# Joining 2: Mismatched Values, One-to-Many & Multi-Key Joins

Introduction	 
Packages	 
The join data cicarring, addressing data inconsistencies	
A toy example	
Real Data Example 1: Key Typos	
Real Data Example 2: Key Typos and Data Gaps	
One-to-many relationships	
Multiple key columns	
Wrap Up!	
Answer Key	

#### Introduction

Now that we have a solid grasp on the different types of joins and how they work, we can look at how to manage messier and more complex datasets. Joining real-world data from different sources often requires a bit of thought and cleaning ahead of time.

## **Learning Objectives**

- You know how to check for mismatched values between dataframes
- You understand how to join using a one-to-many match
- · You know how to join on multiple key columns

## **Packages**

Please load the packages needed for this lesson with the code below:

```
if(!require(pacman)) install.packages("pacman")
pacman::p_load(tidyverse, countrycode)
```

## Pre-join data cleaning: addressing data inconsistencies

#### A toy example

Often you will need to pre-clean your data when you draw it from different sources before you're able to join it. This is because there can be inconsistencies in ways that values are recorded in different tables such as spelling errors, differences in capitalization, and extra spaces. In order to join values, we need them to match perfectly. If there are any differences, R considers them to be different values.

To illustrate this, let's return to our mock patient data from the first lesson. If you recall, we had two dataframes, one called demographic and the other called test\_info. We can recreate these datasets but change Alice to alice in the demographic dataset and keep all other values the same.

```
## # A tibble: 3 × 2
## name age
## <chr> <dbl>
## 1 Alice 25
## 2 Bob 32
## 3 Charlie 45
```

Now let's try a left\_join() and inner\_join() on our two datasets.

```
left_join(demographic, test_info, by="name")
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 × 4
##
    name
              age test_date result
##
    <chr>
            <dbl> <chr>
                            <chr>
## 1 Alice
              25 <NA>
                            <NA>
## 2 Bob
               32 2023-08-10 Positive
## 3 Charlie
              45 <NA>
                            <NA>
```

```
inner_join(demographic, test_info, by="name")
```

As we can see, R didn't recognize Alice and alice as the same person, and it also could not match Charlie and charlie. So in the left\_join(), Alice and Charlie are left with NAs, and in the inner\_join(), they are dropped.

How can we fix this? We need to ensure that the names in both datasets are in title case, with a capitalized first letter. For this we can use str\_to\_title(). Let's try it:

```
test_info_title <- test_info %>%
  mutate(name = str_to_title(name)) # convert to title case
test_info_title
```

```
left_join(demographic, test_info_title, by = "name")
```

```
inner_join(demographic, test_info_title, by = "name")
```

That worked perfectly! We won't go into detail about all the different functions we can use to modify strings. The important part of this lesson is that we will learn how to identify mismatched values between dataframes.

#### Inner Join countries

The following two datasets contain data for India, Indonesia, and the Philippines. However an inner\_join() of these datasets produces no output. What are the differences between the values in the key columns that would have to be changed before joining the datasets?

```
PRACTICE

ore of the second se
```

```
df1 <- tribble(</pre>
 ~Country,
                ~Capital,
               "New Delhi",
  "India",
  "Indonesia", "Jakarta",
 "Philippines", "Manila"
df2 <- tribble(</pre>
  ~Country,
                ~Population,
                                ~Life_Expectancy,
  "India ",
                1393000000,
                                69.7,
  "indonesia",
                273500000.
                                71.7.
  "Philipines", 113000000,
                                72.7
inner_join(df1, df2)
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(Country)`

## # A tibble: 0 × 4

## # i 4 variables: Country <chr>, Capital <chr>,
## # Population <dbl>, Life_Expectancy <dbl>
```

#### Real Data Example 1: Key Typos

In small datasets such as our mock data above, it's quite easy to notice the differences between values in our key columns. But what if we have much bigger datasets? To illustrate this, let's take a look at two real-world datasets on TB in India.

Our first dataset contains data on TB notifications (TB cases or relapses) in 2022 for all 36 Indian states and Union Territories, taken from the Government of India Tubrculosis Report.

```
tb_notifs <- read_csv(here("data/notif_TB_india_modified.csv"))

tb_notifs_public <- tb_notifs %>%
  filter(hc_type == "public") %>% # we want only public systems for now
  select(-hc_type)

tb_notifs_public
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##
   state
                               tb_notif_count
##
     <chr>
                                         <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                           510
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                         62075
## 3 Arunachal Pradesh
                                          2722
## 4 Assam
                                         36801
## 5 Bihar
                                         79008
```

The variables are the state/Union Territory name and the number of TB notifications from 2022.

