 5.800
                                                    Median :1.300
                                                                     virginica:50
                         :3.057
        :5.843
                                          :3.758
                                                            :1.199
                  Mean
                                   Mean
                                                    Mean
 Mean
 3rd ou.:6.400
                  3rd ou.:3.300
                                   3rd ou.:5.100
                                                    3rd ou.:1.800
        :7.900
                         :4.400
                                          :6.900
                                                            :2.500
                                   Max.
 Max.
                  Max.
                                                    Max.
```

• filter()

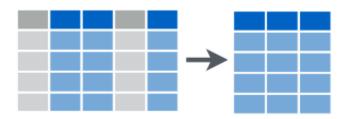
Subset Observations (Rows)



```
# subset rows of data using filter()
filter(iris.t, Species == 'virginica')
filter(iris.t, Species %in% c('setosa', 'virginica'))
filter(iris.t, Petal.Length > 6.0 & Petal.Width < 2)</pre>
```

• select()

Subset Variables (Columns)

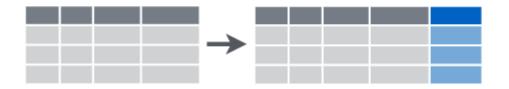


```
# subset columns of data using select()
select(iris.t, Species, Petal.width)
select(iris.t, -Petal.width, -Petal.Length)
select(iris.t, contains("Length"))
```

Helper functions for select - ?select select(iris, contains(".")) Select columns whose name contains a character string. select(iris, ends_with("Length")) Select columns whose name ends with a character string. select(iris, everything()) Select every column. select(iris, matches(".t.")) Select columns whose name matches a regular expression. select(iris, num_range("x", 1:5)) Select columns named x1, x2, x3, x4, x5. select(iris, one_of(c("Species", "Genus"))) Select columns whose names are in a group of names. select(iris, starts_with("Sepal")) Select columns whose name starts with a character string. select(iris, Sepal.Length:Petal.Width) Select all columns between Sepal.Length and Petal.Width (inclusive). select(iris, -Species) Select all columns except Species.

• mutate()

Make New Variables



• group_by() and summarise()

Summarise Data



```
# generate overall and group-level summaries with group_by() and summarise()|
summarise(iris.t, Avg.Petal.Length = mean(Petal.Length))

iris.grouped <- group_by(iris.t, Species)
summarise(iris.grouped, Avg.Petal.Length = mean(Petal.Length))

iris.grouped <- group_by(iris.t, Species)
filter(iris.grouped, rank(desc(Petal.Length)) < 3)</pre>
```

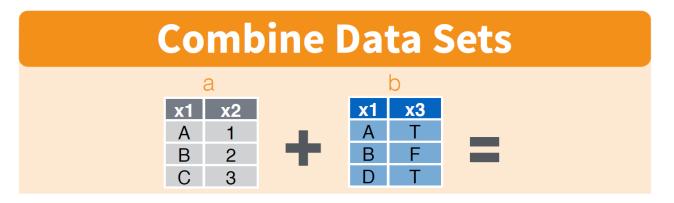
• left join(), inner join() and full join()

Combine Data Sets				
	а		b	
X	x2		x1 x3	
A	1		A T	_
В	2	T	B F	=
C	3		D T	

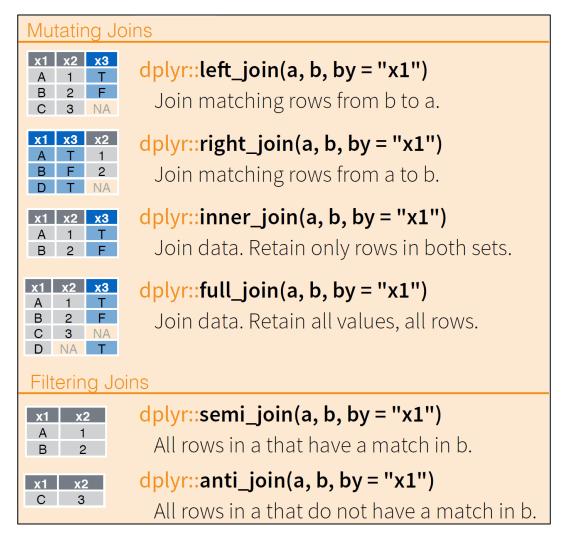
```
petal.data
# A tibble: 150 x 4
       ID Species Petal.Length Petal.Width
                           <db1>
                                         \langle db7 \rangle
   <int> <fct>
                                           0.2
       23 setosa
       14 setosa
                                           0.1
                                           0.2
      15 setosa
                                           0.2
       36 setosa
                                           0.2
        3 setosa
      17 setosa
                                           0.4
      37 setosa
                                           0.2
                                           0.2
       39 setosa
 9
                                           0.3
       41 setosa
       42 setosa
                                           0.3
      with 140 more rows
```

