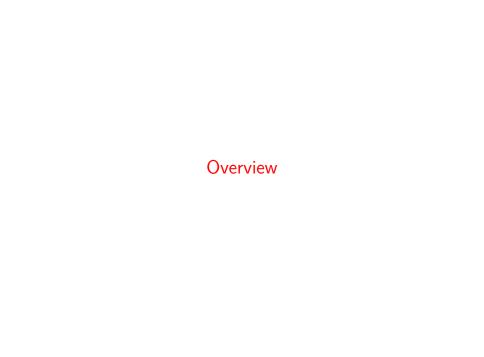
MFE R Programming Workshop

Week 1

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Fall 2016



Goals

- Learn to program in R.
- What does programming mean?
 - Language syntax.
 - Debugging.
 - Finding solutions.
 - Translating math to code.
- ► This is just the beginning; you'll develop these skills throughout the program.

R as a language

- R is object oriented.
 - Everything is an object and functions operate differently when passed different types of objects.
- R is functional.
 - You write fewer loops.
 - You write cleaner code.

R vs C++

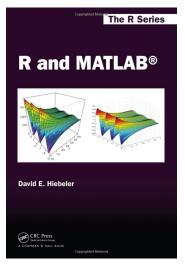
- Both are useful, and you will use both in the MFE program.
- R is an interpreted language.
 - ► Low programmer time.
 - ▶ A great tool for data munging, statistics, regressions, etc.
 - ▶ However, certain tasks in R can be slow (e.g. loops).
- ▶ C++ is very fast, but it takes longer to write programs.
- We can use both together!
- A good workflow:
 - 1. Write your program in R.
 - 2. If the program is too slow, benchmark your code.
 - 3. Try to speedup any bottlenecks in R.
 - 4. Convert any remaining bottlenecks to C++.

Jack of All Trades, Master of None

- ➤ You are better served by learning R and C++ very well, rather than trying to learn R, C++, MATLAB, Python, Julia, SAS, etc.
- ▶ The MFE program is just too short.
 - You also need to learn finance!
- ➤ Once you are proficient with R and C++, learning other languages is easy.
- Don't become a master of none!

MATLAB

▶ If you want to learn MATLAB after learning R, take a look at R and MATLAB by David Hiebeler.



Structure

- I will talk at the beginning of each class.
- ► For the remainder of the time you will break into your study groups and work on programming tasks.
- Tasks are designed to introduce you to the building blocks that will be used for course assignments throughout the MFE program.
- This course is a programming course with emphasis on methods for finance:
 - You will see finance terms and math.
 - You may not understand all of the finance, but you will learn it throughout the program.
- ► The key skills will be translating mathematical algorithms into code and developing the ability to find helpful resources.

Questions

Any questions before we start?

R Resources: Books

- Introductory:
 - R for Everyone by Jared P. Lander
 - R Cookbook by Paul Teetor (free at UCLA LearnIT)
 - ▶ R for Data Science by Hadley Wickham (free as well)
- Intermediate:
 - ► The Art of R Programming by Norman Matloff
- Advanced:
 - Software for Data Analysis by John Chambers
 - Extending R by John Chambers
 - Advanced R by Hadley Wickham

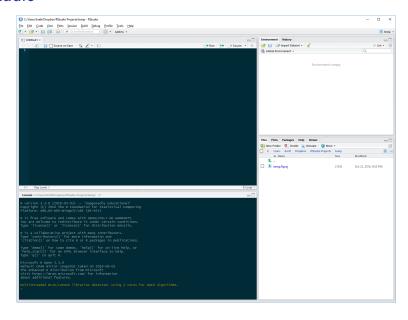
Other Resources

- Book series:
 - Use R! Springer series
 - ► FYI: Many Springer textbooks are just \$25 through http://link.springer.com/. You need to be on campus or signed into the UCLA VPN. You can download the pdfs for free.
 - O'Reilly R Books (free at UCLA LearnIT)
- Built in documentation!
 - ?funcname
- ► Journal of Statistical Software
- Data science courses on Coursera
- ▶ Data Camp
- ▶ https://www.r-bloggers.com/
- ▶ https://twitter.com/rstudiotips
- Google, Stack Overflow, etc.