Our second dataset is on COVID screening among TB cases for 36 Indian states taken from the same TB Report:

```
covid_screening <- read_csv(here("data/COVID_india_modified.csv"))

covid_screening_public <- covid_screening %>%
  filter(hc_type == "public") %>% # we want only public systems for now
  select(-hc_type)

covid_screening_public
```

```
## 4 Assam 31
## 5 Bihar 78
```

It contains the state/Union Territory name and the number of TB patients who tested positive for COVID-19, tb\_covid\_pos. Note that there are some missing values in this dataset.

Now, we'd like to join these two datasets, to allow us to calculate the percentage of TB patients in each state who tested positive for COVID-19.

Let's give it a go using inner\_join():

```
tb_notifs_and_covid_screening <-
  inner_join(tb_notifs_public, covid_screening_public)</pre>
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
```

#### tb\_notifs\_and\_covid\_screening

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
                                tb_notif_count tb_covid_pos
     state
##
     <chr>
                                         <dbl>
                                                       <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                            510
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                         62075
                                                          97
## 3 Assam
                                          36801
                                                          31
                                                          78
## 4 Bihar
                                         79008
## 5 Chandigarh
                                          5664
                                                           8
```

We can now perform the percentage calculation:

```
tb_notifs_and_covid_screening %>%
mutate(pct_covid_pos = 100 * tb_covid_pos/tb_notif_count)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
     state
                       tb_notif_count tb_covid_pos pct_covid_pos
     <chr>
                                <dbl>
                                              <dbl>
                                                             <dbl>
##
## 1 Andaman & Nicob...
                                   510
                                                  0
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                                 97
                                62075
                                                            0.156
## 3 Assam
                                36801
                                                 31
                                                            0.0842
## 4 Bihar
                                79008
                                                 78
                                                            0.0987
## 5 Chandigarh
                                 5664
                                                  8
                                                            0.141
```

#### Seems alright!

However, notice that we now only have 32 rows in the output dataset, even though both initial datasets had 36 rows. Whenever you lose data in this way, it is worth investigating.

In this case, it turns out that there are several regions spelled differently in the two datasets. Because of these "key typos" could not be joined and were therefore dropped. How can we identify these to avoid information loss?

VOCAB

Recall that a "key" refers to the column(s) used to match rows across datasets in a join. The join matches rows that have identical values in the key columns.

Key typos are spelling or formatting inconsistencies in the values of key columns across datasets. For example, one dataset may list "New Delhi" while the other lists "Delhi". Because of these inconsistencies, rows that should match can't be joined properly and are dropped.

#### Identifying unmatched values with setdiff()

To identify these key typos, we can compare which values are in one data frame but not the other using the setdiff() function.

Let's start by comparing the state values from tb\_notifs\_public dataframe to the state values from the covid\_screening\_public dataframe.

```
setdiff(tb_notifs_public$state, covid_screening_public$state)
```

```
## [1] "Arunachal Pradesh"
## [2] "Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu"
## [3] "Tamil Nadu"
## [4] "Tripura"
```

So what does the list above tell us? By putting the tb\_notifs\_public dataset first, we are asking R "which values are in tb\_notifs\_public but *not* in covid\_screening\_public?"

We can (and should!) also switch the order of the datasets to check the reverse, asking "which values are in covid\_screening\_public but not in tb\_notifs\_public?" Let's do this and compare the two lists.

```
setdiff(covid_screening_public$state, tb_notifs_public$state)
```

```
## [1] "ArunachalPradesh"
## [2] "Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu"
## [3] "tamil nadu"
## [4] "Tri pura"
```

As we can see, there are four values in covid\_screening\_public that have spelling errors or are written differently than in tb\_notifs\_public. In this case, the easiest thing would be to clean our covid\_screening\_public data using the case\_when() function to have our two dataframes match. Let's clean this up and then compare our datasets again.

## character(0)

```
setdiff(covid_screening_public_clean$state, tb_notifs_public$state)
```

```
## character(0)
```

Great! Now we have no more differences in the region's names.

We can now perform our join without unnecessary data loss:

## Joining with `by = join\_by(state)`

```
inner_join(tb_notifs_public, covid_screening_public_clean)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
                                tb_notif_count tb_covid_pos
##
     state
     <chr>
                                         <dbl>
                                                       <dbl>
##
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                           510
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                                          97
                                         62075
## 3 Arunachal Pradesh
                                          2722
                                                           0
## 4 Assam
                                         36801
                                                          31
## 5 Bihar
                                         79008
                                                          78
```

All 36 rows are retained!

#### Identifying unmatched values with antijoin()

The anti\_join() function in {dplyr} is a handy alternative to setdiff() for identifying discrepancies in key columns before joining two dataframes. It returns all rows from the first dataframe where the key values don't match the second dataframe.

For example, to find unmatched state values in tb\_notifs\_public when compared to covid\_screening\_public, you can use:

```
anti_join(tb_notifs_public, covid_screening_public)
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
## # A tibble: 4 × 2
##
   state
                                               tb notif count
##
     <chr>
                                                        <dbl>
## 1 Arunachal Pradesh
                                                         2722
## 2 Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
                                                         1294
## 3 Tamil Nadu
                                                        71896
## 4 Tripura
                                                         2865
```

And vice versa, to find the state values that are in covid\_screening\_public but not in tb\_notifs\_public, you can run:

```
anti_join(covid_screening_public, tb_notifs_public)
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
## # A tibble: 4 × 2
##
   state
                                           tb_covid_pos
##
     <chr>
                                                  <dbl>
## 1 ArunachalPradesh
                                                      0
## 2 Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
                                                      1
## 3 tamil nadu
                                                    178
## 4 Tri pura
                                                      2
```

This method returns the entire rows where discrepancies occur, providing more context and potentially making it easier to diagnose and fix the issues.

After identifying these, we can again fix the errors with mutate() and proceed with the join.



#### Check and fix typos before join

The following dataframe, also taken from the TB Report, contains information on the number of pediatric TB cases and the number of pediatric patients initiated on treatment.

```
child <- read_csv(here("data/child_TB_india_modified.csv"))

child_public <- child %>%
  filter(hc_type == "public") %>%
  select(-hc_type)

child_public
```



```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##
    state
                                tb_child_notifs
##
                                          <dbl>
    <chr>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                             18
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                           1347
## 3 ArunachalPradesh
                                            256
## 4 Assam
                                            992
## 5 Bihar
                                           4434
```

- Using set\_diff() or anti\_join() compare the key values from the child\_public dataframe with those from the tb\_notifs\_public dataframe, which was defined previously
- 2. Make any necessary changes to the child\_public dataframe to ensure that the values match.
- 3. Join the two datasets.
- 4. Identify which two regions have the highest proportion of TB cases in children.

#### Real Data Example 2: Key Typos and Data Gaps

In a previous example, we saw how key typos—spelling and formatting inconsistencies—can prevent a successful join between datasets. Now, let's delve into a slightly more complex scenario.

We start with the covid\_screening\_public dataset that has 36 entries:

```
covid_screening_public
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##
     state
                                tb_covid_pos
##
     <chr>
                                       <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                           0
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                          97
## 3 ArunachalPradesh
                                           0
## 4 Assam
                                           31
## 5 Bihar
                                           78
```

We aim to enhance this dataset with zoning information available in another dataset, regions, which contains 32 entries:

```
regions <- read_csv(here("data/region_data_india.csv"))
regions</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
     zonal council
                            subdivision_categ...¹ state_UT
##
     <chr>
                            <chr>
                                                 <chr>
                                                 Andaman & Nico...
## 1 No Zonal Council
                            Union Territory
## 2 North Eastern Council State
                                                 Arunachal Prad...
## 3 North Eastern Council State
                                                 Assam
## 4 Eastern Zonal Council State
                                                 Bihar
## 5 Northern Zonal Council Union Territory
                                                 Chandigarh
## # i abbreviated name: ¹subdivision_category
```

The regions dataset columns include zonal\_council, subdivision\_category, and state\_UT, which correspond to the zonal council designations, category of subdivision, and the names of states or Union Territories, respectively.

To merge this zoning information without losing rows from our original covid\_screening\_public data, we opt for a left join:

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
##
     state
                                tb_covid_pos zonal_council
##
     <chr>
                                       <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
                                           0 No Zonal Council
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                          97 <NA>
## 3 ArunachalPradesh
                                           0 <NA>
## 4 Assam
                                          31 North Eastern Coun...
## 5 Bihar
                                          78 Eastern Zonal Coun...
## # i 1 more variable: subdivision_category <chr>
```

After performing the left join, we can observe that 7 entries lack zoning information:

```
covid_regions %>%
  filter(is.na(zonal_council))
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
##
     state
                                      tb covid pos zonal council
##
     <chr>
                                             <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Andhra Pradesh
                                                97 <NA>
## 2 ArunachalPradesh
                                                 0 <NA>
## 3 Chhattisgarh
                                                57 <NA>
## 4 Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman...
                                                 1 <NA>
## 5 Ladakh
                                                 0 <NA>
## # i 1 more variable: subdivision_category <chr>
```

To understand why, we investigate the discrepancies using the anti\_join() function.

First, we check which states are present in the regions dataset but not in covid\_screening\_public:

```
anti_join(regions, covid_screening_public, by = c("state_UT" = "state"))
```

This operation reveals 3 states present in regions but not in covid\_screening\_public:

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh
- 2. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
- 3. Tripura

Then, we check which states are present in the covid\_screening\_public but not in regions:

```
anti_join(covid_screening_public, regions, by = c("state" = "state_UT"))
```

There are 7 states in covid\_screening\_public that are not matched in the regions dataset. Upon closer inspection, we can see that only three of these mismatches are due to key typos:...

The remaining four states—Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Ladakh, and Tamil Nadu—are simply absent from the regions dataset.

