

# Data Management With R

Hunter Wade York

01/27/2022

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- How to run a linear regression
- Basic familiarity with tidyverse syntax and operations

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Figure 1: Me!

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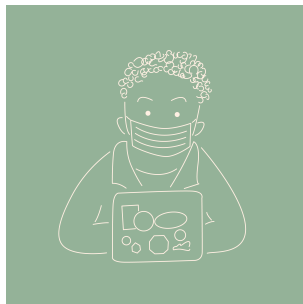


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- Interests: Stratification, culture, quant



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Questions?

Why I'm teaching what I'm teaching.

# Outline

- Project Design and Data Management

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# Project Design and Data Management

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- Version often, save versions remotely (git + github or even dropbox)

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- Most importantly, by having all your files in one directory and using relational paths, you make the entire project replicable!



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  - ▶ Super Basic Git Workflow for collaboration (fork, edit, push, pull request)
  - ▶ NB: Git has a lot of features built out for collaboration that are not necessary for basic data management. If you learn a simple “add,” “commit,” “push” workflow, it will serve most of your needs.

# Workflows

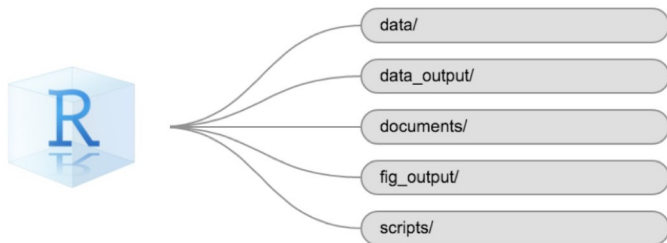


Figure 3: Another Example Directory Setup

# A Note on Git

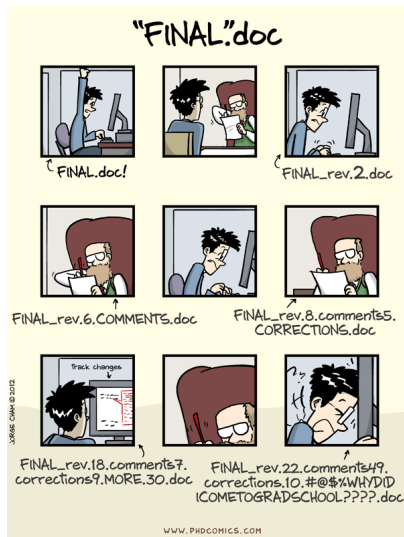


Figure 4: [www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)



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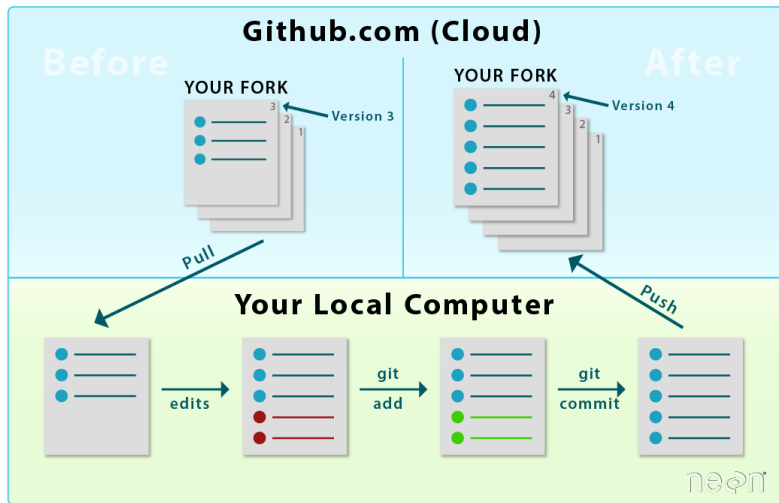


Figure 5: <https://www.neonscience.org/resources/learning-hub/tutorials/github-git-add>

# Code Tips

- ❶ Break down large projects into smaller chunks.
  - For me, this usually looks something like having a “processing.R”, “analysis.R”, and a “figures.R” script.
    - ▶ Tailor these to your specific project. If you have many lines of data acquisition and many lines of data processing, break that up!
  - Real programmers, data scientists working to make reproducible pipelines, etc. will all have drastically different standards of coding. Don't listen to them. Unless you're making a package to put on CRAN, you don't need a script for helper functions, etc.
  - That said, if one of your files exceeds 1,000 lines, or you have a very time-consuming step in the middle of a script, consider breaking it up.
  - I love to save intermediate files in my scripts. Later, these form a natural place for me to break a script up if it gets too long.

# Code Tips

Workflows (within your “../scripts” or “../code” folder)

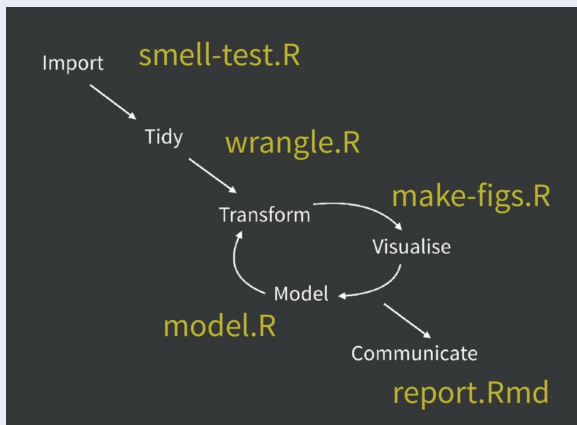


Figure 6: “../code”

<https://speakerdeck.com/jennybc/zen-and-the-art-of-workflow-maintenance?slide=59>

# Code Tips

- ② Comment (when it helps you)!
  - I actually rarely comment well until the final stages of a pipeline. BUT, that is because I'm so used to using a certain set of tools, that I can almost always tell what I'm doing. My comments are thus more limited to reminding myself why I made a certain choice or flags for me to revisit a small bug.
- ③ Test clunky operations on smaller bits of data
  - Sometimes we get too ambitious. If your code is slow and you can't or don't want to optimize it, subset your data early on in the script, write your code using the subset, and in the last stage, run it on the full sample.

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- Keys: norms, coordination, and communication.

Questions?

# Code Optimization

# Theory of Code Optimization

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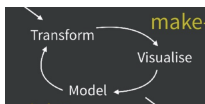


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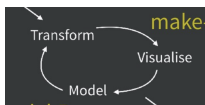


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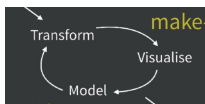


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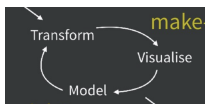


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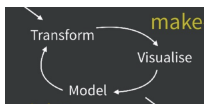


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- If a bottleneck cannot be fixed or if it's not worth it to fix it, consider removing it from your code.
- Make a separate script for it, that way you're only editing the chunk of code before or after it modularly, and you're not running the bottleneck every time you rerun your script.

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## Solution

- RStudio's built-in profiler! (Or bespoke profiling)

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- However, if you're running a for loop or a function, seeing inside the chunk is much harder.
- You can profile any amount of code, allowing you to optimize within and outside of such chunks.

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- Profiling

Here's an example of some code we're going to profile

```
f <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(0.1)  
  g()  
  h()  
}  
g <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(.1)  
  h()  
}  
h <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(0.1)  
}  
profvis::profvis({f()})
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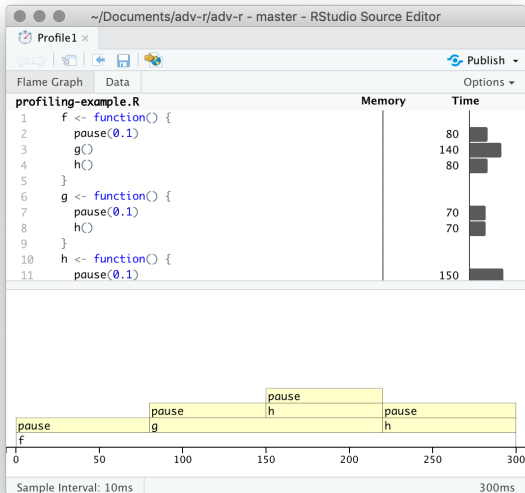
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```
f <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(0.1)  
  g()  
  h()  
}  
g <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(.1)  
  h()  
}  
h <- function() {  
  profvis::pause(0.1)  
}  
profvis::profvis({f()})
```

