Introduction to statistics - R prerequisite

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What is R

- R is both a scripted programming language and software environment for statistical computing.
- R is widely used for statistical analysis and creation of high-quality publishable graphics.
- It's open source, free to use and supported by a large community of users and developers.
- Flexible and highly scalable via user defined packages and functions.

Why R

- Reproducibility one code; multiple users and projects.
- Flexible and easy to learn.
- Scalability You can define/customize your own functions and/or packages.
- Interoperability same code across platforms (mac, windows, linux etc).

Getting started - Installing R and Rstudio

- You can install the latest version of R from the CRAN repository.
 CRAN stands for Comprehensive R Archive Network
- The latest version or R is 4.0.5 as of time of the slide creation. This might change with time
- Rstudio is an IDE (Intergrated Development Environment for R). You can install the latest version of Rstudio here
 - NOTE: You do not need Rstudio to use R, BUT it makes things easier.
 So I will highly recommend you to install Rstudio for easy and efficient coding in R.

Further Information

- History of R on Wikipedia
- Short video on What's R
- More about Rstudio IDE