13_S3

2023-03-06

13 S3

13.1 Introduction

[1] "a" "b" "c"

```
f <- factor(c("a", "b", "c"))

typeof(f)

## [1] "integer"

attributes(f)

## $levels

## [1] "a" "b" "c"

##

## $class

## [1] "factor"

unclass(f)

## [1] 1 2 3

## attr(,"levels")</pre>
```

```
ftype(print)
## [1] "S3"
                "generic"
ftype(str)
## [1] "S3"
                "generic"
ftype(unclass)
## [1] "primitive"
print(f)
## [1] a b c
## Levels: a b c
print(unclass(f))
## [1] 1 2 3
## attr(,"levels")
## [1] "a" "b" "c"
time <- strptime(c("2017-01-01", "2020-05-04 03:21"), "%Y-%m-%d")
str(time)
## POSIX1t[1:2], format: "2017-01-01" "2020-05-04"
str(unclass(time))
## List of 11
## $ sec : num [1:2] 0 0
## $ min : int [1:2] 0 0
## $ hour : int [1:2] 0 0
## $ mday : int [1:2] 1 4
## $ mon
          : int [1:2] 0 4
## $ year : int [1:2] 117 120
## $ wday : int [1:2] 0 1
## $ yday : int [1:2] 0 124
## $ isdst : int [1:2] 0 1
## $ zone : chr [1:2] "PST" "PDT"
## $ gmtoff: int [1:2] NA NA
s3_dispatch(print(f))
## => print.factor
## * print.default
```

```
ftype(t.test)
## [1] "S3"
                  "generic"
ftype(t.data.frame)
## [1] "S3"
                 "method"
weighted.mean.Date
## Error in eval(expr, envir, enclos): object 'weighted.mean.Date' not found
s3_get_method(weighted.mean.Date)
## function (x, w, ...)
## .Date(weighted.mean(unclass(x), w, ...))
## <bytecode: 0x000002256ec49e98>
## <environment: namespace:stats>
When using s3_dispatch()
=> method exists and is found by UseMethod().
-> method exists and is used by NextMethod().
* method exists but is not used.
Nothing (and greyed out in console): method does not exist.
13.2.1 Exercises
  1. Describe the difference between t.test() and t.data.frame(). When is each function called?
ftype(t.test)
## [1] "S3"
                  "generic"
s3_dispatch(t.test(1:10, y = c(7:20)))
##
      t.test.integer
##
      t.test.numeric
## => t.test.default
ftype(t.data.frame)
## [1] "S3"
                 "method"
```

```
s3_dispatch(t(data.frame(a=1:5, b = 6:10)))
## => t.data.frame
## -> t.default
s3_dispatch(t.data.frame(data.frame(a=1:5, b = 6:10)))
##
      t.data.frame.data.frame
##
      t.data.frame.default
t.test is a generic while t.data.frame is a method. t.test gets called first since it is a generic and then it
finds the right implementation for the job. t.data.frame is called once the generic determines it is the correct
method by performing method dispatch.
  2. Make a list of commonly used base R functions that contain . in their name but are not S3 methods.
ftype(read.csv)
## [1] "function"
ftype(as.character)
## [1] "primitive" "generic"
ftype(all.equal)
## [1] "S3"
                   "generic"
ftype(file.copy)
## [1] "internal"
ftype(format.info)
## [1] "internal"
ftype(is.na)
## [1] "primitive" "generic"
ftype(Sys.info)
```

3. What does the as.data.frame.data.frame() method do? Why is it confusing? How could you avoid this confusion in your own code?

[1] "internal"

```
ftype(as.data.frame.data.frame)
## [1] "S3"
                "method"
s3_dispatch(as.data.frame.data.frame(mtcars))
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.data.frame
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.default
as.data.frame.data.frame(mtcars)
##
                       mpg cyl disp hp drat
                                                  wt qsec vs am gear carb
## Mazda RX4
                       21.0
                              6 160.0 110 3.90 2.620 16.46
## Mazda RX4 Wag
                       21.0
                              6 160.0 110 3.90 2.875 17.02
                                                                    4
                                                                         4
                                                            0
                                                               1
## Datsun 710
                       22.8
                              4 108.0 93 3.85 2.320 18.61
                                                                         1
## Hornet 4 Drive
                              6 258.0 110 3.08 3.215 19.44
                       21.4
                                                               0
                                                                         1
                                                            1
## Hornet Sportabout
                       18.7
                              8 360.0 175 3.15 3.440 17.02
                                                               0
                                                                    3
                                                                         2
                       18.1
## Valiant
                              6 225.0 105 2.76 3.460 20.22
                                                            1
                                                               Λ
                                                                    3
                                                                         1
## Duster 360
                       14.3
                              8 360.0 245 3.21 3.570 15.84
                                                                         4
## Merc 240D
                       24.4
                              4 146.7 62 3.69 3.190 20.00 1
                                                               0
                                                                    4
                                                                         2
## Merc 230
                              4 140.8 95 3.92 3.150 22.90
                                                                         2
                       22.8
                                                                    4
## Merc 280
                              6 167.6 123 3.92 3.440 18.30 1
                                                                    4
                                                                         4
                       19.2
                                                               0
## Merc 280C
                       17.8
                              6 167.6 123 3.92 3.440 18.90
## Merc 450SE
                              8 275.8 180 3.07 4.070 17.40
                       16.4
                                                            0
                                                               0
                                                                    3
                                                                         3
## Merc 450SL
                       17.3
                              8 275.8 180 3.07 3.730 17.60
                                                                    3
                                                            0
                                                                         3
## Merc 450SLC
                       15.2
                              8 275.8 180 3.07 3.780 18.00
                                                            0
                                                                    3
                                                                         3
                                                               0
## Cadillac Fleetwood 10.4
                              8 472.0 205 2.93 5.250 17.98
                                                            0
                                                                    3
                                                                         4
                              8 460.0 215 3.00 5.424 17.82
## Lincoln Continental 10.4
                                                            0
                                                               0
                                                                    3
                                                                         4
## Chrysler Imperial
                       14.7
                              8 440.0 230 3.23 5.345 17.42
                                                            0
                                                               0
                                                                    3
                                                                         4
## Fiat 128
                       32.4
                                                                    4
                              4 78.7 66 4.08 2.200 19.47
                                                           1
                                                               1
                                                                         1
## Honda Civic
                       30.4
                              4 75.7 52 4.93 1.615 18.52 1
                                                               1
                                                                    4
                                                                         2
## Toyota Corolla
                       33.9
                              4 71.1 65 4.22 1.835 19.90
                                                            1
                                                               1
                                                                    4
                                                                         1
## Toyota Corona
                              4 120.1 97 3.70 2.465 20.01 1
                                                                    3
                                                                         1
                       21.5
                                                               0
## Dodge Challenger
                       15.5
                              8 318.0 150 2.76 3.520 16.87
                                                                         2
## AMC Javelin
                       15.2
                              8 304.0 150 3.15 3.435 17.30
                                                               Λ
                                                                    3
                                                                         2
                                                            0
## Camaro Z28
                       13.3
                              8 350.0 245 3.73 3.840 15.41
                                                                    3
                                                                         4
## Pontiac Firebird
                       19.2
                              8 400.0 175 3.08 3.845 17.05 0
                                                                    3
                                                                         2
                                                               0
## Fiat X1-9
                              4 79.0 66 4.08 1.935 18.90
                       27.3
                                                                         1
## Porsche 914-2
                       26.0
                              4 120.3 91 4.43 2.140 16.70
                                                                    5
                                                                         2
                                                            0
                                                               1
## Lotus Europa
                       30.4
                              4 95.1 113 3.77 1.513 16.90
                                                            1
                                                                    5
                                                                         2
                                                                    5
                                                                         4
## Ford Pantera L
                       15.8
                              8 351.0 264 4.22 3.170 14.50
                                                              1
## Ferrari Dino
                       19.7
                              6 145.0 175 3.62 2.770 15.50
                                                                    5
                                                                         6
                       15.0
                              8 301.0 335 3.54 3.570 14.60
                                                                    5
                                                                         8
## Maserati Bora
                                                            0
                                                              1
## Volvo 142E
                       21.4
                              4 121.0 109 4.11 2.780 18.60
s3_dispatch(as.data.frame.data.frame(matrix(1:25, nrow = 5)))
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.matrix
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.integer
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.numeric
##
      as.data.frame.data.frame.default
```

```
as.data.frame.data.frame(matrix(1:25, nrow = 5))

## Error in if (i > 1L) class(x) <- cl[-(1L:(i - 1L))]: missing value where TRUE/FALSE needed

s3_dispatch(as.data.frame(matrix(1:25, nrow = 5)))

## => as.data.frame.matrix

## * as.data.frame.integer

## * as.data.frame.default

as.data.frame(matrix(1:25, nrow = 5))

## V1 V2 V3 V4 V5

## 1 1 6 11 16 21

## 2 2 7 12 17 22

## 3 3 8 13 18 23

## 4 4 9 14 19 24

## 5 5 10 15 20 25
```

It checks if the object is a data.frame and coerces it if possible and then attempts to cast it as a data.frame Easier to just use the generic instead of the specific method, let method dispatch do the work for you

4. Describe the difference in behaviour in these two calls.

```
set.seed(1014)
some_days <- as.Date("2017-01-31") + sample(10, 5)
some_days

## [1] "2017-02-07" "2017-02-05" "2017-02-06" "2017-02-10" "2017-02-04"

s3_dispatch(mean(some_days))

## => mean.Date
## * mean.default

class(some_days)

## [1] "Date"

mean(some_days)

## [1] "Date"
```

```
s3_dispatch(mean(unclass(some_days)))

## mean.double
## mean.numeric
## => mean.default

class(unclass(some_days))

## [1] "numeric"

str(unclass(some_days))

## num [1:5] 17204 17202 17203 17207 17201

mean(unclass(some_days))

## [1] 17203.4
```

The first one calculates mean using the mean.Date method since it sees the class is "Date". In the second class is stripped so it becomes a numeric and this causes the mean.default method to be used.

5. What class of object does the following code return? What base type is it built on? What attributes does it use?

```
x <- ecdf(rpois(100, 10))
x

## Empirical CDF
## Call: ecdf(rpois(100, 10))
## x[1:18] = 2, 3, 4, ..., 18, 19

class(x)

## [1] "ecdf" "stepfun" "function"

str(x)

## function (v)
## - attr(*, "class") = chr [1:3] "ecdf" "stepfun" "function"
## - attr(*, "call") = language ecdf(rpois(100, 10))

typeof(unclass(x))</pre>
```

[1] "closure"

x is class ecdf, with two more classes of stepfun and function. it's base class is a closure (function). The attribute it uses is the expression used when it was created rpois(100,10).

6. What class of object does the following code return? What base type is it built on? What attributes does it use?

```
x \leftarrow table(rpois(100, 5))
##
## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
## 7 5 18 14 15 15 14 4 5 3
class(x)
## [1] "table"
typeof(x)
## [1] "integer"
str(x)
## 'table' int [1:10(1d)] 7 5 18 14 15 15 14 4 5 3
## - attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 1
## ..$ : chr [1:10] "1" "2" "3" "4" ...
attributes(x)
## $dim
## [1] 10
## $dimnames
## $dimnames[[1]]
## [1] "1" "2" "3" "4" "5" "6" "7" "8" "9" "10"
##
##
## $class
## [1] "table"
class(unclass(x))
## [1] "array"
Class is table. It is built on top of the base type integer. It uses the attribute dimnames
```

13.3 Classes

```
# Create and assign class in one step
x <- structure(list(), class = "my_class")

# Create, then set class
x <- list()
class(x) <- "my_class"</pre>
```

```
class(x)
## [1] "my_class"
inherits(x, "my_class")
## [1] TRUE
inherits(x, "your_class")
## [1] FALSE
# Create a linear model
mod <- lm(log(mpg) ~ log(disp), data = mtcars)</pre>
class(mod)
## [1] "lm"
print(mod)
##
## lm(formula = log(mpg) ~ log(disp), data = mtcars)
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept) log(disp)
        5.3810
                   -0.4586
##
# Turn it into a date (?!)
class(mod) <- "Date"</pre>
# Unsurprisingly this doesn't work very well
print(mod)
## Error in as.POSIXlt.Date(x): 'list' object cannot be coerced to type 'integer'
13.3.1 Constructors
new_Date <- function(x = double()) {</pre>
  stopifnot(is.double(x))
  structure(x, class = "Date")
}
new_Date(c(-1, 0, 1))
```