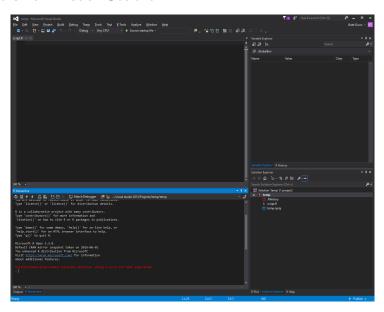
R Environment

- First, you need an R distribution.
 - ▶ I recommend Microsoft R Open.
 - ▶ https://mran.revolutionanalytics.com/download/
- Second, you need an integrated development environment (IDE) for R.
 - R Studio is a fantastic environment to interact with R.
 - Other options:
 - R Tools for Visual Studio if you use Visual Studio.
 - ► Emacs Speaks Statistics (ESS) if you use Emacs.
- I am going to assume that you have a working installation of R Studio and that you have a basic understanding of how it works.
- I will show you some Visual Studio.
- My focus is going to be on R programming.

RStudio

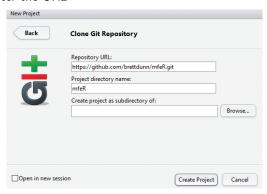


R Tools for Visual Studio



Course Materials

- ▶ https://github.com/brettdunn/mfeR
- ► The materials for this course were created in RStudio, using R Markdown.
- To create your own RStudio project:
 - ► File / New Project / Version Control / Git
 - ► Enter the URL



R Basics

Command Line Interface

➤ To run a command in R, type it into the console next to the > symbol and press the Enter key.

```
2 + 3
```

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

- Up Arrow + Enter repeats the line of code.
- ► Esc (Windows/Mac) or Ctrl-C (Linux) interrupts a command.

RStudio

- ► To start, create a new R Script file.
 - ► File/New File/R Script
- You can type your commands in the R Script file and run them on the Console.
 - Easy way to save your work.
 - ▶ Ctrl+Enter sends the line at the cursor to the console.
 - Ctrl+Shift+S runs the entire file.
 - ► Help/Keyboard Shortcuts lists all the available shortcuts.
 - Check out the multiple cursors.
- ▶ For larger tasks with many files, create an R project.
- Visual Studio is similar.

General Comments

- Make your code easy to read.
- Check out Google's R Style Guide
- Comment your code!
 - # indicates a comment in R.

Google's R Style Guide

R is a high-level programming language used primarily for statistical computing and graphics. The goal of the R Programming Style Guide is to make our R code easier to read, share, and verify. The rules below were designed in collaboration with the entire R user community at Google.

Summary: R Style Rules

- 1. File Names: end in .R
- 2. Identifiers: variable.name (Or variableName), FunctionName, kConstantName
- 3. Line Length: maximum 80 characters 4. Indentation: two spaces, no tabs
- Spacing
- 6. Curly Braces: first on same line, last on own line
- 7. else: Surround else with braces
- 8. Assignment: use < -. not =
- Semicolons: don't use them 10. General Layout and Ordering
- 11. Commenting Guidelines: all comments begin with # followed by a space; inline comments need two spaces before the #
- 12. Function Definitions and Calls
- 13. Function Documentation
- 14. Example Function
- 15. TODO Style: TODO(username)

R Packages

- ▶ A package is essentially a library of prewritten code designed to accomplish some task or a collection of tasks.
- R has a huge collection of user-contributed packages.
 - Warning: Not all packages are of the same quality.



