Intro to R Functions

Writing your own functions

So far we've seen many functions, like c(), class(), filter(), dim() ...

Why create your own functions?

- Cut down on repetitive code (easier to fix things!)
- Organize code into manageable chunks
- Avoid running code unintentionally
- Use names that make sense to you

Writing your own functions

Here we will write a function that multiplies some number (x) by 2:

```
times_2 <- function(x) x * 2</pre>
```

When you run the line of code above, you make it ready to use (no output yet!). Let's test it!

$$times_2(x = 10)$$

[1] 20

Writing your own functions: { }

Adding the curly brackets - {} - allows you to use functions spanning multiple lines:

```
times_2 <- function(x) {
    x * 2
}
times_2(x = 10)</pre>
```

[1] 20

Writing your own functions

The general syntax for a function is:

```
functionName <- function(inputs) {
  <function body>
  return(value)
}
```

Writing your own functions: return

If we want something specific for the function's output, we use return():

```
times_2_plus_4 <- function(x) {
  output_int <- x * 2
  output <- output_int + 4
  return(output)
}
times_2_plus_4(x = 10)</pre>
```

[1] 24

Writing your own functions: print intermediate steps

- · printed results do not stay around but can show what a function is doing
- returned results stay around
- · can only return one result but can print many

Adding print

```
times_2_plus_4 <- function(x) {
  output_int <- x * 2
  output <- output_int + 4
  print(paste("times2 result = ", output_int))
  return(output)
}

result <- times_2_plus_4(x = 10)

[1] "times2 result = 20"

result

[1] 24</pre>
```

Writing your own functions: multiple inputs

Functions can take multiple inputs:

```
times_2_plus_y <- function(x, y) x * 2 + y
times_2_plus_y(x = 10, y = 3)
```

[1] 23

Writing your own functions: multiple outputs

[1] 12 5

Functions can have one returned result with multiple outputs.

```
x_and_y_plus_2 <- function(x, y) {
  output1 <- x + 2
  output2 <- y + 2

return(c(output1, output2))
}
result <- x_and_y_plus_2(x = 10, y = 3)
result</pre>
```

Writing your own functions: defaults

Functions can have "default" arguments. This lets us use the function without using an argument later:

```
times_2_plus_y <- function(x = 10, y = 3) x * 2 + y times_2_plus_y()
```

[1] 23

Writing another simple function

Let's write a function, sqdif, that:

- 1. takes two numbers x and y with default values of 2 and 3.
- 2. takes the difference
- 3. squares this difference
- 4. then returns the final value

Writing another simple function

```
sqdif <- function(x = 2, y = 3) (x - y)^2
sqdif()
[1] 1
sqdif(x = 10, y = 5)
[1] 25
sqdif(10, 5)
[1] 25</pre>
```

Writing your own functions: characters

Functions can have any kind of input. Here is a function with characters:

```
loud <- function(word) {
  output <- rep(toupper(word), 5)
  return(output)
}
loud(word = "hooray!")</pre>
```

[1] "HOORAY!" "HOORAY!" "HOORAY!" "HOORAY!" "HOORAY!"

Functions for tibbles

We can use filter(row_number()==n) to extract a row of a tibble:

```
get row <- function(dat, row) dat %>% filter(row number() == row)
cars <- read_kaggle()</pre>
cars <- cars %>% select(1:8)
get_row(dat = cars, row = 10)
# A tibble: 1 \times 8
 RefId IsBadBuy PurchDate Auction VehYear VehicleAge Make Model
 <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <chr>
                                   <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <dr>
              0 12/7/2009 ADESA 2007
1
    10
                                                 2 FORD FIVE HUNDRED
get_row(dat = iris, row = 4)
 Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
                                  1.5
          4.6
                     3.1
                                             0.2 setosa
```

Functions for tibbles

select(n) will choose column n:

```
get_index <- function(dat, row, col) {
   dat %>%
     filter(row_number() == row) %>%
     select(all_of(col))
}

get_index(dat = cars, row = 10, col = 8)

# A tibble: 1 × 1
   Model
   <chr>
1 FIVE HUNDRED
```

Functions for tibbles

Including default values for arguments:

```
get_top <- function(dat, row = 1, col = 1) {
   dat %>%
     filter(row_number() == row) %>%
     select(all_of(col))
}

get_top(dat = cars)

# A tibble: 1 × 1
   RefId
   <dbl>
1   1
```

Functions on multiple columns

Using your custom functions: sapply()-a base R function

Now that you've made a function... You can "apply" functions easily with sapply()!

