# Exercise 1.2 - Introduction to R in Ecology, Part 2

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#### Instructions

Create either an R script (.R file) or R Markdown document (.Rmd) to save all of your work for today.

## Exercise 1. Refresh your memory / repeat from last exercise

1. We will learn to write our own function - see my example here: I create a function called  $my_fun$ , which takes two values (x and y), adds them together, and returns the added value.

```
my_fun <- function(x, y) {
    z <- x + y
    return(z)
}
my_fun(17, 3)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 20
```

Please choose two numbers for x and y, and use them to execute  $my_fun(x,y)$ .

- 2. Your turn! Write a function called times\_seven it should take a single argument, multiply that value by 7, and return the new value.
- 3. See the for loops I have written below:

```
# note how the loop changes the value of the variable x for
# each iteration of the loop: first x=1 and 'print(x)' is
# executed. Then x=2, then x=3, and so on.
for (x in 1:5) {
    print(x)
}
```

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

```
for (i in 1:5) {
    z < -i + 6
    print(z)
}
## [1] 7
## [1] 8
## [1] 9
## [1] 10
## [1] 11
a \leftarrow rep(NA, 5)
for (i in 1:5) {
    a[i] <- i
## [1] 1 2 3 4 5
b <- c("I", "love", "R")</pre>
for (i in 1:length(b)) {
    print(b[i])
}
## [1] "I"
## [1] "love"
## [1] "R"
```

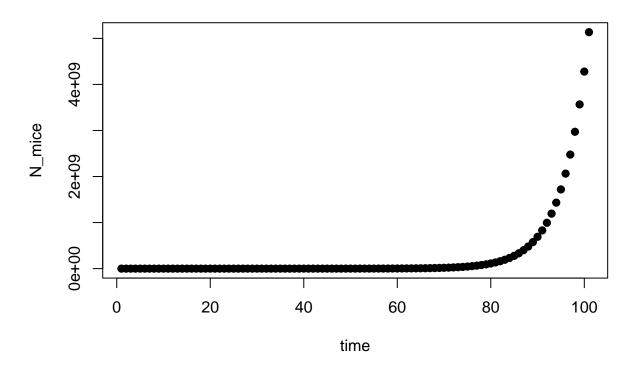
Your turn - For each of three values of volume, v <- c(1.6,3,8), calculate the *mass*, where m <- 2.65 \* volume ^ 0.9. Please calculate this in a loop. You can print the values within the loop.

# Exercise 2. Use functions, for loops, and plotting skills to run simulation of mice in the yard

I built a function to calculate the number of mice in a yard using equation 2.4 from **Otto & Day Ch2**:

```
mice <- function(Nt,d,b,m){
  Nt1 <- (1+b)*(1-d)*Nt + m
  return(Nt1)
}</pre>
```

I would like you to create the following plot of mouse population size (N) over time, using the following values for parameters: d = 0.7, b = 3, m = 4,  $N_t = 42$ .



To do this, you should approach the problem in a few steps:

- Step 1. Save d, b, m, and  $N_t$  as their own variables.
- Step 2. Write the *mice* function.
- Step 3. Make sure the function works by calling it one time using the values given in Step 1. It should return a value for  $N_{t+1} = 54.4$ .
- Step 4. Create a new variable called N, which can hold the values generated by the function.
- Step 5. Write a for loop that will take the calculated value of  $N_{t+1}$ , and use it as the next time step's value of  $N_t$ . Repeat this for i = 100 time steps.
- Step 6. Use R's plot function (or you can use ggplot if you like) to plot N over time.

I demonstrate how this can work below. I use a different function as an example,  $P(t+1) = \frac{bP(t)}{1+cP(t)}$ :

```
# Step 1. Example parameters
b <- 1.7
c <- .15
Pt <- 6

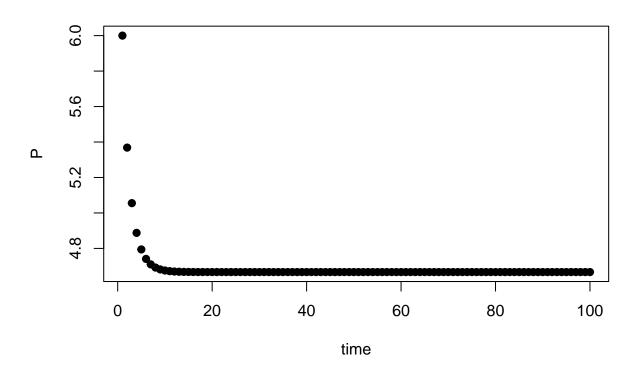
# Step 2. Example equation function
example_equation_function <- function(b,c,Pt){
  Pt1 <- (b*Pt) / (1 + c*Pt)
    return(Pt1)
}

# Step 3. Make sure the function works
Pt1 <- example_equation_function(b,c,Pt)</pre>
```

```
# Step 4. Create a new variable to hold future values of P
P <- rep(NA,100)

# Step 5. Create a for loop to iteratively calculate P
P[1] <- Pt
for(i in 2:100){
   P[i] <- example_equation_function(b,c,Pt)
   Pt <- P[i]
}

# Step 6. Plot P over time
plot(P,xlab="time",ylab="P",pch=19,col="black")</pre>
```



```
dat <- as.data.frame(P)
dat$time <- as.numeric(rownames(dat))
library(ggplot2)
ggplot2::ggplot(dat,aes(time,P)) + geom_point()</pre>
```

