

Data types and structures, matrices, data frames and lists

B83128 – Introduction to R scripting language (shortened version)

Lubomír Štěpánek^{1, 2}



¹Department of Biomedical Statistics
Institute of Biophysics and Informatics
First Faculty of Medicine
Charles University, Prague



²Department of Biomedical Informatics
Faculty of Biomedical Engineering
Czech Technical University in Prague

(2020) Lubomír Štěpánek, CC BY-NC-ND 3.0 (CZ)



You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. You may not use the material for commercial purposes. If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you may not distribute the modified material.

Content

1 Data structures

2 Matrices

3 Data frames

4 Lists

5 References

Data structures

- a vector (`vector`)
- a factor (`factor`)
- a matrix (`matrix`)
- a data frame (`data.frame`)
- a list (`list`)

Matrices' initialization and basic commands

- a matrix (`matrix`) is a two-dimensional array containing values of (only) one data type
- all columns of a matrix are of one length, and all rows of a matrix are of one length
- let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

- in R, we get the matrices A and B by

```

1  A <- matrix(c(1, 2, 3, 4), nrow = 2,
2                      ncol = 2)
3  B <- matrix(c(1, 3, 2, 4), nrow = 2,
4                      ncol = 2)
5  B <- matrix(c(1, 2, 3, 4), nrow = 2,
6                      ncol = 2, byrow = TRUE)
7  # only one of the arguments "nrow" and "ncol" is necessary

```

Manipulation with matrices

- let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- in R using

```
1 || C <- matrix(letters[1:12], nrow = 3,
2 || byrow = T)
```

- some useful commands are

```
1 || is.matrix(C) # TRUE
2 || class(C) # "matrix"
3 || mode(C) # "character"; data type of matrix
4 || # values
5 || str(C) # chr [1:3, 1:4] "a" "e" "i" ...
6 || dim(C) # c(3, 4); dimensions of matrix C
```

Manipulation with matrices

- let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- other bunch of useful commands

```

1 | colnames(C) <- c("c1", "c2", "c3", "c4")
2 | rownames(C) <- c("r1", "r2", "r3")
3 |           # adds labels to columns and rows
4 | C <- unname(C)
5 |           # deletes the labels of columns
6 |           # and rows
7 | dimnames(C) <- list(
8 |                   c("r1", "r2", "r3"),
9 |                   c("c1", "c2", "c3", "c4")
10 |                )
11 |           # also adds labels to columns and rows

```

Manipulation with matrices

- let's have

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- another bunch of useful commands

```
1 rbind(C, c("x", "x", "x", "x"))  
2           # adds a row of c("x", "x", "x", "x")  
3           # to the matrix C  
4 cbind(C, c("x", "x", "x"))  
5           # adds a column of c("x", "x", "x")  
6           # to the matrix C  
7 C[-1, ]   # deletes the 1-st row of the matrix C  
8 C[, -2]   # deletes the 2-nd column  
9           # of the matrix C
```


Submatrices, indexing, addressing

- let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- in R by

```

1 | C <- matrix(letters[1:12], nrow = 3,
2 |           byrow = T, dimnames = list(
3 |           c("r1", "r2", "r3"),
4 |           c("c1", "c2", "c3", "c4")))
5 | C[2, 3]           # "g"; a value of the 2-nd row
6 |                 # and the 3-st column
7 | C["r2", "c3"]    # "g"; a value of the 2-nd row
8 |                 # and the 3-st column
9 | C[1, ]           # c("a", "b", "c", "d");
10 |                 # a vector of the 1-st row of the matrix C
11 |                 # with labels

```

Submatrices, indexing, addressing

- still let's have

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- addressing

```

1 | C[, 3]           # c("c", "g", "k");
2 |                 # a vector of the 3-rd column
3 |                 # of the matrix C with labels
4 | C[c(1, 3), c(2, 4)]
5 |                 # matrix(c("b", "j", "d", "l"), 2)
6 |                 # a submatrix of the 1-st and 3-rd rows,
7 |                 # 2-nd and 4-th column of the matrix C
8 |                 # with labels
9 | C["r2", ]       # c("e", "f", "g", "h");
10 |                # a vector of the 2-nd row
11 |                # of the matrix C with labels

```

Submatrices, indexing, addressing

- let's have

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \end{pmatrix}$$

- addressing

```

1 | C[dim(C)[1], dim(C)[2]]
2 |                               # "l"; a general addressing
3 |                               # of the right bottom page
4 | C[5]                          # "f"; major-column ordering
5 | C[c(8, 9)] # c("g", "k")
6 | C[13]                        # NA
7 | diag(C)                      # c("a", "f", "k"); main diagonal
8 | diag(C[, dim(C)[2]:1])
9 |                               # c("d", "g", "j"); opposite diagonal

```

Matrix algebra

- let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ 6 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

- in R using

```
1 || A <- matrix(c(1, 2, 3, 4), nrow = 2)
2 || B <- matrix(c(5, 6, 7, 8), nrow = 2)
```

- Hadamard's product (*element-wise, pairwise*) $A \circ B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 21 \\ 12 & 32 \end{pmatrix}$

```
1 || A * B      # matrix(c(5, 12, 21, 32), 2)
```

- matrix product $A \cdot B = \begin{pmatrix} 23 & 31 \\ 34 & 46 \end{pmatrix}$

```
1 || A %*% B    # matrix(c(23, 34, 31, 46), 2)
```

Matrix algebra

- let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ 6 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

- in R using

```
1 || A <- matrix(c(1, 2, 3, 4), nrow = 2)
2 || B <- matrix(c(5, 6, 7, 8), nrow = 2)
```

- transposition $A^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

```
1 || t(A) # matrix(c(1, 3, 2, 4), 2)
```

Data frames initialization and basic commands

- a `data.frame` is two-dimensional array that consists of columns of values having a same data type
- data types of different columns could be different
- all columns of a matrix are of one length, and all rows of a matrix are of one length
- in R, there are many in-built `data.frames`

```
1      mtcars
2      str(mtcars)
3      class(mtcars)          # "data.frame"
4      mode(mtcars)           # "list"
5      is.data.frame(mtcars)  # TRUE
6      str(iris)
7      # 'data.frame': 150 obs. of 5 variables
8      # ...
9      dim(iris)              # c(150, 5)
```

Manipulation with data frames

- a bunch of useful commands

```
1 data <- mtcars
2 colnames(data)
3 colnames(data) <- paste("c",
4                           1:dim(data)[2],
5                           sep = "_")
6 rownames(data) <- paste("r",
7                           1:dim(data)[1],
8                           sep = "_")
9                               # changes labels of rows and commands
10 head(data)                 # prints out the first 6 rows
11 head(data, 10)
12                               # prints out the first 10 rows
13 tail(data)                 # prints out the last 6 rows
14 tail(data, 10)
15                               # prints out the last 10 rows
```

Manipulation with data frames

- other useful commands

```
1 rbind(data, rep(0, dim(data)[2]))
2           # adds a row of c(0, 0, ..., 0)
3           # to data.frame "data"
4 cbind(data, rep(0, dim(data)[1]))
5           # adds a column of c(0, 0, ..., 0)
6           # to data.frame "data"
7 data.frame(data,
8           "hello" = rep(0, dim(data)[1]))
9           # adds a row of c(0, 0, ..., 0)
10          # with a label "hello" to data.frame
11          # "data"
12 data[-1, ]      # removes the 1-st row of data.frame
13               # "data"
14 data[, -1]      # removes the 1-st column of data.frame
15               # "data"
```


Indexing, addressing

```
1 data[2, 3]      # 160; a value of the 2-nd row,  
2                # 3-rd column  
3 data["r_2", "c_3"]  
4                # 160; a value given by the labels  
5 data[1, ]      # c(21, 6, 160, 110, ...);  
6                # a vector of the 1-st row  
7                # of data frame "data" with labels  
8 data[, 2]      # c(6, 6, 4, 6, ...);  
9                # a vector of the 2-nd column  
10               # of data frame "data" with labels  
11 data$c_5      # c(3.90, 3.90, 3.85, 3.08, ...);  
12               # a vector of the 5-th column  
13               # of data frame "data" with labels  
14 data$c_5[1]   # 3.9;  
15               # the first value of vector  
16               # of the 5-th column  
17               # of data frame "data" with labels
```

