

# R Bootcamp: Dataframe access & What is it?

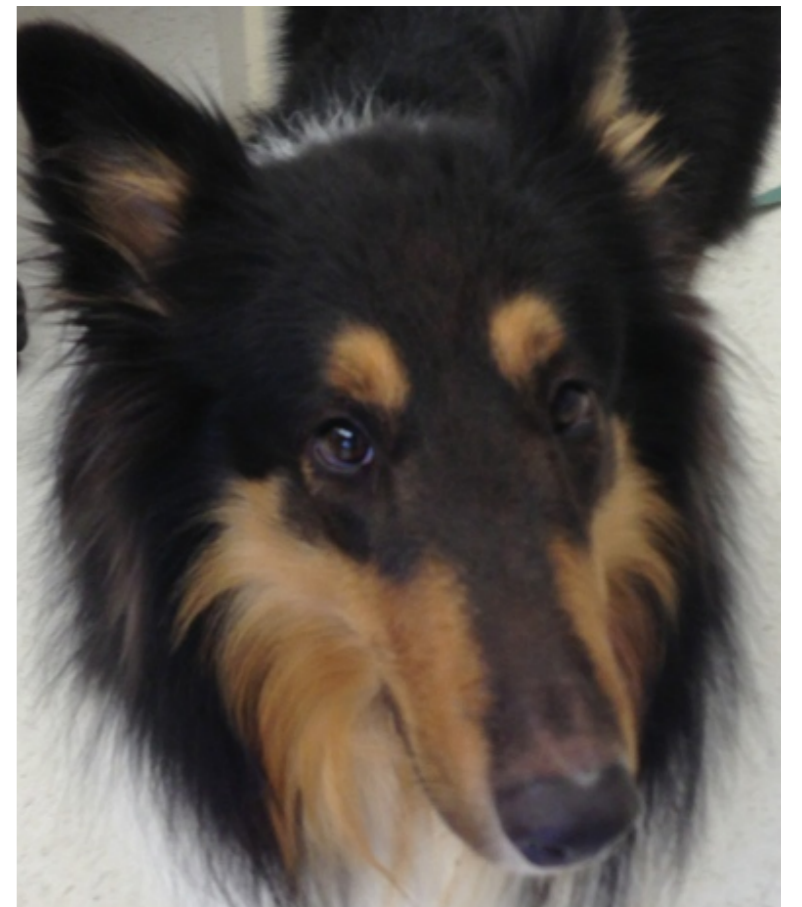


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# R object types

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“**Atomic**” basic types for the single element. (can't break it down any further).

numeric  
character  
logical

All objects have **class**, **mode** and **length** (the number of vector elements; everything is a vector in R)

**names** are optional

**Derived** : combinations of atomic types or with special attributes





# R object types

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**Derived** : combinations of atomic types or with special attributes

factor  
dataframe  
custom-programmed

Derived objects can have **attributes** such as:

**dim** (dimensions -- number of rows, columns)

**row.names**

(other programmer-defined attributes)

# R object types

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**Vector:** a one-dimensional array of arbitrary length.

**Matrix:** a two-dimensional array with an arbitrary number of rows and columns.

**Array:** as a matrix, but of **arbitrary dimension** (i.e., more than 2).

**Data frame:** a set of data organized similarly to a matrix. However each column of the data frame may contain its own type of data. Columns typically correspond to variables in a statistical study, while rows correspond to observations of these variables.

**Function:** a set of commands that are packaged into a unit with defined input and output (I/O is not necessary, though).

**List:** an arbitrary collection of other R objects (which may include other lists).

```
> x <- cbind(a=1:3, pi=pi) # simple
                        # matrix w/ dimnames
```

```
> x
      a      pi
[1,] 1 3.141593
[2,] 2 3.141593
[3,] 3 3.141593
```

```
> class(x)
[1] "matrix"
```

```
> attributes(x)
$dim
[1] 3 2

$dimnames
$dimnames[[1]]
NULL
```

```
$dimnames[[2]]
[1] "a" "pi"
```

```
> attributes(x) <- NULL
> x # now just a vector of length 6
```

```
[1] 1.000000 2.000000 3.000000 3.141593
     3.141593 3.141593
```

```
> class(x) # vector is default mode
[1] "numeric"
```

# How does R store data?

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R can **save** information in variables or objects

**Assignment** works by two types of operators:

**Equal** sign: right side stored in left side

> `x = 6` (put 6 into x)

