

Matrices, Lists, Dataframes, S3 and S4 Objects.

Elements of the R language

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Contents of the lecture



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Matrices



A **matrix** is a 2-dimensional data structure, like vector, it consists of elements of the same type. A matrix has *rows* and *columns*.

Say, we want to construct this matrix in R:

$$\mathbf{X} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \ 4 & 5 & 6 \ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

Matrices — indexing



Elements of a matrix are retrieved using the '[]' notation, like we have seen for vectors. Here, we have to specify 2 dimensions -- the row and the column:

```
X[1,2] # Retrieve element from the 1st row, 2nd column
X[3,] # Retrieve the entire 3rd row
X[,2] # Retrieve the 2nd column

## [1] 2
## [1] 7 8 9
## [1] 2 5 8
```

Matrices — indexing cted.



```
X[c(1,3),] # Retrieve rows 1 and 3
X[c(1,3),c(3,1)]

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 1 2 3
## [2,] 7 8 9
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 3 1
## [2,] 9 7
```

Matrices — dimensions



To check the dimensions of a matrix, use dim():

```
X dim(X) # 3 rows and 3 columns

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

Nobody knows why dim() does not work on vectors... use length() instead.

Matrices — operations



Usually the functions that work for a vector also work for matrices. To order a matrix with respect to, say, 2nd column:

```
X <- matrix(sample(1:9,size = 9), nrow = 3)
ord <- order(X[,2])
X[ord,]

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 2 1 6
## [2,] 5 3 8
## [3,] 7 9 4</pre>
```

Matrices — transposition



To **transpose** a matrix use t():

```
t(X)

## [,1] [,2] [,3]

## [1,] 2 1 6

## [2,] 5 3 8

## [3,] 7 9 4

## [,1] [,2] [,3]

## [1,] 2 5 7

## [2,] 1 3 9

## [3,] 6 8 4

## [3,] 6 8 4

## [3,] 6 8 4

## [3,] 6 8 4

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## [3,] 8 8

## [3,] 8 8

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## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8

## [3,] 9 8
```

Nobody knows why dim() does not work on vectors... use length() instead.

Matrices — operations 2



To get the diagonal, of the matrix:

```
X
diag(X) # get values on the diagonal

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

Matrices — operations, triangles

[3,] FALSE FALSE FALSE ## [,1] [,2] [,3]

[1,] 2 0 0 ## [2,] 5 3 0 ## [3,] 7 9 4



To get the upper or the lower triangle use **upper.tri()** and **lower.tri()** respectively:

```
X # print X
upper.tri(X) # which elements form the upper triangle
X[upper.tri(X)] <- 0 # set them to 0
X # print the new matrix

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 2 1 6
## [2,] 5 3 8
## [3,] 7 9 4
## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] FALSE TRUE TRUE
## [2,] FALSE FALSE TRUE</pre>
```

Matrices — multiplication



Different types of matrix multiplication exist:

```
A <- matrix(1:4, nrow = 2, byrow=T)
B <- matrix(5:8, nrow = 2, byrow=T)
A * B # Hadamard product
A %*% B # Matrix multiplication
# A %x% B # Kronecker product
# A %o% B # Outer product (tensor product)
```

```
## [,1] [,2]

## [1,] 5 12

## [2,] 21 32

## [,1] [,2]

## [1,] 19 22

## [2,] 43 50
```

Matrices — outer



Outer product can be useful for generating names

```
outer(letters[1:4], LETTERS[1:4], paste, sep="-")

## [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
## [1,] "a-A" "a-B" "a-C" "a-D"
## [2,] "b-A" "b-B" "b-C" "b-D"
## [3,] "c-A" "c-B" "c-C" "c-D"
## [4,] "d-A" "d-B" "d-C" "d-D"
```