Indexing, addressing

```
1 data[dim(data)[1], dim(data)[2]]  
2     # 2; a general way how to address  
3     # the right bottom values  
4     # of the data.frame  
5 data[5]     # the 5-th column, not the major-column  
6     # ordering!
```

Columns' summaries

- sometimes it is handy to get quickly a summary for all columns of a data.frame

```
1 colSums(data)
2           # a vector of sums for each column
3 apply(data, 2, sum)
4           # the same as above
5 colMeans(data)
6           # a vector of means for each column
7 apply(data, 2, mean)
8           # the same as above
```

Columns' summaries

```
1 data <- rbind(data, rep(NA, dim(data)[2]))
2           # adds a row of c(NA, NA, ...)
3 colMeans(data)
4           # c(NA, NA, ...); to avoid non-informative
5           # output, we have to add an argument
6           # na.rm = TRUE
7 colMeans(data, na.rm = TRUE)
8 apply(data, 2, mean, na.rm = TRUE)
9           # both commands work now
```

Lists initialization and basic commands

- a list is a tuple of items such that each item could have its own data structure or data type
- a list could include one or even more other lists
- lengths of the items in a list could differ

```
1 my_list <- list("a" = c(1:10),  
2               "b" = mtcars,  
3               "c" = matrix(1:8, 2),  
4               "z" = "hello")  
5 str(my_list)  
6 class(my_list)      # "list"  
7 mode(my_list)       # "list"  
8 is.list(my_list)    # TRUE
```

Manipulation with lists

- a bunch of useful commands

```
1 names(my_list)
2 names(my_list) <- LETTERS[
3     1:length(my_list)
4 ]           # changing the list's item names
5
6 my_list[[length(my_list) + 1]] <- c(T, F)
7           # adding a vector of c(T, F)
8           # to the list "my_list"
9 names(my_list)[length(my_list)] <- "XY"
10           # and adding a name "XY"
11           # to the vector as an item
```

Indexing, addressing

```
1 my_list[[2]] # the 2-nd item of the list
2 my_list[["B"]]
3 # an item of the list labeled by "B"
4 # of the list
5 # it's the data.frame "mtcars"
6 # because of the double brackets
7 my_list["B"] # an item of the list labeled by "B"
8 # it's still a list
9 # because of the single brackets
10 my_list[c(2, 4)]
11 # the 2-nd and 4-th item of the list
12 my_list$C # an item of the list labeled by "C"
```

Indexing, addressing

```
1 | my_list[[1]][2]
2 |           # 2; the 2-nd value of the 1-st item
3 |           # of the list
4 | my_list[[2]][3, 5]
5 |           # 3.85; the 3-nd and 5-th value
6 |           # of the 2-nd item of the list
```


Indexing, addressing using `lapply()` function

```
1  set.seed(1)
2  my_long_list <- lapply(
3    sample(c(80:120), 100, TRUE),
4    function(x) sample(
5      c(50:150), x, replace = TRUE
6    )
7  ) # a list of vectors of different lengths
8    # populated by random numbers
9    # from range (80, ..., 100)
10
11 lapply(my_long_list, "[", 14)
12    # prints out the 14-th value of each item
13    # of the list
14    # - this is handy since otherwise
15    # it would require to use a for loop
```

Items' summaries

- sometimes it is handy to get quickly a summary for each item of a list

```
1 | lapply(my_long_list, mean)
2 |   # printing out a mean of all
3 |   # values for each item of the list
4 |
5 | lapply(my_long_list, length)
6 |   # printing out a length
7 |   # for each item of the list
```

References



Alain F. Zuur, Elena N. Ieno und Erik Meesters. *A Beginner's Guide to R*. Springer New York, 2009. DOI: 10.1007/978-0-387-93837-0. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-93837-0>.



Hadley Wickham. *Advanced R*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-1466586963.

Thank you for your attention!

lubomir.stepanek@lf1.cuni.cz

lubomir.stepanek@fbmi.cvut.cz

► GitHub

https://github.com/LStepanek/B83128_Introduction_to_R_scripting_language