

# Class06: R functions

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## Table of contents

A second function . . . . .	2
a protein generating function . . . . .	3

All functions in R have at least 3 things:

- A **name**, we pick this and use it to call our function, -Inout **arguments** (there can be multiple)
- The **body** lines of R code that do the work

Our first(silly) function

Write a function to add some numbers

```
add <- function(x,y=1) {  
  x + y  
}
```

now we can call this function:

```
add(c(10, 10), 100)
```

```
[1] 110 110
```

```
add(10,100)
```

```
[1] 110
```

## A second function

Write a function to generate random nucleotide sequences of a user specified length:  
the `sample()` function can be helpful here.

```
v <- sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"), size=50, replace = TRUE)
```

I want the a 1 element long character vector that looks like “CACAGC”

```
paste(v, collapse = "")
```

```
[1] "GCATGTCCTACGTAAGCTACCTTAATTATCTTCAGGTTGAACCGAAAGCG"
```

Turn this into my first wee function

```
generate_dna <- function(size = 50){  
  v <- sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"), size = size, replace = TRUE)  
  paste(v, collapse = "")  
}
```

Test it:

```
generate_dna(60)
```

```
[1] "GACCTATTGCCCTCACTGCGTGAGCATTAATTGGGAACGATTACCCCCCTGGCGGCCACA"
```

```
fasta <- TRUE  
if(fasta){  
  cat("HELLO You!")  
} else {  
  cat("No you don't")  
}
```

HELLO You!

Add the ability to return a multi-element vector or a single element fasta like vector.

```
generate_fasta <- function(size = 50, fasta= FALSE) {
  v <- sample(c("A", "C", "G", "T"), size = size, replace = TRUE)
  s<- paste(v, collapse = "")
  if(fasta) {
    return(s)
  } else {
    return(v)
  }
}
```

```
]
```

```
generate_fasta(10)
```

```
[1] "T" "A" "T" "C" "G" "C" "G" "G" "G" "A"
```

### a protein generating function

```
generate_protein <- function(size = 50, fasta = TRUE) {
  aa <- c("A", "R", "N", "D", "C", "Q", "E", "G", "H", "I",
         "L", "K", "M", "F", "P", "S", "T", "W", "Y", "V")
  v <- sample(aa, size = size, replace = TRUE)
  s <- paste(v, collapse = "")
  if (fasta) {
    return(s)
  } else {
    return(v)
  }
}
```

```
generate_protein(6)
```

```
[1] "VNCEAF"
```

Use our new `generate_protein()` function to make random protein sequences of length 6 to 12 (i.e. one length 6, one length 7, etc. up to length 12)

one way to do this is brute force.

```
generate_protein(6)
```

```
[1] "FCDAMQ"
```

```
generate_protein(7)
```

```
[1] "GCWGCVW"
```

```
generate_protein(8)
```

```
[1] "VLIFPFGQ"
```

A second way is to use a `for()` loop

```
lengths <- 6:12  
lengths
```

```
[1] 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
```

```
for(i in lengths){  
  cat(">",i,"\n", sep = "")  
  aa <-generate_protein(i)  
  cat(aa)  
  cat("\n")  
}
```

```
>6  
LMPWTG  
>7  
ACAKMER  
>8  
LLYDRWYD  
>9  
QVYRKNSVV  
>10  
RQESCCRSQG  
>11  
QWCKKQREAAQ  
>12  
NVCQVRHHQMTR
```

a third, and better, way to solve this is to use the `apply()` family of functions, specifically the `sapply` function in this case

```
sapply(6:12,generate_protein)
```

```
[1] "WRTWPR"      "DMLFGEG"      "KPQQTWV"      "DIILWRLDS"    "SFWYHMPiyG"  
[6] "LGQEDKHINMK" "RSKFVQFSRTE"
```