

Python and R

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Welcome

This book provides parallel examples in Python and R to help users of one platform more easily learn how the other platform “works” when it comes to data analysis.

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Chapter 1

Basics

This chapter covers the very basics of Python and R.

1.1 Math

Mathematical operators are the same except for exponents, integer division, and remainder division (modulo).

Python

Python uses `**` for exponentiation, `//` for integer division, and `%` for remainder division.

```
> 3**2
9
> 5 // 2
2
> 5 % 2
1
```

In Python, the `+` operator can also be used to combine strings. See this TBD section.

R

Python uses `^` for exponentiation, `/%` for integer division, and `%%` for remainder division.

```
> 3^2
[1] 9
> 5 %/% 2
[1] 2
> 5 %% 2
[1] 1
```

1.2 Assignment

Python uses `=` for assignment, while R can use either `=` or `<-` for assignment. The latter “assignment arrow” is preferred in most R style guides to distinguish between assignment and setting the value of a function argument. According to R’s documentation, “The operator `<-` can be used anywhere, whereas the operator `=` is only allowed at the top level (e.g., in the complete expression typed at the command prompt) or as one of the subexpressions in a braced list of expressions.” See `?assignOps`.

Python

```
> x = 12
```

R

```
> x <- 12
```

1.3 Printing a value

To see the value of an object created via assignment, you can simply enter the object at the console and hit enter for both Python and R, though it is common in Python to explicitly use the `print()` function.

Python

```
> x
12
```

R

```
> x  
[1] 12
```

1.4 Packages

User-created functions can be bundled and distributed as packages. Packages need to be installed only once. Thereafter they're “imported” (Python) or “loaded” (R) in each new session when needed.

Packages with large user bases are often updated to add functionality and fix bugs. The updates are not automatically installed. Staying apprised of library/package updates can be challenging. Some suggestions are following developers on Twitter, signing up for newsletters, or periodically checking to see what updates are available.

Packages often depend on other packages. These are known as “dependencies.” Sometimes packages are updated to accommodate changes to other packages they depend on.

Python**R**

The main repository for R packages is the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN). Another repository is Bioconductor, which provides tools for working with genomic data. Many packages are also distributed on GitHub.

To install packages from CRAN use the `install.packages()` function. In RStudio, you can also go to Tools...Install Packages... for a dialog that will auto-complete package names as you type.

```
> # install the vcd package, a package for Visualizing Categorical Data  
> install.packages("vcd")  
>  
> # load the package  
> library(vcd)  
>  
> # see which packages on your computer have updates available  
> old.packages()  
>  
> # download and install available package updates;
```

```
> # set ask = TRUE to verify installation of each package  
> update.packages(ask = FALSE)
```

To install R packages from GitHub use the `install_github()` function from the **devtools** package. You need to include the username of the repo owner followed by a forward slash and the name of the package. Typing two colons between a package and a function in the package allows you to use that function without loading the package. That's how we use `install_github()` below.

```
> install.packages("devtools")  
> devtools::install_github("username/packageName")
```

Occasionally when installing package updates you will be asked, “Do you want to install from sources the package which needs compilation?” R packages on CRAN are *compiled* for Mac and Windows operating systems. That can take a day or two after a package has been submitted to CRAN. If you try to install a package that has not been compiled then you'll get asked the question above. If you click *Yes*, R will try to compile the package on your computer. This will only work if you have the required build tools on your computer. For Windows this means having Rtools installed. Mac users should already have the necessary build tools. Unless you absolutely need the latest version of a package, it's probably fine to click *No*.

1.5 Logic

Python and R share the same operators for making comparisons:

- `==` (equals)
- `!=` (not equal to)
- `<` (less than)
- `<=` (less than or equal to)
- `>` (greater than)
- `>=` (greater than or equal to)

Likewise they share the same operators for logical AND and OR:

- `&` (AND)
- `|` (OR)

However R also has `&&` and `||` operators for programming control-flow.

Python and R have different operators for negation and xor (exclusive OR).

Python

R

1.6 Generating a sequence of values

In Python, one option for generating a sequence of values is `arange()` from **NumPy**. In R, a common approach is to use `seq()`. The sequences can be incremented by indicating a `step` argument in `arange()` or a `by` argument in `seq()`. Be aware that the end of the start/stop interval in `arange()` is *open*, but both sides of the from/to interval in `seq()` are *closed*.

Python

```
> import numpy as np
+ x = np.arange(start = 1, stop = 11, step = 2)
+ x
array([1, 3, 5, 7, 9])
```

R

```
> x <- seq(from = 1, to = 11, by = 2)
> x
[1] 1 3 5 7 9 11
```

1.7 Calculating means and medians

The **NumPy** Python library has functions for calculating means and medians, and base R has functions for doing the same.

Python

Mean, using function from **NumPy** library

```
> import numpy as np
+ x = [90, 105, 110]
+ x_avg = np.mean(x)
+ print(x_avg)
101.66666666666667
```

Median, using function from **NumPy** library

```
> x = [98, 102, 20, 22, 304]
+ x_med = np.median(x)
+ print(x_med)
98.0
```

R

Mean, using function from base R

```
> x <- c(90, 105, 110)
> x_avg <- mean(x)
> x_avg
[1] 101.6667
```

Median, using function from base R

```
> x <- c(98, 102, 20, 22, 304)
> x_med <- median(x)
> x_med
[1] 98
```

1.8 Writing your own functions

Python and R allow and encourage users to create their own functions. Functions can be created, named, and stored in memory and used throughout a session. Or they can be created on-the-fly “anonymously” and used once.

Python

Functions in Python are defined by using the **def** keyword followed by the name we choose for our function with its arguments inside parentheses. We must include a **return()** statement after the body of our function to indicate the end of the function. The return statement takes an optional argument in its parentheses that will be the output of the function. Here we create a function to calculate the standard error of a mean (SEM) and call it **SEM**.

```
> def SEM(x):
+     import numpy as np # import statement included inside the function to ensure it's
+     s = x.std(ddof=1) # find standard deviation of the data, specify delta degrees of
+     n = x.shape[0] # extract the length of the input array
```

```
+ sem = s / np.sqrt(n) # calculate the SEM
+ return(sem) # return the calculated SEM value
```

Now let's try our function out on some test data.

```
> d = np.array([3,4,4,7,9,6,2,5,7])
+ SEM(d)
0.7412035591181296
```

Oftentimes functions have built-in error-checking that returns messages describing the error. Here we show a simple error-check to ensure that the argument passed to our function is a number.

```
> def SEM(x):
+     import numpy as np
+
+     if np.issubdtype(x.dtype,np.number)==False:
+         raise ValueError("Data must be numeric")
+
+     s = x.std(ddof=1)
+     n = x.shape[0]
+     sem = s / np.sqrt(n)
+     return(sem)
```

Python functions can return more than one result. It will output the results into a **tuple**. A tuple is a data structure very similar to a list, but it is immutable - we cannot change the order of the entries. Here we make our function return both the mean and the SEM of our data.

```
> def SEM(x):
+     import numpy as np
+
+     if np.issubdtype(x.dtype,np.number)==False:
+         raise ValueError("Data must be numeric")
+
+     s = x.std(ddof=1)
+     n = x.shape[0]
+     sem = s / np.sqrt(n)
+
+     m = np.mean(x)
+     return(sem,m)
```

R

Functions in R can be created and named using `function()`. Add arguments inside the parentheses. Longer functions with multiple lines can be wrapped in curly braces `{}`.

Below we create a function to calculate the standard error of a mean (SEM) and name it `sem`. It takes one argument: `x`, a vector of numbers. Both the function name and argument name(s) can be whatever we like, as long as they follow R's naming conventions.

```
> sem <- function(x){  
+   s <- sd(x)  
+   n <- length(x)  
+   s/sqrt(n)  
+ }
```

Now we can try it out on some test data.

```
> d <- c(3,4,4,7,9,6,2,5,7)  
> sem(d)  
[1] 0.7412036
```

Functions that will be used on different data and/or by different users often need built-in error-checking to return informative error messages. This simple example checks if the data are not numeric and returns a special error message.

```
> sem <- function(x){  
+   if(!is.numeric(x)) stop("x must be numeric")  
+   s <- sd(x)  
+   n <- length(x)  
+   s/sqrt(n)  
+ }  
> sem(c(1, 4, 6, "a"))  
Error in sem(c(1, 4, 6, "a")): x must be numeric
```

R functions can also return more than one result. Below we return a list that holds the mean and SEM, but we could also return a vector, a data frame, or other data structure. Notice we also add an additional argument, `...`, known as the three dots argument. This allows us to pass arguments for `sd` and `mean` directly through our own function. Below we pass through `na.rm = TRUE` to drop missing values.


```

> sem <- function(x, ...){
+   if(!is.numeric(x)) stop("x must be numeric")
+   s <- sd(x, ...)
+   n <- length(x)
+   se <- s/sqrt(n)
+   mean <- mean(x, ...)
+   list(mean = mean, SEM = se)
+ }
>
> d <- c(1, 4, 6, 8, NA, 4, 4, 8, 6)
> sem(d, na.rm = TRUE)
$mean
[1] 5.125

$SEM
[1] 0.7855339

```

Functions can also be created on-the-fly as “anonymous” functions. This simply means the functions are not saved as objects in memory. These are often used with R’s family of **apply** functions. As before, the functions can be created with `function()`. We can also use the backslash `\` as a shorthand for `function()`. We demonstrate both below with a data frame.

```

> # generate some example data
> d <- data.frame(x1 = c(3, 5, 7, 1, 5, 4),
+                 x2 = c(6, 9, 8, 9, 2, 5),
+                 x3 = c(1, 9, 9, 7, 8, 4))
> d
  x1 x2 x3
1  3  6  1
2  5  9  9
3  7  8  9
4  1  9  7
5  5  2  8
6  4  5  4

```

Now find the standard error of the mean for the three columns using an anonymous function with `lapply()`. The “l” means the result will be a list. We apply the function to each column of the data frame.

```

> lapply(d, function(x)sd(x)/sqrt(length(x)))
$x1
[1] 0.8333333

$x2

```

```
[1] 1.118034
```

```
$x3
```

```
[1] 1.308094
```

We can also use the backslash as a shorthand for `function()`.

```
> lapply(d, \(x)sd(x)/sqrt(length(x)))
```

```
$x1
```

```
[1] 0.8333333
```

```
$x2
```

```
[1] 1.118034
```

```
$x3
```

```
[1] 1.308094
```

Chapter 2

Data Structures

This chapter compares and contrasts data structures in Python and R.

2.1 One-dimensional data

A one-dimensional data structure can be visualized as a column in a spreadsheet or as a list of values.

Python

There are many ways to organize one-dimensional data in Python. Three of the most common one-dimensional data structures are lists, numpy arrays, and pandas Series. All three are ordered and mutable, and can contain data of different types.

Lists in Python do not need to be explicitly declared; they are indicated by the use of square brackets.

```
> l = [1,2,3,'hello']
```

Values in lists can be accessed by using square brackets. Python indexing begins at 0, so to extract the first element, we would use the index 0. Python also allows for negative indexing; using an index of -1 will return the last value in the list. Indexing a range in Python is not inclusive of the last index.

```
> # extract first element  
+ l[0]  
+
```

```

+ #extract last element
1
> l[-1]
+
+ # extract 2nd and 3rd elements
'hello'
> l[1:3]
[2, 3]

```

Numpy arrays, on the other hand, need to be declared using the `numpy.array()` function, and the **numpy** package needs to be imported.

```

> import numpy as np
+
+ arr = np.array([1,2,3,'hello'])
+ print(arr)
['1' '2' '3' 'hello']

```

Accessing data in a numpy array is the same as indexing a list.

```

> # extract first element
+ arr[0]
+
+ # extract last element
'1'
> arr[-1]
+
+ # extract 2nd and 3rd elements
'hello'
> arr[1:3]
array(['2', '3'], dtype='<U11')

```

Pandas Series also need to be declared using the `pandas.Series()` function. Like **numpy**, the **pandas** package must be imported as well. The pandas package is built on numpy, so we can input data into a pandas Series using a numpy array. We can extract data from the Series by using the index similar to indexing a list and numpy array.

```

> import pandas as pd
+ import numpy as np
+
+ data = np.array([1,2,3,"hello"])
+ ser1 = pd.Series(data)
+ print(ser1)

```

```

+
+ # extract first element
0      1
1      2
2      3
3      hello
dtype: object
> ser1[0]
+
+ # extract 2nd and 3rd elements
'1'
> ser1[1:3]
1      2
2      3
dtype: object

```

To extract the last element of a pandas Series using `-1`, we need to use the `iloc` function.

```

> ser1.iloc[-1]
'hello'

```

We can relabel the indices of the Series to whatever we like using the `index` attribute within the `Series` function.

```

> import pandas as pd
+ import numpy as np
+
+ ser2 = pd.Series(data, index=['a', 'b', 'c', 'd'])
+ print(ser2)
a      1
b      2
c      3
d      hello
dtype: object

```

We can then use our own specified indices to select and index our data. Indexing with our labels can be done in two ways. One similar to indexing arrays and lists with square brackets using the `.loc` function, and the other follows this form: `Series.label_name`.

```

>
+ # extract element in row b
+ ser2.loc["b"]

```

```

+
+ # extract elements from row b to the end
'2'
> ser2.loc["b":]
+
+ # extract element in row "d"
b      2
c      3
d      hello
dtype: object
> ser2.d
+
+ # extract element in row "b"
'hello'
> ser2.b
'2'

```

One thing to note is that mathematical operations cannot be carried out on lists, but they can be carried out on numpy arrays and pandas Series. In general, lists are better for short data sets that you will not be operating on mathematically. Numpy arrays and pandas Series are better for long data sets, and for data sets that will be operated on mathematically.

R

In R a one-dimensional data structure is called a *vector*. We can create a vector using the `c()` function. A vector in R can only contain one type of data (all numbers, all strings, etc). The columns of data frames are vectors. If multiple types of data are put into a vector, the data will be coerced according to the hierarchy `logical < integer < double < complex < character`. This means if you mix, say, integers and character data, all the data will be coerced to character.

```

> x1 <- c(23, 43, 55)
> x1
[1] 23 43 55
>
> # all values coerced to character
> x2 <- c(23, 43, 'hi')
> x2
[1] "23" "43" "hi"

```

Values in a vector can be accessed by position using indexing brackets. R indexes elements of a vector starting at 1. Index values are inclusive. For example, `2:3` selects the second and third elements.

```
> # extract the 2nd value
> x1[2]
[1] 43
>
> # extract the 2nd and 3rd value
> x1[2:3]
[1] 43 55
```

2.2 Two-dimensional data

Two-dimensional data are rectangular in nature, consisting of rows and columns. These can be the type of data you might find in a spreadsheet with a mix of data types in columns; they can also be matrices as you might encounter in matrix algebra.

Python

In Python, two common two-dimensional data structures include the *numpy array* and the *pandas DataFrame*.

A two-dimensional numpy array is made in a similar way to the one-dimensional array using the `numpy.array` function.

```
> import numpy as np
+
+ arr2d = np.array([[1,2,3,"hello"],[4,5,6,"world"]])
+ print(arr2d)
[['1' '2' '3' 'hello']
 ['4' '5' '6' 'world']]
```

Selecting data for a two-dimensional numpy array follows the same form as indexing a one-dimensional array.

```
> import numpy as np
+
+ # extract first element
+ arr2d[0,0]
+
+ # extract last element
+ '1'
> arr2d[-1, -1]
+
+ # extract 2nd and 3rd columns
```

```
'world'
> arr2d[:,1:3]
array([[ '2', '3'],
       ['5', '6']], dtype='<U11')
```

A pandas DataFrame is made using the `pandas.DataFrame` function in a similar way to the pandas Series.

```
> import pandas as pd
+ import numpy as np
+
+ data = np.array([[1,2,3,"hello"],[4,5,6,"world"]])
+ df = pd.DataFrame(data)
+ print(df)
   0  1  2      3
0  1  2  3  hello
1  4  5  6  world
```

Selecting data from a DataFrame is similar to that of the Series.

```
> # extract first element
+ df.loc[0,0]
+
+ # extract column 1
+ '1'
> df.loc[0]
+
+ # extract row 1
0      1
1      2
2      3
3  hello
Name: 0, dtype: object
> df.loc[0,0]
'1'
```

Like the pandas Series, we can change the indices and the column names of the DataFrame and can use those to select and index our data.

We change the indices again using the `index` attribute in the `pandas.DataFrame` function:

```
> import pandas as pd
+ import numpy as np
+
```



```
+ data = np.array([[1,2,3,"hello"],[4,5,6,"world"]])
+ df = pd.DataFrame(data, index=["a","b"])
+ print(df)
   0  1  2    3
a  1  2  3  hello
b  4  5  6  world
```

We can change the column names using the `columns` attribute in the `pandas.DataFrame` function:

```
> import pandas as pd
+ import numpy as np
+
+ data = np.array([[1,2,3,"hello"],[4,5,6,"world"]])
+ df = pd.DataFrame(data, index=["a","b"], columns=["column 1","column 2", "column 3", "column 4"])
+ print(df)
   column 1 column 2 column 3 column 4
a         1         2         3   hello
b         4         5         6   world
```

One thing to note is that numpy arrays can actually have N dimensions, whereas pandas DataFrames can only have two. Numpy arrays will be the better choice for data with more than two dimensions.

R

Two-dimensional data structures in R include the *matrix* and *data frame*. A matrix can contain only one data type. A data frame can contain multiple vectors, each of which can consist of different data types.

Create a matrix with the `matrix()` function. Create a data frame with the `data.frame()` function. Most imported data comes into R as a data frame.

```
> # matrix; populated down by column by default
> m <- matrix(data = c(1,3,5,7), nrow = 2, ncol = 2)
> m
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]    1    5
[2,]    3    7
>
> # data frame
> d <- data.frame(name = c("Rob", "Cindy"),
+                 age = c(35, 37))
> d
```

```

      name age
1    Rob  35
2  Cindy  37

```

Values in a matrix and data frame can be accessed by position using indexing brackets. The first number(s) refers to rows; the second number(s) refers to columns. Leaving row or column numbers empty selects all rows or columns.

```

> # extract value in row 1, column 2
> m[1,2]
[1] 5
>
> # extract values in row 2
> d[2,]
      name age
2  Cindy  37

```

2.3 Three-dimensional and higher data

Three-dimensional and higher data can be visualized as multiple rectangular structures stratified by extra variables. These are sometimes referred to as *arrays*. Analysts usually prefer two-dimensional data frames to arrays. Data frames can accommodate multidimensional data by including the additional dimensions as variables.

