# 1 - Intro to R Data Structures

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#### Data Frames

- Data Frames are the work horse of R objects
- Structured by rows and columns and can be indexed
- Each column is a specified variable type
- Columns names can be used to index a variable
- Advice for naming variable applys to editing columns names
- Can be specified by grouping vectors of equal length as columns

# Data Frame Indexing

- Elements indexed similar to a vector using [ ]
- ▶ df[i,j] will select the element in the  $i^{th}$  row and  $j^{th}$  column
- df[ ,j] will select the entire j<sup>th</sup> column and treat it as a vector
- ightharpoonup df[i ,] will select the entire  $i^{th}$  row and treat it as a vector
- ► Logical vectors can be used in place of i and j used to subset the row and columns

# Adding a New Variable to Data Frames

- Create a new vector that is the same length as other columns
- ► Append new column to the data frame using the \$ operator
- ► The new data frame column will adopt the name of the vector

#### Data Frame Demo

- ▶ Demo using a statistical classic: Edgar Anderson's Iris Data
- ► Follow along with the R script named 4-DataStructures.R

- ► Make a data frame with column 1: 1,2,3,4,5,6 and column 2:a,b,a,b,a,b
- ► Select only rows with value "a" in column 2 using logical vector
- mtcars is a built in data set like iris: read the values from row 4 by indexing

#### Lists

- Lists are a structured collection of R objects
- R objects in a list need not be the same type
- Create lists using the list() function
- Lists indexed using double square brackets [[ ]] to select an object

## List Example

```
# Create a list including a vector and a matrix
mylist <- list( matrix(letters[1:10], nrow=2, ncol=5) , seq(0, 49, by=7
mylist
## [[1]]
       [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,] "a" "c" "e" "g" "i"
## [2,] "b" "d" "f" "h" "i"
##
## [[2]]
## [1] 0 7 14 21 28 35 42 49
# Use index to select second object in list, this will return the vecto
mylist[[2]]
## [1] 0 7 14 21 28 35 42 49
```

- Create a list containing a vector and a 2x3 data frame
- Use indexing to select the data frame from your list
- Use further indexing to select the first row from the data frame in your list

# **Examining Objects**

- head(x) View top 6 rows of a data frame
- ▶ tail(x) View bottom 6 rows of a data frame
- summary(x) Summary statistics
- str(x) View structure of object
- dim(x) View Dimensions of object
- length(x) Returns the length of a vector

# Examining Objects Example

```
# Examine the top 2 rows of the iris data set from built in data packag
head(iris, 2)

## Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
```

```
## 1 5.1 3.5 1.4 0.2 setosa ## 2 4.9 3.0 1.4 0.2 setosa
```

```
# How big is this data set?
dim(iris)
```

```
## [1] 150 5
```

```
# What structure does the data set have?
str(iris)
```

```
## 'data.frame': 150 obs. of 5 variables:
## $ Sepal.Length: num 5.1 4.9 4.7 4.6 5 5.4 4.6 5 4.4 4.9 ...
```

```
## $ Sepal.Width: num 3.5 3 3.2 3.1 3.6 3.9 3.4 3.4 2.9 3.1 ...
## $ Petal.Length: num 1.4 1.4 1.3 1.5 1.4 1.7 1.4 1.5 1.4 1.5 ...
```

```
## $ Petal.Width : num 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1 ...
```

## \$ Species : Factor w/ 3 levels "setosa", "versicolor", ...: 1 1 1

- View the top 6 rows of mtcars data
- What type of object is the mtcars data set?
- ► How many rows are in iris data set? (try finding this using dim or indexing + length)
- Summarize the values in each column in iris data set

# Working with output from a function

- Can save output from a function as an object
- Object is generally a list of output objects
- ► Can pull off items from the output for further computing
- Examine object using functions like str(x)

# Output Object Demo

▶ Demo of saving t-test output as an object

► Pull the p-value from the t-test of a difference between Sepal Lengths of setosa and versicolor species from the Iris data

# Importing Data

- ► First need to tell R where the data is saved using setwd()
- Data read in using R functions such as:
  - read.table() for reading in .txt files
  - read.csv() for reading in .csv files
- Assign the data to new R object when reading in the file

# Importing Data Demo

Demo of creating a csv file and loading it into R

- Make 5 rows of data in an excel spreadsheet and save it as a .txt file
- ▶ Import this new .txt file into R with read.table