

GEOG 491/891: Special Topics - Spatial Analysis in R

Week 02.01: Data structures and programmatic thinking

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Today's schedule

- Open discussion
- Data structures
- Exercises

Anything to discuss? Questions?

Some handy dandy operations on vectors

First, create a vector

```
x <- seq(1:20) # what does this do? How would you know?  
  
# alternative method... seq is an "overloaded" function <- what does this mean?  
x <- seq(1, 20, 1)
```

Operations

```
sum(x)  
mean(x)  
median(x)  
sd(x)  
length(x)
```

Data types

Table 2.1 Data type, tests and conversion functions

Type	Test	Conversion
character	<code>is.character</code>	<code>as.character</code>
complex	<code>is.complex</code>	<code>as.complex</code>
double	<code>is.double</code>	<code>as.double</code>
expression	<code>is.expression</code>	<code>as.expression</code>
integer	<code>is.integer</code>	<code>as.integer</code>
list	<code>is.list</code>	<code>as.list</code>
logical	<code>is.logical</code>	<code>as.logical</code>
numeric	<code>is.numeric</code>	<code>as.numeric</code>
single	<code>is.single</code>	<code>as.single</code>
raw	<code>is.raw</code>	<code>as.raw</code>

Factors can be a pain

- What's a "factor" according to your book?
- What are some key properties of factors?
 - Ordering
 - Levels

Interrogating types

the typeof() function

```
typeof(8675309)
typeof(integer(8675309))

typeof(TRUE)

typeof("banana")

typeof(rep(1, 10))

typeof(list(1, 3, 4, "orange"))
```

Let's look more closely at data frames and tibbles

From the course GitHub page, get "ne_counties.csv" (it's in the data folder)

(https://github.com/pjbitterman/UNL_GEOG_491_891)

```
library(tidyverse) #get the helper functions

# read the data
mydf <- read_csv("../data/ne_counties.csv")

# look at it
mydf
```

What do you see?

The value of exploratory data analysis (EDA)

- When you first get new data, it's a good idea to look at it before starting work
- Many ways of doing so... like what?

```
summary(mydf) # what do you get?

# How many observations does your data have?
nrow(mydf)
# and attributes?
ncol(mydf)

# an easier way to look at attributes
glimpse(mydf)

# access a single attribute
mydf$Total # Total population
summary(mydf$Total)
hist(mydf$Total)
```

Subsetting your data

- Often you need to filter your data such that only those observations meeting certain criteria are retained (or removed)

```
# requires dplyr/tidyverse  
dplyr::filter(mydf, Total > 10000 & MedHousInc < 40000)
```

Another way to write that function

```
mydf %>% dplyr::filter(., Total > 10000 & MedHouseInc < 40000)
```

What's the `%>%` and how does it work?

The pipe (%>%)

- from magrittr package
- essentially says "take what's on the left and pass it to the right"
- R assumes you want to pipe to the first argument of the right-hand function, but...
- you can explicitly place the output of the pipe using a `.` on the right-hand side

```
mydf %>% dplyr::filter(., Total > 10000 & MedHouseInc < 40000)
```

But what's the point? (to the whiteboard!!!)

Writing your own function

syntax is a bit weird, so let's break it down

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

then call the function (make sure it's in memory first)

```
myfirstfunction(4, 8)
```

If there's time...

- In small groups, figure out how you'd do the following:
- Write a function that takes two integers. If **both are even** or **both are odd**, the function returns **TRUE**. Otherwise, it returns **FALSE**
- Start with the algorithm, NOT the code
- Then try to write the function

A second exercise (pseudocode ONLY)

The problem:

- I've given you a raster file of Missisquoi Bay in Lake Champlain
- Each cell has a value corresponding to the concentration of cyanobacteria
 - I want you to tell me the area of the Bay (in m²) that correspond to the HIGH, MEDIUM, and LOW health risk categories from the World Health Organization

The big picture questions:

1. What do the algorithm(s) look like?
2. What other information do you need?

Bonus

- Algo. to measure distance from a harmful algal bloom (HAB) to an arbitrary location

Review and next class

- Any questions?
- This week's readings/tasks:
 - Chapter 2 in textbook
 - Continue to review Hadley's book/site
 - Practice on your own