Converting hand-smoothed norms tables into print-format output

Overview

The norms development process (i.e., the process of creating raw-to-norm-score¹ lookup tables) has three stages:

- 1. Model the raw-to-norm-score relationship using cNORM (or custom R code) and create basic lookup tables as output.
- 2. Apply manual smoothing to the basic lookup tables, as needed, to prepare the norms for clinical use.
- 3. Convert the modified basic lookup tables into print-format lookup tables (or, alternatively, into digital-format lookup tables).

Because Stage 2 is a manual modification of cNORM output, Stage 3 cannot be reintegrated into the cNORM workflow. Stage 3 must be handled separately, and that is the purpose of this R script. The script takes as input the modified basic lookup tables and transforms them into print-format tables. The script is a template that can handle multiple tests or subtests in a batch process. The script is set up for age-stratified norms, but can be modified for grade-based norms.

The documentation refers frequently to the lookup relationship between raw and norm scores. It's important to keep in mind that this relationship is is *many-to-one*. That is, each raw score value maps onto one and only one norm score value, but each norm score value *may* map on to more than one raw score value. This many-to-one relationship is preserved through the Stage 3 transformations imposed by this script, as the commented snippets below explain.

Essentially, the Stage 3 process transforms two structures in the input tables:

- 1. The hierarchical organization of the data;
- 2. The directional flow of the tables from lookup input to lookup output (i.e., the "lookup direction").

The input tables embody a data hierarchy in which age groups are a subordinate category of tests. Thus, there is one table per test, and each of these tables holds the lookup columns for all age groups. In this documentation, we use the shorthand expressions test>>age or ta to label the input data hierarchy.

The input tables have a left-to-right lookup direction. That is, one looks up raw scores in a column at the left margin of the table, and reads to the right to find the column with the associated standard scores for a particular age group.

Below is the head of a typical input table, showing the test>>age data hierarchy and the left-to-right lookup direction.

raw	5.0-5.3	5.4-5.7	5.8-5.11	6.0-6.5	6.6-6.11	7.0-7.5	7.6-7.11	8.0-8.5
0	66	62	58	55	50	47	44	40
1	70	66	62	58	53	50	47	44
2	74	70	66	61	57	53	49	46
3	77	74	70	65	60	56	53	49

¹In this general overview we refer to "norm scores", rather than specific types of norm scores, such as T scores or IQ-type standard scores. Once the discussion turns to the specific input files used by this script, we will refer to standard scores.

4	80	77	73	68	63	58	55	51
5	83	80	75	70	65	60	56	53
6	86	82	77	72	67	62	58	55
7	89	84	79	74	68	64	60	56
8	91	86	81	76	70	65	61	57
9	93	88	83	77	72	67	62	59

Note that the column names are the age range (in years.months format) of each age group. Also, reading left-to-right along the rows, each raw score maps onto only one standard score per age group, reflecting the many-to-one relationship between raw and standard scores.

Creating the print-format lookup tables requires an inversion of both the data hierarchy and and the lookup direction. In the print-format tables, tests are a subordinate category of age groups. That is, there is one table per age group, and each of these tables holds the lookup columns for all tests. We use the shorthand expressions age>>test or at to label the print-format data hierarchy.

The print-format tables have a right-to-left lookup direction. That is, one looks up raw scores for a particular test in one of the the rightward columns, and reads to the left to find the associated standard score in a column on the left margin.

Below is the head of a typical print-format table, showing the age>>test data hierarchy and the right-to-left lookup direction.

perc	SS	LSK-E	LSW-E	RHY-E	RLN-E	SEG-E	SPW-E
98	130	27-33	25-38	21-30	73-120 2	21-25	20-32
97	129	-	24	-	72	20	19
97	128	26	_	20	71	_	_
96	127	-	23	-	70	-	-
96	126	_	_	19	68-69	9 19	18
95	125	25	22	-	67	-	-
95	124	-	-	18	66	-	-
94	123	24	21	17	65	18	17
93	122	-	-	-	64	-	-
92	121	23	20	16	63	_	_

Note that the column names are now acronyms, one for each test. Some cells within these columns hold a range of raw scores, rather than a single score. This embodies the many-to-one relationship between raw and standard scores, in which each standard score may map onto more than one raw score.