# Speeding up Code



# An alternative to profiling

You can also wrap your code in *system.time({})* for a more bespoke analysis.

```
library(data.table)
system.time({Sys.sleep(5)})

##      user  system elapsed
##  0.000   0.000   5.005
system.time({Sys.sleep(1)})

##      user  system elapsed
##  0.000   0.000   1.004
```

# Speeding up code, a review

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- Profiling with Rstudio's built-in profiler is very handy!
- Alternatively, use *system.time*.
- If you don't want to make code more efficient, excise the clunky bits from your script so you don't keep running it every time you run your script.

Questions?

Speeding Up Code - Going from bad for-loops to better for-loops to vectorized code (functions + lapply)

# Functions

“To become significantly more reliable, code must become more transparent. In particular, nested conditions and loops must be viewed with great suspicion. Complicated control flows confuse programmers. Messy code often hides bugs.”

— Bjarne Stroustrup

“A common use of functionals is as an alternative to for loops. For loops have a bad rap in R because many people believe they are slow, but the real downside of for loops is that they’re very flexible: a loop conveys that you’re iterating, but not what should be done with the results.”

— Hadley Wickham <https://adv-r.hadley.nz/functionals.html>

# Speeding up code: vectorizing Code

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- Alternatives including allocating the object beforehand or using lapply, sapply, etc.
- lapply, sapply, mapply and functions are a more efficient way to code, and being in a function-based mindset can help you tackle problems that might be hard to wrap your head around with alternatives in R.
- Vectorization here applies to “Array Programming” which simply means applying a function to an array all at once instead of piecewise.

# A refresher on functions

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  - ▶ *`function(arg1, arg2, ...){...code goes here}`*
- They use the syntax *`FUN(arg1, arg2, ...)`* to evaluate
- *`lapply`* (list apply) takes the arguments *`X`* and *`FUN`* where *`X`* is a list or vector of items to iterate the function over, and *`FUN`* is the function. You can also pass on other arguments but they must stay the same for all evaluations of the function.



# A refresher on functions

## An example of a basic function, how to use lapply

```
# Serial replication can be replaced easily!
```

```
x <- 1 + 1
```

```
y <- 2 + 1
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z <- 3 + 1
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```
add_1 <- function(w){
```

```
  return(w + 1)
```

```
}
```

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```
  return(w + 1)
```

```
}
```

```
# Run a function on one thing at a time
```

```
add_1(1)
```

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

```
add_1(2)
```

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

# A refresher on functions

## An example of a basic function, how to use lapply

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}
```

```
# Run a function on one thing at a time
```

```
add_1(1)
```

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

```
add_1(2)
```

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

```
# Use lapply to run it over a list (or vector)
```

```
lapply(3:5, add_1)
```

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

```
## [1] 4
```

```
##
```

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

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

```
##
```

```
## [[3]]
```

```
## [1] 6
```

# Quick Data Introduction

- For the next few slides, I'll be using data from NLSY 97, a file containing basic demographic information and yearly income numbers for each participant.

```
source("song.R")
setnames(new_data, c("PUBID", "inc_1997", "sex", "bdate_mo",
                     "bdate_yr", "sample_type", "race",
                     paste0("inc_", 1998:2011),
                     paste0("inc_", seq(2013, 2019, 2))))
new_data <- new_data[,c(1,3,7, 21:25)]
new_data <- data.table(new_data)
new_data <- new_data[complete.cases(new_data)]
head(new_data)
```

##	PUBID	sex	race	inc_2011	inc_2013	inc_2015	inc_2017	inc_2019
## 1:	2	1	2	81000	83000	98928	116000	128400
## 2:	4	2	2	51000	29000	45000	45000	27000
## 3:	5	1	2	68000	76000	125000	125000	127000
## 4:	9	1	4	30000	54000	57000	59000	90000
## 5:	11	2	2	17000	33000	36000	36000	38000
## 6:	22	1	2	40000	50000	52000	75000	52000

## Replacing for-loops with functions > - *Single Iteration Example*

- This task iterates over model designs. Vroom is a package in dplyr made to do a similar task. This might be useful in an exploratory data analysis or in a robustness check in a sensitivity analysis.

Setting up the task, choosing variables to iterate over as dependent variables in a regression.

```
regress_vars <- names(new_data)[2:length(names(new_data))] # select variables to use in analysis
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Setting up the task, choosing variables to iterate over as dependent variables in a regression.

```
regress_vars <- names(new_data)[2:length(names(new_data))] # select variables to use in analysis  
c.vars <- regress_vars[c(1,2,3)] # select ind. variables
```

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c.vars <- regress_vars[c(1,2,3)] # select ind. variables  
c.outcome <- regress_vars[7] # select dep. var
```



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regress_vars <- names(new_data)[2:length(names(new_data))] # select variables to use in analysis
c.vars <- regress_vars[c(1,2,3)] # select ind. variables
c.outcome <- regress_vars[7] # select dep. var

print(c.vars)
## [1] "sex"      "race"      "inc_2011"
print(c.outcome)
## [1] "inc_2019"
```

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Single Iteration Example*

Copy data, collapse variables into a formula

```
c.dat <- copy(new_data) # copy data frame for this analysis  
                        # This is unnecessary but helps us prepare  
                        # to use a function
```

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Single Iteration Example*

## Copy data, collapse variables into a formula

```
c.dat <- copy(new_data) # copy data frame for this analysis
                        # This is unnecessary but helps us prepare
                        # to use a function

form <- as.formula(      # collapse ind. and dep. vars to a formula
  paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
        paste0(c.vars, collapse = " + "))
)
```

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Single Iteration Example*

## Copy data, collapse variables into a formula

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form <- as.formula(      # collapse ind. and dep. vars to a formula
  paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
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)

print(form)             # Print the formula

## inc_2019 ~ sex + race + inc_2011
```

Questions?

## Replacing for-loops with functions - *Single Iteration Example*

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Run the model and collect the results in a data.table

```
mod <- lm(formula = form, data = c.dat) # evaluate model
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mod_betas <- data.table(round(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2], 5),
                        keep.rownames = T) # here I'm using data.table syntax
                                           # but this can be done in base R or dplyr
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                                           # but this can be done in base R or dplyr

mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")] # Create an ID variable to know which model I ran

mod_betas[1:4] # display outputs: estimates and SEs for each coefficient, with ID vars to describe model run
```

##	rn	Estimate	Std. Error	ind_vars
## 1:	(Intercept)	30633.54723	3785.01125	sex, race, inc_2011
## 2:	sex	-9371.84648	1766.57572	sex, race, inc_2011
## 3:	race	2065.22707	696.15427	sex, race, inc_2011
## 4:	inc_2011	1.14018	0.03358	sex, race, inc_2011

Questions?

## Replacing for-loops with functions - *Bad For-Loop* *Version (multiple iteration example)*

## Replacing for-loops with functions - *For-Loop Version* (multiple iteration example)

- Now we want to do the same thing, using different model specifications.

## Replacing for-loops with functions - *For-Loop Version* (multiple iteration example)

- Now we want to do the same thing, using different model specifications.
- In the for loop, I will loop over different combinations of printed variables. In the bad for loop example, I append my data.table to a preexisting data.table, which takes a lot of memory and time. This gets worse as the data.table grows longer (as the for loop keeps going).

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *For-Loop Version* (multiple iteration example)

## Step 1

- Establish a list of independent variable combinations to run model on. This is a list of vectors.

```
vars_vec <- replicate(3, expr =  
  sample(regress_vars[regress_vars != "inc_2019"], 3), simplify = F)  
  # above, I chose some random independent variables by  
  # sampling from all the possible choices and I assembled  
print(vars_vec[1:2])  # them into a list of combinations. Here I print them.  
  
## [[1]]  
## [1] "race"      "sex"       "inc_2011"  
##  
## [[2]]  
## [1] "inc_2011" "inc_2017" "inc_2013"
```

# Replacing for-loops with functions

Step 2 - Run a model over each combination of independent variables

```
all_betas <- data.table() # Establish an empty data.table to hold results
```