**Arrow**: assignment direction follows arrow

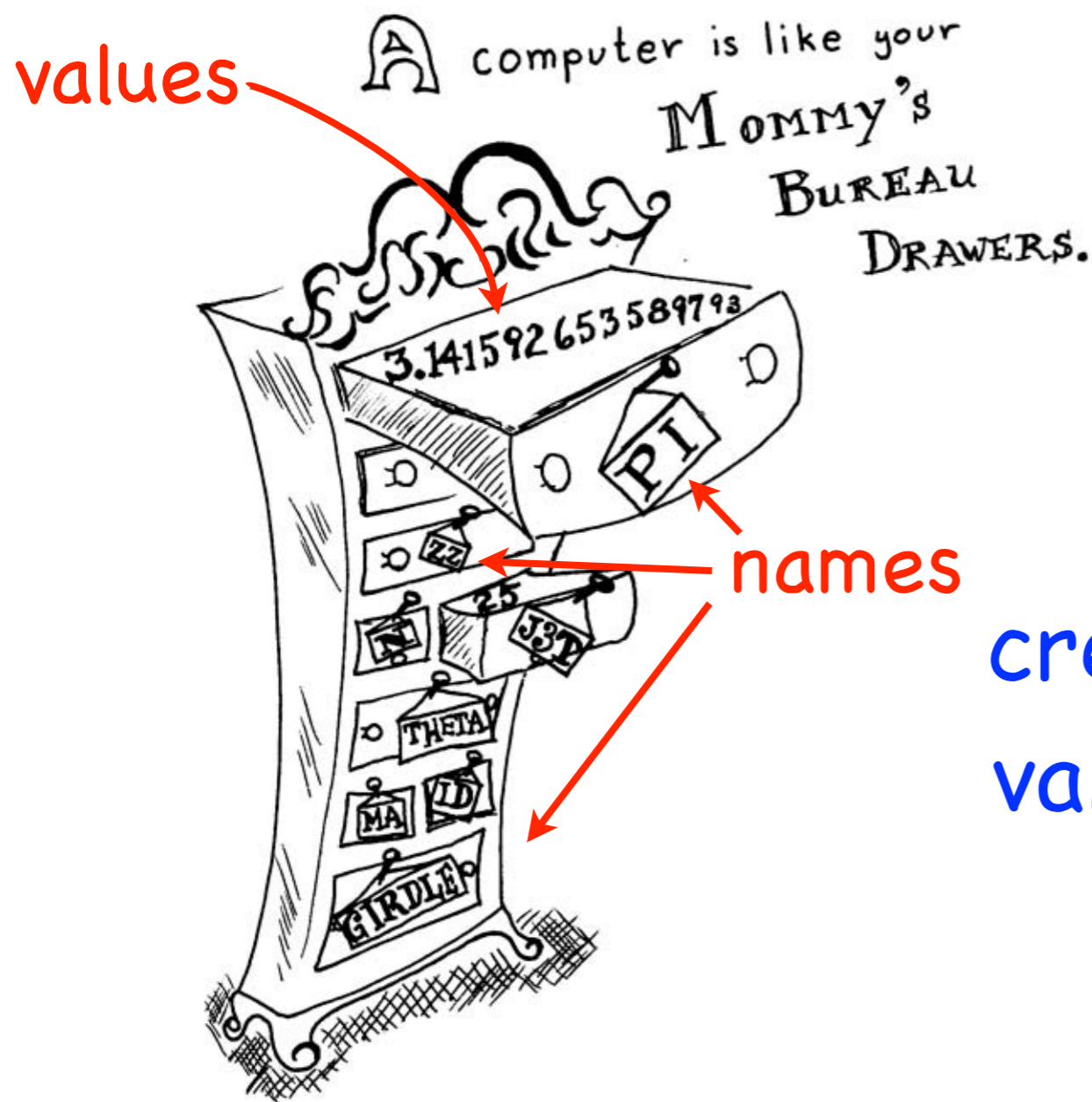
> `x <- 6` (put 6 into x)

> `6 -> x` (put 6 into x)

> `6 = x` (error! cannot put x into 6)



