Dates and times with lubridate:: cheatsheet



Date-times



2017-11-28 12:00:00

A date-time is a point on the timeline, stored as the number of seconds since 1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC

dt <- as_datetime(1511870400) ## "2017-11-28 12:00:00 UTC"

2017-11-28

A **date** is a day stored as the number of days since 1970-01-01

d <- as_date(17498) ## "2017-11-28"

12:00:00

An hms is a **time** stored as the number of seconds since 00:00:00

t <- hms::as_hms(85) ## 00:01:25

PARSE DATE-TIMES (Convert strings or numbers to date-times)

- 1. Identify the order of the year (y), month (m), day (d), hour (h), minute (**m**) and second (**s**) elements in your data.
- 2. Use the function below whose name replicates the order. Each accepts a tz argument to set the time zone, e.g. ymd(x, tz = "UTC").

.....

2017-11-28714:02:00

2017-22-12 10:00:00

11/28/2017 1:02:03

1 Jan 2017 23:59:59

20170131

July 4th, 2000 4th of July '99

2001: 03

07-2020

2017.5

2:01

ymd_hms(), ymd_hm(), ymd_h(). vmd hms("2017-11-28T14:02:00")

ydm_hms(), ydm_hm(), ydm_h(). ydm hms("2017-22-12 10:00:00"

mdy_hms(), mdy_hm(), mdy_h(). mdy hms("11/28/2017 1:02:03")

dmy_hms(), dmy_hm(), dmy_h(). dmy hms("1 Jan 2017 23:59:59"

ymd(), **ydm()**. ymd(20170131)

mdy(), myd(). mdy("July 4th, 2000")

dmy(), dym(). dmy("4th of July '99")

yq() Q for quarter. yq("2001: Q3")

my(), ym(). my("07-2020")

date decimal(2017.5)

hms::hms() Also lubridate::hms(), **hm()** and **ms()**, which return periods.* hms::hms(seconds = 0, minutes = 1, hours = 2)

date_decimal(decimal, tz = "UTC")

now(tzone = "") Current time in tz

today(tzone = "") Current date in a

tz (defaults to system tz). today()

fast_strptime() Faster strptime.

fast_strptime("9/1/01", "%y/%m/%d")

parse_date_time() Easier strptime.

parse_date_time("09-01-01", "ymd")

(defaults to system tz). now()

GET AND SET COMPONENTS

Use an accessor function to get a component. Assign into an accessor function to change a component in place.

d## "2017-11-28" dav(d) ## 28 day(d) <- 1 d ## "2017-11-01"

2018-01-31 11:59:59

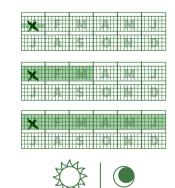
2018-01-31 11:59:59

2018-01-31 11:59:59

2018-01-31 11:59:59

2018-01-31 11:59:59 UTC





date(x) Date component. date(dt)

year(x) Year. year(dt) isoyear(x) The ISO 8601 year. epivear(x) Epidemiological year.

month(x, label, abbr) Month.

day(x) Day of month. day(dt) wday(x, label, abbr) Day of week.

minute(x) Minutes. minute(dt)

second(x) Seconds. second(dt)

tz(x) Time zone. tz(dt)

week(x) Week of the year. week(dt) isoweek() ISO 8601 week. epiweek() Epidemiological week.

quarter(x) Quarter. quarter(dt)

semester(x, with_year = FALSE) **Semester.** semester(dt)

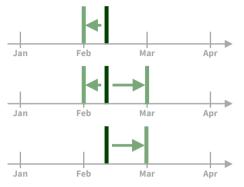
am(x) Is it in the am? am(dt) pm(x) Is it in the pm? pm(dt)

dst(x) Is it daylight savings? dst(d)

leap_year(x**)** Is it a leap year? leap_year(d)

update(object, ..., simple = FALSE) update(dt, mday = 2, hour = 1)

Round Date-times



floor_date(x, unit = "second") Round down to nearest unit. floor date(dt, unit = "month")

round date(x, unit = "second") Round to nearest unit. round date(dt, unit = "month")

ceiling_date(x, unit = "second", change on boundary = NULL) Round up to nearest unit. ceiling_date(dt, unit = "month")

Valid units are second, minute, hour, day, week, month, bimonth, guarter, season, halfyear and year.

rollback(dates, roll to first = FALSE, preserve_hms = TRUE) Roll back to last day of previous month. Also rollforward(). rollback(dt)

Stamp Date-times

stamp() Derive a template from an example string and return a new function that will apply the template to date-times. Also stamp_date() and stamp_time().

1. Derive a template, create a function sf <- stamp("Created Sunday, Jan 17, 1999 3:34")

Tip: use a date with

2. Apply the template to dates sf(ymd("2010-04-05")) ## [1] "Created Monday, Apr 05, 2010 00:00"

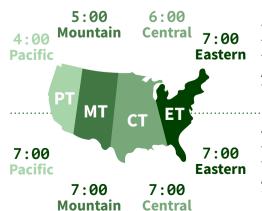
Time Zones

R recognizes ~600 time zones. Each encodes the time zone, Daylight Savings Time, and historical calendar variations for an area. R assigns one time zone per vector.

Use the **UTC** time zone to avoid Davlight Savings.

OlsonNames() Returns a list of valid time zone names. OlsonNames()

Sys.timezone() Gets current time zone.



with_tz(time, tzone = "") Get the **same date-time** in a new time zone (a new clock time). Also local_time(dt, tz, units). with_tz(dt, "US/Pacific")

force_tz(time, tzone = "") Get the same clock time in a new time zone (a new date-time). Also force tzs().

force_tz(dt, "US/Pacific")



Math with Date-times — Lubridate provides three classes of timespans to facilitate math with dates and date-times.

Math with date-times relies on the **timeline**. which behaves inconsistently. Consider how the timeline behaves during:

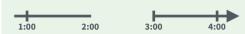
A normal day

nor <- ymd hms("2018-01-01 01:30:00",tz="US/Eastern")



The start of daylight savings (spring forward)

gap <- ymd hms("2018-03-11 01:30:00",tz="US/Eastern")

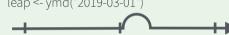


The end of daylight savings (fall back)

lap <- ymd hms("2018-11-04 00:30:00",tz="US/Eastern")



Leap years and leap seconds leap <- ymd("2019-03-01")



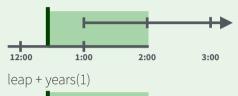
Periods track changes in clock times, which ignore time line irregularities.



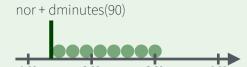




lap + minutes(90)



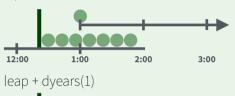
Durations track the passage of physical time, which deviates from clock time when irregularities occur.







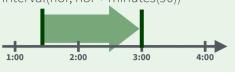
lap + dminutes(90)

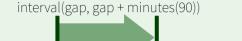




Intervals represent specific intervals of the timeline, bounded by start and end date-times.

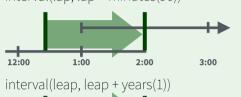








2:00





Not all years are 365 days due to leap days.

Not all minutes are 60 seconds due to leap seconds.

It is possible to create an imaginary date by adding **months**, e.g. February 31st

jan31 <- ymd(20180131) ian31 + months(1) ## NA

%m+% and %m-% will roll imaginary dates to the last day of the previous month.

ian31 %m+% months(1) ## "2018-02-28"

add_with_rollback(e1, e2, roll to first = TRUE) will roll imaginary dates to the first day of the new month.

add with rollback(jan31, months(1), roll to first = TRUE) ## "2018-03-01"

PERIODS

Add or subtract periods to model events that happen at specific clock times, like the NYSE opening bell.

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Make a period with the name of a time unit **pluralized**, e.g.

p <- months(3) + days(12) "3m 12d 0H 0M 0S" of day:

years(x = 1**)** x years. months(x) x months.

weeks(x = 1) x weeks. $days(x = 1) \times days.$

hours(x = 1**)** x hours.

minutes(x = 1) x minutes.

seconds(x = 1) x seconds.

 $milliseconds(x = 1) \times milliseconds.$

microseconds(x = 1) x microseconds

nanoseconds(x = 1) x nanoseconds.

picoseconds(x = 1) x picoseconds.

period(num = NULL, units = "second", ...) An automation friendly period constructor. period(5, unit = "years")

as.period(x, unit) Coerce a timespan to a period, optionally in the specified units. Also is.period(). as.period(p)

period_to_seconds(x) Convert a period to the "standard" number of seconds implied by the period. Also **seconds_to_period()**. period to seconds(p)

DURATIONS

Add or subtract durations to model physical processes, like battery life. Durations are stored as seconds, the only time unit with a consistent length. **Difftimes** are a class of durations found in base R.

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Make a duration with the name of a period prefixed with a **d**, e.g.

dd <- ddays(14) "1209600s (~2 weeks)" **dyears(**x = 1) 31536000x seconds. **dmonths(**x = 1) 2629800x seconds.

dweeks(x = 1) 604800x seconds.

ddays(x = 1) 86400x seconds.

dhours(x = 1**)** 3600x seconds.

dminutes(x = 1**)** 60x seconds. $dseconds(x = 1) \times seconds.$

dmilliseconds(x = 1**)** $x \times 10^{-3}$ seconds.

dmicroseconds(x = 1) $x \times 10^{-6}$ seconds. **dnanoseconds(**x = 1**)** $x \times 10^{-9}$ seconds. **dpicoseconds(**x = 1**)** $x \times 10^{-12}$ seconds.

duration(num = NULL, units = "second", ...) An automation friendly duration **constructor.** duration(5, unit = "years")

as.duration(x, ...) Coerce a timespan to a duration. Also is.duration(), is.difftime(). as.duration(i)

make_difftime(x) Make difftime with the specified number of units. make_difftime(99999)

INTERVALS

Divide an interval by a duration to determine its physical length, divide an interval by a period to determine its implied length in clock time.

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Make an interval with **interval()** or %--%, e.g.



i <- interval(vmd("2017-01-01"), d) j <- d %--% ymd("2017-12-31")

2017-01-01 ÚTC--2017-11-28 UTC ## 2017-11-28 UTC--2017-12-31 UTC



a **%within%** b Does interval or date-time a fall within interval b? now() %within% i



int_start(int) Access/set the start date-time of an interval. Also int_end(). int_start(i) <- now();</pre> int start(i)



int_aligns(int1, int2) Do two intervals share a boundary? Also int_overlaps(). int_aligns(i, j)

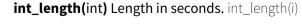
int_diff(times) Make the intervals that occur



between the date-times in a vector. v < -c(dt, dt + 100, dt + 1000); int diff(v)



int_flip(int) Reverse the direction of an interval. Also int_standardize(). int_flip(i)





int shift(int, by) Shifts an interval up or down the timeline by a timespan. int shift(i, days(-1))

as.interval(x, start, ...) Coerce a timespan to an interval with the start date-time. Also is.interval(). as.interval(days(1), start = now())