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 ChemPhys
 Chemometrics and Computational Physics

 ClinicalTrials
 Clinical Trial Design, Monitoring, and Analysis

 Cluster
 Cluster Analysis & Finite Mixture Models

 Differential Equations
 Differential Equations

 Distributions
 Probability Distributions

 Econometrics
 Econometrics

Environmetrics Analysis of Ecological and Environmental Data

ExperimentalDesign Design of Experiments (DoE) & Analysis of Ex

ExperimentalDesign Design of Experiments (DoE) & Analysis of Experimental Data

Extreme Value Theory

Extreme Value Theory

Finance Empirical Finance

Genetics Statistical Genetics

Graphics Graphic Displays & Dynamic Graphics & Graphic Devices & Visualization

HighPerformanceComputing High-Performance and Parallel Computing with R

CRAN Task Views

MachineLearning Machine Learning & Statistical Learning

Medical Image Analysis
Meta-Analysis
Meta-Analysis

Meta-Analysis
Multivariate
Multivariate Statistics
NaturalLanguageProcessing
NumericalMathematics
Numerical Mathematics

Official Statistics & Survey Methodology

R Packages

- Installing a packages:
 - Ctrl+7 in RStudio accesses the packages pane
 - You can also type install.packages("packageName")
- Uninstalling a package:
 - remove.packages("packageName")
- Loading packages:
 - require(packageName) or library(packageName) loads a package into R
 - The difference is that require returns TRUE if the package loads or FALSE if it doesn't.
- Unloading packages
 - detach(package:packageName)
- ▶ If two packages have the same function name use two colons: -package1::func or package2::func

Getting Help in R

- ► To get help on a function, use ?.
- ► The example function runs the examples contained in the help file.
- ▶ To run a search through R's documentation, use ??.
- To get help on a package, type help(package="packageName")

```
?seq # pulls up the help page
example(seq) # runs the examples in R
??"normal distibution" # runs a search
help(package = "xts") # gets help on the xts package
?'+' # gets help on the + function
```

Variables

- ▶ Unlike C++, R does not require variable types to be declared.
- A variable can take on any data type.
- ► A variable can also hold any R object such as a function, the result of an analysis, a plot, etc.
- ▶ Variable assignment is done with <-.
 - = works, but there are reasons to prefer <-.</p>
- ► We can remove variables (e.g. to free up memory) with the rm function. gc() runs garbage collection.

```
x <- 2 # x is a pointer
x # the same output as print(x)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 2
```

```
rm(x) # removes x
```

Data Types

- There are many different data types in R.
- ▶ The four main types of data most likely to be used are:
 - 1. numeric
 - 2. character (string)
 - Date/POSIXct (time-based)
 - 4. logical (TRUE/FALSE)
- ► The data type can be checked with the class function

```
x <- as.Date("2010-12-21")
class(x)
```

```
## [1] "Date"
```

Casting

```
x <- "2010-12-21"
class(x)
## [1] "character"
х
## [1] "2010-12-21"
x <- as.Date(x)
class(x)
## [1] "Date"
Х
## [1] "2010-12-21"
```

More Casting

```
x <- as.numeric(x)
class(x)
## [1] "numeric"
is.numeric(x)
## [1] TRUE
x # number of days since Jan 1, 1970
## [1] 14964
```

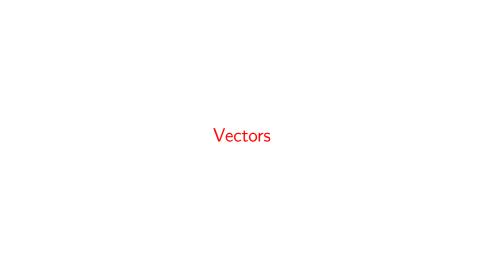
Even More Casting

```
x \leftarrow as.integer(x) \# x \leftarrow 14964L assigns an integer
class(x)
## [1] "integer"
is.integer(x)
## [1] TRUE
is.numeric(x) # R promotes int to numeric as needed
## [1] TRUE
4L / 5L
## [1] 0.8
```