# Replacing for-loops with functions

## Step 2 - Run a model over each combination of independent variables

```
all_betas <- data.table() # Establish an empty data.table to hold results

for(c.vars in vars_vec){ # loop over each combination of independent variables to regress
  form <- as.formula(    # create formula using ind. and dep. variables
    paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
           paste0(c.vars, collapse = " + "))
  )
  mod <- lm(formula = form, data = c.dat) # Run model

  # Accumulate summary stats for each variable in regression
  mod_betas <- data.table(round(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2],5), keep.rownames = T)
  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")] # Create an variable to know which model I ran
  # The below step is the most memory intensive!
  # It rewrites the entire object, growing larger with each iteration.
  all_betas <- rbind(all_betas, mod_betas) # append results to preexisting data table
}
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 0.0235040187835693

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head(all_betas)
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## 4:	inc_2011	1.14018	0.03358	race, sex, inc_2011
## 5:	(Intercept)	2328.47001	1121.22181	inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013
## 6:	inc_2011	0.05514	0.03903	inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013

Questions?

Replacing for-loops with functions - *Better  
For-Loop Version (multiple iteration example)*

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Better For-Loop*

## *Version (multiple iteration example)*

### Better for-loop version - Write to a list of data.tables

- This version of the same code replaces the object that holds the outcomes of the different models. Instead of appending to one ever-growing data.table, we append each model result (a data.table) to a list of data.tables. This doesn't require removing the list from memory and replacing it.

```
all_betas_list <- list() # create an empty list
```

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## *Version (multiple iteration example)*

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```
all_betas_list <- list() # create an empty list

i <- 0 # create an index to add to with each iteration

for(c.vars in vars_vec){
  i <- i + 1 # add to iterator
  form <- as.formula( # create formula, as above
    paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
           paste0(c.vars, collapse = " + "))
  )
  mod <- lm(formula = form, data = c.dat) # Run model
  mod_betas <- data.table(round(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2], 5), keep.rownames = T)
  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = " + ")]
  # This step saves memory by adding an element to a list
  # It does not copy the list or overwrite it in doing so
  all_betas_list[[i]] <- mod_betas
}
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 0.0269491672515869



# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Better For-Loop Version (multiple iteration example)*

\*The results are identical!)

## Better for-loop version - Write to a list of data.tables

```
all_betas_list[1] # show what a list of data.tables looks like
```

```
## [[1]]  
##           rn      Estimate Std. Error      ind_vars  
## 1: (Intercept) 30633.54723 3785.01125 race, sex, inc_2011  
## 2:           race 2065.22707  696.15427 race, sex, inc_2011  
## 3:           sex -9371.84648 1766.57572 race, sex, inc_2011  
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```

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## 3:           sex -9371.84648 1766.57572 race, sex, inc_2011  
## 4:      inc_2011    1.14018   0.03358 race, sex, inc_2011
```

```
all_betas <- rbindlist(all_betas_list) # you can collapse the list of data.tables  
                                         # to one large data.table
```

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```
head(all_betas)
```

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## 5: (Intercept) 2328.47001 1121.22181 inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013
## 6:      inc_2011   0.05514   0.03903 inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013
```

Questions?

## Replacing for-loops with functions - *Functions and Vectorization!* (multiple iteration example)

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Better For-Loop Version (multiple iteration example)*

## Functions + lapply (list apply)

```
modr <- function(c.dat, c.vars, c.outcome){ # write a function that takes in 3 arguments
  form <- as.formula(
    paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
           paste0(c.vars, collapse = " + "))
  )
  mod <- lm(form, data = c.dat)
  mod_betas <- data.table(round(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2], 5), keep.rownames = T)
  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")]
  return(mod_betas) # return the data.table
}
```

# Replacing for-loops with functions - *Better For-Loop Version (multiple iteration example)*

## Functions + lapply (list apply)

```
modr <- function(c.dat, c.vars, c.outcome){ # write a function that takes in 3 arguments
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  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")]
  return(mod_betas) # return the data.table
}
```

```
lapply(vars_vec, modr, c.outcome = "inc_2019", c.dat = new_data) %>%
  rbindlist() -> all_betas
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 0.0237009525299072