To address the typos, we apply corrections similar to those in the previous example:

After applying the fixes, we perform another left join:

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
##
    state
                               tb_covid_pos zonal_council
                                       <dbl> <chr>
##
     <chr>
                                           0 No Zonal Council
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands
## 2 Andhra Pradesh
                                          97 <NA>
## 3 Arunachal Pradesh
                                           0 North Eastern Coun...
## 4 Assam
                                          31 North Eastern Coun...
## 5 Bihar
                                          78 Eastern Zonal Coun...
## # i 1 more variable: subdivision_category <chr>
```

A subsequent check confirms that only four entries remain without zoning information:

```
covid_regions_joined_fixed %>%
  filter(is.na(zonal_council))
```

These four regions were not included in the regions dataset, so there is no further action we can take at this point.

Through this example, we see the challenge of ensuring that no data is lost during joins, which becomes increasingly complex with larger datasets. To handle such issues, we may employ strategies such as manual data inspection and correction, or fuzzy matching for imperfect string comparisons, using tools like the {fuzzyjoin} package in R.



Identifying and correcting typographical errors in large datasets to be joined is a non-trivial task. There is no fully automated method for cleaning such discrepancies, and often, fuzzy matching—joining datasets based on non-exact string matches—may be the practical solution. You can look into the {fuzzyjoin} R package for information on this.

#### Merging TB Cases with Geographic Data

Run the code bellow to define two datasets.

The first, top\_tb\_cases\_kids records the top 20 countries with the highest incidence of tuberculosis (TB) in children for the year 2012:



```
top_tb_cases_kids <- tidyr::who %>%
  filter(year == 2012) %>%
  transmute(country, iso3, tb_cases_smear_0_14 = new_sp_m014 +
new_sp_f014) %>%
  arrange(desc(tb_cases_smear_0_14)) %>%
  head(20)

top_tb_cases_kids
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
## country iso3
tb_cases_smear_0_14
## <chr> <chr> <dbl>
## 1 India IND
12957
## 2 Pakistan PAK
3947
## 3 Democratic Republic of the Congo COD
```

```
3138
## 4 South Africa ZAF
2677
## 5 Indonesia IDN
```

And country\_regions lists countries along with their respective regions and continents:

```
country_regions <- countrycode::codelist %>%
  select(country_name = iso.name.en, iso3c, region) %>%
  filter(complete.cases(country_name, region))
country_regions
```



```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
## country_name iso3c region
## <chr> <chr> <chr> ## 1 Afghanistan AFG South Asia
## 2 Albania ALB Europe & Central Asia
## 3 Algeria DZA Middle East & North Africa
## 4 American Samoa ASM East Asia & Pacific
## 5 Andorra AND Europe & Central Asia
```

Your task is to augment the TB cases data with the region and continent information without losing any relevant data.

1. Perform a left\_join of top\_tb\_cases\_kids with country\_regions with the country names as the key. Identify which five countries fail to match correctly.

```
left_join(top_tb_cases_kids, ______, by =
_____)
```

2. Using the code below, amend the country names in top\_tb\_cases\_kids using case\_when to rectify mismatches:

```
top_tb_cases_kids_fixed <- top_tb_cases_kids %>%
   mutate(country = case_when(
      country == "Democratic Republic of the Congo" ~ "Congo (the Democratic Republic of the)",
      country == "Philippines" ~ "Philippines (the)",
      country == "Democratic People's Republic of Korea" ~ "Korea (the Democratic People's Republic of)",
      country == "United Republic of Tanzania" ~ "Tanzania, the United Republic of",
      country == "Cote d'Ivoire" ~ "Côte d'Ivoire",
      TRUE ~ country
    ))

top_tb_cases_kids_fixed
```



## # A tibble: 20 × 3

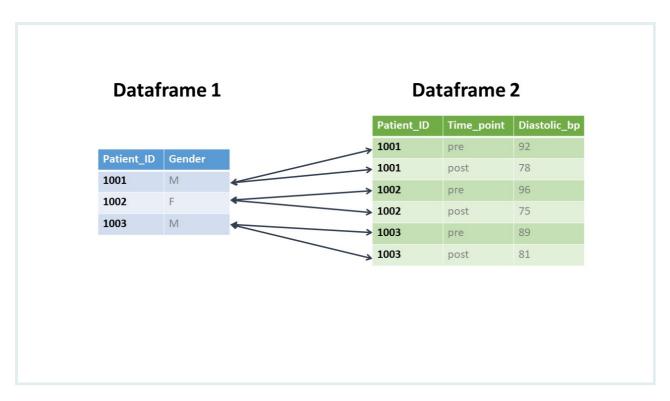
```
## country
                                        iso3 tb_cases_smear_...
##
     <chr>
                                        <chr>
<dbl>
## 1 India
                                        IND
12957
## 2 Pakistan
                                         PAK
3947
## 3 Congo (the Democratic Republic o... COD
3138
## 4 South Africa
                                        ZAF
2677
## 5 Indonesia
                                         IDN
1703
## 6 Nigeria
                                        NGA
1187
## 7 China
                                         CHN
1091
## 8 Philippines (the)
                                        PHL
1049
## 9 Kenya
                                        KEN
996
## 10 Angola
                                         AG0
982
## 11 Bangladesh
                                         BGD
966
## 12 Uganda
                                        UGA
636
## 13 Afghanistan
                                        AFG
588
## 14 Brazil
                                        BRA
580
## 15 Korea (the Democratic People's R... PRK
## 16 Tanzania, the United Republic of TZA
493
```