To track the transformation of the data hierarchy explicitly in the code, we name objects with the ta suffix when they express the input (test>>age) hierarchy. Similarly, we use the suffix at to name objects that embody the print-format (age>>test) hierarchy. The suffix flat is used to name objects that lack

hierarchical structure.

Executable Code

```
suppressMessages(library(here))
suppressMessages(library(tidyverse))
suppressMessages(library(writexl))
input_test_names <- c("lske", "lswe", "rhme", "rlne", "sege", "snwe")</pre>
output_test_names <- c("LSK-E", "LSW-E", "RHY-E", "RLN-E", "SEG-E", "SPW-E")</pre>
tod_form <- "TOD-E"</pre>
norm_type <- "age"</pre>
urlRemote_path <- "https://raw.github.com/"</pre>
github_input_path <- "wpspublish-public/DSHerzberg-cNORM/master/INPUT-FILES/PRINT-FORMAT-NORMS-TABLES/"
input_files_ta <- map(</pre>
  input_test_names,
  suppressMessages(read_csv(url(str_c(
  urlRemote_path, github_input_path, .x, "-", norm_type, ".csv"
))))
) %>%
  set_names(input_test_names)
perc_ss_cols <- suppressMessages(read_csv(url(str_c(</pre>
  urlRemote_path, github_input_path, "perc-ss-cols.csv"
))))
age_strat <- input_files_ta[[1]] %>%
  select(-raw) %>%
  names()
print_lookups_ta <- input_files_ta %>%
  map(~
        .x %>%
  pivot_longer(contains("-"), names_to = "age_strat", values_to = "ss") %>%
  arrange(age_strat) %>%
  group_by(age_strat) %>%
  complete(ss = 40:130) %>%
  group_by(age_strat, ss) %>%
  filter(n() == 1 | n() > 1 & row_number() %in% c(1, n())) %>%
  summarize(raw = str_c(raw, collapse = '--')) %>%
  mutate(across(raw, ~ case_when(is.na(.x) ~ '-', TRUE ~ .x))) %>%
  arrange(age_strat, desc(ss)) %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = age_strat,
              values_from = raw) %>%
  filter(!is.na(ss)) %>%
  right_join(perc_ss_cols, by = "ss") %>%
  relocate(perc, .before = "ss")
) %>%
  set_names(input_test_names)
age_strat_cols_ta <- print_lookups_ta %>%
  map(~
```

```
map(age_strat,
               .y %>%
               select(perc, ss, !!sym(.x)), .y = .x) %>%
         set_names(age_strat))
age_test_names_flat <- cross2(age_strat, input_test_names) %>%
 map chr(str c, collapse = " ")
age_test_cols_flat <- flatten(age_strat_cols_ta) %>%
  set_names(age_test_names_flat)
age test cols at <- map(
  age_strat,
 keep(age_test_cols_flat, str_detect(names(age_test_cols_flat), .x))
print_lookups_at <- age_test_cols_at %>%
  map(
      .x %>%
      reduce(left join, by = c("perc", "ss")) %>%
      rename_with(~ output_test_names, contains("-"))
  set_names(age_strat)
write_xlsx(print_lookups_at,
           here(
             str c(
               [INSERT LOCAL FILE PATH], "-print-lookup-tables-", norm_type, ".xlsx"
             ))
```