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## Functions + lapply (list apply)

```
modr <- function(c.dat, c.vars, c.outcome){ # write a function that takes in 3 arguments
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    paste0(c.outcome, " ~ ",
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  )
  mod <- lm(form, data = c.dat)
  mod_betas <- data.table(round(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2], 5), keep.rownames = T)
  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")]
  return(mod_betas) # return the data.table
}
```

```
lapply(vars_vec, modr, c.outcome = "inc_2019", c.dat = new_data) %>%
  rbindlist() -> all_betas
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 0.0237009525299072

```
head(all_betas)
```

##	rn	Estimate	Std. Error		ind_vars
## 1:	(Intercept)	30633.54723	3785.01125		race, sex, inc_2011
## 2:	race	2065.22707	696.15427		race, sex, inc_2011
## 3:	sex	-9371.84648	1766.57572		race, sex, inc_2011
## 4:	inc_2011	1.14018	0.03358		race, sex, inc_2011
## 5:	(Intercept)	2328.47001	1121.22181	inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013	
## 6:	inc_2011	0.05514	0.03903	inc_2011, inc_2017, inc_2013	





Figure 9: Tweet

# Some actual examples of less-than-ideal code I found on the internet

## Original Code - Repeated tasks

```
# ORIGINAL  
#remove idnumb, other ids  
data[which(colnames(data) == "idnumb")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "challengeIDs")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "mothids1")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "mothids2")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "mothids3")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "mothids4")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "hv3mothids3")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "hv4mothids4")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "fathids1")] <- NULL
```

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data[which(colnames(data) == "hv3mothids3")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "hv4mothids4")] <- NULL  
data[which(colnames(data) == "fathids1")] <- NULL
```

## Alternative Code - Using Built-In Functions

```
# ALTERNATIVE DPLYR  
data <- data %>% select (-c(idnumb, challengeIDs, mothids1,  
                           mothids2, mothids4, "....."))  
  
# ALTERNATIVE DATA.TABLE  
data[, c("idnum", "challengeID", "mothids1",  
         "mothids2", "mothid4s", ".....") := NULL]
```

# Some actual examples of less-than-ideal code I found on the internet

Original: The problem - Calling a function once, on one dataset, using dataset names in the function

```
# ORIGINAL
# Remove cols with > 50% missing data
f_lowInfo <- function(data) {
  ncols = ncol(data)
  nrows = nrow(data)
  to_remove = integer(ncols)
  for (i in 1:ncols) {
    if (sum(is.na(data[i])) > .5*nrows) {
      to_remove[i] = 1
    }
  }
  data[to_remove == 1] <- NULL
  return(data)
}
data <- f_lowInfo(data)
```

# Some actual examples of less-than-ideal code I found on the internet

## Alternative Code - Define a function, apply it multiple times, make it flexible

```
# ALTERNATIVE
is_col_missing <- function(c.vector){ # create a function to see if a vector is
  return(mean(is.na(c.vector)) > .5) # over half missing. Use that TRUE = 1, and
}                                     # FALSE = 0 to our advantage
# Apply across columns of data.frame
data %>% summarize(across(.cols = everything(), is_col_missing)) -> to_remove
data <- data[,to_remove == 0] # remove predominantly empty columns
```

# Some actual examples of less-than-ideal code I found on the internet

## Alternative Code - Define a function, apply it multiple times, make it flexible

```
# ALTERNATIVE
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} # FALSE = T to our advantage
# Apply across columns of data.frame
data %>% summarize(across(.cols = everything(), is_col_missing)) -> to_remove
data <- data[,to_remove == 0] # remove predominantly empty columns
```

## Solution explained

- This solution capitalizes on the idea that a function should be portable and should probably be used more than once if it really deserves to be a function.
- Capitalizes on the structure of data frames as just groups of same-length vectors.

# Dplyr and data.table

- When equivalent operations exist in base R and dplyr or data.table, use either of the latter

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- Dplyr is more commonly used in learning applications, data.table is more common in industry applications.
- dtplyr uses data.table backend with dplyr syntax!!

