

Data Science for Everyone – Functions

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Slides based off slides courtesy of Jordan Crouser (<https://jcrouser.github.io/>)

Plan for Today

- Built in functions
- User defined functions

Repetition

- Suppose you're a data scientist given weekly datasets to analyze
- The datasets are similar; each is a `tbl` with three variables
- They come un-tidy, so first you must make them tidy
- For three weeks use the following code:

```
my_df1 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = varA, values_from = varB) %>%  
  group_by(varC) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())  
  
my_df2 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%  
  group_by(var3) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())  
  
my_df3 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%  
  group_by(blerp) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

Repetition

```
my_df1 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = varA, values_from = varB) %>%  
  group_by(varC) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())  
  
my_df2 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%  
  group_by(var3) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())  
  
my_df3 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%  
  group_by(blerp) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

Work with the person next to you to find similarities in each code chunk above. Is there a common set of steps you take for each dataset?

Repetition

```
my_df1 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = varA, values_from = varB) %>%  
  group_by(varC) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

```
my_df2 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%  
  group_by(var3) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

```
my_df3 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%  
  group_by(berp) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

Repetition

```
my_df1 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = varA, values_from = varB) %>%  
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my_df2 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%  
  group_by(var3) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())  
  
my_df3 %>%  
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%  
  group_by(berp) %>%  
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

RECIPE

Ingredients

tbl
v1, v2, v3



Directions

1. Take tbl and
pivot_wider() using
names_from v1 and
values_from v2
2. group_by() v3
3. summarize() using n()

Functions

- Format:
 - `function_name(argument1, argument2, ...)`
- Inputs
 - Arguments
 - Things like: `tbl`, `string`, `int`, etc.
- Output
 - Things like: `tbl`, `string`, `int`, etc.
- We've been using built in functions! Ex.
 - `ncol(babynames)`
 - Input = `tbl` (`babynames`)
 - Output = `int` (number of columns in `babynames`)

Functions

- **Format:**
 - `function_name(argument1, argument2, ...)`
- **Inputs**
 - **Arguments**
 - Things like: `tbl`, `string`, `int`, etc.
- **Output**
 - Things like: `tbl`, `string`, `int`, etc.
- **We've been using built in functions! Ex.**
 - `ncol(babynames)`
 - **Input** = `tbl` (`babynames`)
 - **Output** = `int` (number of columns in `babynames`)

What other built in functions have we used? What is the input and output?

User-defined Functions

- We can (temporarily) add functions to R by defining them ourselves
 - We call these user-defined functions
- This is **very** useful for repetitive tasks

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```

What you want the
function to be called

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```

function is the key word
that tells R "I'm creating a
function"

<- assigns the function
definition to the variable
name_of_function

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```

Input /
arguments

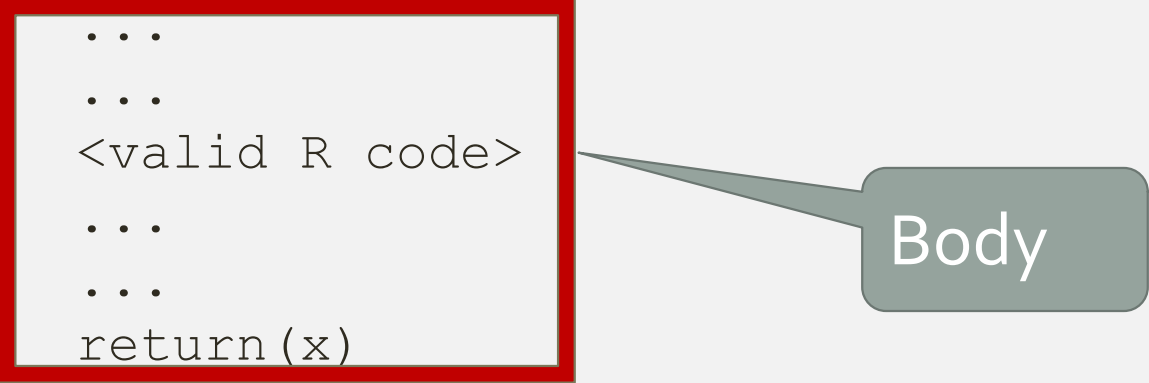
Inputs

- *arguments*: data, var
- data is required
- var is optional -- has a default value of "value"

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```



The diagram illustrates the structure of an R function definition. A red rectangular box highlights the code between the opening curly brace '{' and the closing curly brace '}', which is the function's body. A grey callout box with the word 'Body' points to this highlighted section.

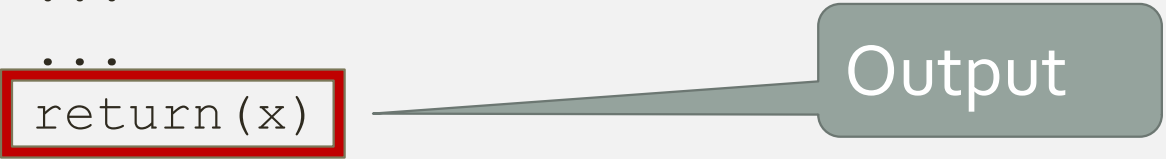
Body

- Defines what the function should do
- Everything between { and }

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```

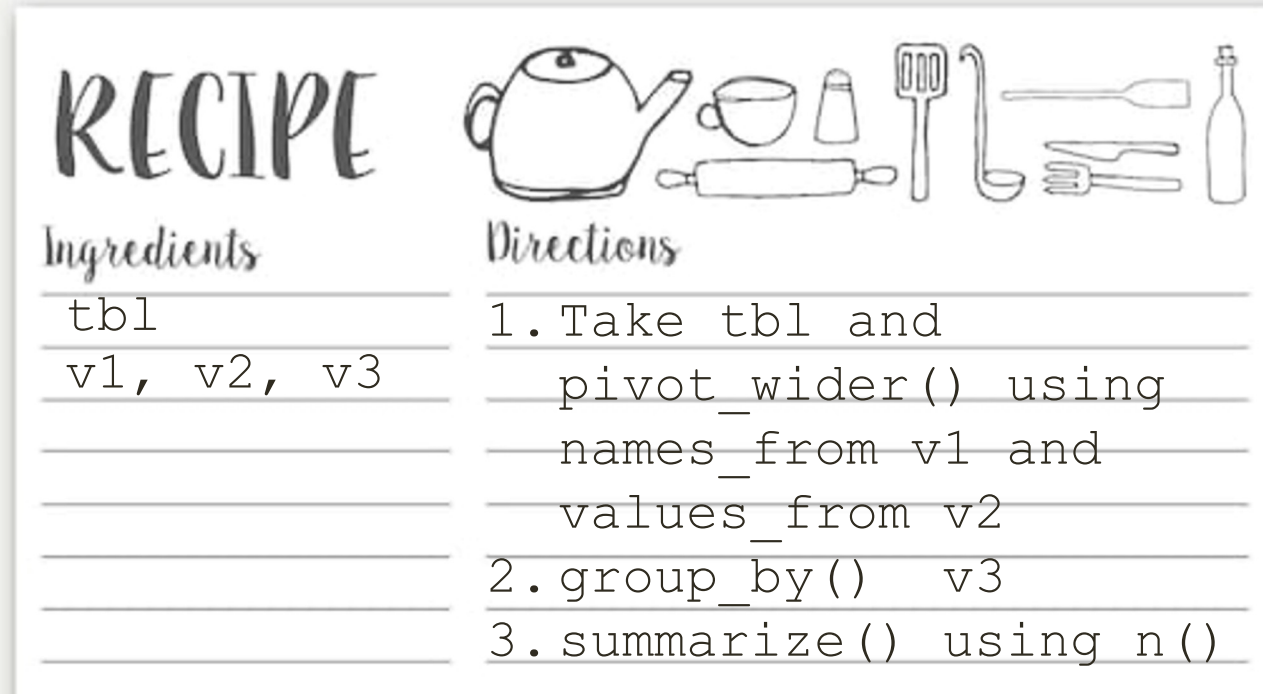


Output

- the *return* value
- by default output of last line in function body
- here, explicitly the object x

User-defined Functions

Work with the person next to you to turn our recipe into a function.



```
name_of_function <- function(data, var = "value") {  
  ...  
  <valid R code>  
  ...  
  return(x)  
}
```


User-defined Functions

Work with the person next to you to turn our recipe into a function.

