

Data transformation

What is data wrangling?



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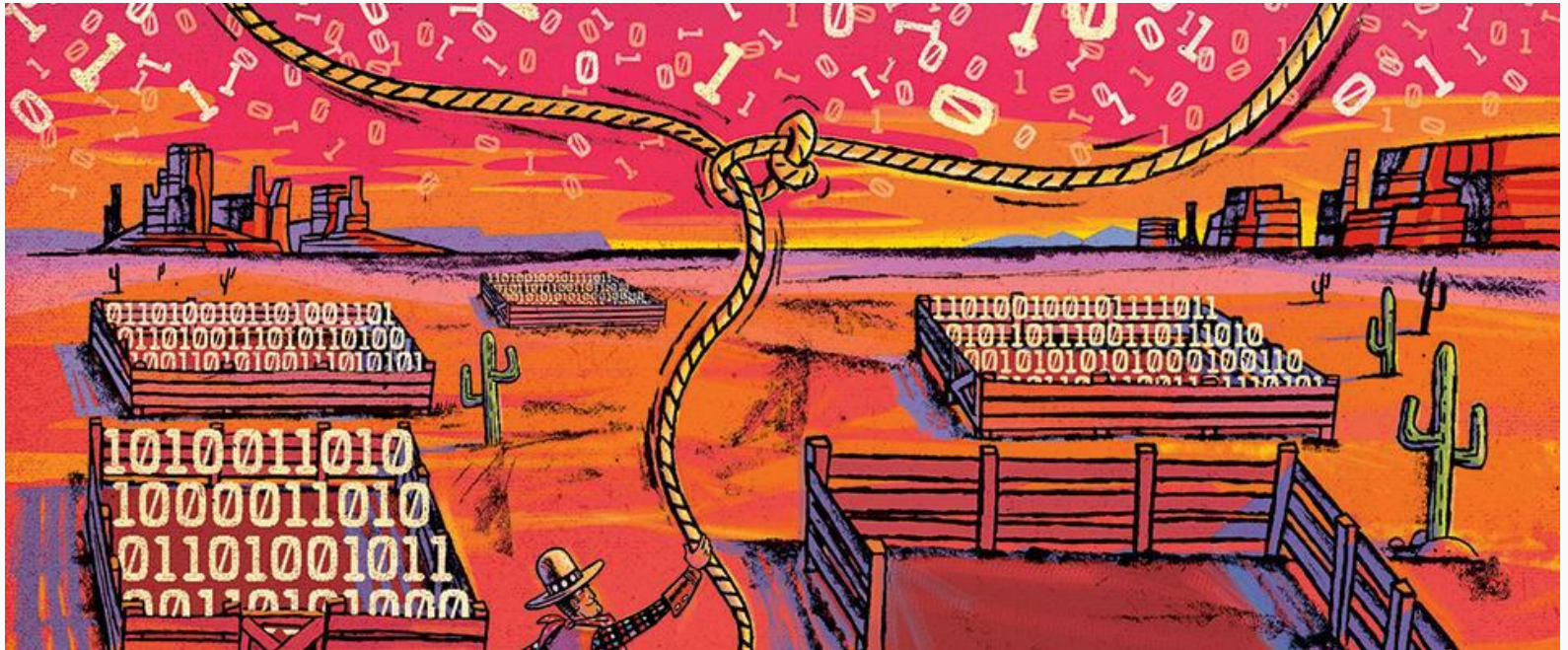
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- So, by analogy, "wrangling data" means to collect, clean, and organize digital information (tend and round up)
- Informal word, but data scientists will understand what you mean if you use it
- In practice, data wrangling requires the use of data transformations to accomplish tasks related to processing, structuring, and analysis.

