# HOW TO WORK WITH PISA IN R

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## Introduction to PISA

Here there should be an introduction to the PISA data. Who is doing this study and why.

Few words about data structure and availability  $^{\rm 1}$   $^{\rm 2}$ .

Overview

Key concepts in PISA

Items

Questioneers Plausible values BRB replicaes

Where can I find more?

- <sup>1</sup> The programme for international student assessment (pisa). http://www.oecd.org/pisa/
- <sup>2</sup> The organisation for economic cooperation and development (oecd). http://www.oecd.org/

### Introduction to R

Very short introduction to R. With references to other materials.

Loading data from Excel or csv files

Info that data is preloaded in PISA packages. How to head data from Excel and how to read data from cys files.

Basic data manipulation

Selecting subset of rows with the <sup>3</sup> function.

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Data reshaping

Here there should be an information how to reshape data.

Subselect variables, combine student and school datasets and similar things.

Graphics with ggplot2

How to save figures and other results

Reproducible research

Here the knitr should be introduced.

Where can I find more?

3 subset()

## Get your data

In order to work with PISA data in R you need to load the data first. There are at least two way how to do this.

You can download raw data from PISA website  $^4$ . The raw data is available as compressed text files and you can read these files with the read.fwf() function.  $^5$ 

The second, much easier, approach is to install R package that already consists required data. There are two sets of packages that you may be interested in. Packages with PISA data and packages with supplementary functions that makes it easier to analyse this data set.

#### R packages with PISA data

Right now there are There are five packages with PISA data. Each package contains data from single PISA study. These packages have following names: PISA2000lite, PISA2003lite, PISA2006lite, PISA2009lite, PISA2012lite.

Installation of R package requires the download first. Since the datasets are large be prepared to download about 200MB from Internet. But you need to do this only once. per dataset.

In order to install any of these data packages you will need the devtools package. In the chapter you will find more details how to install that one.

Suppose that you have the devtools package. Than to get data from study PISA 2009 you need to run following commands.

```
library(devtools)
install_github("PISA2009lite", "pbiecek")
```

As a result you shall see an output like that:<sup>6</sup>

- 4 The programme for international student assessment (pisa). http: //www.oecd.org/pisa/
- <sup>5</sup> The read. fwf() function is a standard way to read text files in the fixed width format.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Depending on your Internet bandwidth it may take a while.

```
Installing github repo(s) PISA2009lite/master from pbiecek
Downloading PISA2009lite.zip from https://github.com/pbiecek/PISA2009lite/archive/master.zip
Installing package from /var/folders/g3/j8pnss9j3130g4nhj31wxxm0000103/T//RtmptdZ54R/PISA2009lite.zip
Installing PISA2009lite
'/Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Resources/bin/R' --vanilla CMD INSTALL \
  '/private/var/folders/g3/j8pnss9j3130g4nhj31wxxm0000103/T/RtmptdZ54R/PISA2009lite-master' \
  --library='/Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/3.0/Resources/library' \
  --with-keep.source --install-tests
* installing *source* package 'PISA2009lite' ...
** data
*** moving datasets to lazyload DB
** demo
** help
*** installing help indices
** building package indices
** testing if installed package can be loaded
* DONE (PISA2009lite)
```

If there is not ERROR in your output it looks like everything went smoothly. The package is installed. In order to work with it you need to load it. Use the library() function for that.

```
library(PISA2009lite)
```

You will find five data sets in this package [actually ten, I will explain this later]. These are: data from student questionnaire, school questionnaire, parent questionnaire, cognitive items and scored cognitive items.

```
dim(student2009)
## [1] 515958     437
dim(parent2009)
## [1] 106287     90
dim(school2009)
## [1] 18641     247
dim(item2009)
## [1] 515958     273
```

```
dim(scoredItem2009)
## [1] 515958 227
```

For most of variables in each data set there is a dictionary which decode answers for particular question. Dictionaries for all questions for a given data set are stored as a list of named vectors, these lists are named after corresponding data sets [just add suffix 'dict'].

