Intro. to OOP and S3 System in R

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ABCS, BIDS,
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Scope

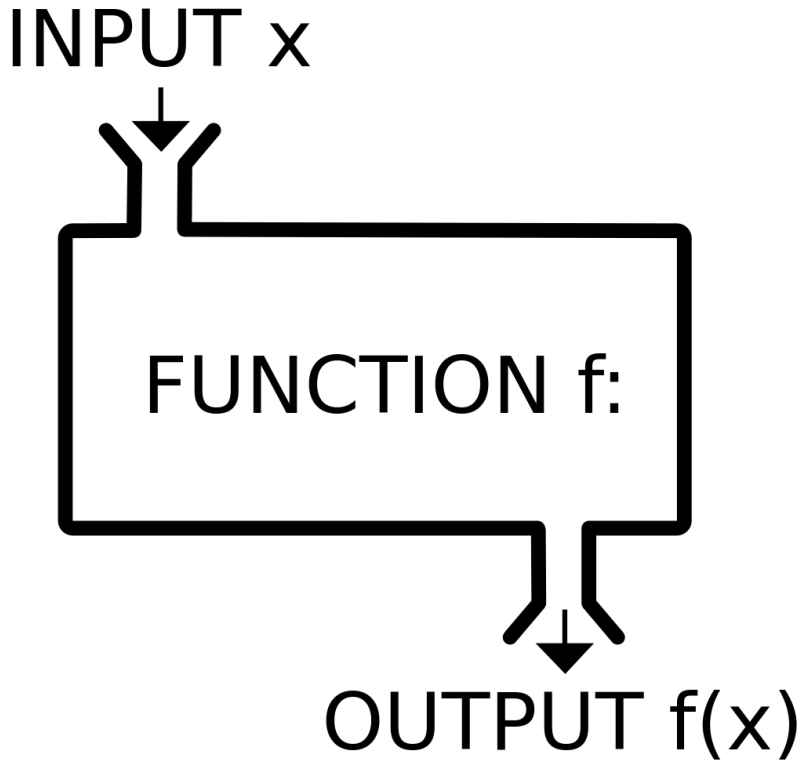
- OOP
  - Concepts might be similar to other languages, but …
- Specific to R
- Examples

Specific goals

- Note I am !here to teach OOP
- Reinforce concepts that you already know; associate them with OOP. In that process, I will remind/provide some definitions/examples of OOP
- Specific to R ; Easy for other programmers

Functional programming

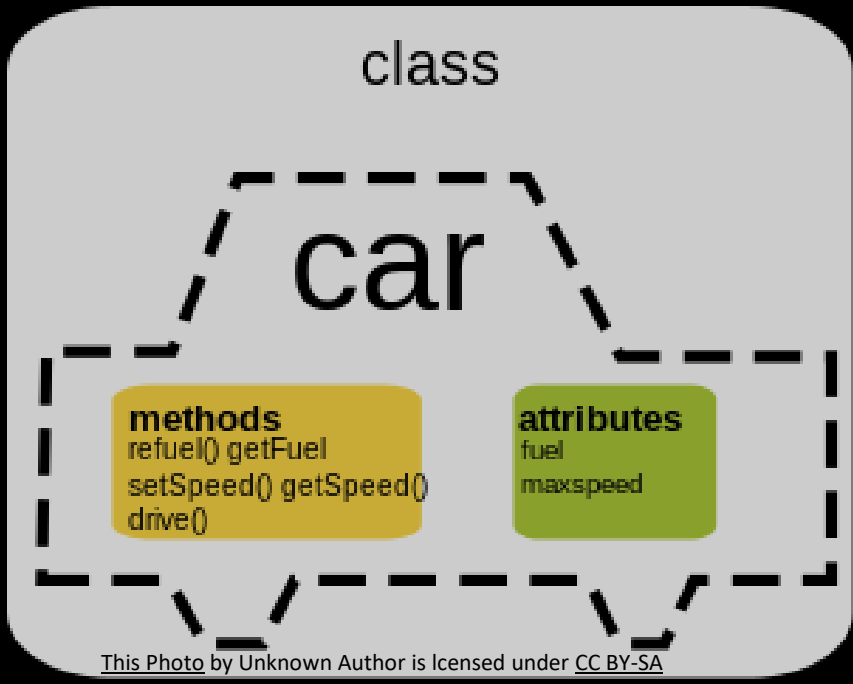
- Commonly used
- Focus is on functions
- Chain functions together to accomplish things
- Good for?
  - Data analysis, modeling etc.




```
my_add <- function(x,y)
{
   # do some task
    return(x + y)
}
```

