

Storm Data Analysis - Types of Event

Synopsis

This is an R Markdown document which is used to analyze the Storm Data based on the National Weather Service Storm Data. The document is focus in answering the two question which are:

1. Across the United States, which types of events (as indicated in the EVTYPE variable) are most harmful?
2. Across the United States, which types of events have the greatest economic consequences?

The goal of the assignment is to explore the NOAA Storm Database and explore the effects of severe weather events on both population and economy. The database covers the time period between 1950 and November 2011.

Data Processing

```
library("data.table")
library("ggplot2")

fileUrl <- "https://d396qusza40orc.cloudfront.net/repdata%2Fdata%2FStormData.csv.bz2"
download.file(fileUrl, destfile = paste0("~/Projects/datasciencecoursera/Reproducible_Research/Project-1/StormData.csv.bz2"))
stormDF <- read.csv("repdata%2Fdata%2FStormData.csv.bz2")

# Converting data.frame to data.table
stormDT <- as.data.table(stormDF)
```

2.3: Data Subsetting

Subset the dataset on the parameters of interest. Basically, we remove the columns we don't need for clarity.

```
# Finding columns to remove
cols2Remove <- colnames(stormDT[, !c("EVTYPE",
  "FATALITIES",
  "INJURIES",
  "PROPDMG",
  "PROPDMGEXP",
  "CROPDMG",
  "CROPDMGEXP")]))
# Removing columns
stormDT[, c(cols2Remove) := NULL]
# Only use data where fatalities or injuries occurred.
stormDT <- stormDT[(EVTYPE != "?" &
  (INJURIES > 0 | FATALITIES > 0 | PROPDMG > 0 | CROPDMG > 0)), c("EVTYPE"
```

```
, "FATALITIES"
, "INJURIES"
, "PROPDGMG"
, "PROPDGMGEXP"
, "CROPDGMG"
, "CROPDGMGEXP") ]
```

2.4: Converting Exponent Columns into Actual Exponents instead of (-,+, H, K, etc)

Making the PROPDGMGEXP and CROPDGMGEXP columns cleaner so they can be used to calculate property and crop cost.

```
# Change all damage exponents to uppercase.
cols <- c("PROPDGMGEXP", "CROPDGMGEXP")
stormDT[, (cols) := c(lapply(.SD, toupper)), .SDcols = cols]
# Map property damage alphanumeric exponents to numeric values.
propDmgKey <- c("\\" = 10^0,
               "-" = 10^0,
               "+" = 10^0,
               "0" = 10^0,
               "1" = 10^1,
               "2" = 10^2,
               "3" = 10^3,
               "4" = 10^4,
               "5" = 10^5,
               "6" = 10^6,
               "7" = 10^7,
               "8" = 10^8,
               "9" = 10^9,
               "H" = 10^2,
               "K" = 10^3,
               "M" = 10^6,
               "B" = 10^9)
# Map crop damage alphanumeric exponents to numeric values
cropDmgKey <- c("\\" = 10^0,
               "?" = 10^0,
               "0" = 10^0,
               "K" = 10^3,
               "M" = 10^6,
               "B" = 10^9)
stormDT[, PROPDGMGEXP := propDmgKey[as.character(stormDT[,PROPDGMGEXP])]]
stormDT[is.na(PROPDGMGEXP), PROPDGMGEXP := 10^0 ]
stormDT[, CROPDGMGEXP := cropDmgKey[as.character(stormDT[,CROPDGMGEXP])]]
stormDT[is.na(CROPDGMGEXP), CROPDGMGEXP := 10^0 ]
```

2.5: Making Economic Cost Columns

```
stormDT <- stormDT[, .(EVTYPE, FATALITIES, INJURIES, PROPDGMG, PROPDGMGEXP, propCost = PROPDGMG * PROPDGMGEXP,
```

2.6: Calculating Total Property and Crop Cost

```
totalCostDT <- stormDT[, .(propCost = sum(propCost), cropCost = sum(cropCost), Total_Cost = sum(propCost + cropCost))
totalCostDT <- totalCostDT[order(-Total_Cost), ]
totalCostDT <- totalCostDT[1:10, ]
head(totalCostDT, 5)
```

```
##           EVTYPE      propCost  cropCost  Total_Cost
## 1:           FLOOD 144657709807 5661968450 150319678257
## 2: HURRICANE/TYPHOON 69305840000 2607872800 71913712800
## 3:           TORNADO 56947380677 414953270 57362333947
## 4:      STORM SURGE 43323536000      5000 43323541000
## 5:           HAIL 15735267513 3025954473 18761221986
```

2.7: Calculating Total Fatalities and Injuries

```
totalInjuriesDT <- stormDT[, .(FATALITIES = sum(FATALITIES), INJURIES = sum(INJURIES), totals = sum(FATALITIES + INJURIES))
totalInjuriesDT <- totalInjuriesDT[order(-FATALITIES), ]
totalInjuriesDT <- totalInjuriesDT[1:10, ]
head(totalInjuriesDT, 5)
```

```
##           EVTYPE FATALITIES INJURIES totals
## 1:           TORNADO      5633    91346 96979
## 2: EXCESSIVE HEAT      1903     6525  8428
## 3:    FLASH FLOOD       978     1777  2755
## 4:           HEAT       937     2100  3037
## 5:    LIGHTNING       816     5230  6046
```

3: Results

3.1: Events that are Most Harmful to Population Health

Melting data.table so that it is easier to put in bar graph format

```
bad_stuff <- melt(totalInjuriesDT, id.vars="EVTYPE", variable.name = "bad_thing")
head(bad_stuff, 5)
```