Python

To create a three-dimensional and higher data structure in Python, we again use a numpy array. We can think of the three-dimensional array as a stack of two-dimensional arrays. We construct this in the same way as the one- and two-dimensional arrays.

```

> import numpy as np
+
+ arr3d = np.array([[[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]], [[7, 8, 9], [10, 11, 12]]])
+ arr3d
array([[[ 1,  2,  3],
        [ 4,  5,  6]],
       [[ 7,  8,  9],
        [10, 11, 12]]])

```

We can also construct a three-dimensional numpy array using the `reshape` function on an existing array. The argument of `reshape` is where you input your desired dimensions - strata, rows, columns. Here, the `arange` function is used to create a numpy array containing the numbers 1 through 12 (to recreate the same array shown above).

```
> arr3d_2 = np.arange(1,13).reshape(2,2,3)
+ arr3d_2
array([[[ 1,  2,  3],
        [ 4,  5,  6]],

       [[ 7,  8,  9],
        [10, 11, 12]]])
```

Indexing the three-dimensional array follows the same format as the two-dimensional arrays. Since we can think of the three-dimensional array as a stack of two-dimensional arrays, we can extract each “stacked” two-dimensional array. Here we extract the first of the “stacked” two-dimensional arrays:

```
> # extract first strata (first "stacked" 2-D array)
+ arr3d[0]
array([[1, 2, 3],
       [4, 5, 6]])
```

We can also extract entire rows and columns, and individual array elements:

```
> # extract 1st row of 2nd strata (second "stacked" 2-D array)
+ arr3d[1, 0]
+
+ # extract 1st column of 2nd strata
array([7, 8, 9])
> arr3d[1, :, 0]
+
+ # extract the number 6 (1st strata, 2nd row, 3rd column)
array([ 7, 10])
> arr3d[0, 1, 2]
6
```

The three-dimensional arrays can be converted to two-dimensional arrays again using the `reshape` function:

```
> arr3d_2d = arr3d.reshape(4,3)
+ arr3d_2d
array([[ 1,  2,  3],
```

```
[ 4, 5, 6],
[ 7, 8, 9],
[10, 11, 12]])
```

R

The `array()` function in R can create three-dimensional and higher data structures. Arrays are like vectors and matrices in that they can only contain one data type. In fact matrices and arrays are sometimes described as vectors with instructions on how to layout the data.

We can specify the dimension number and size using the `dim` argument. Below we specify 2 rows, 3 columns, and 2 strata using a vector: `c(2,3,2)`. This creates a three-dimensional data structure. The data in the example are simply the numbers 1 through 12.

```
> a1 <- array(data = 1:12, dim = c(2,3,2))
> a1
, , 1

    [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    1    3    5
[2,]    2    4    6

, , 2

    [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    7    9   11
[2,]    8   10   12
```

Values in arrays can be accessed by position using indexing brackets.

```
> # extract value in row 1, column 2, strata 1
> a1[1,2,1]
[1] 3
>
> # extract column 2 in both strata
> # result is returned as matrix
> a1[,2,]
    [,1] [,2]
[1,]    3    9
[2,]    4   10
```

The dimensions can be named using the `dimnames()` function. Notice the names must be a *list*.

```

> dimnames(a1) <- list("X" = c("x1", "x2"),
+                      "Y" = c("y1", "y2", "y3"),
+                      "Z" = c("z1", "z2"))
> a1
, , Z = z1

      Y
X     y1 y2 y3
x1    1  3  5
x2    2  4  6

, , Z = z2

      Y
X     y1 y2 y3
x1    7  9 11
x2    8 10 12

```

The `as.data.frame.table()` function can collapse an array into a two-dimensional structure that may be easier to use with standard statistical and graphical routines. The `responseName` argument allows you to provide a suitable column name for the values in the array.

```

> as.data.frame.table(a1, responseName = "value")
  X  Y  Z value
1 x1 y1 z1     1
2 x2 y1 z1     2
3 x1 y2 z1     3
4 x2 y2 z1     4
5 x1 y3 z1     5
6 x2 y3 z1     6
7 x1 y1 z2     7
8 x2 y1 z2     8
9 x1 y2 z2     9
10 x2 y2 z2    10
11 x1 y3 z2    11
12 x2 y3 z2    12

```

2.4 General data structures

Both R and Python provide general “catch-all” data structures that can contain any number, shape, and type of data.

Python

The most general data structures in Python include the *list* and the *tuple*. Both lists and tuples are ordered collections of objects called *elements*. The elements can be other lists/tuples, arrays, integers, objects, etc.

Lists are mutable objects; elements can be reordered or deleted and new elements can be added after the list has been created. Tuples, on the other hand, are immutable; once a tuple is created it cannot be changed.

Lists are created using square brackets. Here we create a list and add an element to the list after it is created using the **append** function.

```
> lst = [1, 2, 'a', 'b', [3, 4, 5]]
+ lst
[1, 2, 'a', 'b', [3, 4, 5]]
> lst.append('c')
+ lst
[1, 2, 'a', 'b', [3, 4, 5], 'c']
```

Tuples are created using parenthesis. Here we create a tuple.

```
> tuple = (1, 2, 'a', 'b', [3, 4, 5])
+ tuple
(1, 2, 'a', 'b', [3, 4, 5])
```

Let's try to use the `append` function to explore the immutability of the tuple. We expect to get an error.

```
> tuple.append('c')
Error in py_call_impl(callable, dots$args, dots$keywords): AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'append'

Detailed traceback:
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
```

We can refer to specific list/tuple elements by using square brackets. In the square brackets we put the index number of the element. The element in the first position is at index 0.

```
> # Extract the first element of the list and the tuple
+ lst[0]
1
> tuple[0]
+
+ # Extract the last element of each
```

```

1
> lst[-1]
'c'
> tuple[-1]
[3, 4, 5]

```

R

The most general data structure in R is the *list*. A list is an ordered collection of objects, which are referred to as the *components*. The components can be vectors, matrices, arrays, data frames, and other lists. The components are always numbered but can also have names. The results of statistical functions are often returned as lists.

We can create lists with the `list()` function. The list below contains three components: a vector named “x”, a matrix named “y”, and a data frame named “z”. Notice the `m` and `d` objects were created in the two-dimensional data section earlier in this chapter.

```

> l <- list(x = c(1,2,3),
+          y = m,
+          z = d)
> l
$x
[1] 1 2 3

$y
      [,1] [,2]
[1,]    1    5
[2,]    3    7

$z
  name age
1  Rob  35
2 Cindy 37

```

We can refer to list components by their order number or name (if present). To use order number, use indexing brackets. Single brackets returns a list. Double brackets return the component itself.

```

> # second element returned as list
> l[2]
$y
      [,1] [,2]

```

```

[1,] 1 5
[2,] 3 7
>
> # second element returned as itself (matrix)
> l[[2]]
      [,1] [,2]
[1,] 1 5
[2,] 3 7

```

Use the `$` operator to refer to components by name. This returns the component itself.

```

> l$y
      [,1] [,2]
[1,] 1 5
[2,] 3 7

```

Finally it is worth noting that a data frame is a special case of a list consisting of components with the same length. The `is.list()` function returns `TRUE` if an object is a list and `FALSE` otherwise.

```

> # object d is data frame
> d
  name age
1  Rob  35
2 Cindy 37
> str(d)
'data.frame': 2 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ name: chr "Rob" "Cindy"
 $ age : num 35 37
>
> # but a data frame is a list
> is.list(d)
[1] TRUE

```


Chapter 3

Importing, Export, and Save Data

This chapter reviews importing external data into Python and R, including CSV, Excel, and other structured data files. There is often more than one way to import data into Python and R. Each example below highlights one way per file type.

The data set we use for demonstration is the New York State Math Test Results by Grade from 2006 - 2011, downloaded from data.gov on September 30, 2021.

3.1 CSV

Comma separated value (CSV) files are text files with fields separated by commas. They are useful for “rectangular” data, where rows represent observations and columns represent variables or features.

Python

The **pandas** function `read_csv()` is a common approach to importing CSV files into Python.

```
> import pandas as pd
+ d = pd.read_csv('data/ny_math_test.csv')
+ d.loc[0:2, ["Grade", "Year", "Mean Scale Score"]]
```

	Grade	Year	Mean Scale Score
0	3	2006	700
1	4	2006	699
2	5	2006	691

R

There are many ways to import a csv file. A common way is to use the base R function `read.csv()`.

```
> d <- read.csv("data/ny_math_test.csv")
> d[1:3, c("Grade", "Year", "Mean.Scale.Score")]
  Grade Year Mean.Scale.Score
1     3 2006              700
2     4 2006              699
3     5 2006              691
```

Notice the spaces in the column names have been replaced with periods.

Two packages that provide alternatives to `read.csv()` are **readr** and **data.table**. The **readr** function `read_csv()` returns a tibble. The **data.table** function `fread()` returns a data.table.

3.2 XLS/XLSX (Excel)

Excel files are native to Microsoft Excel. Prior to 2007, Excel files had an extension of XLS. With the launch of Excel 2007, the extension was changed to XLSX. Excel files can have multiple sheets of data. This needs to be accounted for when importing into Python and R.

Python

The **pandas** function `read_excel()` is a common approach to importing Excel files into Python. The `sheet_name` argument allows you to specify which sheet you want to import. You can specify sheet by its (zero-indexed) ordering or by its name. Since this Excel file only has one sheet we do not need to use the argument. In addition, specifying `sheet_name=None` will read in all sheets and return a dict data structure where the *key* is the sheet name and the *value* is a DataFrame.

```
> import pandas as pd
> d = pd.read_excel('data/ny_math_test.xlsx')
> d.loc[0:2, ["Grade", "Year", "Mean Scale Score"]]
>
```

R

readxl is a well-documented and actively maintained package for importing Excel files into R. The workhorse function is `read_excel()`. The `sheet` argument

allows you to specify which sheet you want to import. You can specify sheet by its ordering or by its name. Since this Excel file only has one sheet we do not need to use the argument.

```
> library(readxl)
> d_xls <- read_excel("data/ny_math_test.xlsx")
> d_xls[1:3, c("Grade", "Year", "Mean Scale Score")]
# A tibble: 3 x 3
  Grade Year `Mean Scale Score`
  <chr> <dbl>         <dbl>
1 3     2006             700
2 4     2006             699
3 5     2006             691
```

The result is a *tibble*, a tidyverse data frame.

It's worth noting we can use the **range** argument to specify a range of cells to import. For example, if the top left corner of the data was B5 and the bottom right corner of the data was J54, we could enter **range="B5:J54"** to just import that section of data.

3.3 JSON

JSON (**J**ava**S**cript **O**bject **N**otation) is a flexible format for storing data. JSON files are text and can be viewed in any text editor. Because of their flexibility JSON files can be quite complex in the way they store data. Therefore there is no one-size-fits-all method for importing JSON files into Python or R.

Python

Below is one approach to importing our “ny_math_test.json” example file. We first import Python’s built-in **json** package and use its **loads()** function to read in the lines of the json file. The file is accessed using the **open** function and its associated **read** method.

Next we use the **pandas** function **json_normalize()** to convert the ‘data’ structure of the json data into a DataFrame.

Finally we add column names to the DataFrame.

```
> import json
+ # load data using Python JSON module
+ with open('data/ny_math_test.json','r') as f:
+     data = json.loads(f.read())
```

```

+
+ import pandas as pd
+ d_json = pd.json_normalize(data, record_path=['data'])
+
+ # add column names
+ names = list()
+ for i in range(23):
+     names.append(data['meta']['view']['columns'][i]['name'])
+ d_json.columns = names
+
+ d_json.loc[0:2, ["Grade", "Year", "Mean Scale Score"]]

```

	Grade	Year	Mean Scale Score
0	3	2006	700
1	4	2006	699
2	5	2006	691

Again, this is just one approach that assumes we want a DataFrame.

R

jsonlite is one of several R packages available for importing JSON files into R. The `read_json()` function takes a JSON file and returns a list or data frame depending on the structure of the data file and its arguments. We set `simplifyVector = TRUE` so the data is simplified into a matrix.

```

> library(jsonlite)
> d_json <- read_json('data/ny_math_test.json', simplifyVector = TRUE)

```

The `d_json` object is a list with two elements: “meta” and “data”. The “data” element is a matrix that contains the data of interest. The “meta” element contains the column names for the data (among much else). Notice we had to “drill down” in the list to find the column names. We assign column names to the matrix using the `colnames()` function and then convert the matrix to a data frame using the `as.data.frame()` function.

```

> colnames(d_json$data) <- d_json$meta$view$columns$fieldname
> d_json <- as.data.frame(d_json$data)
> d_json[1:3,c("grade", "year", "mean_scale_score")]

```

	grade	year	mean_scale_score
1	3	2006	700
2	4	2006	699
3	5	2006	691

3.4 XML

XML (eXtensible Markup Language) is a markup language that was designed to store data. XML files are text and can be viewed in any text editor or a web browser. Because of their flexibility, XML files can be quite complex in the way they store data. Therefore there is no one-size-fits-all approach for importing XML files into Python or R.

Python

The **pandas** library provides the `read_xml` function for importing XML files. The `ny_math_test.xml` file identifies records with nodes named “row”. The 168 rows are nested in one node also called “row”. Therefore we use the `xpath` argument to specify that we want to elect all row elements that are descendant of the single row element.

```
> import pandas as pd
+ d_xml = pd.read_xml('data/ny_math_test.xml', xpath="row//row")
+
+ d_xml.loc[0:2, ["grade", "year", "mean_scale_score"]]
  grade  year  mean_scale_score
0     3  2006                700
1     4  2006                699
2     5  2006                691
```

R

xml2 is a relatively small but powerful package for importing and working with XML files. The `read_xml()` function imports an XML file and returns a list of *pointers* to XML *nodes*. There are a number of ways to proceed once you import an XML file, such as using the `xml_find_all()` function to find nodes that match an `xpath` expression. Below we take a simple approach and convert the XML nodes into a list using the `as_list()` function that is part of the **xml2** package. Once we have the XML nodes in a list, we can use the `bind_rows()` function in the **dplyr** package to create a data frame. Notice we have to drill down into the list to select the element that contains the data. After this we need to do one more thing: *unlist* each the columns into vectors. We do this by applying the `unlist` function to each column of `d`. We save the result by assigning to `d[]`, which overwrites each element (or column) of `d` with the unlisted result.

```
> library(xml2)
> d_xml <- read_xml('data/ny_math_test.xml')
> d_list <- as_list(d_xml)
```

```

> d <- dplyr::bind_rows(d_list$response$row)
> d[] <- lapply(d, unlist)
> d[1:3,c("grade", "year", "mean_scale_score")]
# A tibble: 3 x 3
  grade year mean_scale_score
  <chr> <chr> <chr>
1 3     2006 700
2 4     2006 699
3 5     2006 691

```

The result is a *tibble*, a tidyverse data frame. We would most likely want to proceed to converting certain columns to numeric.

3.5 Exporting/Writing/Saving data and variables

To write There are several ways to export/write/save files from Python and R. The following examples highlight some of these ways.

Python

The pandas function `to_csv()` saves a pandas DataFrame as a csv file.

```

> # pass a file name to the function
+ d.to_csv("data.csv")

```

The Python package `pickle` allows you to write (save) any object from the Python environment and read (load) any object you have written into the Python environment.

The first line to write to a pickle file opens the file object being written to. `open(file_name, 'wb')` specifies the name of the file object being written to. Then, 'wb' stands for 'write binary', which means the file is being written in binary form (1s and 0s). After the *as* keyword, 'file__', is the user selected name of the file object.

The second line to write to a pickle file uses the `pickle.dump()` function. This function requires two arguments: the object being written and the name of the file object.

```

> import pickle
+
+ # define the file name

```

```
+ file_name = 'data.pickle'
+
+ # write the variable to the file system
+ with open(file_name, 'wb') as file_:
+     pickle.dump(d, file_)
```

The first line to read to a pickle file opens the file object being read from. `open('data.pickle', 'rb')` specifies the name of the file object being written to. Then, 'rb' stands for 'read binary', which means the file is being read in binary form (1s and 0s). After the *as* keyword, 'my_file', is the user selected name of the file object.

The second line to write to a pickle file uses the `pickle.load()` function. This function requires one argument: the name of the file object.

```
>
+ # read the specified file from the file system and load into variable
+ with open('data.pickle', 'rb') as my_file:
+     d = pickle.load(my_file)
```

R

Chapter 4

Data Manipulation

This chapter looks at various strategies for filtering, selecting, modifying and deriving variables in data. Unless otherwise stated, examples are for DataFrames (Python) and data frames (R) and use the mtcars data frame that is included with R.

```
> # Python  
+ import pandas  
+ mtcars = pandas.read_csv('data/mtcars.csv')
```

```
> # R  
> data(mtcars)  
> # drop row names to match Python version of data  
> rownames(mtcars) <- NULL
```

4.1 Names of variables and their types

View and inspect the names of variables and their type (numeric, string, logical, etc.) This is useful to ensure that variables have the expected type.

Python

The `.info()` function in pandas lists information on the DataFrame.

Setting the argument `verbose` to `True` prints the name of the columns, their length excluding NULL values, and their data type (`dtype`) in a table. The function lists the unique data types in the DataFrame, and it prints how much memory the DataFrame takes up.

```
> mtcars.info(verbose=True)
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 32 entries, 0 to 31
Data columns (total 11 columns):
#   Column  Non-Null Count  Dtype
---  -
0   mpg     32 non-null         float64
1   cyl     32 non-null         int64
2   disp    32 non-null         float64
3   hp      32 non-null         int64
4   drat     32 non-null         float64
5   wt      32 non-null         float64
6   qsec    32 non-null         float64
7   vs      32 non-null         int64
8   am      32 non-null         int64
9   gear    32 non-null         int64
10  carb    32 non-null         int64
dtypes: float64(5), int64(6)
memory usage: 2.9 KB
```

Setting `verbose` to `False` excludes the table describing each column.

```
> mtcars.info(verbose=False)
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 32 entries, 0 to 31
Columns: 11 entries, mpg to carb
dtypes: float64(5), int64(6)
memory usage: 2.9 KB
```

If a `DataFrame` has 100 or fewer columns, the `verbose` argument defaults to `True`.

R

The `str()` function in R lists the names of the variables, their type, the first few values, and the dimensions of the data frame.

```
> str(mtcars)
'data.frame':   32 obs. of  11 variables:
 $ mpg : num  21 21 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 ...
 $ cyl : num   6  6  4  6  8  6  8  4  4  6 ...
 $ disp: num  160 160 108 258 360 ...
 $ hp  : num  110 110 93 110 175 105 245 62 95 123 ...
```

```
$ drat: num 3.9 3.9 3.85 3.08 3.15 2.76 3.21 3.69 3.92 3.92 ...
$ wt : num 2.62 2.88 2.32 3.21 3.44 ...
$ qsec: num 16.5 17 18.6 19.4 17 ...
$ vs : num 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 ...
$ am : num 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...
$ gear: num 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 ...
$ carb: num 4 4 1 1 2 1 4 2 2 4 ...
```

To see just the names of the data frame, use the `names()` function.

```
> names(mtcars)
[1] "mpg" "cyl" "disp" "hp" "drat" "wt" "qsec" "vs" "am" "gear"
[11] "carb"
```

To see just the dimensions of the data frame, use the `dim()` function. It returns the number of rows and columns, respectively.

```
> dim(mtcars)
[1] 32 11
```

4.2 Select variables

How to select specific columns of data frames.

Python

The period operator `.` provides access to a column in a `DataFrame` as a vector. This returns pandas series. A pandas series can do everything a numpy array can do.

```
> mtcars.mpg
0    21.0
1    21.0
2    22.8
3    21.4
4    18.7
5    18.1
6    14.3
7    24.4
8    22.8
9    19.2
10   17.8
```

```
11    16.4
12    17.3
13    15.2
14    10.4
15    10.4
16    14.7
17    32.4
18    30.4
19    33.9
20    21.5
21    15.5
22    15.2
23    13.3
24    19.2
25    27.3
26    26.0
27    30.4
28    15.8
29    19.7
30    15.0
31    21.4
Name: mpg, dtype: float64
```

Indexing also provides access to columns as a pandas Series. Single and double quotations both work.

```
> mtcars['mpg']
0    21.0
1    21.0
2    22.8
3    21.4
4    18.7
5    18.1
6    14.3
7    24.4
8    22.8
9    19.2
10   17.8
11   16.4
12   17.3
13   15.2
14   10.4
15   10.4
16   14.7
17   32.4
```

```
18    30.4
19    33.9
20    21.5
21    15.5
22    15.2
23    13.3
24    19.2
25    27.3
26    26.0
27    30.4
28    15.8
29    19.7
30    15.0
31    21.4
Name: mpg, dtype: float64
```

Operations on numpy arrays are faster than operations on pandas series. But using pandas series should be fine, in terms of performance, in many cases. This is important for large data sets on which many operations are performed. The `.values` function returns a numpy array.

```
> mtcars['mpg'].values
array([21. , 21. , 22.8, 21.4, 18.7, 18.1, 14.3, 24.4, 22.8, 19.2, 17.8,
       16.4, 17.3, 15.2, 10.4, 10.4, 14.7, 32.4, 30.4, 33.9, 21.5, 15.5,
       15.2, 13.3, 19.2, 27.3, 26. , 30.4, 15.8, 19.7, 15. , 21.4])
```

Double indexing returns a pandas DataFrame, instead of a numpy array or pandas series.

```
> mtcars[['mpg']]
   mpg
0  21.0
1  21.0
2  22.8
3  21.4
4  18.7
5  18.1
6  14.3
7  24.4
8  22.8
9  19.2
10 17.8
11 16.4
12 17.3
```

```

13  15.2
14  10.4
15  10.4
16  14.7
17  32.4
18  30.4
19  33.9
20  21.5
21  15.5
22  15.2
23  13.3
24  19.2
25  27.3
26  26.0
27  30.4
28  15.8
29  19.7
30  15.0
31  21.4

```

The `head()` and `tail()` functions return the first 5 or last 5 values. Use the `n` argument to change the number of values. This function works on numpy arrays, pandas series and pandas DataFrames.

```

> # first 6 values
+ mtcars.mpg.head()
0    21.0
1    21.0
2    22.8
3    21.4
4    18.7
Name: mpg, dtype: float64

```

```

> # last row of DataFrame
+ mtcars.tail(n=1)
      mpg  cyl  disp  hp  drat    wt   qsec  vs  am  gear  carb
31  21.4    4  121.0  109  4.11  2.78  18.6   1   1    4     2

```

R

The dollar sign operator, `$`, provides access to a column in a data frame as a vector.

```
> mtcars$mpg
[1] 21.0 21.0 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 17.8 16.4 17.3 15.2 10.4
[16] 10.4 14.7 32.4 30.4 33.9 21.5 15.5 15.2 13.3 19.2 27.3 26.0 30.4 15.8 19.7
[31] 15.0 21.4
```

Double-indexing brackets also provide access to columns as a vector.

```
> mtcars[["mpg"]]
[1] 21.0 21.0 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 17.8 16.4 17.3 15.2 10.4
[16] 10.4 14.7 32.4 30.4 33.9 21.5 15.5 15.2 13.3 19.2 27.3 26.0 30.4 15.8 19.7
[31] 15.0 21.4
```

Single-indexing brackets work as well, but they return a data frame instead of a vector (if used with a data frame).

```
> mtcars["mpg"]
  mpg
1  21.0
2  21.0
3  22.8
4  21.4
5  18.7
6  18.1
7  14.3
8  24.4
9  22.8
10 19.2
11 17.8
12 16.4
13 17.3
14 15.2
15 10.4
16 10.4
17 14.7
18 32.4
19 30.4
20 33.9
21 21.5
22 15.5
23 15.2
24 13.3
25 19.2
26 27.3
27 26.0
28 30.4
```

```
29 15.8
30 19.7
31 15.0
32 21.4
```

Single-indexing brackets also allow selection of rows when used with a comma. The syntax is `rows, columns`

```
> # first three rows
> mtcars[1:3, "mpg"]
[1] 21.0 21.0 22.8
```

Finally single-indexing brackets allow us to select multiple columns. Request columns either by name or position using a vector.

```
> mtcars[c("mpg", "cyl")]
  mpg cyl
1  21.0   6
2  21.0   6
3  22.8   4
4  21.4   6
5  18.7   8
6  18.1   6
7  14.3   8
8  24.4   4
9  22.8   4
10 19.2   6
11 17.8   6
12 16.4   8
13 17.3   8
14 15.2   8
15 10.4   8
16 10.4   8
17 14.7   8
18 32.4   4
19 30.4   4
20 33.9   4
21 21.5   4
22 15.5   8
23 15.2   8
24 13.3   8
25 19.2   8
26 27.3   4
27 26.0   4
28 30.4   4
```



```

29 15.8  8
30 19.7  6
31 15.0  8
32 21.4  4
> # same as mtcars[1:2]

```

The `head()` and `tail()` functions return the first 6 or last 6 values. Use the `n` argument to change the number of values. They work with vectors or data frames.

```

> # first 6 values
> head(mtcars$mpg)
[1] 21.0 21.0 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1

```

```

> # last row of data frame
> tail(mtcars, n = 1)
      mpg cyl disp  hp drat   wt  qsec vs am gear carb
32  21.4   4  121 109 4.11 2.78 18.6  1  1   4    2

```

4.3 Filter/Subset variables

How to view rows of a data frame that meet certain conditions.

Python

R

In base R, we can use subsetting brackets or the `subset()` function to select rows based on some condition. Below we demonstrate both approaches to view only those rows with “mpg” greater than 30. First we begin with subsetting brackets.

The subsetting brackets take three arguments:

1. `i`: the condition to subset on.
2. `j`: the columns to show. If none specified, all columns are returned
3. `drop`: an optional logical argument (TRUE/FALSE) to determine whether or not to coerce the output to the lowest possible dimension. The default is TRUE.

We rarely type the first two argument names, `i` and `j`, when using subsetting brackets.

This example returns only the rows with `mpg > 30` and all columns. Notice we need to preface `mpg` with `mtcars$` to tell R where to find the “mpg” column and that we need to provide a comma after the condition.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, ]
      mpg cyl disp  hp drat   wt  qsec vs am gear carb
18 32.4   4  78.7  66 4.08 2.200 19.47  1  1    4    1
19 30.4   4  75.7  52 4.93 1.615 18.52  1  1    4    2
20 33.9   4  71.1  65 4.22 1.835 19.90  1  1    4    1
28 30.4   4  95.1 113 3.77 1.513 16.90  1  1    5    2
```

We can select what columns to see in the second argument as a vector. Notice we only need to specify the column names as a character vector. We can also use numbers corresponding to the column number as well as conditional statements.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, c("mpg", "wt", "gear")]
      mpg    wt gear
18 32.4 2.200    4
19 30.4 1.615    4
20 33.9 1.835    4
28 30.4 1.513    5
```

Show first three columns.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, 1:3]
      mpg cyl disp
18 32.4   4  78.7
19 30.4   4  75.7
20 33.9   4  71.1
28 30.4   4  95.1
```

Show columns with names consisting of only two characters. The `nchar()` function counts the number of characters in a string. The expression `nchar(names(mtcars)) == 2` returns a vector of TRUE/FALSE values where TRUE indicates the column name is only two characters in length.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, nchar(names(mtcars)) == 2]
      hp    wt vs am
18  66 2.200  1  1
19  52 1.615  1  1
20  65 1.835  1  1
28 113 1.513  1  1
```

Notice when we specify only one column, the brackets return a vector.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, "mpg"]
[1] 32.4 30.4 33.9 30.4
```

To get a data frame, set the `drop` argument to `FALSE`.

```
> mtcars[mtcars$mpg > 30, "mpg", drop = FALSE]
      mpg
18 32.4
19 30.4
20 33.9
28 30.4
```

The `subset()` function allows us to refer to column names without using the `$` extractor function or quoting column names. It also has a `drop` argument but its default is `FALSE`. It has four arguments:

1. `x`: the data frame to subset.
2. `subset`: the condition to subset on.
3. `select`: the columns to select.
4. `drop`: an optional logical argument (`TRUE/FALSE`) to determine whether or not to coerce the output to the lowest possible dimension. The default is `FALSE`.

We rarely type the first three argument names, `x`, `subset` and `select`, when using `subset()`.

Below we replicate the previous examples using `subset()`.

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and all columns
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30)
      mpg cyl disp  hp drat   wt  qsec vs am gear carb
18 32.4   4  78.7  66 4.08 2.200 19.47  1  1    4    1
19 30.4   4  75.7  52 4.93 1.615 18.52  1  1    4    2
20 33.9   4  71.1  65 4.22 1.835 19.90  1  1    4    1
28 30.4   4  95.1 113 3.77 1.513 16.90  1  1    5    2
```

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and the mpg, wt, and gear columns
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30, c(mpg, wt, gear))
      mpg   wt gear
18 32.4 2.200    4
19 30.4 1.615    4
20 33.9 1.835    4
28 30.4 1.513    5
```

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and the first three columns
```

```
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30, 1:3)
```

```
      mpg cyl disp
18  32.4   4  78.7
19  30.4   4  75.7
20  33.9   4  71.1
28  30.4   4  95.1
```

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and columns consisting of two characters
```

```
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30, nchar(names(mtcars)) == 2)
```

```
      hp    wt vs am
18  66 2.200  1  1
19  52 1.615  1  1
20  65 1.835  1  1
28 113 1.513  1  1
```

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and mpg column, as a vector
```

```
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30, mpg, drop = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 32.4 30.4 33.9 30.4
```

```
> # rows where mpg > 30 and mpg column, as a data frame
```

```
> subset(mtcars, mpg > 30, mpg)
```

```
      mpg
18  32.4
19  30.4
20  33.9
28  30.4
```

Another difference between subsetting brackets and the `subset()` function is how they handle missing values. Subsetting brackets return missing values while `subset()` does not. We demonstrate with a toy data frame. Notice the “x” column has a missing value.

```
> dframe <- data.frame(x = c(1, NA, 5),
+                      y = c(12, 21, 34))
```

```
> dframe
```

```
   x  y
1  1 12
2 NA 21
3  5 34
```

When we condition on `x < 3`, the subsetting bracket approach returns a row with NA values.

```
> dframe[dframe$x < 3,]
      x  y
1    1 12
NA NA NA
```

The `subset()` approach ignores the missing value.

```
> subset(dframe, x < 3)
      x  y
1    1 12
```

To replicate the `subset()` result with the subsetting brackets, we need to include an additional condition to only show rows where `x` is NOT missing. We can do that with the `is.na()` function. The `is.na()` function returns TRUE if a value is missing and FALSE otherwise. If we preface with `!`, we get TRUE if a value is NOT missing and FALSE otherwise.

```
> dframe[dframe$x < 3 & !is.na(dframe$x),]
      x  y
1    1 12
```

See also the `filter()` function in the **dplyr** package and the enhanced subsetting brackets in the **data.table** package.

4.4 Rename variables

How to rename variables or “column headers”.

Python

Column names can be changed using the function `.rename()`. Below, we change the column names “cyl” and “wt” to “cylinder” and “WT”, respectively.

```
> mtcars.rename(columns={"cyl":"cylinder", "wt":"WT"})
```

	mpg	cylinder	disp	hp	drat	WT	qsec	vs	am	gear	carb
0	21.0	6	160.0	110	3.90	2.620	16.46	0	1	4	4
1	21.0	6	160.0	110	3.90	2.875	17.02	0	1	4	4
2	22.8	4	108.0	93	3.85	2.320	18.61	1	1	4	1
3	21.4	6	258.0	110	3.08	3.215	19.44	1	0	3	1
4	18.7	8	360.0	175	3.15	3.440	17.02	0	0	3	2
5	18.1	6	225.0	105	2.76	3.460	20.22	1	0	3	1
6	14.3	8	360.0	245	3.21	3.570	15.84	0	0	3	4

7	24.4	4	146.7	62	3.69	3.190	20.00	1	0	4	2
8	22.8	4	140.8	95	3.92	3.150	22.90	1	0	4	2
9	19.2	6	167.6	123	3.92	3.440	18.30	1	0	4	4
10	17.8	6	167.6	123	3.92	3.440	18.90	1	0	4	4
11	16.4	8	275.8	180	3.07	4.070	17.40	0	0	3	3
12	17.3	8	275.8	180	3.07	3.730	17.60	0	0	3	3
13	15.2	8	275.8	180	3.07	3.780	18.00	0	0	3	3
14	10.4	8	472.0	205	2.93	5.250	17.98	0	0	3	4
15	10.4	8	460.0	215	3.00	5.424	17.82	0	0	3	4
16	14.7	8	440.0	230	3.23	5.345	17.42	0	0	3	4
17	32.4	4	78.7	66	4.08	2.200	19.47	1	1	4	1
18	30.4	4	75.7	52	4.93	1.615	18.52	1	1	4	2
19	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	1.835	19.90	1	1	4	1
20	21.5	4	120.1	97	3.70	2.465	20.01	1	0	3	1
21	15.5	8	318.0	150	2.76	3.520	16.87	0	0	3	2
22	15.2	8	304.0	150	3.15	3.435	17.30	0	0	3	2
23	13.3	8	350.0	245	3.73	3.840	15.41	0	0	3	4
24	19.2	8	400.0	175	3.08	3.845	17.05	0	0	3	2
25	27.3	4	79.0	66	4.08	1.935	18.90	1	1	4	1
26	26.0	4	120.3	91	4.43	2.140	16.70	0	1	5	2
27	30.4	4	95.1	113	3.77	1.513	16.90	1	1	5	2
28	15.8	8	351.0	264	4.22	3.170	14.50	0	1	5	4
29	19.7	6	145.0	175	3.62	2.770	15.50	0	1	5	6
30	15.0	8	301.0	335	3.54	3.570	14.60	0	1	5	8
31	21.4	4	121.0	109	4.11	2.780	18.60	1	1	4	2

Alternatively, column names can be changed by replacing the vector of column names with a new vector. Below, we create a vector of columns that replaces “drat” with “axle_ratio” using conditional match and indexing and “disp” with “DISP” using indexing.

```
> column_names = mtcars.columns.values
+
+ # using conditional match
+ column_names[column_names == "drat"] = "axle_ratio"
+
+ # using indexing
+ column_names[2] = "DISP"
+
+ mtcars.columns = column_names
+ mtcars.columns
Index(['mpg', 'cyl', 'DISP', 'hp', 'axle_ratio', 'wt', 'qsec', 'vs', 'am',
      'gear', 'carb'],
      dtype='object')
```

R

Variable names can be changed by their index (ie, order of columns in the data frame). Below the second column is “cyl”. We change the name to “cylinders”.

```
> names(mtcars)[2]
[1] "cyl"
> names(mtcars)[2] <- "cylinders"
> names(mtcars)
[1] "mpg"      "cylinders" "disp"      "hp"      "drat"      "wt"
[7] "qsec"      "vs"        "am"        "gear"     "carb"
```

Variable names can also be changed by conditional match. Below we find the variable name that matches “drat” and change to “axle_ratio”.

```
> names(mtcars)[names(mtcars) == "drat"]
[1] "drat"
> names(mtcars)[names(mtcars) == "drat"] <- "axle_ratio"
> names(mtcars)
[1] "mpg"      "cylinders" "disp"      "hp"      "axle_ratio"
[6] "wt"      "qsec"      "vs"        "am"      "gear"
[11] "carb"
```

More than one variable name can be changed using a vector of positions or matches.

```
> names(mtcars)[c(6,8)] <- c("weight", "engine")
>
> # or
> # names(mtcars)[names(mtcars) %in% c("wt", "vs")] <- c("weight", "engine")
>
> names(mtcars)
[1] "mpg"      "cylinders" "disp"      "hp"      "axle_ratio"
[6] "weight"   "qsec"      "engine"    "am"      "gear"
[11] "carb"
```

See also the `rename()` function in the **dplyr**.

4.5 Create, replace and remove variables

We often need to create variables that are functions of other variables, or replace existing variables with an updated version.

Python

Adding a new variable using the indexing notation and assigning a result adds a new column.

```
> # add column for Kilometer per liter
+ mtcars['kpl'] = mtcars.mpg/2.352
```

Doing the same with an *existing* column name updates the values in a column.

```
> # update to liters per 100 Kilometers
+ mtcars['kpl'] = 100/mtcars.kpl
```

Alternatively, the `.` notation can be used to update the values in a column.

```
> # update to liters per 50 Kilometers
+ mtcars.kpl = 50/mtcars.kpl
```

To remove a column, use the `.drop()` function.

```
> # drop the kpl variable
+ mtcars.drop(columns=['kpl'])
```

	mpg	cyl	DISP	hp	axle_ratio	wt	qsec	vs	am	gear	carb
0	21.0	6	160.0	110	3.90	2.620	16.46	0	1	4	4
1	21.0	6	160.0	110	3.90	2.875	17.02	0	1	4	4
2	22.8	4	108.0	93	3.85	2.320	18.61	1	1	4	1
3	21.4	6	258.0	110	3.08	3.215	19.44	1	0	3	1
4	18.7	8	360.0	175	3.15	3.440	17.02	0	0	3	2
5	18.1	6	225.0	105	2.76	3.460	20.22	1	0	3	1
6	14.3	8	360.0	245	3.21	3.570	15.84	0	0	3	4
7	24.4	4	146.7	62	3.69	3.190	20.00	1	0	4	2
8	22.8	4	140.8	95	3.92	3.150	22.90	1	0	4	2
9	19.2	6	167.6	123	3.92	3.440	18.30	1	0	4	4
10	17.8	6	167.6	123	3.92	3.440	18.90	1	0	4	4
11	16.4	8	275.8	180	3.07	4.070	17.40	0	0	3	3
12	17.3	8	275.8	180	3.07	3.730	17.60	0	0	3	3
13	15.2	8	275.8	180	3.07	3.780	18.00	0	0	3	3
14	10.4	8	472.0	205	2.93	5.250	17.98	0	0	3	4
15	10.4	8	460.0	215	3.00	5.424	17.82	0	0	3	4
16	14.7	8	440.0	230	3.23	5.345	17.42	0	0	3	4
17	32.4	4	78.7	66	4.08	2.200	19.47	1	1	4	1
18	30.4	4	75.7	52	4.93	1.615	18.52	1	1	4	2
19	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	1.835	19.90	1	1	4	1
20	21.5	4	120.1	97	3.70	2.465	20.01	1	0	3	1

21	15.5	8	318.0	150	2.76	3.520	16.87	0	0	3	2
22	15.2	8	304.0	150	3.15	3.435	17.30	0	0	3	2
23	13.3	8	350.0	245	3.73	3.840	15.41	0	0	3	4
24	19.2	8	400.0	175	3.08	3.845	17.05	0	0	3	2
25	27.3	4	79.0	66	4.08	1.935	18.90	1	1	4	1
26	26.0	4	120.3	91	4.43	2.140	16.70	0	1	5	2
27	30.4	4	95.1	113	3.77	1.513	16.90	1	1	5	2
28	15.8	8	351.0	264	4.22	3.170	14.50	0	1	5	4
29	19.7	6	145.0	175	3.62	2.770	15.50	0	1	5	6
30	15.0	8	301.0	335	3.54	3.570	14.60	0	1	5	8
31	21.4	4	121.0	109	4.11	2.780	18.60	1	1	4	2

R

Adding a new variable name after the dollar sign notation and assigning a result adds a new column.

```
> # add column for Kilometer per liter
> mtcars$kpl <- mtcars$mpg/2.352
```

Doing the same with an *existing* variable updates the values in a column.

```
> # update to liters per 100 Kilometers
> mtcars$kpl <- 100/mtcars$kpl
```

To remove a variable, assign it NULL.

```
> # drop the kpl variable
> mtcars$kpl <- NULL
```

See also the `mutate()` function in the **dplyr** package.

