

Practical 3

Jumping Rivers

S4 objects ¹

¹ I've intentionally mirrored the functions from previous practical to highlight the differences.

1. Following the `Cohort` example in the notes, suppose we want to make a generic for the `mean` function.
2. Using the `isGeneric` function, determine if the `mean` function is an S4 generic. If not, use `setGeneric` to create an S4 generic.

```
isGeneric("mean")
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
setGeneric("mean")
```

```
## [1] "mean"
```

3. Using `setMethod`, create a `mean` method for the `Cohort` class.²

² Be careful to match the arguments.

```
setMethod("mean", signature = c("Cohort"), definition = function(x,
  ...) {
  m1 = mean(x@details[, 1], ...)
  m2 = mean(x@details[, 2], ...)
  return(c(m1, m2))
})
```

4. Repeat the above steps for the `sd` function.

```
isGeneric("sd")
```

```
## [1] FALSE
```

```
setGeneric("sd")
```

```
## [1] "sd"
```

```
setMethod("sd", signature = c("Cohort"), definition = function(x,
  na.rm = FALSE) {
  m1 = sd(x@details[, 1], na.rm = na.rm)
  m2 = sd(x@details[, 2], na.rm = na.rm)
  return(c(m1, m2))
})
```

5. Create a `summary` method for the `cohort` class
6. Use `isGeneric` to determine if an S4 generic exists.
7. Use `setGeneric` to set the generic method (if necessary).

8. Create an S4 summary method.

```
isGeneric("summary")

## [1] TRUE

setGeneric("summary")

## [1] "summary"

setMethod("summary", signature = c("Cohort"),
  definition = function(object, ...) {
    summary(object@details)
  })
```

9. Create a `hist` method for the `cohort` class. When the `hist` function is called on a `cohort`, it should produce a single plot showing two histograms - one for height and another for weight.

```
isGeneric("hist")

## [1] FALSE

setGeneric("hist")

## [1] "hist"

setMethod("hist", signature = c("Cohort"), definition = function(x,
  ...) {
  dd = x@details
  Weight = ggplot(dd, aes(x = weight)) + geom_histogram() +
    labs(title = "Weight")
  Height = ggplot(dd, aes(x = height)) + geom_histogram() +
    labs(title = "Height")
  gridExtra::grid.arrange(Weight, Height)
})
```

10. Create a `[` method for the `cohort` class. This method should return a `cohort` object, but with the relevant rows sub setted.

```
isGeneric("[")

## [1] TRUE

getGeneric("[")

## standardGeneric for "[" defined from package "base"
##
## function (x, i, j, ..., drop = TRUE)
```

```
## standardGeneric("[", .Primitive("["))
## <bytecode: 0x561f78800898>
## <environment: 0x561f787f51b0>
## Methods may be defined for arguments: x, i, j, drop
## Use showMethods("[") for currently available ones.

## Can you determine what drop does?
setMethod("[", signature = c("Cohort"), definition = function(x,
  i, j, ..., drop = TRUE) {
  x@details = x@details[i, j, ..., drop = drop]
  x
})
```

11. Create a <- method for the cohort class. This method should allow us to replace values in the details data frame.

```
isGeneric("<-")

## [1] TRUE

setGeneric("<-")

## [1] "<-"

setMethod("<-", signature = c("Cohort"), definition = function(x,
  i, j, value) {
  x@details[i, j] = value
  x
})
coh_s4[1, ] = 5
```

Solutions

Solutions are contained within the course package

```
library("jrOOP")
vignette("solutions3", package = "jrOOP")
```