Lecture 2: Working with Data in R

STAT GU4206/GR5206 *Statistical Computing & Introduction to Data Science*

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September 13, 2019

Last Time

- **Vectors**. Elements must all be the same type. Access like `v[5]`, create with `v <- c()`.
- **Matrices**. Two dimension (rows and columns) version of array. Access like `m[1,3]`, `m[2, ]`, `m[ ,"colname"]`. Create with `matrix()`.
- **Linear Algebra for matrices**: matrix multiplication, determinant, inverse.
- **Lists**. Elements can all be different types. Access like `l[[3]]`, `l$name`. Create with `list()`.
- **Filtering**. Accessing elements of a vector based on some criteria. `v[v>5]`.
- `NA` **and** `NULL` **values**. `NA` is missing data and `NULL` doesn't exist.

Factors and Tables

Factors Definition

- Qualitative data that can assume only a discrete number of values (i.e. *categorical* data) can be represented as a *factor* in R.
- For example, Democrat, Republican, or Independent, Male or Female, Control or Treatment, etc.
- In R, think of factors as vectors with additional information which is a record of the distinct elements of the factor, called the *levels*.
- R automatically treats factors specially in many functions.

Factors Definition

Factors Example

```
> data <- rep(c("Control","Treatment"),c(3,4))
> data # A character vector
```

```
[1] "Control"   "Control"   "Control"   "Treatment"
[5] "Treatment" "Treatment" "Treatment"
```

```
> group <- factor(data)
> group
```

```
[1] Control   Control   Control   Treatment Treatment
[6] Treatment Treatment
Levels: Control Treatment
```

The *levels* of the factor `group` are `Control` and `Treatment`.

Factors Definition

Factors Example

```
> str(group)
```

```
 Factor w/ 2 levels "Control","Treatment": 1 1 1 2 2 2 2
```

```
> mode(group) # Numeric?
```

```
[1] "numeric"
```

```
> summary(group)
```

```
  Control Treatment
        3         4
```

Functions on Factors

The `split()` function takes as input a vector and a factor (or list of factors), splitting the input according to the groups of the factor. The output is a list.

Functions on Factors

The `split()` function takes as input a vector and a factor (or list of factors), splitting the input according to the groups of the factor. The output is a list.

Example

Suppose that we knew the ages and sex of the members of the Control and Treatment groups.

```
> group
```

```
[1] Control   Control   Control   Treatment Treatment
[6] Treatment Treatment
Levels: Control Treatment
```

```
> ages <- c(20, 30, 40, 35, 35, 35, 35)
> sex <- c("M", "M", "F", "M", "F", "F", "F")
```

Functions on Factors

Use the `split()` function to list the ages in each group + sex pair.

```
> split(ages, list(group, sex))
```

```
$Control.F
[1] 40

$Treatment.F
[1] 35 35 35

$Control.M
[1] 20 30

$Treatment.M
[1] 35
```

Split has coerced `sex` into a factor variable.

Tables

The `table()` function can be used to produce *contingency tables* in `R`.

Tables

The `table()` function can be used to produce *contingency tables* in R.

Example

```
> group
```

```
[1] Control   Control   Control   Treatment Treatment
[6] Treatment Treatment
Levels: Control Treatment
```

```
> table(group)
```

```
group
  Control Treatment
        3         4
```

Tables

Example

```
> table(sex, group)
```

```
   group
sex Control Treatment
  F       1         3
  M       2         1
```

Can have three-dimensional tables as well.

Tables

Most matrix operations work on tables as well.

Example

```
> new_table <- table(sex, group)
> new_table[, "Control"]
```

```
F M
1 2
```

```
> round(new_table/length(group), 3) # Gives proportions
```

```
   group
sex Control Treatment
  F   0.143     0.429
  M   0.286     0.143
```

Dataframes

Dataframes

- Use for two-dimensional tables of data.
- Like matrices (rows and columns structure) but each column can have a different mode (character, logical, numeric, ...).
- Use for data that can be represented as observations or cases (rows) on variables (columns).
- Can have row and column names.