4.6 Create strings from numbers

You may have data that is numeric but that needs to be treated as a string.

Python

You can change the data type of a column in a DataFrame using the `astype` function.

```
> mtcars['am'] = mtcars['am'].astype(str)
+ type(mtcars.am[0]) # check the type of the first item in 'am' column
<class 'str'>
```

A potential number-to-string conversion task in Python might be formatting 5-digit American zip codes. Some zip codes begin with 0, but if stored as a numeric value, the 0 is dropped. For example, consider the following pandas DataFrame. Notice the leading 0 is dropped from two of the zip codes.

```
> zc = pandas.read_csv('data/zc.csv')
+ print(zc)
  state  zip
0    VT  5001
1    VA 22901
2    NH 3282
```

One way to fix this is using the string `zfill()` method. First we convert the numeric column to string type using the method we just demonstrated. Then we access the “zip” column using `zc.zip` and the `zfill()` method using `str.zfill` with the width parameter set to 5. This pads the string with “0” on the left to make each value 5 characters wide.

```
> zc['zip'] = zc['zip'].astype(str)
+ zc['zip'] = zc.zip.str.zfill(5)
+ print(zc)
  state  zip
0    VT 05001
1    VA 22901
2    NH 03282
```

If we knew we were importing zip codes using `read_csv`, we could also use the `dtype` argument to specify which storage type to use for the “zip” column. Below we pass a dictionary that maps the “str” type to the “zip” column. The result is a properly formatted zip code column.

```
> zc = pandas.read_csv('data/zc.csv', dtype = {'zip': 'str'})
+ print(zc)
  state  zip
0    VT 05001
1    VA 22901
2    NH 03282
```

R

The `as.character()` function takes a vector and converts it to string format.

```
> head(mtcars$am)
[1] 1 1 1 0 0 0
> head(as.character(mtcars$am))
[1] "1" "1" "1" "0" "0" "0"
```

Note we just demonstrated conversion. To save the conversion we need to *assign* the result to the data frame.

```
> # add new string variable am_ch
> mtcars$am_ch <- as.character(mtcars$am)
> head(mtcars$am_ch)
[1] "1" "1" "1" "0" "0" "0"
```

The `factor()` function can also be used to convert a numeric vector into a categorical variable. The result is not exactly a string, however. A factor is made of integers with character labels. Factors are useful for character data that have a fixed set of levels (eg, “grade 1”, grade 2”, etc)

```
> # convert to factor
> head(mtcars$am)
[1] 1 1 1 0 0 0
> head(factor(mtcars$am))
[1] 1 1 1 0 0 0
Levels: 0 1
>
> # convert to factor with labels
> head(factor(mtcars$am, labels = c("automatic", "manual")))
[1] manual    manual    manual    automatic automatic automatic
Levels: automatic manual
```

Again we just demonstrated factor conversion. To save the conversion we need to assign to the data frame.

```
> # create factor variable am_fac
> mtcars$am_fac <- factor(mtcars$am, labels = c("automatic", "manual"))
> head(mtcars$am_fac)
[1] manual    manual    manual    automatic automatic automatic
Levels: automatic manual
```

A common number-to-string conversion task in R is formatting 5-digit American zip codes. Some zip codes begin with 0, but if stored as a numeric value, the 0 is dropped.

```
> zip_codes <- c(03766, 03748, 22901, 03264)
> zip_codes
[1] 3766 3748 22901 3264
```

We need to store the zip code as a character value so the 0 is preserved. One way to do this is via the `sprintf()` function in base R. The first argument is the *format string* or *conversion specification*. A conversion specification begins with “%”. The following “0” and “5” says to format the `zip_codes` vector as a 5-digit string padded by zeroes on the left. The final “i” says we’re working with integer values.

```
> sprintf("%05i", zip_codes)
[1] "03766" "03748" "22901" "03264"
```

See also the `str_pad()` function in the `stringr` package.

4.7 Create numbers from strings

String variables that ought to be numbers usually have some character data in the values such as units (eg, “4 cm”). To create numbers from strings it’s important to remove any character data that cannot be converted to a number.

Python

The `astype(float)` or `astype(int)` function will coerce strings to numerical representation.

For demonstration, let’s say we have the following numpy array.

```
> import numpy as np
+ weight = np.array(["125 lbs.", "132 lbs.", "156 lbs."])
```

The `astype(float)` function throws an error due to the presence of strings. The `astype()` function is for numpy arrays.

```
> try:
+   weight.astype(float)
+ except ValueError:
+   print("ValueError: could not convert string to float: '125 lbs.'")
ValueError: could not convert string to float: '125 lbs.'
```

One way to approach this is to first remove the strings from the objects and then use `astype(float)`. Below we use the `strip()` function to find “ lbs.” using a list comprehension.

```
> # [] indicates a list in python
+ # np.array() changes the list back into an array
+ weight = np.array([w.strip(" lbs.") for w in weight])
```

Now we can use the `astype()` function to change the elements in `weight` from `str` to `float`.

```
> weight.astype(float)
array([125., 132., 156.] )
```

R

The `as.numeric()` function will attempt to coerce strings to numeric type *if possible*. Any non-numeric values are coerced to `NA`.

For demonstration, let's say we have the following vector.

```
> weight <- c("125 lbs.", "132 lbs.", "156 lbs.")
```

The `as.numeric()` function returns all `NA` due to presence of character data.

```
> as.numeric(weight)
Warning: NAs introduced by coercion
[1] NA NA NA
```

There are many ways to approach this. A common approach is to first remove the characters and then use `as.numeric()`. Below we use the `gsub` function to find “lbs.” and replace with nothing.

```
> weightN <- gsub("lbs.", "", weight)
> as.numeric(weightN)
[1] 125 132 156
```

The `parse_number()` function in the **readr** package can often take care of these situations automatically.

```
> readr::parse_number(weight)
[1] 125 132 156
```

4.8 Change case

How to change the case of strings. The most common case transformations are lower case, upper case, and title case.

Python

The `lower()`, `upper()`, and `title()` functions convert case to lower, upper, and title, respectively. We can use a list comprehension to apply these functions to each string in a list.

```
> col_names = [col.upper() for col in mtcars.columns]
+ mtcars.columns = col_names
```

R

The `tolower()` and `toupper()` functions convert case to lower and upper, respectively.

```
> names(mtcars) <- toupper(names(mtcars))
> names(mtcars)
[1] "MPG"      "CYLINDERS" "DISP"      "HP"      "AXLE_RATIO"
[6] "WEIGHT"   "QSEC"      "ENGINE"    "AM"      "GEAR"
[11] "CARB"     "AM_CH"     "AM_FAC"
```

```
> names(mtcars) <- tolower(names(mtcars))
> names(mtcars)
[1] "mpg"      "cylinders" "disp"      "hp"      "axle_ratio"
[6] "weight"   "qsec"      "engine"    "am"      "gear"
[11] "carb"     "am_ch"     "am_fac"
```

The **stringr** package provides a convenient title case conversion function, `str_to_title()`, which capitalizes the first letter of each string.

```
> stringr::str_to_title(names(mtcars))
[1] "Mpg"      "Cylinders" "Disp"      "Hp"      "Axle_ratio"
[6] "Weight"   "Qsec"      "Engine"    "Am"      "Gear"
[11] "Carb"     "Am_ch"     "Am_fac"
```

4.9 Drop duplicate rows

How to find and drop duplicate elements.

Python

The `duplicated()` function determines which rows of a `DataFrame` are duplicates of previous rows.

First, we create a DataFrame with a duplicate row by using the pandas `concat()` function. `concat()` combines DataFrames by rows or columns, row by default.

```
> # create DataFrame with duplicate rows
+ import pandas as pd
+ mtcars2 = pd.concat([mtcars.iloc[0:3,0:6], mtcars.iloc[0:1,0:6]])
```

The `duplicated()` function returns a logical vector. TRUE indicates a row is a duplicate of a previous row.

```
> # create DataFrame with duplicate rows
+ mtcars2.duplicated()
0    False
1    False
2    False
0     True
dtype: bool
```

R

The `duplicated()` function “determines which elements of a vector or data frame are duplicates of elements with smaller subscripts”. (from `?duplicated`)

```
> # create data frame with duplicate rows
> mtcars2 <- rbind(mtcars[1:3,1:6], mtcars[1,1:6])
> # last row is duplicate of first
> mtcars2
  mpg cylinders  disp  hp axle_ratio weight
1  21.0         6  160 110      3.90  2.620
2  21.0         6  160 110      3.90  2.875
3  22.8         4  108  93      3.85  2.320
4  21.0         6  160 110      3.90  2.620
```

The `duplicated()` function returns a logical vector. TRUE indicates a row is a duplicate of a previous row.

```
> # last row is duplicate
> duplicated(mtcars2)
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE  TRUE
```

The TRUE/FALSE vector can be used to extract or drop duplicate rows. Since TRUE in indexing brackets will keep a row, we can use `!` to negate the logicals and keep those that are “NOT TRUE”

```
> # drop the duplicate and update the data frame
> mtcars3 <- mtcars2[!duplicated(mtcars2),]
> mtcars3
  mpg cylinders disp  hp axle_ratio weight
1 21.0         6 160 110     3.90  2.620
2 21.0         6 160 110     3.90  2.875
3 22.8         4 108  93     3.85  2.320
```

```
> # extract and investigate the duplicate row
> mtcars2[duplicated(mtcars2),]
  mpg cylinders disp  hp axle_ratio weight
4  21         6 160 110     3.9    2.62
```

The `anyDuplicated()` function returns the row number of duplicate rows.

```
> anyDuplicated(mtcars2)
[1] 4
```

4.10 Randomly sample rows

How to take a random sample of rows from a data frame. The sample is usually either a fixed size or a proportion.

Python

The pandas package provide a function for taking a sample of fixed size or a proportion. To sample with replacement, set `replace = TRUE`.

Additionally, the random sample will change every time the code is run. To always generate the same “random” sample, set `random_state` to any positive integer.

To create a sample with a fixed number of rows, use the `n` argument.

```
> # sample 5 rows from mtcars
+ mtcars.sample(n=5, replace=True)
   MPG  CYL  DISP  HP  AXLE_RATIO  ...  VS  AM  GEAR  CARB  KPL
27 30.4   4  95.1 113     3.77  ...   1   1    5    2  6.462585
16 14.7   8 440.0 230     3.23  ...   0   0    3    4  3.125000
0  21.0   6 160.0 110     3.90  ...   0   1    4    4  4.464286
1  21.0   6 160.0 110     3.90  ...   0   1    4    4  4.464286
8  22.8   4 140.8  95     3.92  ...   1   0    4    2  4.846939

[5 rows x 12 columns]
```


To create a sample of a proportion, use the `frac` argument.

```
> # sample 20% of rows from mtcars
+ mtcars.sample(frac = 0.20, random_state=1)
```

	MPG	CYL	DISP	HP	AXLE_RATIO	...	VS	AM	GEAR	CARB	KPL
27	30.4	4	95.1	113	3.77	...	1	1	5	2	6.462585
3	21.4	6	258.0	110	3.08	...	1	0	3	1	4.549320
22	15.2	8	304.0	150	3.15	...	0	0	3	2	3.231293
18	30.4	4	75.7	52	4.93	...	1	1	4	2	6.462585
23	13.3	8	350.0	245	3.73	...	0	0	3	4	2.827381
17	32.4	4	78.7	66	4.08	...	1	1	4	1	6.887755

```
[6 rows x 12 columns]
```

The numpy function `random.choice()` in combination with the `loc()` function can be used to sample from a DataFrame.

The `random.choice()` function creates a random sample according to the given parameters. The `loc()` function is used to access rows and columns by index.

```
> # import the numpy package
+ import numpy as np
+
+ # create a random sample of size 5 with replacement
+ random_sample = np.random.choice(len(mtcars), (5,), replace=True)
+
+ # use random_sample to sample from mtcars
+ mtcars.loc[random_sample,]
```

	MPG	CYL	DISP	HP	AXLE_RATIO	...	VS	AM	GEAR	CARB	KPL
23	13.3	8	350.0	245	3.73	...	0	0	3	4	2.827381
19	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	...	1	1	4	1	7.206633
5	18.1	6	225.0	105	2.76	...	1	0	3	1	3.847789
19	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	...	1	1	4	1	7.206633
11	16.4	8	275.8	180	3.07	...	0	0	3	3	3.486395

```
[5 rows x 12 columns]
```

The random sample will change every time the code is run. To always generate the same “random” sample, use the `random.seed()` function with any positive integer.

```
> # setting seed to always get same random sample
+ np.random.seed(123)
+
+ # create a random sample of size 5 with replacement
```

```
+ sample = np.random.choice(len(mtcars), (5,), replace=True)
+ mtcars.loc[sample,]
```

	MPG	CYL	DISP	HP	AXLE_RATIO	WT	QSEC	VS	AM	GEAR	CARB	KPL
30	15.0	8	301.0	335	3.54	3.57	14.60	0	1	5	8	3.188776
13	15.2	8	275.8	180	3.07	3.78	18.00	0	0	3	3	3.231293
30	15.0	8	301.0	335	3.54	3.57	14.60	0	1	5	8	3.188776
2	22.8	4	108.0	93	3.85	2.32	18.61	1	1	4	1	4.846939
28	15.8	8	351.0	264	4.22	3.17	14.50	0	1	5	4	3.358844

R

There are many ways to sample rows from a data frame in R. The **dplyr** package provides a convenience function, `slice_sample()`, for taking either a fixed sample size or a proportion.

```
> # sample 5 rows from mtcars
> dplyr::slice_sample(mtcars, n = 5)
```

	mpg	cylinders	disp	hp	axle_ratio	weight	qsec	engine	am	gear	carb	am_ch
1	19.7	6	145.0	175	3.62	2.770	15.50	0	1	5	6	1
2	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	1.835	19.90	1	1	4	1	1
3	21.4	6	258.0	110	3.08	3.215	19.44	1	0	3	1	0
4	21.0	6	160.0	110	3.90	2.875	17.02	0	1	4	4	1
5	30.4	4	75.7	52	4.93	1.615	18.52	1	1	4	2	1

```
      am_fac
1      manual
2      manual
3 automatic
4      manual
5      manual
>
> # sample 20% of rows from mtcars
> dplyr::slice_sample(mtcars, prop = 0.20)
```

	mpg	cylinders	disp	hp	axle_ratio	weight	qsec	engine	am	gear	carb	am_ch
1	24.4	4	146.7	62	3.69	3.190	20.00	1	0	4	2	0
2	16.4	8	275.8	180	3.07	4.070	17.40	0	0	3	3	0
3	15.5	8	318.0	150	2.76	3.520	16.87	0	0	3	2	0
4	15.0	8	301.0	335	3.54	3.570	14.60	0	1	5	8	1
5	18.7	8	360.0	175	3.15	3.440	17.02	0	0	3	2	0
6	33.9	4	71.1	65	4.22	1.835	19.90	1	1	4	1	1

```
      am_fac
1 automatic
2 automatic
3 automatic
4      manual
```

```
5 automatic
6 manual
```

To sample with replacement, set `replace = TRUE`.

The base R functions `sample()` and `runif()` can be combined to sample fixed sizes or approximate proportions.

```
> # sample 5 rows from mtcars
> # get random row numbers
> i <- sample(nrow(mtcars), size = 5)
> # use i to select rows
> mtcars[i,]
      mpg cylinders  disp  hp axle_ratio weight  qsec engine am gear carb am_ch
15  10.4          8 472.0 205      2.93  5.250 17.98      0  0   3    4     0
1   21.0          6 160.0 110      3.90  2.620 16.46      0  1   4    4     1
19  30.4          4  75.7  52      4.93  1.615 18.52      1  1   4    2     1
18  32.4          4  78.7  66      4.08  2.200 19.47      1  1   4    1     1
11  17.8          6 167.6 123      3.92  3.440 18.90      1  0   4    4     0
      am_fac
15 automatic
1   manual
19 manual
18 manual
11 automatic
```

```
> # sample about 20% of rows from mtcars
> # generate random values on range of [0,1]
> i <- runif(nrow(mtcars))
> # use i < 0.20 logical vector to
> # select rows that correspond to TRUE
> mtcars[i < 0.20,]
      mpg cylinders  disp  hp axle_ratio weight  qsec engine am gear carb am_ch
4   21.4          6 258.0 110      3.08  3.215 19.44      1  0   3    1     0
8   24.4          4 146.7  62      3.69  3.190 20.00      1  0   4    2     0
10  19.2          6 167.6 123      3.92  3.440 18.30      1  0   4    4     0
14  15.2          8 275.8 180      3.07  3.780 18.00      0  0   3    3     0
21  21.5          4 120.1  97      3.70  2.465 20.01      1  0   3    1     0
23  15.2          8 304.0 150      3.15  3.435 17.30      0  0   3    2     0
29  15.8          8 351.0 264      4.22  3.170 14.50      0  1   5    4     1
      am_fac
4   automatic
8   automatic
10  automatic
14  automatic
```

```

21 automatic
23 automatic
29 manual

```

The random sample will change every time the code is run. To always generate the same “random” sample, use the `set.seed()` function with any positive integer.

```

> # always get the same random sample
> set.seed(123)
> i <- runif(nrow(mtcars))
> mtcars[i < 0.20,]

```

	mpg	cylinders	disp	hp	axle_ratio	weight	qsec	engine	am	gear	carb	am_ch
6	18.1	6	225.0	105	2.76	3.46	20.22	1	0	3	1	0
15	10.4	8	472.0	205	2.93	5.25	17.98	0	0	3	4	0
18	32.4	4	78.7	66	4.08	2.20	19.47	1	1	4	1	1
30	19.7	6	145.0	175	3.62	2.77	15.50	0	1	5	6	1

```

      am_fac
6  automatic
15 automatic
18  manual
30  manual

```

Chapter 5

Combine, Reshape and Merge

This chapter looks at various strategies for combining, reshaping, and merging data.