```
## 18 Madagascar
                                                      MDG
            419
            ## 19 Côte d'Ivoire
                                                      CIV
            367
                                                      MMR
            ## 20 Myanmar
            338
            ## # i abbreviated name: 1tb_cases_smear_0_14
          Now attempt the join again using the revised dataset.
PRACTICE
           left_join(top_tb_cases_kids_fixed, ___
(in RMD)
             3. Try another left_join, but this time use the three-letter ISO code
                as the key. Do those initial five countries now align properly?
           left_join(top_tb_cases_kids, _____, by =
             4. What is the advantage of utilizing ISO codes when recording and
                storing country information?
```

## One-to-many relationships

So far, we have primarily looked at one-to-one joins, where an observation in one dataframe corresponded to only one observation in the other dataframe. In a one-to-many join, an observation one dataframe corresponds to multiple observations in the other dataframe.

The image below illustrates this concept:



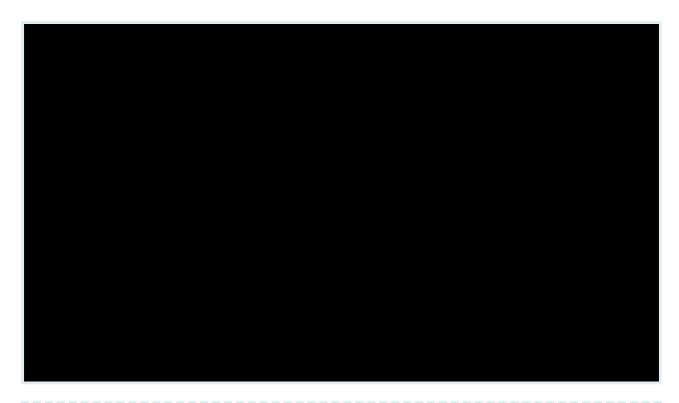
To illustrate a one-to-many join, let's return to our patients and their COVID test data. Let's imagine that in our dataset, Alice and Xavier got tested multiple times for COVID. We can add two more rows to our test\_info dataframe with their new test information:

Next, let's take a look at what happens when we use a left\_join() with demographic as the dataset to the left of the call:

```
left_join(demographic, test_info_many)
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(name)`
## # A tibble: 4 × 4
              age test_date result
##
    name
##
    <chr>
            <dbl> <chr>
                             <chr>
## 1 Alice
              25 2023-06-05 Negative
## 2 Alice
               25 2023-06-10 Positive
## 3 Bob
               32 2023-08-10 Positive
## 4 Charlie
               45 <NA>
                             <NA>
```

What's happened above? Basically, when you perform a one-to-many join, the data from the "one" side are duplicated for each matching row of the "many" side. The graphic below illustrates this process:



Merging One-to-Many Patient Records

Copy the code below to create two small dataframes:



```
patient_info <- tribble(</pre>
  ~patient_id, ~name,
                             ~age,
               "Liam",
  1,
                             32,
               "Manny",
  2,
                             28,
  3,
               "Nico",
                             40
conditions <- tribble(</pre>
  ~patient_id, ~disease,
1, "Diabetes",
  1,
 1,
                "Hypertension",
  2,
                "Asthma",
  3,
                "High Cholesterol",
  3,
                "Arthritis"
```

If you use a left\_join() to join these datasets, how many rows will be in the final dataframe? Try to figure it out and then perform the join to

## PRACTICE

(in RMD)

#### see if you were right!

Let's apply this to our real-world datasets. The first dataset that we'll work with is the tb\_notifs dataset. Here is what it looks like:

#### tb\_notifs

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
     state
##
                               hc type tb notif count
     <chr>
                                                 <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands public
                                                   510
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar Islands private
                                                    24
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                                                 62075
                               public
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                               private
                                                 30112
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh
                               public
                                                  2722
```

Note that this dataset is a long dataset, with two rows per state, one for notifications from public health facilities in the state and one for private health facilities.

