

# An Introduction to R and Rstudio

Dr. Irene Vrbik

University of British Columbia Okanagan

`irene.vrbik@ubc.ca`

Term 2, 2018W

# Background

- ▶ This lecture assumes you have downloaded R and Rstudio.
- ▶ If you haven't, please go back to the first days lecture to view instructions.
- ▶ Please stop me at any time if you have questions!

# Background

- ▶ As mentioned last lecture, Rstudio has four panels:
  1. Console panel
  2. Source editor
  3. Environment panel
  4. Files, Plots, and Help panel
- ▶ Let's start by going through these in a little bit more detail.

# Console panel

- ▶ The console panel is where R commands are executed.
- ▶ In this panel you see the **input/output**.
  - ▶ The input can either be typed in real time using the keyboard, or run from a R **script** (more on this soon)
  - ▶ The output is displayed to the screen.

# Console panel

- ▶ To see how we can use the Console with keyboard input, simply navigate to the panel and start typing commands:
  - ▶ e.g. `2+ 4`
  - ▶ e.g. `print("Hello World")`
- ▶ Notice that R defaults functionality is to print the output of your command to the screen.

# R scripts

- ▶ More commonly, we will be executing commands from an R script.
- ▶ An R script is a text document containing R commands.
- ▶ Apart from one-off calculations, it is always a good idea to save an R script (e.g. easy to share and reproduce your results)

# R scripts

A very simple R script might look something like this:

```
# Simple addition
2 + 3


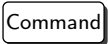




# Simple subtraction
2 - 3

# Simple multiplication
2*3

# Simple division
2/3

# Simple power
2^3
```

# Comments #

- ▶ Hashtags # indicate the start of a comment.
- ▶ Comments are not executed by R (i.e. they are ignored)
- ▶ Comments are used by the programmer to document and explain the code.
- ▶ Comments should give information about the code to the person reading it.
- ▶ A shortcut to commenting in Rstudio is  +  +  on a Mac and  +  +  on a PC



# Commenting in Scripts

```
# the following wont be executed  
# 2 + 2  
##### we can have # so many hashtags #somanymhashtags  
2 + 2 # comments can appear after execute code  
## [1] 4
```

## Running code from scripts

- ▶ To run code from an R script, simply open the file (which will have a .R extension)

- ▶ Place your cursor on the line you wish to execute and press

`../../Labs/01RIntro/run.png`  
or type **SHIFT** + **ENTER**

- ▶ If you want to run the entire script named myfile.R type `source("myfile.R")` into the console, or press

**figure**/RunAll.png

which appears in the drop-down menu of `./../../Labs/01RIntro`.

I will be using **knitr** to produce lecture and lab documentation.

```
# comments in purple italics  
2 + 3 # input  
## [1] 5
```

- ▶ R input will be formatted with highlighted text (colour will depend on the object), comments in purple italics, while the output is printed with two preceding hashtags.
- ▶ The ## before the output provides an easy way for readers to copy and paste R source code (since output the output is masked as comments); you will not see the two hashtags on standard output in R and Rstudio.

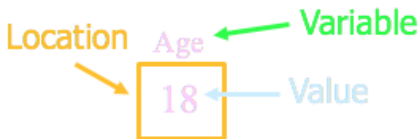
- ▶ The [1] in the R output indicates that the adjacent element is the 1st element printed.
- ▶ For multiline outputs the number in the square brackets will indicate where the adjacent falls in term of the printed elements.

```
longvector = c("this", "is", "a", "long", "vector", "of",  
              "words", "that", "will", "print", "on", "multiple", "lines")  
longvector  
## [1] "this"      "is"      "a"      "long"    "vector"  
## [7] "words"     "that"    "will"    "print"   "on"  
## [13] "lines"
```

For example [7]/[13] indicates that the first element of the second/third line is the 7th/13th element of longvector, respectively.

# Objects and Variables

- ▶ **Everything** you see or create in R is an object.
- ▶ This is an abstract term for anything that can be assignment to a variable.
- ▶ A **variable** is a name that refers to a location that stores a data



value.

**IMPORTANT:** The **value** at a location can change.

- ▶ Notice when you assign something to an object, R does not automatically print the result to the the screen.
- ▶ For that reason, when we save output to a variable, we will have to call the varaible name or use a print statment to see our result

```
2 + 3
```

```
## [1] 5
```

```
x = 2+3
```

```
x
```

```
## [1] 5
```

```
# another alternative:
```

```
(x = 2+3)
```

```
## [1] 5
```

# Data types

- ▶ Here's a list of some important data types used in R:
  1. Integer (Whole Numbers)
  2. Numeric (Real Numbers)
  3. Character
  4. Logical (True / False)
  5. Factor
  6. Complex (we don't focus on this type)



# Numeric and Integer

- ▶ R will automatically assign the type to a variable once declared.
- ▶ Often the default storage of numbers in R is in as numeric.
- ▶ To force a variable to be an integer, we need to use the `as.integer()` function, or use the “L” suffix.

# Numeric and Integer

```
numobj = 2 # numeric (not integer)
as.integer(numobj) # integer

## [1] 2

intobj = 2L # integer
```

# Character

- ▶ A single letter or string of characters will be recorded as a character object.
- ▶ You can use double quotes or single quotes for all of these specifications (just be consistent)

```
# note our usage of quotes  
charobj = "s"  
strobj = 'string'  
# badobj = "str" # unmatched quotes = bad
```

# Aside

## Auto-complete

Notice that R tries to help us out by autocompleting our quotes (i.e. when we type one quotation/parenthesis the closing one will appear automatically. If you don't like this feature, you can turn it off (but I suggest you keep it!)

# Character

We can also treat numbers as characters:

```
x = c(1,2,3)
```

```
x
```

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

```
x = as.character(x)
```

```
x # notice the quotes in the output
```

```
## [1] "1" "2" "3"
```

```
# PS - To change back to numeric use:
```

```
x = as.numeric(x)
```

```
x # no more quotes
```

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

# Logical

In R, T and F are reserved for logicals (i.e. True/False objects) and R reads T the same as TRUE or F the same as FALSE.

```
x = c(T, FALSE, TRUE, F) # notice we don't use quotes
```

```
x
```

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

# Logical

- Oftentimes, True and False conditions are coded as 0 and 1s. To covert them to logical, use `as.logical()`.

```
x = c(0,1,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,1,1)
class(x)

## [1] "numeric"

x = as.logical(x)
class(x)

## [1] "logical"
```

# Factor

- If you want a variable to be a factor type (so that different symbols are regarded as a level), use `var=factor(var)`.

```
notfactor = c("H", "M", "M", "L", "H")
notfactor

## [1] "H" "M" "M" "L" "H"

fvec = factor(notfactor)
fvec

## [1] H M M L H
## Levels: H L M
```



# Factor

- ▶ We also have the option to specify the labels to something more meaningful:

```
fvec = factor(x=notfactor, labels=c("High", "Medium", "Low"))  
fvec  
  
## [1] High    Low      Low      Medium High  
## Levels: High Medium Low
```

# Aside

## Notation

- ▶ We say that `factor()` is a **function** for which we have specified two **arguments** (having argument names: `from`, `x` and `labels`).
- ▶ You can access the help file to see the details of this function using `?factor`
- ▶ Notice that it has other (optional) arguments that we haven't specified.

# Factor

- ▶ The case may also arise that we need to specify levels not seen in the data set. In that case we can specify the `levels` argument:
- ▶ Using `letters` a built in vector containing the 26 letters of the alphabet;

```
x = c("o","q","h","n","s","b","u","d","p","r")
xlist = factor(x, levels=letters)
table(xlist)

## xlist
## a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
## 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
```

# Aside

## Built-in Constants

- ▶ On the previous slide we used the built-in constant `letters`
- ▶ Other built-in constants include:
  - ▶ `LETTERS` (capital letters)
  - ▶ `month.name` (eg. "January", "February", etc..)
  - ▶ `month.abb` (eg. "Jan", "Feb", etc..)
  - ▶ `pi` 3.141593

# Data structures

- ▶ R has a wide variety of data structures including:
  - ▶ scalars
  - ▶ vectors (numerical, character, logical)
  - ▶ matrices
  - ▶ data frames, and
  - ▶ lists.

# Vectors

- ▶ A vector is the most basic data structure in R and can be of two types:
  - ▶ atomic vectors
  - ▶ lists
- ▶ As we did in the examples above, you can create a vector using `c` (see `?c` for more details on this *combine* function)

# Vectors

Atomic Vectors can be vectors characters, logical, integers or numeric.

```
# example of a numeric vector:
```

```
y=c(2,3,0,3,1,0,0,1)
```

```
# example of a character vector:
```

```
letters<-c('A','B','C')
```

```
# example of a logical vector:
```

```
lvec <- c(TRUE, FALSE, FALSE)
```

# Vectors

Numeric vectors can be created a number of different ways.

```
# Create a vector of size 10, where each element is a 2:
```

```
y=rep(2,10)
```

```
# This specifies a sequence of integers:
```

```
y=3:12
```

```
#This specifies a sequence of real numbers:
```

```
z=seq(from=1,to=2,by=0.1)
```

```
#This specifies a sequence of real numbers:
```

```
z=seq(from=2,to=1,by=-0.1)
```



# Aside

## Notation

- ▶ We say that `seq()` is a **function** for which we have specified three **arguments** (having argument names: `from`, `to` and `by`).
- ▶ Assuming we are putting the values in the correct order, you do not need to specify the argument names explicitly.

```
seq(1,2,0.1) # same as seq(from=1,to=2,by=0.1)
## [1] 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0

# if we want to specify arguments out of order,
# we HAVE to include argument names:
seq(by=0.1, to=2, from=1) # arguments in green
## [1] 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0
```

# Vectors

Numeric vectors can be created a number of different ways.

```
# Creates a vector of size 10, of random numbers between 0 and 1  
y=runif(10)  
  
# Creates a vector of size 3 sampled from x without replacement  
set.seed(4758)  
(y=sample(x=c(1,2,3), size=3))  
  
## [1] 3 2 1  
  
# Creates a vector of size 3 sampled from x with replacement  
(y=sample(x=c(1,2,3), size=3, replace=TRUE))  
  
## [1] 3 2 2
```

# Vectors

We can also create empty vectors

```
x <- vector() # defaults to logical (FALSE)
x <- vector(length = 10) # defaults to logical vec of FALSEs
x <- vector("character", length = 10)
x <- vector("numeric", length = 10)
x <- vector("integer", length = 10)
x <- vector("logical", length = 10)
```

# Seed

- ▶ Notice that I use `set.seed(4758)` on [slide 34](#).
- ▶ This was created so that when you run the same exact code on our computer, you will obtain the same 'random' numbers.
- ▶ A random seed is a number used to initialize a pseudorandom number generator.
- ▶ Without going into too much detail, setting a seed using `set.seed` will yield same 'random' results every time.

```
set.seed(4444)
runif(1)

## [1] 0.9849711

set.seed(4444)
runif(1)

## [1] 0.9849711

runif(1)

## [1] 0.1085671
```

# Scalars

Scalars are just vectors of length 1. To check the length of any vector use `length()`

```
x = 4
```

```
length(x)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

```
y=c(2,3,0,3,1,0,0,1)
```

```
length(y)
```

```
## [1] 8
```

# Indexing Vectors

To index an element from a vector, use single square brackets

```
z = c("apples", "bananas", "oranges", "pineapples")
```

```
z[1]
```

```
## [1] "apples"
```

```
z[2:3]
```

```
## [1] "bananas" "oranges"
```

```
z[c(4,2)]
```

```
## [1] "pineapples" "bananas"
```

```
z[-1]
```

```
## [1] "bananas"      "oranges"      "pineapples"
```

We have the option of including names for our vector elements.