# Data.table-specific benefits

- ‘data tables’ are a slightly different kind of object in R

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- ‘data tables’ are a slightly different kind of object in R
- All data frame syntax works on them, but there’s also data.table specific syntax that you can use to your benefit
- Many processes in data.table are more memory efficient
  - ▶ Shallow copies vs. deep copies of data are made when performing certain tasks
- Really only necessary if your data is above 1 GB

# data.table, dplyr, base R cognates

- We can time each using “system.time()” to evaluate performance!

```
replicate(new_data, n = 5000, simplify = F) %>% rbindlist() -> new_data2  
new_data[1:2]
```

```
##      PUBID sex race inc_2011 inc_2013 inc_2015 inc_2017 inc_2019  
## 1:      2  1  2    81000    83000    98928    116000    128400  
## 2:      4  2  2    51000    29000    45000     45000     27000
```

```
dim(new_data)
```

```
## [1] 2696    8
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## 1:      2  1  2      81000      83000      98928      116000      128400  
## 2:      4  2  2      51000      29000      45000      45000      27000
```

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dim(new_data)
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## [1] 2696      8
```

```
# Perform the same task using three different methods
```

```
system.time({ new_data2$inc_2011_2013 <- new_data2$inc_2011 + new_data2$inc_2013 }) # Base R
```

```
##      user  system elapsed  
##    0.344    0.151    0.545
```

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```
##      user system elapsed
```

```
##    0.344   0.151   0.545
```

```
system.time({ dplyr::mutate(new_data2, inc_2011_2013 = inc_2011 + inc_2013) }) # Dplyr
```

```
##      user system elapsed
```

```
##    0.054   0.001   0.055
```

# data.table, dplyr, base R cognates

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```

```
##      user system elapsed
```

```
## 0.054    0.001    0.055
```

```
system.time({ new_data2[, inc_2011_2013 := inc_2011 + inc_2013] }) #Data.table
```

```
##      user system elapsed
```

```
## 0.038    0.000    0.039
```

## data.table/tidyverse tricks

- `vroom::vroom()/data.table::fread()/::fwrite()` for reading/writing CSVs



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- `frollmean/rollmean/(f)rollsum`, etc. for computing rolling window averages/sums
- `dcast/melt` in `data.table` `pivot_wider/pivot_longer` for efficient reshaping (to be covered later)
- Don't use the `$` operator ever with `data.frames/data.tables`!

Questions?

# Data Management and Reshaping Efficiently

# Data Storage Tricks

Be cognizant of what kinds of storage your data frame uses

- Long strings are memory intensive.

```
object.size("Hello") # a character string containing "Hello"
## 112 bytes
object.size(paste0(rep("Hello", 20), collapse = " ")) # Hello Repeated 20 times
## 232 bytes
object.size(numeric(1000)) # Float64
## 8048 bytes
object.size(integer(1000)) # Integers take up less space
## 4048 bytes
```



# Data Storage Tricks

Be cognizant of what kinds of storage your data frame uses

- Long strings are memory intensive.
- Lower-precision numerical types save space!

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# Efficient reshaping

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# Efficient reshaping

- `data.table` was first to the scene with optimized versions of `reshape2`'s functions
- `data.table::melt()` and `data.table::dcast()`
- `tidyr::pivot_longer` was inspired by `data.table`'s `melt()`, and usually performs faster than base R, but I think `data.table`'s reshaping tools are generally faster.

# Data storage considerations

Wide data is often more space efficient, up to a point.

```
df <- data.frame(Hunter = c(1,2,3),  
                 Wade = c(2,4,6),  
                 York = c(3,6,9),  
                 multiplier = c(1,2,3))
```

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                 multiplier = c(1,2,3))
```

```
head(df) #wide
```

##	Hunter	Wade	York	multiplier
## 1	1	2	3	1
## 2	2	4	6	2
## 3	3	6	9	3

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df <- data.frame(Hunter = c(1,2,3),  
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```

```
head(df) #wide
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```
##   Hunter Wade York multiplier  
## 1      1      2   3           1  
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```

```
df_long <- melt(df, id.vars = "multiplier")
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```

```
df_long <- melt(df, id.vars = "multiplier")
```

```
head(df_long) #long
```

```
##   multiplier variable value  
## 1          1   Hunter     1  
## 2          2   Hunter     2  
## 3          3   Hunter     3  
## 4          1    Wade     2  
## 5          2    Wade     4  
## 6          3    Wade     6
```



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##   Hunter Wade York multiplier  
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## 3      3      6    9           3
```

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```

```
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```

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##   multiplier variable value  
## 1          1    Hunter     1  
## 2          2    Hunter     2  
## 3          3    Hunter     3  
## 4          1     Wade     2  
## 5          2     Wade     4  
## 6          3     Wade     6
```

```
object.size(df)
```

```
## 1224 bytes
```

```
object.size(df_long)
```

```
## 1888 bytes
```

Questions?