These functions take the form:

sapply(<a vector, list, data frame>, some_function)

Using your custom functions: sapply()

There are no parentheses on the functions!

You can also pipe into your function.

```
head(iris, n = 2)
 Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
1
          5.1
                      3.5
                                   1.4
                                              0.2 setosa
2
          4.9
                      3.0
                                   1.4
                                              0.2 setosa
sapply(iris, class)
                                                       Species
Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length
                                      Petal.Width
                                                      "factor"
   "numeric"
               "numeric"
                            "numeric"
                                         "numeric"
iris %>% sapply(class)
Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width
                                                       Species
   "numeric" "numeric"
                            "numeric"
                                         "numeric"
                                                      "factor"
```

Using your custom functions: sapply()

```
select(cars, VehYear:VehicleAge) %>% head()
# A tibble: 6 \times 2
  VehYear VehicleAge
    <dbl>
                <dbl>
     2006
2
3
4
5
     2004
    2005
                     5
   2004
  2005
     2004
select(cars, VehYear:VehicleAge) %>%
  sapply(times_2) %>%
  head()
     VehYear VehicleAge
[1,]
        4012
                        6
[2,]
[3,]
[4,]
[5,]
        4008
                       10
                       8
        4010
       4008
                       10
        4010
        4008
                       10
```

Using your custom functions "on the fly" to iterate

```
select(cars, VehYear:VehicleAge) %>%
  sapply(function(x) x / 1000) %>%
  head()
```

	VehYear	VehicleAge
[1,]	2.006	0.003
[2,]	2.004	0.005
[3,]	2.005	0.004
[4,]	2.004	0.005
[5,]	2.005	0.004
[6,]	2.004	0.005

across

Then list any arguments for the function

across() makes it easy to apply the same transformation to multiple columns. Usually used with summarize() or mutate().

```
summarize(across( .cols = <columns>, .fns = function, ... ))
or
mutate(across(.cols = <columns>, .fns = function, ...))
    List columns first : .cols =
    List function next: .fns =
```

Combining with summarize()

```
cars_dbl <- cars %>% select(Make, starts_with("Veh"))

cars_dbl %>%
   summarize(across(.cols = everything(), .fns = mean))

# A tibble: 1 × 5
   Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
   <dbl>   <dbl
```

Can use with other tidyverse functions like group_by!

```
cars dbl %>%
 group_by(Make) %>%
 summarize(across(.cols = everything(), .fns = mean))
# A tibble: 33 \times 5
  Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
  <chr>
            <dbl>
                      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 ACURA
            2003. 6.52 81732. 9039.
2 BUICK
            2004. 5.65 76238. 6169.
3 CADILLAC
            2004. 5.24 73770.
                                   10958.
4 CHEVROLET
            2006.
                     3.97 73390.
                                 6835.
                     3.65 66814.
5 CHRYSLER
            2006.
                                   6507.
6 DODGE
            2006.
                      3.75 68261.
                                   7047.
                  4.75 76749.
                                 6403.
7 FORD
            2005.
        2004.
                  5.61 79273.
                                 8342.
8 GMC
                                 8350.
9 HONDA 2004.
                   5.33 77877.
            2006
                       3
                                   11920
10 HUMMER
                           70809
# ... with 23 more rows
```

Combining with summarize():

```
# Adding arguments to the end!
cars dbl %>%
 group by (Make) %>%
 summarize(across(.cols = everything(), .fns = mean, na.rm = TRUE))
# A tibble: 33 \times 5
  Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
            <dbl>
                     <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
  <chr>
            2003. 6.52 81732. 9039.
1 ACURA
                     5.65 76238. 6169.
            2004.
2 BUICK
                     5.24 73770.
3 CADILLAC 2004.
                                  10958.
4 CHEVROLET 2006.
                    3.97 73390.
                                6835.
                  3.65 66814.
                                6507.
5 CHRYSLER
         2006.
        2006.
                  3.75 68261.
                                7047.
6 DODGE
7 FORD
       2005. 4.75 76749.
                                6403.
                                8342.
8 GMC
      2004. 5.61 79273.
                  5.33 77877. 8350.
9 HONDA
            2004.
                          70809
10 HUMMER 2006
                      3
                                  11920
# ... with 23 more rows
```