The second dataset is an Indian regions dataset:

```
full regions <- read csv(here("data/region data india full.csv"))</pre>
```

```
## Rows: 36 Columns: 3
## — Column specification
## Delimiter: ","
## chr (3): zonal_council, subdivision_category, state_UT
##
## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this data.
## i Specify the column types or set `show_col_types = FALSE` to quiet this message.
```

#### full\_regions

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
##
     zonal_council
                             subdivision_categ...¹ state_UT
##
     <chr>
                            <chr>
                                                 <chr>
## 1 No Zonal Council
                            Union Territory
                                                 Andaman & Nico...
## 2 North Eastern Council State
                                                 Arunachal Prad...
## 3 North Eastern Council State
                                                 Assam
## 4 Eastern Zonal Council State
                                                 Bihar
```

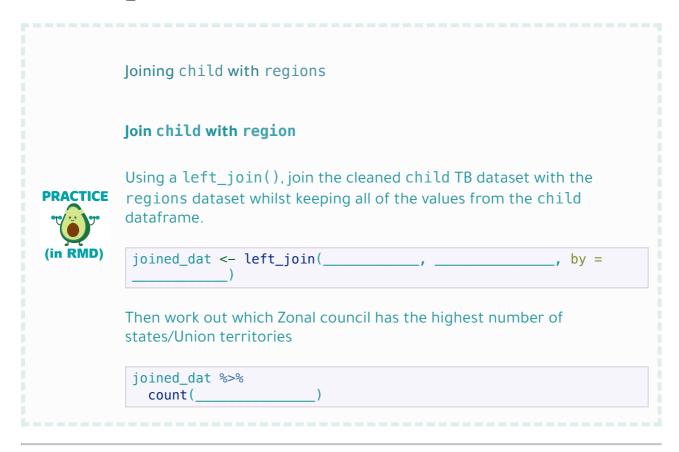
```
## 5 Northern Zonal Council Union Territory Chandigarh
## # i abbreviated name: ¹subdivision_category
```

Let's try joining the datasets:

```
notif_regions <- tb_notifs %>%
  left_join(regions, by = c("state" = "state_UT"))
notif_regions
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
## state
                       hc_type tb_notif_count zonal_council
                       <chr>
## <chr>
                                      <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar ... public
                                        510 No Zonal Counc...
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar ... private
                                          24 No Zonal Counc...
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                                       62075 <NA>
                      public
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                       private
                                        30112 <NA>
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh
                       public
                                        2722 North Eastern ...
## # i 1 more variable: subdivision category <chr>
```

As expected, the data from the regions dataframe was duplicated for every matching value of the tb\_notifs dataframe.



### Multiple key columns

Sometimes we have more than one column that uniquely identifies the observations that we want to match on. For example, let's imagine that we have systolic blood pressure measures for three patients before (pre) and after (post) taking a new blood pressure drug.

```
blood pressure <- tribble(</pre>
  ~name,
             ~time_point, ~systolic,
              "pre",
                                 139,
  "Alice",
  "Alice",
               "post",
                                 121,
               "pre",
  "Bob",
                                 137,
               "post",
  "Bob",
                                 128.
  "Charlie", "pre", "Charlie", "post",
                                 137,
                                 130 )
```

Now, let's imagine we have another dataset with the same 3 patients and their serum creatinine levels before and after taking the drug. Creatinine is a waste product that is normally processed by the kidneys. High creatinine levels may be a side effect of the drug being tested.

```
kidney <- tribble(</pre>
           ~time point, ~creatinine,
 ~name,
 "Alice",
             "pre",
                             0.9.
 "Alice",
             "post",
                             1.3.
             "pre",
 "Bob",
                             0.7,
             "post"
 "Bob",
                            0.8,
 "Charlie", "pre",
                             0.6.
 "Charlie", "post",
                             1.4
)
```

We want to join the two datasets so that each patient has two rows, one row for their levels before the drug and one row for their levels after. To do this, our first instinct may be to join on the patients name. Let's try it out and see what happens:

```
bp_kidney_dups <- blood_pressure %>%
  left_join(kidney, by="name")
bp_kidney_dups
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
##
    name time_point.x systolic time_point.y creatinine
##
    <chr> <chr>
                          <dbl> <chr>
                                                   <dbl>
                                                     0.9
## 1 Alice pre
                            139 pre
## 2 Alice pre
                            139 post
                                                    1.3
## 3 Alice post
                            121 pre
                                                    0.9
                                                    1.3
## 4 Alice post
                            121 post
## 5 Bob
          pre
                            137 pre
                                                     0.7
```

As we can see, this isn't what we wanted at all! We end up with duplicated rows. Now we have FOUR rows for each person. And R gives a warning message that this is considered a "many-to-many" relationship because multiple rows in one dataframe correspond to multiple rows in the other dataframe. As a general rule, you should avoid many-to-many joins whenever possible! Also note that since we have two columns called time\_point (one from each dataframe), these columns in the new dataframe are differentiated by x and y.

What we want to do is match on BOTH name and time\_point. To do this we have to specify to R that there are two columns to match on. In reality, this is very simple! All we have to do is use the c() function and specify both column names.

