Indexing

Understand how DataFrame values can be accessed via indexing.

Chapter Goals:

- Learn how to index a DataFrame to retrieve rows and columns
- Write code for indexing a DataFrame

A. Direct indexing

When indexing into a DataFrame, we can treat the DataFrame as a dictionary of Series objects, where each column represents a Series. Each column label then becomes a key, allowing us to directly retrieve columns using dictionary-like bracket notation.

The code below shows how to directly index into a DataFrame's columns.

Note that when we use a single column label inside the bracket (as was the case for coll in the code example), the output is a Series representing the corresponding column. When we use a list of column labels (as was the case for coll_df and col23), the output is a DataFrame that contains the corresponding columns.

We can also use direct indexing to retrieve a subset of the rows (as a

DataFrame). However, we can only retrieve rows based on slices, rather than specifying particular rows.

The code below shows how to directly index into a DataFrame's rows.

You'll notice that when we used integer indexing for the rows, the end index was exclusive (e.g. first_two_rows excluded the row at index 2). However, when we use row labels, the end index is inclusive (e.g. last_two_rows included the row labeled 'r3').

Furthermore, when we tried to retrieve a single row based on its label, we received a KeyError. This is because the DataFrame treated 'r1' as a column label.

B. Other indexing

Apart from direct indexing, a DataFrame object also contains the loc and loc properties for indexing.

We use <u>iloc</u> to access rows based on their integer index. Using <u>iloc</u> we can access a single row as a Series, and specify particular rows to access through a list of integers or a boolean array.

The code below shows how to use iloc to access a DataFrame's rows.

```
print('{}\n'.format(df.iloc[[0, 2]]))

bool_list = [False, True, True]
print('{}\n'.format(df.iloc[bool_list]))
```

The loc property provides the same row indexing functionality as iloc, but uses row labels rather than integer indexes. Furthermore, with loc we can perform column indexing along with row indexing, and set new values in a DataFrame for specific rows and columns.

The code below shows example usages of loc.

You'll notice that the way we access rows and columns together with loc is similar to how we access 2-D NumPy arrays.

Since we can't access columns on their own with loc or iloc, we still use bracket indexing when retrieving columns of a DataFrame.

Time to Code!

The coding exercises for this chapter involve directly indexing into a predefined DataFrame, df.

We'll initially use direct indexing to get the first column of df as well as the first two rows.

Set col_1 equal to df directly indexed with 'c1' as the key.

Set row_12 equal to df directly indexed with 0:2 as the key.



Next, we'll use iloc to retrieve the first and third rows of df.

Set row_13 equal to df.iloc indexed with [0, 2] as the key.



Finally, we use <code>loc</code> to set each value of the second column, in the third and fourth rows, equal to 12. The row key we use for indexing will be <code>['r3','r4']</code>, while the column key will be <code>'c2'</code>.

Set df.loc, indexed with the specified row and column keys, equal to 12.