Logicals

[1] TRUE

```
# TRUE == 1 and FALSE == 0
x <- TRUE # TRUE, FALSE, T, F are logicals
is.logical(x)
## [1] TRUE
5 == 5 # != tests for inequality
## [1] TRUE
"a" < "b" # works on characters as well
```



Vectors

- ▶ A vector is a collection of elements, all of the same type.
- ▶ In R, a vector does not have a dimension attribute.
 - There is no difference between a row vector and a column vector.
- We will learn about:
 - Recycling
 - ▶ The automatic lengthening of vectors.
 - Filtering
 - The extraction of subsets of vectors.
 - Vectorization
 - Where functions are applied element-wise to vectors.

Vectors and Assignment

- Assigning values to variables can be done with <-.</p>
- ▶ Often, we create vectors using the c() function.
 - ► The "c" stands for combine because the arguments into a vector.

```
x <- c(1, 2, 3, 4)
x
## [1] 1 2 3 4
y <- c(x, 5, 6)
y
```

```
## [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6
```

Creating Vectors with seq and rep

- ▶ Both seg and rep are useful functions for generating vectors.
- ► See ?seq and ?rep for details
- seq is also useful in loops
- ▶ 1:10 is the same as seq(1,10,1)

```
x <- seq(from = 1, to = 10, by = 2)
x</pre>
```

```
y <- rep(c(1, 2), times = 3)
```

```
## [1] 1 2 1 2 1 2
```

[1] 1 3 5 7 9

```
rep(c(1,2), each=2)
```

```
## [1] 1 1 2 2
```

Obtaining the Length of a Vector

▶ length() returns the vector length

```
x <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE, FALSE)
length(x)
## [1] 4
x \leftarrow c() \# x \text{ is NULL}
1:length(x) # that could mess you up in a for loop
## [1] 1 0
seq(x) # a safe way to loop through a vector
## integer(0)
```

Accessing Elements of Vectors

[1] "a" "c"

- ► Elements can be accessed using []
 - ▶ Help on the [function can be found by typing ?'['
- ▶ Unlike C/C++, R indexing starts at 1, not 0.
- ▶ The [function can take a vector as an arguments.

```
x <- c("a", "b", "c", "d")
x[1] # access the first element
## [1] "a"
x[c(1, 3)] # access elements 1 and 3
## [1] "a" "c"
x[c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE, FALSE)] # second way
```

NULL and NA

[1] 0

- NULL is the non-existent value in R.
- ▶ NA is the missing place holder.

```
x < -5:8
x[2] \leftarrow NA
Х
## [1] 5 NA 7 8
y <- NULL
length(y)
```

Names of Vector Elements

- ▶ You can give names to elements of vectors, and you can access elements by their name.
- ▶ The function as.vector removes the names from a vector.

```
x <- 1:3
names(x) <- c("A","B","C")
x <- c(A=1, B=2, C=3)  # another way
x["B"]

## B
## 2

as.vector(x) # the names are removed</pre>
```

```
## [1] 1 2 3
```

Recycling

- When applying an operation to two vectors that requires them to be the same length, R automatically recycles the shorter one, until it is long enough to match the longer one.
- Be careful with and aware of this behavior!
- In some cases it is useful, others confusing.

```
# the shorter vector will be recycled
c(2, 4, 6) + c(1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2)
## [1] 3 5 7 4 6 8
```

```
# this is the same as
rep(c(2, 4, 6), 2) + c(1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2)
```

```
## [1] 3 5 7 4 6 8
```

Logical Operators

!x

- R has several logical operations that act on vectors.
- ▶ !, ==, !=, &, &&, |, ||, xor(), any(), all(), >, >=, <=, <

```
x <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
y <- c(TRUE, FALSE, FALSE)
x == y</pre>
```

```
## [1] TRUE TRUE FALSE
```

```
## [1] FALSE TRUE FALSE
```

Logical Operations (2)