```
bp_kidney <- blood_pressure %>%
  left_join(kidney, by = c("name", "time_point"))
bp_kidney
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
##
     name
             time_point systolic creatinine
##
                                       <dbl>
     <chr>
             <chr>
                            <dbl>
             pre
## 1 Alice
                              139
                                          0.9
                                          1.3
## 2 Alice
                              121
             post
## 3 Bob
                              137
                                          0.7
             pre
## 4 Bob
             post
                              128
                                          0.8
## 5 Charlie pre
                              137
                                          0.6
```



Note that specifying by  $= c("name", "time_point")$  is different from using a named vector in the form of by = c("keya" = "keyb"). The former matches the columns by name across both datasets, while the latter is used to match columns with different names between two datasets.

That looks great! Now let's apply this to our real-world tb\_notifs and covid\_screening datasets.

#### tb\_notifs

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
##
     state
                                hc_type tb_notif_count
##
     <chr>
                                                 <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands public
                                                   510
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar Islands private
                                                    24
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                               public
                                                 62075
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                               private
                                                 30112
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh
                                                  2722
                               public
```

#### covid\_screening

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 3
##
     state
                               hc type tb covid pos
##
    <chr>
                                              <dbl>
                               <chr>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands public
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar Islands private
                                                  0
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                                                 97
                              public
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                                                 17
                               private
## 5 ArunachalPradesh
                               public
                                                  0
```

Let's think about how we want our final dataframe to look. We want to have two rows for each state, one with the TB notification and COVID data for the public sector, and one with the TB notification and COVID data for the private sector. That means we have to match on both state and  $hc_{type}$ . Just as we did for the patient data, we have to specify both key values in the by= statement using c(). Let's try it out!

```
notif_covid <- tb_notifs %>%
  left_join(covid_screening, by=c("state", "hc_type"))
notif_covid
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
## state
                           hc type tb notif count tb covid pos
                           <chr>
                                           <dbl>
                                                         <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Isl... public
                                              510
                                                            0
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar Isl... private
                                               24
                                                            0
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                                           62075
                                                            97
                           public
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                           private
                                           30112
                                                            17
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh
                           public
                                            2722
                                                            NA
```

Great, that's exactly what we wanted!



**PRACTICE** Joining three datasets, including one-to-many

Join the following three datasets: notif\_covid, child and regions, ensuring that no data is lost from any of the datasets.

### Wrap Up!

In this lesson, we delved into the intricacies of data cleaning before a join, focusing on how to detect and correct mismatches or inconsistencies in key columns. We also highlighted the impact of one-to-many relationships in joining dataframes, showing how data from the "one" side is duplicated for each matching row of the "many" side. Finally, we demonstrated how to join dataframes using multiple key columns.

As we conclude this lesson, we hope that you have gained a deeper understanding of the importance and utility of joining dataframes in R.

## **Answer Key**

#### Q: Inner Join countries

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(Country)`
## # A tibble: 3 × 4
                 Capital
                           Population Life_Expectancy
     Country
##
     <chr>
                 <chr>
                                <dbl>
                                                <dbl>
## 1 India
                 New Delhi 1393000000
                                                 69.7
## 2 Indonesia
                 Jakarta
                            273500000
                                                 71.7
## 3 Philippines Manila
                            113000000
                                                 72.7
```

#### Q: Check and fix typos before join

1.

```
# setdiff()
setdiff(child_public$state, tb_notifs_public$state)
```

```
## [1] "ArunachalPradesh" "Jammu and Kashmir" "kerala"
## [4] "Pondicherry"
setdiff(tb_notifs_public$state, child_public$state)
## [1] "Arunachal Pradesh" "Jammu & Kashmir" "Kerala"
## [4] "Puducherry"
# antijoin
anti_join(child_public, tb_notifs_public)
## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
## # A tibble: 4 × 2
     state
                        tb child notifs
##
     <chr>
                                  <dbl>
## 1 ArunachalPradesh
                                    256
## 2 Jammu and Kashmir
                                    511
## 3 kerala
                                    480
## 4 Pondicherry
                                    101
anti_join(tb_notifs_public, child_public)
## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
## # A tibble: 4 × 2
## state
                        tb_notif_count
     <chr>
                                 <dbl>
## 1 Arunachal Pradesh
                                  2722
## 2 Jammu & Kashmir
                                 10022
## 3 Kerala
                                 16766
## 4 Puducherry
                                 3732
```

2.

3.

```
child_tb_public <- child_public_fixed %>%
  inner_join(tb_notifs_public)

## Joining with `by = join_by(state)`
```

4.

```
child_tb_public %>%
  mutate(tb_child_prop = tb_child_notifs/tb_notif_count) %>%
  arrange(-tb_child_prop)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
##
     state
                       tb_child_notifs tb_notif_count
##
     <chr>
                                  <dbl>
                                                 <dbl>
                                   7867
                                                 76966
## 1 Delhi
## 2 Arunachal Pradesh
                                                  2722
                                    256
## 3 Lakshadweep
                                      1
                                                     11
                                    496
                                                  5664
## 4 Chandigarh
## 5 Mizoram
                                    123
                                                  1697
## # i 1 more variable: tb_child_prop <dbl>
```

