

Pandas: DataFrame Filtering/Selecting/ Creating Variables

Akitaka Matsuo
Essex IADS



DataFrame: Filtering (select rows)

- There are several ways to select rows
 1. Using the row numbers with `:`
 2. Boolean selection
 - Example: selecting rows based on the value of some columns in the dataframe (c.f. Boolean selection of NumPy arrays)
- Both return a *copied* DataFrame



Select rows demo

DataFrame: select columns

- If you supply a string or list of strings in the box bracket, it indicates column selection
 - This will create a new, copied DataFrame



Select columns demo

df.drop()

- This will remove some rows/columns from a dataset, using index
 - The returning object is a copied DataFrame
 - Use `axis` argument to indicate dropping from rows/columns
 - You can also supply `inplace=True` option



df.drop() demo

`df.loc[]/df.iloc[]`

- These methods provide fancy-indexing-like functionality
 - `df.loc[]`: Fancy indexing with row/column *names*
 - `df.iloc[]`: Fancy indexing with row/column *numbers*
- As these are like fancy indexing, it will create a reference, not a copy



df.loc()/df.iloc() demo

DataFrame: Assigning Columns

- To create a new column, you can use an assignment operation such as:
 - `df['new_var_name'] = values`
 - `values` can be
 - A scaler variable
 - A named series (usually using a existing variable in the DataFrame)
- Manipulation of existing variable is the same operation
 - `df['existing_var_name'] = values`
- With `.loc/.iloc`, we can change specific part of column
 - `df.loc[... , ...] = values`



Variable manipulation demo