Dataframes

- Use `data.frame()` to create dataframes in `R`.
- `stringsAsFactors = TRUE`, the default, turns character vectors into a *factor* variable.
- Usually set `stringsAsFactors = FALSE` and set factors manually.

Dataframes

- Use `data.frame()` to create dataframes in `R`.
- `stringsAsFactors = TRUE`, the default, turns character vectors into a *factor* variable.
- Usually set `stringsAsFactors = FALSE` and set factors manually.

Creating a dataframe

```
> Name <- c("John", "Jill", "Jacob", "Jenny")
> Year <- c(1,1,2,4)
> Grade <- c("B", "A+", "B-", "A")
> student_data <- data.frame(Name, Year, Grade,
+                            stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```

Dataframes

Students Example

```
> student_data
```

```
   Name Year Grade
1  John    1     B
2  Jill    1    A+
3 Jacob    2    B-
4 Jenny    4     A
```

```
> dim(student_data)
```

```
[1] 4 3
```

Dataframes

```
> str(student_data)
```

```
'data.frame':        4 obs. of  3 variables:
 $ Name : chr  "John" "Jill" "Jacob" "Jenny"
 $ Year : num  1 1 2 4
 $ Grade: chr  "B" "A+" "B-" "A"
```

```
> summary(student_data)
```

```
     Name                Year       Grade
 Length:4           Min.   :1.0   Length:4
 Class :character   1st Qu.:1.0   Class :character
 Mode  :character   Median :1.5   Mode  :character
                    Mean   :2.0
                    3rd Qu.:2.5
                    Max.   :4.0
```

Dataframes

States Example

```
> library(datasets)
> states <- data.frame(state.x77, Region = state.region,
+                      Abbr = state.abb)
> head(states, 2)
```

```
        Population Income Illiteracy Life.Exp Murder
Alabama       3615   3624        2.1    69.05   15.1
Alaska         365   6315        1.5    69.31   11.3
        HS.Grad Frost   Area Region Abbr
Alabama    41.3    20  50708  South   AL
Alaska     66.7   152 566432   West   AK
```

`states` combines pre-existing matrix `state.x77` with categorical vector `state.region` and character vector `state.abb`. More info: `?state.x77`.

Accessing Dataframes

Basically, like you would a matrix.

Student Example

```
> student_data
```

```
   Name Year Grade
1  John    1     B
2  Jill    1    A+
3 Jacob    2    B-
4 Jenny    4     A
```

```
> student_data[3:4,]
```

```
   Name Year Grade
3 Jacob    2    B-
4 Jenny    4     A
```

Accessing Dataframes

Basically, like you would a matrix.

Student Example

```
> student_data
```

```
   Name Year Grade
1  John    1     B
2  Jill    1    A+
3 Jacob    2    B-
4 Jenny    4     A
```

```
> student_data$Grade
```

```
[1] "B"  "A+" "B-" "A"
```

Accessing Dataframes

States Example

```
> states["New York", ] # Can also use rownames
```

```
          Population Income Illiteracy Life.Exp Murder
New York       18076   4903        1.4    70.55   10.9
          HS.Grad Frost  Area    Region Abbr
New York     52.7    82 47831 Northeast   NY
```

Filtering Dataframes

```
> student_data[student_data$Grade == "A+", ]
```

```
  Name Year Grade
2 Jill    1    A+
```

```
> student_data[student_data$Year <= 2, ]
```

```
   Name Year Grade
1  John    1     B
2  Jill    1    A+
3 Jacob    2    B-
```

```
> states[states$Region == "Northeast", "Population"]
```

```
[1]  3100  1058  5814   812  7333 18076 11860   931   472
```

Adding Rows and Columns to Dataframes

Basically, like you would a matrix.

```
> new_stu <- data.frame(Name="Bobby", Year=3, Grade="A")
> student_data <- rbind(student_data, new_stu)
> student_data
```

```
   Name Year Grade
1  John    1     B
2  Jill    1    A+
3 Jacob    2    B-
4 Jenny    4     A
5 Bobby    3     A
```

Adding Rows and Columns to Dataframes

Recycling works too!

