Data Import and Tidying

Samuel Lippl 07 November 2018

Agenda

- Data import
- · Principles of R
- Data tidying
- · Join tables

Data import

Sharing data

name	age	birthday
Peter	24	23-02-1994
Lisa	43	06-06-1975
Natalie	78	07-01-1940
Andrew	NA	NA

Sharing data

```
name age birthday
Peter 24 23-02-1994
Lisa 43 06-06-1975
Natalie 78 07-01-1940
Andrew NA NA
name, age, birthday
Peter, 24, 23-02-1994
Lisa, 43, 06-06-1975
Natalie, 78, 07-01-1940
Andrew, NA, NA
```

Exercise 1: Learn how to read in delimited files

- 1. Read sections 11.1 and 11.2
- 2. Complete the exercises in 11.2.2 in [r4ds.had.co.nz]

Parsing files

read_csv takes the first 1000 lines of a table to guess the column type.

```
read_csv("a\na")
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## a
## <chr>
## 1 a
```

Parsing files

read_csv takes the first 1000 lines of a table to guess the column type.

```
read_csv("a\n1")
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## a
## <int>
## 1 1
```

Parsing files

read_csv takes the first 1000 lines of a table to guess the column type.

```
read_csv("a\n2010-01-01")
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## a
## <date>
## 1 2010-01-01
```

Parsing files: problems

Problems occur if:

- the first 1000 lines are not particularly informative
 - only NA values
 - only integers even though non-integers occur later
- the way in which the values are entered is not entirely clear
 - dates
 - factors

Other formats

- Binary files
 - feather implements a binary format to share across languages
 - RDS is a format specific to R
- SPSS, SAS, Stata: haven
- · Matlab, Excel etc.

Principles of R

Make common tasks more accessible

- special functions
- · default values

Make generalized functions consistent

 read_delim has the same interface as read_csv, with additional parameters

Data tidying

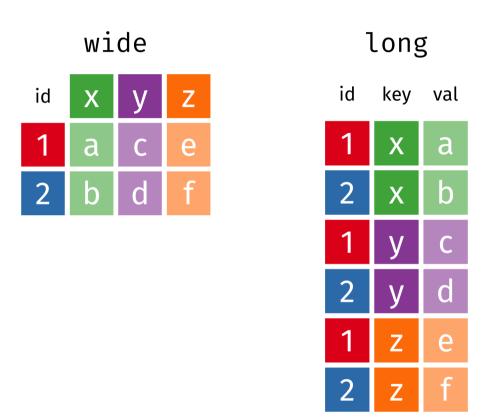
Reminder: Tidy Data

- 1. Each variable forms a column.
- 2. Each observation forms a row.
- 3. Each type of observational unit forms a table.

Data Tidying

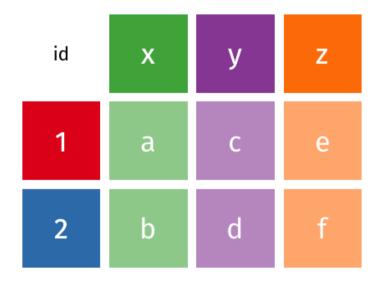
- · Data often arrives in an untidy state
- · refers to the procedure by which we make this data tidy
- Task of the package tidyr (part of the tidyverse)
 - gather summarizes column names as a new column
 - spread spreads variable levels as new column names

spread and gather



spread and gather

wide



gather: example

table4a

Exercise 2

Fill in the corresponding lines in the code to tidy the table

```
table4a %>%
  gather(
    # Specify the name of the key, i. e. the variable which has the
    # different columns as values
    key = ,
    # What name should the column have in which the former cell values
    # are notated
    value = ,
    # Specify the columns which are variable levels
    ...)
```

spread: example

table2

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 4
##
      country
                   year type
                                         count
##
      <chr>
                  <int> <chr>
                                         <int>
    1 Afghanistan 1999 cases
                                           745
    2 Afghanistan 1999 population
                                      19987071
##
                                          2666
    3 Afghanistan 2000 cases
##
    4 Afghanistan
                   2000 population
                                     20595360
##
    5 Brazil
                   1999 cases
                                         37737
##
    6 Brazil
                   1999 population
                                    172006362
##
    7 Brazil
                   2000 cases
                                         80488
##
   8 Brazil
                   2000 population
                                    174504898
##
##
    9 China
                   1999 cases
                                        212258
## 10 China
                   1999 population 1272915272
## 11 China
                   2000 cases
                                        213766
## 12 China
                   2000 population 1280428583
```

Exercise 3

Fill in the corresponding lines in the code to tidy the table

```
table2 %>%
  spread(
    # the variable which gives the new column names
    key = ,
    # the variable which gives the new column cell values
    value =
)
```

Join tables

Joining two data frames

- · combine information from two data frames
- covered by the *_join functions in dplyr
- · join certain columns

Joining two data frames

- · combine information from two data frames
- covered by the *_join functions in dplyr
- · join certain columns

