

# Class 06: R Function

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## R Function

Functions are how we get stuff done. We call functions to do everything useful in R.

One cool thing about R is that it makes writing your own functions comparatively easy.

All functions in R have at least three things: - A **name** (we get to pick this) - One or more **input argument** (the input to our function) - The **body** (lines of code that do the work)

```
funname <- function(input 1, input 2) {  
  The body with R code  
}
```

Let's write a silly first function to add two numbers

```
x <- 5  
y <- 1  
x+y
```

```
[1] 6
```

```
addme <- function(x,y=1) {  
  x+y  
}
```

```
addme(100,100)
```

```
[1] 200
```

```
addme (10)
```

```
[1] 11
```

## Lab for today

```
#student 1  
c(100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 90)
```

```
[1] 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 90
```

```
#student 2  
c(100, NA, 90, 90, 90, 90, 97, 80)
```

```
[1] 100 NA 90 90 90 90 97 80
```

```
# Example input vectors to start with  
student1 <- c(100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 90)  
student2 <- c(100, NA, 90, 90, 90, 90, 97, 80)  
student3 <- c(90, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA)
```

Let's just find the average.

```
mean(student1)
```

```
[1] 98.75
```

```
mean(student2, na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 91
```

```
mean(student3, na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 90
```

This is not fair - there is no way student3 should have a mean of 90!

Come back to this NA problem. But things works for `student1`. We want to drop the lowest score before getting the `mean()`

How do I find the lowest (minimum) score?

```
min(student1)
```

```
[1] 90
```

I found the `which.min()` function. Maybe this is more useful?

```
which.min(student1)
```

```
[1] 8
```

Cool - it is the 8th element of the vector that has the lowest score. Can I remove this one?

```
student1[which.min(student1)]
```

```
[1] 90
```

We can use the wee minus trick for indexing.

```
x <- 1:5  
x[-3]
```

```
[1] 1 2 4 5
```

Now put these bits of code

```
# Find the lowest score  
ind <- which.min(student1)  
# remove lowest score and find the mean  
mean(student1[-ind])
```

```
[1] 100
```

```
mean(student1[-which.min(student1)])
```

```
[1] 100
```

Use a common shortcut and use `x` as my input

```
x <- student1  
mean(x[-which.min(x)])
```

```
[1] 100
```

We still have a problem of missing values.

One idea is to replace NA values with zero.

```
y <- 1:5  
y[y == 3] <- 10000  
y
```

```
[1]      1      2 10000      4      5
```

Bummer, this is no good...

```
y <- c(1, 2, NA, 4, 5)  
y == NA
```

```
[1] NA NA NA NA NA
```

```
y
```

```
[1] 1 2 NA 4 5
```

```
is.na(y)
```

```
[1] FALSE FALSE  TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

How can I remove the NA elements from the vector? I first need to flip the TRUE element.

```
!c(F,F,F)
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE
```

```
#y[is.na(y)]
```

```
y[!is.na(y)]
```

```
[1] 1 2 4 5
```

```
y[is.na(y)] <- 10000  
y
```

```
[1]      1      2 10000      4      5
```

Okay lets solve this:

```
x <- student3  
  
#Change NA values to ZERO  
x[is.na(x)] <- 0  
#find and remove min value and get mean  
mean(x[-which.min(x)])
```

```
[1] 12.85714
```

Last step now that I have my working code snippet is to make my `grade()` function.

```
grade <- function(x) {  
  #Change NA values to ZERO  
  x[is.na(x)] <- 0  
  #find and remove min value and get mean  
  mean(x[-which.min(x)])  
}
```

```
grade(student1)
```

```
[1] 100
```

```
grade(student2)
```

```
[1] 91
```

```
grade(student3)
```

```
[1] 12.85714
```

Q1. Write a function `grade()` to determine an overall grade from a vector of student homework assignment scores dropping the lowest single score. If a student misses a homework (i.e. has an NA value) this can be used as a score to be potentially dropped. Your final function should be adequately explained with code comments and be able to work on an example class gradebook such as this one in CSV format: <https://tinyurl.com/gradeinput> [3pts]

```
grade <- function(x) {  
  #Change NA values to ZERO  
  x[is.na(x)] <- 0  
  #find and remove min value and get mean  
  mean(x[-which.min(x)])  
}
```

```
grade(student1)
```

```
[1] 100
```

```
grade(student2)
```

```
[1] 91
```

```
grade(student3)
```

```
[1] 12.85714
```

Now read the online gradebook (CSV file)

```
url <- "https://tinyurl.com/gradeinput"
gradebook <- read.csv(url, row.names=1)

head(gradebook)
```

```
      hw1 hw2 hw3 hw4 hw5
student-1 100  73 100  88  79
student-2  85  64  78  89  78
student-3  83  69  77 100  77
student-4  88  NA  73 100  76
student-5  88 100  75  86  79
student-6  89  78 100  89  77
```

```
results <- apply(gradebook,1,grade)
results
```

```
      student-1 student-2 student-3 student-4 student-5 student-6 student-7
      91.75      82.50      84.25      84.25      88.25      89.00      94.00
student-8 student-9 student-10 student-11 student-12 student-13 student-14
      93.75      87.75      79.00      86.00      91.75      92.25      87.75
student-15 student-16 student-17 student-18 student-19 student-20
      78.75      89.50      88.00      94.50      82.75      82.75
```

Q2. Using your grade() function and the supplied gradebook, Who is the top scoring student overall in the gradebook? [3pts]

```
which.max(results)
```

```
student-18
18
```

Q3. From your analysis of the gradebook, which homework was toughest on students (i.e. obtained the lowest scores overall)? [2pts]

```
homework <- apply(gradebook, 2, sum, na.rm=T)
homework
```

```
hw1 hw2 hw3 hw4 hw5
1780 1456 1616 1703 1585
```

```
homework <- apply(gradebook, 2, sum, na.rm=T)
homework
```

```
hw1 hw2 hw3 hw4 hw5
1780 1456 1616 1703 1585
```

```
which.min(homework)
```

```
hw2
2
```

Q4. Optional Extension: From your analysis of the gradebook, which homework was most predictive of overall score (i.e. highest correlation with average grade score)? [1pt]

```
#Make all (or mask) NA to zero
mask <- gradebook
mask[is.na(mask)] <- 0
#mask
```

We can use `cor()` function for correlation analysis.

```
cor(mask$hw1, results)
```

```
[1] 0.4250204
```

```
cor(mask$hw5, results)
```

```
[1] 0.6325982
```

```
cor(mask$hw3, results)
```

```
[1] 0.3042561
```

```
cor(mask$hw2, results)
```

```
[1] 0.176778
```



```
cor(mask$hw4, results)
```

```
[1] 0.3810884
```

```
apply(mask, 2, cor, results)
```

	hw1	hw2	hw3	hw4	hw5
	0.4250204	0.1767780	0.3042561	0.3810884	0.6325982