[1] "1969-12-31" "1970-01-01" "1970-01-02"

```
new_difftime <- function(x = double(), units = "secs") {</pre>
  stopifnot(is.double(x))
  units <- match.arg(units, c("secs", "mins", "hours", "days", "weeks"))</pre>
  structure(x,
    class = "difftime",
    units = units
  )
}
new_difftime(c(1, 10, 3600), "secs")
## Time differences in secs
## [1]
          1 10 3600
new_difftime(52, "weeks")
## Time difference of 52 weeks
13.3.2 Validators
new_factor <- function(x = integer(), levels = character()) {</pre>
  stopifnot(is.integer(x))
  stopifnot(is.character(levels))
  structure(
    х,
    levels = levels,
    class = "factor"
  )
}
new_factor(1:5, "a")
## Error in as.character.factor(x): malformed factor
new_factor(0:1, "a")
## Error in as.character.factor(x): malformed factor
validate_factor <- function(x) {</pre>
  values <- unclass(x)</pre>
  levels <- attr(x, "levels")</pre>
  if (!all(!is.na(values) & values > 0)) {
    stop(
      "All `x` values must be non-missing and greater than zero",
      call. = FALSE
```

```
}
  if (length(levels) < max(values)) {</pre>
      "There must be at least as many `levels` as possible values in `x`",
      call. = FALSE
  }
 Х
}
validate_factor(new_factor(1:5, "a"))
## Error: There must be at least as many `levels` as possible values in `x`
validate_factor(new_factor(0:1, "a"))
## Error: All `x` values must be non-missing and greater than zero
13.3.3 Helpers
new_difftime(1:10)
## Error in new_difftime(1:10): is.double(x) is not TRUE
difftime <- function(x = double(), units = "secs") {</pre>
 x <- as.double(x)</pre>
 new_difftime(x, units = units)
difftime(1:10)
## Time differences in secs
## [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
factor <- function(x = character(), levels = unique(x)) {</pre>
  ind <- match(x, levels)</pre>
  validate_factor(new_factor(ind, levels))
factor(c("a", "a", "b"))
## [1] a a b
## Levels: a b
```

[1] "2020-01-01 EST"

13.3.4 Exercises

1. Write a constructor for data.frame objects. What base type is a data frame built on? What attributes does it use? What are the restrictions placed on the individual elements? What about the names?

```
str(mtcars)
```

```
## 'data.frame': 32 obs. of 11 variables:

## $ mpg : num 21 21 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 ...

## $ cyl : num 6 6 4 6 8 6 8 4 4 6 ...

## $ disp: num 160 160 108 258 360 ...

## $ hp : num 110 110 93 110 175 105 245 62 95 123 ...

## $ drat: num 3.9 3.9 3.85 3.08 3.15 2.76 3.21 3.69 3.92 3.92 ...

## $ vs : num 2.62 2.88 2.32 3.21 3.44 ...

## $ qsec: num 16.5 17 18.6 19.4 17 ...

## $ vs : num 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 ...

## $ gear: num 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 ...

## $ carb: num 4 4 1 1 2 1 4 2 2 4 ...
```

class(mtcars)

```
## [1] "data.frame"
```

unclass(mtcars)

```
## [13] 275.8 275.8 472.0 460.0 440.0 78.7 75.7 71.1 120.1 318.0 304.0 350.0
## [25] 400.0 79.0 120.3 95.1 351.0 145.0 301.0 121.0
##
## $hp
## [1] 110 110 93 110 175 105 245 62 95 123 123 180 180 180 205 215 230 66 52
## [20] 65 97 150 150 245 175 66 91 113 264 175 335 109
## $drat
## [1] 3.90 3.90 3.85 3.08 3.15 2.76 3.21 3.69 3.92 3.92 3.92 3.07 3.07 3.07 2.93
## [16] 3.00 3.23 4.08 4.93 4.22 3.70 2.76 3.15 3.73 3.08 4.08 4.43 3.77 4.22 3.62
## [31] 3.54 4.11
##
## $wt
## [1] 2.620 2.875 2.320 3.215 3.440 3.460 3.570 3.190 3.150 3.440 3.440 4.070
## [13] 3.730 3.780 5.250 5.424 5.345 2.200 1.615 1.835 2.465 3.520 3.435 3.840
## [25] 3.845 1.935 2.140 1.513 3.170 2.770 3.570 2.780
##
## $qsec
## [1] 16.46 17.02 18.61 19.44 17.02 20.22 15.84 20.00 22.90 18.30 18.90 17.40
## [13] 17.60 18.00 17.98 17.82 17.42 19.47 18.52 19.90 20.01 16.87 17.30 15.41
## [25] 17.05 18.90 16.70 16.90 14.50 15.50 14.60 18.60
## $vs
## [1] 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1
##
   ##
   ##
## $carb
  [1] 4 4 1 1 2 1 4 2 2 4 4 3 3 3 4 4 4 1 2 1 1 2 2 4 2 1 2 2 4 6 8 2
## attr(,"row.names")
## [1] "Mazda RX4"
                            "Mazda RX4 Wag"
                                                "Datsun 710"
## [4] "Hornet 4 Drive"
                            "Hornet Sportabout"
                                                "Valiant"
## [7] "Duster 360"
                            "Merc 240D"
                                                "Merc 230"
## [10] "Merc 280"
                            "Merc 280C"
                                                "Merc 450SE"
## [13] "Merc 450SL"
                            "Merc 450SLC"
                                                "Cadillac Fleetwood"
## [16] "Lincoln Continental" "Chrysler Imperial"
                                                "Fiat 128"
## [19] "Honda Civic"
                            "Toyota Corolla"
                                                "Toyota Corona"
## [22] "Dodge Challenger"
                            "AMC Javelin"
                                                "Camaro Z28"
## [25] "Pontiac Firebird"
                           "Fiat X1-9"
                                                "Porsche 914-2"
                            "Ford Pantera L"
                                                "Ferrari Dino"
## [28] "Lotus Europa"
## [31] "Maserati Bora"
                            "Volvo 142E"
str(unclass(mtcars))
## List of 11
## $ mpg : num [1:32] 21 21 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 ...
## $ cyl : num [1:32] 6 6 4 6 8 6 8 4 4 6 ...
## $ disp: num [1:32] 160 160 108 258 360 ...
## $ hp : num [1:32] 110 110 93 110 175 105 245 62 95 123 ...
```

```
## $ drat: num [1:32] 3.9 3.9 3.85 3.08 3.15 2.76 3.21 3.69 3.92 3.92 ...
## $ wt : num [1:32] 2.62 2.88 2.32 3.21 3.44 ...
## $ qsec: num [1:32] 16.5 17 18.6 19.4 17 ...
## $ vs : num [1:32] 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 ...
## $ am : num [1:32] 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...
## $ gear: num [1:32] 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 ...
## $ carb: num [1:32] 4 4 1 1 2 1 4 2 2 4 ...
## - attr(*, "row.names")= chr [1:32] "Mazda RX4" "Mazda RX4 Wag" "Datsun 710" "Hornet 4 Drive" ...
new_data.frame <- function(x, row.names = NULL){ # x is the input list</pre>
  stopifnot(is.list(x)) # Require list
  stopifnot(length(unique(lengths(x))) == 1) # Require same length vectors
  n <- unique(lengths(x))</pre>
  if(is.null(row.names)){
    row.names <- as.character(1:n)</pre>
  } else {
    stopifnot(is.character(row.names), length(row.names) == n)
  structure(
    class = "data.frame",
    row.names = row.names
}
dat_list \leftarrow list(a = 1:5, b = 6:10)
new_data.frame(dat_list)
##
     a b
## 1 1 6
## 2 2
        7
## 3 3 8
## 4 4 9
## 5 5 10
new_data.frame(dat_list, row.names = LETTERS[1:5])
     a b
## A 1
## B 2 7
## C 3 8
## D 4 9
## E 5 10
dat_list2 \leftarrow list(a = 1:5, b = 6:11)
new_data.frame(dat_list2)
```

Error in new_data.frame(dat_list2): length(unique(lengths(x))) == 1 is not TRUE

data.frames are built on top of lists. The list contains named vectors and a row.names attribute which is optional. Each name in row.names has to be unique and each element of the list must be the same length

2. Enhance my factor() helper to have better behaviour when one or more values is not found in levels. What does base::factor() do in this situation?

```
factor <- function(x = character(), levels = unique(x)) {</pre>
  ind <- match(x, levels)</pre>
  if(any(is.na(ind))){
    cat("removing", x[is.na(ind)], "since they are not present in levels\n")
    x \leftarrow x[!is.na(ind)]
    ind <- match(x, levels)</pre>
  validate factor(new factor(ind, levels))
}
x <- c("a", "a", "b")
factor(x)
## [1] a a b
## Levels: a b
factor(x = x,
       levels = c("a", "c"))
## removing b since they are not present in levels
## [1] a a
## Levels: a c
base::factor(x = x,
       levels = c("a", "c"))
## [1] a
                  <NA>
## Levels: a c
```

In this case base::factor will convert values not present in level to NA

3. Carefully read the source code of factor(). What does it do that my constructor does not?

If any of the indexes are not an integer it stops the execution. This means an NAs from ind in the helper function will cause the function to stop. In the base function if levels are not provided, it generates levels from input. The base function handles cases of input where the input has levels not listed in the levels. It creates the vector, converts non-level values to NA and then adds the levels attribute.

4. Factors have an optional "contrasts" attribute. Read the help for C(), and briefly describe the purpose of the attribute. What type should it have? Rewrite the new_factor() constructor to include this attribute.

```
new_factor <- function(x = integer(), levels = character(), contrasts = NULL) {
   stopifnot(is.integer(x))
   stopifnot(is.character(levels))
   if(!is.null(contrasts)){</pre>
```

```
stopifnot(is.matrix(contrasts) && is.numeric(contrasts))
  }
  structure(
    х,
    levels = levels,
    class = "factor",
    contrasts = contrasts
  )
}
model3 <- glm(cbind(ncases, ncontrols) ~ agegp + C(tobgp, , 1) +</pre>
     C(alcgp, , 1), data = esoph, family = binomial())
summary(model3)
##
## Call:
## glm(formula = cbind(ncases, ncontrols) ~ agegp + C(tobgp, , 1) +
       C(alcgp, , 1), family = binomial(), data = esoph)
##
##
## Deviance Residuals:
                      Median
##
                 1Q
                                    3Q
                                            Max
  -2.3018
           -0.7234
                     -0.2306
                                0.5737
##
                                          2.4290
## Coefficients:
##
                   Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)
                   -1.15264
                                0.20326
                                         -5.671 1.42e-08 ***
                    3.81892
                                0.67862
                                          5.627 1.83e-08 ***
## agegp.L
## agegp.Q
                   -1.49473
                                0.60671
                                         -2.464
                                                   0.0138 *
                    0.07923
                                0.46318
                                          0.171
                                                   0.8642
## agegp.C
## agegp<sup>4</sup>
                    0.12136
                                0.32203
                                          0.377
                                                   0.7063
                                         -1.175
## agegp<sup>5</sup>
                   -0.24856
                                0.21153
                                                   0.2400
## C(tobgp, , 1).L 0.98287
                                0.21519
                                          4.568 4.93e-06 ***
## C(alcgp, , 1).L 2.38736
                                0.23462 10.175 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
  (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##
       Null deviance: 367.953
                                on 87
                                       degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 91.121
                                on 80 degrees of freedom
## AIC: 222.18
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 6
```

C needs a mumeric matrix or a suitable function. When modeling it allows us to preset the contrasts we want to use.

5. Read the documentation for utils::as.roman(). How would you write a constructor for this class? Does it need a validator? What might a helper do?

It converts integer numbers into roman numerals. The new object is has the class "roman" Number range is 1 to 3899. It uses a basic dictionary called .romans. Constructor makes sure we have in integer input. Validator can check to make sure it's in range. Helper could round numbers to the nearest integer

```
.romans
##
                              XC
      M CM
                                        XL
                                              X
                                                   IX
## 1000 900 500 400 100
                                   50
a <- as.roman(13)
## [1] XIII
typeof(a)
## [1] "integer"
str(a)
## 'roman' int XIII
attributes(a)
## $class
## [1] "roman"
13.4 Generics and methods
mean
## function (x, ...)
## UseMethod("mean")
## <bytecode: 0x0000022568f0c138>
## <environment: namespace:base>
my_new_generic <- function(x) {</pre>
 UseMethod("my_new_generic")
13.4.1 Method dispatch
x <- Sys.Date()</pre>
s3_dispatch(print(x))
## => print.Date
## * print.default
```

```
paste0("generic", ".", c(class(x), "default"))
## [1] "generic.Date"
                         "generic.default"
x \leftarrow matrix(1:10, nrow = 2)
s3_dispatch(mean(x))
##
      mean.matrix
##
     mean.integer
##
     mean.numeric
## => mean.default
paste0("generic", ".", c(class(x), "default"))
## [1] "generic.matrix" "generic.array"
                                           "generic.default"
s3_dispatch(sum(Sys.time()))
##
      sum.POSIXct
##
      sum.POSIXt
      sum.default
## => Summary.POSIXct
##
      Summary.POSIXt
      Summary.default
##
## -> sum (internal)
13.4.2 Finding methods
s3_methods_generic("mean")
## # A tibble: 7 x 4
    generic class
                        visible source
##
     <chr> <chr>
                        <lgl>
                                <chr>
## 1 mean
            Date
                        TRUE
                                base
## 2 mean
          default
                        TRUE
                                base
## 3 mean
            difftime
                        TRUE
                                base
## 4 mean
            POSIXct
                        TRUE
                                base
## 5 mean
            POSIX1t
                        TRUE
                                base
## 6 mean
             quosure
                        FALSE
                                registered S3method
## 7 mean
            vctrs_vctr FALSE
                                registered S3method
s3_methods_class("ordered")
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
     generic
                   class
                           visible source
                                   <chr>
##
     <chr>
                   <chr>
                           <lgl>
## 1 as.data.frame ordered TRUE
                                   base
## 2 Ops
                  ordered TRUE
                                   base
## 3 relevel
                 ordered FALSE
                                   registered S3method
## 4 scale_type ordered FALSE
                                   registered S3method
## 5 Summary
                 ordered TRUE
## 6 type_sum
                  ordered FALSE
                                   registered S3method
```

