

User-Defined Functions

PRESENTED BY

Vinod Raju Data Science Practitioner



Functions

Summary

Functions and Data
Structures

Functions with
Variable Number of
Arguments

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Learning Objectives

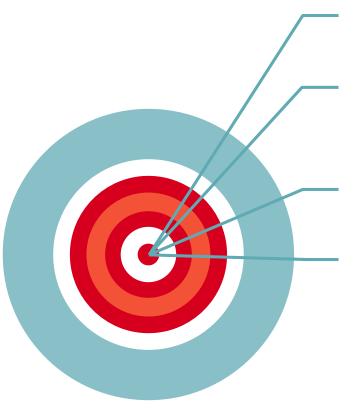
Functions

Functions and Data Structures

Functions with
Variable Number of
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Summary

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:



Explain the idea of user defined functions

Develop and demonstrate different kinds of user-defined functions

Apply functions on data structures

Illustrate three-dots construct in R with an example demonstrating functions with multiple arguments



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Function can be defined as a set of statements organised together to perform a specific task facilitating code reuse. They are also known as user-defined functions.

```
Pseudocode: function_name <- function(arg_1, arg_2, ...) { Function body }
```

```
Example: This below function takes a value "y" and checks if it is greater than 1
```

```
isGTOne <- function(y)
{
     if (y > 1)
     return("y is greater than 1")
        else
     return("y is less than 1")
}
```



Detailed Explanation of Functions

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Below is an example of a function taking arguments. The value which the argument "a" in the function is received from the point where the function is called.

Example:

```
myfunc = function(a) { # A function to print hello 5 times
i = 1
while(i <= a)
{    print("Hello")
    i=i+1 }</pre>
```

Call the function myfunc:

myfunc(5) # Calling a function, 5 is the value that gets passed to "a".



Different Kinds of Functions

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Functions without arguments **Functions** Different kinds of with default functions are: arguments **Functions** returning values



Functions Without Arguments

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```
Functions
               without
             arguments
                     Functions
Different kinds
                    with default
 of functions
                    arguments
     are:
              Functions
              returning
               values
```

```
Example:
greetings = function() {
print("Hello..good morning")
}
```

Calling the function:

greetings()

Output:

Hello..good morning



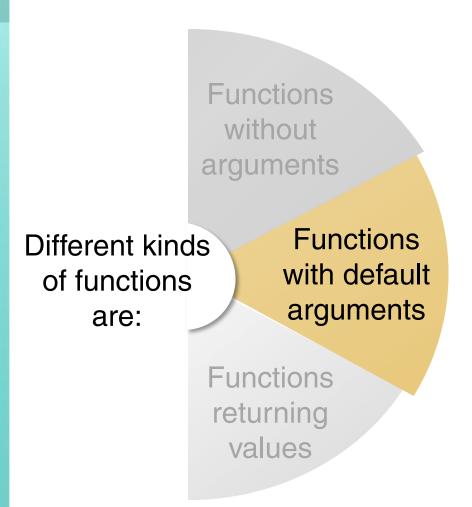
Functions With Default Arguments

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Example:

```
myfunc = function(a=6,b=4)
{
    s=a+b
    print(s) }
```

Calling the function:

myfunc()

Output:

10

Note: The function was called without passing any values to the arguments. However, the result was computed based on the default arguments present during function definition.



Functions Returning Values

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```
Functions
               without
             arguments
                     Functions
Different kinds
                    with default
 of functions
                    arguments
     are:
              Functions
              returning
               values
```

Example:

```
mysum = function(a,b)

s = a+b

return(s)
```

Calling the function:

print(mysum(10,20))

Note: The functions mysum is called by passing the values 10 and 20.



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Using functions for manipulating data structures

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Passing a data frame as an argument to a function:

Example:

Create a simple data frame called "mydata" and pass it to the function my.func

```
a = 1:5
b = 6:10
c = 11:15
mydata=data.frame(a,b,c)
my.func <-function(mydata)
{ row15andcol3 = mydata[c(1,5),3]
    return(row15andcol3) }
print(my.func(mydata)) # function call
```

The third element of row 1 and row 5 would be returned.



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Functions with Variable Number of Arguments



The Three-dots Construct in R

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Summary

The three dots construct is a mechanism which allows a function to accept variable number of arguments.

Example:

print(x, ...)

This means that, the function can take any number of named or unnamed arguments.



The Three-dots Construct in R

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In this unit, you learnt:

- Function can be defined as a set of statements organised together to perform a specific task facilitating code reuse. They are also known as user-defined functions.
- Different kinds of functions are:
 - Functions without arguments
 - Functions with default arguments
 - Functions returning values
- The three dots construct is a mechanism which allows a function to accept variable number of arguments.





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