Commented Snippets

I. Load packages, set up tokens, read input files Load packages for file path specification (here), data wrangling (tidyverse), and writing files in .xlsx format (writexl). Initialize tokens for test names, file paths, and other input parameters. Tokenization of these elements facilitates adaptation of the template to different projects with different input parameters. Project-specific values are entered only once, at the beginning of the script, thus reducing the chance of human input error.

```
suppressMessages(library(here))
suppressMessages(library(tidyverse))
suppressMessages(library(writexl))

input_test_names <- c("lske", "lswe", "rhme", "rlne", "sege", "snwe")
output_test_names <- c("LSK-E", "LSW-E", "RHY-E", "RLN-E", "SEG-E", "SPW-E")
tod_form <- "TOD-E"
norm_type <- "age"
urlRemote_path <- "https://raw.github.com/"
github_input_path <- "wpspublish-public/DSHerzberg-cNORM/master/INPUT-FILES/PRINT-FORMAT-NORMS-TABLES/"</pre>
```

Read input files into a list named input_files_ta. In this example, the script processes six tests from the

Tests of Dyslexia, Early (TOD-E) project². There are six input files, one for each test, each embodying the test>>age data hierarchy. To read the files, we use map() to call read_csv() iteratively over the set of input files. The first argument to map() is the vector input_test_names, one of the tokens initialized upstream in the script. The second argument to map() is the function to be applied to iteratively to the input files, namely read_csv(). Within map(), the function call is set off with the formula notation ~.

As map() iterates over the input_test_names vector, it passes one complete file path at a time to read_csv(). These file paths are strings, concatenated from tokens and quoted sub-strings with str_c(). map() returns a list, input_files_ta, holding the input files as six data frames. set_names() applies matching test-specific names to the six data frames. Also, note the use of url() to retrieve files from a remote url.

The print-format lookup tables include two static columns, one holding all possible standard scores, and the other holding the percentile rank associated with each standard score. We use read_csv() to read these columns into a data frame perc_ss_cols.

To finalize the print-format tables, a vector containing the names of the age groups is required. These names exist in each of the input files, as column names. To obtain the required vector age_strat, we start with a single input file, which is extracted from the list input_files_ta with double-bracket [[]] subsetting. We call select(-raw) to drop the raw column, retaining only the age-group columns. We extract the names of these columns into a vector with names().

```
perc_ss_cols <- suppressMessages(read_csv(url(str_c(
    urlRemote_path, github_input_path, "perc-ss-cols.csv"
))))

age_strat <- input_files_ta[[1]] %>%
    select(-raw) %>%
    names()
```

II. Impose print-style formatting on the input tables In the next snippet, we again use map() for iterative processing of multiple tables held in a list. Here, map() is used to apply a long pipeline of functions to the tables held in the list input_files_ta. This list is piped into map(), where it is represented by the .x token, which sits at the beginning of the pipeline of functions set off by ~. map() thus applies the function chain iteratively to each element of .x, returning a list of transformed tables, print_lookups_ta. The suffix of this output list denotes that the tables at this stage retain the test>>age data hierarchy.

We begin by calling pivot_longer() to transform each input table to a long, multilevel format, in which a set of standard scores (one for each age group) is nested within each value of raw score. The first argument to pivot_longer(), which we specify with the tidyselect helper contains("-"), names the columns to be pivoted to long format (i.e., the columns in the input table that hold the standard scores for each age group). The second argument, names_to = "age_strat", designates a new column whose rows, in long format, will hold the names of the pivoted columns. The third argument, values_to = "ss", designates a new column whose rows, in long format, will hold the cell values (that is, the standard scores) contained in the pivoted columns.

²The six TOD-E tests are: Letter and Sound Knowledge (LSK-E), Letter and Sight Word Recognition (LSW-E), Ryming (RHY-E), Rapid Letter and Number Naming (RLN-E), Segmenting (SEG-E), Sounds and Pseudowords (SPW-E).

Here we are excluding the raw column from the pivot, meaning that in the long table, raw remains in the left-most column and becomes a Level 2 variable³. The rows of raw are expanded such that each raw score value has eight rows, one for each of the eight age groups whose names now appear in the age_strat column. The new columns, age_strat and ss, are now Level 1 variables, because they are nested within the Level 2 variable raw. We then use arrange() to sort the data by age_strat.

