

Loops and Functions



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Today we are going to learn...

1 Control-flow constructs

2 Functions

3 Loops

The if condition

- Comparison

`x == y`

`x != y`

`x > y`

`x < y`

`x >= y`

`x <= y`

`all.equal()`

`%in%`

- What would expect when `x` and `y` are vectors, matrices,...
- The if condition

```
if (condition)
```

```
{
```

```
  do something
```

```
}
```

```
else
```

```
{
```

```
  do something else
```

```
}
```

Lab 1.3

- 1 February 29, known as a leap day in the calendar, is a date that occurs in most years that are evenly divisible by 4, such as 2004, 2008, 2012 and 2016. Years that are evenly divisible by 100 do not contain a leap day, with the exception of years that are evenly divisible by 400, which do contain a leap day; thus 1900 did not contain a leap day while 2000 did.
- 2 Write a function called `is.leapday` to check if a given year has February 29 [Hint: you may need `?%?.`].
- 3 Test your function for some years.
- 4 What can you do to improve for the function in terms of error tolerance?
- 5 If I want to check which year has a leap day for a sequence of given years. Modify your function to implement it.

```
isLeapday <- function(year)
{
  mod4 <- year%%4
  mod100 <- year%%100
  mod400 <- year%%400

  LeapdayIndex = ((mod4 == 0 & mod100 != 0) | mod400 == 0)
  ## if((mod4 == 0 & mod100 != 0) | mod400 == 0)
  ##   {
  ##     out <- TRUE
  ##   }
  ## else
  ##   {
  ##     out <- FALSE
  ##   }
  ## return(out)
  return(LeapdayIndex)
}
```

```
whichLeapday <- function(year)
{
  if(!is.numeric(year))
  {
    stop("You must specify a numerical input.")
  }

  mod4 <- year%%4
  mod100 <- year%%100
  mod400 <- year%%400

  leapdayIndex <- ((mod4 == 0 & mod100 != 0) | mod400 == 0)

  out <- year[leapdayIndex]

  return(out)
}
```

Functions

- Create a function object

```
myFun = function (par)
{
  out = max(par1) - min(par2)
  return(out)
}
```

- Load the function: `source()`
- Execute your function

Functions

- The input parameters type
- Validate the inputs
- Error catching
- Return types

Lab 1.1

- 1 Write a function `mySummary` where the input argument is `x` can be any vector and the output should contain the basic summary (mean, variance, length, max and minimum values, type) of the vector you have supplied to the function.
- 2 Test your function with some vectors (that you make up by yourself).
- 3 What will happen if your input is not a vector (e.g. a data frame `weekPlanNew`) in our previous example?

Lab 1.2

- ① The roots for the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are of the form

$$x_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

- ② Write a function named `quaroot` to solve the roots of given quadratic equation with `a`, `b`, `c`, as input arguments. [Hint: you may need the `sqrt()` function]
- ③ Test your function on the following equations

$$x^2 + 4x - 1 = 0$$

$$-2x^2 + 2x = 0$$

$$3x^2 - 9x + 1 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 4 = 0$$

- ④ Test your function with the equation $5x^2 + 2x + 1 = 0$. What are the results? Why? [Hint: check $b^2 - 4ac$]
- ⑤ Modify your function and return NA if $b^2 - 4ac < 0$.

```
quaroot <- function(a, b, c)
{
  x1 <- (-b+sqrt(b^2-4*a*c))/(2*a)
  x2 <- (-b-sqrt(b^2-4*a*c))/(2*a)

  out <- c(x1, x2)
  return(out)
}
```

```
quaroot <- function(a, b, c)
{
  d <- b^2-4*a*c

  if(d<0)
  {
    x1 <- NA
    x2 <- NA
  }
  else
  {
    x1 <- (-b+sqrt(d))/(2*a)
    x2 <- (-b-sqrt(d))/(2*a)
  }

  out <- c(x1, x2)
  return(out)
}
```

The for loop

```
B = matrix(1:10,2,5)
C = matrix(100:109,2,5)
A = matrix(NA,2,5)
for(i in 1:n)
{
  A[i] = B[i] + C[i]
}
```

The while loop

```
B = matrix(1:10,2,5)
C = matrix(100:109,2,5)
A = matrix(NA,2,5)
```

```
i = 0
while(i != 10)
{
  i = i + 1
  A[i] = B[i] + C[i]
}
```

apply() type loops I

- Calculate row sums for a matrix with a loop.
- Apply `sum()` function to each row of the matrix.
- `apply()` to an array with higher dimension.
- Apply your own function to each row of the matrix.
- `lapply()` Apply a function to a list
- `mapply()` Apply a function to multiple list or vector arguments.
- The ... arguments in a function.
- Supply more arguments to `apply()` type functions
- The advantage of `()apply`.
 - Easy construct
 - Less coding
 - `()apply` type loops is essentially a more efficient version loop.

Write efficient loops

- Avoid loops as much as possible.
- Use `()` apply type loop if possible.
- Think a lot about under- and over-flow
- Allocate the memory space before looping. This is a much slower loop.

```
B = matrix(1:10,2,5)
C = matrix(100:109,2,5)
A = NULL
for(i in 1:n)
{
  A[i] = B[i] + C[i]
}
```


Suggested reading

- R-intro (2015): **Chapter 9, 10**
- Jones (2009): **Chapter 6.4**