```
table1 %>%
  *_join(table2, by = "column(s)")
```

Joins: example

```
band_instruments

## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## name plays
## <chr> <chr>
## 1 John guitar
## 2 Paul bass
## 3 Keith guitar
```

Joins: example

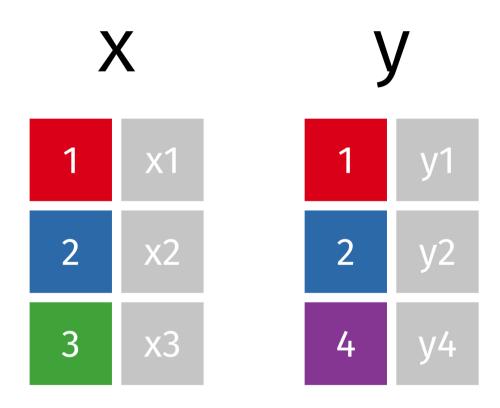
```
band_members

## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## name band
## <chr> <chr>
## 1 Mick Stones
## 2 John Beatles
## 3 Paul Beatles
```

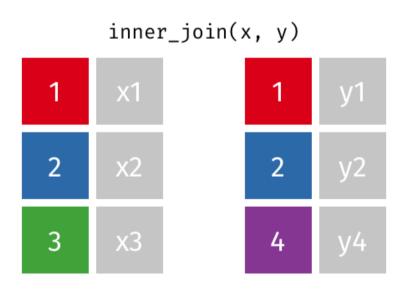
Left, right, inner, full

- · generate a table with columns from both tables
- · differ in the observations which they keep

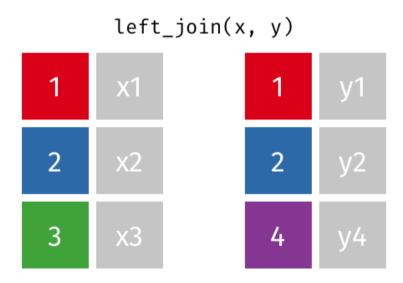
Joining tables: animations



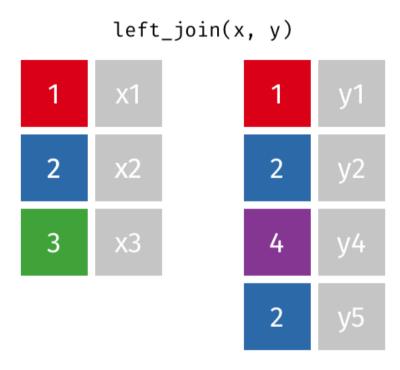
inner_join



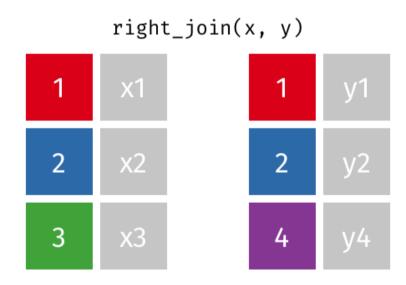
left_join



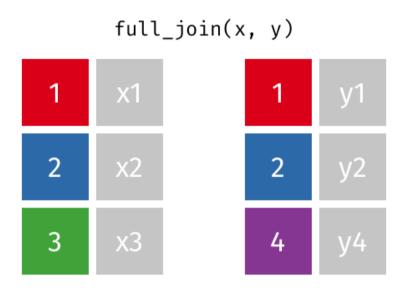
left_join



right_join



full_join



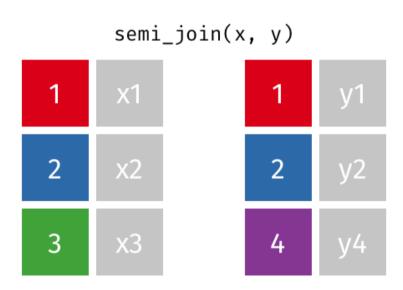
Exercise 4

- 1. Generate a table with all band members from **band_members** and the instruments which they are playing.
- 2. Generate a table which gives you information all players where you know in which band they are playing which instrument

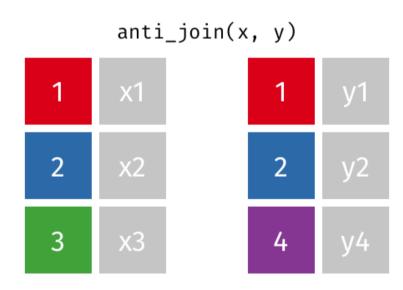
Filtering joins

- filter table1
- semi_join keeps the observation which can be found in table2
- anti_join keeps all other observations

semi_join



anti_join



Exercise 5

1. Generate a table with all band members whose instruments is not known

Further reading

- · R4DS, ch. 11-13
- Data transformation cheat sheet
- Data import cheat sheet (includes tidyr functions)
- Animated explanations of R functions