To visualize the transformation, here are a few rows from the long-format table:

```
raw
     age_strat
2
      6.6-6.11
                   57
2
      7.0-7.5
                   53
2
      7.6 - 7.11
                   49
2
      8.0-8.5
                   46
3
      5.0-5.3
                   77
3
      5.4 - 5.7
                   74
3
      5.8-5.11
                   70
3
      6.0 - 6.5
```

As noted above, each value of raw now has eight rows, one for each value of age_strat. Each value of age_strat is paired with its associated value of ss, taken from the matching column of the wide-format input table. The sequence of age_strat values repeats itself for each new value of raw, going down the table.

The current ss column is the antecedent of the left-ward standard-score lookup column of the print-format table. As such, the columns needs to include all possible values of ss, sorted descending, with no duplicates. To get it to this state, we call tidyr::complete(), which fills in missing values of a variable, adding a new row for each filled-in value. As an argument to complete(), we pass ss = 40:130, which adds rows for any values in the range of 40 to 130 that are missing from the current ss column. To ensure that values are filled in consecutively within each age group, we group_by(age_strat) before calling complete().

```
group_by(age_strat) %>%
complete(ss = 40:130) %>%
```

As noted earlier, the lookup relationship between raw and standard scores is many-to-one, meaning that each value of ss may map onto multiple values of raw. This mapping is represented explicitly in the current data object, where consecutive rows may share the same ss value while being each associated with a different value of raw. Below are a set of rows from the current data object, showing the many-to-one mapping of five different values of raw to the single ss value of 130.

```
age_strat ss raw
5.0-5.3 119 NA
5.0-5.3 120 16
```

³Referring to variables as "Level 1", "Level 2", etc., is part of the nomenclature of multilevel modeling.

```
5.0-5.3
              121
                      NA
5.0-5.3
              122
                      NΑ
5.0 - 5.3
              123
                      17
5.0-5.3
              124
                      NA
5.0-5.3
              125
                      NA
5.0-5.3
              126
                      18
5.0-5.3
              127
                      NA
5.0 - 5.3
              128
                      NA
5.0-5.3
              129
                      19
5.0-5.3
              130
                      20
5.0-5.3
              130
                      21
5.0-5.3
              130
                      22
5.0 - 5.3
              130
                      23
5.0-5.3
              130
                      24
```

In the finalized print-format lookup tables, there is only a single row for each possible value of standard score. In the example above, where there are five rows mapping ss = 130 onto five consecutive values of raw, we need to collapse multiple values of raw into a single range of raw scores. We can then replace the five rows above with a single row in which ss is 130 and raw is 20-24.

In addition to the one-to-many mapping for ss = 130, the rows above include one-to-one mappings for other values of ss (e.g., ss = 126 maps *only* to raw = 18). In the next code snippet, we use dplyr::filter() to collapse the table vertically and retain rows according to the following rules:

- One-to-one raw to ss mapping: retain that single row.
- Many-to-one raw to ss mapping: retain the *first* and *last* rows of the series, which contain, respectively, the values of raw that are the lower and upper bounds of the required raw-score range.

To execute this transformation, we first re-group the data object hierarchically (group_by(age_strat, ss)), so that ranges of raw can be assembled within each value of ss, and, in turn, within each age_strat. After grouping, the one-to-one mappings are single-row groups, and the many-to-one mappings are multi-row groups (in which each row has an identical value of ss).

filter() operates on these groups according to a complex predicate: $n() == 1 \mid n() > 1 \& row_number() %in% c(1, n())$. The predicate makes use of dplyr::n(), which returns the number of rows in the groups defined by group_by(). The single-row groups are captured by the expression n() == 1.

To get the first and last rows of the multi-row groups, we use the expression $n() > 1 \& row_number() %in% c(1, n()))$. The LHS side of this expression (n() > 1) captures all rows of the multi-row groups. The RHS of this expression $(row_number() %in% c(1, n()))$ uses $row_number()$ to retain only the first and last rows of the multi-row groups. The expression captures only the two rows where $row_number() == 1$ (the first row) or $row_number == n()$ (i.e, the row number is equal to the total number of rows in the group, which is also the row number of the *last* row of the group). Rather than specify these latter two sub-predicates separately, we can combine them by using %in% to specify that $row_number()$ is equal to either of the two elements of the vector c(1, n()).

