

Introduction to R programming language

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DataCrowd



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Relax, programming in R is cool!

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If you doubt me, please ask

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Olubayo Adekanmbi:



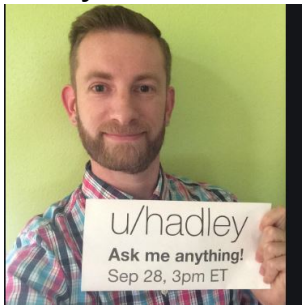
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Olubayo Adekanmbi:



Hadley Wickham:



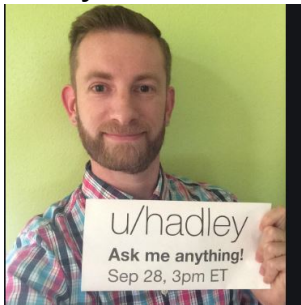
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Olubayo Adekanmbi:



Hadley Wickham:



Gift Afolayan:



R worth it

< Tweet



Bruna Wundervald
@bwundervald



this was at our first R-ladies
Curitiba meetup, June 16th ☺ by
the end, the group was highly
motivated to learn more R &
data science - so satisfying 💜
[#rstats](#) [#rladies](#) [@RLadiesGlobal](#)



7:20 PM · 26 Jun 18

Figure 1: R Ladies

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Section 1

R for Data Science

R for Data Science

Data science is an exciting discipline that allows you to turn raw data into understanding, insight, and knowledge [1]. The goal of R for Data Science is to help you learn the most important tools in R that will allow you to do data science.

What you will learn

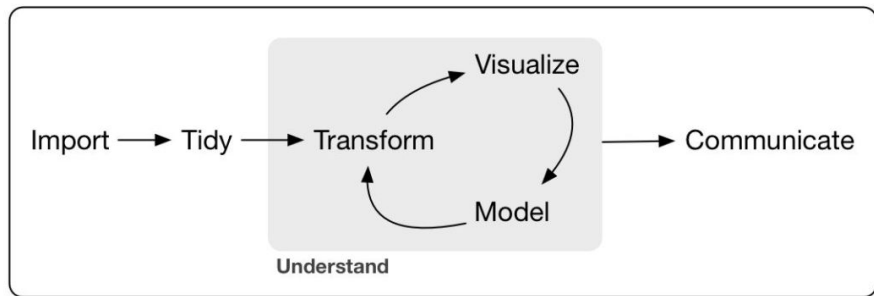
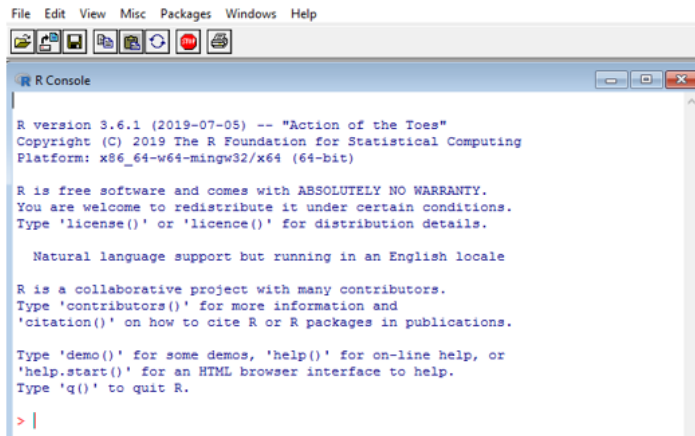


Figure 2: Program ~ Inspired by Hadley Wickham [1]

What is R programming?

R is a statistical programming language for data cleaning, analysis, visualization, and modeling.



The image shows a screenshot of the R Console window. The window has a menu bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Misc', 'Packages', 'Windows', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for file operations and running code. The main area of the window is titled 'R Console' and contains the following text:

```
R version 3.6.1 (2019-07-05) -- "Action of the Toes"
Copyright (C) 2019 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.

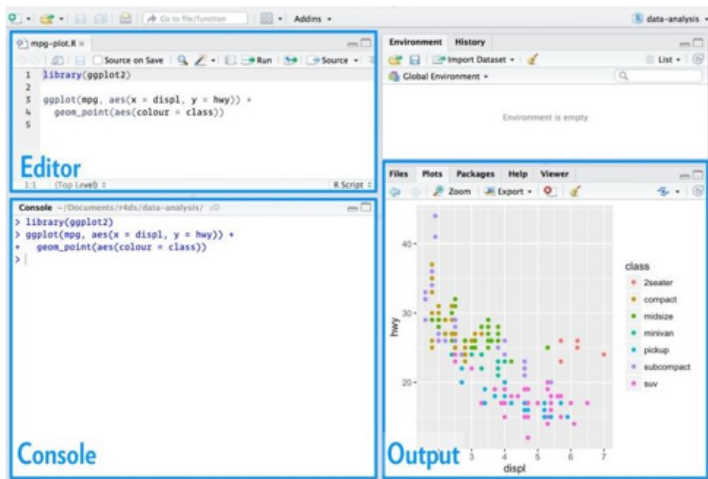
Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> |
```

Figure 3: R programming

What about RStudio?