# How does R store data?



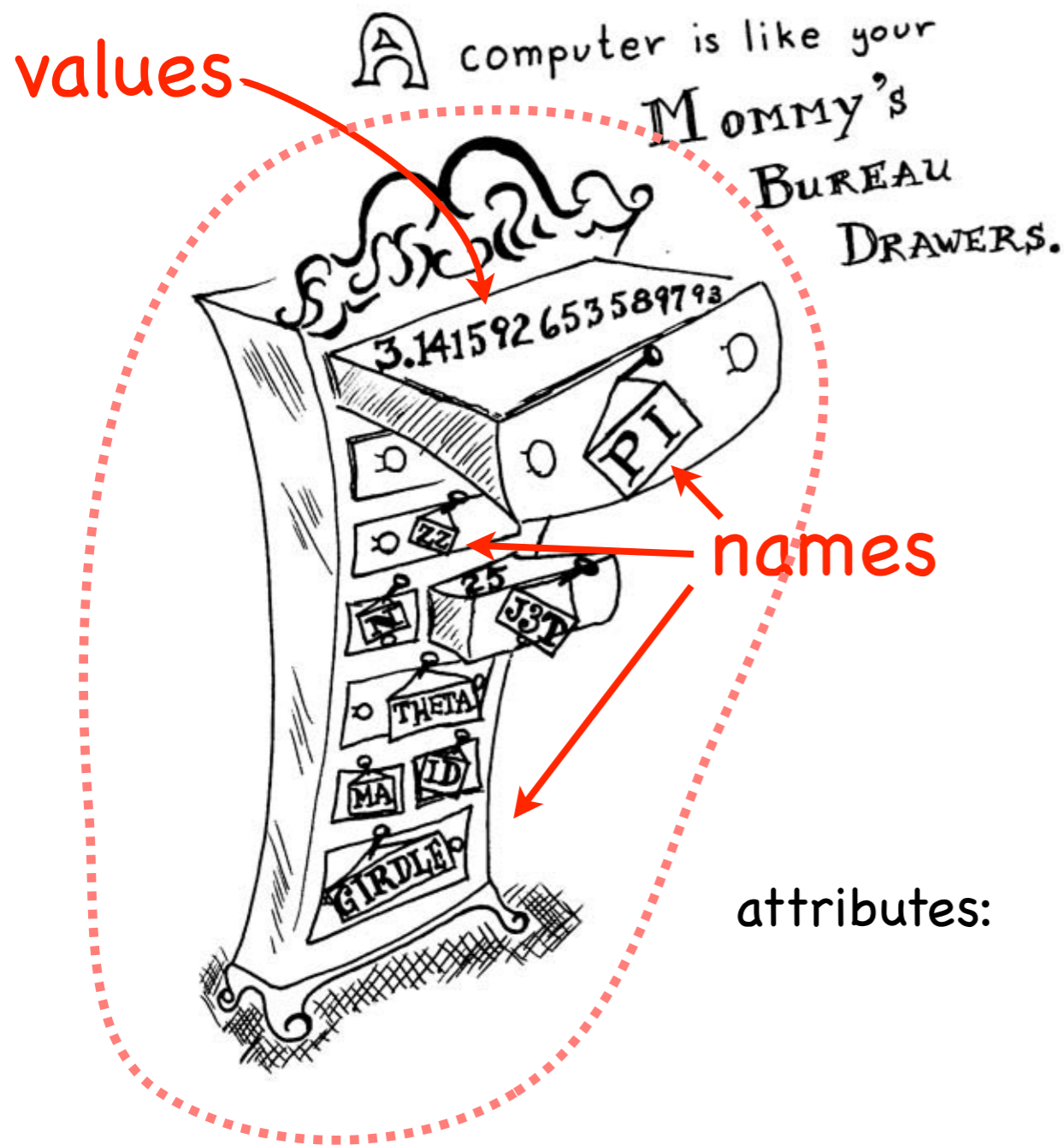
In R, there are drawers for:

- Numbers
- Characters (alphabetical strings)
- Logical (TRUE or FALSE)
- Complex Numbers (don't worry)

Create a new drawer by creating a name, and shoving a value into it - R will assign the "type" or "mode"

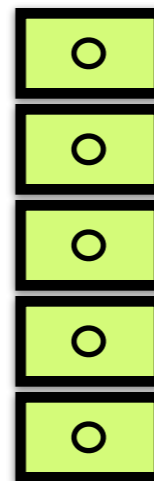
```
> x <- 25  
name      value  
  
> mode(x)  
[1] "numeric"
```

# How does R store data?



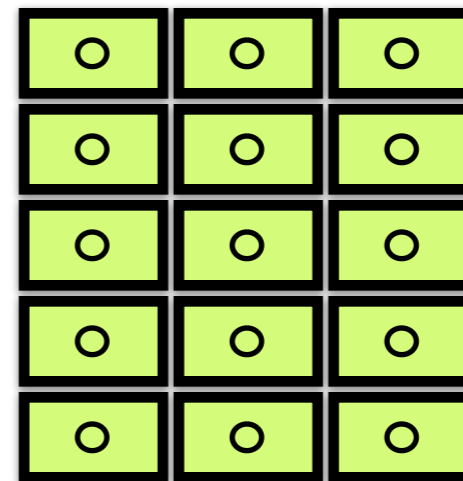
## Bureaus can come in different shapes

Vector



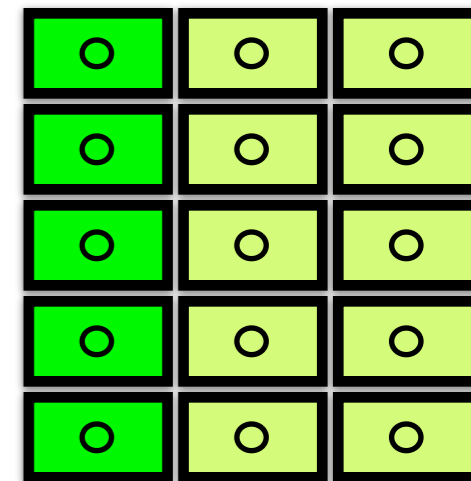
length

Matrix



dimensions(5 rows, 3 columns)

Data Frame

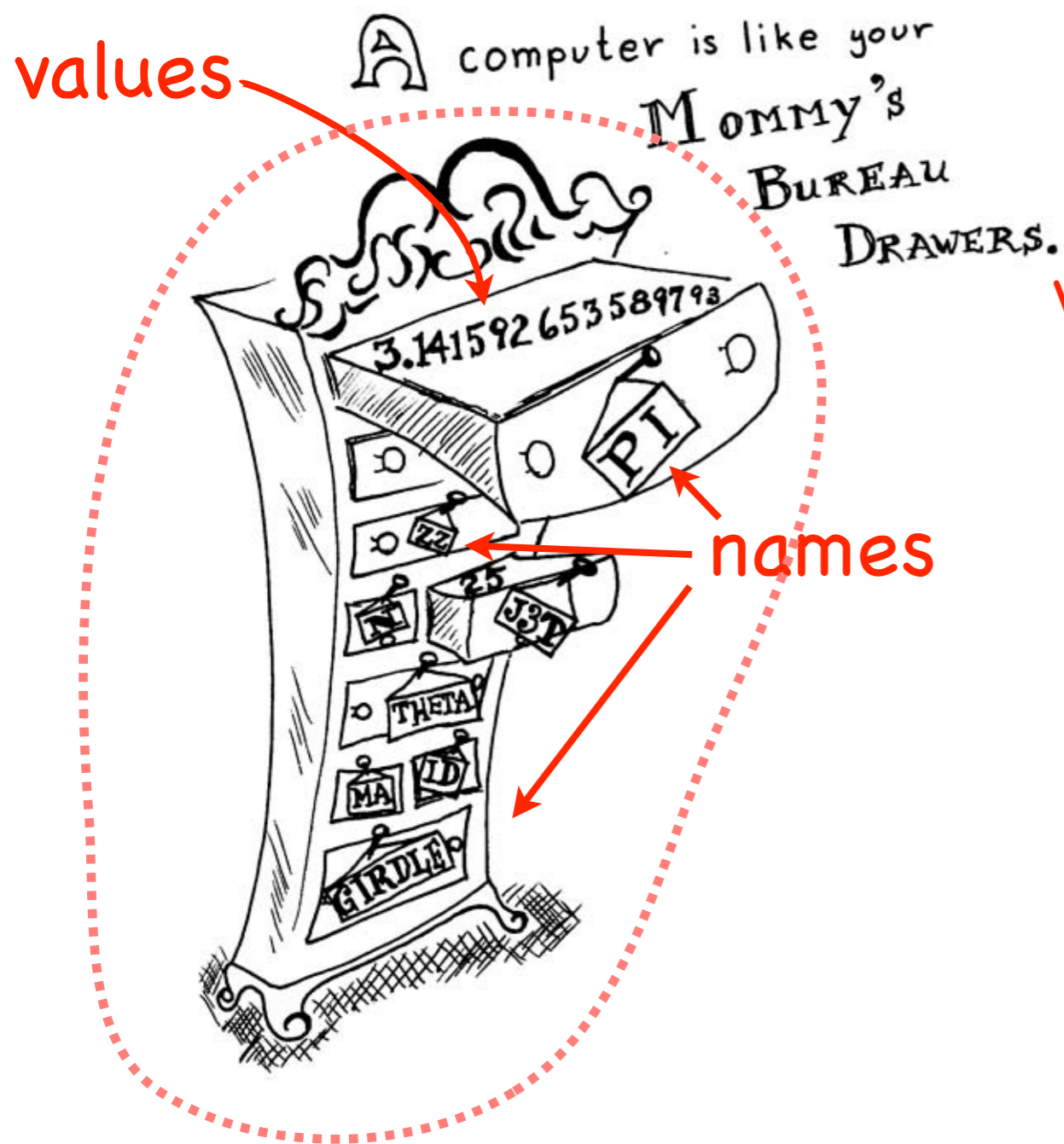


Rectangular!  
all columns have same length

Object

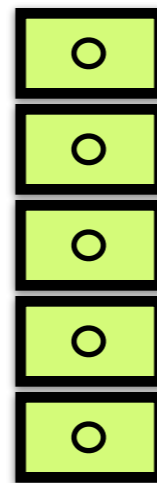


# How does R store data?



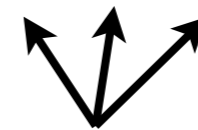
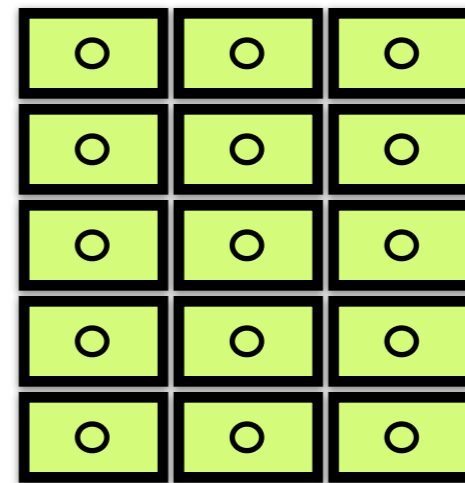
## Bureaus can come in different shapes

Vector



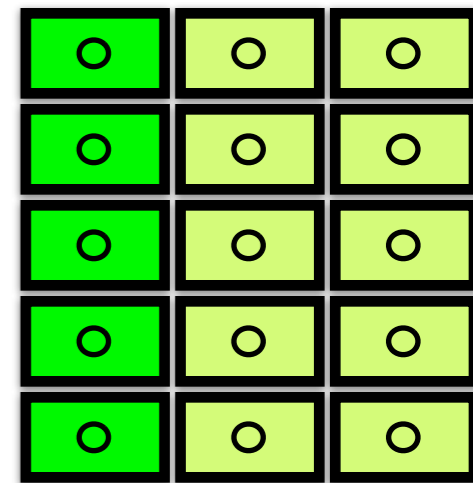
All values same type  
numeric vector  
or  
character matrix  
etc.

Matrix



character  
e.g. species

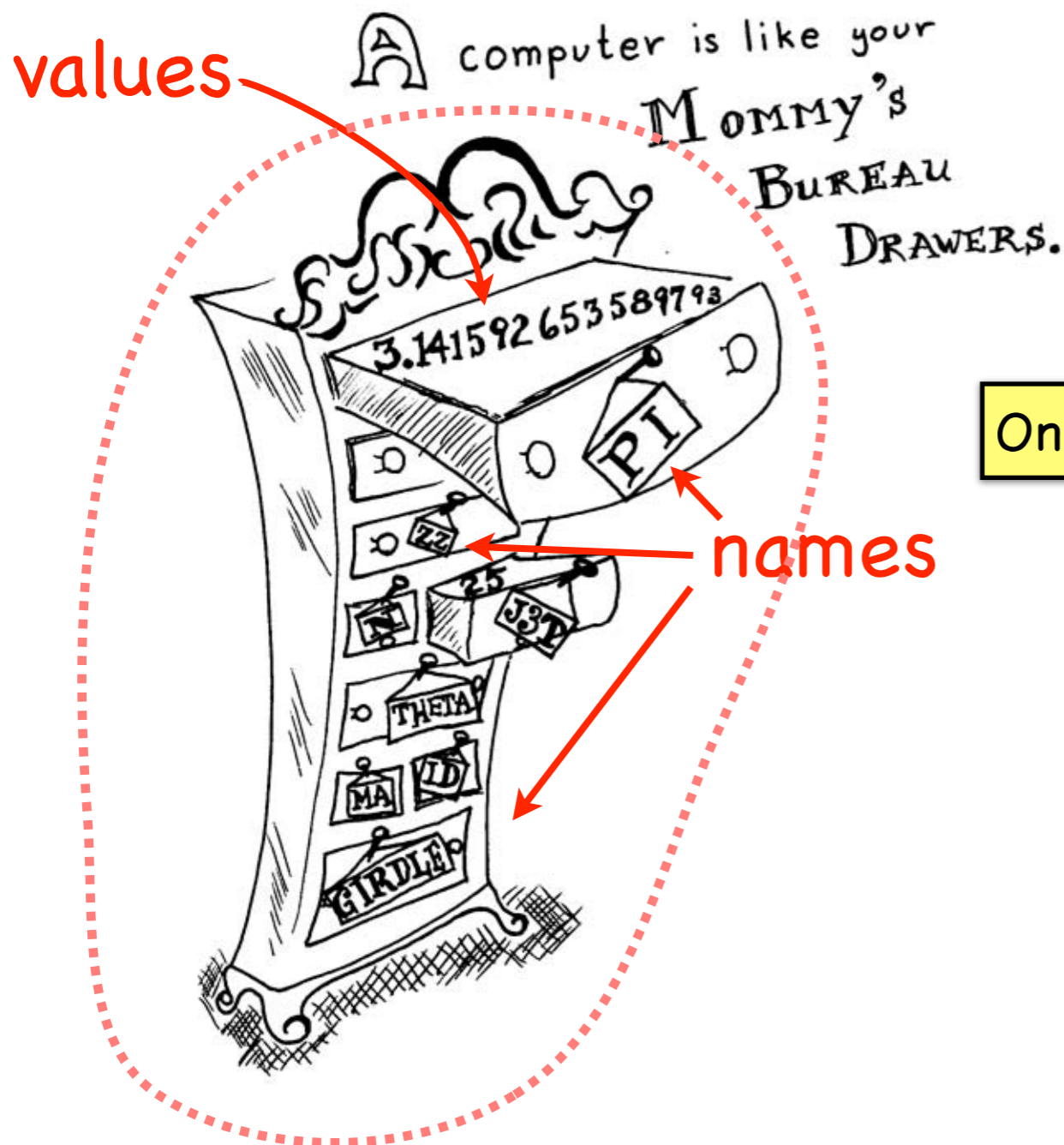
"record format"  
Data Frame



numeric  
size, mass

Object

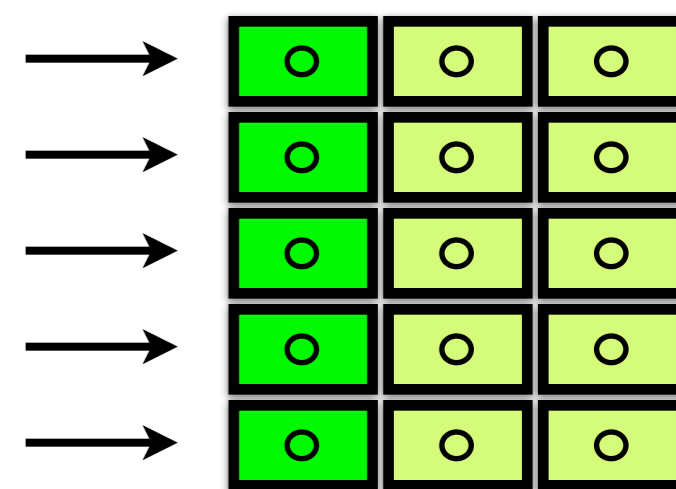
# How does R store data?



## Bureaus can come in different shapes

"record format"  
**Data Frame**

One row = one observation



For example: species name size mass  
character vector numeric vector numeric vector

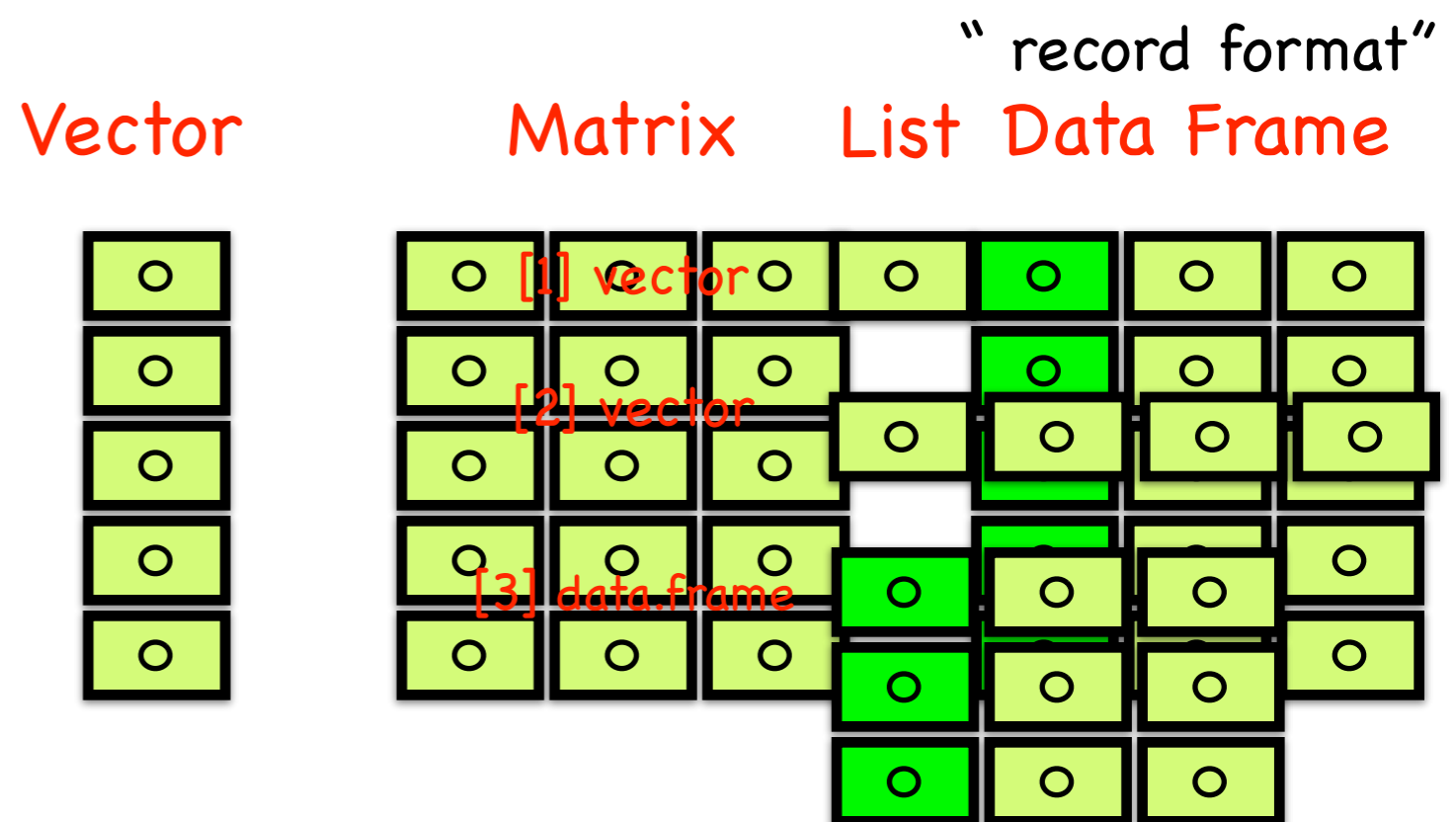
**Object**

values in each vector  
same type,  
but vectors can be  
different types

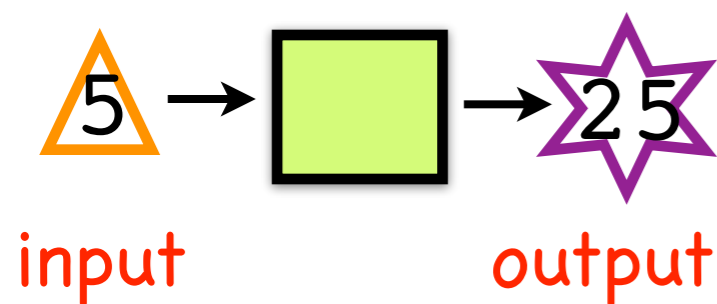


# How does R store data?

## But also of different shapes classes and objects



## Functions



- a “list” of objects
- offers more flexibility
- often used for model output
- R has many functions that operate on lists

# Common Sources of Error

---

## 1) Typos! Computers are very anal that way.

- > `length = 6 #` is not the same as
- > `lengths = 6`

## 2) R is case sensitive

- > `length != Length`

## 3) Using ( ) when should use [ ] and vice versa

- > `mean(x) #` use ( ) for functions
- > `mean[x] #` error
- > `x[5] #` select an element of a vector, matrix, data.frame, etc.
- > `x(5) #` error

## 4) No comma or comma in the wrong place

- > `x[5,3] #` fifth row, third column of x
- > `x[5 3] #` error
- > `x[5,3,] #` error



# Common Sources of Error

---

5) Forgetting quotes for character strings (R will assume it's another named object or variable)

```
> treatment = c("a", "b", "c")
```

```
> treatment == a      # error - R thinks a is another object
```

# What is it?

---

**mode** : the atomic data type (**class** = **mode** if object is atomic)

numeric  
character  
logical

**class** : classes can be derived or atomic --  
(and which methods are applied to the object  
are determined by its class)

factor  
dataframe  
custom-programmed

When working with a new package,  
you want to know what kind of objects you are dealing with:

A common source of error is trying to input  
the wrong class of object  
into a function

# Accessing parts of your dataframe

How matters, because of Inheritance

by index: `mydat[ row #, column #]`

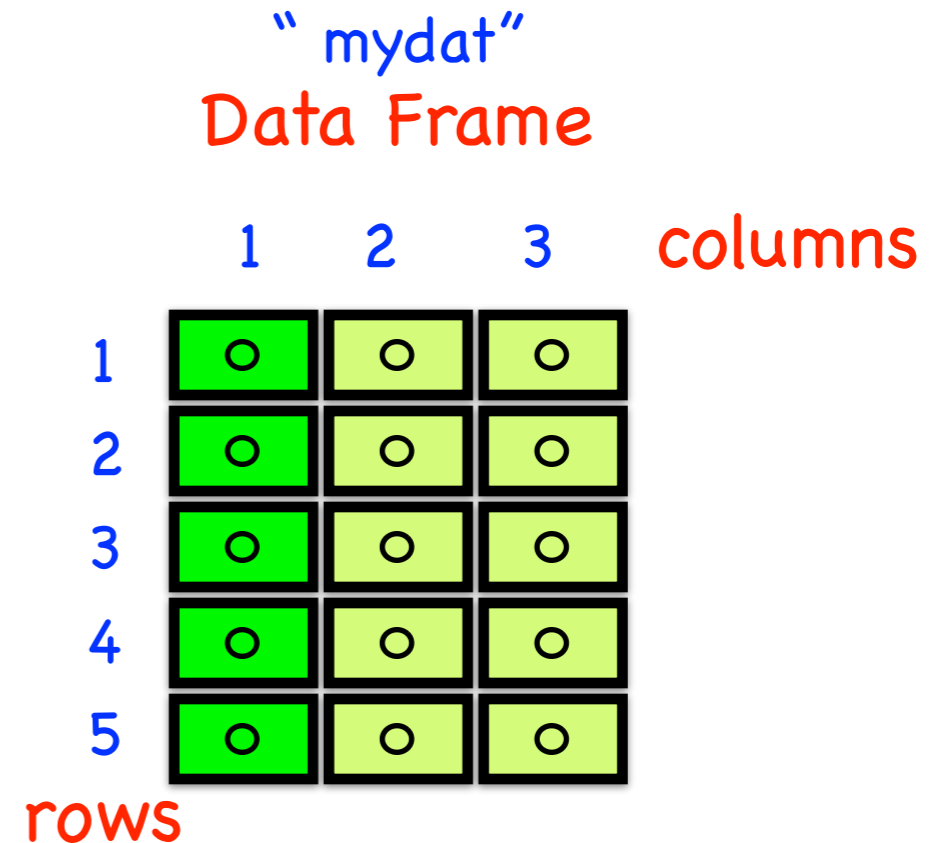
```
> mydat[2, 1] # row 2, col 1
> mydat[2, ]  # entire row 2
> mydat[, 1]  # entire first col
```

by name:

```
> mydat[, "species"] # species col
> mydat["species"]   # same
> mydat[2, "size"]   # row 2, col 2
```

using \$:

```
> mydat$species # species col
> mydat$mass    # mass col
```



"species" "size" "mass" names  
can also have rownames



# What is it?

The class of the new object depends on HOW you grab it  
Classes are inherited

Psst: A dataframe is a list of vectors

using the `[]` method gets a **subset**  
of the dataframe = smaller dataframe

```
> mydat[2, 1]
```

```
> mydat[, "species"]
```

outside

using the `$` method grabs a **vector**  
from inside the dataframe = vector

```
> mydat$species # species col
```

`[[ ]]` method: grabs the first level  
element "inside" the dataframe = vector

```
> mydat[[1]] # first column
```