# Parallelization

# Parallelization

- A related concept to vectorization is parallelization. Just as you can take an operation and apply it to an entire array instead of each item of an array, you can have multiple chunks of code run simultaneously if your machine is capable of this.

**Pro to the Max.**



The image shows two Apple M1 chips side-by-side. On the left is the M1 Pro, with its logo in white and 'PRO' in blue. On the right is the M1 Max, with its logo in white and 'MAX' in purple. Below each logo are their respective specifications.

Apple M1 PRO	Apple M1 MAX
<b>Scary fast.</b> Up to 10-core CPU Up to 16-core GPU Up to 32GB of unified memory Up to 200GB/s memory bandwidth	<b>Scary faster.</b> 10-core CPU Up to 32-core GPU Up to 64GB of unified memory Up to 400GB/s memory bandwidth

# Parallelization

- My computer has “1.4GHz quad-core Intel Core i5, Turbo Boost up to 3.9GHz, with 128MB of eDRAM”

```
parallel::detectCores()
```

```
## [1] 8
```

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- Parallelization using R is actually a little funky, and so it will allow parameters that shouldn't work, and language gets slippery (cores vs. threads).

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# Parallelization

- My computer has “1.4GHz quad-core Intel Core i5, Turbo Boost up to 3.9GHz, with 128MB of eDRAM”
- Parallelization using R is actually a little funky, and so it will allow parameters that shouldn't work, and language gets slippery (cores vs. threads).
- Disclaimer: I don't understand computers! With parallelization, profile to make sure your code is actually faster, because confusing things happen.

```
parallel::detectCores()
```

```
## [1] 8
```

# Parallelization

## Define your function

```
modr <- function(c.dat, c.vars, c.outcome){  
  form <- as.formula(  
    paste0(c.outcome, " ~ (1|",  
           paste0(c.vars, collapse = ") + (1|",  
                 ")")  
  )  
  mod <- lme4::lmer(form, data = c.dat)  
  mod_betas <- data.table(summary(mod)$coefficients[, 1:2], keep.rownames = T)  
  mod_betas[, ind_vars := paste0(c.vars, collapse = ", ")]  
  return(mod_betas)  
}
```

This is a computationally expensive function. I've changed the model to a random effects model to use more computation power.

## Get a longer vector of variables to iterate over.

```
vars_vec <- replicate(20, expr =  
  sample(regress_vars[regress_vars != "inc_2019"], 3), simplify = F)
```



# Parallelization

## Serial - 1 Iteration

```
modr(vars_vec[[1]], c.dat = new_data, c.outcome = "inc_2019")
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 1.38783097267151

## Serial - 20 Iterations

```
lapply(vars_vec, modr, c.outcome = "inc_2019", c.dat = new_data) %>%  
  rbindlist() -> all_betas
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 3.05472922325134

## Parallel - 20 Iterations

```
parallel::mclapply(vars_vec, modr, c.outcome = "inc_2019",  
                   c.dat = new_data, mc.cores = 4) %>%  
  rbindlist() -> all_betas
```

Time for this code chunk to run: 1.31190490722656

There is overhead associated with despatching and receiving each task, resulting in a tradeoff that you have to manage!

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- The backends of several packages in R will automatically parallelize.
  - ▶ Model-fitting, loading data, etc.
- This is a handy tool to learn if you need to use cluster-based supercomputing since there are similar concepts.

Questions, comments?

# Thank you!

- I can be reached at [hyork@princeton.edu](mailto:hyork@princeton.edu)

# Thank you!

- I can be reached at [hyork@princeton.edu](mailto:hyork@princeton.edu)
- Check out my website [hunterwyork.com](http://hunterwyork.com)

# Thank you!

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- If you found this presentation useful, share it!



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- Rmarkdown file and slides are [here](#).