▶ &&, ||, any(), and all() return a length-one vector.

```
x <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
y <- c(TRUE, FALSE, FALSE)
x && y

## [1] TRUE
x & y</pre>
```

[1] TRUE FALSE FALSE

Filtering

▶ We select subsets of vectors with vectors of logicals.

```
x <- 1:5
y <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
x[y]</pre>
```

```
## [1] 1 3 5
```

Filtering (2)

▶ Filtering amounts to generating filtering indices (i.e. vectors of logicals).

```
x \leftarrow c(5, 2, -3, 8)

idx \leftarrow x*x > 8 # same as ">"(x*x, 8) - 8 is recycled!

idx
```

[1] TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE

Assigning to a Filter

- ▶ You can assign elements to the subsets.
 - ▶ This allows you change elements that meet certain criteria.

```
x <- 1:6

x[x < 2] <- NA

x
```

```
## [1] NA 2 3 4 5 6
```

Filtering with subset()

► The subset function filters and removes any NAs.

```
x \leftarrow c(3, 1:5, NA, 79)
х
## [1] 3 1 2 3 4 5 NA 79
x[x > 4]
## [1] 5 NA 79
subset(x, x > 4)
## [1] 5 79
```

The Selection Function which()

which() gives us the position in a vector where a condition occurs.

```
x \leftarrow c(3, 1:5, NA, 79)
х
## [1] 3 1 2 3 4 5 NA 79
x[x > 4]
## [1] 5 NA 79
which(x > 4)
## [1] 6 8
```

Vectorization: Functions on Vectors

- R functions typically operate on vectors.
- ▶ Often, there is an argument to ignore missing data.

```
x \leftarrow c(1:1000, NA)
mean(x)
## [1] NA
mean(x, na.rm = TRUE)
## [1] 500.5
log(x)[998:1001]
```

Matrices

Creating Matrices

Matrices are vectors with a number of rows and number of columns attribute.

```
myvec <- 1:10
mymat <- matrix(myvec, nrow=2, ncol=5, byrow = FALSE)
mymat</pre>
```

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

```
dim(mymat) # returns the dimension
```

```
## [1] 2 5
```

Accessing Elements of Matrices

▶ Like vectors, elements can be accessed using []

```
mymat <- matrix(1:15, nrow=3, ncol=5, byrow = FALSE)</pre>
mymat[1, 2] # row 1, column 2
## [1] 4
mymat[2:3, c(1, 4, 5)]
## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 2 11 14
## [2,] 3 12 15
```

Filtering Matrices

► Filtering can be done on a single column or a single row, otherwise the filter returns a vector.

```
myvec <- 1:10
mymat <- matrix(myvec, nrow=2, ncol=5, byrow = FALSE)</pre>
mymat
## [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,] 1 3 5 7 9
## [2,] 2 4 6 8 10
mymat[, mymat[1, ] > 4]
## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 5 7 9
## [2,] 6 8 10
```

Vectorization

Most R functions work on matrices as well.

```
mymat <- matrix(1:10, nrow=2, ncol=5, byrow = FALSE)</pre>
exp(mymat)
           [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
##
                                               [.5]
## [1,] 2.718282 20.08554 148.4132 1096.633 8103.084
## [2,] 7.389056 54.59815 403.4288 2980.958 22026.466
sd(mymat) # standard deviation
## [1] 3.02765
```

Matrix operations

▶ Many matrix operations are surrounded by % signs.

```
mymat1 <- matrix(1:4, nrow=2)</pre>
mymat2 <- matrix(5:8, nrow=2)</pre>
mymat1 %*% mymat2 # matrix multiplication
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 23 31
## [2,] 34 46
mymat1 + mymat2
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 6 10
## [2.] 8 12
```

