Week 3 Demonstration

Understand: Data Types and Data Structures

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• First round of assessment is due on 25/03/2018. Details are available here.

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- Please fill out this form (Available from Tools --> Course Feedback on the website) at any stage of the semester.



Understand: Data Types and Data Structures in R

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Module 3: Outline

- Data types in general
 - Qualitative (categorical)
 - Nominal variable
 - Ordinal variable
 - Quantitative (numerical)
 - Continuous variable
 - Discrete variable
- Data types in R
 - character
 - numeric
 - integer
 - factor
 - logical

- R's data structures
 - vector
 - list
 - matrix
 - o data frame
- Converting Data Types/Structures
 - is. functions
 - as. functions

Preliminaries: Data types in a general sense



Data Types in R

- R is a programming language, it has own definitions of data types and structures.
- Technically, R classifies all the different types of data into four classes:

```
(integer or double)
```

• Useful functions in R:

```
Use class() to check the class of an object
Use typeof() to check whether a numeric object is integer or double
Use levels() to see the levels of a factor object
```

Data Types in R: Logical class

- class consists of TRUE or FALSE (binary) values.
- A logical value is often created via comparison between variables.

```
x <- 10
y <- (x > 0)
y

## [1] TRUE

class(y)

## [1] "logical"
```

Data Types in R: Numeric Class

- (integer or double): Quantitative values are called as numerics in R.
- It is the default computational data type.
- Numeric class can be integer or double.
- Integer types can be seen as discrete values (e.g., 2) whereas, double class will have floating point numbers (e.g., 2.16).
- To create a double numeric variable:

```
var1 <- c(4, 7.5, 14.5)
```

• To create an integer variable, place an L directly after each number:

```
var2 <- c(4L, 7L, 14L)
```

Data Types in R: Numeric Class

```
var1 <- c(4, 7.5, 14.5)
var2 <- c(4L, 7L, 14L)
```

• To check the class of numeric variable:

```
class(var1)

## [1] "numeric"

class(var2)

## [1] "integer"
```

 To check whether an object is integer or double, use typeof().

```
typeof(var1)

## [1] "double"

typeof(var2)

## [1] "integer"
```

Data Types in R: Character Class

- : A character class is used to represent string values in R.
- The most basic way to generate a character object is to use quotation marks " " and assign a string/text to an object:

```
var3 <- c("debit", "credit", "Paypal")
class(var3)</pre>
```

```
## [1] "character"
```

Data Types in R: Factor Class

- class is used to represent qualitative data in R.
- Factors can be ordered or unordered.
- They store the nominal values as a vector of integers in the range (where is the number of unique values in the nominal variable), and an internal vector of character strings (the original values) mapped to these integers.
- Factor objects can be created with the factor() function:

```
var4 <- factor( c("Male", "Female", "Male", "Male") )
var4

## [1] Male Female Male Male
## Levels: Female Male
class(var4)

## [1] "factor"</pre>
```

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Data Types in R: Factor Class Cont.

• To see the levels of a factor object levels() function will be used:

```
levels(var4)
```

```
## [1] "Female" "Male"
```

• By default, levels of the factors will be ordered alphabetically.

Data Types in R: Factor Class Cont.

• To see the levels of a factor object levels() function will be used:

```
levels(var4)
## [1] "Female" "Male"
```

- By default, levels of the factors will be ordered alphabetically.
- Using the levels() argument, we can control the ordering of the levels while creating a factor:

[1] "Male"

"Female"

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Data Types in R: Ordered Factor Class

• We can also create ordinal factors in a specific order using the ordered = TRUE argument:

```
## [1] DI HD PA NN CR DI HD PA
## Levels: NN < PA < CR < DI < HD</pre>
```

• The ordering will be reflected as NN < PA < CR < DI < HD in the output.

Data Structures in R

- A data set is a collection of measurements or records which can be in any class (i.e., logical, character, numeric, factor, etc.).
- Typically, data sets contain many variables of different length and type of values.
- In R, we can store data sets using vectors, lists, matrices and data frames and these are called .
- R's base data structures can be organised by their
 D, 2-D, or n-D) and whether they're
 be of the same type) or
 types):

 (i.e., 1(i.e., all variables must (i.e., variables can be of different types):

one-dimension	Atomic vector	List
two-dimension	Matrix	Data frame
n-dimension	Array	

Data Structures in R: Vectors

- A vector is the basic structure in R, which consists of one-dimensional sequence of data elements of the same basic type (i.e., integer, double, logical, or character).
- Vectors are created by combining multiple elements into one dimensional array using the combine c() function.
- The one-dimensional examples illustrated previously are considered vectors:

```
var1 <- c(4, 7.5, 14.5) # a double numeric vector
var2 <- c(4L, 7L, 14L) # an integer vector
var3 <- c(T, F, T, T) # a logical vector</pre>
```

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

• All elements of a vector must be the same type, if you attempt to combine different types of elements they will be coerced to the most flexible type possible.

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

• All elements of a vector must be the same type, if you attempt to combine different types of elements they will be coerced to the most flexible type possible.

Vector of characters + numerics:

```
ex1 <- c("a", "b", "c", 1, 2, 3)
```

Vector of numerics + logical:

```
ex2 <- c(1, 2, 3, TRUE, FALSE)
```

Vector of logical + characters:

```
ex3 <- c(TRUE, FALSE, "a", "b",
```

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

• All elements of a vector must be the same type, if you attempt to combine different types of elements they will be coerced to the most flexible type possible.

Vector of characters + numerics:

Vector of numerics + logical:

```
ex2 <- c(1, 2, 3, TRUE, FALSE)
```

Vector of logical + characters:

```
ex3 <- c(TRUE, FALSE, "a", "b",
```

```
--> a character vector
```

```
## [1] "character"
```

--> a numeric vector

```
## [1] "numeric"
```

--> a character vector

[1] "character"

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

- To add additional elements to a vector use c() function.
- Let's add two elements (4 and 6) to the ex2 vector:

```
ex4 <- c(ex2, 4, 6)
ex4
```

[1] 1 2 3 1 0 4 6

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

• To subset a vector, we can use square brackets [] with positive or negative integers, logical values or names.

```
ex4
```

[1] 1 2 3 1 0 4 6

Take the third element ex4:

```
ex4[3]
```

[1] 3

Take first three elements in ex4:

```
ex4[1:3]
```

[1] 1 2 3

Data Structures in R: Vectors Cont.

• To subset a vector, we can use square brackets [] with positive or negative integers, logical values or names.

ex4

[1] 1 2 3 1 0 4 6

Take the third element ex4:

ex4[3]

[1] 3

Take first three elements in ex4:

ex4[1:3]

[1] 1 2 3

Take the 1st, 3rd, and 5th element:

ex4[c(1,3,5)]

[1] 1 3 0

Take all elements except first:

ex4[-1]

[1] 2 3 1 0 4 6

Take all elements less than 3:

ex4[ex4 < 3]

[1] 1 2 1 0

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Data Structures in R: Lists

- A list is an R structure that allows you to combine elements of different types and lengths.
- In order to create a list we can use the list() function.

```
list1 <- list(1:3, "a", c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE), c(2.5, 4.2))
```

• To see the detailed structure within an object use the structure function str():

```
str(list1)

## List of 4

## $ : int [1:3] 1 2 3

## $ : chr "a"

## $ : logi [1:3] TRUE FALSE TRUE

## $ : num [1:2] 2.5 4.2
```

• Note how each of the four list items above are of different classes (integer, character, logical, and numeric) and different lengths.

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Data Structures in R: Lists Cont.

\$: chr [1:3] "credit" "debit" "Paypal"

• To add on to lists we can use the append() function. Let's add a fifth element to the list1 and store it as list2:

```
list2 <- append(list1, list(c("credit", "debit", "Paypal")))
str(list2)

## List of 5
## $ : int [1:3] 1 2 3
## $ : chr "a"
## $ : logi [1:3] TRUE FALSE TRUE
## $ : num [1:2] 2.5 4.2</pre>
```

A remark: Attributes

- R objects can also have attributes, which are like metadata for the object.
- These metadata can be very useful in that they help to describe the object. Some examples of R object attributes are:
 - names, dimnames
 - dimensions (e.g. matrices, arrays)
 - class (e.g. integer , numeric)
 - length
 - o other user-defined attributes/metadata
- Attributes of an object (if any) can be accessed using the attributes() function. Let's check if list2 has any attributes.

```
attributes(list2)
```

NULL

Data Structures in R: Lists Cont.

• We can add names to lists using names() function.

```
# add names to a pre-existing list
names(list2) <- c ("item1", "item2", "item3", "item4", "item5")
str(list2)</pre>
```

```
## List of 5
## $ item1: int [1:3] 1 2 3
## $ item2: chr "a"
## $ item3: logi [1:3] TRUE FALSE TRUE
## $ item4: num [1:2] 2.5 4.2
## $ item5: chr [1:3] "credit" "debit" "Paypal"
```

• Now, you can see that each element has a name and the names are displayed after a dollar \$ sign.

Data Structures in R: Lists Cont.

• In order to subset lists, we can use dollar \$ sign, square brackets [] or double square brackets [[]]:

```
list2[1] # take the first list item in list2
## $item1
## [1] 1 2 3
list2[[1]] # take the first list item in list2 without attributes
## [1] 1 2 3
list2$item1 # take the first list item in list2 using $
## [1] 1 2 3
list2$item5[3] # take the third element out of fifth list item
## [1] "Paypal"
```

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Data Structures in R: Matrices

- A matrix is a collection of data elements arranged in a two-dimensional rectangular layout.
- In R, the elements of a matrix must be of same class (i.e. all elements must be numeric, or character, etc.) and all columns of a matrix must be of same length.
- We can create a matrix using the matrix() function using nrow and ncol arguments.

```
m1 <- matrix(1:6, nrow = 2, ncol = 3)
m1

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 1 3 5
## [2,] 2 4 6</pre>
```

Data Structures in R: Matrices Cont.

- Matrices can also be created using the column-bind cbind() and row-bind rbind() functions.
- Note that the vectors that are being binded must be of equal length and mode.

```
v1 <- c( 1, 4, 5)
v2 <- c( 6, 8, 10)
```

```
# create a matrix using column-k
m2 <- cbind(v1, v2)
m2</pre>
```

```
## V1 V2
## [1,] 1 6
## [2,] 4 8
## [3,] 5 10
```

```
# create a matrix using row-binc
m3 <- rbind(v1, v2)
m3</pre>
```

Data Structures in R: Matrices Cont.

• We can also use cbind() and rbind() functions to add onto matrices.

Data Structures in R: Matrices Cont.

• We can add names to the rows and columns of a matrix using rownames and colnames.

```
rownames(m4) <- c("subject1", "subject2", "subject3")
colnames(m4) <- c("var1", "var2", "var3")
attributes(m4)</pre>
```

```
## $dim
## [1] 3 3
##
## $dimnames
## $dimnames[[1]]
## [1] "subject1" "subject2" "subject3"
##
## $dimnames[[2]]
## [1] "var1" "var2" "var3"
```

Data Structures in R: Matrices Cont.

- In order to subset matrices we use the [] operator.
- As matrices have two dimensions we need to specify subsetting arguments for both row and column dimensions like: matrix [rows, columns]:

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Data Structures in R: Matrices Cont.

```
m4[1:2, ] # subset for rows 1 and 2 but keep all columns
##
          var1 var2 var3
## subject1 1 4
## subject2 6 8 10
m4[, c(1, 3)] # subset for columns 1 and 3 but keep all rows
          var1 var3
##
## subject1 1
## subject2 6 10
## subject3 9 7
m4[1:2, c(1, 3)] # subset for both rows and columns
## var1 var3
## subject1 1 5
## subject2
                10
```

- The most common way of storing data in R and, generally, is the data structure most often used for data analyses.
- A data frame (DF) is a list of equal-length vectors and they can store different classes of objects in each column (i.e., numeric, character, factor).
- DFs are usually created by importing/reading in a data set using the functions covered in Module 2.
- Can also be created explicitly with the data.frame() function or they can be coerced from other types of objects like lists.

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• With stringsAsFactors = FALSE argument:

```
## 'data.frame': 3 obs. of 4 variables:
## $ col1: int 1 2 3
## $ col2: chr "credit" "debit" "Paypal"
## $ col3: logi TRUE FALSE TRUE
## $ col4: num 25.5 44.2 54.9
```

• We can add columns (variables) and rows (items) on to a data frame using cbind() and rbind() functions:

```
# create a new vector

v4 <- c("VIC", "NSW", "TAS")

# add a column (variable) to df1

df2 <- cbind(df1, v4)</pre>
```

• To add attributes to data frames we use rownames() and colnames()

```
rownames(df2) <- c("subj1", "subj2", "subj3") # add row names</pre>
colnames(df2) <- c("number", "card_type", "fraud", "transaction", "st</pre>
str(df2)
## 'data.frame': 3 obs. of 5 variables:
   $ number : int 1 2 3
## $ card_type : chr "credit" "debit" "Paypal"
## $ fraud : logi TRUE FALSE TRUE
## $ transaction: num 25.5 44.2 54.9
   $ state : Factor w/ 3 levels "NSW", "TAS", "VIC": 3 1 2
attributes(df2)
## $names
## [1] "number" "card type" "fraud"
                                               "transaction" "state"
##
## $row.names
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```

- Data frames possess the characteristics of both lists and matrices.
- If you subset with a single vector, they behave like lists and will return the selected columns with all rows and if you subset with two vectors, they behave like matrices and can be subset by row and column.

```
df2
##
       number card_type fraud transaction state
       1 credit TRUE
## subil
                               25.5
                                     VIC
## subj2 2 debit FALSE 44.2
                                     NSW
## subj3 3 Paypal TRUE 54.9
                                     TAS
df2[2:3, ] # subset by row numbers, take second and third rows only
       number card_type fraud transaction state
## subj2 2 debit FALSE
                          44.2
                                     NSW
## subj3 3 Paypal TRUE 54.9
                                     TAS
```

Data Structures in R: Data Frames Cont.

```
df2[c("subj2", "subj3"), ] # same as above but uses row names

## number card_type fraud transaction state
## subj2 2 debit FALSE 44.2 NSW
## subj3 3 Paypal TRUE 54.9 TAS

df2[, c(1,4)] # subset by column numbers, take first and forth column

## number transaction
## subj1 1 25.5
## subj2 2 44.2
## subj3 3 54.9
```

```
df2[, c("number", "transaction")] # same as above but uses column nar
##
       number transaction
## subj1
                   25.5
## subj2 2 44.2
        3 54.9
## subj3
df2[2:3, c(1, 4)] # subset by row and column numbers
       number transaction
##
## subj2
           2
                   44.2
## subj3 3
                   54.9
```

```
df2[c("subj2", "subj3"), c("number", "transaction")] # same as above

## number transaction
## subj2 2 44.2
## subj3 3 54.9

df2$fraud # subset using $: take the column (variable) fraud

## [1] TRUE FALSE TRUE

df2$fraud[2] # take the second element in the fraud column

## [1] FALSE
```

Converting Data Types/Structures

• as. functions will convert the object to a given type (whenever possible) and is. functions will test for the given data type and return a logical value (TRUE or FALSE).

as.		is.	
<pre>as.numeric()</pre>	numeric	<pre>is.numeric()</pre>	numeric
as.integer()	integer	is.integer()	integer
<pre>as.double()</pre>	double	<pre>is.double()</pre>	double
as.character()	character	is.character()	character
<pre>as.factor()</pre>	factor	<pre>is.factor()</pre>	factor
as.logical()	logical	is.logical()	logical
<pre>as.vector()</pre>	vector	<pre>is.vector()</pre>	vector
as.list()	list	is.list()	list
<pre>as.matrix()</pre>	matrix	<pre>is.matrix()</pre>	matrix
as.data.frame()	data frame	is.data.frame()	data frame

What do you need to know by Week 3

- Understand R's basic data types (i.e., character, numeric, integer, factor, and logical).
- Understand R's basic data structures (i.e., vector, list, matrix, and data frame) and main differences between them.
- Learn to check attributes (i.e., name, dimension, class, levels etc.) of R objects.
- Learn how to convert between data types/structures.
- Practice!

Class Worksheet

• Working in small groups, complete the following class worksheet

Week 3 Class Worksheet

• Once completed, feel free to work on your Assignment and/or Skill Builders

Return to Data Preprocessing Website