Using different tidyselect() options:

```
cars dbl %>%
 group_by(Make) %>%
 summarize(across(.cols = starts_with("Veh"), .fns = mean))
# A tibble: 33 \times 5
  Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
  <chr>
            <dbl>
                      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 ACURA
            2003. 6.52 81732. 9039.
2 BUICK
            2004. 5.65 76238. 6169.
3 CADILLAC
            2004. 5.24 73770.
                                   10958.
4 CHEVROLET
            2006.
                    3.97 73390.
                                 6835.
                     3.65 66814.
5 CHRYSLER
            2006.
                                   6507.
6 DODGE
            2006.
                      3.75 68261.
                                   7047.
                  4.75 76749.
                                 6403.
7 FORD
            2005.
        2004.
                  5.61 79273.
                                 8342.
8 GMC
                                 8350.
9 HONDA 2004.
                   5.33 77877.
                      3
10 HUMMER
            2006
                           70809
                                   11920
# ... with 23 more rows
```

Combining with mutate(): rounding to the nearest power of 10 (with negative digits value)

```
cars dbl %>%
  mutate(across(
    .cols = starts with("Veh"),
    .fns = round,
    digits = -3
  ))
# A tibble: 72,983 × 5
   Make
              VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
   <chr>
                 <dbl>
                            <dbl> <dbl>
                                             <db1>
                  2000
                                   89000
                                              7000
 1 MAZDA
 2 DODGE
                 2000
                                              8000
                                   94000
 3 DODGE
                 2000
                                   74000
                                              5000
 4 DODGE
                 2000
                                  66000
                                              4000
                                0 69000
                                              4000
 5 FORD
                  2000
 6 MITSUBISHI
                                              6000
                  2000
                                0 81000
                                              4000
 7 KIA
                 2000
                                0 65000
 8 FORD
                 2000
                                0 66000
                                              4000
                                0 50000
                                              6000
 9 KIA
                 2000
10 FORD
                  2000
                                    85000
                                              8000
# ... with 72,973 more rows
```

Combining with mutate() - the replace_na function

```
# Child mortality data
mort <- read mortality() %>% rename(country = `...1`)
mort %>%
      select(country, starts with("194")) %>%
      mutate(across(
             .cols = c(^1943^, ^1944^, ^1945^),
             .fns = replace_na,
             replace = 0
      ))
# A tibble: 197 × 11
         country `1940` `1941` `1942` `1943` `1944` `1945` `1946` `1947` `1948` `1949`
                                      <dbl> <
          <chr>
   1 Afghan... NA
                                                         NA
                                                                                NA
                                                                                                          0
                                                                                                                                0
                                                                                                                                                      0
                                                                                                                                                                        NA
                                                                                                                                                                                               NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                      NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            NA
                                                                                                                                                                           1.37
   2 Albania 1.53
                                                           1.31
                                                                                  1.48
                                                                                                         1.46
                                                                                                                               1.43
                                                                                                                                                      1.40
                                                                                                                                                                                                  1.41
                                                                                                                                                                                                                         1.37
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               1.34
   3 Algeria NA
                                                         NA
                                                                                NA
                                                                                                          0
                                                                                                                                0
                                                                                                                                                      0
                                                                                                                                                                         NA
                                                                                                                                                                                               NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                      NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            NA
   4 Angola 4.46
                                                                                  4.46
                                                                                                                                                                                                  4.22
                                                          4.46
                                                                                                         4.34
                                                                                                                               4.34
                                                                                                                                                      4.34
                                                                                                                                                                            4.33
                                                                                                                                                                                                                        4.22
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               4.21
   5 Argent... 0.641 0.603 0.602
                                                                                                        0.558
                                                                                                                              0.551
                                                                                                                                                    0.510 0.503 0.496
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       0.494
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              0.492
   6 Armenia NA
                                                         NA
                                                                                NA
                                                                                                          0
                                                                                                                                0
                                                                                                                                                      0
                                                                                                                                                                        NA
                                                                                                                                                                                               NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            NA
    7 Aruba
                              NA
                                                                                                          0
                                                                                                                               0
                                                                                                                                                      0
                                                                                                                                                                        NA
                                                                                                                                                                                               NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     NA
                                                         NA
                                                                                NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            NA
   8 Austra... 0.263 0.275 0.276 0.299 0.260
                                                                                                                                                    0.271 0.295 0.279 0.271 0.271
                                                                                                        0.389
                                                                                                                                                     0.311 0.311 0.312 0.274
   9 Austria 0.504 0.474
                                                                                 0.417
                                                                                                                              0.360
10 Azerba... NA
                                                                                                          0
                                                                                                                                0
                                                                                                                                                      0
                                                                                NA
                                                                                                                                                                        NA
                                                                                                                                                                                               NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            NA
# ... with 187 more rows
```