For example fist six entries in a dictionary for variable CNT in the data set student2009.

```
head(student2009dict\$CNT)

## ALB ARG AUS AUT AZE

## "Albania" "Argentina" "Australia" "Austria" "Azerbaijan"

## BEL

## "Belgium"
```

#### Selecting a subset of countries

In some cases you would not work on whole datasets, but only on some subset of countries. You can do this by subseting the dataset. For example, let's take only three countries out of the dataset

```
student2009selected <- subset(student2009, CNT %in% c("ITA", "FRA", "POL"))
dim(student2009selected)
## [1] 40120 437</pre>
```

#### Differences between PISA datasets

There are some differences between different PISA releases.

In PISA 2000 there are three datasets math2000, read2000, scie2000 with data from articular area. Different students take different tests, thus these datasets vary in number of rows. All of them contains answers from students questionnaire. In following PISA studies there is a single student20xx dataset with outcomes from all areas.

#### PISAtools: package with supplementary functions

To make it easier to work with PISA data you may use the package PISAtools. The installation is similar to the installation of dataset.

```
library(devtools)
install_github("PISAtools", "pbiecek")
library(PISAtools)
```

And the package is ready to use. In next chapters we will show some useful functions that are available there.

#### Additional datasets

In the PISAtools package you will find some additional dataset that might be helpful when working with PISA data. Let's introduce them one by one.

#### dataset: countryOntology

This ontology was derived from FAO website <sup>7</sup>. It contains information about 211 countries. It may be useful to verify to which group a given country belongs. Let's see columns in this dataset.

<sup>7</sup> Food and agriculture organization of the united nations (fao). http: //www.fao.org/home/en/

```
head(countryOntology,2)
```

Last column IS\_IN\_GROUP describes to which groups given country belongs. Other columns are just different classifications of particular country.

```
ISO3 ISO2 UN_CODE UNDP_CODE FAOSTAT_CODE GAUL_CODE FAOTERM_CODE AGROVOC_CODE NAME_EN
1 GRD
         GD
                308
                                                    99
                                                               15417
                                                                             3384 Grenada
2 LBY
                434
                           LIB
                                         124
                                                   145
                                                               15442
         LY
                                                                              4312 Libya
  LISTNAME_EN
1
      Grenada
2
        Libya
                                                                            IS_IN_GROUP
1 "FAO_2006, CARICOM_1985, World, CARICOM, CARIFORUM, NFIDC, Americas, Caribbean, FAO, SIDS"
2
                          "CEN_SAD, CAEU, World, AMU, northern_Africa, Africa, FAO, COMESA"
```

You can access the information easily with the function <code>getCountryIdsFromRegion()</code>. Then you can specify from which region/group of countries you would like to get data. As a result you will get a set of country IDs.

For example, which countries are classified as countries from Western Europe? $^8$ .

<sup>8</sup> These names are case insensitive

```
getCountryIdsFromRegion(region="western_Europe")
## [1] "LUX" "CHE" "DEU" "NLD" "FRA" "MCO" "LIE" "AUT" "BEL"
```

Useful functions: getISCED()

## Statistical procedures

#### Rankings

First we will see how to create ranking for countries. It's easy to do this for all countries, but since there is a lot of them in order to save space we will do this for european countries only.

So first, let's subselect only european countries. The dataset PISAeurope will have the sale variables like student2009 but only rows for students from Europe.  $^9$ 

```
europe <- getCountryIdsFromRegion(region="Europe")
PISAeurope <- student2009[student2009$CNT %in% europe, ]</pre>
```

<sup>9</sup> In remaining examples you can replace PISAeurope by student2009 and then you will get ranking for all countries.

First let's calculate weighted average performance for all these countries. You can do this with the function getWeightedAverages(). You need to specify three arguments. Variables with performance (here Plausible values form Math, Reading and Science), grouping variable (here country) and weights.

As a result you will get data.frame with weighted averages.

```
ESP 483.7105 480.9529 488.4244
EST 512.0336 500.3432 527.5742
FIN 540.4180 535.5694 553.6443
FRA 496.7549 495.3661 497.8581
GBR 492.5210 493.9524 513.6889
GRC 465.4492 481.8291 469.3762
HRV 460.6449 475.8268 486.8437
HUN 489.9584 494.2865 502.2476
IRL 487.3271 495.9401 508.2677
ISL 507.3673 500.5733 495.6023
ITA 483.2503 486.3324 489.2809
LIE 533.6883 498.4257 518.5018
LTU 476.4921 467.9608 490.9942
LUX 488.1766 471.1547 483.1795
LVA 481.4847 483.5472 492.8094
MDA 397.3944 388.2060 413.1806
MLT 462.5997 442.1508 461.3761
MNE 402.7139 407.0327 401.5027
NLD 525.8939 508.1992 522.6339
NOR 497.5454 503.0985 499.1366
POL 494.2307 500.1981 507.4326
PRT 487.2701 489.1076 492.8555
ROU 426.4127 424.4139 428.0784
RUS 467.9225 459.4349 478.5926
SRB 442.6190 442.3280 442.8573
SVK 496.7076 477.4750 490.9146
SVN 501.0395 482.7662 511.2549
SWE 493.8699 497.7079 494.8899
```