```
> student_data$School <- "Columbia"
> student_data
```

```
   Name Year Grade   School
1  John    1     B Columbia
2  Jill    1    A+ Columbia
3 Jacob    2    B- Columbia
4 Jenny    4     A Columbia
5 Bobby    3     A Columbia
```

- Note that this construction would not work with a matrix.
- Can add a new component to an already existing dataframe.

Importing Data into R

What Kinds of Data?

- Data can be saved on your computer. What we'll work on this today.
- Data can be on the internet. We'll do this in a few weeks.
- Data can be in a database. Also, in a few weeks.
- Other sources too.

Local Data

When importing data from your machine, you need to tell R where to find that data.

Working Directory

- `getwd()` tells you where R is currently looking, or where your *working directory* is set.
- You can change your *working directory* with `setwd(<file path for the data>)`.
- Can also change *working directory* with `Session -> Set Working Directory -> Change Working Directory`.
- Usually your file path will look like `"/Users/gabrielyoung/Documents/UN2102/Week2"`.

Working Directory

Code example.

Spreadsheet Data

Often we work with data from a spreadsheet, meaning it's formatted in a rectangular grid.

- Tab-delimited data in `.txt` is read in using `read.table()`.
- If the below was stored in `stu_data.txt`, use `read.table("stu_data.txt", header=FALSE, as.is=TRUE)`.

```
John    1    B
Jill    1    A+
Jacob   2    B-
Jenny   4    A
```

- `R` output is a dataframe.
- Use the `sep=` argument if data is separated by something other than whitespace.
- `as.is = TRUE` is the same as `stringsAsFactors = FALSE`.

Spreadsheet Data

Often we work with data from a spreadsheet, meaning it's formatted in a rectangular grid.

Reading Grid Data into R

- Comma-separated or `.csv` files are read in using `read.csv()`.
- If the above was stored in `stu_data.csv`, use `read.csv("stu_data.csv", header = TRUE, as.is = TRUE)`.

```
Name, Year, Grade
John,  1,  B
Jill,  1,  A+
Jacob, 2,  B-
Jenny, 4,  A
```

- R output is a dataframe.
- Excel has a "Save as .csv" option.

Spreadsheet Data

read.table {utils} R Documentation

Data Input

Description

Reads a file in table format and creates a data frame from it, with cases corresponding to lines and variables to fields in the file.

Usage

```
read.table(file, header = FALSE, sep = "", quote = "\"'",
           dec = ".", numerals = c("allow.loss", "warn.loss", "no.loss"),
           row.names, col.names, as.is = !stringsAsFactors,
           na.strings = "NA", colClasses = NA, nrows = -1,
           skip = 0, check.names = TRUE, fill = !blank.lines.skip,
           strip.white = FALSE, blank.lines.skip = TRUE,
           comment.char = "#",
```

Figure 1: Help documentation for `read.table()`. Access with `?read.table()`.

Importing Data

- Both `read.table()` and `read.csv()` use the function `scan()` to import the data, then they format it.
- Sometimes want to use `scan()` outright.
- `scan()` output is a vector with elements anything from the file separated by whitespace.

Importing Data

- Both `read.table()` and `read.csv()` use the function `scan()` to import the data, then they format it.
- Sometimes want to use `scan()` outright.
- `scan()` output is a vector with elements anything from the file separated by whitespace.

Honor Code Example

The file `"HonorCode.txt"` contains Columbia University's Honor Code:

"Students should be aware that academic dishonesty (for example, plagiarism, cheating on an examination, or dishonesty in dealing with a faculty member or other University official) or the threat of violence or harassment are particularly serious offenses and will be dealt with severely under Dean's Discipline..."

Importing Data

Honor Code Example

```
> HC <- scan("HonorCode.txt", what = "")
> head(HC, 20)
```

```
 [1] "students"    "should"      "be"          "aware"
 [5] "that"        "academic"    "dishonesty"  "for"
 [9] "example"     "plagiarism"  "cheating"    "on"
[13] "an"          "examination" "or"          "dishonesty"
[17] "in"          "dealing"     "with"        "a"
```

