

Introduction to for Biologists



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Introductions

Tutors

Course participants introductions



This course

- Aimed for **beginners** who never used R before.

Day 1	Day 2
Getting started	Data manipulation and visualisation with tidyverse
Introduction to R	
Starting with data	

Course Materials and Links

Online RStudio access link

TO COVER THIS MORNING

- RSTUDIO IDE
- CREATING PROJECTS & SCRIPTS
- VARIABLES
- FUNCTIONS
- DATA TYPES / DATA STRUCTURES
- VECTORS
- INDEXING



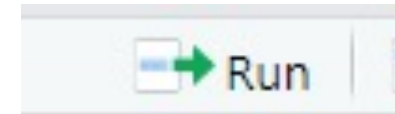
Why learn R?

- Run an R script with **one click/command**.



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vs



Rscript <name of file>



Why learn R?

- R promotes **Reproducibility**

Reproducibility is when someone else (including your future self) can obtain the same results from the same dataset when using the same analysis.

- Automating your analysis.
- Generate reports.



Why learn R?

- R is **interdisciplinary**
 - Over 10,000 packages that cover different fields
 - Bioconductor repository for bioinformatics packages

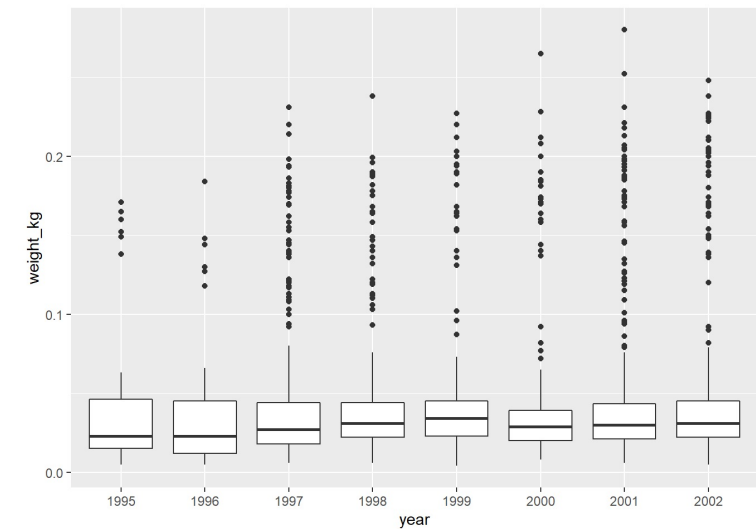
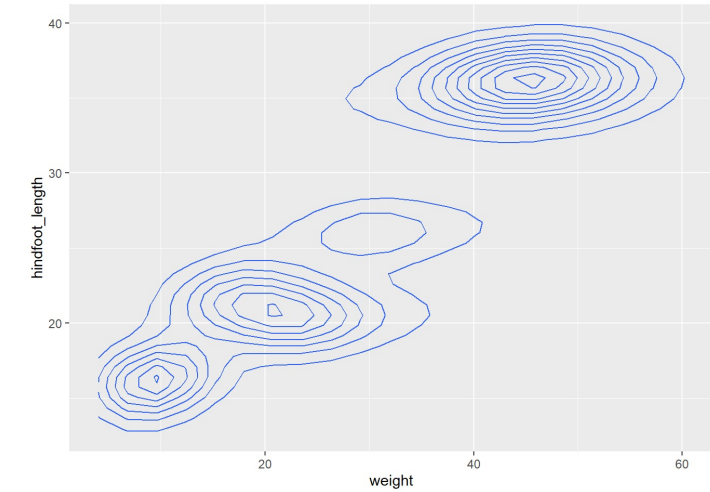
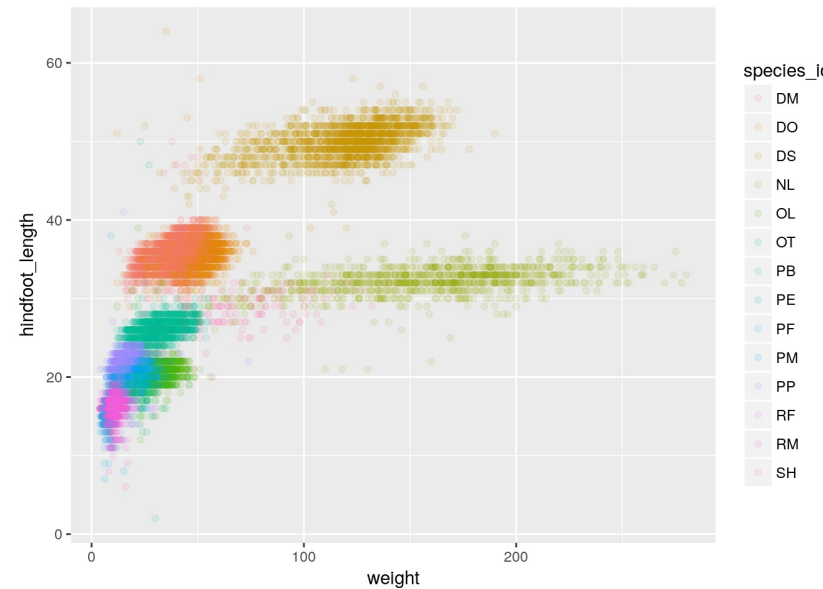
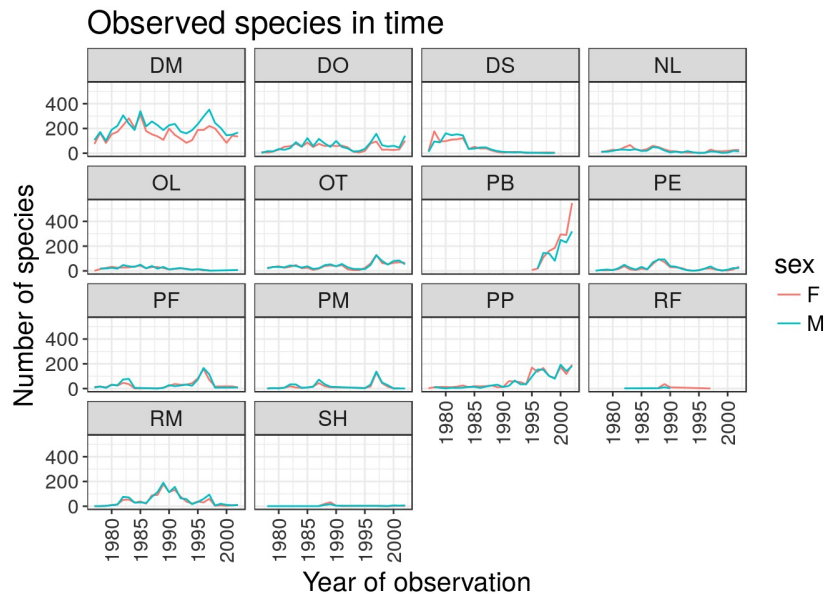


Why learn R?

- R works on data of different sizes

Why learn R?