5.1 Combine rows

Combining rows may be thought of as “stacking” rectangular data structures.

Python

R

The `rbind()` function “binds” rows. It takes two or more objects. To row bind data frames, the column names must match, otherwise an error is returned. If columns being stacked have differing variable types, the values will be coerced according to `logical < integer < double < complex < character`. (E.g., if you stack a set of rows with type `logical` in column *J* on a set of rows with type `character` in column *J*, the output will have column *J* as type `character`.)

```
> d1 <- data.frame(x = 4:6, y = letters[1:3])
> d2 <- data.frame(x = 3:1, y = letters[4:6])
> rbind(d1, d2)
  x y
1 4 a
2 5 b
```

```
3 6 c
4 3 d
5 2 e
6 1 f
```

See also the `bind_rows()` function in the **dplyr** package.

5.2 Combine columns

Combining columns may be thought of as setting rectangular data structures next to each other.

Python

R

The `cbind()` function “binds” columns. It takes two or more objects. To column bind data frames, the number of rows must match; otherwise, the object with fewer rows will have rows “recycled” (if possible) or an error will be returned.

```
> d1 <- data.frame(x = 10:13, y = letters[1:4])
> d2 <- data.frame(x = c(23,34,45,44))
> cbind(d1, d2)
   x y  x
1 10 a 23
2 11 b 34
3 12 c 45
4 13 d 44
```

```
> # example of recycled rows (d1 is repeated twice)
> d1 <- data.frame(x = 10:13, y = letters[1:4])
> d2 <- data.frame(x = c(23,34,45,44,99,99,99,99))
> cbind(d1, d2)
   x y  x
1 10 a 23
2 11 b 34
3 12 c 45
4 13 d 44
5 10 a 99
6 11 b 99
7 12 c 99
8 13 d 99
```

See also the `bind_cols()` function in the **dplyr** package.

5.3 Reshaping data

The next two sections discuss how to reshape data from wide to long and from long to wide. “Wide” data are structured such that multiple values associated with a given unit (e.g., a person, a cell culture, etc.) are placed in the same row:

	name	time_1_score	time_2_score
1	larry	3	0
2	moe	6	3
3	curly	2	1

Long data, conversely, are structured such that all values are contained in one column, with another column identifying what value is given in any particular row (“time 1,” “time 2,” etc.):

	id	time	score
1	larry	1	3
2	larry	2	0
3	moe	1	6
4	moe	2	3
5	curly	1	2
6	curly	2	1

Shifting between these two data formats is often necessary for implementing certain statistical techniques or representing data with particular visualizations.

5.3.1 Wide to long

Python

R

In base R, the `reshape()` function can take data from wide to long or long to wide. The **tidyverse** also provides reshaping functions: `pivot_longer()` and `pivot_wider()`. The **tidyverse** functions have a degree of intuitiveness and usability that may make them the go-to reshaping tools for many R users. We give examples below using both base R and **tidyverse**.

Say we begin with a wide data frame, `df_wide`, that looks like this:

	id	sex	wk1	wk2	wk3
1	1	m	16	7	15
2	2	m	12	19	10
3	3	f	8	15	7

To lengthen a data frame using `reshape()`, a user provides arguments specifying the columns that identify values' origins (person, cell culture, etc.), the columns containing values to be lengthened, and the desired names for new columns in long data:

```
> df_long <- reshape(df_wide,
+                     direction = 'long',
+                     idvar = c('id', 'sex'), # column(s) that uniquely identifies
+                     varying = c('wk1', 'wk2', 'wk3'), # variables that contain t
+                     v.names = 'val', # desired name of column in long data that
+                     timevar = 'week') # desired name of column in long data that
> df_long
  id sex week val
1.m.1 1  m   1  16
2.m.1 2  m   1  12
3.f.1 3  f   1   8
1.m.2 1  m   2   7
2.m.2 2  m   2  19
3.f.2 3  f   2  15
1.m.3 1  m   3  15
2.m.3 2  m   3  10
3.f.3 3  f   3   7
```

The **tidyverse** function for taking data from wide to long is `pivot_longer()`. To lengthen `df_wide` using `pivot_longer()`, a user would write:

```
> library(tidyverse)
> df_long_PL <- pivot_longer(df_wide,
+                             cols = -c('id', 'sex'), # columns that contain the valu
+                             names_to = 'week', # desired name of column in long dat
+                             values_to = 'val') # desired name of column in long dat
> df_long_PL
# A tibble: 9 x 4
  id sex  week  val
<int> <chr> <chr> <int>
1     1  m   wk1    16
2     1  m   wk2     7
3     1  m   wk3    15
4     2  m   wk1    12
5     2  m   wk2    19
6     2  m   wk3    10
7     3  f   wk1     8
8     3  f   wk2    15
9     3  f   wk3     7
```

`pivot_longer()` is particularly useful (a) when dealing with wide data that con-

tain multiple sets of repeated measures in each row that need to be lengthened separately (e.g., two monthly height measurements and two monthly weight measurements for each person) and (b) when column names and/or column values in the long data need to be extracted from column names of the wide data using regular expressions.

For example, say we begin with a wide data frame, `animals_wide`, in which every row contains two values for each of two different measures:

	animal	lives_in_water	jan_playfulness	feb_playfulness	jan_excitement
1	dolphin	TRUE	6.0	5.5	7.0
2	porcupine	FALSE	3.5	4.5	3.5
3	capybara	FALSE	4.0	5.0	4.0

	feb_excitement
1	7.0
2	3.5
3	4.0

`pivot_longer()` can be used to convert this data frame to a long format where there is one column for each of the measures, playfulness and excitement:

```
> animals_long_1 <- pivot_longer(animals_wide,
+                               cols = -c('animal', 'lives_in_water'),
+                               names_to = c('month', '.value'), # ".value" is placeholder for str
+                               names_pattern = '(.+)_(.+)') # specify structure of wide column names
> animals_long_1
# A tibble: 6 x 5
  animal    lives_in_water month playfulness excitement
  <chr>      <lgl>      <chr>      <dbl>      <dbl>
1 dolphin    TRUE        jan         6          7
2 dolphin    TRUE        feb         5.5        7
3 porcupine  FALSE       jan         3.5        3.5
4 porcupine  FALSE       feb         4.5        3.5
5 capybara   FALSE       jan         4          4
6 capybara   FALSE       feb         5          4
```

Alternatively, `pivot_longer()` can be used to convert this data frame to a long format where there is one column containing all the playfulness and excitement values:

```
> animals_long_2 <- pivot_longer(animals_wide,
+                               cols = -c('animal', 'lives_in_water'),
+                               names_to = c('month', 'measure'),
+                               names_pattern = '(.+)_(.+)',
+                               values_to = 'val')
```

```
> animals_long_2
# A tibble: 12 x 5
  animal    lives_in_water month measure    val
  <chr>      <lgl>          <chr> <chr>    <dbl>
1 dolphin    TRUE            jan  playfulness 6
2 dolphin    TRUE            feb  playfulness 5.5
3 dolphin    TRUE            jan  excitement  7
4 dolphin    TRUE            feb  excitement  7
5 porcupine FALSE            jan  playfulness 3.5
6 porcupine FALSE            feb  playfulness 4.5
7 porcupine FALSE            jan  excitement  3.5
8 porcupine FALSE            feb  excitement  3.5
9 capybara   FALSE            jan  playfulness 4
10 capybara   FALSE            feb  playfulness 5
11 capybara   FALSE            jan  excitement  4
12 capybara   FALSE            feb  excitement  4
```

5.3.2 Long to wide

Python

R

Say we begin with a long data frame, `df_long`, that looks like this:

```
> df_long
  id sex week val
1.m.1 1  m   1  16
2.m.1 2  m   1  12
3.f.1 3  f   1   8
1.m.2 1  m   2   7
2.m.2 2  m   2  19
3.f.2 3  f   2  15
1.m.3 1  m   3  15
2.m.3 2  m   3  10
3.f.3 3  f   3   7
```

To take data from long to wide with base R's `reshape()`, a user would write:

```
> df_wide <- reshape(df_long,
+                     direction = 'wide',
+                     idvar = c('id', 'sex'), # column(s) that determine which rows show
+                     v.names = 'val', # column containing values to widen
+                     timevar = 'week', # column from which resulting wide column names
```

```
+                                     sep = '_') # the `sep` argument allows a user to specify how the contents of
> df_wide
  id sex val_1 val_2 val_3
1.m.1 1  m   16    7   15
2.m.1 2  m   12   19   10
3.f.1 3  f    8   15    7
```

```

+                                     'excitement'),
+                                     names_from = 'month',
+                                     names_glue = '{month}_{.value}'))
>                                     # `names_glue` allows for customization
>                                     # of column names using "glue";
>                                     # see https://glue.tidyverse.org/
> animals_wide
# A tibble: 3 x 6
  animal    lives_in_water jan_playfulness feb_playfulness jan_excitement
<chr>      <lgl>              <dbl>              <dbl>              <dbl>
1 dolphin  TRUE                    6                  5.5                7
2 porcupine FALSE                3.5                4.5               3.5
3 capybara  FALSE                    4                  5                  4
# ... with 1 more variable: feb_excitement <dbl>

```

To widen the version of the long data that has one column containing all the values of playfulness and excitement together:

```

> animals_long_2
# A tibble: 12 x 5
  animal    lives_in_water month measure      val
<chr>      <lgl>              <chr> <chr>      <dbl>
1 dolphin  TRUE                jan  playfulness  6
2 dolphin  TRUE                feb  playfulness  5.5
3 dolphin  TRUE                jan  excitement   7
4 dolphin  TRUE                feb  excitement   7
5 porcupine FALSE                jan  playfulness  3.5
6 porcupine FALSE                feb  playfulness  4.5
7 porcupine FALSE                jan  excitement  3.5
8 porcupine FALSE                feb  excitement  3.5
9 capybara  FALSE                jan  playfulness  4
10 capybara  FALSE                feb  playfulness  5
11 capybara  FALSE                jan  excitement   4
12 capybara  FALSE                feb  excitement   4
> animals_wide <- pivot_wider(animals_long_2,
+                               id_cols = c('animal', 'lives_in_water'),
+                               values_from = 'val',
+                               names_from = c('month', 'measure'),
+                               names_sep = '_')
> animals_wide
# A tibble: 3 x 6
  animal    lives_in_water jan_playfulness feb_playfulness jan_excitement
<chr>      <lgl>              <dbl>              <dbl>              <dbl>
1 dolphin  TRUE                    6                  5.5                7
2 porcupine FALSE                3.5                4.5               3.5

```

```
3 capybara FALSE 4 5 4
# ... with 1 more variable: feb_excitement <dbl>
```

5.4 Merge/Join

The merge/join examples below all make use of the following sample data frames:

```
> x
  merge_var val_x
1         a    12
2         b    94
3         c    92
> y
  merge_var val_y
1         c    78
2         d    32
3         e    30
```

5.4.1 Left Join

A left join of x and y keeps all rows of x and merges rows of y into x where possible based on the merge criterion:

merge_var	val_x		merge_var	val_y		merge_var	val_y
a	12	+ (left join on merge_var)	c	78	=	a	12
b	94		d	32		b	94
c	92		e	30		c	92
x			y				

Python

```
> import pandas as pd
+ pd.merge(x, y, how = 'left')
```

	merge_var	val_x	val_y
0	a	12.0	NaN
1	b	94.0	NaN
2	c	92.0	78.0

R

```
> # all.x = T results in a left join
> merge(x, y, by = 'merge_var', all.x = T)
  merge_var val_x val_y
1         a    12    NA
2         b    94    NA
3         c    92    78
```

5.4.2 Right Join

A right join of x and y keeps all rows of y and merges rows of x into y wherever possible based on the merge criterion:

merge_var	val_x	+ (right join on merge_var)	merge_var	val_y	=	merge_var	val_y
a	12		c	78		c	78
b	94		d	32		d	32
c	92		e	30		e	30
x			y				

Python

```
> import pandas as pd
+ pd.merge(x, y, how = 'right')
  merge_var val_x val_y
0         c    92.0  78.0
1         d     NaN  32.0
2         e     NaN  30.0
```

R

```
> # all.y = T results in a right join
> merge(x, y, by = 'merge_var', all.y = T)
  merge_var val_x val_y
1         c    92    78
2         d     NA    32
3         e     NA    30
```

5.4.3 Inner Join

An inner join of x and y returns merged rows for which a match can be found on the merge criterion *in both tables*:

merge_var	val_x		merge_var	val_y		merge_var	val_y
a	12	+ (inner join on merge_var)	c	78	=	c	92
b	94		d	32			
c	92		e	30			
x			y				

Python

```
> import pandas as pd
+ pd.merge(x, y, how = 'inner')
  merge_var  val_x  val_y
0         c   92.0   78.0
```

R

```
> # with its default arguments, merge() executes an inner join
> # (more specifically, a natural join, which is a kind of
> # inner join in which the merge-criterion column is not
> # repeated, despite being initially present in both tables)
```

```
> merge(x, y, by = 'merge_var')
  merge_var val_x val_y
1         c    92    78
```

5.4.4 Outer Join

An outer join of x and y keeps all rows from both tables, merging rows wherever possible based on the merge criterion:

merge_var	val_x		merge_var	val_y		merge_var
a	12	+ (outer join on merge_var)	c	78	=	a
b	94		d	32		b
c	92		e	30		c
						d
						e

4	d	NA	32
5	e	NA	30

Chapter 6

Aggregation and Group Operations

This chapter looks at manipulating and summarizing data by groups.

6.1 Cross tabulation

Cross tabulation is the process of determining frequencies per group (or determining values based on frequencies, like proportions), with groups delineated by one or more variables (e.g., nationality and sex).

The Python and R examples of cross tabulation below both make use of the following dataset, `dat`:

```
> dat
  nationality sex
1   Canadian   m
2    French    f
3    French    f
4  Egyptian    m
5   Canadian    f
```

Python

The **pandas** package contains a `crosstab()` function for cross tabulation with two or more variables. Alternatively, the `groupby()` function, also in **pandas**, facilitates cross tabulation by one or more variables when used in combination with `count()`.

```

> import pandas as pd
+ pd.crosstab(dat.nationality, dat.sex)
sex      f  m
nationality
Canadian    1  1
Egyptian    0  1
French      2  0
> dat.groupby(by = 'nationality').nationality.count()
nationality
Canadian    2
Egyptian    1
French      2
Name: nationality, dtype: int64
> dat.groupby(by = ['nationality', 'sex']).nationality.count()
+ # Or: dat.groupby(by = ['nationality', 'sex']).sex.count()
nationality sex
Canadian    f      1
           m      1
Egyptian    m      1
French      f      2
Name: nationality, dtype: int64

```

R

The `table()` function performs cross tabulation in R. A user can enter a single grouping variable or enter multiple grouping variables separated by a comma(s). The `xtabs()` function also computes cross-tabs; a user enters the variables to be used for grouping in formula notation.

```

> table(dat$nationality)

Canadian Egyptian   French
         2         1         2
> table(dat$nationality, dat$sex)

      f m
Canadian 1 1
Egyptian 0 1
French   2 0
> xtabs(formula = ~nationality + sex, data = dat)
      sex
nationality f m
Canadian   1 1
Egyptian   0 1

```

French 2 0

6.2 Group summaries

Computing statistical summaries per group.

Python

R

The `aggregate()` function allows a user to easily generate by-group statistical summaries based on one or more grouping variables. Grouping variables can be declared as a list in the function's `by` argument. Alternatively, the grouping variables and the variable to be summarized can be passed to `aggregate()` in formula notation: `var_to_be_aggregated ~ grouping_var_1 + ... + grouping_var_N`. The summarizing function (e.g., `mean()`; `median()`; etc.) is declared in the `FUN` argument.

```
> # One grouping variable
> # Calculating mean of `mpg` in each `cyl` group
> aggregate(x = mtcars$mpg,
+           by = list(cyl = mtcars$cyl),
+           FUN = "mean")
  cyl      x
1   4 26.66364
2   6 19.74286
3   8 15.10000
```

Adding `drop=FALSE` ensures all combinations of levels are returned even if no data exist at that combination. Below the final row is `NA` since there are no 8 cylinder cars with a “straight” engine (`vs = 1`).

```
> # Two or more grouping variables
> # Calculating max of `mpg` in each `cyl`*`vs` group
> aggregate(x = mtcars$mpg,
+           by = list(cyl = mtcars$cyl, vs = mtcars$vs),
+           FUN = "max", drop = FALSE)
  cyl vs      x
1   4  0 26.0
2   6  0 21.0
3   8  0 19.2
4   4  1 33.9
```

```
5  6  1 21.4
6  8  1  NA
```

```
> # Or, specify the variable to summarize and the grouping variables in formula notation
> aggregate(mpg ~ cyl, data = mtcars, FUN = mean)
> aggregate(mpg ~ cyl + vs, data = mtcars, FUN = max)
```

The **tidyverse** also offers a summarizing function, `summarize()` (or `summarise()`, for the Britons), which is in the **dplyr** package. After grouping a data frame/tibble (with, e.g., **dplyr**'s `group_by()` function), a user passes it to `summarize()`, specifying in the function call how the summary statistic should be calculated.

```
> library(dplyr)
> mtcars %>%
+   group_by(cyl, vs) %>%
+   summarize(avg_mpg = mean(mpg))
`summarise()` has grouped output by 'cyl'. You can override using the `.groups` argument
# A tibble: 5 x 3
# Groups:   cyl [3]
   cyl    vs avg_mpg
<dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1     4     0     26
2     4     1    26.7
3     6     0    20.6
4     6     1    19.1
5     8     0    15.1
```

`summarize()` makes it easy to specify relatively complicated summary calculations without needing to write an external function.

```
> mtcars %>%
+   group_by(cyl, vs) %>%
+   summarize(avg_mpg = mean(mpg),
+             complicated_summary_calculation =
+               min(mpg)^0.5 *
+               mean(wt)^0.5 +
+               mean(displ)^(1/mean(hp)))
`summarise()` has grouped output by 'cyl'. You can override using the `.groups` argument
# A tibble: 5 x 4
# Groups:   cyl [3]
   cyl    vs avg_mpg complicated_summary_calculation
<dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1     4     0     26                8.51
```

2	4	1	26.7	8.07
3	6	0	20.6	8.41
4	6	1	19.1	8.81
5	8	0	15.1	7.48

6.3 Centering and Scaling

Centering refers to subtracting a constant from every value, such as the mean. This is sometimes performed to aid interpretation of linear model coefficients.