Expand grid



But **expand.grid()** is more convenient when you want, e.g. generate combinations of variable values:

```
height weight
##
                sex
## 1
      120 1-50 Male
## 2
    121 1-50 Male
    120 51+ Male
## 3
## 4
     121 51+ Male
## 5
     120 1-50 Female
      121 1-50 Female
## 6
## 7
      120 51+ Female
## 8
     121 51+ Female
```

Matrices — apply



Function **apply** is a very useful function that applies a given function to either each value of the matrix or in a column/row-wise manner. Say, we want to have mean of values by column:

```
X
apply(X, MARGIN=2, mean) # MARGIN=1 would do it for rows

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 2 0 0
## [2,] 5 3 0
## [3,] 7 9 4
## [1] 4.666667 4.000000 1.333333
```

Matrices — apply cted.



And now we will use *apply()* to replace each element it a matrix with its deviation from the mean squared:

```
X
my.mean <- mean(X)
apply(X, MARGIN=c(1,2),
    function(x, my.mean) (x - my.mean)^2,
    my.mean)</pre>
```

```
## [,1] [,2] [,3]

## [1,] 2 0 0

## [2,] 5 3 0

## [3,] 7 9 4

## [,1] [,2] [,3]

## [1,] 1.777778 11.1111111 11.1111111

## [2,] 2.777778 0.1111111 11.1111111

## [3,] 13.444444 32.1111111 0.4444444
```

Matrices — useful fns.



While *apply()* is handy, it is a bit slow and for the most common statistics, there are special functions col/row Sums/Means:

```
X colSums(X)

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 2 0 0
## [2,] 5 3 0
## [3,] 7 9 4
## [1] 14 12 4
```

These functions are faster!

Matrices — adding rows/columns



One may wish to add a row or a column to an already existing matrix or to make a matrix out of two or more vectors of equal length:

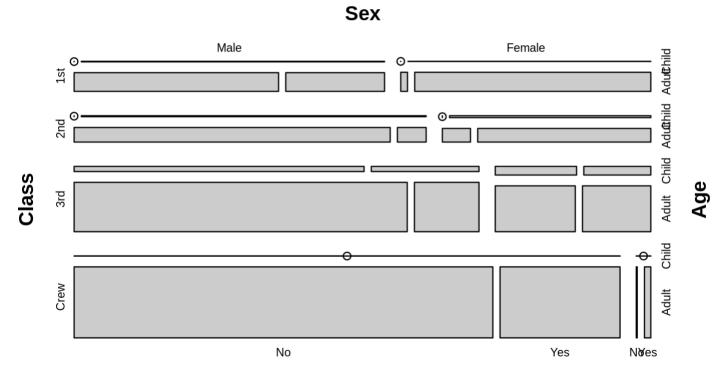
Matrices — more dimensions



```
dim(Titanic)

## [1] 4 2 2 2

library(vcd)
mosaic(Titanic, gp_labels=gpar(fontsize=7))
```



Lists — collections of various data types



A list is a collection of elements that can be of various data types:

```
name <- c('R2D2', 'C3P0', 'BB8')
weight <- c(21, 54, 17)
data <- list(name=name, weight)
data
data$name
data[[1]]</pre>
```

```
## $name
## [1] "R2D2" "C3PO" "BB8"
##
## [[2]]
## [1] 21 54 17
##
## [1] "R2D2" "C3PO" "BB8"
## [1] "R2D2" "C3PO" "BB8"
```

Lists — collections of various data types



Elements of a list can also be different data structures:

```
weight <- matrix(sample(1:9, size = 9), nrow=3)
data <- list(name, weight)
data
data[[2]][3]</pre>
```

Data frames



A **data frame** or a **data table** is a data structure very handy to use. In this structure elements of every column have the same type, but different columns can have different types. Technically, a data frame is a list of vectors...

Data frames — cted.