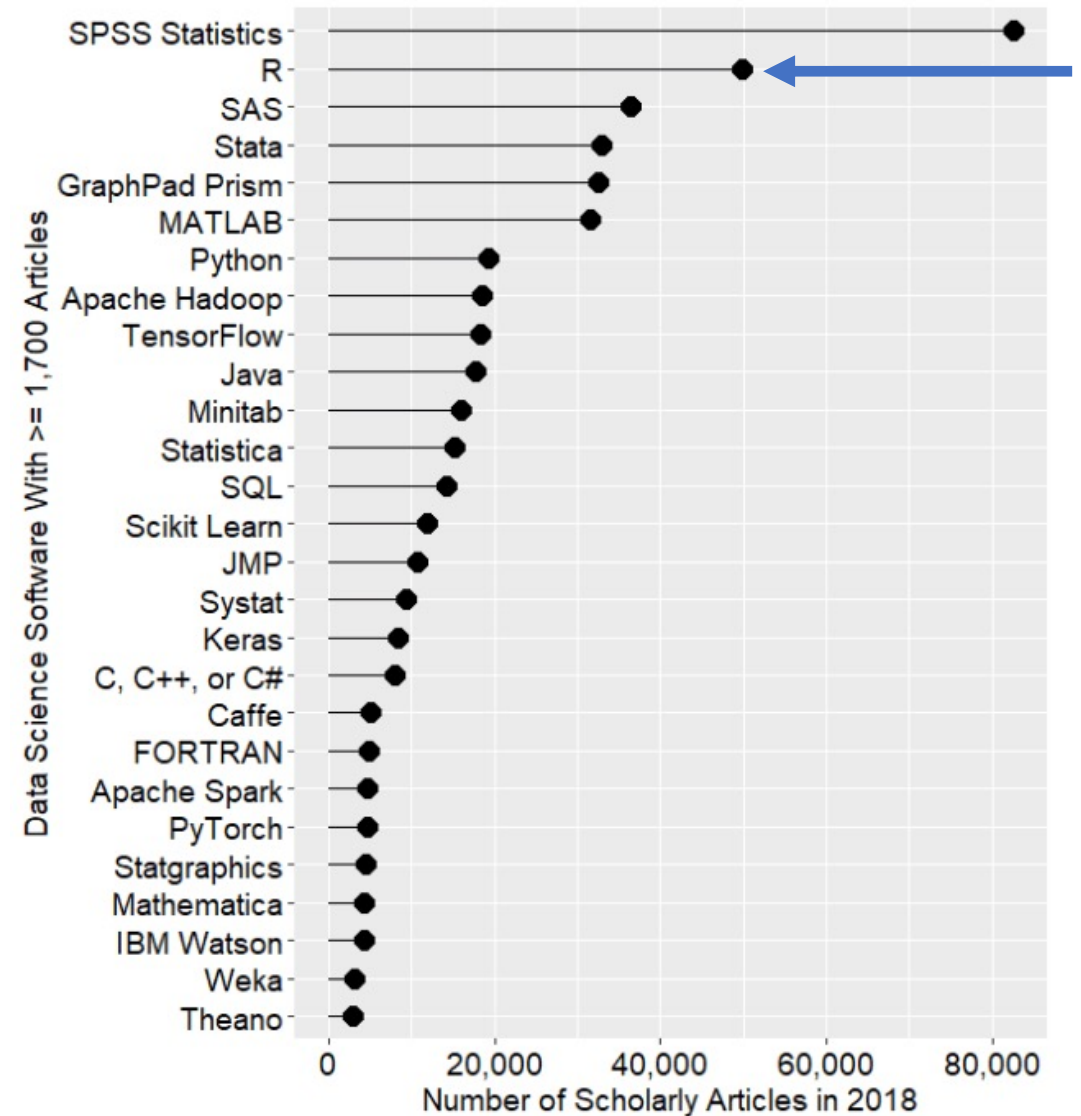
- R produces high-quality graphics.



Why learn R?

- R has a large and welcoming community
 - RStudio community
 - Local R User Groups (meetup)
 - R-Ladies
 - R-bloggers
 - The Carpentries
 - Stack Overflow
- Popular in Data Science

R tops other programming languages in academia





Why learn R?

- Free
- Open-source
- Cross-platform

RStudio

Let us start the action!

Rstudio IDE

The screenshot displays the RStudio IDE interface with three main panels:

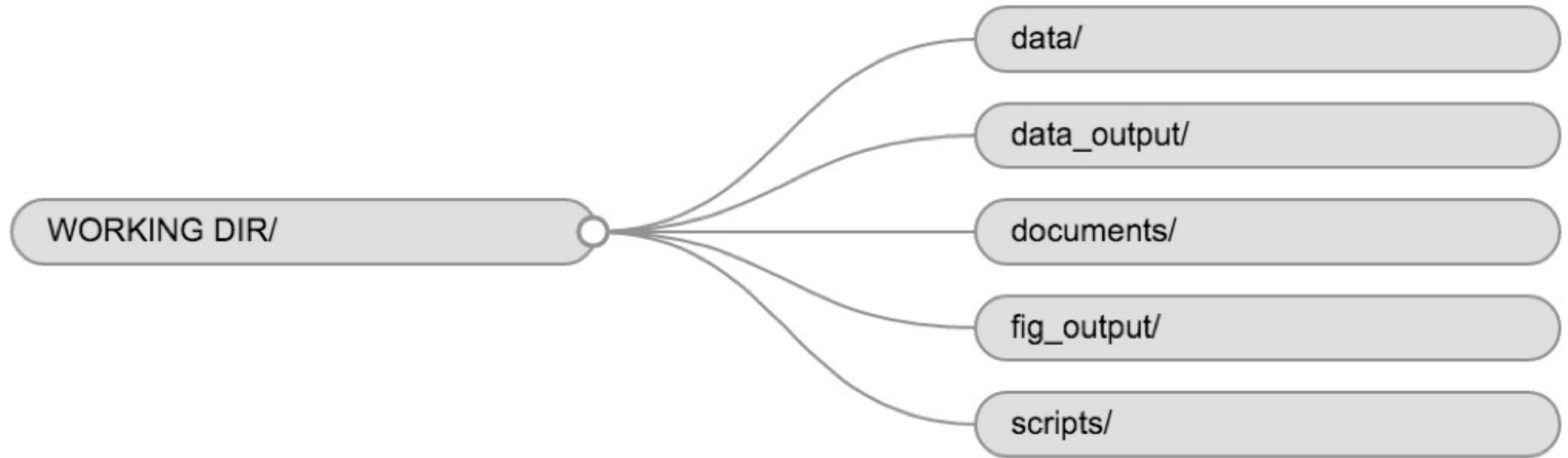
- R script:** The top-left panel shows R code for biomass calculation per tree. It includes data loading, variable assignment, and plotting functions. A label "R script" is overlaid on this panel.
- R console:** The bottom-left panel shows the execution of R commands. A label "R console" is overlaid on this panel.
- Graphical output:** The bottom-right panel displays a box plot titled "Biomass estimation per plot with different models". The y-axis is labeled "Biomass (Mg^{ha}⁻¹)" and ranges from 100 to 500. The plot shows the distribution of biomass for different models. A label "Graphical output" is overlaid on this panel.

The top-right panel shows the **Environment** window, which lists the objects in the R environment:

Object	Value
hil.trees	716 obs. of 23 variables
kal.plot	94 obs. of 18 variables
kalimantan	1993 obs. of 44 variables
lsi.plots	59 obs. of 19 variables

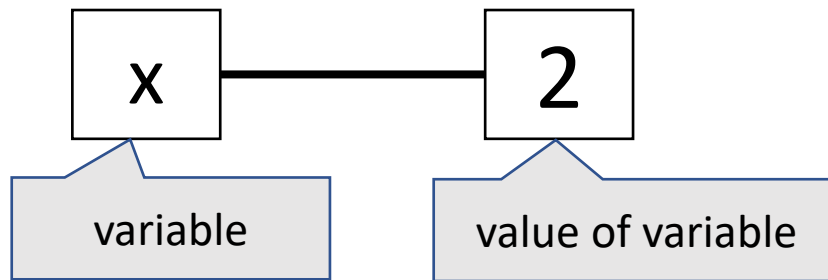
The label "R environment" is overlaid on the Environment window.

Working Directory



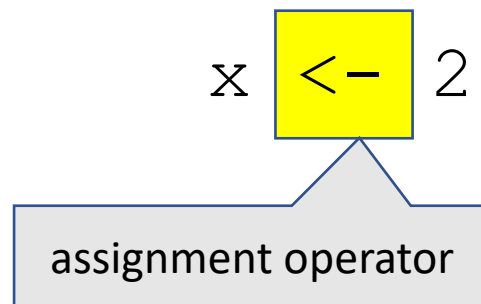
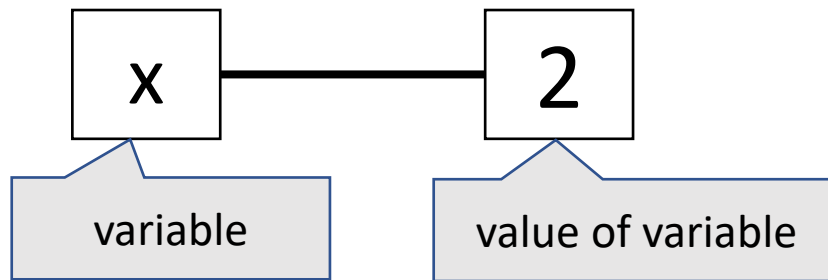
Variables

A variable is a letter or word that stores a value in it.



Variables

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Variable names

- Case-sensitive
- Do not start with numbers
- Not too long
- Some names cannot be used as they are [reserved](#)

e.g. `if <- 66` ❌

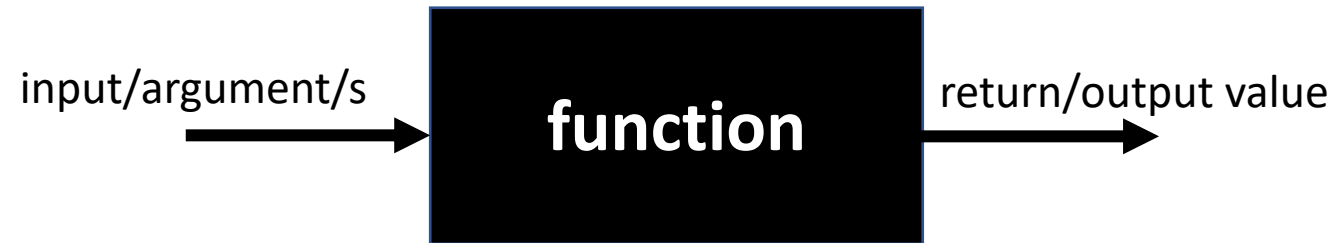
- Do not use function names
- Use nouns if using a word to represent a variable

e.g. `gene_id <- 12345` ✅

- Be consistent - [style guide](#)

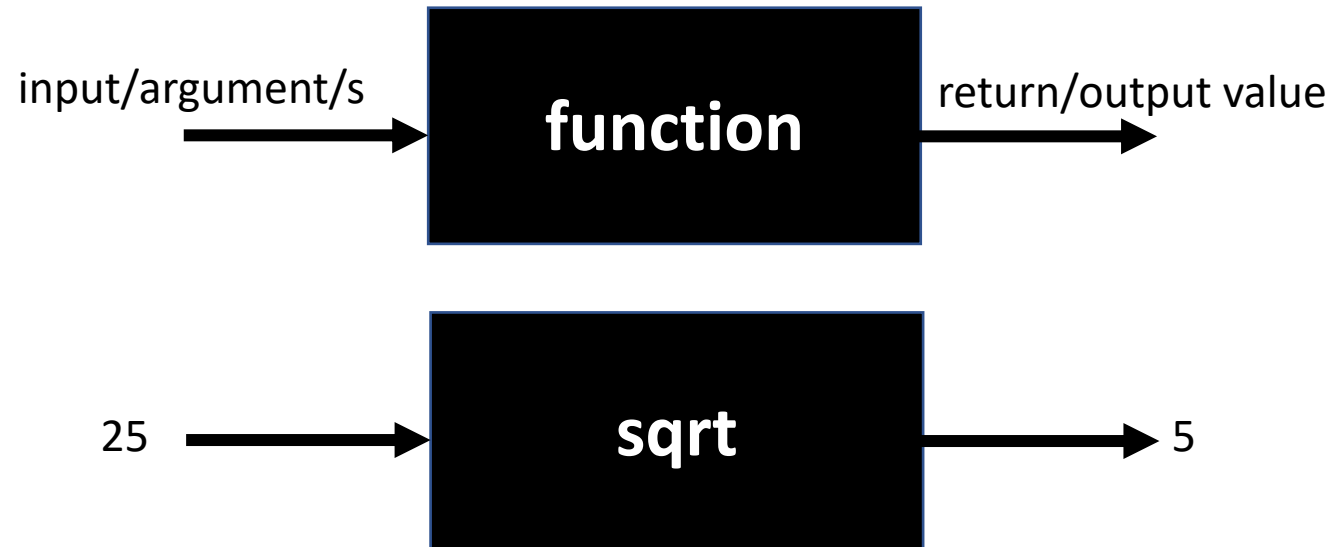
Calling functions

Functions execute a defined set of commands – automate a process



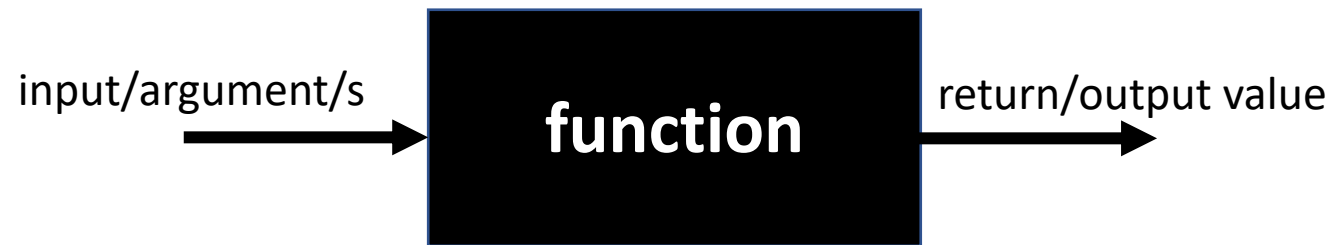
Calling functions

Functions execute a defined set of commands – automate a process



Calling functions

Functions execute a defined set of commands – automate a process



`sqrt(25)`

FUN QUIZ!

- What is temperature?

```
temperature <- 26.789
```

```
round (x = temperature, digits = 1)
```

- A. Variable
- B. Function
- C. Place holder

(Poll Question – Choose the right option!)

FUN QUIZ !

- What is the value of temperature after executing both lines of code?

```
temperature <- 26.789
```

```
round (x = temperature, digits = 1)
```

- A. 27
- B. 26.7
- C. 26.789
- D. 26.8

(Poll Question – Choose the right option!)

Data types

- **logical:** TRUE FALSE
- **integer:** whole numbers. *e.g.*, 40
- **double:** numbers with decimal points. *e.g.*, 2.666
- **character:** words or **strings**. *e.g.*, "Hello"

Data structures

- **vector**: list of items of the same data type. *e.g.*, 4, 6, 9, 12
- **factor**: categorical data (has to be a character vector). *e.g.*, Male, Female
- **data.frame**: contains tabular data – normally data is loaded into data.frame when reading in a file

Vector

- List of data types (must be same type)
- One-dimensional

4	12	7	9
---	----	---	---

`c(4, 12, 7, 9)`

Vector indices

1	2	3	4
4	12	7	9

Relational Operators

Used to compute a condition/comparisons:

==	equal
>	greater than
<	less than
>=	greater than or equal to
<=	less than or equal to
!=	not equal to

Logical operators

& and

| or

! not

AND &

- TRUE & TRUE results in TRUE
- TRUE & FALSE results in FALSE
- FALSE & TRUE results in FALSE
- FALSE & FALSE results in FALSE

OR |

- TRUE | TRUE results in TRUE
- TRUE | FALSE results in TRUE
- FALSE | TRUE results in TRUE
- FALSE | FALSE results in FALSE

NOT !

- `!TRUE` results in `FALSE`
- `!FALSE` results in `TRUE`

What we have learned so far

- How to create a Project in RStudio
- How to code and execute R code in RStudio
- Create variables *e.g.*, `weight <- 24`
- Data types: integer (11), double (11.01), character ("Hello"), logical (TRUE/FALSE)
- Calling functions *e.g.*, `sqrt(25)`
- Create vectors *e.g.*, `weight_mm <- c(22, 24, 10, 34)`
- Index vectors *e.g.*, `weight_mm[3]`
- Relational and Logical operators (& | ! == < > <= >= !=)
- Missing data NA