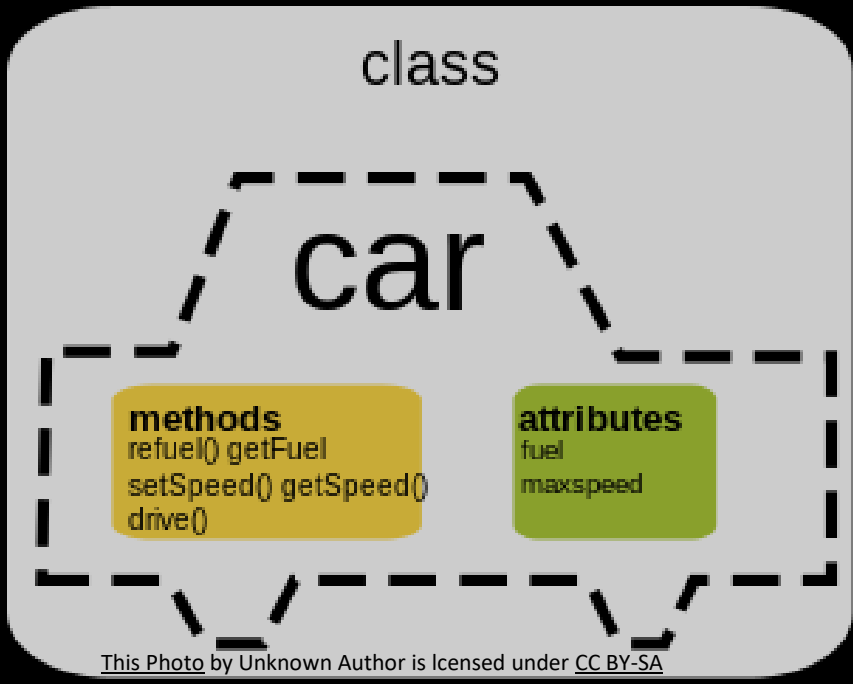
OOP

- Focus on objects
- Defines Object
- Describe its attributes (size, seats etc.)
- Define methods to describe what object can do
  - Note in OOP, functions are called METHODS



OOP

- What is OOP good for?
  - Developing tools, GUIs
  - Complex limited # of objects
  - Specifically when you know you can define the objects clearly
  - Developing GUIs (limited # of options)
    - Interface that can handle limited # of inputs ex.
    - Bioconductor objects (complex but can be reused)



Object types in R

- ~ 20 types
- Integer, logical, numeric, data.frame, List, matrix, array, factor, formula, environment, etc
- Most important types (create complex objects are:
  - List
  - Environment
- These constitute the building blocks that are needed for analysis

Interrogating the variables

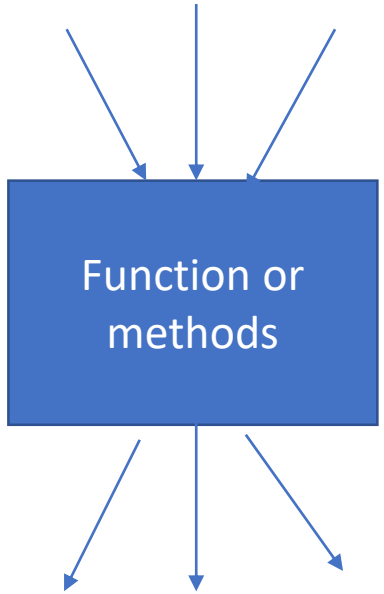
- For OOP to work, R has to identify the class of the variables
- How does R identify the class variables?
- Class (command: *class*)
  - Doesn't tell the whole story
- Typeof (command: *typeof* ; c-code)
  - Supplements class command