Use custom functions within mutate and across

```
times 1000 < -function(x) x * 1000
airquality %>%
 mutate(across(
    .cols = everything(),
    fns = times 1000
  )) %>%
  head(n = 2)
 Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
1 41000 190000 7400 67000 5000 1000
2 36000 118000 8000 72000 5000 2000
airquality %>%
 mutate(across(
    .cols = everything(),
    .fns = function(x)^{2}x^{2} + 1000
  )) %>%
  head(n = 2)
 Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
1 41000 190000 7400 67000 5000 1000
2 36000
        118000 8000 72000 5000 2000
```

purrr package

Similar to across, purrr is a package that allows you to apply a function to multiple columns in a data frame or multiple data objects in a list.

map_df

```
library(purrr)
airquality %>% map_df(replace_na, replace = 0)
# A tibble: 153 × 6
   Ozone Solar.R Wind
                          Temp Month
                                         Day
   <int>
            <int> <dbl> <int> <int> <int>
              190
                             67
                                     5
      41
                    7.4
                                           1
2
3
4
 2
                                     5
      36
              118
                     8
                             72
      12
              149
                    12.6
                             74
                                     5
 4
      18
                    11.5
                             62
              313
 56
                                           56
                    14.3
                             56
       0
                                     5
5
5
5
      28
                0
                    14.9
                             66
      23
                   8.6
                             65
              299
 8
                                           8
      19
               99
                    13.8
                             59
 9
       8
               19
                    20.1
                             61
10
                                          10
              194
                    8.6
                             69
# ... with 143 more rows
```

Multiple Data Frames

Multiple data frames

Lists help us work with multiple data frames

```
str(AQ_list)
List of 3
$ A01: 'data.frame':
                       153 obs. of 6 variables:
  ..$ Ozone : int [1:153] 41 36 12 18 NA 28 23 19 8 NA ...
  ..$ Solar.R: int [1:153] 190 118 149 313 NA NA 299 99 19 194 ...
  ..$ Wind : num [1:153] 7.4 8 12.6 11.5 14.3 14.9 8.6 13.8 20.1 8.6 ...
  ..$ Temp : int [1:153] 67 72 74 62 56 66 65 59 61 69 ...
  ..$ Month : int [1:153] 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 ...
  ..$ Day : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
 $ AQ2:'data.frame':
                       153 obs. of 6 variables:
  ..$ Ozone : int [1:153] 41 36 12 18 NA 28 23 19 8 NA ...
  ..$ Solar.R: int [1:153] 190 118 149 313 NA NA 299 99 19 194 ...
  ..$ Wind : num [1:153] 7.4 8 12.6 11.5 14.3 14.9 8.6 13.8 20.1 8.6 ...
  ..$ Temp : int [1:153] 67 72 74 62 56 66 65 59 61 69 ...
  ..$ Month : int [1:153] 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 ...
           : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
  ..$ Day
                       153 obs. of 6 variables:
 $ AQ3:'data.frame':
           : int [1:153] 41 36 12 18 NA 28 23 19 8 NA ...
  ..$ Ozone
  ..$ Solar.R: int
                   [1:153] 190 118 149 313 NA NA 299 99 19 194 ...
  ..$ Wind : num
                  [1:153] 7.4 8 12.6 11.5 14.3 14.9 8.6 13.8 20.1 8.6 ...
  ..$ Temp : int [1:153] 67 72 74 62 56 66 65 59 61 69 ...
  ..$ Month : int [1:153] 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 ...
            : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
  ..$ Day
```