```
z = c(123456, 25, 2019); names(z) <- c("studentID", "age", "year")
z["studentID"] # same as z[1]

## studentID
##      123456

z[c("age", "year")] # wont work like z[c(2,3)]

## <NA>
##      NA

z[c(FALSE, TRUE, TRUE)] # will work

## age year
##    25 2019

z[-"year"] # wont work like z[-3]

## Error in -"year": invalid argument to unary operator
```



To add a new element/delete/replace an element:

```
z = c("first","second","third", "fourth")
# adds a fifth element and replaces the second
z[5] = "fifth"; z[2] = "2nd"

z

## [1] "first"  "2nd"    "third"  "fourth" "fifth"

#removes the second element
(z = z[-2])

## [1] "first"  "third"  "fourth" "fifth"
```

Notice what happens if we add a 10th element to `z` (without specifying elements 6–9):

```
z[10] = "tenth"
```

```
z
```

```
## [1] "first"  "third"  "fourth" "fifth"  NA       NA       NA
## [8] NA       NA       "tenth"
```

We can also add new named elements

```
z = c(123456, 25, 2019); names(z) <- c("studentID", "age", "year")  
# adds a forth element with the students major  
z["major"] = "COSC"  
z
```

##	studentID	age	year	major
##	"123456"	"25"	"2019"	"COSC"

Notice how the addition of this forth element cuase the vector to change to a vector of characters! More on this [later](#)

## Basic Operations for Vectors

We can also perform basic operations on vectors:

Operation	Command
natural log	<code>log(x)</code>
Exponent	<code>exp(x)</code>
Log base 10	<code>log10(x)</code>
Absolute value	<code>abs(x)</code>
Square root	<code>sqrt(x)</code>
Sum	<code>sum(x)</code>
Number of elements in $x$	<code>length(x)</code>

Unique elements of x	<code>unique(x)</code>
Mean	<code>mean(x)</code>
Variance	<code>var(x)</code>
Standard Deviation	<code>sd(x)</code>
Minimum value	<code>min(x)</code>
Maximum value	<code>max(x)</code>
Smallest and largest values	<code>range(x)</code>
median	<code>median(x)</code>
Basic statistical summary	<code>summary(x)</code>
Sort	<code>sort(x)</code>

```
(y= sample(1:20, 9)) # samples 9 random numbers from 1 to 20
## [1]  6 15  8 16 17  1 18 12  7

# multiplies each element by 2
2*y

## [1] 12 30 16 32 34  2 36 24 14

sort(y)

## [1]  1  6  7  8 12 15 16 17 18

sort(y, decreasing = TRUE)

## [1] 18 17 16 15 12  8  7  6  1

summary(y)

##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##      1.00   7.00   12.00   11.11   16.00   18.00
```

## coercion

- ▶ By *atomic vectors* we mean they can only take on one data type.
- ▶ If we specify more than one type in a single vector, R will convert the mixed types to a single type which it deems most appropriate.
- ▶ The coercion will move towards the one that's easiest to coerce to.
- ▶ You can coerce vectors explicitly using the `as.<class>` (eg. `as.numeric`, `as.character`, etc. )

```
(x = c("apple", 2, TRUE)) # converts all to character
## [1] "apple" "2"      "TRUE"

(x = c(TRUE, 4)) # converts all to numeric
## [1] 1 4

(x = c(2L, -1.3)) # converts to numeric
## [1] 2.0 -1.3

(x = c(TRUE, 0, 1, FALSE)) # converts all to numeric
## [1] 1 0 1 0

as.logical(x = c(TRUE, 0, 1, FALSE)) # converts to logical
## [1] TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE
```



# Matrices

- ▶ While we can view matrices as column vectors stacked side by side or row vectors stack one on top of another, matrices are really just a vector in R. item The main difference between matrices and the vectors discussed in the previous slides is that a matrix has a **dimension**.
- ▶ The dimensions can be found using the `dim()` function.

# Matrices

```
(m <- matrix(1:8, nrow = 2, ncol = 4))  
  
##           [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]  
## [1,]      1    3    5    7  
## [2,]      2    4    6    8  
  
dim(m) # gives the number of rows and columns  
  
## [1] 2 4  
  
class(m)  
  
## [1] "matrix"
```

# Matrices

- ▶ By default, matrices are constructed columnwise.
- ▶ You can always change to row-wise by specifying `byrow=TRUE`

```
(m <- matrix(1:6, nrow=2, ncol =3)) # fill columnwise
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
```

```
## [1,]    1    3    5
```

```
## [2,]    2    4    6
```

```
(m <- matrix(1:6, nrow=2, ncol =3, byrow=TRUE)) #fill row-wise
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
```

```
## [1,]    1    2    3
```

```
## [2,]    4    5    6
```

# Matrices

An alternative way of constructing matrices is to use `array()`

```
array(1:6, dim=c(2,3))
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
```

```
## [1,]    1    3    5
```

```
## [2,]    2    4    6
```

# Named Matrices

We may also choose to name our rows and columns

```
rownames(m) = c("row1", "row2")
```

```
colnames(m) = c("col1", "col2", "col3")
```

```
m
```

```
##      col1 col2 col3
```

```
## row1    1    2    3
```

```
## row2    4    5    6
```

# Indexing

- ▶ To index an element from a matrix, we can again use square brackets, but we need to specify TWO numbers `[row, col]`.
- ▶ If we want to extract an entire row, we'll leave the `col` field blank (indicating we want all columns).
- ▶ If we want to extract an entire column, we'll leave the `row` field blank (indicating we want all rows).

# Indexing

The following extracts a column, row, and cell from matrix `m`,

```
# extract the third column of m
```

```
m[,3]
```

```
## row1 row2
```

```
##      3      6
```

```
# extract the first row of m
```

```
m[1,]
```

```
## col1 col2 col3
```

```
##      1      2      3
```

```
# extract the element in the 1st row and 3rd column
```

```
m[1,3]
```

```
## [1] 3
```

Alternatively we could call them by name

```
# extract the third column of m
m[, "col3"] # same as m[,3]

## row1 row2
##      3      6

# extract the first row of m
m["row1",] # same as m[1,]

## col1 col2 col3
##      1      2      3

# extract the element in the 1st row and 3rd column
m["row1", "col3"] # same as m[1,3]

## [1] 3
```



# Indexing

Note that we can also use one number (tricker this way)

```
(m = matrix(11:4, 2,4))  
  
##           [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]  
## [1,]      11      9      7      5  
## [2,]      10      8      6      4  
  
m[8] # extracts the 8th element in m  
  
## [1] 4  
  
(mVector = as.numeric(m))  
  
## [1] 11 10  9  8  7  6  5  4  
  
mVector[8]  
  
## [1] 4
```

# Indexing

Like the vectors discussed earlier, matrices fall under the atomic vector category and therefore can only store data of one type:

```
m = matrix(c("bananas", 2, TRUE, 0), nrow=2, ncol=2)
```

```
# notice how all coerce to characters:
```

```
m
```

```
##      [,1]      [,2]
```

```
## [1,] "bananas" "TRUE"
```

```
## [2,] "2"       "0"
```

# lists

- ▶ If we want our vector to contain objects of different data types we need to create a list.
- ▶ We can think of lists as a special type of vector that can mix data types and structures

```
(x = list("apple", "banana", 2, TRUE, 4, "four"))  
  
## [[1]]  
## [1] "apple"  
##  
## [[2]]  
## [1] "banana"  
##  
## [[3]]  
## [1] 2  
##  
## [[4]]  
## [1] TRUE  
##  
## [[5]]  
## [1] 4  
##  
## [[6]]  
## [1] "four"
```

# lists

Unlike vectors, the member of a list are accessed using double square brackets:

```
x[[1]] # first member  
## [1] "apple"  
  
x[[2]] # second member, and so on ...  
## [1] "banana"
```

# lists

- ▶ While I have specified each member to be a single word/number/logical, we could also have specified them to be vectors or matrices.
- ▶ To index the elements within the members of a list we use single square brackets (usually nested after double square brackets)

# lists

```
y = list(c("apples", "banana", "four"), c(2,4), TRUE)
y
## [[1]]
## [1] "apples" "banana" "four"
##
## [[2]]
## [1] 2 4
##
## [[3]]
## [1] TRUE
```

# lists

```
y[[1]][3] # the third element of the first member of y
## [1] "four"

y[[2]][1] # the first element of the second member of y
## [1] 2

y[[1]][4] # calling something that does not exist
## [1] NA
```



# Named lists

Alternatively we could have names for our list members

```
numbers= c(2,4) # can define the member outside first
y = list(words=c("apples", "banana", "four"),
          numbers, logicals=TRUE)
y$words # same this as y[[1]]
## [1] "apples" "banana" "four"
y$numbers # same this as y[[2]]
## NULL
y$logicals # same this as y[[3]]
## [1] TRUE
```

We could also name the list members after they have been assigned

```
y = list(c("apples", "banana", "four"),  
         c(2,4), TRUE)  
names(y) <- c("words", "numbers", "logicals")
```

```
y
```

```
## $words
```

```
## [1] "apples" "banana" "four"
```

```
##
```

```
## $numbers
```

```
## [1] 2 4
```

```
##
```

```
## $logicals
```

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

# lists

We can index members of lists using the integer index numbers OR their member names (in quotations)

```
y$words
## [1] "apples" "banana" "four"

y[["words"]]
## [1] "apples" "banana" "four"

y[[4]]

## Error in y[[4]]: subscript out of bounds

# the following are not valid:
# y$4
# y[[words]]
```

# lists

We can modify its content/add new content directly either using `[[]]` with numbers or `$` with member names.

```
y$words[3] = "oranges" #replace the 3rd element of the 1st member  
y[[1]][4] = "pineapples" #add a 4th element to the 1st member  
y[[4]] = c(0,1,1,0) # add a forth member to y  
y$"fifth" = 3:12 # add a fifth member to y (named "fifth")
```

# Data Frames

- ▶ Data frames are perhaps the most used data structure used in statistics.
- ▶ Like list, they can store different data types.
- ▶ Furthermore, they can contain additional attributes such as column and row names.
- ▶ When combining vectors in a data frame all must have the same size (i.e. length).
- ▶ Missing observations will be recorded as NA.

# Data Frames

Here is an example of how to create a data frame and add to it:

```
Person=c('John', 'Jill', 'Jack')
```

```
Grade=c('45','92','91')
```

```
(Lab=data.frame(Person, Grade))
```

```
##   Person Grade
```

```
## 1   John    45
```

```
## 2   Jill    92
```

```
## 3   Jack    91
```

# Data Frames

Like matrices, we can create column and row names

```
colnames(Lab) # adopted from the variable names inputed
```

```
## [1] "Person" "Grade"
```

```
rownames(Lab) # default to increasing integers
```

```
## [1] "1" "2" "3"
```

```
# we could also add row names if we choose
```

```
rownames(Lab) = c("Student1", "Student2", "Student3")
```

```
Lab
```

```
##           Person Grade
```

```
## Student1    John    45
```

```
## Student2    Jill    92
```

```
## Student3    Jack    91
```

# Data Frames

Unlike matrices, we can extract a column of this data.frame we use the \$ notation:

```
Lab$Person
```

```
## [1] John Jill Jack
```

```
## Levels: Jack Jill John
```

```
Lab$Grade
```

```
## [1] 45 92 91
```

```
## Levels: 45 91 92
```

```
# N.B. This does not work for rows:
```


```
Lab$Student1
```

```
## NULL
```



# Aside

## Smart Autofill

- ▶ In some situations, R will try to autocomplete commands for us. When you begin to type `Lab$` for instance, you will see the options for the column names appear.
- ▶ You can use the arrow keys on your keyboard to navigate through the options.
- ▶ Press  when you land on the option you want.

# Data Frames

Adding a column to the data frame is as easy as typing:

```
Lab$Passed=c(FALSE,TRUE,TRUE)
```

```
Lab
```

##	Person	Grade	Passed
## Student1	John	45	FALSE
## Student2	Jill	92	TRUE
## Student3	Jack	91	TRUE

# Attributes

- ▶ Each of these objects have so-called **attributes**.
- ▶ Here are some examples of attributes:
  1. names, dimension names
  2. dimensions
  3. class
  4. length

# Attributes

```
attributes(Lab) # data vector defined in previous example
```

```
## $names
```

```
## [1] "Person" "Grade"  "Passed"
```

```
##
```

```
## $row.names
```

```
## [1] "Student1" "Student2" "Student3"
```

```
##
```

```
## $class
```

```
## [1] "data.frame"
```

```
attributes(m) # matrix defined previously
```

```
## $dim
```

```
## [1] 2 2
```

# Data Entry

- ▶ Data entry can be either done by hand (impractical), or loaded from an existing file.
- ▶ `read.table` is a convenient way of reading data into R and storing it to a data frame.
- ▶ The data should be formatted such that each row contains information regarding one subject with data separated by white space/commas/tabs/.
- ▶ The first line may (or may not) contain a header with the names of the variables in each column.

## Data Entry

Let's take the data `intake.txt` data available on CANVAS which looks like this:

"pre"	"post"
-------	--------

5260	3910
------	------

5470	4220
------	------

5640	3885
------	------

6180	5160
------	------

6390	5645
------	------

6515	4680
------	------

6805	5265
------	------

# Data Entry

To read the data in:

```
read.table("intake.txt", header=TRUE)

## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'intake.txt':  
No such file or directory

## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
```

# Data Entry

- ▶ `header=TRUE` indicates that the first line of file contains the names of the variables (rather than data values).
  - ▶ `header=TRUE` allows pre and post to be read in as column names.
- ▶ (`header=FALSE` by default)



# Data Entry

Since we didn't save it to a variable, it simply prints it to the screen. This won't be very useful in practice, so save it to a variable with a name that makes sense.

```
intake = read.table("intake.txt", header=TRUE)

## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'intake.txt':  
No such file or directory

## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
```

# Aside

## Name Rules

There are rules on the types of names we can give variables:

- ▶ No spaces
- ▶ No special characters (apart from periods and underscores)
- ▶ Can't begin with a number

# Data Entry

If we instead want to import the `data.csv` file available on CANVAS, we simply specify that our separator is a comma.

```
data = read.table("data.csv", sep=",", header=TRUE)

## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'data.csv':  
No such file or directory

## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
```

Alternatively, we could have used the `read.csv()` function

```
data = read.csv("data.csv") # header=TRUE by default in read.csv

## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'data.csv':  
No such file or directory

## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
```

# Data Entry

If you want to specify a file that is outside of your working directory, simply specify the path name preceeding the filename. For example:

```
data <- read.csv("/Users/ivrbik/DATA101/data.csv", header=T)
```

# Working Directory

- ▶ Since the data was stored in my local directory, I did not need to specify a `path`.
- ▶ To check what your working directory is, type `getwd()`
- ▶ To change your working directory, type `setwd(<path to your folder>)` or do the following on a PC or MAC:

Session → Set Working Directory → Choose Directory...

# Data Exporting

There is also a function that will allow you to write the contents of a data frame to a file. For instance, we could save our simple Lab data frame to a textfile called Lab.txt or Lab.csv using the following:

```
write.table(Lab, file="Lab.txt")  
write.csv(Lab, file="Lab.csv")
```

Like the read functions, write will, by default, save these files to your working direction. To specify otherwise use:

```
write.table(Lab, file="<path>/Lab.txt")
```

## Tip of the Day

To obtain a previous calculation in R, navigate to the console, and press the 'Up/Down Arrow' key on your keyboard.