

Class 6: R functions

Melandra Aboueid (A17473102)

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Background

All functions in R have at least 3 things:

- A **name** that we use to call the function.
- One or more input **arguments**
- The **body** the lines of R code that do the work

Our first function

Let's write a silly wee function called `add()` to add some numbers (the input argumentsd)

```
add <- function(x, y) {  
  x+y  
}
```

Now we can use this function

```
add(100,1)
```

```
[1] 101
```

```
add(x=c(100,1,100), y=1 )
```

```
[1] 101    2 101
```

Q. What if I give a multiple element vector to x and y?

```
add(x=c(100,1), y=c(100,1))
```

```
[1] 200    2
```

Q. What if I give three inputs to the function?

```
#add(x=c(100,1), y=1, z=1)
```

Q. What happens if I give only one input to the add function?

```
addnew <- function(x, y=1) {  
  x+y  
}
```

```
addnew(x=100)
```

```
[1] 101
```

```
addnew(c(100,1), 100)
```

```
[1] 200 101
```

If we write our function with input arguments having no default value than the user will be required to set them when they use the function> We can give our input arguments “default” values

A second function

Let's try something more interesting: Make a sequence generating tool...

The `sample()` function can be a useful starting point here:

```
sample(1:10, size=4)
```

```
[1] 5 7 10 1
```

Q. Generating 9 random numbers taken from the input vectore x=1:10?

```
sample(1:10, size=9)
```

```
[1] 2 5 1 4 9 8 3 6 7
```

Q. Generating 12 random numbers taken from the input vectore x=1:10?

```
sample(1:10, size= 12, replace=TRUE)
```

```
[1] 1 2 10 2 9 7 7 10 1 2 4 1
```

Q. Write code for the `sample()` function that generates nucleotide seqruncne of length 6?

```
sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"), size =6, replace= TRUE)
```

```
[1] "A" "T" "A" "T" "T" "G"
```

Q. Write a first functin `generate_dna()` that returns a *user specified length* DNA sequence:

```
generate_dna <- function(len=100) {  
  sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"), size =len, replace= TRUE)  
}
```

```
generate_dna(len=100)
```

```
[1] "G" "A" "C" "T" "C" "T" "C" "C" "A" "A" "T" "T" "C" "C" "C" "T" "G" "G"  
[19] "G" "C" "A" "A" "C" "T" "T" "G" "A" "T" "T" "A" "G" "A" "A" "C" "A" "C"  
[37] "A" "T" "C" "G" "C" "G" "C" "A" "C" "A" "A" "A" "G" "G" "A" "C" "T" "C"  
[55] "C" "G" "G" "C" "G" "T" "A" "A" "T" "C" "A" "T" "G" "A" "G" "G" "C" "G"  
[73] "A" "A" "G" "T" "T" "C" "G" "A" "C" "T" "T" "C" "A" "T" "C" "G" "A" "G"  
[91] "A" "C" "T" "G" "C" "C" "G" "A" "C"
```

Key-points Every function in R looks fundamentally the same in terms of its structure. Basically 3 things: name, input, and body

```
name <- function(input) {  
  body  
}
```

Functions can have multiple inputs. These can be *required arguments* or *optional* arguments. With optional arguments having a set default value.

Q. Modify and improve our `generate_dna` function to return it's generated sequence in a more standard format like "AGTAGTA" rather than vector "A", "T", "C", "G"

```
generate_dna <- function(len=6, fasta=TRUE) {  
  ans <- sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"),  
                size =len, replace= TRUE)  
  if(fasta) {  
    ans <- paste(ans, collapse= "")  
  }  
  return(ans)  
}  
generate_dna()
```

```
[1] "CTACTC"
```

The `paste()` function - it's job ia to join up or stick together (a.k.a paste) input strings together

```
paste("alice","loves R", sep=" ")
```

```
[1] "alice loves R"
```

Flow control means where the R brain goes in your code

```
good_mood <- TRUE  
  
if(good_mood) {  
  cat ("GREAT!")  
} else {  
  cat("Bummer!")  
}
```

```
GREAT!
```

A protein generating function

- Q. Write a function that generates user specified length protein sequence.
- Q. Use that function to generate protein sequences between length 6 and 12
- Q. Are any of your sequences unique i.e. not found anywhere in nature?

There are 20 natural amino acids

```
aa <- c("A", "R", "N", "D", "C", "Q", "E", "G", "H", "I", "L", "K", "M", "F", "P", "S", "T", "W", "Y", "V")  
  
generate_protein <- function(len) {  
  
  # The amino-acids to sample from  
  aa <- c("A", "R", "N", "D", "C", "Q", "E", "G", "H", "I", "L", "K", "M", "F", "P", "S", "T", "W", "Y", "V")  
  #Draw n=len amino acids to make our sequence  
  ans <- sample(aa, size=len, replace= T)  
  ans <- paste(ans, collapse="")  
  return(ans)  
}  
  
myseq <- generate_protein(142)  
myseq
```

```
[1] "WFRNCHLRHPINHLPNIGDRTMRDWMACWCEDLRHYVGVICLEIQCAPPQGSEFEPPILWYHFQHQKPEIWWVSFDMKTRYNPHGCG"
```

- Q. Use that function to generate protein sequences between length 6 and 12

```
generate_protein(6)
```

```
[1] "TSFPCF"
```

```
generate_protein(7)
```

```
[1] "LQMIMDS"
```

```
generate_protein(8)
```

```
[1] "RYDVCMYL"
```

```
generate_protien(9)
```

```
[1] "FLGLVVMKQ"
```

```
generate_protien(10)
```

```
[1] "LWFNHHYDTV"
```

```
generate_protien(11)
```

```
[1] "GKSVNFPKVEY"
```

```
generate_protien(12)
```

```
[1] "QRKVELINDTMS"
```

```
for(i in 6:12) {  
  #FASTA ID line ">id"  
  cat(">",i, sep="", "\n")  
  # protien equence line  
  cat(generate_protien(i), "\n")  
}
```

```
>6  
FFTGGS  
>7  
DDCSEEW  
>8  
TALHFMVH  
>9  
YQICFLMKM  
>10  
VFAYYHERYE  
>11  
MWWSCAMELWL  
>12  
NMMMVNSMIQEM
```