

R for Statistics and Graphics

Session 1
Basics

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19 April 2019

Outline of the Crash Course

- **R installation and a quick demo**
- **R syntax and a few simple rules**
- **Basic and beyond basic statistics**
- **Statistical power, survival analysis, meta-analysis, permutation test, diagnostic test assessment incl. ROC analysis, cluster analysis**
- **R Studio and R Commander**

Teaching Philosophy of the Crash Course

R Views


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An R community blog edited
by  Studio
📍 Boston, MA

200
POSTS

158
TAGS



How to Teach R: Common mistakes

📅 2017-02-22

by Garrett Grolemond

Would you like to teach people to use R? If so, I would like to jump-start your efforts.

I'm one half of RStudio's education team, and I've taught thousands of people to use R, usually in face-to-face workshops. Over time, I've come to appreciate that teaching R in a short workshop is an unusual challenge that requires an unusual approach: you cannot teach a short workshop in the same way that you would teach a college course, and you should not teach R in the same way you would teach Python, UNIX or C.

In the next few blog posts, I'll share the pedagogy that I've adopted for teaching R workshops. These ideas have made my life easier and my students happier (based on student feedback). I think they can do the same for you.

We'll begin in this post by identifying common mistakes that ensnare new R teachers. Each of these mistakes seems like a good idea at first glance, but leads to an unsuccessful short workshop, and I'll tell you why. To make things simple, I've recast each mistake as a principle to follow. Let's examine them one by one:

- **DO NOT teach R as if it were a programming language.** Why not? Because R is a programming language *for doing data science*. You can be confident that your students want to use R to make graphs, fit models, and impress their colleagues. Show them how to do these empowering things and then teach programming later, as a way to do these things even better. To be honest, if your students only wanted to learn how to program, they would be studying another language.

The Best Single Printed Source for Beginners



LEARN TO USE R

Your hands-on guide

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 2 Introduction | 17 Painless data visualization |
| 6 Getting your data into R | 26 Syntax quirks you'll want to know |
| 10 Easy ways to do basic data analysis | 33 Useful resources |

by Sharon Machlis
edited by Johanna Ambrosio

COMPUTERWORLD

ADVANCED BEGINNER'S

guide to



By Sharon Machlis, Edited by Johanna Ambrosio

COMPUTERWORLD
FROM IDG

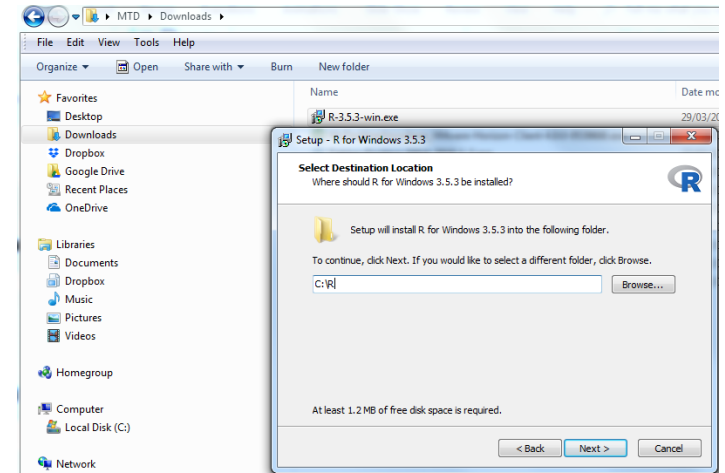
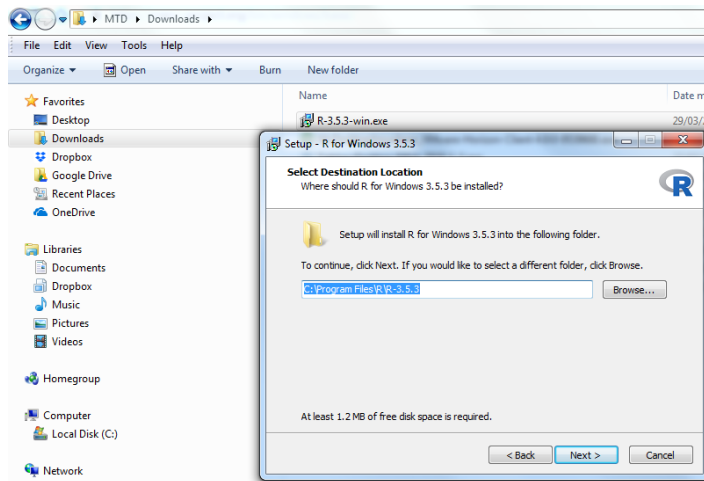
R Installation I

- Go to <https://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/base>
- Click on [Download R 4.0.3 for Windows](#) * (*as of December 2020*)
- Download R-4.0.3-win.exe
- Locate the exe file and double click on it
- Click RUN (accept defaults or see the next slide)

* If you have R version <4.0.0 already installed, please update your R to version >4.0.0)

R Installation II

- When reached "Select Destination Location", change it to "C:\R" (optional)

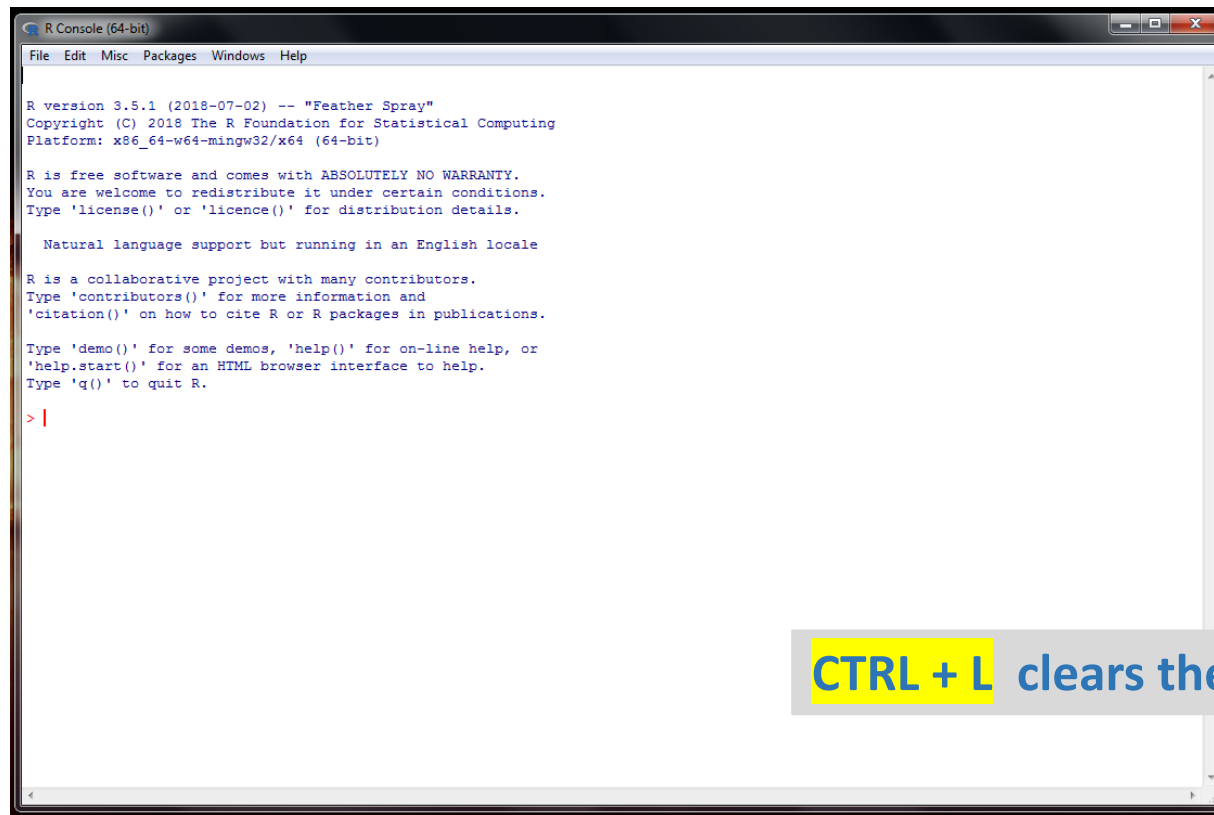


R Installation III

- Continue with installation accepting default options
- In a few minutes, R is installed and there should be R icons in the start up menu and on the desktop
- Start R!

What Does R Look Like?

- R looks nothing like you expect!
- After some messages, just a blank page



The screenshot shows the R Console window titled "R Console (64-bit)". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Misc", "Packages", "Windows", and "Help". The console displays the following text:

```
R version 3.5.1 (2018-07-02) -- "Feather Spray"
Copyright (C) 2018 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-w64-mingw32/x64 (64-bit)

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> |
```

CTRL + L clears the screen

R Installation IV

- If the necessary R packages are not yet installed for you on the computer you are using, or if you are using your own computer, please use the script "`installation1.R`" to install them (see slide 30)

OR:

- Select "`Set CRAN mirror..`" in the Packages menu on top of the R console. A pop-up window will open
- Select the nearest mirror site for downloading the packages
- Open the script file with Notepad or any text editor. You can also open it with R (`File > Open script..`)
- Then type each line of the text in the script file and press ENTER. Keep doing so until the end of the script file
- Wait until R stops working, and you have installed all necessary packages. Disregard any messages from R

What To Do With R?

- You need to know how to talk to R
- Download and open "s1.R" as described in slide 30
- Try typing `2*2` and press ENTER

```
> 2 * 2
[1] 4
```
- Now try typing something like `1897985645567.98 * 3465.96873` and press ENTER

```
> 2 * 2
[1] 4
> 1897985645567.98 * 3465.96873
[1] 6.578359e+15
```
- You can use R as at least a calculator even for very complex calculations
- Let's do something more serious using a dataset that comes with R (called `iris`)
- Loading a built-in dataset (there are many of them) is easy; to see the complete list, type: `data()`
- Type: `data(iris)` and press ENTER
- Nothing happens!

Script: s1.R

What To Do With R?

- Dataset `iris`, however, is loaded in the memory and you can use it for analysis or for manipulation
- Just type: `iris` and press ENTER to see the whole dataset on the screen (which is not a good idea!)
- In case the dataset is too large, you want to be careful. First, check its dimensions (row and column numbers) by typing:
`dim(iris)`
- It has 150 rows and 5 columns
- Now type: `head(iris)`
- Now type: `tail(iris)`
- The top (head) or bottom (tail) 5 rows of the dataset will be printed on the screen
- You can learn more about the structure of the dataset by typing: `str(iris)` {also try: `Str(iris)`}

```
> dim(iris)
[1] 150  5
```

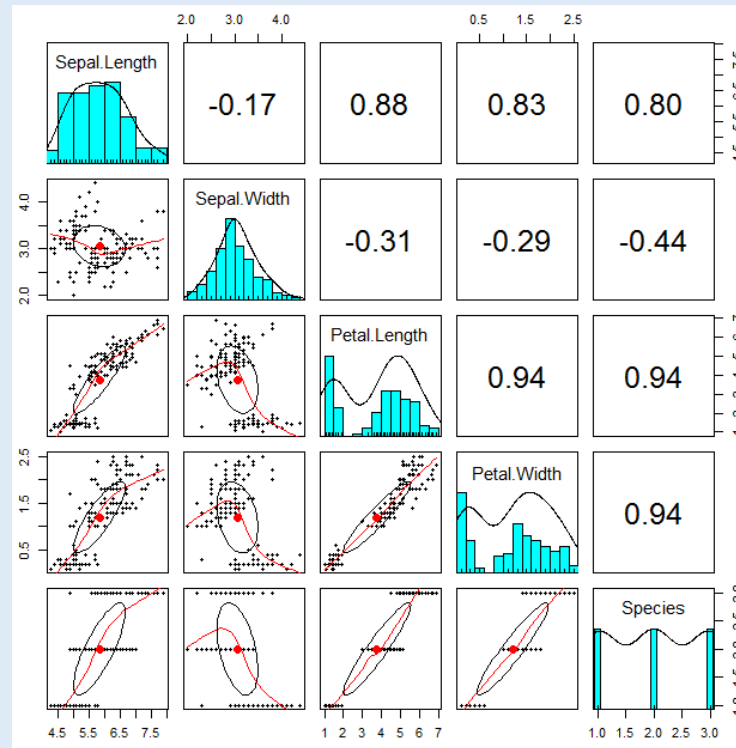
What To Do With R?

- Time to do some real analysis of this dataset. Type (or copy/paste) each of the following lines one by one followed by ENTER
- `summary(iris)`
- `boxplot(iris)`
- `boxplot(iris[-5])`
- `boxplot(iris)`
- `boxplot(iris[-5], col = "red")` #adding color
- `abline(h = 3.5, col = "red")` #adding a horizontal line
- `boxplot(iris$Sepal.Length ~ iris$Species)`
- `hist(iris$Sepal.Length)`
- `pairs(iris[-5])`
- `my_cols <- c("red", "blue", "green")` #carry on to the next line
- `pairs(iris[1:4], pch = 19, cex = 0.5, col = my_cols[iris$Species], lower.panel=NULL)`
- Have you said Wow! yet?

What To Do With R?

- If you haven't said Wow! yet, try this:

```
library("psych"); pairs.panels(iris, method = "spearman")
```



➤ **Wow!**

What To Do With R?

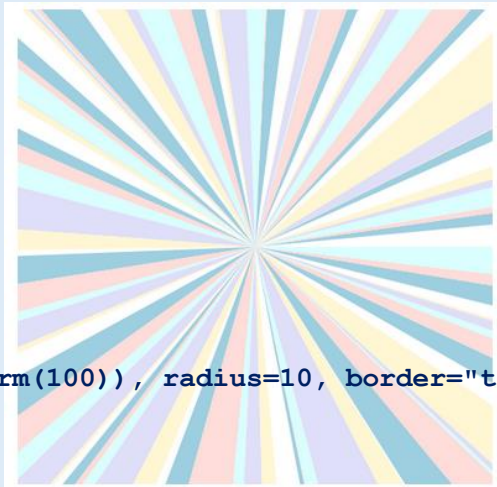
Now, run the script "demo1.R"

(You can do aRt with R!)

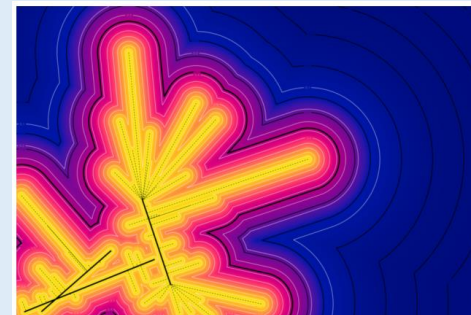


THE R GRAPH
GALLERY

Inspiration and Help with R Graphics



```
pie(abs(rnorm(100)), radius=10, border="transparent")
```



Petr Keil

Science, statistics, ecology, R

BLOG ABOUT PUBLICATIONS TEACHING

Reproducible art with R

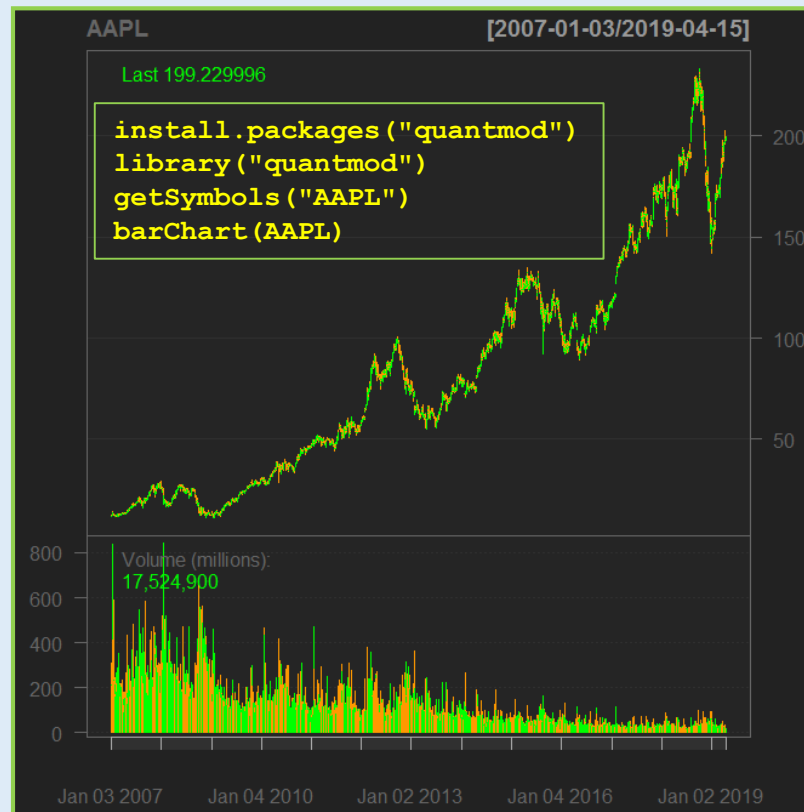
wow!

Script: demo1.R

What To Do With R?

Now, run the script "quantmod.R"

(You can even do real-time financial explorations with R!)



wow!!!

Script: quantmod.R

R Syntax

Here are some simple rules we have already used:

- R language is case-sensitive (`Str(iris)` did not work!)
- Every R function is followed by brackets even if they contain nothing like: `data()` `quit()` `ls()` `windows()` `file.choose()` `date()` `colors()`

- Every R function has a number of arguments/options to be placed within brackets (most of them have default values):

```
boxplot(iris[-5], col = "red")
```

Here, color is an option and defined as red. You need to check the default options.

- In R language, non-numerical objects are written between quotes (as above) and single or double quotes are acceptable
- R is quite tolerant to spacing: both `quit()` and `quit()` will work
- Anything beginning with " # " is ignored by R (comment line)
- In R, a dataset is called a dataframe (and a matrix is different)
- In R, the convention for writing a PATH is always a single forward slash

R Syntax

- To denote a column in a dataset, use the `$` sign:

```
hist(iris$Sepal.Length)
```

Here, we made a histogram of the data in the `Sepal.Length` column of `iris` dataset

Alternatively, use the `attach(dataframe)` function, and you do not need to define the dataframe (and no `$` sign needed)

- To install a package/library, use: `install.packages()` function;
type: `install.packages("psych")`

- To load a library, use `library()` function; type: `library("psych")`

- R uses an arrow `<-` as an assignment operator:

```
x <- 5 # x is assigned a value of 5
x * 6  # x is multiplied by 6
30     # the result is 30
```

- Any object (a dataset, variable etc) can be assigned to a variable
- You can recall previous commands using the up arrow key
- Entering a letter and then hitting the Tab key twice will list the commands and objects starting with that letter

R Syntax

- You can split a command line to as many pieces as you like with no harm:

```
boxplot(iris[1:4],  
        boxwex = 0.2,      # you can even insert a comment  
        pch = 14)
```

The above script is equivalent to:

```
boxplot(iris[1:4], boxwex = 0.2, pch = 14)
```

- You can also join multiple commands in different lines to a single line command separated by semicolons:

```
data(iris); boxplot(iris[1:4]); abline(h = 2.5)
```

- You can have two graphics windows by using `windows()`

- To quit R, type:

```
quit()
```

and, say "No" the question asked (unless you want to save the session image)

R Syntax

- Double colon (`::`) separates a function name from its package name (like `fBasics::basicStats`)
- When generating a set of numbers, setting a seed number generator with `set.seed()` is not necessary, but it will make your results reproducible (see [R Function of the Day](#))

For more on R syntax, see:

[Common Uncommon Notations that Confuse New R Coders](#)

[Good Practices in R Programming](#)

[Syntax Quirks You'll Want to Know](#)

[R Reference Card & v.2](#)

How to Enter Data into R

Vector, matrix, array

- For a small dataset (vector), create an R object using `c()` :

```
x <- c(2, 4, 3, 5, 1, 4, 7, 2, 5, 3, 8, 5, 6, 9, 2)
boxplot(x)
```

- For a data frame, create multiple vectors for rows or columns, and bind them using `rbind()` / `cbind()` or `data.frame()` functions.

- For a matrix, use the `matrix()` function:

```
x <- matrix(c(2,12,6,10), nrow=2, byrow=TRUE)   or
x <- matrix(c(2,12,6,10), nrow=2, byrow=FALSE)
```

- For an array, use the `array()` function:

```
x <- array(c(matrix1, matrix2), dim=c(2,2,2))
# multiple matrices (of size 2x2) are merged to create an array: two 2x2
tables (hence, dim = c(2,2,2))
```

Creating matrices and dataframes

15 Easy Solutions To Your Data Frame Problems In R

How to Enter Data into R

2x2 table

- To create a 2x2 (contingency) table, create a matrix:

```
x <- matrix(c(22, 46, 66, 58), nrow = 2)
```

- R can also provide a blank spreadsheet to enter the numbers:

```
x <- data.frame() # assigns a name to the contingency table to be created  
fix(x) # opens the data editor to enter the cell values (rxc)
```

- To see the newly created contingency table:

```
x # prints the newly created contingency table
```

	var1	var2
1	22	66
2	46	58

- To use the contingency table, for example, for Fisher's test, use the assigned name of the 2x2 table (x):

```
fisher.test(x)
```

How to Enter Data into R

Excel (CSV) file

- Save your Excel file as CSV in the working directory (if in doubt, check with: `getwd()`)

- Use the `read.csv()` function to read your file into R (ideally, assign it to a name):

```
file <- read.csv("filename.csv", header = TRUE)
```

- `dim(file)`, `str(file)`, `names(file)`, `head(file)`, `tail(file)` can be used to explore the dataset

- You can also export (save) an R dataframe (like `iris`) as a CSV file (by default to the working directory):

```
write.csv(iris, "iris.csv")
```

OR

```
write.csv2(iris, "iris.csv") # write.csv2() uses a comma  
for the decimal point and a semicolon for the separator
```

How to Enter Data into R

Excel (CSV) file

Function	What It Does	Example
<code>read.table()</code>	Reads any tabular data where the columns are separated (for example by commas or tabs). You can specify the separator (for example, commas or tabs), as well as other arguments to precisely describe your data.	<code>read.table(file="myfile", sep="t", header=TRUE)</code>
<code>read.csv()</code>	A simplified version of <code>read.table()</code> with all the arguments preset to read CSV files, like Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.	<code>read.csv(file="myfile")</code>
<code>read.csv2()</code>	A version of <code>read.csv()</code> configured for data with a comma as the decimal point and a semicolon as the field separator.	<code>read.csv2(file="myfile", header=TRUE)</code>
<code>read.delim()</code>	Useful for reading delimited files, with tabs as the default separator.	<code>read.delim(file="myfile", header=TRUE)</code>

How to Enter Data into R

Excel (CSV) file

If you are not sure what your working directory is, and you want to read a CSV file into R, use the following command:

```
x <- read.csv(file.choose() , header=TRUE)  
# if no header, use FALSE
```

This will allow you to browse your computer and locate the file like you do on Windows Explorer.

How to Enter Data into R

Excel (XLSX) file

Steps for Reading Excel Data Into R

There are several ways to read an Excel file into R. Perhaps the easiest method uses the following commands. They read an excel file named mydata.xlsx into an R data frame called mydata. For examples on how to read many other file formats into R, see:

<http://r4stats.com/examples/data-import/>.

```
# Do this once to install:
install.packages("readxl")

# Each time you read a file, follow these steps
library("readxl")
mydata <- read_excel("mydata.xlsx")
mydata
```

How to Enter Data into R

Excel file

An easier way for smaller spreadsheet tables

Copy the spreadsheet on clipboard, and import it to R using the following function:

```
x <- read.delim("clipboard", header=TRUE)  
# if no header, use FALSE
```

How to Enter Data into R

SPSS, Stata, SAS and other files

Table 2-2. Some of the Functions Available in the Foreign Add-on Package

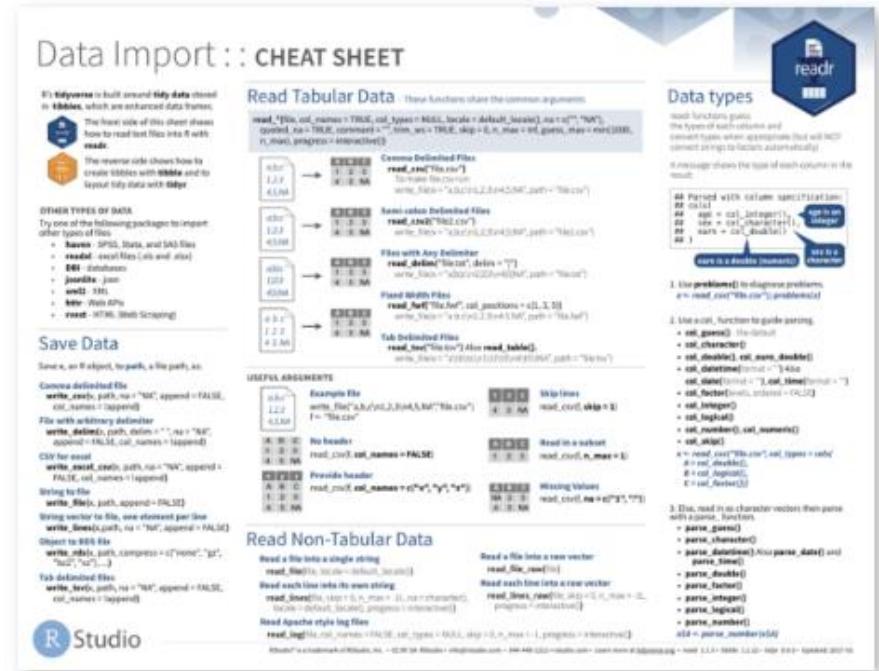
File type	Extension	Function
Database format file	.dbf	read.dbf
Stata versions 5 to 12 data file	.dta	read.dta
Minitab portable worksheet file	.mtp	read.mtp
SPSS data file	.sav	read.spss
SAS transfer format	.xport	read.xport
Epi Info data file	.rec	read.epiinfo
Octave text data file	.txt	read.octave
Attribute-relation file	.arff	read.arff
Systat file	.sys, .syd	read.systat

How to Enter Data into R

Data Import Cheat Sheet

The Data Import cheat sheet reminds you how to read in flat files with <http://readr.tidyverse.org/>, work with the results as tibbles, and reshape messy data with `tidyr`. Use `tidyr` to reshape your tables into tidy data, the data format that works the most seamlessly with R and the tidyverse. Updated 01/17.

DOWNLOAD



DataCamp

This R Data Import Tutorial Is Everything You Need

Honing Data Science
A portal for aspiring data scientist

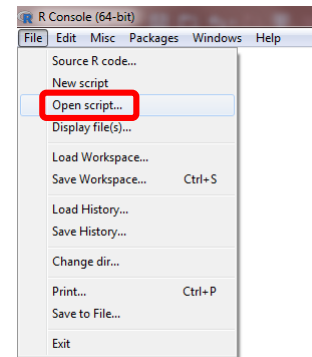
10 techniques to load data into R

Running R Scripts

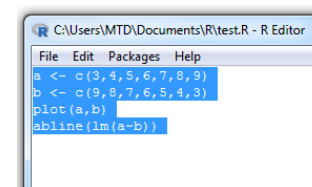
Save your script as a text file with a file extension "R" like `script.R`

Preferentially, save the file in the working directory (to find out, use: `getwd()` in R)

Open your script file using the File menu in R (Open script)

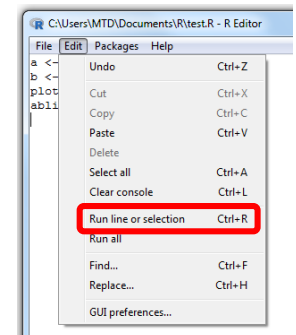


Once the file is open, select the script



Press CTRL + R on the keyboard (or click on Run line or selection under Edit)

The script will run in its entirety



How to Save Data as an R Object

9.5 .RData files

The best way to store objects from R is with `.RData` files. `.RData` files are specific to R and can store as many objects as you'd like within a single file. Think about that. If you are conducting an analysis with 10 different dataframes and 5 hypothesis tests, you can save **all** of those objects in a single file called `ExperimentResults.RData`.

9.5.1 `save()`

To save selected objects into one `.RData` file, use the `save()` function. When you run the `save()` function with specific objects as arguments, (like `save(a, b, c, file = "myobjects.RData")`) all of those objects will be saved in a single file called `myobjects.RData`.

```
save(c1.df, c2.df, c1.htest,  
file = "study1.RData")
```

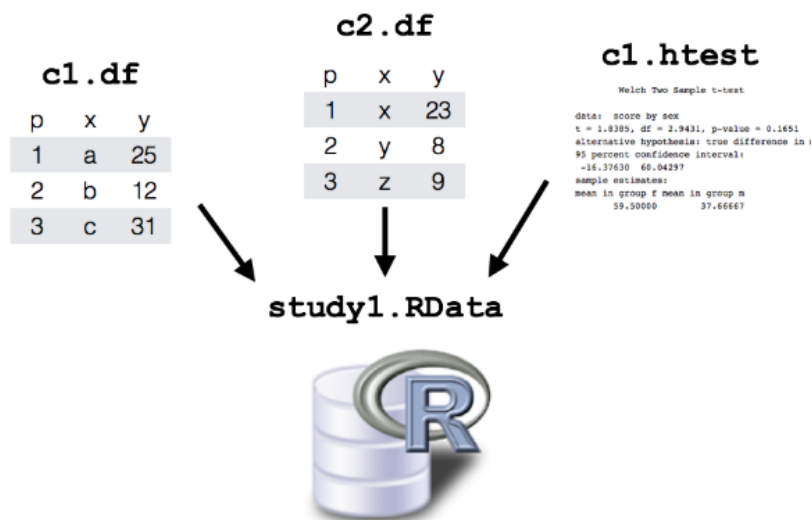


Figure 9.5: Saving multiple objects into a single `.RData` file.

`save()` function saves your R object (for example, a dataframe) in your working directory, and it can be loaded by recalling it at the next session.

Use `load()` to recall and load the R object.

Most Common Sources of Error Messages

- Typos (comma instead of dot; pound sign or ampersand instead of dollar sign; leaving out the dot in multi-word function names like `read.delimit()` or `as.factor()`; case sensitivity (including WORD changing the initial to a capital letter)
- Parentheses (type, unequal opening and closing parentheses)
- Quotes; including WORD changing your straight quotes (" ... ") with smart quotes (“ ... ”); inconsistent use of single and double quotes
- Missing commas (e.g., between function arguments)
- Your grouping variable is NOT a factor (but numerical or string/character variable; check with `class()`)
- Missing data is causing trouble
- The function you use exists in two different libraries in use (loaded)
- The library you intend to use is not loaded
- In path definition, R uses forward slash like `C:/R` (not back slash as in Windows Explorer like `C:\R`)

R Cheat Sheet

Base R Cheat Sheet

Getting Help

Accessing the help files

?mean

Get help of a particular function.

help.search('weighted mean')

Search the help files for a word or phrase.

help(package = 'dplyr')

Find help for a package.

More about an object

str(iris)

Get a summary of an object's structure.

class(iris)

Find the class an object belongs to.

Using Libraries

install.packages('dplyr')

Download and Install a package from CRAN.

library(dplyr)

Load the package into the session, making all its functions available to use.

dplyr::select

Use a particular function from a package.

data(iris)

Load a build-in dataset into the environment.

Working Directory

getwd()

Find the current working directory (where inputs are found and outputs are sent).

setwd('C://file/path')

Change the current working directory.

Use projects in RStudio to set the working directory to the folder you are working in.

Vectors

Creating Vectors

c(2, 4, 6)	2 4 6	Join elements into a vector
2:6	2 3 4 5 6	An integer sequence
seq(2, 3, by=0.5)	2.0 2.5 3.0	A complex sequence
rep(1:2, times=3)	1 2 1 2 1 2	Repeat a vector
rep(1:2, each=3)	1 1 1 2 2 2	Repeat elements of a vector

Vector Functions

sort(x)	rev(x)
Return x sorted.	Return x reversed.
table(x)	unique(x)
See counts of values.	See unique values.

Selecting Vector Elements

By Position

x[4]	The fourth element.
x[-4]	All but the fourth.
x[2:4]	Elements two to four.
x[-(2:4)]	All elements except two to four.
x[c(1, 5)]	Elements one and five.

By Value

x[x == 10]	Elements which are equal to 10.
x[x < 0]	All elements less than zero.
x[x %in% c(1, 2, 5)]	Elements in the set 1, 2, 5.

Named Vectors

x['apple']	Element with name 'apple'.
-------------------	----------------------------

Programming

For Loop

```
for (variable in sequence){
  Do something
}
```

Example

```
for (i in 1:4){
  j <- i + 10
  print(j)
}
```

While Loop

```
while (condition){
  Do something
}
```

Example

```
while (i < 5){
  print(i)
  i <- i + 1
}
```

If Statements

```
if (condition){
  Do something
} else {
  Do something different
}
```

Example

```
if (i > 3){
  print('Yes')
} else {
  print('No')
}
```

Functions

```
function_name <- function(var){
  Do something
  return(new_variable)
}
```

Example

```
square <- function(x){
  squared <- x*x
  return(squared)
}
```

Reading and Writing Data

Input	Output	Description
df <- read.table('file.txt')	write.table(df, 'file.txt')	Read and write a delimited text file.
df <- read.csv('file.csv')	write.csv(df, 'file.csv')	Read and write a comma separated value file. This is a special case of read.table/write.table.
load('file.Rdata')	save(df, file = 'file.Rdata')	Read and write an R data file, a file type special for R.

Conditions	a == b	Are equal	a > b	Greater than	a >= b	Greater than or equal to	is.na(a)	Is missing
	a != b	Not equal	a < b	Less than	a <= b	Less than or equal to	is.null(a)	Is null

More on R

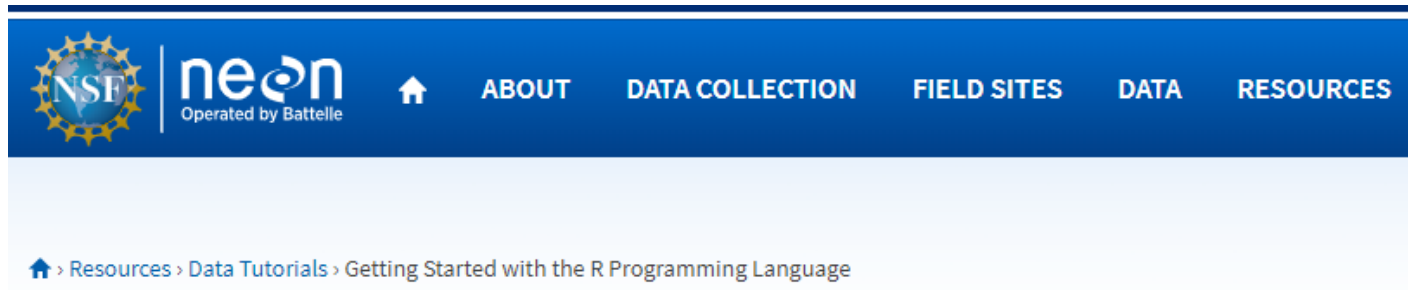
Tips & Tricks for using R

A collection of useful hints, tips and tricks for using R: The Statistical Programming Language

- [Use multiple columns as row names](#)
- [Read column names as numbers when importing a data file](#)
- [Use locator\(\) to place labels interactively](#)
- [Incomplete final line error on CSV import](#)
- [Ordering up boxplot\(\)](#)
- [Make transparent colors](#)
- [Save all objects to disk as separate files](#)
- [Sending R output to disk files](#)
- [Rotating objects using t\(\)](#)
- [Object elements: brackets \[\], double brackets \[\[\]\] and \\$](#)
- [Row & column names using dimnames\(\)](#)
- [Naming rows and columns of a matrix](#)
- [Make a matrix](#)
- [Multi-dimensional objects in R](#)
- [Vector Objects](#)
- [Types of R object – 3. complex numbers](#)
- [Types of R object – 2. logical](#)
- [Types of R object – 1. basics](#)
- [Be classy – object class attributes](#)
- [Add comments to objects](#)
- [NA items](#)
- [Interactive file choice](#)

More on R

Perfect for Self-review of the Basics



Getting Started with the R Programming Language

AUTHORS: Leah A. Wasser - Adapted from Software Carpentry

R is a versatile, open source programming language that was specifically designed for data analysis. R is extremely useful for data management, statistics and analyzing data.

This tutorial should be seen more as a reference on the basics of R and not a tutorial for learning to use R. Here we define many of the basics, however, this can get overwhelming if you are brand new to R.

And more: <https://www.neonscience.org/resources/data-tutorials>
(especially: <https://www.neonscience.org/packages-in-r>)

More on R



The purpose of this book is to help you learn R from the ground-up.

More on R

R tips: 16 HOWTO's with examples for data analysts

Lingyun Zhang

This book includes 16 **R** tips, such as “how to explore a ‘new’ data set” (Chapter 3), “How to create contingency tables” (Chapter 7), “how to tally” (Chapter 8), “how to join two data tables” (Chapter 9), “how to plot data” (Chapter 10), “how to create a dynamic report” (Chapter 11), “how to learn Shiny” (Chapter 12), “how to check code efficiency” (Chapter 14), These are all very much practically useful for a data analyst in his/her daily work.

- 1 How to organize a project folder
- 2 How to read data into R
- 3 How to explore a “new” data set
- 4 How to deal with NA's
- 5 How to deal with empty spaces
 - 5.1 Empty spaces in variable names
 - 5.2 Empty spaces in variable values
- 6 How to do simple re-coding
- 7 How to create contingency tables
- 8 How to tally
- 9 How to join two data tables
- 10 How to plot data
 - 10.1 Creating basic bar charts
 - 10.2 Creating side-by-side and stack...
 - 10.3 Creating back-to-back bar charts
 - 10.4 Creating Pareto charts
 - 10.5 Creating lollipop charts
 - 10.6 Creating treemaps
 - 10.7 Creating scatter plots
 - 10.8 Creating side-by-side box plots
 - 10.9 Creating grid plots
 - 10.10 Creating a simple PCA plot
 - 10.11 Creating time series plots
 - 10.12 Showing pop-up's
 - 10.13 Putting plots in one panel
- 11 How to create a dynamic report
- 12 How to learn Shiny
- 13 How to make a simple data dictionary
- 14 How to check code efficiency
- 15 How to put n things in m boxes
- 16 How to restore lost zeros

More on R

<http://www.dorak.info/r>

R Notes and R Links

Next

R for Descriptive Statistics