```
> str(HC)
```

```
 chr [1:443] "students" "should" "be" "aware" "that" ...
```

By default, R expects the input of scan to be numeric data. The argument what="" tells R that our data is a vector of character values.

Cleaning Data

Things to look out for when you're importing data into R.

- Is the first row a header? What about the first column?
- R interprets words separated by a space as two separate values. Messes up the number of elements per line in your data set. (Use _ or . between words.)
- Symbols such as ?, %, &, *, etc. can make R do funny things.
- Headers, footers, side comments, and notes will mess up the structure.
- How are missing values indicated? It should be with NA but often something like 999 or N.A.

Exporting Data

- Often we want to export a matrix or dataframe into a file on our machine.
- This is done with `write.table()` or `write.csv()`.
- Note that the default for both is `col.names = TRUE` and `row.names = TRUE`.

Data in R: A Text Example

Text Data

- Textual Data Mining is commonly studied in machine learning.
- Examples: Can we write an algorithm to tell whether a newspaper article is a 'positive' or 'negative' response? Can we identify the author of a novel just from the text?
- We'll learn more in a few weeks about how to deal with text data in R.
- For the time being, a quick example.

Honor Code Text Data [1]

Recall the Honor Code data we've imported into R.

```
> HC <- scan("HonorCode.txt", what = "")
> head(HC, 15)
```

```
 [1] "students"    "should"      "be"          "aware"
 [5] "that"        "academic"    "dishonesty"  "for"
 [9] "example"     "plagiarism"  "cheating"    "on"
[13] "an"          "examination" "or"
```

[1] Example developed from N. Matloff, "The Art of R Programming: A Tour of Statistical Software Design"

Honor Code Text Data [1]

Recall the Honor Code data we've imported into R.

```
> HC <- scan("HonorCode.txt", what = "")
> head(HC, 15)
```

```
 [1] "students"    "should"      "be"          "aware"
 [5] "that"        "academic"    "dishonesty"  "for"
 [9] "example"     "plagiarism"  "cheating"    "on"
[13] "an"          "examination" "or"
```

- `HC` is a vector and each word of the Honor Code is an element of the vector.
- Let's write a function `findwords()` that compiles a list of the location of each occurrence of each word in the text.

[1] Example developed from N. Matloff, "The Art of R Programming: A Tour of Statistical Software Design"

Functions in R

Basic Structure

```
function_name <- function(arg1, arg2, ... ){
  statements
  return(object)
}
```

- A **function** is a group of instructions that takes inputs, uses them to compute other values, and returns a result.
- We can write and add our own functions in R.
- Functions:
  1. Have names.
  2. *Usually* take in arguments.
  3. Include body of code that does something.
  4. *Usually* return an object at the end.

Example Function

A Function to Square its Input

```
> square_it <- function(x){
+   out <- x*x
+   return(out)
+ }
```

Example Function

A Function to Square its Input

```
> square_it <- function(x){
+   out <- x*x
+   return(out)
+ }
```

Let's try it:

```
> square_it(2); square_it(-4); square_it(146)
```

```
[1] 4
```

```
[1] 16
```

```
[1] 21316
```

Honor Code Text Data

Let's write a function `findwords()` that compiles a list of the location of each occurrence of each word in the text.

```
> HC <- factor(HC, levels = unique(HC))
```

Honor Code Text Data

Let's write a function `findwords()` that compiles a list of the location of each occurrence of each word in the text.

We can do this with the `split()` function!

```
> findwords <- function(text_vec){
+   words <- split(1:length(text_vec), text_vec)
+   return(words)
+ }
```

- `length(textfile)` is the total number of words in the textfile. In Honor Code it's 443.
- `textfile` is a factor, with each unique word as a level. There are 243 levels in the Honor Code.
- `split()` then determines the locations of each unique word and returns the locations in list form.

Honor Code Text Data

Let's try it.