The word "wrangle"



Source: [Digital image of a cowboy wrangling data](http://www.likelihoodlog.com), Digital image on likelihoodlog.com, accessed September 20, 2017, www.likelihoodlog.com/?p=1151

ggplot2 needs clean/tidy datasets

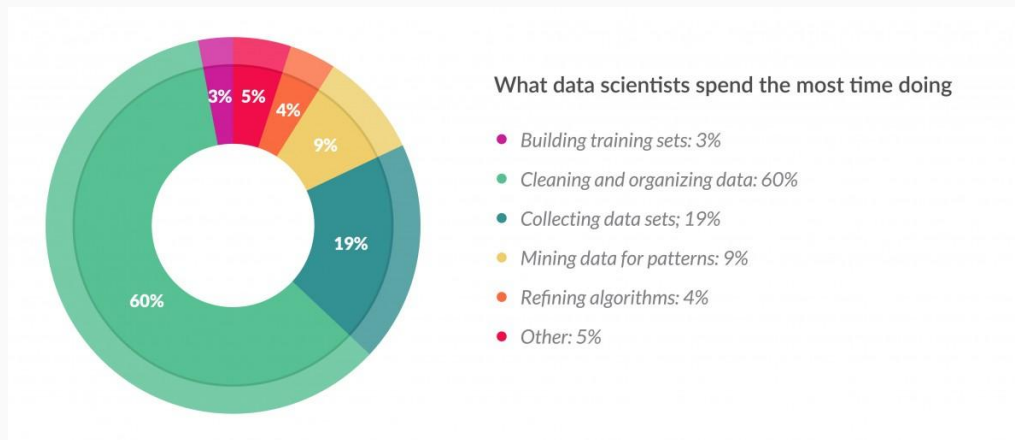
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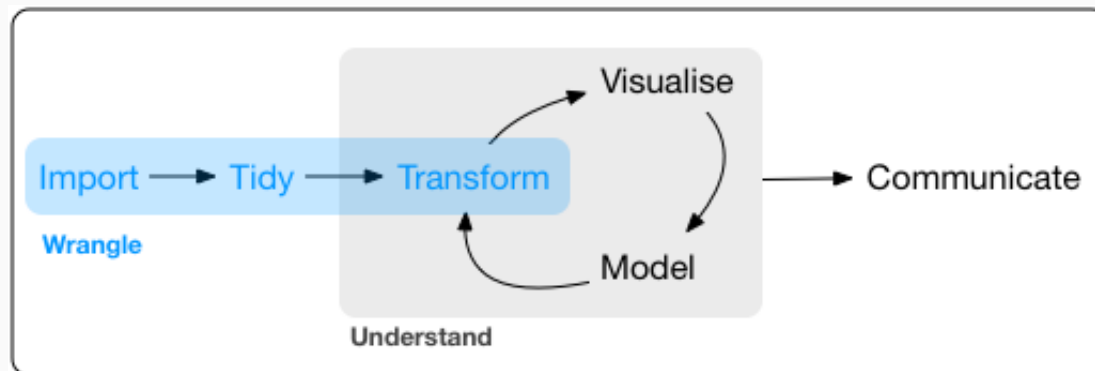
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- Datasets such as the `mpg` dataset are small and nicely organized
- It would be nice if all datasets were like this! ...but they're the exceptions to the rule
- Most raw datasets need cleaning, and this is where data scientists will spend **most** of their time