As you have seen, columns of a data frame are named after the call that created them. Not always the best option...

```
## no letter isBrown
## 1 1 a TRUE
## 2 2 b TRUE
## 3 3 c TRUE
## 4 4 d FALSE
## 5 5 e FALSE
```

Data frames — accessing values

[1] TRUE TRUE



As you have seen, columns of a data frame are named after the call that created them. Not always the best option...

```
df[1,] # get the first row
df[,2] # the first column
df[2:3, 'isBrown'] # get rows 2-3 from the isBrown column
df$letter[1:2] # get the first 2 letters

## no letter isBrown
## 1 1 a TRUE
## [1] "a" "b" "c" "d" "e"
```

Data frames — factors



An interesting observation:

```
df$letter
df$letter <- as.character(df$letter)
df$letter

## [1] "a" "b" "c" "d" "e"
## [1] "a" "b" "c" "d" "e"</pre>
```

Data frames — factors cted.



To treat characters as characters at data frame creation time, one can use the **stringsAsFactors** option set to TRUE:

```
## [1] a b c d e
## Levels: a b c d e
```

Well, as you see, it did not work as expected...

Data frames — names



To get or change row/column names:

```
colnames(df) # get column names
rownames(df) # get row names
rownames(df) <- letters[1:5]
rownames(df)
df['b',]</pre>
```

Data frames — merging



A very useful feature of R is merging two data frames on certain key using merge:

Objects — type vs. class



An object of class **factor** is internally represented by numbers:

```
size <- factor('small')
class(size) # Class 'factor'
mode(size) # Is represented by 'numeric'
typeof(size) # Of integer type

## [1] "factor"
## [1] "numeric"
## [1] "integer"</pre>
```

Objects — structure

1240 bytes



Many functions return **objects**. We can easily examine their **structure**:

```
his <- hist(1:5, plot=F)
str(his)
object.size(hist) # How much memory the object consumes

## List of 6
## $ breaks : int [1:5] 1 2 3 4 5
## $ counts : int [1:4] 2 1 1 1
## $ density : num [1:4] 0.4 0.2 0.2 0.2
## $ mids : num [1:4] 1.5 2.5 3.5 4.5
## $ xname : chr "1:5"
## $ equidist: logi TRUE
## - attr(*, "class")= chr "histogram"
```

Objects — fix



We can easily modify values of object's attributes:

```
attributes(his)
attr(his, "names")
#fix(his) # Opens an object editor

## $names
## [1] "breaks" "counts" "density" "mids" "xname" "equidist"
##
## $class
## [1] "histogram"
##
## [1] "breaks" "counts" "density" "mids" "xname" "equidist"
```

Lists as S3 classes



A list that has been named, becomes an S3 class:

However, that was it. We cannot enforce that *numbers* will contain numeric values and that *letters* will contain only characters. S3 is a very primitive class.

S3 classes



For an S3 class we can define a *generic function* applicable to all objects of this class.

```
print.my.list.class <- function(x) {
  cat('Numbers:', x$numbers, '\n')
  cat('Letters:', x$letters)
}
print(my.list)

## Numbers: 1 2 3 4 5
## Letters: a b c d e</pre>
```

But here, we have no error-proofing. If the object will lack *numbers*, the function will still be called:

```
class(his) <- 'my.list.class' # alter class
print(his) # Gibberish but no error...

## Numbers:
## Letters:</pre>
```

S3 classes — still useful?



Well, S3 class mechanism is still in use, esp. when writing **generic** functions, most common examples being *print* and *plot*. For example, if you plot an object of a Manhattan.plot class, you write *plot(gwas.result)* but the true call is: *plot.manhattan(gwas.result)*. This makes life easier as it requires less writing, but it is up to the function developers to make sure everything works!

S4 class mechanism



S4 classes are more advanced as you actually define the structure of the data within the object of your particular class:

S4 class — slots



The variables within an S4 class are stored in the so-called **slots**. In the above example, we have 2 such slots: *name* and *coords*. Here is how to access them:

```
my.gene@name # access using @ operator
my.gene@coords[2] # access the 2nd element in slot coords
```

```
## [1] "ANK3"
## [1] 1412000
```

See you at the next lecture!