Scaling refers to rescaling a column or vector of values such that their mean is 0 and their standard deviation is 1. This is sometimes performed to put multiple variables on the same scale and is often recommended for procedures such as principal components analysis (PCA).

Python

R

The `scale()` function can both center and scale variables.

To center a variable without scaling it, call `scale()` with the `center` argument set to `TRUE` and the `scale` argument set to `FALSE`. The variable's mean will be subtracted off of each of the variable values. (Note: If desired, the `center` argument can be set to a numeric value instead of `TRUE/FALSE`; in that case, each variable value will have the argument value subtracted off of it.)

```
> centered_mpg <- scale(mtcars$mpg, center = T, scale = F)
> mean(centered_mpg)
[1] 4.440892e-16
```

To scale a variable (while also centering it), call `scale()` with the `center` and `scale` arguments set to `TRUE` (these are the default argument values). The variable's mean will be subtracted off of each of the variable values, and each value will then be divided by the variable's standard deviation. (Note: As with the `center` argument, the `scale` argument can also be set to a numeric value instead of `TRUE/FALSE`; in that case, the divisor will be the argument value instead of the standard deviation.)

```
> scaled_mpg <- scale(mtcars$mpg, center = T, scale = T)
> mean(scaled_mpg)
[1] 7.112366e-17
> sd(scaled_mpg)
[1] 1
```


Chapter 7

Basic Plotting and Visualization

This chapter looks at creating basic plots to explore and understand data. Visualization in Python and R is a gigantic and evolving topic. We don't pretend to present a comprehensive comparison.

The plots below make use of the **palmerpenguins** data set, which contains various measurements for 344 penguins across three islands in the Antarctic Palmer Archipelago. The data were collected by Kristen Gorman and colleagues, and they were made available under a CC0 public domain license by Allison Horst, Alison Hill, and Kristen Gorman.

For the R sections below, we discuss how to generate plots using base R and using **ggplot2**.

Here's a glimpse at the data set:

```
> head(penguins)
# A tibble: 6 x 8
  species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_~ body_mass_g sex
  <fct>   <fct>         <dbl>         <dbl>         <int>         <int> <fct>
1 Adelie  Torge~         39.1          18.7          181          3750 male
2 Adelie  Torge~         39.5          17.4          186          3800 fema~
3 Adelie  Torge~         40.3           18          195          3250 fema~
4 Adelie  Torge~          NA           NA           NA           NA <NA>
5 Adelie  Torge~         36.7          19.3          193          3450 fema~
6 Adelie  Torge~         39.3          20.6          190          3650 male
# ... with 1 more variable: year <int>
```

7.1 Histograms

Visualizing the distribution of numeric data.

Python

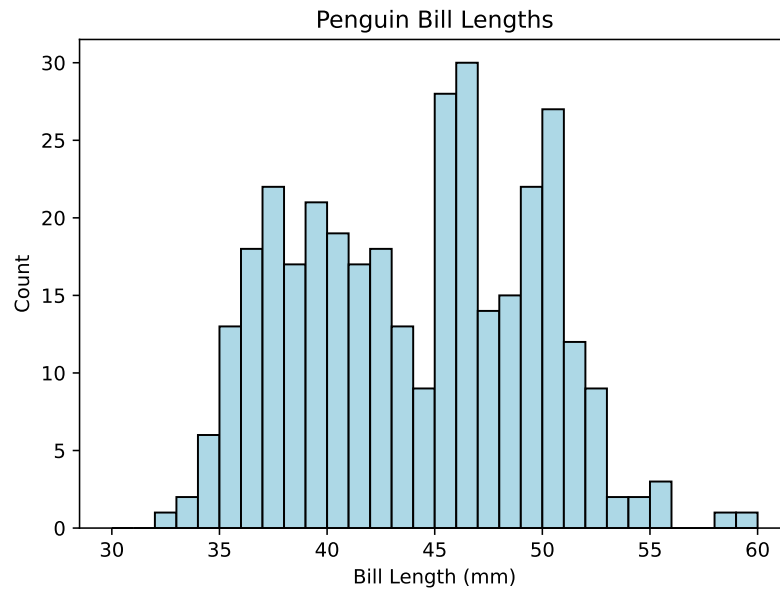
The Python plotting library Matplotlib's `hist()` function computes and plots a histogram. There are many parameters that can be specified within the `hist()` function so that you can customize the output histogram plot to best fit your needs. Some parameters include the number of bins, the upper and lower bounds on each bin, weights, colors, and more.

Below we show a histogram of the bill length from the dataset. We specified 30 bins each of which is light blue with a black outline of linewidth 1. The `hist()` defaults to no outline which can make it difficult to distinguish bins clearly, so we add in the bin outlines here.

One thing to note is that the bins are left inclusive and right exclusive. For example, if a particular bin spans the range of 1 to 3, the bin will include the value 1 but will exclude the value 2 (and will include all values between 1 and 3). In short, bin ranges are as follows $[x_1, x_2)$ where x_1 is the starting point of the bin and x_2 is the ending point of the bin.

Notice the semicolon at the end of the `plt.hist()` function. This suppresses the printing of the array generated to create the histogram.

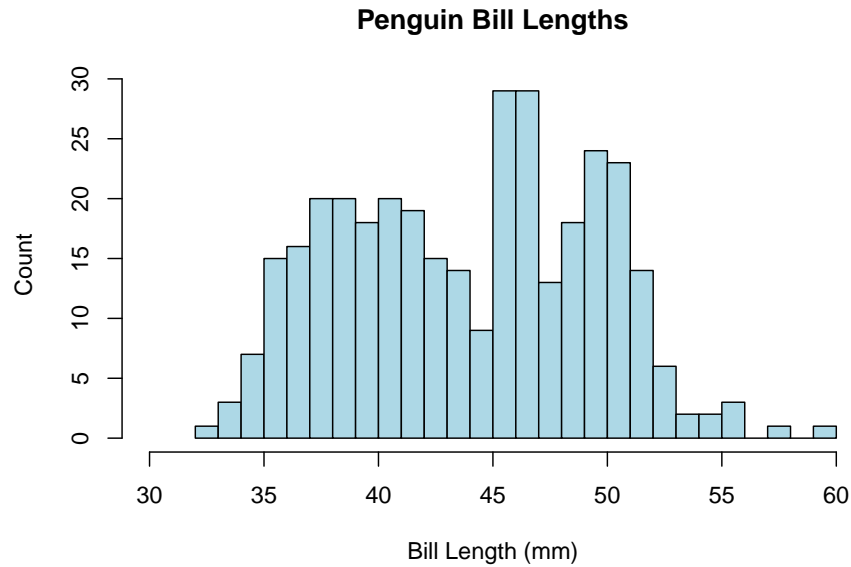
```
> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
+
+ plt.clf()
+ plt.hist(penguins.bill_length_mm, bins=30, range=(30,60),
+          color='lightblue', edgecolor='k', linewidth=1);
+ plt.title("Penguin Bill Lengths")
+ plt.xlabel("Bill Length (mm)")
+ plt.ylabel("Count")
+ plt.show()
```



R

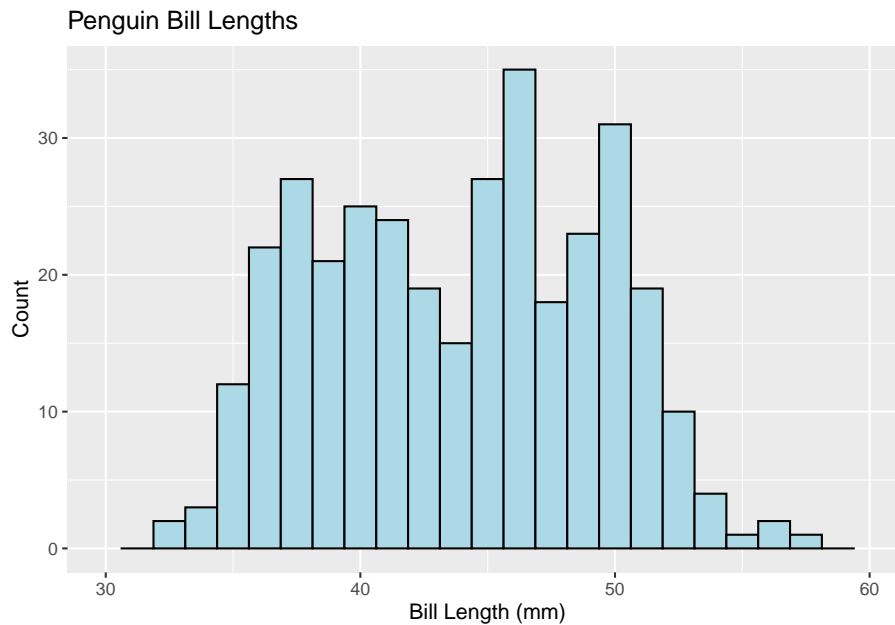
Base R's `hist()` function generates histograms, and features of the histogram—like the bar color, number of bins/breaks, and so on—can be easily customized as below.

```
> hist(penguins$bill_length_mm, breaks = 25, col = 'lightblue', xlim = c(30, 60),  
+      main = 'Penguin Bill Lengths', xlab = 'Bill Length (mm)', ylab = 'Count')
```



The **ggplot2** method for generating histograms follows the standard **ggplot2** syntax: Initialize a plot with `ggplot()`, and then add layers thereto, specifying aesthetic properties along the way. Here, the layer to add is `geom_histogram()`.

```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = bill_length_mm)) +  
+   geom_histogram(fill = 'lightblue', color = 'black', bins = 25) +  
+   xlim(30, 60) + labs(title = 'Penguin Bill Lengths', x = 'Bill Length (mm)', y = 'Count')
```



7.2 Barplots

Visualizing the distribution of categorical data.

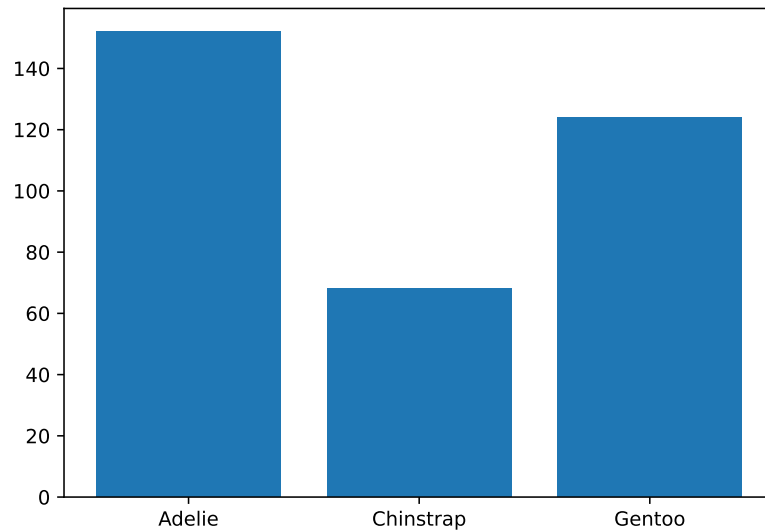
Python

For this example, we will generate a bar plot showing how many of each species - Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo - we have in our dataset. We go through two ways of doing this here.

First, we use the Matplotlib plotting library to create the bar plot using the function `bar()`. To start, we determine the number of each species, then use that data to create the bar plot.

```
> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
+
+ # Determine the number of each species
+ adelie_counts = len(penguins.loc[penguins["species"]=="Adelie"])
+ chinstrap_counts = len(penguins.loc[penguins["species"]=="Chinstrap"])
+ gentoo_counts = len(penguins.loc[penguins["species"]=="Gentoo"])
+
+ # Save the counts information into arrays to be inputted into the bar() function
+ spec = ["Adelie", "Chinstrap", "Gentoo"]
```

```
+ counts = [adelie_counts, chinstrap_counts, gentoo_counts]
+
+ plt.clf() # clears the figure to ensure that multiple plots are not overlaid
+ plt.bar(spec, counts)
<BarContainer object of 3 artists>
> plt.show()
```

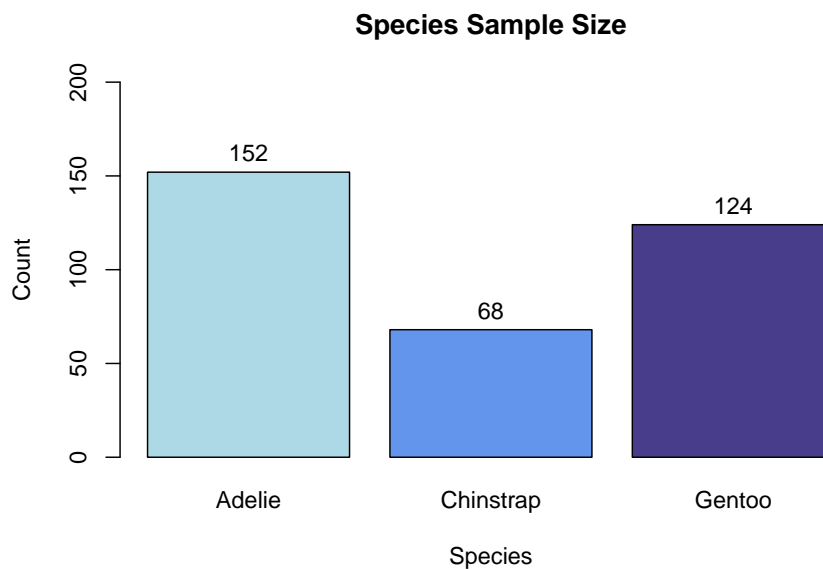


Our data is stored in a **pandas Dataframe**, which has its own built-in plotting module, **plot**. Here we create the same bar plot by using the pandas **bar()** function.

```
> plt.clf()
+ penguins["species"].value_counts().plot.bar()
+ plt.show()
```

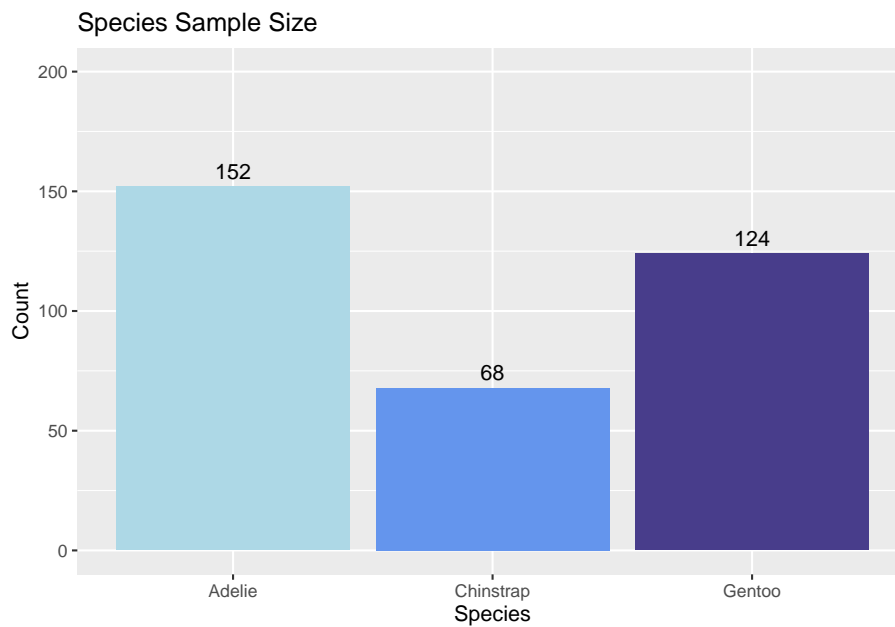


```
+           xlab = 'Species', ylab = 'Count', ylim = c(0, 200))
> text(x = penguin_plot, y = species_counts$Freq + 10,
+      labels = species_counts$Freq)
```



To recreate the barplot above with **ggplot2**, one can add a `geom_bar()` layer to a plot initialized with `ggplot()`.

```
> ggplot(species_counts, aes(x = species, y = Freq)) +
+   geom_bar(aes(fill = species), stat = 'identity') +
+   scale_fill_manual(values = c('lightblue', 'cornflowerblue', 'darkslateblue')) + #
+   labs(title = 'Species Sample Size', x = 'Species', y = 'Count') +
+   theme(legend.position = 'none') + ylim(0, 200) + # For simplicity, we omit the leg
+   geom_text(aes(label = Freq, vjust = -0.5)) # geom_text() is used here to add count.
```

7.3 Scatterplot

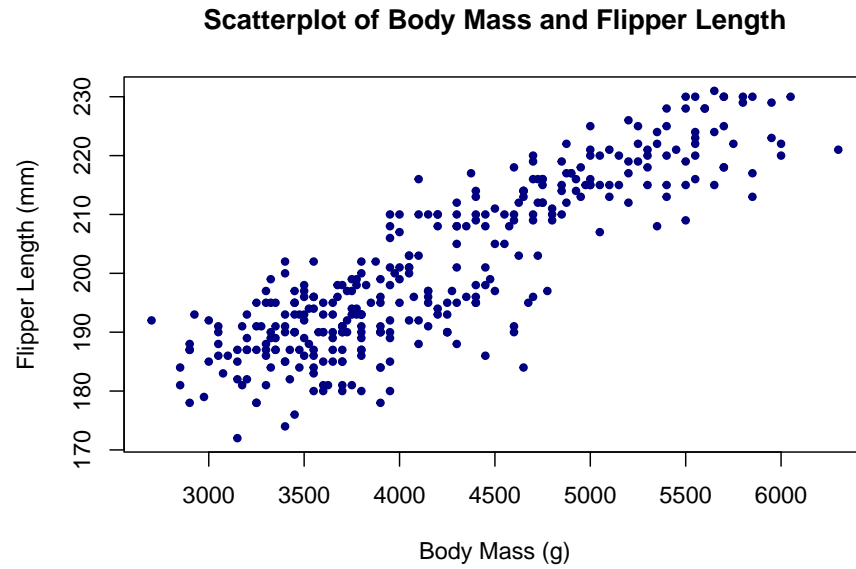
Visualizing the relationship between two numeric variables.