13.4.3 Creating methods

13.4.4 Exercises

1. Read the source code for t() and t.test() and confirm that t.test() is an S3 generic and not an S3 method. What happens if you create an object with class test and call t() with it? Why?

```
## function (x)
## UseMethod("t")
## <bytecode: 0x000002256e849e68>
## <environment: namespace:base>
s3_methods_generic("t")
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
                       visible source
##
    generic class
     <chr> <chr>
                       <lgl> <chr>
##
           data.frame TRUE
## 1 t
                               base
## 2 t
            default
                       TRUE
                               base
       gtable
## 3 t
                       FALSE registered S3method
## 4 t
          ts
                       FALSE registered S3method
        vctrs_sclr FALSE
vctrs_vctr FALSE
## 5 t
                               registered S3method
## 6 t
                               registered S3method
ftype(t)
## [1] "S3"
                 "generic"
t.test
## function (x, ...)
## UseMethod("t.test")
## <bytecode: 0x0000022568480530>
## <environment: namespace:stats>
s3_methods_generic("t.test")
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
##
     generic class
                    visible source
     <chr> <chr>
                    <lgl>
## 1 t.test default FALSE
                            registered S3method
## 2 t.test formula FALSE
                            registered S3method
ftype(t.test)
## [1] "S3"
                 "generic"
```

```
x \leftarrow matrix(1:25, ncol = 5)
x <- structure(x,
   class = "test"
 )
X
       [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,] 1 6 11 16
                            21
## [2,]
       2
             7 12
                            22
                      17
## [3,]
       3 8 13 18
                            23
       4 9 14 19 24
5 10 15 20 25
## [4,]
## [5,]
## attr(,"class")
## [1] "test"
class(x)
## [1] "test"
s3_dispatch(t(x))
## => t.test
## * t.default
s3_dispatch(t(matrix(1:25, ncol = 5)))
##
     t.matrix
##
     t.integer
##
     t.numeric
## => t.default
x \leftarrow matrix(1:25, ncol = 5)
t(x)
       [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
##
## [1,]
         1
             2
## [2,]
        6
             7
                            10
                 8
                      9
## [3,]
             12 13
        11
                      14
                            15
## [4,]
       16
              17 18 19
                            20
## [5,]
              22 23 24
       21
                            25
t.test <- function(x) cat("FOUND IT\n")</pre>
s3_dispatch(t(structure(matrix(1:25, ncol = 5), class = "test")))
## => t.test
## * t.default
```

t(x)

```
##
         [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
## [1,]
            1
                  2
                        3
                                   5
## [2,]
            6
                  7
                        8
                             9
                                  10
## [3,]
           11
                 12
                      13
                                  15
           16
## [4,]
                 17
                                  20
                      18
                            19
## [5,]
           21
                 22
                      23
                            24
                                  25
```

Still worked, used default method

2. What generics does the table class have methods for?

```
s3_methods_class("table")
```

```
## # A tibble: 11 x 4
##
     generic
                   class visible source
##
     <chr>
                   <chr> <lgl>
                                 <chr>>
   1 Γ
                   table TRUE
                                 base
##
## 2 aperm
                   table TRUE
                                 base
## 3 as.data.frame table TRUE
                                 base
## 4 as_tibble
                   table FALSE
                                registered S3method
## 5 Axis
                   table FALSE
                                 registered S3method
## 6 lines
                   table FALSE
                                 registered S3method
## 7 plot
                   table FALSE
                                 registered S3method
                                 registered S3method
## 8 points
                   table FALSE
## 9 print
                   table TRUE
                                 base
## 10 summary
                   table TRUE
                                 base
## 11 tail
                   table FALSE
                                 registered S3method
```

3. What generics does the ecdf class have methods for?

```
s3_methods_class("ecdf")
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##
    generic class visible source
##
     <chr>>
              <chr> <lgl>
                           <chr>
## 1 plot
              ecdf TRUE
                            stats
## 2 print
              ecdf
                   FALSE
                            registered S3method
## 3 quantile ecdf FALSE
                            registered S3method
## 4 summary ecdf FALSE
                            registered S3method
```

4. Which base generic has the greatest number of defined methods?

```
possibles <- ls("package:base")
possibles_functions <- mget(possibles, envir = baseenv())
possibles_functions <- unlist(map(possibles_functions, is_function))
possibles <- possibles[possibles_functions]
possibles_generics <- unlist(map(possibles, is_s3_generic))
possibles <- possibles[possibles_generics]</pre>
```

```
names(possibles) <- possibles</pre>
for(i in 1:length(possibles)){
  possibles[i] <- nrow(s3_methods_generic(possibles[i]))</pre>
possibles %>%
  as.numeric() %>%
  set_names(., names(possibles)) %>%
  sort(decreasing = T) %>%
  head()
                                                                        summary
##
            print
                          format
                                              [ as.character
##
              345
                              147
                                              68
                                                                              45
## as.data.frame
##
               37
  5. Carefully read the documentation for UseMethod() and explain why the following code returns the
     results that it does. What two usual rules of function evaluation does UseMethod() violate?
g <- function(x) {</pre>
  x <- 10
  y <- 10
  UseMethod("g")
g.default \leftarrow function(x) c(x = x, y = y)
x <- 1
y <- 1
g(x)
   x y
## 1 10
g.default(x)
## x y
## 1 1
g <- function(x) {</pre>
  x <- 10
  y <- 10
  UseMethod("g")
}
g.factor <- function(x) cat("FACTOR\n")</pre>
g.integer <- function(x) cat("INTEGER\n")</pre>
g.default <- function(x) cat("NOT THOSE\n")</pre>
x <- factor("A")</pre>
x2 <- 1L
g(x)
```

```
## FACTOR
```

```
g(x2)
```

INTEGER

```
g(list())
```

NOT THOSE

```
g(c())
```

NOT THOSE

The function uses the value of x we provide and not the value set in the generic. Method dispatch takes place based on the class(es) of the first argument to the generic function or of the object supplied as an argument to UseMethod or NextMethod.