Hands-on 1

Object Types
Class of objects
A simple function to show that it behaves differently for different input types

OOP concept: Functions behave differently for different objects

Different object types



Different summary outputs

```
>
>
> x_num <- rnorm(50)
> x_fac <- factor(sample(letters[1:10],50,replace=T))
> model <- lm( mpg ~ wt, mtcars)
>
>
> summary(x_num)
    Min.  1st Qu.   Median     Mean  3rd Qu.     Max.
-2.50817 -0.64324 -0.08345 -0.14963  0.47288  1.71476
> summary(x_fac)
 a  b  c  d  e  f  g  h  i  j
 6  1  5  9  3  6  7  1 10  2
> summary(model)

Call:
lm(formula = mpg ~ wt, data = mtcars)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-4.5432 -2.3647 -0.1252  1.4096  6.8727

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  37.2851     1.8776  19.858  < 2e-16 ***
wt           -5.3445     0.5591  -9.559 1.29e-10 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

Residual standard error: 3.046 on 30 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.7528,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.7446
F-statistic: 91.38 on 1 and 30 DF,  p-value: 1.294e-10
```

Polymorphism; Function Overloading

OOP Systems (frameworks) in R

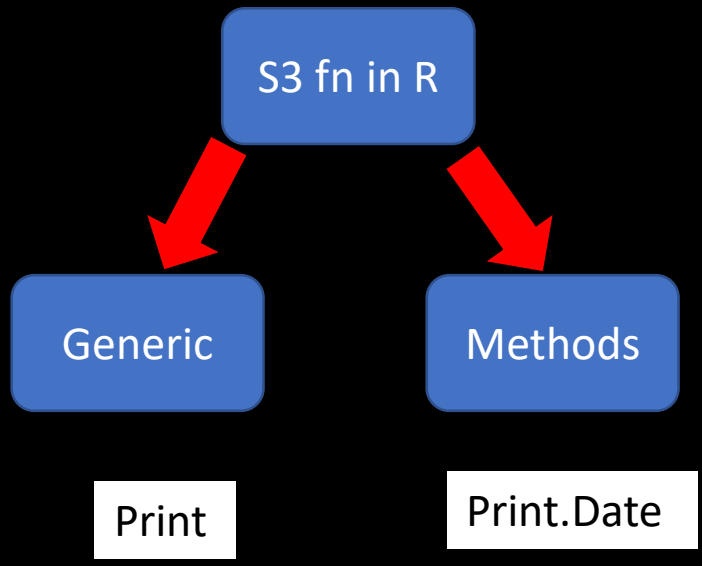
- Important systems
- S3 (Introduced in 3rd version of S Language)
- S4 (4th version of S)
  - Bioconductor
- R6 (introduced in 6 version of S; more matured)
- ReferenceClasses (RC)

You can think of the systems as different packages for implementing OOP

S3 System

- Why learn S3?
  - Most commonly used type
  - Simple; lacks formal definition
  - Freedom to be creative (comes with cost!)
  - Create custom class of objects and use S3 to accomplish complex tasks

S3 Object System in R



- Central players
  - Class & Method
- CLASS
  - defines type of object, its properties, how it works with other objects
- METHOD
  - Function associated with a particular object type
- R OO style is different than C++ or Java etc
- In S3 a generic function will decide what appropriate method to call

Generics and Methods

- If we have no overloading then we need a lot more functions
- S3 was created to solve this problem
  - Takes a function for each class and splits into two parts:
    - generic function & method function

How to name a Method?

