

# **Data Science Using R**

## **Lesson03–Using Functions and Loops in R**

# Objective

After completing this lesson you will be able to:

- Use the control structures in R
- Create a user defined function in R
- Identify the built in functions in R



# Control Structures

Control structures in R allow you to control the flow of execution of the program, depending on runtime conditions. Common structures are:

- *if else* — testing a condition
- *for* — execute a loop a fixed number of times
- *while* — execute a loop while a condition is true · *repeat*: execute an infinite loop
- *break* — break the execution of a loop
- *next* — skip an iteration of a loop
- *return* — exit a function



Most control structures are not used in interactive sessions but when writing functions or longer expressions.

# Control Structures—If Condition

General construct of “if” control structure is given below.

## Construct 1:

```
if(<condition>) {  
  ## do something  
}  
else{  
  ## do something else  
}
```

else clause is not necessary.

```
if(<condition1>) { }  
if(<condition2>) { }
```

## Construct 2:

```
if(<condition1>) {  
  ## do something  
}  
else if(<condition2>) {  
  ## do something different  
}  
else{  
  ## do something different  
}
```

# Control Structures—For Loop

Example of “for” control structure is given below.

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**Example:**

```
for(i in 1:10) { print(i)
}
```

*The above loop takes the i variable and in each iteration of the loop gives it values 1, 2, 3, ..., 10, and then exits.*

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**Example with break statement:**

```
for(i in 1:10) {
  print(i)
  if (i==2){
    break
  }
}
```

*Print i and break as soon as i equals 2*



For loops are most commonly used for iterating over the elements of an object (list, vector, etc.)

# Control Structures—Nested For Loop

Example of “for” control structure is given below.

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**Example with nested for loops:**

```
x <- matrix(1:6, 2, 3)
for(i in seq_len(nrow(x))) {
  for(j in seq_len(ncol(x))) {
    print(x[i, j])
  }
}
```

*X is a 2\*3 matrix. The for loop is being used to print the values of the matrix row wise.*



Be careful with nesting though. Nesting beyond 2–3 levels is often very difficult to read or understand the nested loops.

# Control Structures—While Loops

Example of “while” control structure is given below.

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**Example with one condition:**

```
count <- 0
while(count < 10) {
  print(count)
  count <- count + 1
}
```

*While loops begin by testing a condition. If it is true, then execute the loop body. Once the loop body is executed, the condition is tested again, and so forth.*

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**Example with multiple condition:**

```
z<-5
while(z>=3&&z<=10) {
  print(z)
  coin <- rbinom(1, 1, 0.5)
  #generate 0 or 1
  if(coin == 1) {
    #do not change z
  } else{ z<-z-1 }
```

*Loop, print z till the condition is satisfied. decrease the value of z when the coin toss results in 0.*



*While loops can potentially result in infinite loops if not written properly. Use with care. Conditions are always evaluated from left to right.*

# Loop functions in R

R has inbuilt functions to implement loops. These functions takes away the complexity of writing “for” or “while” loops.

- **Apply function:** Function over the margins of an array

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```
y <- matrix (rnorm (100), 10, 10)
apply (y, 2, mean) # 2 means column
wise
```

- **Lapply function:** Loop over a list and evaluate a function on each element

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```
y <- list(i = 1:5, n = rnorm(10))
lapply (y, mean)
```



# Loop functions in R

- **Sapply function:** Same as lapply but tries to simplify the result

⌵

```
y <- list(i = 1:5, n =  
  rnorm(10))  
sapply (y, mean)
```

- **Tapply function:** Apply a function over subsets of a vector

⌵

```
x <- rnorm(30)  
f <- gl(3, 10)  
df <- data.frame(x, f)  
tapply(df$x, df$f, mean)
```

- **Mapply function:** Multivariate version of lapply

# User Defined Functions

R gives the flexibility of writing custom function.

- Below is a structure of a function followed with example:

## Structure of a user defined function:

```
newfunction <- function(arg1,  
arg2, ... ){  
  statements  
  return(object)  
}
```

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## Example of a user defined function:

```
summarize <- function(x) {  
  center <- mean(x); spread  
<- sd(x)  
  cat("Mean is", center,  
  "\n", "Std dev is", spread,  
  "\n")  
  result <-  
  list(center=center,  
  spread=spread)  
  return(result)  
}  
set.seed(12345)  
x <- rnorm(500)  
y <- summarize(x)
```

# R Built-in Functions

- Numeric functions:

Function	Description
abs(x)	absolute value
sqrt(x)	square root
ceiling(x)	ceiling(3.475) is 4
floor(x)	floor(3.475) is 3
trunc(x)	trunc(5.99) is 5
round(x, digits=n)	round(3.475, digits=2) is 3.48
signif(x, digits=n)	signif(3.475, digits=2) is 3.5
cos(x), sin(x), tan(x)	also acos(x), cosh(x), acosh(x), etc.
log(x)	natural logarithm
log10(x)	common logarithm
exp(x)	$e^x$

# R Built-in Functions

- Character functions:

Function	Description
<code>substr(x, start=n1, stop=n2)</code>	Extract or replace substrings in a character vector. <code>x &lt;- "abcdef"</code> <code>substr(x, 2, 4)</code> is "bcd" <code>substr(x, 2, 4) &lt;- "22222"</code> is "a222ef"
<code>grep(pattern, x , ignore.case=FALSE, fixed=FALSE)</code>	Search for pattern in x. If <code>fixed =FALSE</code> then pattern is a regular expression. If <code>fixed=TRUE</code> then pattern is a text string. Returns matching indices. <code>grep("A", c("b","A","c"), fixed=TRUE)</code> returns 2
<code>sub(pattern, replacement, x, ignore.case =FALSE, fixed=FALSE)</code>	Find pattern in x and replace with replacement text. If <code>fixed=FALSE</code> then pattern is a regular expression. If <code>fixed = T</code> then pattern is a text string. <code>sub("\\s",".","Hello There")</code> returns "Hello.There"

# R Built-in Functions

- Character functions:

Function	Description
<code>strsplit(x, split)</code>	Split the elements of character vector <code>x</code> at <code>split</code> . <code>strsplit("abc", "")</code> returns 3 element vector <code>"a","b","c"</code>
<code>paste(..., sep="")</code>	Concatenate strings after using <code>sep</code> string to separate them. <code>paste("x",1:3,sep="")</code> returns <code>c("x1","x2" "x3")</code> <code>paste("x",1:3,sep="M")</code> returns <code>c("xM1","xM2" "xM3")</code> <code>paste("Today is", date())</code>
<code>toupper(x)</code>	Uppercase
<code>tolower(x)</code>	Lowercase

# R Built-in Functions

- Stat functions:

Function	Description
<code>dnorm(x)</code>	normal density function (by default $m=0$ $sd=1$ ) # plot standard normal curve <code>x &lt;- pretty(c(-3,3), 30)</code> <code>y &lt;- dnorm(x)</code> <code>plot(x, y, type='l', xlab="Normal Deviate", ylab="Density", yaxs="i")</code>
<code>pnorm(q)</code>	cumulative normal probability for $q$ (area under the normal curve to the right of $q$ ) <code>pnorm(1.96)</code> is 0.975
<code>qnorm(p)</code>	normal quantile. value at the $p$ percentile of normal distribution <code>qnorm(.9)</code> is 1.28 # 90th percentile
<code>rnorm(n, m=0, sd=1)</code>	$n$ random normal deviates with mean $m$ and standard deviation $sd$ . #50 random normal variates with mean=50, $sd=10$ <code>x &lt;- rnorm(50, m=50, sd=10)</code>

# R Built-in Functions

- Stat functions:

Function	Description
<code>dbinom(x, size, prob)</code> <code>pbinom(q, size, prob)</code> <code>qbinom(p, size, prob)</code> <code>rbinom(n, size, prob)</code>	binomial distribution where size is the sample size and prob is the probability of a heads ( $\pi$ ) # prob of 0 to 5 heads of fair coin out of 10 flips <code>dbinom(0:5, 10, .5)</code> # prob of 5 or less heads of fair coin out of 10 flips <code>pbinom(5, 10, .5)</code>
<code>dpois(x, lamda)</code> <code>ppois(q, lamda)</code> <code>qpois(p, lamda)</code> <code>rpois(n, lamda)</code>	poisson distribution with $m=std=lamda$ #probability of 0,1, or 2 events with $lamda=4$ <code>dpois(0:2, 4)</code> # probability of at least 3 events with $lamda=4$ <code>1- ppois(2,4)</code>
<code>dunif(x, min=0, max=1)</code> <code>punif(q, min=0, max=1)</code> <code>qunif(p, min=0, max=1)</code> <code>runif(n, min=0, max=1)</code>	uniform distribution, follows the same pattern as the normal distribution above. #10 uniform random variates <code>x &lt;- runif(10)</code>

# R Built-in Functions

- Stat functions:

Function	Description
<code>mean(x, trim=0, na.rm=FALSE)</code>	mean of object x # trimmed mean, removing any missing values and # 5 percent of highest and lowest scores <code>mx &lt;- mean(x,trim=.05,na.rm=TRUE)</code>
<code>sd(x)</code>	standard deviation of object(x). also look at <code>var(x)</code> for variance and <code>mad(x)</code> for median absolute deviation.
<code>median(x)</code>	median
<code>mean(x, trim=0, na.rm=FALSE)</code>	mean of object x # trimmed mean, removing any missing values and # 5 percent of highest and lowest scores <code>mx &lt;- mean(x,trim=.05,na.rm=TRUE)</code>



# R Built-in Functions

- Stat functions:

Function	Description
<code>quantile(x, probs)</code>	quantiles where x is the numeric vector whose quantiles are desired and probs is a numeric vector with probabilities in [0,1]. # 30th and 84th percentiles of x <code>y &lt;- quantile(x, c(.3,.84))</code>
<code>range(x)</code>	range
<code>sum(x)</code>	sum
<code>diff(x, lag=1)</code>	lagged differences, with lag indicating which lag to use
<code>min(x)</code>	minimum
<code>max(x)</code>	maximum

# R Built-in Functions

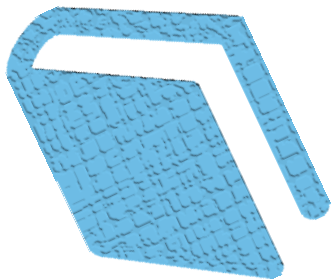
- Stat functions:

Function	Description
<code>scale(x, center=TRUE, scale=TRUE)</code>	column center or standardize a matrix.
<code>seq(from , to, by)</code>	generate a sequence <code>indices &lt;- seq(1,10,2)</code> #indices is <code>c(1, 3, 5, 7, 9)</code>
<code>rep(x, ntimes)</code>	repeat x n times <code>y &lt;- rep(1:3, 2)</code> # y is <code>c(1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3)</code>
<code>cut(x, n)</code>	divide continuous variable in factor with n levels <code>y &lt;- cut(x, 5)</code>

This demo will show the use of concepts covered in this lesson using Rstudio.

# Summary

Summary of the topics covered in this lesson:



- If/else, for, while are typical control structures available in R. R also has specific loop functions like apply, tapply, mapply etc. which works exactly like the control structures.
- User defined functions give the flexibility of writing generic functions which can be used to structure a complex code.
- The in-built functions in R gives flexibility to perform complex data manipulations while analyzing datasets.

# QUIZ TIME

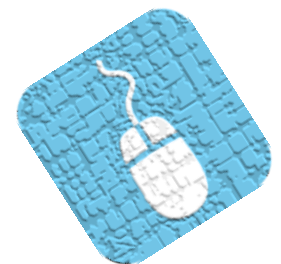


# Quiz Question 1

## Quiz 1

Which of the following is a loop function in R?  
*Select all that apply.*

- a. *apply*
- b. *gapply*
- c. *tapply*
- d. *mapply*



# Quiz Question 1

## Quiz 1

Which of the following is a loop function in R?  
*Select all that apply.*

- a. *apply*
- b. *gapply*
- c. *tapply*
- d. *mapply*

Correct answer is: All the options are correct except b. *gapply* is not a function in R.

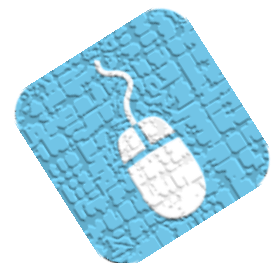
*a, c & d*

# Quiz Question 2

## Quiz 2

What is the output of following code? `count <- 0 while(count < 10) { count <- count + 1 } print(count)`

- a. *10*
- b. *11*
- c. *9*
- d. *8*





## Quiz Question 2

### Quiz 2

What is the output of following code? `count <- 0 while(count < 10) { count <- count + 1 } print(count)`

- a. *10*
- b. *11*
- c. *9*
- d. *8*

Correct answer is:      The code when run in R will give 10 as an output.

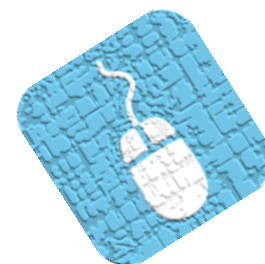
*a*

# Quiz Question 3

## Quiz 3

What will the following code give as output: `rnorm(40, 50, 10)`

- a. *Generate 40 random numbers with a mean of 50 and std. dev of 10*
- b. *Generate 50 random numbers with a mean of 40 and std. dev of 10*
- c. *Generate 10 random numbers with a mean of 40 and std. dev of 50*
- d. *Generate 40 random numbers with a mean of 10 and std. dev of 50*



## Quiz Question 3

### Quiz 3

What will the following code give as output: `rnorm(40, 50, 10)`

- a. *Generate 40 random numbers with a mean of 50 and std. dev of 10*
- b. *Generate 50 random numbers with a mean of 40 and std. dev of 10*
- c. *Generate 10 random numbers with a mean of 40 and std. dev of 50*
- d. *Generate 40 random numbers with a mean of 10 and std. dev of 50*

Correct answer is:

First variable is the number of observation, second is the mean and third is std dev.

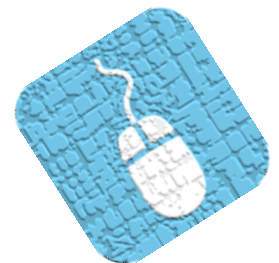
*a*

# Quiz Question 4

## Quiz 4

Which of the following is a function in R?

- a. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *sub()*, *dnorm()*
- b. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *subtract()*, *dnorm()*
- c. *abs()*, *sqrtd()*, *sub()*, *dnorm()*
- d. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *sub()*, *wnorm()*



# Quiz Question 4

## Quiz 4

What will the following code give as output: `rnorm(40, 50, 10)`

- a. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *sub()*, *dnorm()*
- b. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *subtract()*, *dnorm()*
- c. *abs()*, *sqrted()*, *sub()*, *dnorm()*
- d. *abs()*, *sqrt()*, *sub()*, *wnorm()*

Correct answer is:      Other options have one or more options which are not functions in R

*a*

## End of Lesson03—Using Loop and Functions in R