6. What are the arguments to [? Why is this a hard question to answer?

```
ftype(`[`)

## [1] "primitive" "generic"

formals(`[`)

## NULL
```

```
s3_methods_generic("[")
```

```
## # A tibble: 68 x 4
##
      generic class
                                     visible source
##
      <chr>
              <chr>>
                                     <lgl>
                                              <chr>
##
   1 [
              acf
                                     FALSE
                                             registered S3method
##
   2 [
              arrow
                                     FALSE
                                             registered S3method
##
   3 [
              AsIs
                                     TRUE
                                              base
              bibentry
##
   4 [
                                     FALSE
                                              registered S3method
##
    5 [
              cell_addr
                                     FALSE
                                              registered S3method
##
    6 [
              check_details_changes FALSE
                                              registered S3method
##
   7 [
              cli_doc
                                     FALSE
                                              registered S3method
##
    8 [
              data.frame
                                     TRUE
                                              base
   9 [
                                     TRUE
##
              Date
                                              base
## 10 [
                                     TRUE
              difftime
                                              base
## # ... with 58 more rows
```

```
names(formals(`[.data.frame`))
```

```
## [1] "x" "i" "j" "drop"
```

```
names(formals(`[.Date`))
## [1] "x" "..." "drop"
There's a lot of methods and each one has different arguments
13.5 Object styles
x <- as.POSIX1t(ISOdatetime(2020, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1:3))
## [1] "2020-01-01 00:00:01 PST" "2020-01-01 00:00:02 PST"
## [3] "2020-01-01 00:00:03 PST"
length(x)
## [1] 3
unclass(x)
## $sec
## [1] 1 2 3
##
## $min
## [1] 0 0 0
##
## $hour
## [1] 0 0 0
##
## $mday
## [1] 1 1 1
##
## $mon
## [1] 0 0 0
##
## $year
## [1] 120 120 120
##
## $wday
## [1] 3 3 3
##
## $yday
## [1] 0 0 0
##
## $isdst
## [1] 0 0 0
##
## $zone
## [1] "PST" "PST" "PST"
```

```
##
## $gmtoff
## [1] -28800 -28800 -28800
##
## attr(,"tzone")
## [1] ""
             "PST" "PDT"
length(unclass(x))
## [1] 11
x[[1]]
## [1] "2020-01-01 00:00:01 PST"
unclass(x)[[1]]
## [1] 1 2 3
x \leftarrow data.frame(x = 1:100, y = 1:100)
length(x)
## [1] 2
nrow(x)
## [1] 100
mod <- lm(mpg ~ wt, data = mtcars)</pre>
length(mod)
## [1] 12
13.5.1 Exercises
  1. Categorise the objects returned by lm(), factor(), table(), as.Date(), as.POSIXct() ecdf(),
     ordered(), I() into the styles described above.
# lm() is a scalar style object
mod <- lm(mpg ~ wt, data = mtcars)</pre>
length(mod)
## [1] 12
# factor() is a vector style object
x <- factor(c("a","b","c"))</pre>
length(x)
```

[1] 3

```
# table() is a vector style object
x \leftarrow table(rpois(100, 5))
length(x)
## [1] 13
# as.Date() is a vector style object
x \leftarrow as.Date(c(32768, 1444), origin = "1900-01-01")
length(x)
## [1] 2
unclass(x)
## [1]
        7201 -24123
# as.POSIXct() is a vector style object
x \leftarrow as.POSIXct(Sys.time(), origin = "1960-01-01")
length(x)
## [1] 1
unclass(x)
## [1] 1679426884
# ecdf() is a scalar style object
x <- ecdf(rpois(100, 10))</pre>
length(x)
## [1] 1
unclass(x)
## function (v)
## .approxfun(x, y, v, method, yleft, yright, f, na.rm)
## <bytecode: 0x000002256a0e5b78>
## <environment: 0x000002256f021888>
## attr(,"call")
## ecdf(rpois(100, 10))
# ordered() is a vector style object
x \leftarrow ordered(c(1,5,2,5,3))
length(x)
```

[1] 5

```
# I() depends
x <- I(c(1:5))
length(x)

## [1] 5

dim(x)

## NULL

x <- I(iris)
length(x)

## [1] 5

dim(x)</pre>
```

2. What would a constructor function for lm objects, new_lm(), look like? Use ?lm and experimentation to figure out the required fields and their types.

```
mod <- lm(mpg ~ wt, data = mtcars)
str(mod)</pre>
```

```
## List of 12
## $ coefficients : Named num [1:2] 37.29 -5.34
    ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:2] "(Intercept)" "wt"
##
  $ residuals
                : Named num [1:32] -2.28 -0.92 -2.09 1.3 -0.2 ...
    ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:32] "Mazda RX4" "Mazda RX4 Wag" "Datsun 710" "Hornet 4 Drive" ...
                  : Named num [1:32] -113.65 -29.116 -1.661 1.631 0.111 ...
##
   $ effects
    ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:32] "(Intercept)" "wt" "" "" ...
##
   $ rank
                  : int 2
##
  $ fitted.values: Named num [1:32] 23.3 21.9 24.9 20.1 18.9 ...
    ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:32] "Mazda RX4" "Mazda RX4 Wag" "Datsun 710" "Hornet 4 Drive" ...
##
                  : int [1:2] 0 1
##
   $ assign
## $ qr
                   :List of 5
##
     ..$ qr : num [1:32, 1:2] -5.657 0.177 0.177 0.177 0.177 ...
     ... - attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 2
##
     .....$ : chr [1:32] "Mazda RX4" "Mazda RX4 Wag" "Datsun 710" "Hornet 4 Drive" ...
##
     .. .. ..$ : chr [1:2] "(Intercept)" "wt"
##
##
     .. ..- attr(*, "assign")= int [1:2] 0 1
##
     ..$ qraux: num [1:2] 1.18 1.05
##
     ..$ pivot: int [1:2] 1 2
##
     ..$ tol : num 1e-07
     ..$ rank : int 2
##
    ..- attr(*, "class")= chr "qr"
##
   $ df.residual : int 30
##
## $ xlevels
                 : Named list()
                 : language lm(formula = mpg ~ wt, data = mtcars)
## $ call
```

```
:Classes 'terms', 'formula' language mpg ~ wt
     .. ..- attr(*, "variables")= language list(mpg, wt)
##
     ... - attr(*, "factors")= int [1:2, 1] 0 1
##
     .. .. ..- attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 2
##
     .. .. .. .. $ : chr [1:2] "mpg" "wt"
##
     .. .. .. ..$ : chr "wt"
##
     .. ..- attr(*, "term.labels")= chr "wt"
     ...- attr(*, "order")= int 1
##
     .. ..- attr(*, "intercept")= int 1
##
     .. ..- attr(*, "response")= int 1
##
     ... - attr(*, ".Environment")=<environment: R_GlobalEnv>
     ....- attr(*, "predvars")= language list(mpg, wt)
##
     ... - attr(*, "dataClasses")= Named chr [1:2] "numeric" "numeric"
##
     ..... attr(*, "names")= chr [1:2] "mpg" "wt"
##
                   :'data.frame':
                                  32 obs. of 2 variables:
##
##
     ..$ mpg: num [1:32] 21 21 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 ...
     ..$ wt : num [1:32] 2.62 2.88 2.32 3.21 3.44 ...
##
     ..- attr(*, "terms")=Classes 'terms', 'formula' language mpg ~ wt
     ..... attr(*, "variables")= language list(mpg, wt)
##
     .. .. ..- attr(*, "factors")= int [1:2, 1] 0 1
##
##
     ..... attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 2
     .. .. .. .. $ : chr [1:2] "mpg" "wt"
     .. .. .. .. $ : chr "wt"
##
     .. .. - attr(*, "term.labels")= chr "wt"
##
     .. .. ..- attr(*, "order")= int 1
##
     .. .. ..- attr(*, "intercept")= int 1
     ..... attr(*, "response")= int 1
##
     ..... attr(*, ".Environment")=<environment: R_GlobalEnv>
##
     ..... attr(*, "predvars")= language list(mpg, wt)
     ..... attr(*, "dataClasses")= Named chr [1:2] "numeric" "numeric"
     ..... attr(*, "names")= chr [1:2] "mpg" "wt"
   - attr(*, "class")= chr "lm"
attributes (mod)
## $names
   [1] "coefficients" "residuals"
                                        "effects"
                                                        "rank"
    [5] "fitted.values" "assign"
                                        "ar"
                                                        "df.residual"
##
   [9] "xlevels"
                        "call"
                                        "terms"
                                                        "model"
##
## $class
## [1] "lm"
map_chr(mod, typeof)
##
    coefficients
                     residuals
                                     effects
                                                      rank fitted.values
                                    "double"
        "double"
                      "double"
                                                                "double"
##
                                                 "integer"
##
          assign
                                 df.residual
                                                   xlevels
                                                                    call
                            qr
##
       "integer"
                        "list"
                                                    "list"
                                   "integer"
                                                              "language"
##
          terms
                         model
                        "list"
##
      "language"
```

