Summarizing Data

Justin Baumann

Table of contents

0.1 Grouping and summarize (average + error calculations)

The pipe becomes especially useful when we are interesting in calculating averages. This is something you'll almost certainly be doing at some point for graphs and statistics! Pipes make this pretty easy.

When thinking about scientific hypotheses and data analysis, we often consider how groups or populations vary (both within the group and between groups). As such, a simple statistical analysis that is common is called analysis of variance (ANOVA). We often also use linear models to assess differences between groups. We will get into statistical theory later, but this does mean that it is often meaningful to graph population and group level means (with error) for the sake of comparison. So let's learn how to calculate those!

There are three steps: 1.) Manipulate the data as needed (correct format, select what you need, filter if necessary, etc)

2.) Group the data as needed (so R know how to calculate the averages)

3.) Do your calculatiuons!

Here's what that looks like in code form:

Let's use mtcars and calculate the mean miles per gallon (mpg) of cars by cylinder.

Don't forget to load packages!

```
library(tidyverse)
library(palmerpenguins)
```

```
# A quick reminder that that %>% and |> syntax are equivalent and interchangable

mpgpercyl<-mtcars%>%
  group_by(cyl)%>% #group = cylinder
  summarize(mean=mean(mpg),error=sd(mpg)) # a simple summarize with just mean and standard

head(mpgpercyl)
```

```
# A tibble: 3 x 3
    cyl  mean error
  <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1     4  26.7  4.51
2     6  19.7  1.45
3     8  15.1  2.56
```

Now, maybe we want something more complex. Let's say we want to look only at 4 cylinder
cars that have more than 100 horsepower. Then we want to see the min, max, and mean mpg
in addition to some error.

```
mpgdf<-mtcars%>%
  filter(cyl=='4' , hp >100) %>% #filters mtcars to only include cars w/ 4 cylinders and h
  summarize(min = min(mpg), max = max(mpg), mean = mean(mpg), error=sd(mpg))

head(mpgdf)
```

```
   min  max mean    error
1 21.4 30.4 25.9 6.363961
```

Let's do one more using penguins. This time, I want to know how bill length various between
species, islands, and sex. I also prefer to use standard error of the mean in my error bars over
standard deviation. So I want to calculate that in my summarize function.

```
head(penguins)
```

```
# A tibble: 6 x 8
  species island    bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm body_mass_g
  <fct>   <fct>              <dbl>         <dbl>             <int>       <int>
1 Adelie  Torgersen           39.1          18.7               181        3750
2 Adelie  Torgersen           39.5          17.4               186        3800
```

```
3 Adelie  Torgersen          40.3        18              195        3250
4 Adelie  Torgersen          NA          NA              NA         NA
5 Adelie  Torgersen          36.7        19.3            193        3450
6 Adelie  Torgersen          39.3        20.6            190        3650
# i 2 more variables: sex <fct>, year <int>
```

```r
sumpens<- penguins %>%
  group_by(species, island, sex) %>%
  drop_na(sex) %>% #removes rows with NA values (a few rows would otherwise have NA in 'se
  summarize(meanbill=mean(bill_length_mm), sd=sd(bill_length_mm), n=n(), se=sd/sqrt(n))
```

`summarise()` has grouped output by 'species', 'island'. You can override using
the `.groups` argument.

```r
sumpens
```

```
# A tibble: 10 x 7
# Groups:   species, island [5]
   species   island    sex     meanbill    sd     n     se
   <fct>     <fct>     <fct>      <dbl> <dbl> <int> <dbl>
 1 Adelie    Biscoe    female      37.4  1.76    22 0.376
 2 Adelie    Biscoe    male        40.6  2.01    22 0.428
 3 Adelie    Dream     female      36.9  2.09    27 0.402
 4 Adelie    Dream     male        40.1  1.75    28 0.330
 5 Adelie    Torgersen female      37.6  2.21    24 0.451
 6 Adelie    Torgersen male        40.6  3.03    23 0.631
 7 Chinstrap Dream     female      46.6  3.11    34 0.533
 8 Chinstrap Dream     male        51.1  1.56    34 0.268
 9 Gentoo    Biscoe    female      45.6  2.05    58 0.269
10 Gentoo    Biscoe    male        49.5  2.72    61 0.348
```

As you can see, this is complex but with just a few lines we have all of the info we might need to make some pretty cool plots and visually inspect for differences.

Some notes on the pieces of the summarize function I used up there: meanbill is just a mean() calculation. sd is just a standard deviation calculation- sd(). n=n() calculate the sample size for each group. Standard error cannot be calculated with a built in function in R (without packages that we aren't using here) so I wrote the formula for it myself. Standard Error = standard deviation / squareroot(sample size) in other words: se=sd/sqrt(n)

PS: here's the payoff... we can use the dataframe we just made to build a really nice plot, like the one below. You will be learning ggplot next time! NOTE: this plot is about as complex as we'd ever expect you to get. So don't worry, we aren't starting with this kind of plot.