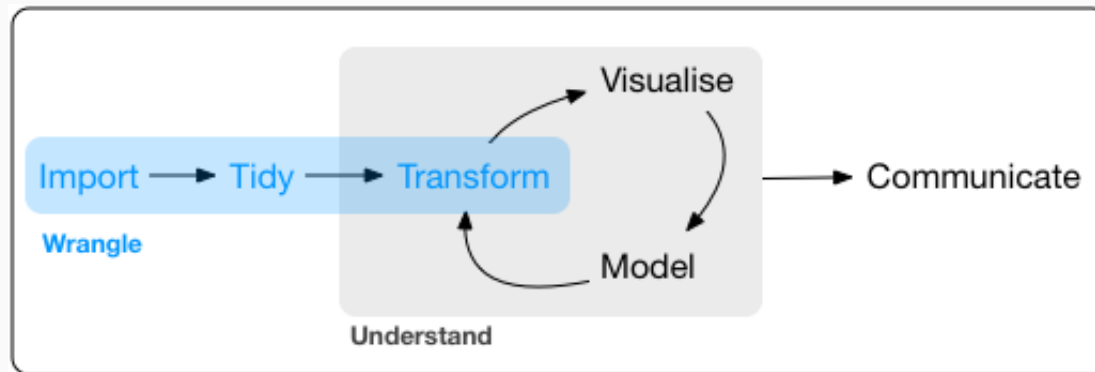
Source: [Cleaning Big Data: Most Time-Consuming, Least Enjoyable Data Science Task, Survey Says](https://www.forbes.com/sites/gilpress/2016/03/23/data-preparation-most-time-consuming-least-enjoyable-data-science-task-survey-says/), Digital image on *forbes.com*, accessed September 20, 2017, www.forbes.com/sites/gilpress/2016/03/23/data-preparation-most-time-consuming-least-enjoyable-data-science-task-survey-says/

The "data wrangling" pipeline



Source: [Data wrangling pipeline](https://www.r4ds.had.co.nz/wrangling-intro.html), Digital image on [r4ds.had.co.nz](https://www.r4ds.had.co.nz), accessed September 20, 2017, [r4ds.had.co.nz/wrangling-intro.html](https://www.r4ds.had.co.nz/wrangling-intro.html)

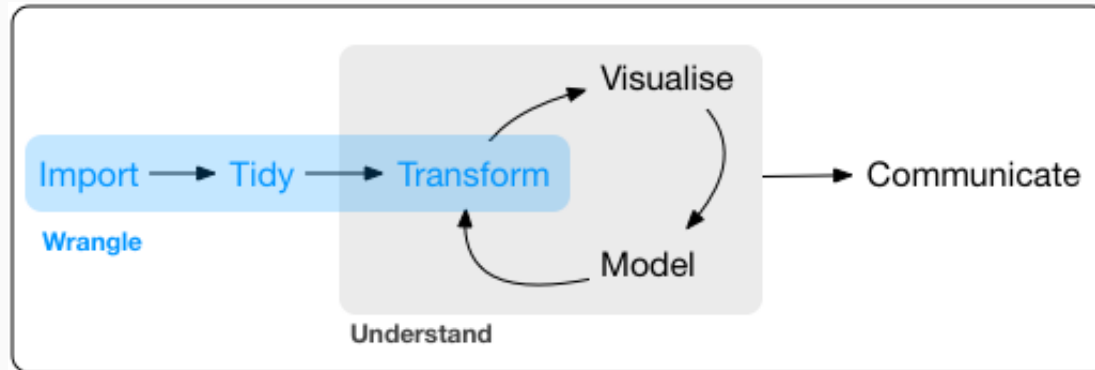
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- **import** → obtain data and get it into R