```
> findwords(HC)[1:3]
```

```
$students
[1]   1  48 142 204 232 310 331

$should
[1]   2 206

$be
[1]   3  40 336
```

- Note that `findwords()` returns a list. In the above we look at the first three elements of the list.
- The list consists of one element per word in the Honor Code.

Honor Code Text Data

Does it work?

```
> HC[c(1, 48, 142, 204, 232, 310, 331)] # students
```

```
[1] "students" "students" "students" "students" "students"
[6] "students" "students"
```

```
> HC[c(2, 206)] # should
```

```
[1] "should" "should"
```

Honor Code Text Data

Does it work?

```
> HC[c(1, 48, 142, 204, 232, 310, 331)] # students
```

```
[1] "students" "students" "students" "students" "students"
[6] "students" "students"
```

```
> HC[c(2, 206)] # should
```

```
[1] "should" "should"
```

- Must we use a list? How about a matrix or a dataframe?
- Each row could correspond to a unique word and column to locations of the word. Different words would use different numbers of columns.
- The list structure makes the most sense here.

Honor Code Text Data

Finally, let's write a function to alphabetize our word list.

List in Alphabetical Order

```
> alphabetized_list <- function(wordlist) {
+   nms <- names(wordlist) # The names are the words
+   sorted <- sort(nms) # The words, but now in ABC order
+   return(wordlist[sorted]) # Returns the sorted version
+ }
```

Exercise

Break this function apart and run it line by line to make sure you know what it's doing.

Honor Code Text Data

Does it work?

List in Alphabetical Order

```
> wl <- findwords(HC)
> alphabetized_list(wl)[1:3]
```

```
$a
[1]  20 110 167 173 180

$academic
[1]   6  59  69 296 323 375

$accidental
[1] 249
```

Control Statements: Loops, While, If Else

Control Statements

A **control statement** determines whether other statements will or will not be executed.

Types of Control Statements

- A **loop** iterates over a statement a certain number of times.
  - `for` **loops** execute a controlled statement a fixed number of times.
  - `while` **loops** executes a controlled statement as long as a condition is met.
- An `if` statement gives a condition under which another statement is executed.
- An `if, else` statement decides which of two statements to execute based on a condition.

for Loops

The basic structure of `for` loops is the following:

```
for (i in x) {
   do something...
}
```

The above statement,

- Increments a counter `i` along a vector `x`.
- Loops through the body of the statement (between `{` and `}`) until the counter runs through the vector.

for Loops

The basic structure of `for` loops is the following:

```
for (i in x) {
   do something...
}
```

The above statement,

- Increments a counter `i` along a vector `x`.
- Loops through the body of the statement (between `{` and `}`) until the counter runs through the vector.

One iteration of the loop for each component of `x` with `i` taking on the values of `x` in each iteration.

```
1st iteration: i = x[1]
2nd iteration: i = x[2]
so on...
```

for Loops Example

```
> x <- c(5, 12, -3)
> for (i in x) {
+   print(i^2)
+ }
```

```
[1] 25
[1] 144
[1] 9
```

for Loops Example

```
> x <- c(5, 12, -3)
> for (i in x) {
+   print(i^2)
+ }
```

```
[1] 25
[1] 144
[1] 9
```

```
1st iteration: i = x[1] = 5,    print(25)
2nd iteration: i = x[2] = 12,   print(144)
3rd iteration: i = x[3] = -3,   print(9)
```

`for` Loops

Notes

- Body of a `for` loop can contain other `for` loops (called nesting) or other control statements.
- Can loop over any kind of vector regardless of mode.
- For example, could loop over filenames to be scanned into `R`.

`while` Loops

The basic structure of `while` loops is the following:

```
while (condition) {
    do something...
}
```

The above loop,

Increments the controlled statement as long as the `condition` is `TRUE`.

`while` Loops

The basic structure of `while` loops is the following:

```
while (condition) {
   do something...
}
```

The above loop,

Increments the controlled statement as long as the `condition` is `TRUE`.

- The condition must be a single logical value (`TRUE` or `FALSE`). It can't be a vector of values, for example.
- Note that this could loop forever.

`while` Loops Example

Note that if the statement code is one line, we don't need braces.