Python

R

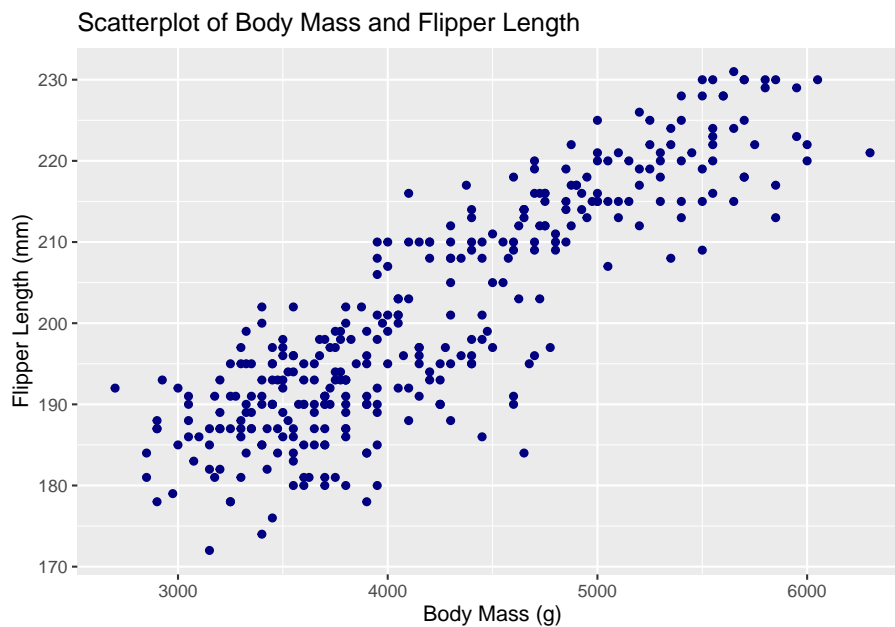
Scatterplots can be generated in base R with the `plot()` function. The `pch` argument below modifies the point shape (e.g., 20 = solid circle; 24 = unfilled triangle; etc.)

```
> plot(penguins$body_mass_g, penguins$flipper_length_mm,  
+       col = 'navy', pch = 20,  
+       main = 'Scatterplot of Body Mass and Flipper Length',  
+       xlab = 'Body Mass (g)', ylab = 'Flipper Length (mm)')
```



To generate a scatterplot with **ggplot2**, initialize a plot with `ggplot()`, then add a layer of points with `geom_point()`.

```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm)) +  
+   geom_point(color = 'navy') +  
+   labs(title = 'Scatterplot of Body Mass and Flipper Length',  
+        x = 'Body Mass (g)', y = 'Flipper Length (mm)')
```



7.4 Stripcharts

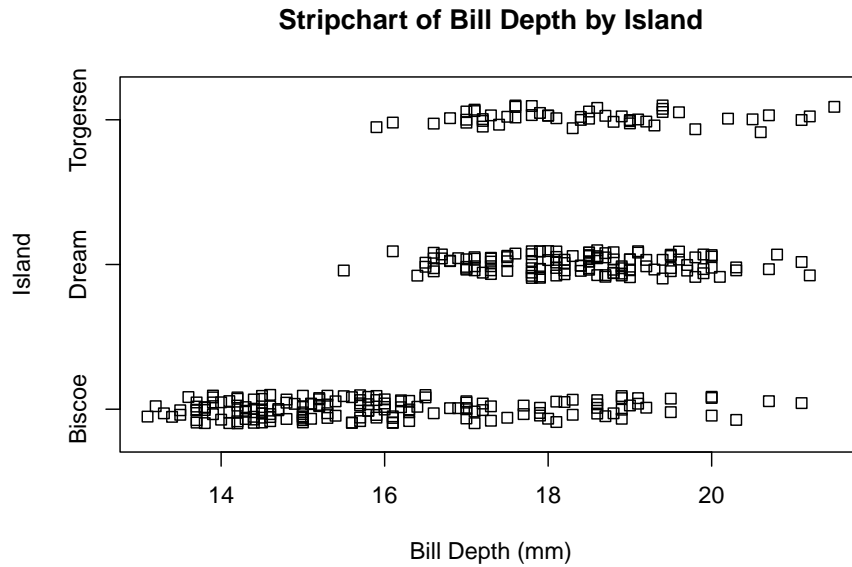
Stripcharts are one-dimensional scatterplots. Like boxplots, they reveal the distribution of a numeric variable “within” levels of a categorical variable.

Python

R

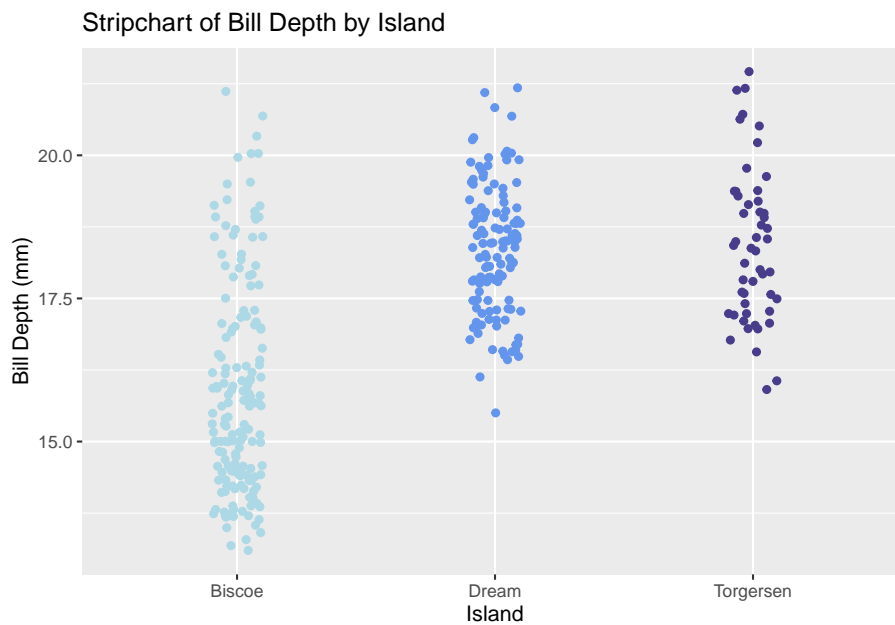
Base R offers the `stripchart()` function. To indicate the numeric variable and the grouping variable, you can use formula notation: `numeric_var ~ grouping_var`. Adding `method = 'jitter'` to the set of arguments spreads the points out slightly within each level of the grouping variable, making it easier to see points that might otherwise be obscured by overlap.

```
> stripchart(bill_depth_mm ~ island, data = penguins, method = 'jitter',  
+           ylab = 'Island', xlab = 'Bill Depth (mm)', main = 'Stripchart of Bill Depth by Island')
```



Stripcharts can also be made with **ggplots2**'s `geom_jitter()` function, as shown below. You can control the amount of jitter with a `position` argument in `geom_jitter()`.

```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = island, y = bill_depth_mm)) +
+   geom_jitter(aes(color = island), position = position_jitter(0.1)) +
+   scale_color_manual(values = c('lightblue', 'cornflowerblue', 'darkslateblue')) + #
+   labs(title = 'Stripchart of Bill Depth by Island',
+         x = 'Island', y = 'Bill Depth (mm)') +
+   theme(legend.position = 'none')
Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```



7.5 Boxplots

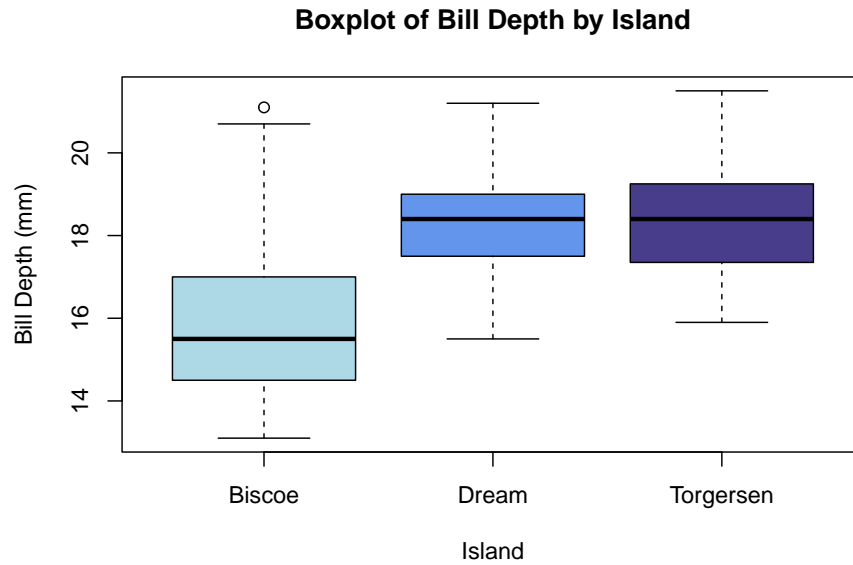
Visualizing the relationship between a numeric variable and a categorical variable via five-number summaries.

Python

R

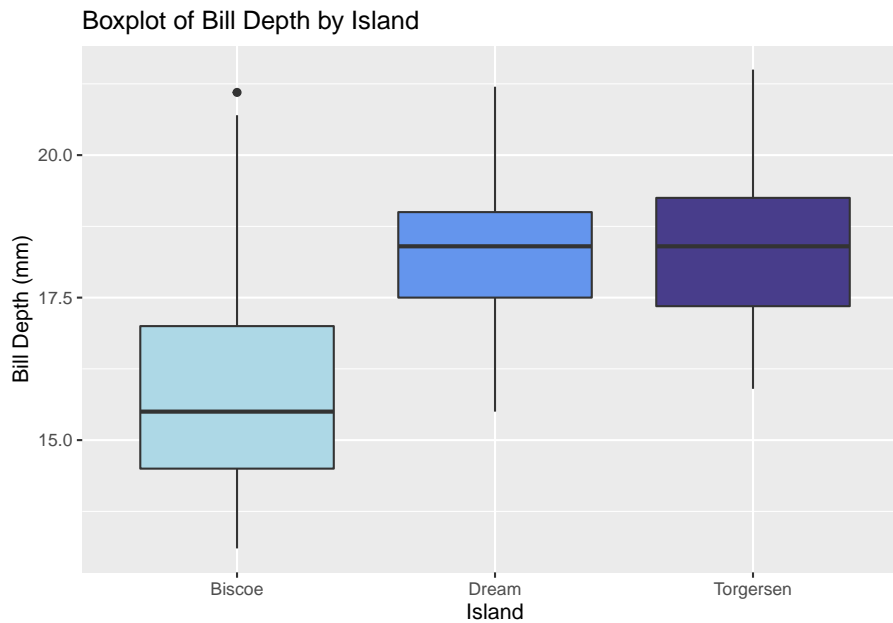
The `boxplot()` function in base R generates boxplots, and a user specifies the grouping variable and the numeric variable to be plotted in formula notation: `y ~ grouping_var`.

```
> boxplot(bill_depth_mm ~ island, data = penguins, col = c('lightblue', 'cornflowerblue', 'darkslateblue'),
+         main = 'Boxplot of Bill Depth by Island', xlab = 'Island', ylab = 'Bill Depth (mm)')
```



To generate a boxplot with **ggplot2**, add a `geom_boxplot()` layer to a plot initialized with `ggplot()`.

```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = island, y = bill_depth_mm)) +  
+   geom_boxplot(aes(fill = island)) +  
+   scale_fill_manual(values = c('lightblue', 'cornflowerblue', 'darkslateblue')) +  
+   labs(title = 'Boxplot of Bill Depth by Island',  
+        x = 'Island', y = 'Bill Depth (mm)') +  
+   theme(legend.position = 'none')
```



7.6 Facet plots

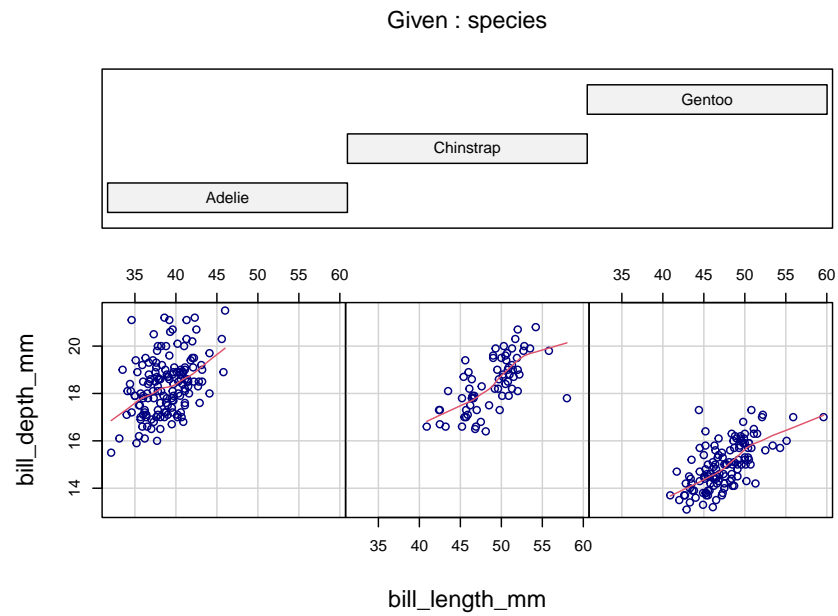
Facet plots (also called trellis plots, lattice plots, and conditional plots) are comprised of multiple smaller plots, where each subplot contains a subset of the overall data, with subsets defined by one or more faceting variable.

Python

R

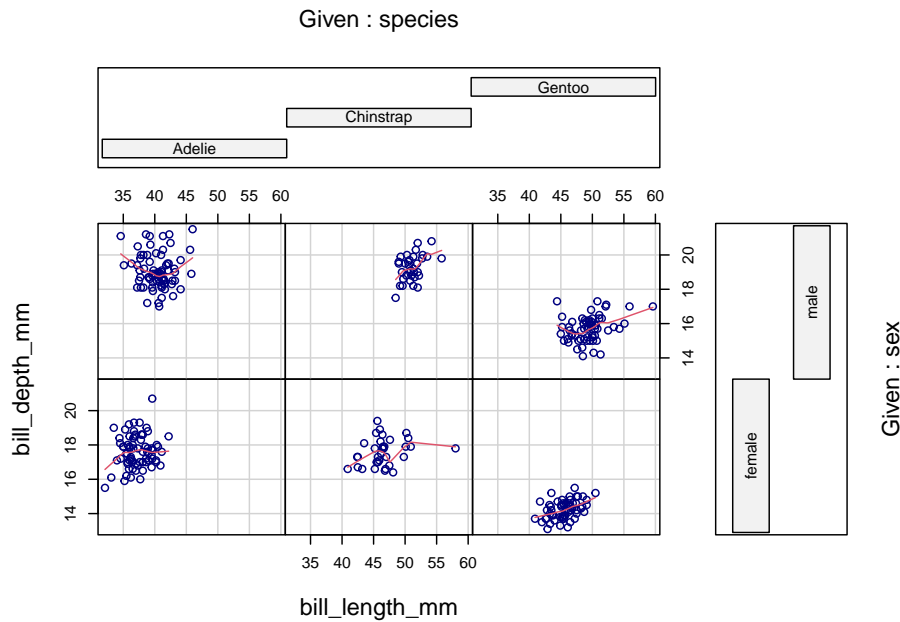
The `coplot()` function in base R produces conditioning plots using formula notation: `y ~ x | grouping_var`. The `rows` and `columns` arguments control layout. Below we specify one row of plots. The `panel` argument controls what action is carried out in each plot. The default is a scatterplot. Below we use the base R `smooth.plot` function to create scatter plots with a smooth trend line.

```
> coplot(bill_depth_mm ~ bill_length_mm | species,
+       data = penguins,
+       panel = panel.smooth,
+       rows = 1, col = "navy")
```



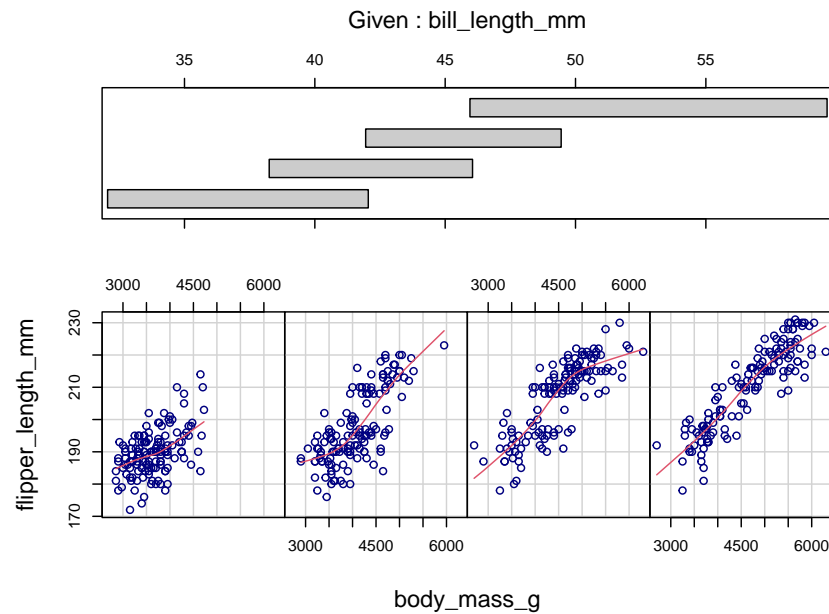
To condition on two variables, use formula notation with syntax: $y \sim x \mid \text{grp_var1} * \text{grp_var2}$.

```
> coplot(bill_depth_mm ~ bill_length_mm | species * sex,
+       data = penguins,
+       panel = panel.smooth,
+       col = "navy")
```

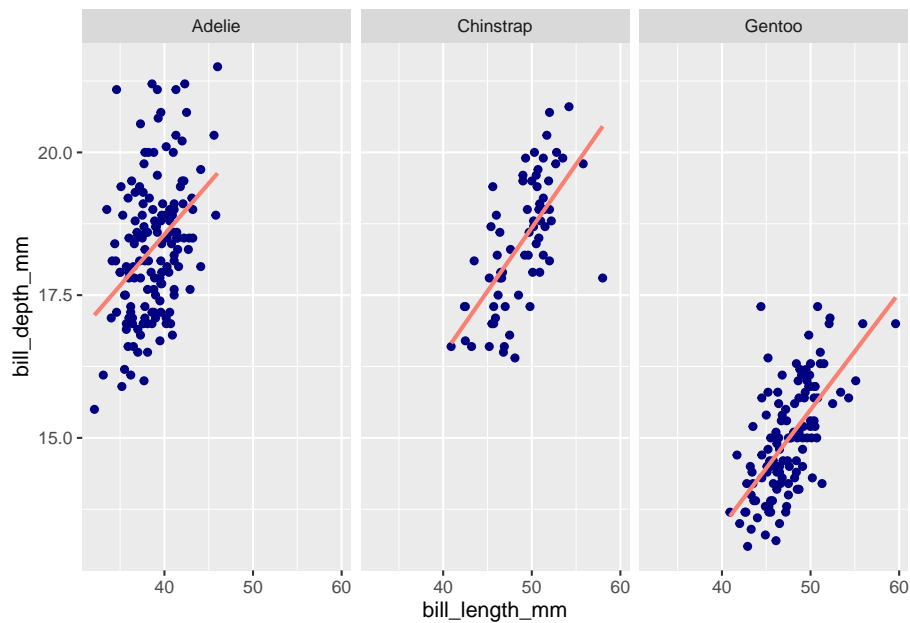
The labels of the conditioning variables unfortunately use a lot of real estate in the margins, and there is no easy way to modify that. However, this design works quite well when we condition on a *numeric variable*. The `coplot()` function automatically creates overlapping group intervals to condition on, and the stacked layout of the labels helps us visualize how the relationship between y and x changes between the groups. To manually set the number of groups, use the `number` argument. Below we specify 4 groups to be generated for “bill_length_mm”.

