

Variable Types in R

Tony Yao-Jen Kuo

An overview

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer
- ▶ (optional)complex

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer
- ▶ (optional)complex
- ▶ character

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer
- ▶ (optional)complex
- ▶ character
- ▶ logical

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer
- ▶ (optional)complex
- ▶ character
- ▶ logical
- ▶ Date

We are gonna talk about 7 of them

- ▶ numeric
- ▶ (optional)integer
- ▶ (optional)complex
- ▶ character
- ▶ logical
- ▶ Date
- ▶ POSIXct

Using class() to examine variable types

```
class(87)  
class("Luke Skywalker")  
class(TRUE)
```

```
## [1] "numeric"  
## [1] "character"  
## [1] "logical"
```

Numerics

Using numeric as the primary digit type

```
my_lucky_number <- 24  
class(my_lucky_number) # numeric  
class(2.4) # numeric  
class(-8.7) # numeric  
class(0) # numeric
```

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

Using L to denote the integer type

```
my_lucky_integer <- 87L  
class(my_lucky_integer) # integer  
my_lucky_integer
```

```
## [1] "integer"  
## [1] 87
```

Using i to denote the imaginary part

```
my_lucky_complex <- 8 + 7i  
class(my_lucky_complex) # complex  
my_lucky_complex
```

```
## [1] "complex"  
## [1] 8+7i
```

Numeric operations

Operators	Usage
+	add
-	minus
*	multiply
/	divide
** or ^	power
%%	modulo
%/%	quotient

- Using () to prioritize operations

Practices: Jeremy Lin's BMI

$$BMI = \frac{weight_{kg}}{height_m^2}$$

```
jeremyLin_height <- 191  
jeremyLin_weight <- 91
```


Practices: NBA players' BMIs

```
steveNash_height <- 191  
steveNash_weight <- 82  
shaq_height <- 216  
shaq_weight <- 148  
jordan_height <- 198  
jordan_weight <- 98
```

We need FUNCTION to help us

```
MY_FUNCTION <- function(x, y, arg1, arg2, ...) {  
  # using x, y, arg1, arg2 to get output  
  return(OUTPUT)  
}
```

get_bmi() function

```
get_bmi <- function(height, weight) {  
  bmi <- weight/(height*0.01)**2  
  return(bmi)  
}  
get_bmi(steveNash_height, steveNash_weight)  
get_bmi(shaq_height, shaq_weight)  
get_bmi(jordan_height, jordan_weight)
```

```
## [1] 22.47745
```

```
## [1] 31.72154
```

```
## [1] 24.99745
```

character

Using " or "" for characters

```
mj <- "Michael Jordan"  
class(mj)  
mj <- 'Michael Jordan'  
class(mj)
```

```
## [1] "character"  
## [1] "character"
```

When to use " or ""?

```
# Try to assign one of the greatest center in NBA history  
Shaquille O'Neal
```

Practices: What did Ross Geller say?

Let's put aside the fact that you "accidentally" pick up my

Using `sprintf()` for string print with format

```
jordan_BMI <- get_bmi(jordan_height, jordan_weight)  
sprintf("Michael Jordan's BMI is %s", jordan_BMI)
```

```
## [1] "Michael Jordan's BMI is 24.9974492398735"
```


logical

Black or White, Head or Tail

```
class(TRUE)
class(FALSE)
class(True)  # error
class(False) # error
class(true)  # error
class(false) # error
```

Logical operators

Operators	Usage
>	larger than
>=	larger than or equal to
<	smaller than
<=	smaller than or equal to
==	equal to
!=	not equal to
%in%	belong to
!	not

Comparing characters

"Z" > "z" > "Y" > "y" > "X" > "x" ... > "B" > "b" >
"A" > "a"

Using logicals in control statements

```
# 1 branch  
if (CONDITION) {  
    # do something when CONDITION equals TRUE  
}
```

Using if-else for 2 branches

```
# 2 branches  
if (CONDITION) {  
    # do something when CONDITION equals TRUE  
} else {  
    # do something when CONDITION equals FALSE  
}
```

Using if-else if-else for more than 3 branches

```
# 2 branches  
if (CONDITION_1) {  
    # do something when CONDITION_1 equals TRUE  
} else if (CONDITION_2) {  
    # do something when CONDITION_2 equals TRUE  
} else {  
    # do something when both CONDITION_1 and CONDITION_2 equal FALSE  
}
```

Practices: get_bmi_label()

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Body_mass_index

```
get_bmi_label <- function(player_name, height, weight) {  
  # ...  
}  
get_bmi_label("Jeremy Lin", 191, 91)  
# [1] "Jeremy Lin's BMI label is Normal"
```

NULL

Class judgement and class conversion

Using `is.__()` for judgement

- ▶ `is.numeric()`

Using `is.___()` for judgement

- ▶ `is.numeric()`
- ▶ `is.character()`

Using `is.___()` for judgement

- ▶ `is.numeric()`
- ▶ `is.character()`
- ▶ `is.logical()`

Using `as.__()` for conversion

- ▶ `as.numeric()`

Using `as.__()` for conversion

- ▶ `as.numeric()`
- ▶ `as.character()`

Using `as.__()` for conversion

- ▶ `as.numeric()`
- ▶ `as.character()`
- ▶ `as.logical()`

Date and Datetime

Using Sys.Date() for current date

```
Sys.Date()
```

```
## [1] "2018-09-03"
```

Mysterious number

```
sys_date <- Sys.Date()  
as.numeric(sys_date) # what is this number?
```

```
## [1] 17777
```

Date originates from 1970-01-01

```
sys_date - as.numeric(sys_date)
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01"
```

Every integer stands for a specific date

```
original_date <- sys_date - as.numeric(sys_date)
original_date - 1
original_date
original_date + 1
```

```
## [1] "1969-12-31"
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01"
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-02"
```

Using Sys.time() for current datetime

```
Sys.time()
```

```
## [1] "2018-09-03 11:28:19 CST"
```

Datetime originates from 1970-01-01 08:00:00

```
sys_datetime <- Sys.time()  
original_datetime <- sys_datetime - as.numeric(sys_datetime  
original_datetime
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01 08:00:00 CST"
```

Every integer stands for a specific second

```
sys_datetime <- Sys.time()
original_datetime <- sys_datetime - as.numeric(sys_datetime)
original_datetime - 1
original_datetime
original_datetime + 1
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01 07:59:59 CST"
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01 08:00:00 CST"
```

```
## [1] "1970-01-01 08:00:01 CST"
```

Using `OlsonNames()` for specific timezone

Practices: The 911 earthquake

1999-09-21 01:47:16 the Jiji earthquake occurred in Nantou, Taiwan with a Richter scale of 7.3. The first major after-shock occurred on 1999-09-21 01:57:15. Let us know how long was the time between these two shocks.