# **Functions and tidy evaluation**

# Solveig Senf

Based on Chapter 25 from R for Data Science

You can download this .qmd file from here. Just hit the Download Raw File button.

# Introduction (from Ch 25 of R4DS)

One of the best ways to improve your reach as a data scientist is to write functions. Functions allow you to automate common tasks in a more powerful and general way than copy-and-pasting. Writing a function has four big advantages over using copy-and-paste:

- You can give a function an evocative name that makes your code easier to understand.
- As requirements change, you only need to update code in one place, instead of many.
- You eliminate the chance of making incidental mistakes when you copy and paste (i.e. updating a variable name in one place, but not in another).
- It makes it easier to reuse work from project-to-project, increasing your productivity over time.

A good rule of thumb is to consider writing a function whenever you've copied and pasted a block of code more than twice (i.e. you now have three copies of the same code). We'll learn about three useful types of functions:

- Vector functions take one or more vectors as input and return a vector as output.
- Data frame functions take a data frame as input and return a data frame as output.
- Plot functions that take a data frame as input and return a plot as output.

```
# Initial packages required (we'll be adding more)
library(tidyverse)
library(nycflights13)
library(dplyr)
```

**Do not Repeat Yourself**: Also known as DRY, if you copy or paste code more than twice, you should write a function instead.

When writing a function, it is usually best to start with the code you know works for one instance, and then "function-ize" it.

### **Vector functions**

# Example 1: Rescale variables from 0 to 1.

This code creates a  $10 \times 4$  tibble filled with random values taken from a normal distribution with mean 0 and SD 1

```
df <- tibble(
    a = rnorm(10),
    b = rnorm(10),
    c = rnorm(10),
    d = rnorm(10)
)</pre>
```

```
# A tibble: 10 x 4
        a
               b
                      С
                             d
    <dbl>
           <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 -0.0256 1.86
                  0.300 - 0.450
2 -1.21
          -1.19
                  1.45 -0.897
3 0.0963 -1.13
                  0.158 0.453
4 -1.96
           0.416 2.29
                         0.209
           0.781 1.71
5 -0.887
                         0.629
6 - 0.466
           0.971 0.134 2.06
7 -0.700
           1.41 -0.303 0.196
8 0.106
           0.835 1.40 -2.37
9 1.05
          -1.94 -0.185 0.610
10 1.25
           1.17 -0.586 -0.599
```

This code below for rescaling variables from 0 to 1 is ripe for functions... we did it four times!

It's easiest to start with working code and turn it into a function.

```
df$a <- (df$a - min(df$a)) / (max(df$a) - min(df$a))
df$b <- (df$b - min(df$b)) / (max(df$b) - min(df$b))
df$c <- (df$c - min(df$c)) / (max(df$c) - min(df$c))
df$d <- (df$d - min(df$d)) / (max(df$d) - min(df$d))
df</pre>
```

```
# A tibble: 10 x 4
            b
       а
                    С
   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 0.603 1
              0.308 0.433
2 0.233 0.198 0.708 0.332
3 0.641 0.214 0.259 0.637
        0.620 1
                     0.582
5 0.334 0.716 0.797 0.677
6 0.466 0.766 0.250 1
7 0.393 0.882 0.0983 0.579
8 0.644 0.730 0.691 0
9 0.939 0 0.139 0.673
10 1
        0.819 0
                     0.400
```

Notice first what changes and what stays the same in each line. Then, if we look at the first line above, we see we have one value we're using over and over: df\$a. So our function will have one input. We'll start with our code from that line, then replace the input (df\$a) with x. We should give our function a name that explains what it does. The name should be a verb.

```
# I'm going to show you how to write the function in class!
# I have it in the code already below, but don't look yet!
# Let's try to write it together first!
```

. . . . . . . . .

```
# Our function (first draft!)
rescale01 <- function(x) {
   (x - min(x)) / (max(x) - min(x))
}</pre>
```

Note the **general form of a function**:

```
name <- function(arguments) {
  body
}</pre>
```

Every function contains 3 essential components:

- 1. A name. The name should clearly evoke what the function does; hence, it is often a verb (action). Here we'll use rescale01 because this function rescales a vector to lie between 0 and 1. snake\_case is good; CamelCase is just okay.
- 2. The **arguments**. The arguments are things that vary across calls and they are usually nouns first the data, then other details. Our analysis above tells us that we have just one; we'll call it x because this is the conventional name for a numeric vector, but you can use any word.
- 3. The **body**. The body is the code that's repeated across all the calls. By default a function will return the last statement; use **return()** to specify a return value

**Summary:** Functions should be written for both humans and computers!

Once we have written a function we like, then we need to test it with different inputs!

```
temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9)
rescaleO1(temp)
```

[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0

```
temp0 <- c(4, 6, 8, 9, NA)
rescale01(temp0)
```

[1] NA NA NA NA NA

OK, so NA's don't work the way we want them to.

```
rescale01 <- function(x) {
  (x - min(x, na.rm = TRUE)) / (max(x, na.rm = TRUE) - min(x, na.rm = TRUE))
}
rescale01(temp)</pre>
```

[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0

```
rescale01(temp0)
```

```
[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0 NA
```

We can continue to improve our function. Here is another method, which uses the existing range function within R to avoid 3 max/min executions:

```
rescale01 <- function(x) {
   rng <- range(x, na.rm = TRUE)
     (x - rng[1]) / (rng[2] - rng[1])
}
rescale01(temp)

[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0

rescale01(c(0, 5, 10))

[1] 0.0 0.5 1.0

rescale01(c(-10, 0, 10))</pre>
```

```
[1] 0.00 0.25 0.50 NA 1.00
```

rescale01(c(1, 2, 3, NA, 5))

We should continue testing unusual inputs. Think carefully about how you want this function to behave... the current behavior is to include the Inf (infinity) value when calculating the range. You get strange output everywhere, but it's pretty clear that there is a problem right away when you use the function. In the example below (rescale1), you ignore the infinity value when calculating the range. The function returns Inf for one value, and sensible stuff for the rest. In many cases this may be useful, but it could also hide a problem until you get deeper into an analysis.

```
x <- c(1:10, Inf)
rescale01(x)
```

[1] 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 NaN

```
rescale1 <- function(x) {
  rng <- range(x, na.rm = TRUE, finite = TRUE)
  (x - rng[1]) / (rng[2] - rng[1])
}
rescale1(x)</pre>
```

```
[1] 0.0000000 0.1111111 0.2222222 0.3333333 0.4444444 0.5555556 0.6666667 [8] 0.7777778 0.8888889 1.0000000 Inf
```

Now we've used functions to simplify original example. We will learn to simplify further in iterations (Ch 26)

```
df <- tibble(</pre>
 a = rnorm(10),
 b = rnorm(10),
 c = rnorm(10),
 d = rnorm(10)
)
# add a little noise
df$a[5] = NA
df$b[6] = Inf
# A tibble: 10 x 4
        a b
                   С
    <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                          <dbl>
1 0.0221 0.973 0.411 -0.835
2 0.442 -1.25 -1.70
                       0.196
3 -0.0110 -1.74 0.186 -0.368
          0.667 -1.39 0.290
4 1.56
5 NA
          0.278 0.558 0.0941
6 -0.106 Inf
                -0.785 -1.03
7 -1.36 -0.611 -0.624 -0.254
8 -1.75 -0.266 -0.798 0.0525
9 0.0883 -0.201 0.294 -0.990
df$a_new <- rescale1(df$a)</pre>
df$b_new <- rescale1(df$b)</pre>
df$c_new <- rescale1(df$c)</pre>
df$d_new <- rescale1(df$d)</pre>
df
# A tibble: 10 x 8
                             d a_new b_new c_new d_new
                      С
    <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                          <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
```

1 0.0221 0.973 0.411 -0.835 0.536 1 0.935 0.147

```
0.181 0 0.929
2 0.442 -1.25 -1.70 0.196 0.662
3 -0.0110 -1.74 0.186 -0.368 0.526 0 0.835 0.501
4 1.56
        0.667 -1.39 0.290
                                 0.887 0.137 1
                          1
5 NA
          0.278 0.558 0.0941 NA
                                 0.744 1
                                        0.851
6 -0.106 Inf -0.785 -1.03
                           0.497 Inf 0.405 0
7 -1.36 -0.611 -0.624 -0.254
                           8 -1.75 -0.266 -0.798 0.0525 0 0.544 0.399 0.820
9 0.0883 -0.201 0.294 -0.990 0.556 0.567 0.883 0.0291
df |>
 select(1:4) |>
 mutate(a_new = rescale1(a),
      b_new = rescale1(b),
      c_new = rescale1(c),
      d_new = rescale1(d))
# A tibble: 10 x 8
      a b c d a new b new c new d new
   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
1 0.0221 0.973 0.411 -0.835 0.536 1 0.935 0.147
2 0.442 -1.25 -1.70 0.196 0.662 0.181 0 0.929
3 -0.0110 -1.74 0.186 -0.368
                         0.526 0
                                    0.835 0.501
4 1.56
        0.667 -1.39 0.290 1
                                 0.887 0.137 1
        0.278 0.558 0.0941 NA
                                 0.744 1 0.851
5 NA
6 -0.106 Inf -0.785 -1.03 0.497 Inf
                                    0.405 0
7 -1.36 -0.611 -0.624 -0.254 0.118 0.416 0.477 0.587
8 -1.75 -0.266 -0.798 0.0525 0 0.544 0.399 0.820
9 0.0883 -0.201 0.294 -0.990 0.556 0.567 0.883 0.0291
# Even better - from Chapter 26
df |>
select(1:4) |>
mutate(across(a:d, rescale1, .names = "{.col}_new"))
# A tibble: 10 x 8
               c d a_new b_new c_new d_new
                     <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 0.0221 0.973 0.411 -0.835 0.536 1 0.935 0.147
2 0.442 -1.25 -1.70 0.196 0.662 0.181 0 0.929
```

```
3 -0.0110
           -1.74
                    0.186 - 0.368
                                    0.526
                                                  0.835 0.501
  1.56
             0.667 - 1.39
                            0.290
                                    1
                                            0.887 0.137 1
5 NA
             0.278 0.558 0.0941 NA
                                            0.744 1
                                                         0.851
6 -0.106
                   -0.785 -1.03
                                                  0.405 0
           Inf
                                    0.497 Inf
7 - 1.36
            -0.611 -0.624 -0.254
                                    0.118
                                            0.416 0.477 0.587
            -0.266 -0.798 0.0525
                                            0.544 0.399 0.820
8 - 1.75
9 0.0883
            -0.201 0.294 -0.990
                                    0.556
                                            0.567 0.883 0.0291
10 -0.128
             0.899 -0.945 -0.717
                                    0.490
                                            0.973 0.335 0.236
```

## Options for handling NAs in functions

Before we try some practice problems, let's consider various options for handling NAs in functions. We used the na.rm option within functions like min, max, and range in order to take care of missing values. But there are alternative approaches:

- filter/remove the NA values before rescaling
- create an if statement to check if there are NAs; return an error if NAs exist
- create a removeNAs option in the function we are creating

Let's take a look at each alternative approach in turn:

# Filter/remove the NA values before rescaling

```
df <- tibble(
    a = rnorm(10),
    b = rnorm(10),
    c = rnorm(10),
    d = rnorm(10)
)
df$a[5] = NA
df</pre>
```

```
# A tibble: 10 x 4
         a
                  b
                                  d
                          С
     <dbl>
             <dbl>
                      <dbl>
                             <dbl>
  2.58
           -3.21
                    -1.08
                            -0.180
2 - 0.834
            0.479
                     1.06
                             -0.855
   1.04
            0.767
                     0.0946 - 1.68
4 0.0514 0.808
                     0.844
                              0.350
5 NA
           -1.93
                    -0.120
                            -0.436
6 1.06
            0.731
                     1.49
                              0.955
```

```
7 1.04 -0.569 -0.0815 -0.726
8 0.510 0.910 0.313 -1.37
9 1.16 0.0847 -1.48 -0.592
10 0.821 1.99 -0.790 -0.353
```

```
rescale_basic <- function(x) {
   (x - min(x)) / (max(x) - min(x))
}

df |>
  filter(!is.na(a)) |>
  mutate(new_a = rescale_basic(a))
```

```
# A tibble: 9 x 5
                            d new_a
       a
                      С
   <dbl>
          <dbl>
                  <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
               -1.08
                       -0.180 1
1 2.58
        -3.21
2 -0.834
         0.479
                 1.06
                       -0.855 0
3 1.04
         0.767 0.0946 -1.68 0.548
4 0.0514 0.808 0.844 0.350 0.259
5 1.06
         0.731 1.49
                        0.955 0.556
6 1.04 -0.569 -0.0815 -0.726 0.550
7 0.510 0.910 0.313 -1.37 0.394
8 1.16
         0.0847 -1.48 -0.592 0.583
9 0.821
         1.99
                -0.790 -0.353 0.485
```

[Pause to Ponder:] Do you notice anything in the output above that gives you pause? The function removes the entire row that contains the NA value.

# Create an if statement to check if there are NAs; return an error if NAs exist

First, here's an example involving weighted means:

```
# Create function to calculate weighted mean
wt_mean <- function(x, w) {
   sum(x * w) / sum(w)
}
wt_mean(c(1, 10), c(1/3, 2/3))</pre>
```

[1] 7

```
wt_mean(1:6, 1:3)
```

#### [1] 7.666667

[Pause to Ponder:] Why is the answer to the last call above 7.67? Aren't we taking a weighted mean of 1-6, all of which are below 7?

R is recycling the weights 1:3 twice because there are twice as many values to be averaged than there are weights.

```
# update function to handle cases where data and weights of unequal length
wt_mean <- function(x, w) {
   if (length(x) != length(w)) {
      stop("`x` and `w` must be the same length", call. = FALSE)
   } else {
   sum(w * x) / sum(w)
   }
}
wt_mean(1:6, 1:3)</pre>
```

Error: `x` and `w` must be the same length

```
# should produce an error now if weights and data different lengths
# - nice example of if and else
```

[Pause to Ponder:] What does the call. option do?

call. determines whether or not to display the function that is causing the error. In this example, when call. = TRUE, R prints "Error in wt\_mean(1:6, 1:3)" and the warning message.

Now let's apply this to our rescaling function

```
rescale_w_error <- function(x) {
   if (is.na(sum(x))) {
      stop("`x` cannot have NAs", call. = FALSE)
   } else {
      (x - min(x)) / (max(x) - min(x))
   }
}

temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9)
rescale_w_error(temp)</pre>
```

```
[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0
```

```
temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9, NA)
rescale_w_error(temp)</pre>
```

Error: `x` cannot have NAs

[Pause to Ponder:] Why can't we just use if (is.na(x)) instead of is.na(sum(x))? if(is.na(x)) prints a vector with TRUE/FALSE values for each value in the original vector, whereas is.na(sum(x)) displays the total number of values that are NAs.

## Create a removeNAs option in the function we are creating

```
rescale_NAoption <- function(x, removeNAs = FALSE) {
  (x - min(x, na.rm = removeNAs)) /
     (max(x, na.rm = removeNAs) - min(x, na.rm = removeNAs))
}
temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9)
rescale_NAoption(temp)</pre>
```

[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0

```
temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9, NA)
rescale_NAoption(temp, removeNAs = TRUE)</pre>
```

[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0 NA

OK, but all the other summary stats functions use na.rm as the input, so to be consistent, it's probably better to do something slightly awkward like this:

```
rescale_NAoption <- function(x, na.rm = FALSE) {
   (x - min(x, na.rm = na.rm)) /
      (max(x, na.rm = na.rm) - min(x, na.rm = na.rm))
}
temp <- c(4, 6, 8, 9, NA)
rescale_NAoption(temp, na.rm = TRUE)</pre>
```

```
[1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.0 NA
```

wt\_mean() is an example of a "summary function (single value output) instead of a "mutate function" (vector output) like rescale01(). Here's another summary function to produce the mean absolute percentage error:

```
mape <- function(actual, predicted) {
   sum(abs((actual - predicted) / actual)) / length(actual)
}

y <- c(2,6,3,8,5)
yhat <- c(2.5, 5.1, 4.4, 7.8, 6.1)
mape(actual = y, predicted = yhat)</pre>
```

[1] 0.2223333

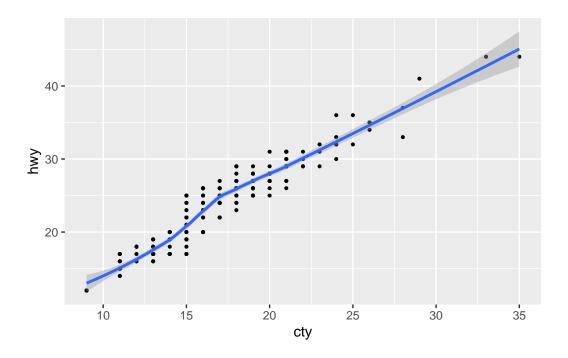
## **Data frame functions**

These work like dplyr verbs, taking a data frame as the first argument, and then returning a data frame or a vector.

# Demonstration of tidy evaluation in functions

```
# Start with working code then functionize
ggplot(data = mpg, mapping = aes(x = cty, y = hwy)) +
  geom_point(size = 0.75) +
  geom_smooth()
```

'geom\_smooth()' using method = 'loess' and formula = 'y ~ x'



```
make_plot <- function(dataset, xvar, yvar, pt_size = 0.75) {
   ggplot(data = dataset, mapping = aes(x = xvar, y = yvar)) +
      geom_point(size = pt_size) +
      geom_smooth()
}

make_plot(dataset = mpg, xvar = cty, yvar = hwy) # Error!</pre>
```

```
Error in `geom_point()`:
! Problem while computing aesthetics.
i Error occurred in the 1st layer.
Caused by error:
! object 'cty' not found
```

The problem is tidy evaluation, which makes most common coding easier, but makes some less common things harder. Key terms to understand tidy evaluation:

- env-variables = live in the environment (mpg)
- data-variables = live in data frame or tibble (cty)
- data masking = tidyverse use data-variables as if they are env-variables. That is, you don't always need mpg\$cty to access cty in tidyverse

The key idea behind data masking is that it blurs the line between the two different meanings of the word "variable":

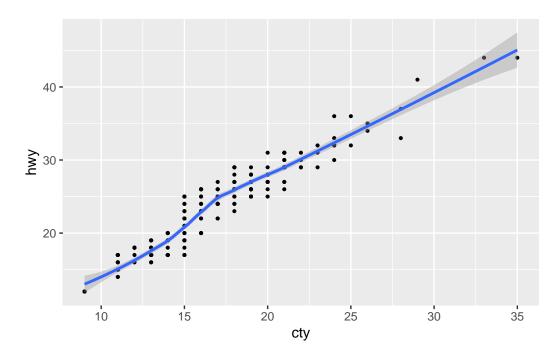
- $\bullet$  env-variables are "programming" variables that live in an environment. They are usually created with <-.
- data-variables are "statistical" variables that live in a data frame. They usually come from data files (e.g. .csv, .xls), or are created manipulating existing variables.

The solution is to embrace {{ }} data-variables which are user inputs into functions. One way to remember what's happening, as suggested by our book authors, is to think of {{ }} as looking down a tunnel — {{ var }} will make a dplyr function look inside of var rather than looking for a variable called var. Thus, embracing a variable tells dplyr to use the value stored inside the argument, not the argument as the literal variable name.

See Section 25.3 of R4DS for more details (and there are plenty!).

```
# This will work to make our plot!
make_plot <- function(dataset, xvar, yvar, pt_size = 0.75) {
   ggplot(data = dataset, mapping = aes(x = {{ xvar }}, y = {{ yvar }})) +
        geom_point(size = pt_size) +
        geom_smooth()
}
make_plot(dataset = mpg, xvar = cty, yvar = hwy)</pre>
```

<sup>`</sup>geom\_smooth()` using method = 'loess' and formula = 'y ~ x'



I often wish it were easier to get my own custom summary statistics for numeric variables in EDA rather than using mosaic::favstats(). Using group\_by() and summarise() from the tidyverse reads clearly but takes so many lines, but if I only had to write the code once...

```
summary6 <- function(data, var) {
  data |> summarize(
    mean = mean({{ var }}, na.rm = TRUE),
    median = median({{ var }}, na.rm = TRUE),
    sd = sd({{ var }}, na.rm = TRUE),
    IQR = IQR({{ var }}, na.rm = TRUE),
    n = n(),
    n_miss = sum(is.na({{ var }})),
    .groups = "drop"  # to leave the data in an ungrouped state
  )
}
mpg |> summary6(hwy)
```

Even cooler, I can use my new function with group\_by()!

```
mpg |>
  group_by(drv) |>
  summary6(hwy)
# A tibble: 3 x 7
         mean median
  drv
                               IQR
                                        n n_miss
                          sd
  <chr> <dbl>
                <dbl> <dbl> <int>
                                           <int>
1 4
         19.2
                   18
                       4.08
                                 5
                                      103
                                               0
2 f
                                               0
         28.2
                   28
                       4.21
                                 3
                                      106
3 r
         21
                   21
                       3.66
                                 7
                                       25
                                               0
```

You can even pass conditions into a function using the embrace:

[Pause to Ponder:] Predict what the code below will do, and (only) then run it to check. Think about: why do we have sort = sort? why not embrace df? why didn't we need n in the arguments?

This code will produce a tibble that only contains certain car manufactures, counts the number of observations in the defined variable (manufacturer), sorts them numerically from most to least, and makes a column that is the number of observations of each manufacture divided by the total observations. We need sort = sort because it tells R where to place the sort (numerically by count vs alphabetically by filter). df is already an env-variable so we don't need to embrace it. We don't need to define n because it was created by the count function.

```
"honda",
"hyundai",
"nissan",
"subaru",
"toyota",
"volkswagen")
```

# Data-masking vs. tidy-selection (Section 25.3.4)

Why doesn't the following code work?

```
count_missing <- function(df, group_vars, x_var) {
   df |>
      group_by({{ group_vars }}) |>
      summarize(
      n_miss = sum(is.na({{ x_var }})),
      .groups = "drop"
   )
}

flights |>
   count_missing(c(year, month, day), dep_time)
```

```
Error in `group_by()`:
i In argument: `c(year, month, day)`.
Caused by error:
! `c(year, month, day)` must be size 336776 or 1, not 1010328.
```

The problem is that <code>group\_by()</code> uses data-masking rather than tidy-selection; it is selecting certain variables rather than evaluating values of those variables. These are the two most common subtypes of tidy evaluation:

- Data-masking is used in functions like arrange(), filter(), mutate(), and summarize() that compute with variables. Data masking is an R feature that blends programming variables that live inside environments (env-variables) with statistical variables stored in data frames (data-variables).
- Tidy-selection is used for functions like select(), relocate(), and rename() that select variables. Tidy selection provides a concise dialect of R for selecting variables based on their names or properties.

More detail can be found here.

The error above can be solved by using the pick() function, which uses tidy selection inside of data masking:

```
count_missing <- function(df, group_vars, x_var) {
   df |>
      group_by(pick({{ group_vars }})) |>
      summarize(
        n_miss = sum(is.na({{ x_var }})),
        .groups = "drop"
   )
}

flights |>
   count_missing(c(year, month, day), dep_time)
```

```
# A tibble: 365 x 4
    year month
                 day n_miss
   <int> <int> <int>
                       <int>
1 2013
             1
                    1
                           4
2 2013
             1
                    2
                           8
3 2013
             1
                    3
                          10
4 2013
                    4
                           6
             1
5 2013
                    5
                           3
             1
6 2013
             1
                    6
                           1
7 2013
             1
                    7
                           3
8
   2013
             1
                    8
                           4
                    9
                           5
9 2013
             1
10 2013
             1
                   10
                           3
# i 355 more rows
```

[Pause to Ponder:] Here's another nice use of pick(). Predict what the function will do, then run the code to see if you are correct.

This function will count the number of unique combinations of manufacturers and models. Then, it will name the columns by number of cylinders and the values will be number of observations in that unique combination of manufacturer and model Then it wil sort the names alphabetically and fill missing values with 0.

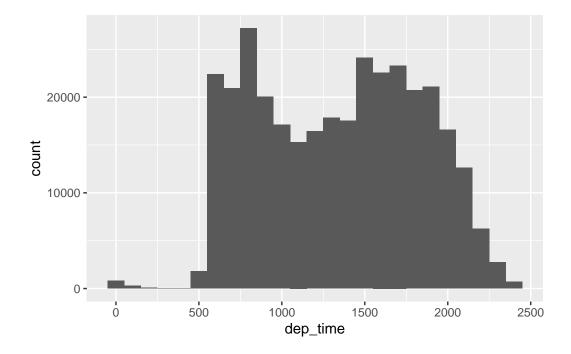
```
# Source: https://twitter.com/pollicipes/status/1571606508944719876
new_function <- function(data, rows, cols) {</pre>
```

```
data |>
    count(pick(c({{ rows }}, {{ cols }}))) |>
    pivot_wider(
        names_from = {{ cols }},
        values_from = n,
        names_sort = TRUE,
        values_fill = 0
    )
}
mpg |> new_function(c(manufacturer, model), cyl)
```

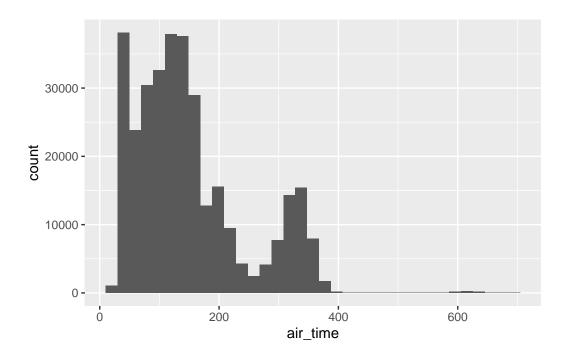
# **Plot functions**

Let's say you find yourself making a lot of histograms:

```
flights |>
  ggplot(aes(x = dep_time)) +
  geom_histogram(bins = 25)
```

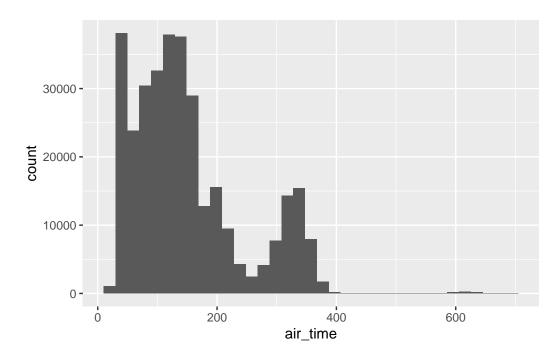


```
flights |>
  ggplot(aes(x = air_time)) +
  geom_histogram(bins = 35)
```



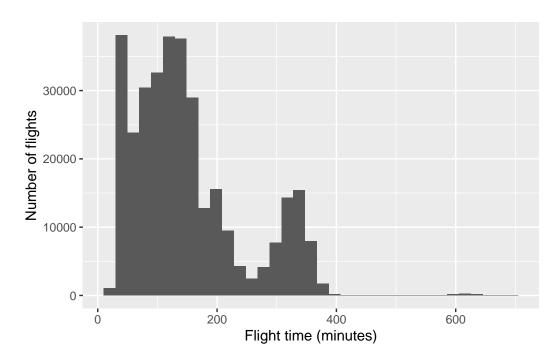
Just use embrace to create a histogram-making function

```
histogram <- function(df, var, bins = NULL) {
   df |>
       ggplot(aes(x = {{ var }})) +
       geom_histogram(bins = bins)
}
flights |> histogram(air_time, 35)
```



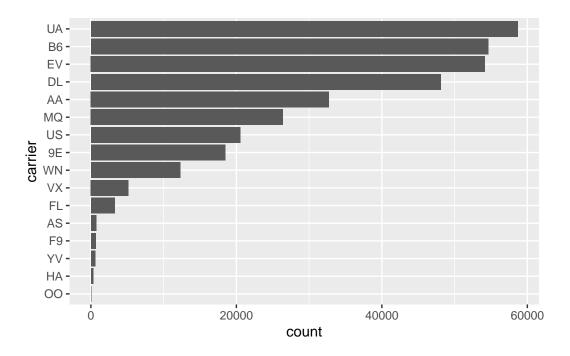
Since histogram() returns a ggplot, you can add any layers you want

```
flights |>
  histogram(air_time, 35) +
  labs(x = "Flight time (minutes)", y = "Number of flights")
```



You can also combine data wrangling with plotting. Note that we need the "walrus operator" (:=) since the variable name on the left is being generated with user-supplied data.

```
# sort counts with highest values at top and counts on x-axis
sorted_bars <- function(df, var) {
    df |>
        mutate({{ var }} := fct_rev(fct_infreq({{ var }}))) |>
        ggplot(aes(y = {{ var }})) +
        geom_bar()
}
flights |> sorted_bars(carrier)
```



Finally, it would be really helpful to label plots based on user inputs. This is a bit more complicated, but still do-able!

For this, we'll need the rlang package. rlang is a low-level package that's used by just about every other package in the tidyverse because it implements tidy evaluation (as well as many other useful tools).

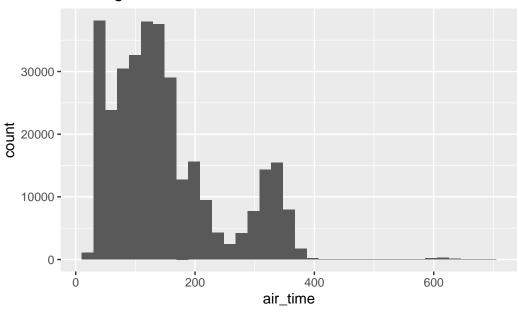
Check out the following update of our histogram() function which uses the englue() function from the rlang package:

```
histogram <- function(df, var, bins) {
  label <- rlang::englue("A histogram of {{var}} with binwidth {bins}")

  df |>
        ggplot(aes(x = {{ var }})) +
        geom_histogram(bins = bins) +
        labs(title = label)
}

flights |> histogram(air_time, 35)
```

# A histogram of air\_time with binwidth 35



### On Your Own

1. Rewrite this code snippet as a function: x / sum(x, na.rm = TRUE). This code creates weights which sum to 1, where NA values are ignored. Test it for at least two different vectors. (Make sure at least one has NAs!)

```
proportion_sum <- function(x) {
  (x/sum(x, na.rm = TRUE))
}
proportion_sum(temp0)</pre>
```

[1] 0.1481481 0.2222222 0.2962963 0.3333333 NA

```
proportion_sum(temp)
```

- [1] 0.1481481 0.2222222 0.2962963 0.3333333 NA
  - 2. Create a function to calculate the standard error of a variable, where SE = square root of the variance divided by the sample size. Hint: start with a vector like x <- 0:5 or  $x <- gss\_cat$age$  and write code to find the SE of x, then turn it into a function to

handle any vector x. Note: var is the function to find variance in R and sqrt does square root. length may also be handy. Test your function on two vectors that do not include NAs (i.e. do **not** worry about removing NAs at this point).

```
se <- function(x) {
   (sqrt(var(x)))/length(x)
}
se(temp)</pre>
```

# [1] NA

```
se(y)
```

#### [1] 0.4774935

3. Use your se function within summarize to get a table of the mean and s.e. of hwy and cty by class in the mpg dataset.

```
mpg |>
  group_by(class) |>
  summarize(
   hwy_se = se(hwy),
   cty_se = se(cty),
   hwy_mean = mean(hwy),
   cty_mean = mean(cty)
)
```

```
# A tibble: 7 x 5
 class
             hwy_se cty_se hwy_mean cty_mean
  <chr>
              <dbl> <dbl>
                               <dbl>
                                        <dbl>
1 2seater
             0.261 0.110
                                24.8
                                         15.4
             0.0805 0.0720
                                28.3
                                         20.1
2 compact
3 midsize
             0.0521 0.0475
                                27.3
                                         18.8
4 minivan
                                22.4
                                         15.8
             0.188 0.167
5 pickup
             0.0689 0.0620
                                16.9
                                         13
6 subcompact 0.154 0.131
                                28.1
                                         20.4
7 suv
             0.0480 0.0390
                                18.1
                                         13.5
```

4. Use your se function within summarize to get a table of the mean and s.e. of arr\_delay and dep\_delay by carrier in the flights dataset. Why does the output look like this?

```
flights |>
  group_by(carrier) |>
  summarize(
    se_arr_delay = se(arr_delay),
    se_dep_delay = se(dep_delay),
    mean_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay),
    mean_dep_delay = mean(dep_delay)
)
```

## # A tibble: 16 x 5

	carrier	se_arr_delay	se_dep_delay	mean_arr_delay	mean_dep_delay
	<chr></chr>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
1	9E	NA	NA	NA	NA
2	AA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3	AS	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	B6	NA	NA	NA	NA
5	DL	NA	NA	NA	NA
6	EV	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	F9	NA	NA	NA	NA
8	FL	NA	NA	NA	NA
9	HA	0.220	0.217	-6.92	4.90
10	MQ	NA	NA	NA	NA
11	00	NA	NA	NA	NA
12	UA	NA	NA	NA	NA
13	US	NA	NA	NA	NA
14	VX	NA	NA	NA	NA
15	WN	NA	NA	NA	NA
16	YV	NA	NA	NA	NA

Our function does not handle NAs so if there is one NA observation for the carrier, the output is NA.

5. Make your se function handle NAs with an na.rm option. Test your new function (you can call it se again) on a vector that doesn't include NA and on the same vector with an added NA. Be sure to check that it gives the expected output with na.rm = TRUE and na.rm = FALSE. Make na.rm = FALSE the default value. Repeat #4. (Hint: be sure when you divide by sample size you don't count any NAs)

```
se_na <- function(x) {
   (sqrt(var(x, na.rm = TRUE)))/length(x)
}</pre>
```

```
flights |>
  group_by(carrier) |>
  summarize(
    se_arr_delay = se_na(arr_delay),
    se_dep_delay = se_na(dep_delay),
    mean_arr_delay = mean(arr_delay, na.rm = TRUE),
    mean_dep_delay = mean(dep_delay, na.rm = TRUE)
)
```

# A tibble: 16 x 5

	carrier	se_arr_delay	se_dep_delay	mean_arr_delay	mean_dep_delay
	<chr></chr>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
1	9E	0.00271	0.00249	7.38	16.7
2	AA	0.00130	0.00114	0.364	8.59
3	AS	0.0511	0.0439	-9.93	5.80
4	B6	0.000784	0.000705	9.46	13.0
5	DL	0.000923	0.000826	1.64	9.26
6	EV	0.000920	0.000859	15.8	20.0
7	F9	0.0900	0.0852	21.9	20.2
8	FL	0.0166	0.0162	20.1	18.7
9	HA	0.220	0.217	-6.92	4.90
10	MQ	0.00164	0.00148	10.8	10.6
11	00	1.52	1.35	11.9	12.6
12	UA	0.000699	0.000609	3.56	12.1
13	US	0.00161	0.00137	2.13	3.78
14	VX	0.00968	0.00868	1.76	12.9
15	WN	0.00382	0.00353	9.65	17.7
16	YV	0.0881	0.0818	15.6	19.0

6. Create both\_na(), a function that takes two vectors of the same length and returns how many positions have an NA in both vectors. Hint: create two vectors like test\_x <- c(1, 2, 3, NA, NA) and test\_y <- c(NA, 1, 2, 3, NA) and write code that works for test\_x and test\_y, then turn it into a function that can handle any x and y. (In this case, the answer would be 1, since both vectors have NA in the 5th position.) Test it for at least one more combination of x and y.

```
both_na <- function(x, y) {
  if(length(x) != length(y)) {
    stop("`x` and `w` must be the same length", call. = FALSE)
  }
  else {</pre>
```

```
sum(is.na(x) & is.na(y))
}

test_x <- c(1, 2, 3, NA, NA)

test_y <- c(NA, 1, 2, 3, NA)

both_na(test_x, test_y)</pre>
```

#### [1] 1

7. Run your code from (6) with the following two vectors: test\_x <- c(1, 2, 3, NA, NA, NA) and test\_y <- c(NA, 1, 2, 3, NA). Did you get the output you wanted or expected? Modify your function using if, else, and stop to print an error if x and y are not the same length. Then test again with test\_x, test\_y and the sets of vectors you used in (6).

I did not get the output I wanted because the function does not handle two vectors of different lengths.

8. Here is a way to get not\_cancelled flights in the flights dataset:

```
not_cancelled <- flights |>
  filter(!is.na(dep_delay), !is.na(arr_delay))
```

Is it necessary to check is na for both departure and arrival? Using summarize, find the number of flights missing departure delay, arrival delay, and both. (Use your new function!)

```
flights |>
  summarize(
  na_dep = sum(is.na(dep_delay)),
  na_arr = sum(is.na(arr_delay)),
  na_both = both_na(dep_delay, arr_delay)
)
```

```
# A tibble: 1 x 3
  na_dep na_arr na_both
  <int> <int> <int>
1 8255 9430 8255
```

Yes, there are more NAs for arrival delay than there are for departure delay.

9. Read the code for each of the following three functions, puzzle out what they do, and then brainstorm better names.

```
time_difference_min <- function(time1, time2) {
  hour1 <- time1 %/% 100
  min1 <- time1 %/% 100
  hour2 <- time2 %/% 100
  min2 <- time2 %/ 100

  (hour2 - hour1)*60 + (min2 - min1)
}

area_inches <- function(lengthcm, widthcm) {
  (lengthcm / 2.54) * (widthcm / 2.54)
}

group_no_answers <- function(x) {
  fct_collapse(x, "non answer" = c("No answer", "Refused", "Don't know", "Not applicable"))
}</pre>
```

10. Explain what the following function does and demonstrate by running fool(x) with a few appropriately chosen vectors x. (Hint: set x and run the "guts" of the function piece by piece.)

First the function finds the difference between values (?) and then sums the amount of times diff < 0.

```
foo1 <- function(x) {
   if(sum(is.na(x) > 0)) {
      stop("x can not have missing values", call. = FALSE)
   }
   else {
   diff <- x[-1] - x[1:(length(x) - 1)] #x[-1] = remove first element, x[1:(length(x)-1)] remsum(diff < 0)
   }
}

x1 <- c(1, 3, 2, 8)
y1 <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)</pre>
```

```
z1 <- c(5, 4, 6, 2, NA)
foo1(z1)
```

Error: x can not have missing values

```
foo1(y1)
```

[1] 0

- 11. The fool() function doesn't perform well if a vector has missing values. Amend fool() so that it produces a helpful error message and stops if there are any missing values in the input vector. Show that it works with appropriately chosen vectors x. Be sure you add error = TRUE to your R chunk, or else knitting will fail!
- 12. Write a function called greet using if, else if, and else to print out "good morning" if it's before 12 PM, "good afternoon" if it's between 12 PM and 5 PM, and "good evening" if it's after 5 PM. Your function should work if you input a time like: greet(time = "2018-05-03 17:38:01 CDT") or if you input the current time with greet(time = Sys.time()). [Hint: check out the hour function in the lubridate package]

```
greet <- function(time) {
  if (hour(time) < 12) {
    print("good morning")
  }
  else if (hour(time) >= 12 & hour(time) < 17) {
    print("good afternoon")
  }
  else {
    print("good night")
  }
}</pre>
```

[1] "good night"

```
greet(time = Sys.time())
```

[1] "good morning"

13. Modify the summary6() function from earlier to add an argument that gives the user an option to remove missing values, if any exist. Show that your function works for (a) the hwy variable in mpg\_tbl <- as\_tibble(mpg), and (b) the age variable in gss\_cat.

```
summary6 <- function(data, var, group_vars, na.rm = TRUE) {</pre>
    group_by(pick({{ group_vars }})) |>
    summarize(
   mean = mean({{ var }}, na.rm = na.rm),
   median = median({{ var }}, na.rm = na.rm),
    sd = sd({{ var }}, na.rm = na.rm),
   IQR = IQR({{ var }}, na.rm = TRUE),
    n = n(),
    n_miss = sum(is.na({{ var }})),
    .groups = "drop"
                      # to leave the data in an ungrouped state
}
#doesn't summary6 already give the option to remove missing values with na.rm = TRUE or na.rn
mpg_tbl <- as_tibble(mpg)</pre>
mpg_tbl |> summary6(hwy)
# A tibble: 1 x 6
   mean median
                       IQR
                               n n_miss
                  sd
  <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <int> <int>
1 23.4
            24 5.95
                         9
                             234
gss_cat |> summary6(age)
# A tibble: 1 x 6
   mean median
                  sd
                       IQR
                               n n_miss
  <dbl> <int> <dbl> <int> <int>
1 47.2
            46 17.3
                        26 21483
                                     76
mpg_tbl |> summary6(hwy, drv)
# A tibble: 3 x 7
  drv
         mean median
                      sd
                             IQR
                                     n n_miss
```

```
<chr> <dbl>
              <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <int>
1 4
         19.2
                   18
                      4.08
                                 5
                                     103
                                               0
2 f
         28.2
                   28
                       4.21
                                 3
                                     106
                                               0
3 r
         21
                   21
                       3.66
                                 7
                                      25
                                               0
```

```
party_age <- gss_cat |> summary6(age, partyid)
```

- 14. Add an argument to (13) to produce summary statistics by group for a second variable (you should now have 4 possible inputs to your function). Show that your function works for (a) the hwy variable in mpg\_tbl <- as\_tibble(mpg) grouped by drv, and (b) the age variable in gss\_cat grouped by partyid.
- 15. Create a function that has a vector as the input and returns the last value. (Note: Be sure to use a name that does not write over an existing function!)

```
last_value_in_vector <- function(x) {
  value <- x[(length(x))]
  print(value)
}
last_value_in_vector(x)</pre>
```

## [1] Inf

16. Save your final table from (14) and write a function to draw a scatterplot of a measure of center (mean or median - user can choose) vs. a measure of spread (sd or IQR - user can choose), with points sized by sample size, to see if there is constant variance. Each point should be labeled with partyid, and the plot title should reflect the variables chosen by the user.

Hint: start with a ggplot with no user input, and then functionize:

```
ggplot_func <- function(dataset, mean_median, sd_IQR, group) {
  label <- rlang::englue("A scatterplot of {{mean_median}} vs {{sd_IQR}}")

  group_count <- dataset |> group_by({{ group }}) |> mutate(n = n()) |> ungroup()

  ggplot(data = dataset, mapping = aes(x = {{ mean_median }}, y = {{ sd_IQR }})) +
   geom_point(aes(size = n)) +
   geom_smooth(method = lm) +
   geom_label_repel(aes(label = {{ group }})) +
   labs(title = label)
```

```
ggplot_func(party_age, mean, sd, partyid)

library(ggrepel)
party_age |>
    ggplot(aes(x = mean, y = sd)) +
    geom_point(aes(size = n)) +
    geom_smooth(method = lm) +
    geom_label_repel(aes(label = partyid)) +
    labs(title = "Mean vs SD")
```