```
sepal.data
# A tibble: 150 x 4
       ID Species Sepal.Length Sepal.Width
                             \langle db 1 \rangle
    <int> <fct>
                                           \langle db 1 \rangle
       14 setosa
                                              3
        9 setosa
                                              3
       39 setosa
                                              3.2
       43 setosa
       42 setosa
                               4.6
        4 setosa
        7 setosa
                               4.6
                               4.6
                                              3.6
       23 setosa
       48 setosa
                               4.6
                                              3.2
                                              3.2
        3 setosa
      with 140 more rows
```

• left_join(),inner_join()and full_join()



```
# join the two datasets back together by species and ID so that the
# original information is recovered
left_join(petal.data, sepal.data, by = c("Species", "ID"))
```



For more details see: http://stat545.com/bit001 dplyr-cheatsheet.html

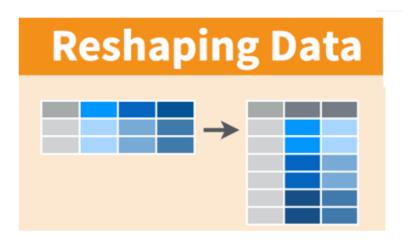
Piping

 In multi-step data manipulation, tidy data tools provide a convenient way to link individual operations together into a single block of code

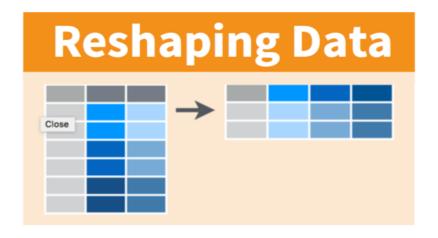
```
# Note that operations can be linked together using
# the 'piping' operator '%>%'
iris.t %>%

mutate(Dev.from.Average = Petal.Length - mean(Petal.Length)) %>%
group_by(Species) %>%
summarise(Avg.Dev = mean(Dev.from.Average))
```

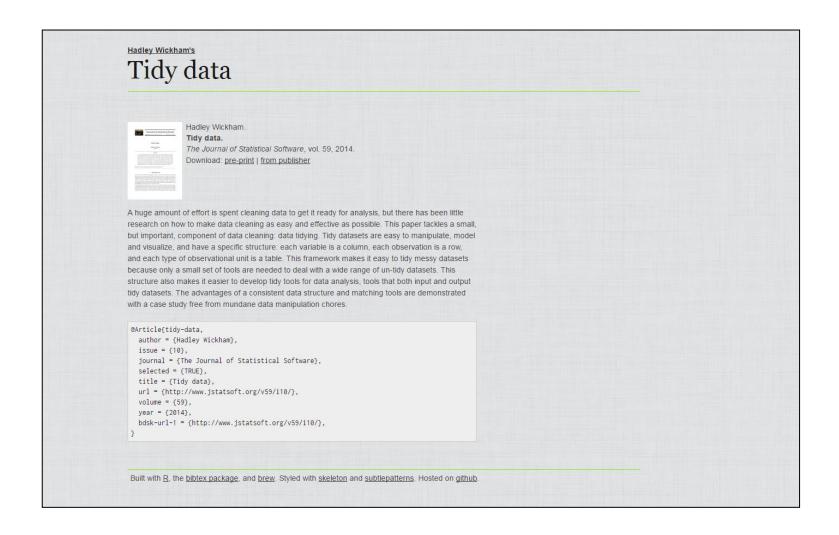
• Wide-to-long format: gather (key=, value=)



• Long-to-wide format: spread(key=, value=)



Getting started – tidy data paper



Getting started – some resources

- https://r4ds.had.co.nz/
- https://www.r-bloggers.com/hadley-wickhams-dplyr-tutorial-at-user-2014-part-1/
- https://www.r-bloggers.com/hadley-wickhams-dplyr-tutorial-at-user-2014-part-2/
- https://www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets/
 - https://github.com/rstudio/cheatsheets/blob/master/datatransformation.pdf
 - https://github.com/rstudio/cheatsheets/blob/master/data-import.pdf
- http://jules32.github.io/2016-07-12-Oxford/dplyr tidyr/#
- https://rstudio-pubsstatic.s3.amazonaws.com/109948_876c577ae6424d47b529fce960db7bf4.html#1