#### Q: Merging TB Cases with Geographic Data

1.

```
left_join(top_tb_cases_kids, country_regions, by =
c("country"="country_name"))
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
                                   iso3 tb_cases_smear_...¹ iso3c
##
     country
##
     <chr>
                                   <chr>
                                                      <dbl> <chr>
                                                      12957 IND
## 1 India
                                   IND
## 2 Pakistan
                                   PAK
                                                       3947 PAK
## 3 Democratic Republic of the ... COD
                                                       3138 <NA>
## 4 South Africa
                                   ZAF
                                                       2677 ZAF
## 5 Indonesia
                                   IDN
                                                       1703 IDN
```

```
## # i abbreviated name: 1tb cases smear 0 14
## # i 1 more variable: region <chr>
setdiff(top_tb_cases_kids$country, country_regions$country_name)
## [1] "Democratic Republic of the Congo"
## [2] "Philippines"
## [3] "Democratic People's Republic of Korea"
## [4] "United Republic of Tanzania"
## [5] "Cote d'Ivoire"
 2.
left_join(top_tb_cases_kids_fixed, country_regions, by =
c("country"="country_name"))
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
##
     country
                                    iso3 tb_cases_smear_...¹ iso3c
##
     <chr>
                                                      <dbl> <chr>
                                    <chr>
                                                      12957 IND
## 1 India
                                    IND
## 2 Pakistan
                                   PAK
                                                       3947 PAK
## 3 Congo (the Democratic Repub... COD
                                                       3138 COD
## 4 South Africa
                                    7AF
                                                       2677 ZAF
## 5 Indonesia
                                   TDN
                                                       1703 IDN
## # i abbreviated name: 1tb cases smear 0 14
## # i 1 more variable: region <chr>
 3.
left_join(top_tb_cases_kids, country_regions, by = c("iso3" = "iso3c"))
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
##
    country
                         iso3 tb_cases_smear_...¹ country_name
##
     <chr>
                         <chr>
                                            <dbl> <chr>
## 1 India
                         IND
                                            12957 India
                                             3947 Pakistan
## 2 Pakistan
                         PAK
## 3 Democratic Republ... COD
                                             3138 Congo (the Dem...
                                             2677 South Africa
## 4 South Africa
                         ZAF
## 5 Indonesia
                         IDN
                                             1703 Indonesia
## # i abbreviated name: 1tb_cases_smear_0_14
## # i 1 more variable: region <chr>
```

4.

ISO codes are standardized - there in only one way of writing them. This makes it useful for joining.

#### Q: Merging One-to-Many Patient Records

```
# 5 rows in the final dataframe
patient info %>%
 left_join(conditions)
## Joining with `by = join_by(patient_id)`
## # A tibble: 5 × 4
## patient_id name
                      age disease
          <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <chr>
## 1
              1 Liam
                        32 Diabetes
                         32 Hypertension
## 2
              1 Liam
## 3
              2 Manny
                         28 Asthma
## 4
                         40 High Cholesterol
             3 Nico
## 5
              3 Nico
                         40 Arthritis
```

#### Q: Joining child with regions

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 5
##
                        hc_type tb_child_notifs zonal_council
   state
##
    <chr>
                                         <dbl> <chr>
                        <chr>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar... public
                                            18 No Zonal Counc...
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar... private
                                             1 No Zonal Counc...
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                      public
                                          1347 <NA>
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                                           1333 <NA>
                        private
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh public
                                           256 North Eastern ...
## # i 1 more variable: subdivision_category <chr>
```

```
joined_dat %>%
  count(zonal_council)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
## zonal_council r
```

#### Q: Joining three datasets, including one-to-many

```
join_1 <- notif_covid %>%
full_join(child_fixed)
```

```
## Joining with `by = join_by(state, hc_type)`
```

```
final_join <- join_1 %>%
  full_join(regions, by=c("state" ="state_UT"))
final_join
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 7
##
     state
                             hc_type tb_notif_count tb_covid_pos
##
     <chr>
                             <chr>
                                                            <dbl>
                                              <dbl>
## 1 Andaman & Nicobar Isl... public
                                                510
## 2 Andaman & Nicobar Isl... private
                                                 24
                                                                0
                                                               97
## 3 Andhra Pradesh
                                              62075
                             public
## 4 Andhra Pradesh
                             private
                                              30112
                                                               17
## 5 Arunachal Pradesh
                             public
                                               2722
                                                               NA
## # i 3 more variables: tb_child_notifs <dbl>,
       zonal_council <chr>, subdivision_category <chr>
```

#### Contributors

The following team members contributed to this lesson:



## AMANDA MCKINLEY

R Developer and Instructor, the GRAPH Network



## KENE DAVID NWOSU

Data analyst, the GRAPH Network Passionate about world improvement



## CAMILLE BEATRICE VALERA

Project Manager and Scientific Collaborator, The GRAPH Network