

# apply functions

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```
?lapply
?mapply
```

The `apply` functions allow us to apply a function to a vector or list of values iteratively. This helps minimize errors in code and makes the analyses more efficient.

With `lapply()` and `sapply()` functions, we can only provide one argument to iterate on.

`sapply()` function simplifies the output to a vector (or the simplest data structure possible), while `lapply()` returns an output in the form of a list.

With `mapply()`, we can provide multiple arguments to iterate on. Because it is a multivariate version of `sapply()`, it probably also returns a vector or simplified data structure as result.

## Exercise 1

Write a function named `mass_from_length_theropoda()` that takes `length` as an argument to get an estimate of mass for Theropoda dinosaurs. Use the equation  $mass \leftarrow 0.73 * length^{3.63}$ . Copy and run the code below to generate the object `theropoda_lengths` in your R environment.

```
mass_from_length_theropoda <- function(length = 1) {
  mass <- 0.73 * length^3.63
  return(mass)
}
mass_from_length_theropoda()
```

```
## [1] 0.73
```

```
theropoda_lengths <- c(17.8013631070471, 20.3764452071665, 14.0743486294308, 25.65782386974, 26.0952008
```

Pass the entire vector to your function (by giving it as value for the `length` argument); this calculates the mass for each length value in the vector `theropoda_lengths`.

```
mass_from_length_theropoda(length = theropoda_lengths)
```

```
## [1] 25262.027 41253.332 10767.568 95233.732 101260.017 40775.516
## [7] 24072.130 4785.145 39129.521 29666.193 26830.297 64700.869
## [13] 42768.180 94697.262 79013.471 103955.226 92798.465 41901.983
## [19] 17439.569 41055.045 37544.201 25198.303 12928.490 36388.290
## [25] 34962.862 80307.929 8854.525 50183.194 28846.165 35735.369
## [31] 115908.187 31765.368 58958.713 5561.862 28349.410 15418.314
## [37] 9218.648 1197.666 94407.873 19552.500
```

What is the output? It is a vector of masses calculated from theropoda lengths using the function we created above (called `mass_from_length_theropoda()`).

```
theropoda_masses <- mass_from_length_theropoda(length = theropoda_lengths)
```

```
my_list <- list(theropoda_masses)
```

```
second_list <- c(my_list, list(c("Luna", "Avi", "Anita")))
```

```
second_list[[1]]
```

```
## [1] 25262.027 41253.332 10767.568 95233.732 101260.017 40775.516
## [7] 24072.130 4785.145 39129.521 29666.193 26830.297 64700.869
## [13] 42768.180 94697.262 79013.471 103955.226 92798.465 41901.983
## [19] 17439.569 41055.045 37544.201 25198.303 12928.490 36388.290
## [25] 34962.862 80307.929 8854.525 50183.194 28846.165 35735.369
## [31] 115908.187 31765.368 58958.713 5561.862 28349.410 15418.314
## [37] 9218.648 1197.666 94407.873 19552.500
```

```
data.frame(theropoda_masses, c("Anita", "Avi", "Luna", "Maria"))
```

```
##      theropoda_masses c..Anita....Avi....Luna....Maria..
## 1          25262.027                               Anita
## 2          41253.332                               Avi
## 3          10767.568                               Luna
## 4          95233.732                               Maria
## 5          101260.017                              Anita
## 6          40775.516                               Avi
## 7          24072.130                               Luna
## 8          4785.145                                Maria
## 9          39129.521                              Anita
## 10         29666.193                               Avi
## 11         26830.297                               Luna
## 12         64700.869                               Maria
## 13         42768.180                              Anita
## 14         94697.262                               Avi
## 15         79013.471                               Luna
## 16         103955.226                              Maria
## 17         92798.465                              Anita
## 18         41901.983                               Avi
## 19         17439.569                               Luna
## 20         41055.045                              Maria
## 21         37544.201                              Anita
## 22         25198.303                               Avi
## 23         12928.490                               Luna
## 24         36388.290                              Maria
## 25         34962.862                              Anita
## 26         80307.929                               Avi
## 27         8854.525                                Luna
## 28         50183.194                              Maria
## 29         28846.165                              Anita
## 30         35735.369                               Avi
## 31         115908.187                              Luna
## 32         31765.368                              Maria
## 33         58958.713                              Anita
## 34         5561.862                               Avi
## 35         28349.410                              Luna
## 36         15418.314                              Maria
```

```
## 37      9218.648      Anita
## 38      1197.666       Avi
## 39     94407.873      Luna
## 40     19552.500      Maria
```

Create a new version of the function named `mass_from_length()` that uses the equation `mass <- a * length^b` and takes `length`, `a` and `b` as arguments. In the function arguments, set the default values for `a` to 0.73 and `b` to 3.63. If you run this function with just the `length` data from Part 1, you should get the same result as Part 1.

```
mass_from_length <- function(length, a = 0.73, b = 3.63){
  mass <- a * length^b
  return(mass)
}
new_masses <- mass_from_length(length = theropoda_lengths)
# rm(new_lengths) # The rm function allows to remove objects from the R environment

theropoda_masses == new_masses

## [1] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
## [16] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
## [31] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
all(theropoda_masses == new_masses) # tests that all values in a logical vector are equal tot TRUE

## [1] TRUE
all.equal(theropoda_masses, new_masses)
```

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

Copy the data below into R and call your function using the vector of lengths from Part 1 (above) and these vectors of `a` and `b` values to estimate the mass for the dinosaurs using different values of `a` and `b`.

```
a_values <- c(0.759, 0.751, 0.74, 0.746, 0.759, 0.751, 0.749, 0.751, 0.738, 0.768, 0.736, 0.749, 0.746,
b_values <- c(3.627, 3.633, 3.626, 3.633, 3.627, 3.629, 3.632, 3.628, 3.633, 3.627, 3.621, 3.63, 3.631,
mass_from_length(length = theropoda_lengths, a = a_values, b = b_values)

## [1] 26039.686 42825.603 10800.224 98273.049 104257.481 41822.386
## [7] 24840.644 4899.022 39915.948 30937.922 26354.908 66384.865
## [13] 43837.944 97141.451 80553.856 105556.405 97374.660 42760.136
## [19] 18749.274 42109.012 40674.182 26003.425 13229.824 37472.789
## [25] 34684.033 80187.272 9460.977 51630.571 29253.772 36399.306
## [31] 117511.962 33384.288 58581.226 5462.316 28637.745 15864.172
## [37] 9284.810 1218.755 98522.609 19534.524
```

Basic functions can “naturally” iterate through values in a vector to perform calculations.

3. Create a data frame for this data using the code `dino_data <- data.frame(theropoda_lengths, a_values, b_values)`. Use `dplyr` to add a new masses column to this data frame (using `mutate()` and your function) and print the result to the console.

```
dino_data <- data.frame(theropoda_lengths, a_values, b_values)
head(dino_data)

##   theropoda_lengths a_values b_values
## 1      17.80136    0.759    3.627
## 2      20.37645    0.751    3.633
```

```
## 3      14.07435    0.740    3.626
## 4      25.65782    0.746    3.633
## 5      26.09520    0.759    3.627
## 6      20.31115    0.751    3.629
```

<<- the scope operator or double arrow, allows creating and modifying objects in parent variables.

## Exercise 2

1. Create a new version of your `mass_from_length_theropoda()` function from Part 1 of Exercise 1 called `mass_from_length_max()`. This function should only calculate a mass if the value of length passed to the function is less than 20.

```
theropoda_lengths <- 20
```

```
## [1] TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE
## [13] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
## [25] TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE TRUE
## [37] TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE
```

```
mass_from_length_max <- function(length) {
  if (length < 20) {
    mass <- 0.73 * length^3.63
    return(mass)
  } else {
    return(NA)
  }
}
```

```
# mass_from_length_max(length) {
#   if (length < 20) {
#     mass <- 0.73 * length^3.63
#   } else {
#     mass <- NA
#   }
#   return(mass)
# }
```

```
# mass_from_length_max(length) {
#   if (length < 20) {
#     mass <- 0.73 * length^3.63
#     return(mass)
#   }
# }
```

2. If length is greater than 20, return NA instead. Use `sapply()` and this new function to estimate the mass for the `theropoda_lengths` data from Exercise 1.

```
mass_from_length_max(length = theropoda_lengths)
```

```
## Error in if (length < 20) {: the condition has length > 1
```

```
sapply(theropoda_lengths, mass_from_length_max)
```

```
## [1] 25262.027      NA 10767.568      NA      NA      NA 24072.130
## [8]  4785.145      NA 29666.193 26830.297      NA      NA      NA
## [15]      NA      NA      NA      NA 17439.569      NA 37544.201
## [22] 25198.303 12928.490 36388.290 34962.862      NA  8854.525      NA
```

```
## [29] 28846.165 35735.369      NA 31765.368      NA 5561.862 28349.410
## [36] 15418.314 9218.648 1197.666      NA 19552.500
```

### Exercise 3

1. Download the CSV file of data on dinosaur lengths with species names into your data folder and import it using `read.csv()`.
2. Write a function `get_mass_from_length_by_name()` that uses the equation  $\text{mass} <- a * \text{length}^b$  to estimate the size of a dinosaur from its length. This function should take two arguments, the length and the name of the dinosaur group. Inside this function use `if/else if/else` statements to check to see if the name is one of the following values and if so set `a` and `b` to the appropriate values from Seebacher 2001. Stegosauria:  $a = 10.95$  and  $b = 2.64$  Theropoda:  $a = 0.73$  and  $b = 3.63$  Sauropoda:  $a = 214.44$  and  $b = 1.46$  If the name is not any of these values set `a = NA` and `b = NA`.
3. Use this function and `mapply()` to calculate the estimated mass for each dinosaur. You'll need to pass the data to `mapply()` as single vectors or columns, not the whole data frame.
4. Using `dplyr`, add a new masses column to the data frame (using `rowwise()`, `mutate()` and your function) and print the result to the console.
5. Using `ggplot2`, make a histogram of dinosaur masses with one subplot for each species (remember `facet_wrap()`).