After applying the filter() step, the set of rows depicted above appears as follows:

age_strat	SS	raw
5.0-5.3	119	NA
5.0-5.3	120	16
5.0-5.3	121	NA
5.0-5.3	122	NA
5.0-5.3	123	17
5.0-5.3	124	NA
5.0-5.3	125	NA

```
5.0-5.3
              126
                      18
5.0-5.3
              127
                      NΑ
5.0 - 5.3
              128
                      NA
5.0-5.3
              129
                      19
5.0-5.3
              130
                      20
5.0-5.3
              130
                      24
```

Note that the group of rows for ss = 130, which previously included five rows, now consists of only two: those containing the values of raw for the lower and upper bounds of the required raw score range (20-24). All other rows in the example are single row groups, representing one-to-one raw to ss mappings.

Because the data object is grouped by ss, we can call dplyr::summarize() to further collapse the table so there is a single row for each possible value of ss. summarize() operates within groups, and is used to aggregate the values of a variable, returning a new column containing a single summary value for each group.⁴

As an argument to summarize(), we pass the expression raw = str_c(raw, collapse = '--'), which returns the required values for both types of raw to ss mappings. Note that the RHS is wrapped in str_c, meaning that numbers will be formatted as strings in the new raw column. One-to-one mappings are represented in the current object as single rows, so the summarizing expression simply returns the "old" value of raw in that row. Many-to-one mappings are now represented by two-row groups, with the rows containing the lower and upper bounds of the required raw-score ranges. For these two-row groups, str_c() joins the two "old" values of raw, collapsing them into a single string with the separator --.⁵

Because the mapping of raw to ss is many-to-one, there may be values of ss that are not mapped onto any value of raw. In the rows shown above, for example, ss = 119 is "unmapped" (i.e., raw = NA for ss = 119). To format the raw column properly for final output, we use mutate(across(case_when())) to recode NA to - in the raw column. We then use arrange() to sort the table ascending by age_strat, and descending by ss.

```
group_by(age_strat, ss) %>%
filter(n() == 1 | n() > 1 & row_number() %in% c(1, n())) %>%
summarize(raw = str_c(raw, collapse = '--')) %>%
mutate(across(raw, ~ case_when(is.na(.x) ~ '-', TRUE ~ .x))) %>%
arrange(age_strat, desc(ss)) %>%
```

Recall that the original data input to this process was a wide-format data frame (i.e., an element of the list input_files_ta). We pivoted this input to long format, so that we could transform it by applying dplyr functions on a row-wise basis. As a result, the current data object is a long-format, three-column table whose cell values are formatted as required for the print-format lookup table. The ss column thus contains all possible values of standard score in descending order (nested within each value of age_strat).

To advance the transformation toward the final output requirements, we call pivot_wider() to return the data object to wide format. We include two of the three existing columns in arguments to pivot_wider(): names_from = age_strat, to specify that names for the new columns in the wide table are to be drawn from the existing age_strat column; and values_from = raw, to indicate that cell values for the new columns are to be drawn from the existing raw column. pivot_wider() thus returns a wide table in which the existing ss column becomes the left-most column, the existing age_strat and raw columns are dropped, and the new rightward columns are named for the age groups and contain the raw-score lookup values corresponding to each standard score. Here is the head of the resulting table:

SS	5.0-5.3	5.4-5.7	5.8-5.11	6.0-6.5	6.6-6.11	7.0-7.5	7.6-7.11	8.0-8.5	8.6-9.3
130	2032	2132	2332	2632	2832	3032	32	_	_
129	19	_	_	25	_	_	31	32	_

⁴To avoid confusion, keep in mind that the "new" raw column summarizes values in the "old" raw column, which is dropped from the data object returned by summarize().