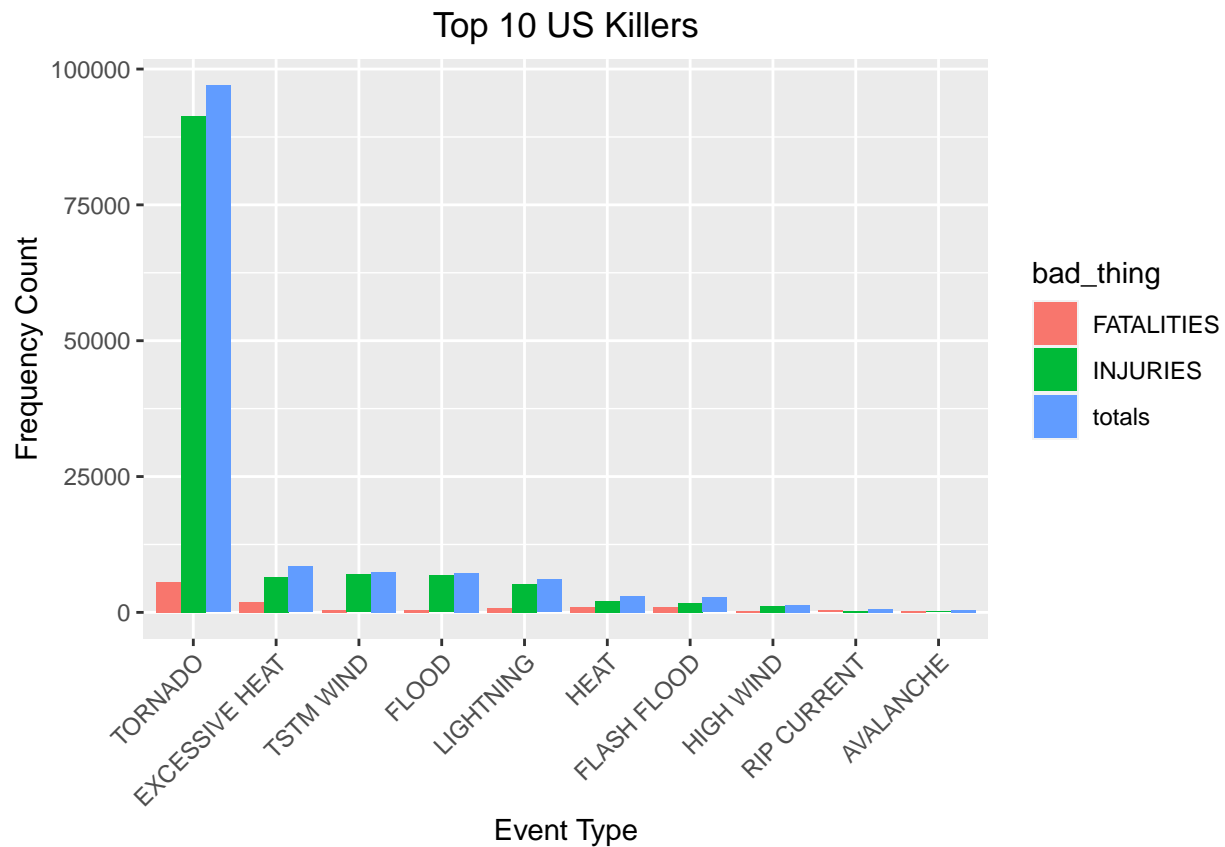
```
##           EVTYPE bad_thing value
## 1:           TORNADO FATALITIES 5633
## 2: EXCESSIVE HEAT FATALITIES 1903
## 3:    FLASH FLOOD FATALITIES  978
## 4:           HEAT FATALITIES  937
## 5:    LIGHTNING FATALITIES  816
```

```
# Create chart
healthChart <- ggplot(bad_stuff, aes(x=reorder(EVTYPE, -value), y=value))
# Plot data as bar chart
healthChart = healthChart + geom_bar(stat="identity", aes(fill=bad_thing), position="dodge")
```

```

# Format y-axis scale and set y-axis label
healthChart = healthChart + ylab("Frequency Count")
# Set x-axis label
healthChart = healthChart + xlab("Event Type")
# Rotate x-axis tick labels
healthChart = healthChart + theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle=45, hjust=1))
# Set chart title and center it
healthChart = healthChart + ggtitle("Top 10 US Killers") + theme(plot.title = element_text(hjust = 0.5))
healthChart

```



3.2: Events that have the Greatest Economic Consequences

Melting data.table so that it is easier to put in bar graph format

```
library(reshape)
```

```

##
## Attaching package: 'reshape'

## The following object is masked from 'package:data.table':
##
##      melt

```

```
econ_consequences <- reshape2::melt(totalCostDT, id.vars="EVTYPE", variable.name = "Damage_Type")
head(econ_consequences, 5)
```

```
##           EVTYPE Damage_Type      value
## 1          FLOOD      propCost 144657709807
## 2 HURRICANE/TYPHOON      propCost  69305840000
## 3          TORNADO      propCost  56947380677
## 4    STORM SURGE      propCost  43323536000
## 5           HAIL      propCost  15735267513
```

```
# Create chart
econChart <- ggplot(econ_consequences, aes(x=reorder(EVTYPE, -value), y=value))
# Plot data as bar chart
econChart = econChart + geom_bar(stat="identity", aes(fill=Damage_Type), position="dodge")
# Format y-axis scale and set y-axis label
econChart = econChart + ylab("Cost (dollars)")
# Set x-axis label
econChart = econChart + xlab("Event Type")
# Rotate x-axis tick labels
econChart = econChart + theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle=45, hjust=1))
# Set chart title and center it
econChart = econChart + ggtitle("Top 10 US Storm Events causing Economic Consequences") + theme(plot.title = element_text(hjust = 0.5))
econChart
```

