Logic and types in R

Lecture 01

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1

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In R (almost) everything is a vector

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Vectors

The fundamental building block of data in R are vectors (collections of related values, objects, etc).

R has two types of vectors (that everything is built on):

- atomic vectors (*vectors*)
  - homogeneous collections of the *same* type (e.g. all `true`/`false` values, all numbers, or all character strings).
- generic vectors (*lists*)
  - heterogeneous collections of *any* type of R object, even other lists (meaning they can have a hierarchical/tree-like structure).

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Atomic Vectors

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Atomic Vectors

R has six atomic vector types, we can check the type of any object in R using the `typeof()` function

`typeof()`	`mode()`
logical	logical
double	numeric
integer	numeric
character	character
complex	complex
raw	raw

Mode is a higher level abstraction, we will discuss this in detail a bit later.

There are additional types in R, e.g. `list`, `closure`, `environment`, etc. We will see these in the next couple of weeks. Check `?typeof` for more information.

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`logical` - boolean values (`TRUE` and `FALSE`)

```r
typeof(TRUE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

```r
mode(TRUE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

```r
typeof(FALSE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

```r
mode(FALSE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

R will let you use `T` and `F` as shortcuts to `TRUE` and `FALSE`, this is a bad practice as these values are actually **global variables** that can be overwritten.

R Code Start Over Run Code

```r
T
```


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`character` - text strings

Either single or double quotes are fine, the opening and closing quote must match.

```r
typeof("hello")
```

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

```r
typeof('world')
```

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

```r
mode("hello")
```

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

```r
mode('world')
```

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

Quote characters can be included by escaping or using a non-matching quote.

```r
"abc'123"
```

```
[1] "abc'123"
```

```r
'abc"123'
```

```
[1] "abc\"123"
```

```r
"abc\"123"
```

```
[1] "abc\"123"
```

```r
'abc\'123'
```

```
[1] "abc'123"
```

RStudio's syntax highlighting is helpful here to indicate where it thinks a string begins and ends.

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Numeric types

`double` - floating point values (these are the default numerical type)

```r
typeof(1.33)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```r
mode(1.33)
```

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

```r
typeof(7)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```r
mode(7)
```

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

`integer` - integer values (literals are indicated by an `L` suffix)

```r
typeof( 7L )
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

```r
mode( 7L )
```

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

```r
typeof( 1:3 )
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

```r
mode( 1:3 )
```

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


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Combining / Concatenation

Atomic vectors can be constructed using the combine `c()` function.

```r
c(1, 2, 3)
```

```
[1] 1 2 3
```

```r
c("Hello", "World!")
```

```
[1] "Hello"  "World!"
```

```r
c(1, 1:10)
```

```
 [1]  1  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 10
```

```r
c(1,c(2, c(3)))
```

```
[1] 1 2 3
```

Note - atomic vectors are inherently flat / 1d.

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Inspecting types

- `typeof(x)` - returns a character vector (length 1) of the *type* of object `x`.
- `mode(x)` - returns a character vector (length 1) of the *mode* of object `x`.

```r
typeof(1)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```r
typeof(1L)
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

```r
typeof("A")
```

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

```r
typeof(TRUE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

```r
mode(1)
```

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

```r
mode(1L)
```

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

```r
mode("A")
```

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

```r
mode(TRUE)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```


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Type predicates

- `is.logical(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` has *type* `logical`.
- `is.character(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` has *type* `character`.
- `is.double(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` has *type* `double`.
- `is.integer(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` has *type* `integer`.
- `is.numeric(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` has *mode* `numeric`.

```r
is.integer(1)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.integer(1L)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.integer(3:7)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.double(1)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.double(1L)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.double(3:8)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.numeric(1)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.numeric(1L)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.numeric(3:7)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```


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Other useful predicates

- `is.atomic(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` is an *atomic vector*.
- `is.list(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` is a *list* (generic vector).
- `is.vector(x)` - returns `TRUE` if `x` is either an *atomic* or *generic* vector.

```r
is.atomic(c(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.list(c(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.vector(c(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.atomic(list(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.list(list(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.vector(list(1,2,3))
```

```
[1] TRUE
```


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Type Coercion

R is a dynamically typed language – it will automatically convert between most types without raising warnings or errors. Keep in mind that atomic vectors must always contain values of the same type.

```r
c(1, "Hello")
```

```
[1] "1"     "Hello"
```

```r
c(FALSE, 3L)
```

```
[1] 0 3
```

```r
c(1.2, 3L)
```

```
[1] 1.2 3.0
```

```r
c(FALSE, "Hello")
```

```
[1] "FALSE" "Hello"
```


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Operator coercion

Builtin operators and functions (e.g. `+`, `&`, `log()`, etc.) will generally attempt to coerce values to an appropriate type for the given operation (numeric for math, logical for logical, etc.)

```r
3.1+1L
```

```
[1] 4.1
```

```r
log(1)
```

```
[1] 0
```

```r
5 + FALSE
```

```
[1] 5
```

```r
log(TRUE)
```

```
[1] 0
```

```r
TRUE & FALSE
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
TRUE | FALSE
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
TRUE & 7
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
FALSE | !5
```

```
[1] FALSE
```


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Explicit Coercion

Most of the `is` functions we just saw have an `as` variant which can be used for *explicit* coercion.

```r
as.logical(5.2)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
as.character(TRUE)
```

```
[1] "TRUE"
```

```r
as.integer(pi)
```

```
[1] 3
```

```r
as.numeric(FALSE)
```

```
[1] 0
```

```r
as.double("7.2")
```

```
[1] 7.2
```

```r
as.double("one")
```

```
Warning: NAs introduced by
coercion
```

```
[1] NA
```


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Missing Values

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Missing Values

R uses `NA` to represent missing values in its data structures, what may not be obvious is that there are different `NA`s for the different atomic types.

```r
typeof(NA)
```

```
[1] "logical"
```

```r
typeof(NA+1)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```r
typeof(NA+1L)
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

```r
typeof(c(NA,""))
```

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

```r
typeof(NA_character_)
```

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

```r
typeof(NA_real_)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```r
typeof(NA_integer_)
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

```r
typeof(NA_complex_)
```

```
[1] "complex"
```

This should make sense as `NA` values can appear along over values in atomic vectors.

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NA stickiness

Because `NA`s represent missing values it makes sense that most calculations using them will also be missing.

```r
1 + NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
sqrt(NA)
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
1 / NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
3^NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
NA * 5
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
sum(c(1, 2, 3, NA))
```

```
[1] NA
```

Aggregation / summarization functions (e.g. `sum()`, `mean()`, `sd()`, etc.) will often have a `na.rm` argument which will allow you to *drop* missing values.

```r
sum(c(1, 2, 3, NA), na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 6
```

```r
mean(c(1, 2, 3, NA), na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
[1] 2
```


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NAs are not always sticky

A useful mental model for NAs is to consider them as a unknown value that could take any of the possible values for a type.

For numbers or characters this isn't very helpful, but for a logical value we know that the value must either be TRUE or FALSE and we can use that when deciding what value to return.

```r
TRUE & NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
FALSE & NA
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
TRUE | NA
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
FALSE | NA
```

```
[1] NA
```


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Other Special values (double)

These are defined as part of the IEEE floating point standard (not unique to R)

- `NaN` - Not a number
- `Inf` - Positive infinity
- `-Inf` - Negative infinity

```r
pi / 0
```

```
[1] Inf
```

```r
0 / 0
```

```
[1] NaN
```

```r
1/0 + 1/0
```

```
[1] Inf
```

```r
Inf - Inf
```

```
[1] NaN
```

```r
NaN / NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
NaN * NA
```

```
[1] NA
```


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Testing for `Inf` and `NaN`

`NaN` and `Inf` there are convenience functions for testing for these types of values

```r
is.finite(Inf)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.infinite(-Inf)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.nan(Inf)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
Inf > 1
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.finite(NaN)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.infinite(NaN)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.nan(NaN)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
-Inf > 1
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.finite(NA)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.infinite(NA)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.nan(NA)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```


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Coercion for infinity and NaN

First remember that `Inf`, `-Inf`, and `NaN` are doubles, however their coercion behavior is not the same as other doubles

```r
as.integer(Inf)
```

```
Warning: NAs introduced by coercion to integer range
[1] NA
```

```r
as.integer(NaN)
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
as.logical(Inf)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
as.logical(-Inf)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
as.logical(NaN)
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
as.character(Inf)
```

```
[1] "Inf"
```

```r
as.character(-Inf)
```

```
[1] "-Inf"
```

```r
as.character(NaN)
```

```
[1] "NaN"
```


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Exercise 1

Part 1

What is the type of the following vectors? Explain why they have that type.

```r
c(1, NA+1L, "C")
c(1L / 0, NA)
c(1:3, 5)
c(3L, NaN+1L)
c(NA, TRUE)
```

Part 2

Considering only the four (common) data types, what is R’s implicit type conversion hierarchy (from highest priority to lowest priority)?

Hint - think about the pairwise interactions between types.

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Conditionals & Control Flow

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Logical (boolean) operators

Operator	Operation	Vectorized?
`x	y`	or	Yes
`x & y`	and	Yes
`!x`	not	Yes
`x || y`	or	No
`x && y`	and	No
`xor(x, y)`	exclusive or	Yes

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Vectorized?

```r
x = c(TRUE,FALSE,TRUE)
y = c(FALSE,TRUE,TRUE)
```

```r
x | y
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE
```

```r
x & y
```

```
[1] FALSE FALSE  TRUE
```

```r
x || y
```

```
Error in x || y: 'length = 3' in coercion to 'logical(1)'
```

```r
x && y
```

```
Error in x && y: 'length = 3' in coercion to 'logical(1)'
```

`&` and `|` are almost always going to be the right choice, the only time we use `&&` or `||` is when you need to take advantage of short-circuit evaluation.

Note previously (before R 4.3) both `||` and `&&` only used the *first* value in the vector, all other values are ignored and there was no warning about the ignored values.

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Vectorization and math

Almost all of the basic mathematical operations (and many other functions) in R are vectorized.

```
c(1, 2, 3) + c(3, 2, 1)
```

```
[1] 4 4 4
```

```
c(1, 2, 3) / c(3, 2, 1)
```

```
[1] 0.3333333 1.0000000
3.0000000
```

```
log(c(1, 3, 0))
```

```
[1] 0.000000 1.098612     -Inf
```

```
sin(c(1, 2, 3))
```

```
[1] 0.8414710 0.9092974
0.1411200
```


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Length coercion (aka recycling)

If the lengths of the vector do not match, then the shorter vector has its values recycled to match the length of the longer vector.

```r
x = c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
y = c(TRUE)
z = c(FALSE, TRUE)
```

```r
x | y
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE
```

```r
y | z
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE
```

```r
x & y
```

```
[1]  TRUE FALSE  TRUE
```

```r
y & z
```

```
[1] FALSE  TRUE
```

```r
x | z
```

```
Warning in x | z: longer object length is not a multiple of
shorter object
length
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE
```


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Length coercion and math

The same length coercion rules apply for most basic mathematical operators,

```r
x = c(1, 2, 3)
y = c(5, 4)
z = 10L
```

```r
x + x
```

```
[1] 2 4 6
```

```r
y / z
```

```
[1] 0.5 0.4
```

```r
x + z
```

```
[1] 11 12 13
```

```r
log(x)+z
```

```
[1] 10.00000 10.69315 11.09861
```

```r
x %% y
```

```
Warning in x%%y: longer object length is not a multiple of
shorter object
length
```

```
[1] 1 2 3
```


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Comparison operators

Operator	Comparison	Vectorized?
`x < y`	less than	Yes
`x > y`	greater than	Yes
`x <= y`	less than or equal to	Yes
`x >= y`	greater than or equal to	Yes
`x != y`	not equal to	Yes
`x == y`	equal to	Yes
`x %in% y`	contains	Yes (over `x`)*

* over `x` means the returned value will have the length of `x` regardless of the length of `y`

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Comparisons

```
x = c("A","B","C")
y = c("A")
```

```
x == y
```

```
[1]  TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

```
x != y
```

```
[1] FALSE  TRUE  TRUE
```

```
x %in% y
```

```
[1]  TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

```
y %in% x
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

Type coercion also applies for comparison opperators which can result in *interesting* behavior

```
TRUE == "TRUE"
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
FALSE == 1
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```
TRUE == 1
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
TRUE == 5
```

```
[1] FALSE
```


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> & < with characters

While maybe somewhat unexpected, these comparison operators can be used character values.

```r
"A" < "B"
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
"A" > "B"
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
"A" < "a"
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
"a" > "!"
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
"Good" < "Goodbye"
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
c("Alice", "Bob", "Carol") <
```

```
[1]  TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

Note - to better understand how this works, i.e. the ordering used, see ASCII code

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Conditional Control Flow

Conditional execution of code blocks is achieved via `if` statements.

```r
x = c(1, 3)
```

```r
if (3 %in% x) {
  print("Contains 3!")
}
```

```
[1] "Contains 3!"
```

```r
if (1 %in% x)
  print("Contains 1!")
```

```
[1] "Contains 1!"
```

```r
if (5 %in% x) {
  print("Contains 5!")
}
```

```r
if (5 %in% x) {
  print("Contains 5!")
} else {
  print("Does not contain 5!
}
```

```
[1] "Does not contain 5!"
```


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`if` is not vectorized

```r
x = c(1, 3)
```

```r
if (x == 1)
  print("x is 1!")
```

```
Error in if (x == 1) print("x is 1!"): the condition has length
> 1
```

```r
if (x == 3)
  print("x is 3!")
```

```
Error in if (x == 3) print("x is 3!"): the condition has length
> 1
```

Note that the behavior seen above (thrown errors) is new in R 4.2, previous versions will only throw warnings (using only the first value in the condition vector).

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Collapsing logical vectors

There are a couple of helper functions for collapsing a logical vector down to a single value: `any`, `all`

```
x = c(3,4,1)
```

```
x >= 2
```

```
[1]  TRUE  TRUE FALSE
```

```
x <= 4
```

```
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE
```

```
any(x >= 2)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
any(x <= 4)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
all(x >= 2)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```
all(x <= 4)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
if (any(x == 3))
  print("x contains 3!")
```

```
[1] "x contains 3!"
```


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`else if` and `else`

```r
x = 3

if (x < 0) {
  "x is negative"
} else if (x > 0) {
  "x is positive"
} else {
  "x is zero"
}
```

```
[1] "x is positive"
```

```r
x = 0

if (x < 0) {
  "x is negative"
} else if (x > 0) {
  "x is positive"
} else {
  "x is zero"
}
```

```
[1] "x is zero"
```


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`if` return values

R's `if` conditional statements return a value (invisibly), the two following implementations are equivalent.

```r
x = 5
```

```r
s = if (x %% 2 == 0) {
  x / 2
} else {
  3*x + 1
}
```

```r
s
```

```
[1] 16
```

```r
x = 5
```

```r
if (x %% 2 == 0) {
  s = x / 2
} else {
  s = 3*x + 1
}
```

```r
s
```

```
[1] 16
```

Notice that conditional expressions are evaluated in the parent scope.

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Exercise 2

Take a look at the following code below on the left, without running it in R what do you expect the outcome will be for each call on the right?

```r
f = function(x) {
  # Check small prime
  if (x > 10 || x < -10) {
    stop("Input too big")
  } else if (x %in% c(2, 3,
    cat("Input is prime!\n")
  } else if (x %% 2 == 0) {
    cat("Input is even!\n")
  } else if (x %% 2 == 1) {
    cat("Input is odd!\n")
  }
}
```

```r
f(1)
f(3)
f(8)
f(-1)
f(-3)
f(1:2)
f("0")
f("3")
f("zero")
```

05:00

More on functions next time

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Conditionals and missing values

`NA`s can be particularly problematic for control flow,

```r
if (2 != NA) {
  "Here"
}
```

```
Error in if (2 != NA) {: missing value
where TRUE/FALSE needed
```

```r
2 != NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
if (all(c(1,2,NA,4) >= 1)) {
  "There"
}
```

```
Error in if (all(c(1, 2, NA, 4) >= 1)) {:
missing value where TRUE/FALSE needed
```

```r
all(c(1,2,NA,4) >= 1)
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
if (any(c(1,2,NA,4) >= 1)) {
  "There"
}
```

```
[1] "There"
```

```r
any(c(1,2,NA,4) >= 1)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```


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Testing for `NA`

To explicitly test if a value is missing it is necessary to use `is.na` (often along with `any` or `all`).

```r
NA == NA
```

```
[1] NA
```

```r
is.na(NA)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
is.na(1)
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

```r
is.na(c(1,2,3,NA))
```

```
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE  TRUE
```

```r
any(is.na(c(1,2,3,NA)))
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```r
all(is.na(c(1,2,3,NA)))
```

```
[1] FALSE
```


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