⁵We use two dashes (--), instead of a single dash, to prevent the score ranges from being erroneously read as dates when the saved output is opened in MS Excel.

			-						
			22						
126	18	_	_	_	_	_	30	_	-
125	_	_	_	_	26	28	_	31	_

To complete this section of the code, filter(!is.na(ss)) is used to drop extraneous rows that are missing standard scores. right_join() brings in a static column perc of percentile rank values corresponding to the standard score values, and that column is placed in the required output position with relocate().

At this point, map() finishes iterating, and the list of input tables has been transformed into a list (print_lookups_ta) of print-format lookup tables. set_names() is then used to apply test-specific names to the lookup tables.

III. Flatten tables with test>>age hierarchy into list of age-specific columns with no hierarchy. The code in the preceding section accomplished one part of the Stage 3 transformation: changing the format of the raw score columns into that required for the print-format lookup tables. But the tables in print_lookups_ta still retain the test>>age hierarchy of the input tables.

Completing the transformation into print format involves two additional steps: flattening the test>>age hierarchy into a non-hierarchical flat structure, and then restructuring again to yield the age>>test data hierarchy required for final output.

Prior to flattening, the tables held in print_lookups_ta must undergo a decomposition process. Recall that those tables have the structure shown in the example above, where there are multiple right-ward columns holding the raw scores for each age group. Decomposition of these tables means transforming a single wide table into a list of narrower tables, each containing the left-ward perc and ss columns, as well as a single right-ward column with the raw scores for a single age group. Essentially, a single table is broken up into a list of three-column sub-tables, one for each age group. The data object is now a "list of lists", retaining the top-level structure of print_lookups_ta, which is a list of tables, one for each age group. Thus, where print_lookups_ta was a list of six tables, the current data object is a list of six lists.

The code accomplishes this restructuring via nested map() calls. In the outer call, map() iterates over the list of tables print_lookups_ta. That outer map() call feeds one table at a time to the inner map() call, which iterates over age_strat, a vector holding the names of the age groups.

Isolating the inner map() call, the data input is one table from the print_lookups_ta list. That input is represented by the .y token. The input is piped into select(), which keeps three columns: perc, ss, and one column of raw scores, corresponding to the element of age_strat named in the current iteration of the inner map() call. That latter element is represented by the .x token. Because .x in this case is a quoted string, we need to unquote it by wrapping it in !!sym() in order it to pass it to select(). The .y = .x argument to the inner map() call ensures that the inputs are processed in the correct sequence. That is, the test-specific elements of print_lookups_ta are processed within the iterative structure that applies the elements of age_strat, not the other way around.

After the inner map() call iterates completely over age_strat, it returns a test-specific list of three-column lookup tables, one for each age group. The elements of this list are named for their respective age groups with set_names(age_strat). Control is then passed back to the outer map() call, which feeds the next table from print lookups ta to the inner map() call for processing, and so on, until all tables from print lookups ta

have been decomposed. The final output is a "list of lists", age_strat_cols_ta, containing a list for each test, each of which holds the age-group-specific three-column lookup tables for that test.

Before applying the age>>test data hierarchy required for the print-format lookup tables, the existing test>>age hierarchy must be removed. Essentially this involves collapsing the "list of lists" structure into a single list, a process known as flattening. The resulting flattened list contains 54 age-group-specific, three-column lookup tables⁶. Naming is critical here, to preserve the association of each list element with its correct test and age group. Accordingly, we use purrr::cross2() to create all possible combinations of the input_test_names and age_strat vectors. cross2() returns a list, not the required vector of names (strings). To reformat the list as a character vector, we call map_chr(), passing str_c() to join the test-plus-age-group combinations into single strings. The resulting vector of names is age_test_names_flat.