You would need to ensure each piece of lm object is included and is the right type as listed above.

13.6 Inheritance

```
class(ordered("x"))
## [1] "ordered" "factor"
class(Sys.time())
## [1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
s3_dispatch(print(ordered("x")))
##
      print.ordered
## => print.factor
## * print.default
s3_dispatch(print(Sys.time()))
## => print.POSIXct
##
      print.POSIXt
## * print.default
s3_dispatch(ordered("x")[1])
      [.ordered
##
## => [.factor
      [.default
## -> [ (internal)
s3_dispatch(Sys.time()[1])
## => [.POSIXct
      [.POSIXt
      [.default
## -> [ (internal)
13.6.1 NextMethod()
new_secret <- function(x = double()) {</pre>
  stopifnot(is.double(x))
  structure(x, class = "secret")
print.secret <- function(x, ...) {</pre>
  print(strrep("x", nchar(x)))
  invisible(x)
}
x \leftarrow new_secret(c(15, 1, 456))
```

```
## [1] "xx" "x"
                 "xxx"
s3_dispatch(x[1])
      [.secret
##
##
      [.default
## => [ (internal)
x[1]
## [1] 15
class(x[1])
## [1] "numeric"
`[.secret` <- function(x, i) {
 new_secret(x[i])
`[.secret` <- function(x, i) {
 x <- unclass(x)
 new_secret(x[i])
x[1]
## [1] "xx"
`[.secret` <- function(x, i) {
new_secret(NextMethod())
x[1]
## [1] "xx"
s3_dispatch(x[1])
## => [.secret
## [.default
## -> [ (internal)
13.6.2 Allowing subclassing
new_secret <- function(x, ..., class = character()) {</pre>
  stopifnot(is.double(x))
  structure(
    х,
    class = c(class, "secret")
  )
}
```

```
new_supersecret <- function(x) {</pre>
 new_secret(x, class = "supersecret")
}
print.supersecret <- function(x, ...) {</pre>
 print(rep("xxxxx", length(x)))
  invisible(x)
x2 <- new_supersecret(c(15, 1, 456))</pre>
## [1] "xxxxx" "xxxxx" "xxxxx"
class(x2)
## [1] "supersecret" "secret"
`[.secret` <- function(x, ...) {
 new_secret(NextMethod())
x2[1:3]
## [1] "xx" "x"
                    "xxx"
class(x2[1:3])
## [1] "secret"
vec_restore.secret <- function(x, to, ...) new_secret(x)</pre>
vec_restore.supersecret <- function(x, to, ...) new_supersecret(x)</pre>
`[.secret` <- function(x, ...) {
  vctrs::vec_restore(NextMethod(), x)
x2[1:3]
## [1] "xxxxx" "xxxxx" "xxxxx"
class(x2[1:3])
## [1] "supersecret" "secret"
```

13.6.3 Exercises

1. How does [.Date support subclasses? How does it fail to support subclasses?

```
x <- Sys.time()</pre>
## [1] "2023-03-21 12:28:03 PDT"
class(x)
## [1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
attributes(x)
## $class
## [1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
x[1]
## [1] "2023-03-21 12:28:03 PDT"
x[1:15]
## [1] "2023-03-21 12:28:03 PDT" NA
## [3] NA
## [5] NA
                                  NA
## [7] NA
                                 NA
## [9] NA
                                 NA
## [11] NA
                                 NA
## [13] NA
                                 NA
## [15] NA
class(x[1])
## [1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
attributes(x[1])
## $class
## [1] "POSIXct" "POSIXt"
x <- structure(2,
             extras = "AAAAAAAAA",
              class = c("Junk", "Date"))
attributes(x)
## $extras
## [1] "AAAAAAAAA"
## $class
## [1] "Junk" "Date"
```

```
attributes(x[1])
## $class
## [1] "Junk" "Date"
x <- structure("BADD_ATE",</pre>
                extras = "AAAAAAAAA",
                class = c("Junk", "Date"))
attributes(x)
## $extras
## [1] "AAAAAAAAA"
##
## $class
## [1] "Junk" "Date"
attributes(x[1])
## $class
## [1] "Junk" "Date"
It keeps the class, but loses the attributes
  2. R has two classes for representing date time data, POSIXct and POSIXlt, which both inherit from
     POSIXt. Which generics have different behaviours for the two classes? Which generics share the same
     behaviour?
subclass_specific <- union(s3_methods_class("POSIXct")$generic, s3_methods_class("POSIX1t")$generic)</pre>
subclass_specific
   [1] "["
                                           " [<-"
##
                          "[["
                                                             "as.data.frame"
##
   [5] "as.Date"
                          "as.list"
                                           "as.POSIX1t"
                                                             "c"
                          "full_seq"
   [9] "format"
                                           "length<-"
                                                             "mean"
## [13] "print"
                          "rep"
                                           "split"
                                                             "summary"
## [17] "Summary"
                          "weighted.mean" "xtfrm"
                                                             "[[<-"
                          "as.double"
                                                             "as.POSIXct"
## [21] "anyNA"
                                           "as.matrix"
## [25] "as.vector"
                          "duplicated"
                                           "is.na"
                                                             "length"
## [29] "names"
                          "names<-"
                                           "sort"
                                                             "unique"
shared_subclass <- setdiff(s3_methods_class("POSIXt")$generic, subclass_specific)</pre>
shared_subclass
                                           "+"
                                                             "<"
##
    [1] "-"
                          "!="
    [5] "<="
                                           ">"
                                                             ">="
##
  [9] "all.equal"
                          "as.character"
                                           "Axis"
                                                             "cut"
## [13] "diff"
                          "hist"
                                           "is.numeric"
                                                             "julian"
## [17] "Math"
                          "months"
                                           "0ps"
                                                             "output_column"
## [21] "pretty"
                                                            "round"
                          "quantile"
                                           "quarters"
## [25] "scale_type"
                          "seq"
                                           "str"
                                                             "trunc"
## [29] "update"
                          "weekdays"
```