```
> i <- 1
> while (i <= 10) i <- i + 4
```

while Loops Example

Note that if the statement code is one line, we don't need braces.

```
> i <- 1
> while (i <= 10) i <- i + 4
```

```
> i
```

```
[1] 13
```

```
Beginning:      i = 1,    i <= 10 is TRUE
1st iteration:  i = 5,    i <= 10 is TRUE
2nd iteration:  i = 9,    i <= 10 is TRUE
3rd iteration:  i = 13,   i <= 10 is FALSE
```

Looping Summary

- Use `for` loops when the number of times to iterate is clear in advance.
- Use `while` when you can recognize the stopping point when you've arrived even if you don't know it beforehand.
- Note that all `for` loops can be written as `while` statements. (Can you show this?)
- `for` and `while` are examples of iteration: doing the same thing over and over. Usually there is a better way to do it!

`if, else` Statements

The basic structure of `if, else` statements is the following:

```
if (condition) {
   do something...
} else {
   do something else...
}
```

The above statement,

Decides between different calculations according to some condition.

`if, else` Statements

The basic structure of `if, else` statements is the following:

```
if (condition) {
   do something...
} else {
   do something else...
}
```

The above statement,

Decides between different calculations according to some condition.

- The `else` clause is optional, which would mean if the condition is `FALSE` nothing is executed.
- Again, the condition must be provided a single logical value.

if, else Statements Example

```
> for (i in seq(4)) {
+   if (i %% 2 == 0) {print(log(i))}
+   else {print("Odd")}
+ }
```

```
[1] "Odd"
[1] 0.6931472
[1] "Odd"
[1] 1.386294
```

if, else Statements Example

```
> for (i in seq(4)) {
+   if (i %% 2 == 0) {print(log(i))}
+   else {print("Odd")}
+ }
```

```
[1] "Odd"
[1] 0.6931472
[1] "Odd"
[1] 1.386294
```

```
Beginning:      i = 1,    i %% 2 = 1,    print("Odd")
1st iteration:  i = 2,    i %% 2 = 0,    print(log(2))
2nd iteration:  i = 3,    i %% 2 = 1,    print("Odd")
3rd iteration:  i = 4,    i %% 2 = 0,    print(log(4))
```

Check Your Understanding

What is the value of `total`?

```
> library(matlab)
> total <- 0
> for (i in 1:10) {
+   if(isprime(i)) {
+     total <- total + i
+   }
+ }
```

Check Your Understanding

What is the value of `total`?

```
> library(matlab)
> total <- 0
> for (i in 1:10) {
+   if(isprime(i)) {
+     total <- total + i
+   }
+ }
```

```
> total
```

```
[1] 17
```

How? Prime values are $2 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 17$.

Vectorized Operations

Vectorized Operators

Where we can, we'd like to avoid iterations and use **vectorized operators**.

Vectorized Operators

- **Vectorized operations** act on the whole object (vector or matrix, for example), instead of iterating over it.
- This is conceptually more clear, and often faster.

Vectorized Operations

Let's add two vectors: `u <- c(1,2,3)` and `v <- c(10, -20, 30)`. Consider two ways to do this.

Example

1) Loops

```
> u <- c(1,2,3)
> v <- c(10,-20,30)
> c <- vector(mode = "numeric", length = length(u))
> for (i in 1:length(u)) {
+   c[i] <- u[i] + v[i]
+ }
> c
```

```
[1]  11 -18  33
```

Vectorized Operators

Let's add two vectors: `u <- c(1,2,3)` and `v <- c(10, -20, 30)`. Consider two ways to do this.

Example

2) Vectorized operators:

```
> c <- u + v
> c
```

```
[1]  11 -18  33
```

The second option is obviously more clear and concise.

Vectorized Conditions

The function `ifelse()` vectorizes conditional statements. It takes three arguments `ifelse(test, yes, no)`.

- `test` is a logical vector.
- `yes` is the return values when `test` is `TRUE`.
- `no` is the return values when `test` is `FALSE`.

Vectorized Conditions

A simplification in the previous example.

```
> for (i in seq(4)) {
+   if (i %% 2 == 0) {print(log(i))}
+   else {print("Odd")}
+ }
```

```
[1] "Odd"
[1] 0.6931472
[1] "Odd"
[1] 1.386294
```

Vectorized Conditions

A simplification in the previous example.

```
> for (i in seq(4)) {
+   if (i %% 2 == 0) {print(log(i))}
+   else {print("Odd")}
+ }
```

```
[1] "Odd"
[1] 0.6931472
[1] "Odd"
[1] 1.386294
```

```
> ifelse(seq(4) %% 2 == 0, log(seq(4)), "Odd")
```

```
[1] "Odd"                 "0.693147180559945"
[3] "Odd"                 "1.38629436111989"
```

The apply() Commands

The commands `apply()`, `sapply()`, `lapply()`, `tapply()` replace loops that iterate over an object's entries, computing the same function on each.

apply() Example

Used to apply the same function to each row or column of a matrix.

```
> mat <- matrix(1:12, ncol = 6)
> mat
```

```
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6]
[1,]    1    3    5    7    9   11
[2,]    2    4    6    8   10   12
```

```
> colSums(mat) # Recall colSums() from lab.
```

```
[1]  3  7 11 15 19 23
```

The apply() Commands

apply() Example

Here's another way to do the same thing.

```
> colSums(mat)
```

```
[1]  3  7 11 15 19 23
```

```
> apply(mat, 2, sum)
```

```
[1]  3  7 11 15 19 23
```

The apply() Commands

apply() Example

Here's another way to do the same thing.

```
> colSums(mat)
```

```
[1]  3  7 11 15 19 23
```

```
> apply(mat, 2, sum)
```

```
[1]  3  7 11 15 19 23
```

apply() takes three arguments: a matrix (or dataframe), a 1 for the rows or a 2 for the columns, and a function.

```
> apply(mat, 1, sum) # Calculates the row sums
```

```
[1] 36 42
```

The apply() Commands

- lapply(), or *list apply*, works like apply(), but for applying the same function to each element of a list. It returns a list.
- sapply(), or *simplified list apply*, works like lapply(), but returns a vector if possible.

Use R Help for more info!

Look up further details of the apply() function and its variants using ?apply.

Taking the Mean of Elements of a List

Example

```
> vec1 <- c(1.1,3.4,2.4,3.5)
> vec2 <- c(1.1,3.4,2.4,10.8)
> not_robust <- list(vec1, vec2)
> lapply(not_robust, mean)
```

```
[[1]]
[1] 2.6

[[2]]
[1] 4.425
```

```
> # The sample mean is not rubust!
```

Note that `lapply()` returned a list.

Apply a Function Over a List

Example

```
> lapply(not_robust, median)
```

```
[[1]]
[1] 2.9

[[2]]
[1] 2.9
```

```
> sapply(not_robust, median)
```

```
[1] 2.9 2.9
```

```
> unlist(lapply(not_robust,median))
```

```
[1] 2.9 2.9
```

Honor Code Text Data Example Continued

Example: Honor Code Text Data

Recall, the Honor Code Text example.

List in Alphabetical Order

```
> wl[1:3] # wl for word list
```

```
$a
[1]  20 110 167 173 180

$academic
[1]   6  59  69 296 323 375

$accidental
[1] 249
```

Let's now sort the words by their frequency.

Example: Honor Code Text Data

We use `sapply()` to find the length of each element in our word list. Since the elements are the words, the length is the frequency.

List in Frequency Order

```
> freq_list <- function(wordlist) {
+   freqs <- sapply(wordlist, length) # The frequencies
+   return(wordlist[order(freqs)])
+ }
```

The `order()` function returns a vector of indices that will permute its input argument into sorted order. Check out `?order`.

Example: Honor Code Text Data

Let's try it out.

List in Frequency Order

```
> head(freq_list(wl), 3)
```

```
$accidental
[1] 249

$activities
[1] 115

$adapted
[1] 220
```

Example: Honor Code Text Data

Let's try it out.

List in Alphabetical Order

```
> tail(freq_list(wl), 3)
```

```
$or
 [1]  15  23  27  32 104 126 129 160 164 171 184 191 401 405
[15] 414 419

$of
 [1]  30  56  64  67 124 152 166 193 200 262 290 338 348 403
[15] 412 429 434

$and
 [1]  38  58  61  77 148 195 238 240 264 270 274 308 314 339
[15] 345 351 356 361 364 373 394 416 432
```

Functions on Factors

- Factors have their own member of the `apply()` family: `tapply()`.
- Use as follows: `tapply(vector, factor, function)`.
- The above splits the `vector` into groups according to the levels of the `factor` and then applies the `function` to each group.

Functions on Factors

tapply() Example

```
> # Calulate the average age in each group.
> group
```

```
[1] Control   Control   Control   Treatment Treatment
[6] Treatment Treatment
Levels: Control Treatment
```

```
> ages <- c(20, 30, 40, 35, 35, 35, 35)
> tapply(ages, group, mean)
```

```
  Control Treatment
       30        35
```

Run-Time

Vecrotized vs. Loops

Run-time and proc.time()

A very useful function in R is proc.time(). The third output of proc.time can be used to estimate the run-time of a program. A simple example follows:

Example

```
> # Run proc.time()
> proc.time()
```

```
   user  system elapsed
  0.796   0.142   0.958
```

```
> # Store third element as start.time
> start.time  <- proc.time()[3]
```

Run-time and proc.time()

Example

- Create large matrix of rolls from a six-sided die.
- The goal is to find the mean of each row.

```
> dice_mat <- matrix(sample(1:6,500000,replace=T),ncol=10)
> dim(dice_mat)
```

```
[1] 50000    10
```

```
> head(dice_mat,4)
```

```
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8] [,9] [,10]
[1,]    5    5    4    5    6    5    2    1    4     4
[2,]    5    4    2    6    1    4    5    1    4     2
[3,]    4    3    5    4    3    2    2    6    6     3
[4,]    4    6    1    5    6    2    5    4    3     5
```

Run-time and proc.time()

Example with loop using preallocated initial vector

```
> start.time.1 <- proc.time()[3]
> my_means <- rep(NA,nrow(dice_mat))
> for (i in 1:nrow(dice_mat)) {
+   my_means[i] <- mean(dice_mat[i,])
+   }
> head(my_means)
```

```
[1] 4.1 3.4 3.8 4.1 4.1 3.1
```

```
> # Print run-time
> end.time.1 <- proc.time()[3]-start.time.1
> end.time.1
```

```
elapsed
  0.261
```

Run-time and proc.time()

Example with loop using NULL initial vector

```
> start.time.2 <- proc.time()[3]
> my_means <- NULL
> for (i in 1:nrow(dice_mat)) {
+   my_means[i] <- mean(dice_mat[i,])
+   }
> head(my_means)
```

```
[1] 4.1 3.4 3.8 4.1 4.1 3.1
```

```
> # Print run-time
> end.time.2 <- proc.time()[3]-start.time.2
> end.time.2
```

```
elapsed
  0.256
```

Run-time and proc.time()

Example with apply (vectorized)

```
> start.time.3 <- proc.time()[3]
> my_means <- apply(dice_mat,1,mean)
> head(my_means)
```

```
[1] 4.1 3.4 3.8 4.1 4.1 3.1
```

```
> # Print run-time
> end.time.3 <- proc.time()[3]-start.time.3
> end.time.3
```

```
elapsed
  0.279
```

Compare

```
> c(end.time.1,end.time.2,end.time.3)
```

```
elapsed elapsed elapsed
  0.261   0.256   0.279
```

Some comments

- Not too much of a difference in run-times for this example.
- Preallocating space vs. using a NULL initial vector is typically faster.
- Loops are typically slower because they "eat up the ram" where vectorized statements call upon built-in R functions.
- The run-time of loops versus vectorized statements used to be more of a problem.
- Vectorized statements are easier to read.

Optional Reading

- Chapter 1-7 and Chapter 9 from An Introduction to R.