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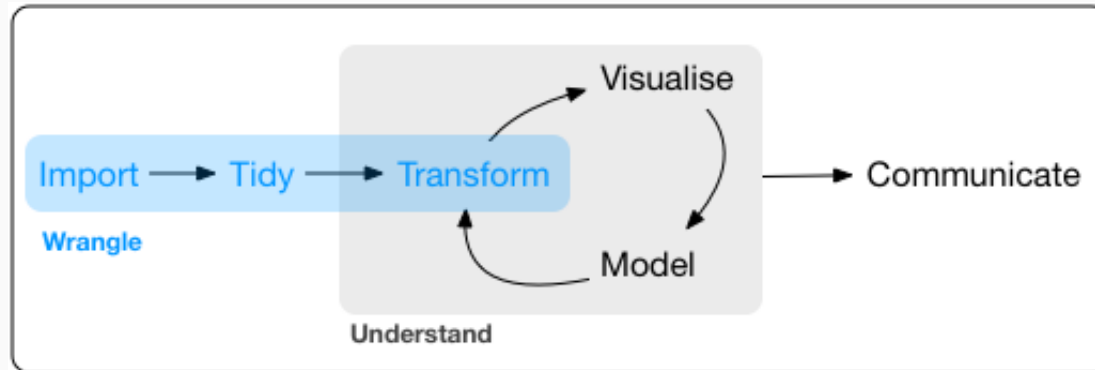
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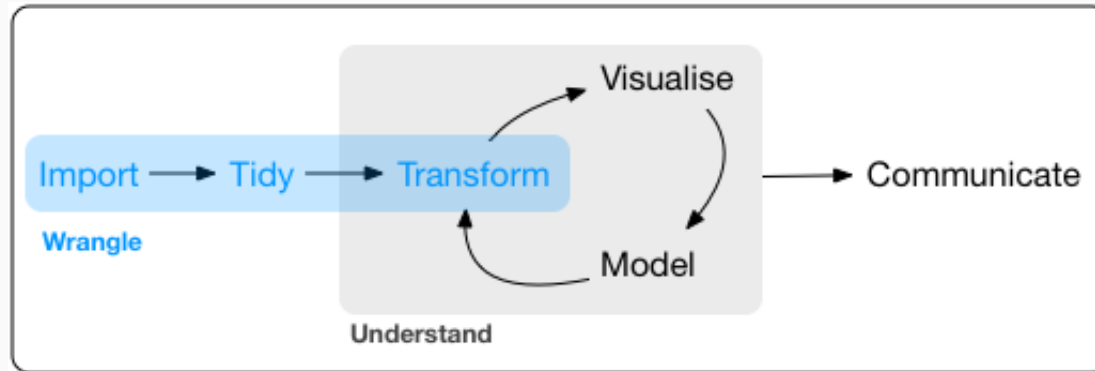
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- **transform** → cleaning the dataset (not the same as tidying) as well as "slicing and dicing" the dataset for exploration and analysis.

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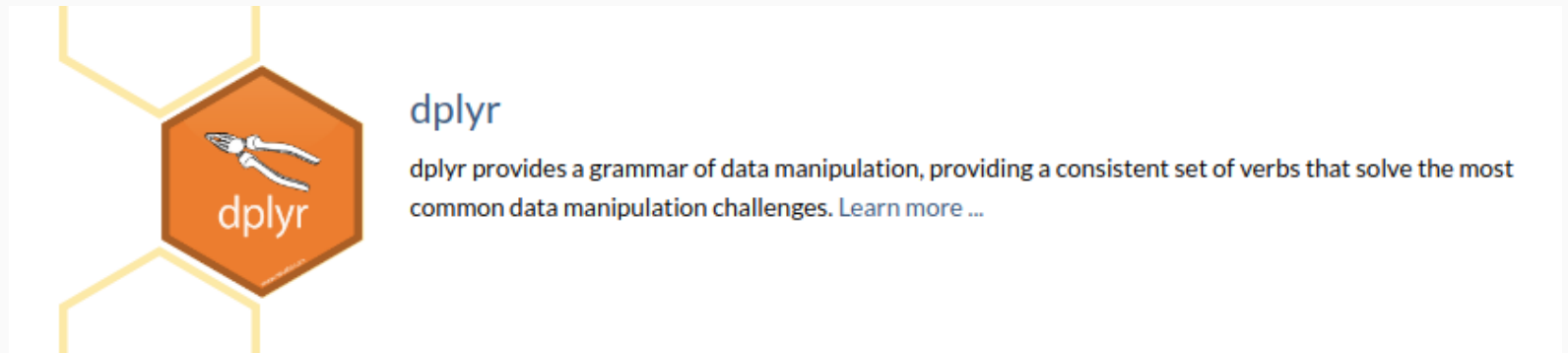
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Meet the dplyr package



Source: dplyr logo with blurb, Digital image on packages page of *tidyverse.org*, accessed on September 27, 2018, www.tidyverse.org/packages/

Credits

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