But initially we were going to derive rankings. It's straight forward. Just use getRanking() with same options like for getWeightedAverages().

```
getRanking(PISAeurope[,c("PV1MATH", "PV1READ", "PV1SCIE")],
                   factor(PISAeurope$CNT), PISAeurope$W_FSTUWT)
    PV1MATH PV1READ PV1SCIE
ALB
         36
                 36
AUT
         14
                 27
                          19
          5
                  3
                          11
BEL
BGR
         32
                  32
                          32
CHE
          2
                   8
                           6
```

```
\mathsf{CZE}
           17
                     23
                               13
DEU
            6
                                4
                     11
DNK
            9
                     14
                               15
ESP
           23
                     22
                               25
            7
                                2
EST
                      6
            1
                      1
                                1
FIN
FRA
           12
                     13
                               16
           18
                               7
GBR
                     16
                               29
GRC
           28
                     21
HRV
           30
                     25
                               26
HUN
           19
                     15
                               12
IRL
           21
                     12
                                9
            8
                      5
                               17
ISL
ITA
           24
                     18
                               24
LIE
            3
                      9
                                5
LTU
           26
                     28
                               22
LUX
           20
                     26
                               27
LVA
           25
                     19
                               21
MDA
           35
                     35
                               34
MLT
           29
                     31
                               30
MNE
           34
                     34
                               35
NLD
            4
                      2
                                3
NOR
           11
                      4
                               14
P<sub>0</sub>L
           15
                      7
                               10
PRT
           22
                     17
                               20
ROU
           33
                     33
                               33
RUS
           27
                     29
                               28
SRB
           31
                     30
                               31
\mathsf{SVK}
           13
                     24
                               23
SVN
                                8
           10
                     20
SWE
           16
                     10
                               18
```

Note that there is an optional argument sort. You can select the column according to which rows should be sorted (by default they are sorted alphabetically).

CHE	2	8	6
LIE	3	9	5
NLD	4	2	3
BEL	5	3	11
DEU	6	11	4
EST	7	6	2
ISL	8	5	17
DNK	9	14	15
SVN	10	20	8
NOR	11	4	14
FRA	12	13	16
SVK	13	24	23
AUT	14	27	19
P0L	15	7	19
SWE	16	10	18
CZE	17	23	13
	18		13 7
GBR		16	
HUN	19	15 26	12
LUX	20	26	27
IRL	21	12	9
PRT	22	17	20
ESP	23	22	25
ITA	24	18	24
LVA	25	19	21
LTU	26	28	22
RUS	27	29	28
GRC	28	21	29
MLT	29	31	30
HRV	30	25	26
SRB	31	30	31
BGR	32	32	32
ROU	33	33	33
MNE	34	34	35
MDA	35	35	34
ALB	36	36	36

Use case - gender differences

Here the distribution of performance between countries and genders can be presented

#### Different approaches to ranking calculation

- Standard PISA approach via PV
- Percentage of correct answers
- Percentage of correct answers after removing k outliers in items
- Top 90% percentile of the distribution
- Absolute dominance defined as one country over performs other only it also over perform on more than 50% of items

Here there should be an information how to do some simple statistics with the data.

Like weighted regression.

Maybe mixed effect model or generalized mixed effect model.

#### **Exercises**

A set of exercises to practice working with data With answers on the end of book.

## Data Visualization

Some examples how to create charts with the use of this data.

#### **Exercises**

A set of exercises to practice working with data With answers on the end of book.

## Bibliography

Food and agriculture organization of the united nations (fao). http://www.fao.org/home/en/.

The organisation for economic co-operation and development (oecd). http://www.oecd.org/.

The programme for international student assessment (pisa). http://www.oecd.org/pisa/.