- Standard notation for S3
- generic.class
- Arguments should be same for both generic and UseMethod
- To avoid from being mistaken, don't name your variable/function with "dot"
  - DON'T: my.print
  - Maybe: my_print_function

```
> print
function (x, ...)
UseMethod("print")
<bytecode: 0x000000001e689540>
<environment: namespace:base>
```

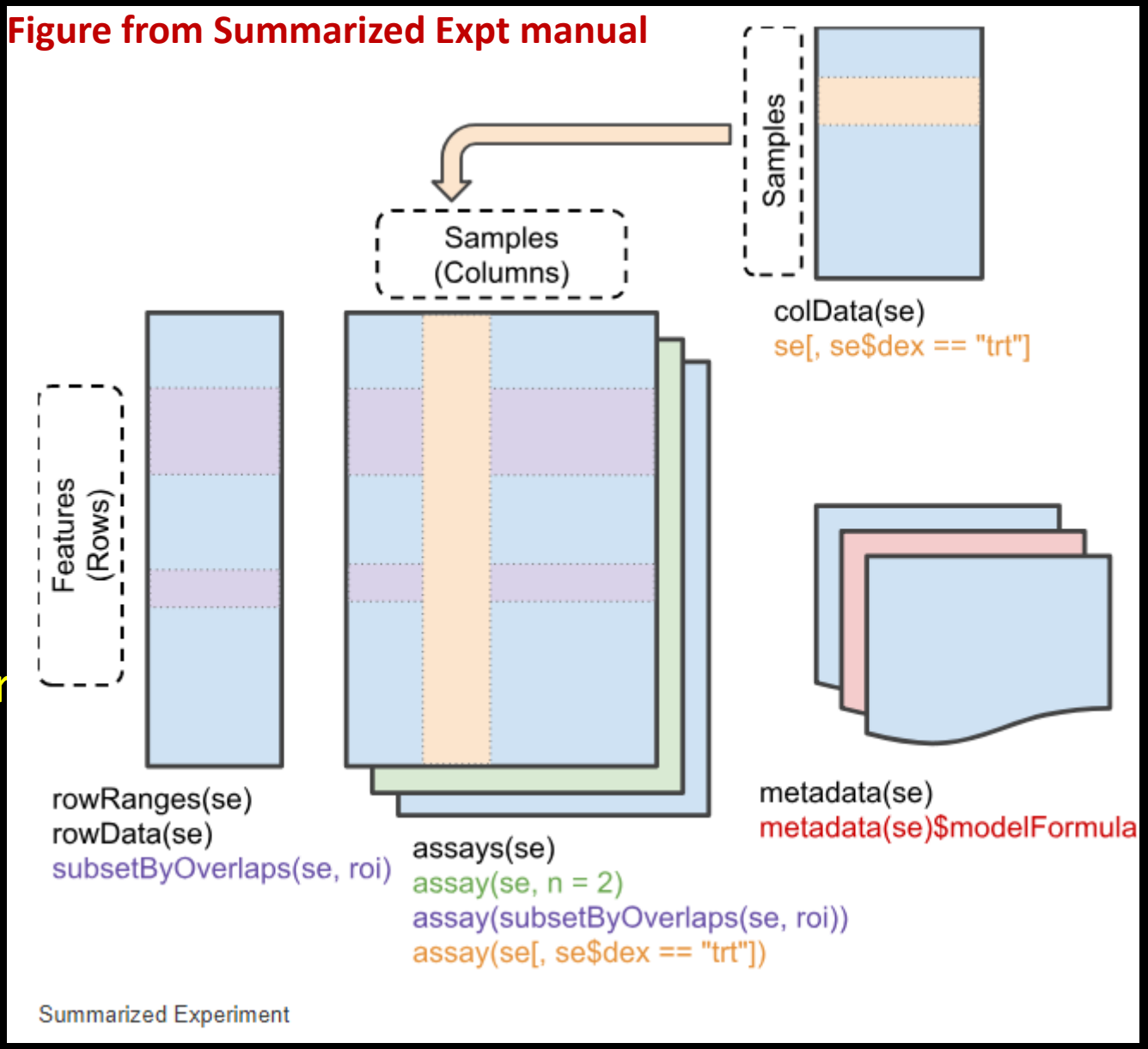
Generic	*UseMethod*
print	generic.class
	print.data.frame
	print.data.table*
	print.Date
	print.default
	print.dendrogram

Hands-on 2

S4

- Very useful to create new class
  - Ex SummarizedExperiment
- Complex objects
  - Genomic objects
  - Elements of class are called slots
  - SetMethod to define methods for a class
- Reused in many contexts

Figure from Summarized Expt manual



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THANK YOU