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) {</pre>
times_2(x = 10)
[1] 20
is_even <- function(x) {</pre>
  x %% 2 == 0
}
is_even(x = 11)
[1] FALSE
is_even(x = times_2(x = 10))
[1] TRUE
```

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

times_2_plus_y(x = 11, y = 4)

[1] 26</pre>
```

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
sqdif(11, 4)
[1] 49
```

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 1 8 <- cars %>% select(1:8)
get_row(dat = cars, row = 10)
# A tibble: 1 \times 34
 RefId IsBadBuy PurchDate Auction VehYear VehicleAge Make Model Trim SubMod
 <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <chr> <dbl> 
              0 12/7/2009 ADESA 2007
                                                   2 FORD FIVE... SEL
                                                                      4D SEE
# ... with 24 more variables: Color <chr>, Transmission <chr>, WheelTypeID <chr>
   WheelType <chr>, VehOdo <dbl>, Nationality <chr>, Size <chr>,
   TopThreeAmericanName <chr>, MMRAcquisitionAuctionAveragePrice <chr>,
#
#
   MMRAcquisitionAuctionCleanPrice <chr>,
#
   MMRAcquisitionRetailAveragePrice <chr>,
   MMRAcquisitonRetailCleanPrice <chr>, MMRCurrentAuctionAveragePrice <chr>,
#
   MMRCurrentAuctionCleanPrice <chr>, MMRCurrentRetailAveragePrice <chr>, ...
get_row(dat = iris, row = 4)
 Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
                           1.5
1
                                               0.2 setosa
          4.6
                      3.1
```

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
```

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

Lab Part 1

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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

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 =
    Then list any arguments for the function (e.g., na.rm = TRUE)
```

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.
                                7047.
        2006.
                 3.75 68261.
6 DODGE
7 FORD
       2005. 4.75 76749.
                                6403.
                                8342.
8 GMC
      2004. 5.61 79273.
            2004. 5.33 77877. 8350.
9 HONDA
                          70809
10 HUMMER 2006
                      3
                                  11920
# ... with 23 more rows
```

Using different tidyselect() options (e.g., starts_with(), ends_with(),
contains())

```
cars dbl %>%
 group by (Make) %>%
 summarize(across(.cols = starts_with("Veh"), .fns = mean))
# A tibble: 33 \times 5
  Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
                      <dbl> <dbl>
  <chr>
             <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.
                                 6507.
            2006.
                     3.65 66814.
5 CHRYSLER
                      3.75 68261.
6 DODGE
             2006.
                                   7047.
                    4.75 76749. 6403.
7 FORD
             2005.
                   5.61 79273.
                                  8342.
8 GMC
            2004.
9 HONDA
                    5.33 77877.
                                  8350.
            2004.
10 HUMMER
            2006
                       3
                           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

replace_na({data frame}, {list of values}) or replace_na({vector}, {single value})

```
# 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`
   <chr>
            <dbl> <dbl>
                         <dbl>
                                 <dbl>
                                        <dbl>
                                                <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                                                                     <dbl>
                                                                            <dbl>
 1 Afghan... NA
                  NA
                         NA
                                         0
                                                0
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                                                                           NA
                                 0
 2 Albania 1.53
                   1.31
                                                1.40
                                                       1.37
                                                              1.41
                                                                     1.37
                          1.48
                                 1.46
                                        1.43
                                                                            1.34
 3 Algeria NA
                         NA
                                                0
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                  NA
                                                                           NA
 4 Angola
            4.46
                   4.46
                          4.46
                                 4.34
                                        4.34
                                                4.34
                                                     4.33
                                                              4.22
                                                                     4.22
                                                                            4.21
                                               0.510 0.503 0.496 0.494
 5 Argent... 0.641 0.603 0.602
                                 0.558
                                        0.551
                                                                            0.492
 6 Armenia NA
                  NA
                         NA
                                 0
                                         0
                                                0
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                                                                           NA
 7 Aruba
          NA
                  NA
                         NA
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                                                                           NA
                                0.299 0.260 0.271 0.295 0.279 0.271 0.271
 8 Austra... 0.263 0.275 0.276
                                                0.311 0.311 0.312
 9 Austria 0.504 0.474
                          0.417
                                 0.389
                                        0.360
                                                                     0.274
                                                                            0.274
10 Azerba... NA
                  NA
                         NA
                                 0
                                         0
                                                0
                                                      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

```
AQ list <- list(AQ1 = airquality, AQ2 = airquality, AQ3 = airquality)
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 5 ...
            : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
  ..$ Dav
 $ 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 5 ...
  ..$ Day
          : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
 $ AQ3:'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
```

Multiple data frames: sapply

```
AQ_list %>% sapply(class)
                                A03
        AQ1
             AQ2
"data.frame" "data.frame" "data.frame"
AQ_list %>% sapply(nrow)
AQ1 AQ2 AQ3
153 153 153
AQ_list %>% sapply(colMeans, na.rm = TRUE)
             AQ1
                       AQ2
                                  AQ3
0zone
        42.129310 42.129310 42.129310
Solar.R 185.931507 185.931507 185.931507
Wind 9.957516 9.957516 9.957516
Temp 77.882353 77.882353 77.882353
Month 6.993464 6.993464 6.993464
Day
        15.803922 15.803922 15.803922
```

Summary

- 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

Lab Part 2

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Lab



Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay