

Can someone please help me fix the error in R that says “Error in as.Date.numeric(x) : ‘origin’ must be supplied” when using the Fix function?

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The issue at hand is a common error encountered when using the "Fix" function in R. This error message, "Error in as.Date.numeric(x) : 'origin' must be supplied", indicates that the function requires an "origin" parameter to be specified in order to work properly. This parameter refers to the starting date or reference point for the date values in the data being manipulated. Therefore, to solve this error, the user must provide the appropriate "origin" value when utilizing the "Fix" function.

Fix in R: Error in as.Date.numeric(x) : 'origin' must be supplied

One error you may encounter in R is:

Error in as.Date.numeric(x) : 'origin' must be supplied

This error usually occurs when you attempt to convert a number to a date in R, but fail to provide an origin date.

This tutorial shares exactly how to fix this error.

How to Reproduce the Error

Suppose we have the following data frame in R that shows the total sales made during various days by some company:

#create data frame

```
df <- data.frame(date=c(27, 140, 180, 200),  
sales=c(12, 22, 30, 31))
```

#view data frame

df

date sales

1 27 12

2 140 22

3 180 30

4 200 31

We can use the function to view the structure of the data frame:

#view structure of data frame`str(df)`

'data.frame': 4 obs. of 2 variables:

\$ date : num 27 140 180 200

\$ sales: num 12 22 30 31

We can see that the date and sales columns are both numeric.

Now suppose we attempt to convert the date column to a date format:

#attempt to convert date column to date format`df$date`

```
<- as.Date(df$date)
```

Error in as.Date.numeric(df\$date) : 'origin' must be supplied

We receive an error because we we did not use the origin argument within the as.Date() function.

How to Fix the Error

The way to fix this error is to simply provide an origin date so that R knows how to convert the numbers to dates:

```
#convert date column to date format, using 2020-01-01 as origin date
```

```
df$date <- as.Date(df$date, origin="2020-01-01")
```

```
#view updated data frame
```

```
df
```

```
date sales
```

```
1 2020-01-28 12
```

```
2 2020-05-20 22
```

```
3 2020-06-29 30
```

```
4 2020-07-19 31
```

By supplying an origin date, R converted the numbers to dates by adding the number of days to the origin supplied.

The first date value of 27 was converted to 2020-01-28 by adding 27 days to the origin date of 2020-01-01. The second date value of 140 was converted to 2020-05-20 by adding 140 days to the origin date of 2020-01-01.

And so on.

We can also use the class() function to confirm that the new column is indeed a date:

```
#display class of date column  
class(df$date)
```

"Date"

The new column is now a date instead of a number.

Additional Resources

The following tutorials explain how to troubleshoot other common errors in R:

[How to Fix in R: longer object length is not a multiple of](#)

shorter object length

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