 $AQ_{list} < -list(AQ1 = airquality, AQ2 = airquality, AQ3 = airquality)$

Multiple data frames: sapply

AQ_list %>% sapply(summary)

```
AQ3
     AQ1
                          AQ2
                        " "Min.
                                             " "Min.
     "Min.
[1,]
                 1.00
                                      1.00
                                                           1.00
 [2,]
     "1st Qu.: 18.00
                        " "1st Qu.:
                                             " "1st Qu.:
                                     18.00
                                                          18.00
 3,]
                        " "Median :
                                             " "Median :
     "Median :
                31.50
                                     31.50
                                                          31.50
4, ]
                                             " "Mean
     "Mean
                        " "Mean
              : 42.13
                                     42.13
                                                         42.13
                        " "3rd Qu.: 63.25
 [5,]
                                             " "3rd Qu.: 63.25
     "3rd Qu.: 63.25
 [6, ]
     "Max.
                        " "Max.
                                             " "Max.
              :168.00
                                   :168.00
                                                        :168.00
                          "NA's
                                               "NA's
     "NA's
                                   :37
              :37
                                                        :37
[8,]
                          "Min.
                                               "Min.
     "Min.
                 7.0
                                                           7.0
                                      7.0
[9,]
     "1st Qu.:115.8
                          "1st Qu.:115.8
                                               "1st Qu.:115.8
10,]
                          "Median :205.0
                                               "Median :205.0
     "Median :205.0
11,]
     "Mean
                          "Mean
                                               "Mean
                                                        :185.9
              :185.9
                                   :185.9
12,]
     "3rd Qu.:258.8
                          "3rd Qu.:258.8
                                               "3rd Qu.:258.8
13,]
     "Max.
                          "Max.
                                               "Max.
              :334.0
                                   :334.0
                                                        :334.0
14,]
     "NA's
                          "NA's
              :7
                                   :7
                                               "NA's
15,]
                                             " "Min.
     "Min.
                        " "Min.
                                                                  П
                1.700
                                   : 1.700
                                                          1.700
                        " "1st Qu.: 7.400
                                             " "1st Qu.: 7.400
16,]
     "1st Qu.: 7.400
                        " "Median :
                                             " "Median :
     "Median : 9.700
[17,]
                                     9.700
                                                          9.700
                        " "Mean
                                             " "Mean
     "Mean
[18,]
              : 9.958
                                     9.958
                                                        : 9.958
                        " "3rd Qu.:11.500
                                             " "3rd Qu.:11.500
19,]
     "3rd Qu.:11.500
20, ]
                        " "Max.
                                             " "Max.
     "Max.
              :20.700
                                   :20.700
                                                        :20.700
21, ]
                          NA
                                               NA
     NA
                                                                 П
22,]
     "Min.
                          "Min.
                                               "Min.
              :56.00
                                   :56.00
                                                        :56.00
23,]
     "1st Qu.:72.00
                                               "1st Qu.:72.00
                          "1st Qu.:72.00
24,]
                                               "Median
                                                                 П
     "Median :79.00
                          "Median :79.00
                                                        :79.00
25,]
     "Mean
                          "Mean
                                               "Mean
                                                        :77.88
              :77.88
                                   :77.88
26,]
                          "3rd Qu.:85.00
                                               "3rd Qu.:85.00
     "3rd Qu.:85.00
     "Max.
                          "Max.
                                               "Max.
              :97.00
                                   :97.00
                                                        :97.00
```

Summary

- Simple functions take the form:
 - NEW_FUNCTION <- function(x, y) $\{x + y\}$
 - Can specify defaults like function(x = 1, y = 2){x + y} -return will provide a value as output
 - print will simply print the value on the screen but not save it
- Apply your functions with sapply(<a vector or list>, some_function)
- Use across() to apply functions across multiple columns of data
- need to use across within summarize() or mutate()
- purrr is a package that you can use to do more iterative work easily
- can use sapply or purrr to work with multiple data frames within lists simultaneously

Website

Class Website

Lab



Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay