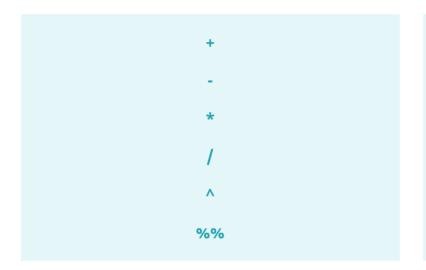
Acting On Variables

Plan for today

- Actions we perform on our objects
 - operators
 - functions
- Getting help when we need it

Operators

An **operator** is a simple calculation



addition
subtraction
multiplication
division
taking powers
modulus

Order of Operations

Important note: Order of operations matters!

```
(8-4)/2

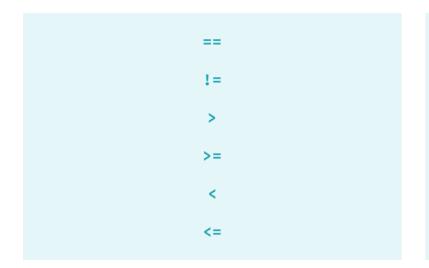
## [1] 2

8-(4/2)

## [1] 6
```

Logical Operators

Test whether a statement is TRUE or FALSE



equality
inequality
greater than
greater than or equal to
less than
less than or equal to

Logical Operators

Return a value of TRUE or FALSE

```
o empire$gender == "female"
```

Which Starwars character is more than 150 cm tall?

```
o empire$height > 150
```

Are any Starwars characters exactly 150cm tall?

```
o empire$height == 150
```

• WARNING: empire\$height = 150 will change your data!

Functions

- R is not *just* a calculator. You often want to do something more complex.
- To perform more complicated actions, we use *functions*
 - **functions** are commands that describe, manipulate, or analyze objects
 - Logical operators & functions are the verbs of programming languages
 - This is why we use R! No one wants to calculate a regression by hand...

Functions have 3 parts

Function name

• Each function has one and only one name

```
# The function name is `log`
log(10)
```

```
## [1] 2.302585
```

Functions have 3 parts

Arguments

- One argument is always specified -- the input; this is the object that the function acts on.
- Other arguments control *how* the function acts. For example, do you want the natural log? Or log base 10?
- Each function has defaults for it's arguments. You should know where to find these and how to change them.

```
# The argument here is the input, or `10`
log(10)
```

```
## [1] 2.302585
```

Functions have 3 parts

Output

- The output of a function can be *any* of the object types & and of any class or even a combination of these
- Outputs can be a single value, vector, data.frame, matrix, list, or a plot
- You can store the output by assigning it to another object!

```
# The output is `2.302` log(10)
```

[1] 2.302585

```
# If we want to store `2.302` for later
newObject <- log(10)

# Now print out what is contained in `newObject`
newObject</pre>
```

```
## [1] 2.302585
```

Mathematical functions

Some obvious ones:

- sqrt() square root
- round() rounding a number
- log() logarithm
- exp() exponentiation
- abs() absolute value

Example:

```
sqrt(85)
```

[1] 9.219544

Functions you'll use a lot!

```
c() - combine or concatenate
length() - find out how long a vector is (this is the same as getting the last
position)
factor() - change a character vector into a factor vector (is there meaning? Ex:
treatment vs. control, male vs. female, session 1 vs. session 2 etc.)
table() - really nice for getting quick counts (ex: how many males and females
are there?)
cbind() and rbind() - add a vector to an existing data.frame. cbind() adds a
new column. rbind() adds a new row
```

Multiple arguments

Most functions take more than 1 argument (more than just the input object).

Separate these arguments with commas,

```
round(x = 5.86921, digits = 3)
## [1] 5.869
```

Arguments have names

Use the argument names!

```
# perfect
round(x = 5.86921, digits = 3)

## [1] 5.869

# also perfect
round(digits = 3, x = 5.86921)

## [1] 5.869
```

Arguments have names

Use the argument names!

```
# right answer bc right order
round(5.86921, 3)

## [1] 5.869

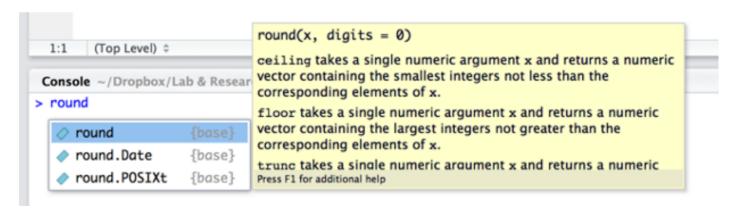
# wrong answer bc wrong order
round(3, 5.86921)

## [1] 3
```

Great, but how do I know what the arguments are for a function?

Two ways:

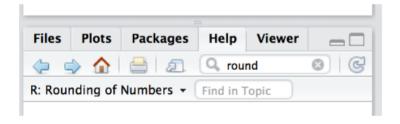
1. In RStudio, press the **tab** key to see the names of arguments and descriptions. (note, this might not work in the online practice assignments, but it should definitely work when running RStudio locally)



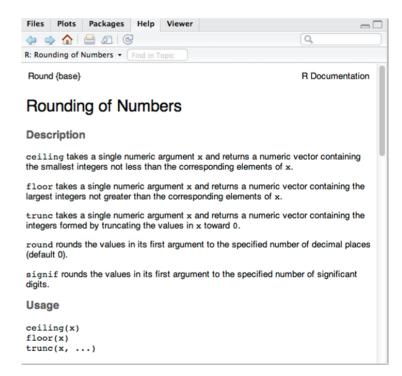
2. Look in the R Documentation

Looking at the documentation for help

Go to the help tab



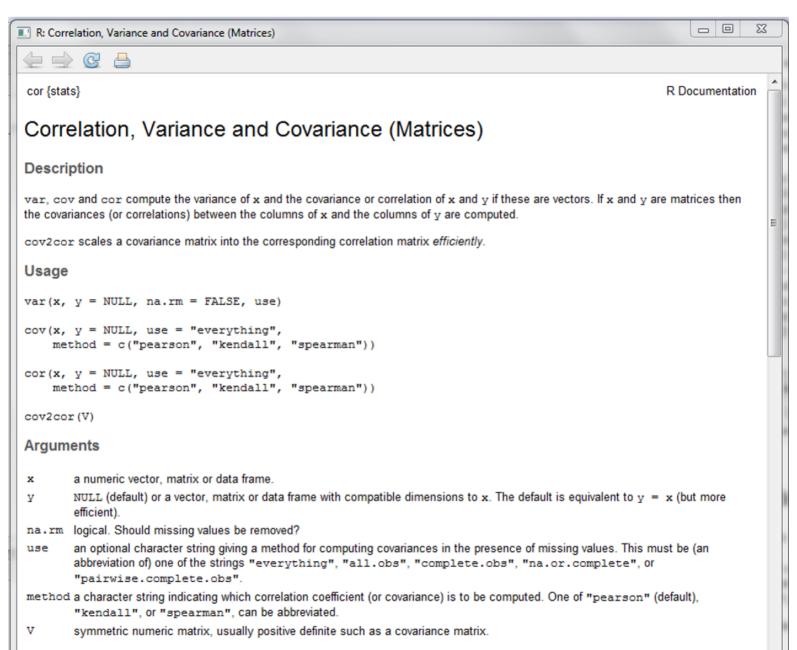
Or type ?round into the console



Breakdown of help documentation

Try typing code to look up the R documentation for the correlation function, which is called cor.

This will be the example we use.



cor {stats}

Correlation, Variance and Covariance (Matrices)

Description

var, cov and cor compute the variance of x and the covariance or correlation of x and y if these are vectors. If x and y are matrices then the covariances (or correlations) between the columns of x and the columns of y are computed.

cov2cor scales a covariance matrix into the corresponding correlation matrix efficiently.

```
Var(x, y = NULL, na.rm = FALSE, use)

cov(x, y = NULL, use = "everything",
    method = c("pearson", "kendall", "spearman"))

cor(x, y = NULL, use = "everything",
    method = c("pearson", "kendall", "spearman"))

cov2cor(V)
```

Arguments

- x a numeric vector, matrix or data frame.
- y NULL (default) or a vector, matrix or data frame with compatible dimensions to x. The default is equivalent to y = x (but more efficient).
- na.rm logical. Should missing values be removed?
- an optional character string giving a method for computing covariances in the presence of missing values. This must be (an abbreviation of) one of the strings "everything", "all.obs", "complete.obs", "na.or.complete", or "pairwise.complete.obs".
- method a character string indicating which correlation coefficient (or covariance) is to be computed. One of "pearson" (default), "kendall", or "spearman", can be abbreviated.
- v symmetric numeric matrix, usually positive definite such as a covariance matrix.

Details

For cov and cor one must either give a matrix or data frame for x or give both x and y.

The inputs must be numeric (as determined by is.numeric: logical values are also allowed for historical compatibility): the "kendall" and "spearman" methods make sense for ordered inputs but xtfrm can be used to find a suitable prior transformation to numbers.

Value

For $r \leftarrow cor(*, use = "all.obs")$, it is now guaranteed that all $(r \leftarrow 1)$.

Examples

```
var(1:10) # 9.166667

var(1:5, 1:5) # 2.5

## Two simple vectors
cor(1:10, 2:11) # == 1

## Correlation Matrix of Multivariate sample:
(Cl <- cor(longley))
## Graphical Correlation Matrix:
symnum(Cl) # highly correlated</pre>
```

All together

Logical operators evaluate TRUE or FALSE

- In data\$gender == "female" the == is the logical operator
- However, gender == "female" doesn't work! R doesn't know where to look!

Indexing allows you to get a subset of your data

- For a 2-dimensional data.frame, data[rows, columns]
- If you want *all* the rows, data[,columns] (& vice versa)

COMBINING THESE is powerful!

- data[data\$gender == "female",] is correct!
- data[gender == "female"] is incorrect! Can you find the 2 reasons why?

Note: we will go through other ways of doing this; but understanding the logic is really, really important!