

190F Foundations of Data Science

Lecture 9

Functions

Defining Functions

Def Statements

User-defined functions give names to blocks of code

```
Name
                Argument names (parameters)
def spread(values):
                             Return expression
     return max(values) - min(values)
Body
                     (Demo)
```

Discussion Question

What does this function do? What kind of input does it take? What output will it give? What's a reasonable name?

Apply

Apply

The apply method creates an array by calling a function on every element in input column(s)

- First argument: Function to apply
- Other arguments: The input column(s)

```
table_name.apply(function_name, 'column_label')
```

(Demo)

Example: Prediction

Sir Francis Galton

- 1822 1911 (knighted in 1909)
- A pioneer in making predictions
- Particular interest in heredity
- Charles Darwin's half-cousin

(Demo)