3. What do you expect this code to return? What does it actually return? Why?

```
generic2 <- function(x) UseMethod("generic2")
generic2.a1 <- function(x) "a1"
generic2.a2 <- function(x) "a2"
generic2.b <- function(x) {
    class(x) <- "a1"
    NextMethod()
}
generic2(structure(list(), class = c("b", "a2")))

## [1] "a2"

s3_dispatch(generic2(structure(list(), class = c("b", "a2"))))

## => generic2.b
## -> generic2.a2
## generic2.default

str(generic2(structure(list(), class = c("b", "a2"))))

## chr "a2"
```

assume it prints out "a1", but got "a2". NextMethod() ignores that we changed the class. Note that .Class is set when the generic is called, and is unchanged if the class of the dispatching argument is changed in a method. It is possible to change the method that NextMethod would dispatch by manipulating .Class, but 'this is not recommended unless you understand the inheritance mechanism thoroughly' (Chambers & Hastie, 1992, p. 469).

13.7 Dispatch details

13.7.1 S3 and base types

```
class(matrix(1:5))

## [1] "matrix" "array"

s3_class(matrix(1:5))

## [1] "matrix" "integer" "numeric"

s3_dispatch(print(matrix(1:5)))

## print.matrix
## print.integer
## print.numeric
## => print.default
```

```
x1 <- 1:5
class(x1)
## [1] "integer"
str(x1)
    int [1:5] 1 2 3 4 5
s3_dispatch(mean(x1))
##
      mean.integer
##
      mean.numeric
## => mean.default
x2 <- structure(x1, class = "integer")</pre>
class(x2)
## [1] "integer"
str(x2)
    int [1:5] 1 2 3 4 5
s3_dispatch(mean(x2))
      mean.integer
##
## => mean.default
13.7.2 Internal generics
s3_dispatch(Sys.time()[1])
## => [.POSIXct
##
       [.POSIXt
       [.default
## -> [ (internal)
13.7.3 Group generics
There are four group generics:
Math: abs(), sign(), sqrt(), floor(), cos(), sin(), log(), and more (see ?Math for the complete list).
Ops: +, -, *, /, ^, \%\%, \%/\%, \&, |, !, ==, !=, <, <=, >=, and >.
Summary: all(), any(), sum(), prod(), min(), max(), and range().
Complex: Arg(), Conj(), Im(), Mod(), Re().
```

```
s3_dispatch(sum(Sys.time()))
      sum.POSIXct
##
##
      sum.POSIXt
      sum.default
##
## => Summary.POSIXct
##
      Summary.POSIXt
##
      Summary.default
## -> sum (internal)
y <- as.difftime(10, units = "mins")
s3_dispatch(abs(y))
##
      abs.difftime
##
      abs.default
## => Math.difftime
      Math.default
## -> abs (internal)
Math.difftime <- function(x, ...) {</pre>
  new_difftime(NextMethod(), units = attr(x, "units"))
```

13.7.4 Double dispatch

```
date <- as.Date("2017-01-01")
integer <- 1L

date + integer

## [1] "2017-01-02"

integer + date

## [1] "2017-01-02"</pre>
```

13.7.5 Exercises

1. Explain the differences in dispatch below:

```
length.integer <- function(x) 10

x1 <- 1:5
class(x1)</pre>
```

```
## [1] "integer"
```

```
s3_dispatch(length(x1))
##
    * length.integer
##
      length.numeric
##
      length.default
## => length (internal)
x2 <- structure(x1, class = "integer")</pre>
class(x2)
## [1] "integer"
s3_dispatch(length(x2))
## => length.integer
      length.default
##
    * length (internal)
length has an internal it uses in the first case since class wasn't defined. In the second case class was defined
so it does the dispatch to find the method to use
  2. What classes have a method for the Math group generic in base R? Read the source code. How do the
     methods work?
methods("Math")
##
    [1] Math, nonStructure-method Math, structure-method
                                                                Math.data.frame
##
   [4] Math.Date
                                    Math.difftime
                                                               Math.factor
   [7] Math.POSIXt
                                    Math.quosure*
                                                                Math.vctrs sclr*
## [10] Math.vctrs_vctr*
```

```
s3_methods_generic("Math")
```

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 4
     generic class
##
                         visible source
##
     <chr>
             <chr>>
                                 <chr>>
                         <lgl>
## 1 Math
             data.frame TRUE
                                 base
## 2 Math
             Date
                         TRUE
                                 base
## 3 Math
             difftime
                         TRUE
                                 base
## 4 Math
             factor
                         TRUE
                                 base
## 5 Math
             POSIXt
                         TRUE
                                 base
## 6 Math
                         FALSE
                                 registered S3method
             quosure
## 7 Math
                                 registered S3method
             vctrs_sclr FALSE
## 8 Math
                                 registered S3method
             vctrs_vctr FALSE
```

see '?methods' for accessing help and source code

Members of this group dispatch on x. Most members accept only one argument, but members log, round and signif accept one or two arguments, and trunc accepts one or more.

3. Math.difftime() is more complicated than I described. Why?

Math.difftime

```
## function (x, ...)
## {
##
       switch(.Generic, abs = , sign = , floor = , ceiling = , trunc = ,
##
           round = , signif = {
              units <- attr(x, "units")</pre>
##
##
               .difftime(NextMethod(), units)
           }, stop(gettextf("'%s' not defined for \"difftime\" objects",
##
##
               .Generic), domain = NA))
## }
## <bytecode: 0x000002256d4d5d50>
## <environment: namespace:base>
```

It has a filtering step