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

The general syntax for a function is:

```
function_name <- function(arg1, arg2, ...) {
  <function body>
}
```

Writing your own functions

Here we will write a function that multiplies some number x by 2:

When you run the line of code above, you make it ready to use (no output yet!). Let's test it!

$$times_2(x = 10)$$

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: 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
- · if return not called, last evaluated expression is returned
- return should be the last step (steps after may be skipped)

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!"

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
 0 12/7/2009 ADESA 2007
                                               2 FORD FIVE... SEL
                                                                  4D SEE
# 🛘 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
```

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
```

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
```

Can create function with an argument that allows inputting a column name for select or other dplyr operation:

```
clean_dataset <- function(dataset, col_name) {
   my_data_out <- dataset %>% select({{col_name}}) # Note the curly braces
   write_csv(my_data_out, "clean_data.csv")
   return(my_data_out)
}
clean_dataset(dataset = mtcars, col_name = "cyl")
```

```
cyl
Mazda RX4
                      6
Mazda RX4 Wag
Datsun 710
Hornet 4 Drive
                      8
Hornet Sportabout
Valiant
Duster 360
Merc 240D
Merc 230
Merc 280
Merc 280C
Merc 450SE
Merc 450SL
Merc 450SLC
Cadillac Fleetwood
Lincoln Continental
                      8
Chrysler Imperial
Eigt 100
```

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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Lab

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

Using functions in mutate() and summarize()

Already know how to use functions to modify columns using mutate() or calculate summary statistics using summarize().

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 =
- If there are arguments to a function (e.g., na.rm = TRUE), the function may need to be modified to an anonymous function, e.g., \(x) mean(x, 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
                            70809
                                    11920
10 HUMMER
\#\ \square 23 more rows
```

To add arguments to functions, may need to use anonymous function. In this syntax, the shorthand $\(x)$ is equivalent to function(x).

```
cars dbl %>%
 group_by(Make) %>%
 summarize(across(.cols = everything(), .fns = \(x) mean(x, na.rm = TRUE)))
# A tibble: 33 \times 5
  Make VehYear VehicleAge VehOdo VehBCost
                       <dbl> <dbl>
  <chr>
             <dbl>
                                     <dbl>
1 ACURA
             2003.
                   6.52 81732.
                                     9039.
        2004.
                                  6169.
2 BUICK
                   5.65 76238.
 3 CADILLAC 2004.
                  5.24 73770.
                                    10958.
4 CHEVROLET
             2006. 3.97 73390.
                                  6835.
             2006. 3.65 66814.
                                  6507.
5 CHRYSLER
                                  7047.
6 DODGE
             2006. 3.75 68261.
                                  6403.
             2005. 4.75 76749.
7 FORD
                                  8342.
                     5.61 79273.
8 GMC
             2004.
                                  8350.
                       5.33 77877.
9 HONDA
             2004.
                                    11920
10 HUMMER
             2006
                       3
                            70809
# 0 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
                       <db1> <db1>
  <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. 7047.
4.75 76749. 6403.
6 DODGE
             2006.
7 FORD
             2005.
                   5.61 79273.
                                  8342.
8 GMC
             2004.
                    5.33 77877.
9 HONDA
             2004.
                                  8350.
10 HUMMER
             2006
                       3
                            70809
                                    11920
# 0 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
                                              4000
 5 FORD
                  2000
                                0 69000
 6 MITSUBISHI
                                              6000
                  2000
                                0 81000
                                              4000
 7 KIA
                 2000
                                0 65000
 8 FORD
                 2000
                                0 66000
                                              4000
                                   50000
                                              6000
 9 KIA
                 2000
10 FORD
                  2000
                                   85000
                                              8000
# 1 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`
                                        <dbl>
   <chr>
            <dbl> <dbl>
                         <dbl>
                                 <dbl>
                                               <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                                                                     <dbl>
                                                                            <dbl>
 1 Afghan... NA
                  NA
                         NA
                                 0
                                         0
                                                0
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                                                                           NA
 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
                                 0
                                        0
                                                0
                                                      NA
                                                             NA
                                                                    NA
                                                                           NA
                  NA
# 🛮 187 more rows
```

Use custom functions within mutate and across

If your function needs to span more than one line, better to define it first before using inside 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) x * 1000
  )) %>%
  head(n = 2)
 Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
1 41000 190000 7400 67000 5000 1000
        118000 8000 72000 5000 2000
2 36000
```

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
              313
                    11.5
                             62
 56
                                           56
       0
                    14.3
                             56
                                     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
    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 ...
          : int [1:153] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
  ..$ Day
 $ 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)
             AQ2
                                A03
        AQ1
"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