Applying Functions to Rows and Columns

- apply allows you to apply a function across a dimension of a matrix.
- The third argument is a function!

```
mymat <- matrix(1:10, nrow=2)</pre>
# mean across rows
apply (mymat, 1, mean) # apply mean along rows
## [1] 5 6
apply (mymat, 2, max) # apply max along columns
## [1] 2 4 6 8 10
```

Combining Matricies with cbind and rbind

Column bind and row bind.

```
mymat1 <- matrix(1:4, nrow=2)
mymat2 <- matrix(6:9, nrow=2)
mymat3 <- matrix(10:11, ncol=2)
cbind(mymat1, mymat2)</pre>
```

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

```
rbind(mymat1, mymat3)
```

```
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 1 3
## [2,] 2 4
## [3,] 10 11
```

Lists

Creating Lists

- A list is a structure that combines objects of different type and length.
- You can create a list where the elements are of type list.

```
element1 <- 1:5
element2 <- matrix(1:6, nrow=2)
mylist <- list(el1=element1, el2=element2)
mylist</pre>
```

Accessing Elements of Lists

▶ We can access a list component in several different ways.

```
mylist <- list(A=1, univ=c("UCLA", "USC"),</pre>
               mymat=matrix(1:4, nrow=2))
mylist[[1]] # fist way
## [1] 1
mylist[["A"]] # second way
## [1] 1
mylist$A # third way
## [1] 1
```

Removing Components of Lists

▶ We can delete a component of a list by setting it to NULL.

```
mylist <- list(A=1)</pre>
mylist$B <- c(1, 2) # adds a component to a list
mylist
## $A
## [1] 1
##
## $B
## [1] 1 2
mylist$A <- NULL
mylist
```

```
## $B
## [1] 1 2
```

Subsetting Lists

- Subsets of lists are done with single [].
 - ► A single [] returns a sublist of the original list

```
## $A
## [1] 1
##
## $mymat
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 1 3
## [2,] 2 4
```

Applying Functions to a List with lapply

lapply implicitly loops over each list element and applies a function.

```
mylist <- list(A=1:10,B=2:17,C=745:791)
lapply(mylist,mean)</pre>
```

```
## $A
## [1] 5.5
##
## $B
## [1] 9.5
##
## $C
## [1] 768
```

An Example of lapply

► From ?lapply: lapply(X, FUN, ...) returns a list of the same length as X, each element of which is the result of applying FUN to the corresponding element of X.

```
1 <- c("A","B","B","A","A","B")
lapply(c("A","B"), function(letter) which(l==letter))</pre>
```

```
## [[1]]
## [1] 1 4 5
##
## [[2]]
## [1] 2 3 6
```

Data Frames

data.frames

- ▶ The data.frame is one of the most useful features in R.
- ► A data.frame is like a matrix with a two-dimensional rows-and-columns structure.
- However, a data.frame is different because each column can have a different mode.
 - ► For example, one column might be numbers and another characters.
- Each column must be the same length (unlike a list).

Creating data.frames

Unless you are working with categorical data, you probably want to set stringsAsFactors=FALSE.

```
courses <- c("Stochastic Calculus", "Fixed Income")
examGrades <- c(92, 98)
gradeBook <- data.frame(courses, examGrades, stringsAsFacto
gradeBook</pre>
```

```
## courses examGrades
## 1 Stochastic Calculus 92
## 2 Fixed Income 98
```

Column Names

- ► Column names in data.frames are specified by names().
- ► This is because data.frames are actually lists with special attributes.
- ▶ That means that the usual list functions work on data.frames.
- ▶ lapply, etc.

Accessing Elements of data.frames

▶ We can access a data.frame component just like a list.

```
gradeBook[[1]] # fist way
## [1] "Stochastic Calculus" "Fixed Income"
gradeBook[["courses"]] # second way
## [1] "Stochastic Calculus" "Fixed Income"
gradeBook$courses # third way
```

[1] "Stochastic Calculus" "Fixed Income"

Accessing Elements of data.frames (2)

▶ We can access data.frame elements like a matrix.

```
gradeBook[1,2]
## [1] 92
gradeBook[1,]
##
                 courses examGrades
## 1 Stochastic Calculus
                                  92
gradeBook[,2]
## [1] 92 98
```

Merging data.frames

► Two data.frames can be combined using the merge function.

```
## courses examGrades midtermGrades
## 1 Fixed Income 98 91
## 2 Stochastic Calculus 92 89
```

Adding Columns to data.frames

```
dat1 <- 1:4
dat2 <- rep(c("A","B"),each=2)
myframe <- data.frame(col1=dat1,col2=dat2)
myframe$col3 <- 5:8
myframe</pre>
```

```
## col1 col2 col3
## 1 1 A 5
## 2 2 A 6
## 3 3 B 7
## 4 4 B 8
```

Reading in Data from a CSV File

- Reading in data typically gives you a data.frame.
- read.table is the basic function to read in tabular data.
- read.csv is a special case of read.table.
- As usual see ?read.table.
- Often you want to set stringsAsFactors = FALSE.
- write.csv writes data to a .csv file.

```
## S0 sigma r T K
## 1 100 0.3 0.0 1 100
## 2 101 0.3 0.0 1 100
## 3 101 0.1 0.1 1 105
```

Long example

```
all2006 <- read.csv("2006.csv",header=TRUE,as.is=TRUE)
# exclude hourly-wagers
all2006 <- all2006[all2006$Wage Per=="Year", ]
# exclude weird cases
all2006 <- all2006[all2006$Wage_Offered_From > 20000,]
all2006$rat <- all2006$Wage_Offered_From
                  / all2006$Prevailing_Wage_Amount
se2006 <- all2006[grep("Software Engineer", all2006),]
```



For loops (1)

- A for loop iterates over an index, provided as a vector.
- ► To iterate over the length of a vector x, we can either use 1:length(x) or seq(x).
 - seq(x) protects against zero-length vectors.

```
x <- c(1:5)
y <- NULL # we need to initialize an empty vector
for(i in seq(x)) { # safer than 1:length(x)
    y[i] <- x[i] + 2
}
y</pre>
```

```
## [1] 3 4 5 6 7
```

For loops (2)

[1] 5 ## [1] 6

Another nice way to make a for loop.

```
x <- c(2:4)
for(i in x) {
   print(i + 2)
}</pre>
```

While loops

▶ A while loop runs the code inside the braces repeatedly as long as the tested condition proves TRUE.

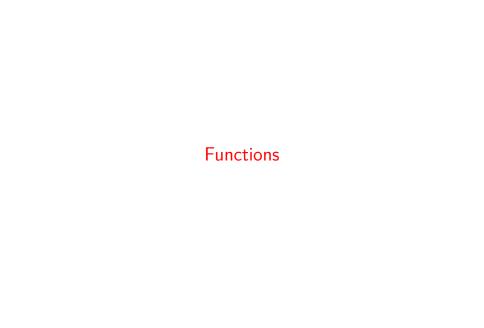
```
x <- c(1:5)
y <- NULL
i <- 1
while(i <= length(x)) {
   y[i] <- x[i] + 2
   i <- i + 1
}
y</pre>
```

```
## [1] 3 4 5 6 7
```

Intro to Conditional Statements

```
x <- -10
myabs <- x
if(x < 0) {
    myabs <- -x
}
myabs</pre>
```

```
## [1] 10
```



Function Definitions

- Note that the last value evaluated is what is returned by the function.
- You can also write return(x^2).
 - ▶ I prefer this because the code is clearer.

```
myfunc <- function(x) x^2
myfunc(10)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 100
```

Scope Rules for Functions

[1] 1000

▶ Variables defined inside a function are local to that function.

```
myfunc <- function(x) {
    N <- 10
    return(N*x^2) # return is optional
}
myfunc(10)</pre>
```

```
# You can't access N out here
```

Lab 1

Let's work on Lab 1.