```
> coplot(flipper_length_mm ~ body_mass_g | bill_length_mm,
+       data = penguins,
+       panel = panel.smooth,
+       number = 4,
+       rows = 1, col = "navy")
```



Alternatively, **ggplot2** provides a intuitive and easy-to-use method for generating facet plots: A user specifies the aesthetics of the plot using standard **ggplot2** syntax (i.e., as a series of added layers) and then adds an additional call, `facet_wrap()` (or `facet_grid()`; differences are discussed below), specifying the faceting variable(s) to split up the plots by.

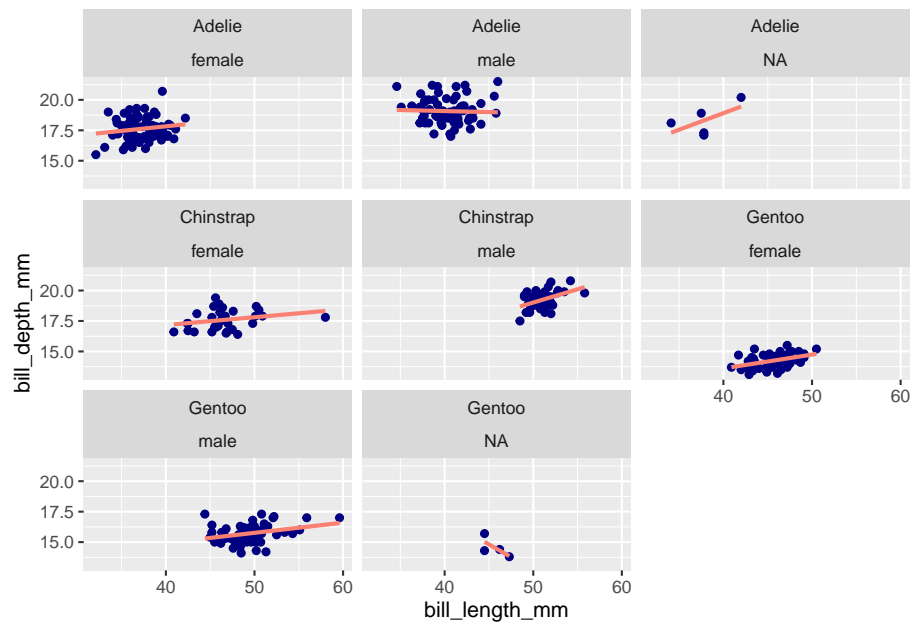
```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = bill_length_mm, y = bill_depth_mm)) +
+   geom_point(color = 'navy') +
+   geom_smooth(method = 'lm', se = F, color = 'salmon') + # Add basic least-squares l
+   facet_wrap(~species) # Use formula notation, a character vector, or vars() to spec
+   `geom_smooth()` using formula 'y ~ x'
```



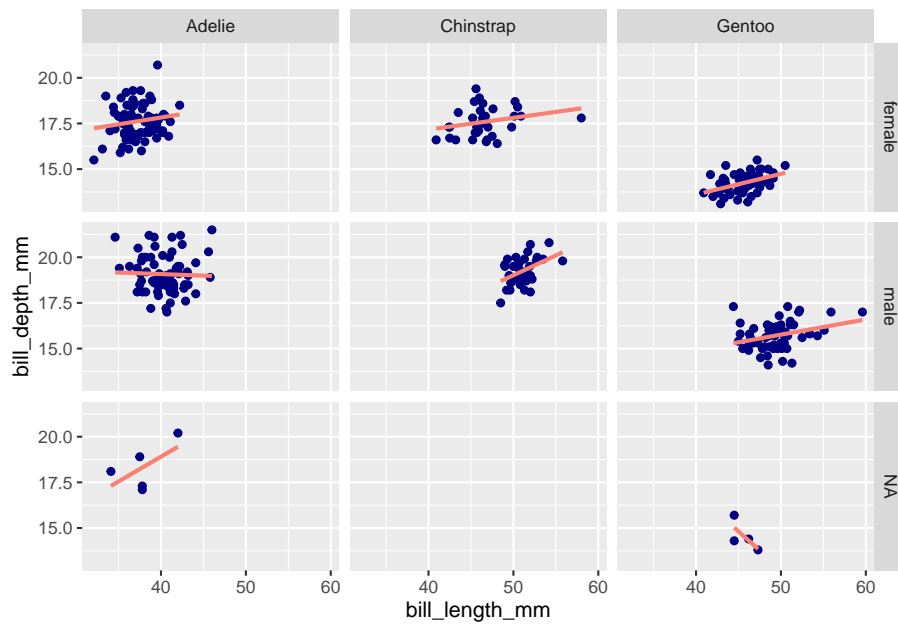
The number of rows and columns can be manually specified with `nrow` and `ncol` arguments in `facet_wrap()`. By default, the x and y axes of all facet plots will be on the same scale. The axis ranges can be set to vary freely by adding `scales = 'free'` as an argument (or, alternatively, `scales = 'free_x'` or `scales = 'free_y'` to free just the x or y axis).

Both `facet_wrap()` and `facet_grid()` can be used to make facet plots. When faceting based on multiple variables (e.g., species and sex), `facet_wrap()` will drop group combinations for which there are no data points, whereas `facet_grid()` will generate a plot for all possible group combinations:

```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = bill_length_mm, y = bill_depth_mm)) +
+   geom_point(color = 'navy') +
+   geom_smooth(method = 'lm', se = F, color = 'salmon') +
+   facet_wrap(vars(species, sex))
#> `geom_smooth()` using formula 'y ~ x'
```



```
> ggplot(penguins, aes(x = bill_length_mm, y = bill_depth_mm)) +
+   geom_point(color = 'navy') +
+   geom_smooth(method = 'lm', se = F, color = 'salmon') +
+   facet_grid(rows = vars(sex), cols = vars(species)) # Note that facet_grid() has se
+   `geom_smooth()` using formula 'y ~ x'
```



Chapter 8

Statistical Inference and Modeling

This chapter looks at performing common statistical analyses. It does not pretend to be comprehensive. The focus is on implementation using Python and R. Good statistical practice is more than knowing which function to use. At a minimum we recommend reading the article, Ten Simple Rules for Effective Statistical Practice [Kass et al., 2016].

8.1 Comparing group means

Many research studies compare mean values of some quantity of interest between two or more groups. A t test analyzes two group means. An Analysis of Variance, or ANOVA, analyzes three or more group means. Both the t test and ANOVA are special cases of a linear model.

To demonstrate the t test, we examine fictitious data on 15 scores between two groups of subjects. The “control” group was tested as-is while the “treated” group experienced a particular intervention. Of interest is (1) whether or not the mean scores differ meaningfully between the treated and control groups, and (2) if they do differ, how are they different?

To demonstrate the ANOVA test, we use data from *The Analysis of Biological Data (3rd ed)*[Whitlock and Schluter, 2020] on the mass of pine cones (in grams) from three different environments in North America. Of interest is (1) whether or not the mean mass of pine cones differ meaningfully between the three locations, and (2) if they do differ, how are they different?

We usually assess the first question in each scenario with a hypothesis test and p-value. The null hypothesis is no difference between the means. The p-value

is basically the probability of the observed differences between the groups (or more extreme differences) assuming the null hypothesis is true. A small p-value, traditionally less than 0.05, provides evidence against the null. For example, a p-value of 0.01 says there's a 1% chance of sampling data as different as this (or more different) if there really was no difference between the groups. Note that p-values don't tell you how two or more statistics differ. See the ASA Statement on p-values.

We assess the second question in each scenario by calculating confidence intervals on the difference in means. This is more informative than a p-value. A confidence interval gives us information on the uncertainty, direction and magnitude of a difference in means. For example, a 95% confidence interval of [2, 15] tells us the data is consistent with a difference anywhere between 2 and 15 and that the mean of one group appears to be at least 2 units larger than the mean of the other group. Note that a 95% confidence interval does not mean there is a 95% probability that the true value is in the interval. The confidence interval either captured the true value or it did not. We don't know. However the *process* of calculating the confidence interval works roughly 95% of the time.

Python

t-test

Our data is available as a **Pandas** dataframe. It's small enough to view in its entirety.

```
> ch8_d1
   score  group
0    77.0  control
1    81.0  control
2    77.0  control
3    86.0  control
4    81.0  control
5    77.0  control
6    82.0  control
7    83.0  control
8    82.0  control
9    79.0  control
10   86.0  control
11   82.0  control
12   78.0  control
13   71.0  control
14   84.0  control
15   85.0  treated
16   85.0  treated
17   89.0  treated
```



```

18  88.0  treated
19  87.0  treated
20  89.0  treated
21  88.0  treated
22  85.0  treated
23  77.0  treated
24  87.0  treated
25  85.0  treated
26  84.0  treated
27  79.0  treated
28  83.0  treated
29  87.0  treated

```

The usual way to perform a t test in Python is via the `ttest_ind()` function available in the **scipy.stats** package.

```
> from scipy import stats
```

The `ttest_ind()` function performs a t test between two arrays (or columns of a data frame) specified with the `a` and `b` arguments, respectively. By default the function assumes equal population variances. By setting the `equal_var` parameter to `False` we can relax that assumption and run Welch's t test, which is the default in R. The function returns the test statistic and p-value.

```

> stats.ttest_ind(a = ch8_d1.query('group == "control"')['score'],
+                 b = ch8_d1.query('group == "treated"')['score'],
+                 equal_var=False)
Ttest_indResult(statistic=-3.5313033136199854, pvalue=0.0014824162773470618)

```

ANOVA

Our data is available as a **Pandas** dataframe. It's small enough to view in its entirety.

```

> ch8_d2
   mass location
0    9.6        1
1    9.4        1
2    8.9        1
3    8.8        1
4    8.5        1
5    8.2        1
6    6.8        2
7    6.6        2
8    6.0        2

```

9	5.7	2
10	5.3	2
11	6.7	3
12	6.4	3
13	6.2	3
14	5.7	3
15	5.6	3

The usual way to perform an ANOVA test in Python is via the `f_oneway()` function, also available in the `scipy.stats` package.

The `f_oneway()` function performs an ANOVA between two or more arrays (or columns of a data frame) specified as inputs to the function. The function returns the test statistic and p-value.

```
> stats.f_oneway(ch8_d2.query('location == "1"')['mass'],
+               ch8_d2.query('location == "2"')['mass'],
+               ch8_d2.query('location == "3"')['mass'])
F_onewayResult(statistic=50.0854297693921, pvalue=7.786760128813682e-07)
```

R

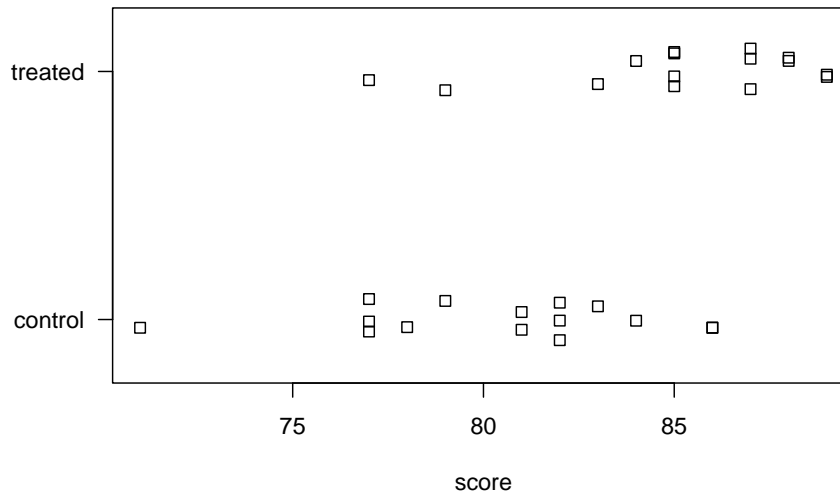
t-test

The `str()` function allows to take a quick look at the data frame `ch8_d1`. One column contains the scores, the other column indicates which group the subject was in (control vs treated).

```
> str(ch8_d1)
'data.frame':   30 obs. of  2 variables:
 $ score: num  77 81 77 86 81 77 82 83 82 79 ...
 $ group: chr  "control" "control" "control" "control" ...
```

A stripchart is one of many ways to visualize numeric data between two groups. Here we use the base R function `stripchart()`. The formula `score ~ group` says to plot score by group. The `las = 1` argument says to rotate the y-axis labels. The `method = "jitter"` arguments says to randomly scatter the points vertically so they don't overplot. It appears the treated group had higher scores.

```
> stripchart(score ~ group, data = ch8_d1, las = 1, method = "jitter")
```



To calculate the means between the two groups we can use the `aggregate()` function. Again the formula `score ~ group` says to aggregate score by group. We specify `mean` so that we calculate the mean between the two groups. Some other functions we could specify include `median`, `sd`, or `sum`. The sample mean of the treated group is about 5 points higher than the control group.

```
> aggregate(score ~ group, data = ch8_d1, mean)
  group score
1 control  80.4
2 treated  85.2
```

Is this difference meaningful? What if we took more samples? Would each sample result in similar differences in the means? A t test attempts to answer this.

The `t.test()` function accommodates formula notation allowing us to specify that we want to calculate mean score by group.

```
> t.test(score ~ group, data = ch8_d1)

Welch Two Sample t-test

data:  score by group
t = -3.5313, df = 27.445, p-value = 0.001482
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group control and group treated is not e
```

```

95 percent confidence interval:
 -7.586883 -2.013117
sample estimates:
mean in group control mean in group treated
                80.4                85.2

```

The p-value of 0.0015 is small, providing good evidence that the difference in means we witnessed reflects a real difference in the population. The confidence interval on the difference in means tells us the data is consistent with a difference between -7 and -2. It appears we can expect the control group to score at least 2 points lower than the treated group.

ANOVA

The `str()` function allows to take a quick look at the data frame `ch8_d2`. One column contains the mass of the pine cones, the other column indicates which location the pine cone was found.

```

> str(ch8_d2)
'data.frame': 16 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ mass      : num  9.6 9.4 8.9 8.8 8.5 8.2 6.8 6.6 6 5.7 ...
 $ location: chr  "1" "1" "1" "1" ...

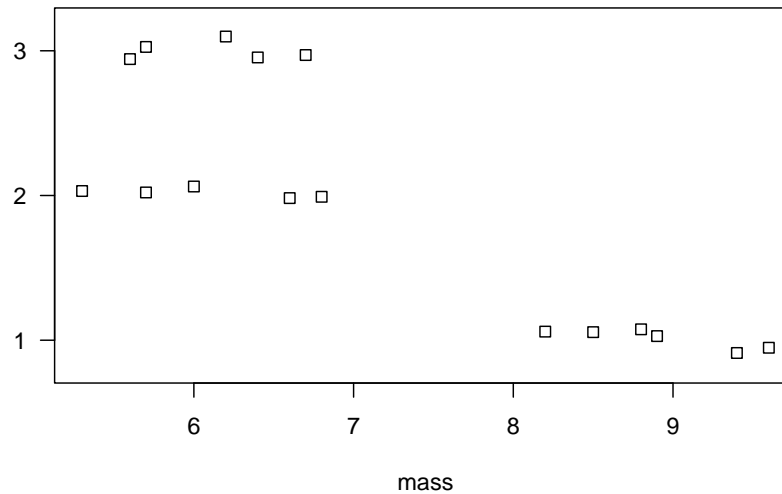
```

Again we use a stripchart to visualize the three groups of data. It appears the treated group had higher scores. It appears the pine cones in location 1 have a higher mass.

```

> stripchart(mass ~ location, data = ch8_d2, las = 1, method = "jitter")

```



To calculate the means between the three groups we can use the `aggregate()` function. Again the formula `mass ~ location` says to aggregate mass by location. We specify `mean` so that we calculate the mean between the three groups.

```
> aggregate(mass ~ location, data = ch8_d2, mean)
  location mass
1         1 8.90
2         2 6.08
3         3 6.12
```

Is this difference meaningful? ANOVA attempts to answer this.

The `aov()` function carries out the ANOVA test and also accommodates formula notation. It's usually preferable to save the ANOVA result into an object and call `summary()` on the object.

```
> aov1 <- aov(mass ~ location, data = ch8_d2)
> summary(aov1)
              Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
location      2  29.404   14.702    50.09 7.79e-07 ***
Residuals    13   3.816    0.294
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

The small p-value of 0.0000007 provides strong evidence that the difference in means we witnessed reflects a real difference in the population.

Unlike the `t.test()` output, the `aov()` summary does not provide confidence intervals on differences in means. That's because there are many kinds of differences we might want to assess. A common and easy procedure is Tukey's Honestly Significant Differences (HSD), which computes differences between all possible pairs and returns adjusted p-values and confidence intervals to account for the multiple comparisons. Base R provides the `TukeyHSD()` function for this task. Call it on the ANOVA object.

```
> TukeyHSD(aov1)
  Tukey multiple comparisons of means
    95% family-wise confidence level

Fit: aov(formula = mass ~ location, data = ch8_d2)

$location
      diff      lwr      upr    p adj
2-1 -2.82 -3.6862516 -1.9537484 0.0000028
3-1 -2.78 -3.6462516 -1.9137484 0.0000033
3-2  0.04 -0.8647703  0.9447703 0.9925198
```

The difference in means between locations 2 and 1 (2 - 1) and locations 3 and 1 (3 - 1) are about -2.8. The difference in means between locations 3 and 2 (3 - 2) is inconclusive. It seems to be small but we're not sure if the difference is positive or negative.

Both the t-test and ANOVA are special cases of the linear model (ie, regression). We can obtain the same results, presented in different ways, using the `lm()` function. See the Linear Modeling section.

```
> m1 <- lm(score ~ group, data = ch8_d1)
> summary(m1)
> m2 <- lm(mass ~ location, data = ch8_d2)
> summary(m2)
```

8.2 Comparing group proportions

Comparing the proportions of two or more groups to see if or how they differ.

Python

R

8.3 linear modeling

Analyzing if or how the variability a numeric variable depends on one or more predictor variables.

Python

R

8.4 Logistic regression

Analyzing if or how the variability of a binary variable depends on one or more predictor variables.

Python

R

Bibliography

Robert E. Kass, Brian S. Caffo, Marie Davidian, Xiao-Li Meng, Bin Yu, and Nancy Reid. Ten simple rules for effective statistical practice. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 12(6), 2016. doi: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.1004961.

Michael Whitlock and Dolph Schluter. *The Analysis of Biological Data*. Macmillan Learning, 3 edition, 2020.