We then apply purrr::flatten() to the list-of-lists age_strat_cols_ta, which removes one level of list structure, along with the test>>age data hierchy. The result is the 54-element list age_test_cols_flat, with the flat suffix signaling the removal of the test>>age structure. We use set_names(age_test_names_flat) to preserve identification of the 54 elements.

```
age_test_names_flat <- cross2(age_strat, input_test_names) %>%
   map_chr(str_c, collapse = "_")

age_test_cols_flat <- flatten(age_strat_cols_ta) %>%
   set_names(age_test_names_flat)
```

IV. Impose age>>test hierarchy, reduce list elements to age-group specific lookup tables, write output to .xlsx Once all 54 age-group specific lookup tables are held in a single flattened list, it is a straightforward process to rebuild the list-of-lists structure with the age>>test data hierarchy. Earlier in the narrative, we characterized this hierarchy as one in which tests are a subordinate category of age groups. Analagously, we can think of these category relationships in terms of subsets. Thus, in the input test>>age hierarchy, six subsets are present, one for each test. Each of these subsets holds nine columns that express the raw-to-standard-score lookup relationships for the nine age groups, for that particular test. To build the age>>test data hierarchy into a list-of-lists structure, we need to invert the subsetting structure and create subsets for the nine age groups, each of which holds the raw-to-standard-score lookup relationships for six tests.

This new subsetting structure will be imposed on the flattened, 54-element list age_test_cols_flat. The resulting list-of-lists is named age_test_cols_at, with the at suffix signaling that it embodies the age>>test data hierarchy.

We use purrr::keep() to subset a list. The first argument to keep() is the source list for drawing subsets, in this instance the flattened list age_test_cols_flat. The second argument is a predicate function which is applied to the elements of age_test_cols_flat. keep() retains only those elements of age_test_cols_flat for which the predicate evaluates to TRUE.

In this instance, the predicate function is str_detect(names(age_test_cols_flat), .x), which returns TRUE when the name of an element in age_test_cols_flat contains .x. In the current snippet, we call map() to apply keep() iteratively over the age_strat vector. Thus, in each iteration, we retain only the elements of age_test_cols_flat that correspond to a single age group. This creates the subsetting structure

⁶Fifty-four elements result from the crossing of six tests with nine age groups.

required for output, because each age-group specific subset contains six three-column lookup tables, one for each test. In this way, map() returns a list-of-lists, age_test_cols_at, which has the required age>>test data hierarchy.

The next step is to transform age_test_cols_at from a list-of-lists into a list of data frames suitable for writing out as tabbed .xlsx output. For this operation we map() a set of functions over the nine elements of age_test_cols_at, which are themselves age-group specific lists, each containing six three-column lookup tables, one for each test.

To each age-group specific list (represented by .x in the map() call), we apply purrr::reduce(), which in turn recursively applies left_join() to the three-column lookup tables contained in .x. by = c("perc", "ss") identifies the index columns for the join. The end result is that a subset of three-column lookup tables is reduced to a single lookup table, with perc and ss as the left-most columns, and with six right-ward columns, each containing the corresponding raw scores for one test.

We then call <code>rename_with()</code> to improve the names for the raw-score columns. We use a shortcut specification for <code>rename_with()</code>, in which the first argument is simply a vector of the new names (here <code>output_test_names</code>), and the second argument is a vector, of equal length, specifying the existing column names that are to be replaced (here we use the <code>tidyselect</code> helper <code>contains("-")</code> to identify only the raw-score columns, whose existing names contain a dash character).

map() returns print_lookups_at, a list of nine lookup tables, one for each age group. We use set_names(age_strat) to name the nine list elements appropriately.

The required format for the final output is a single .xlsx workbook, with nine named tabs, each containing the lookup table, in print format, for one age group. To create this output, we use writexl::write_xlsx(). This function takes the named list print_lookups_at and writes each table onto a separate .xlsx tab (within a single workbook), using the name of the list element for the tab name. The output file path for the resulting .xlsx workbook is specified using here() (to anchor the path to R project folder) and str_c (to concatenate quoted substrings and previously specified tokens into a single string that names the required file path).

Please note that to run this final snippet, you must specify a local file path. This script does not support uploading the output to a remote url.