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## Chapter 1

## Background

R language (?) and its packages ecosystem are wonderful tools for data In the field of microbial community ecology, many packages can be used for the statistical analysis, such as vegan (?), ape (?) and However, with the development of the high-throughput sequencing techniques, the increasing data amount and complexity of studies make the data mining a challenge. There have been some R packages created for the statistics and visualization for microbiome data, such as microbiome (https://github.com/microbiome/microbiome), phyloseq (?), microbiomeSeq (http://www.github.com/umerijaz/microbiomeSeq), pvis2 (https://madsalbertsen.github.io/ampvis2/reference/index.html), MicrobiomeR(https://github.com/vallenderlab/MicrobiomeR), (?), rANOMALY (?), MicrobiomeExplorer (?), tidyMicro (?), microbial (https://github.com/guokai8/microbial), and so on. In addition, some web tools associated with R language are also useful for microbial community data analysis, such as Shiny-phyloseq (?), Mian (?) and animalcules (?). Even so, users still lack a flexible, comprehensive and modularized R package to analyze and manage the data fast and easily. So we created the microeco R package (?) for this goal (https://github.com/ChiLiubio/microeco). Besides, we also developed the file2meco package (https://github.com/ChiLiubio/file2meco) for the data input from some famous tools easily and mecodev package (https://github.com/ChiLiubio/mecodev) for some extending approaches in this field.