

# Lists of Functions

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February 28, 2016

Note: This is from *Functional Programming in R* <https://github.com/Emaasit/Functional-Programming-in-R> by Daniel Emaasit

## List of Functions

Functions can be stored as lists. Hence you can store a group of related functions in a list, like:

```
compute_mean <- list(  
  base = function(x) mean(x),  
  manual = function(x) sum(x) / length(x)  
)  
  
x <- runif(n = 1e5)  
compute_mean$base(x)  
  
## [1] 0.5004012  
  
compute_mean$manual(x)  
  
## [1] 0.5004012  
  
## To call each function, we can use lapply  
lapply(compute_mean, function(f) f(x))  
  
## $base  
## [1] 0.5004012  
##  
## $manual  
## [1] 0.5004012
```

Another example for descriptive statistics

```
compute_stats <- function(x) {  
  descriptive_stats <- list(  
    sum = function(x) sum(x, na.rm = TRUE),  
    mean = function(x) mean(x, na.rm = TRUE),  
    median = function(x) median(x, na.rm = TRUE)  
  )  
  lapply(descriptive_stats, function(f) f(x))  
}
```

```

x <- runif(1e6)
compute_stats(x)

## $sum
## [1] 500350.8
##
## $mean
## [1] 0.5003508
##
## $median
## [1] 0.4999625

```

Or remove duplication by doing this:

```

compute_stats <- function(x) {
  descriptive_stats <- list(
    sum = function(x) sum(x),
    mean = function(x) mean(x),
    median = function(x) median(x)
  )
  lapply(descriptive_stats, function(f) f(x))
}

x <- runif(1e6)
compute_stats(x)

## $sum
## [1] 499955.4
##
## $mean
## [1] 0.4999554
##
## $median
## [1] 0.4998519

```

**Moving lists of functions to the global environment**