RECIPE



Ingredients

tbl
v1, v2, v3

Directions

1. Take tbl and
pivot_wider() using
names_from v1 and
values_from v2
2. group_by() v3
3. summarize() using n()

```
clean_data <- function(data, v1, v2, v3) {  
  data %>%  
    pivot_wider(names_from = v1, values_from = v2) %>%  
    group_by(v3) %>%  
    summarize(numObservations = n())  
}
```

User-defined Functions

Defining your own functions

- To use a function you defined, you “call” it with the appropriate arguments
- Ex. Let's call `clean_data()` to make `my_df1` from earlier tidy

```
my_df1 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = varA, values_from = varB) %>%
  group_by(varC) %>%
  summarise(numObservations = n())

# Define clean_data
clean_data <- function(data, v1, v2, v3) {
  data %>%
    pivot_wider(names_from = v1, values_from = v2) %>%
    group_by(v3) %>%
    summarize(numObservations = n())
}

# Call clean_data
my_tidy_df1 <- clean_data(my_df1, varA, varB, varC)
```

User-defined Functions

```
# Define clean_data
clean_data <- function(data, v1, v2, v3) {
  data %>%
    pivot_wider(names_from = v1, values_from = v2) %>%
    group_by(v3) %>%
    summarize(numObservations = n())
}
```

Work with the person next to you call `clean_data` for `my_df2` and `my_df3`.

```
my_df2 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%
  group_by(var3) %>%
  summarise(numObservations = n())

my_df3 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%
  group_by(blerp) %>%
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

User-defined Functions

```
# Define clean_data
clean_data <- function(data, v1, v2, v3) {
  data %>%
    pivot_wider(names_from = v1, values_from = v2) %>%
    group_by(v3) %>%
    summarize(numObservations = n())
}
```

```
my_df2 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = var1, values_from = var2) %>%
  group_by(var3) %>%
  summarise(numObservations = n())

my_df3 %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = beep, values_from = boop) %>%
  group_by(blerp) %>%
  summarise(numObservations = n())
```

```
my_tidy_df2 <- clean_data(my_df2,  
                           var1,  
                           var2,  
                           var3)  
  
my_tidy_df3 <- clean_data(my_df3,  
                           beep,  
                           boop,  
                           blerp)
```

Practice

- Write a function that uses the babynames dataset to find the year a baby name was most popular. The function should work for any name.
 - What are the inputs?
 - What will be returned?
 - What steps does the function need to take?

Practice

- Write a function that uses the babynames dataset to find the year a baby name was most popular. The function should work for any name.

```
38
39 ▾ ```{r}
40 ▾ most_popular_year <- function(name_arg) {
41     babynames %>%
42     filter(name == name_arg) %>%
43     group_by(year) %>%
44     summarize(total = sum(prop)) %>%
45     arrange(desc(total)) %>%
46     head(1) %>%
47     select(year)
48 ▴ }
49 ▴ ```
```

Practice

- Write a function that uses the babynames dataset to find the year a baby name was most popular. The function should work for any name.

function's name

input = name

instructions

```
...{r}  
40 ▾ most_popular_year <- function(name_arg) {  
41   babynames %>%  
42     filter(name == name_arg) %>%  
43     group_by(year) %>%  
44     summarize(total = sum(prop)) %>%  
45     arrange(desc(total)) %>%  
46     head(1) %>%  
47     select(year)  
48 ▴ }  
49 ▴ ...
```

output = vector

Practice

- Use the function you wrote to find the most popular years for:
 - Olivia
 - Regina
 - Rami
 - Mable

Practice

- Use the function you wrote to find the most popular years for:
 - Olivia - 2014
 - Regina – 1964
 - Rami - 2005
 - Mable - 1905

```
52
53 ```{r}
54 most_popular_year("Olivia")
55 most_popular_year("Regina")
56 most_popular_year("Rami")
57 most_popular_year("Mable")
58 ```
```