R Studio is an integrated development environment (IDE) for R programming. R Studio makes programming easier and friendly in R.



Introduction to R

In this section, you will take your first steps with R. You will learn how to use the console as a calculator and how to assign variables. You will also get to know the basic data types in R. Let's get started!

Section 2

R as a calculator

R as a calculator

In its most basic form, R can be used as a simple calculator. Consider the following arithmetic operations:

- Addition
- Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Division
- Exponentiation
- Modulo

Calculate $6 + 12$

```
6 + 12
```

```
## [1] 18
```

Calculate $800 - 900$

```
800 - 900
```

R as a calculator

Calculate 4×5

```
4 * 5
```

```
## [1] 20
```

Calculate $\frac{2018}{2}$

```
2018 / 2
```

```
## [1] 1009
```

Calculate 2^3

```
2^3
```

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

R as a calculator

Calculate $20\% \% 3$

```
20 %% 3
```

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

Calculate the square root of $\sqrt{4}$

```
sqrt(4)
```

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

Calculate $(\sqrt{4})^2$

```
(sqrt(4))^2
```

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

Comment in R

R makes use of the `#` sign to add comments, so that you and others can understand what the R code is about. Just like Twitter! Comments are not run as R code, so they will not influence your result. For example, any code like `#3 + 4` at the console is a comment. R ignores any code in `#`, this means that the code will not run.

```
# 3+4
```


Section 3

Variable and Assignment

Variable assignment

A basic concept in **statistical** programming is called a variable. A variable allows you to store a value (e.g. 5) or an object (e.g. a function description) in R. You can then later use this variable's name to easily access the value or the object that is stored with this variable.

Example

Store the value of 4 as your first name

```
ezeziel <- 4
```

To know what is stored in the memory, type your first name in the console and press return key from the keyboard

```
ezeziel
```

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

Variable assignment and data types in R

```
x <- 3  
y <- 4  
z <- 10
```

```
x + y
```

```
## [1] 7
```

```
z - x - y
```

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

```
x * y
```

```
## [1] 12
```

```
z^x
```

```
## [1] 1000
```

Naming Rules for Variables

The best naming convention is to choose a variable name that will tell the reader of the program what the variable represents

Rules for naming variables

- All variables must begin with a letter of the alphabet.
- After the initial letter, variable names can also contain (`_` or `.`) and numbers. No spaces or special characters, however are allowed.
- Uppercase characters are different from lowercase characters (in R and also in Python)

Example

	Samples of acceptable variable names	Unacceptable variable names
1	Grade	Grade(Test)
2	test_grade	test grade
3	term2	2 term
4	sales_price_2017	2017sales_price

Basic classes of objects

R works with numerous **atomic** classes of objects. Some of the most basic atomic data types to get started are:

- Decimals values like 4.7 are called **numeric**
- Natural numbers like 4 are called **integers**. Integers are also numeric
- Boolean values (**TRUE** or **FALSE**) are called **logical**
- Text (or string) values are called **characters**
- Factors : Categorical variable where each level is a category

Section 4

Basic data structure in R

Basic data structure or types

- ➊ Vector: A collection of elements of the same class
- ➋ Matrix: All columns must uniformly contain only one variable type
- ➌ data.frame: The columns can contain different classes
- ➍ List: Can hold object of different classes and length

Subsection 1

Vector

Create a vector

Vectors are one-dimensional arrays that can hold numeric data, character data, or logical data. In R, you can create a vector with the combine function `c()`. You place the vector elements separate by a comma between the parenthesis.

For example

```
numeric_vector <- c(1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10)
```

```
character_vector <- c('Lynda', 'Ebenezer', 'Wura', 'Sola', 'Olalekan')
```

Notice

Adding a space behind the commas in the `c()` function improves the readability of your code

Naming a vector

As a data analyst, it is important to have a clear view on the data that you are using. Understanding what each element refers to is essential. You can give a name to the elements of a vector with the **names ()** function

Create a vector

Example

```
sales_tax <- c(140000, 200000, 600000, 180000, 170000)
names(sales_tax) <- c(
  "Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday",
  "Thursday", "Friday"
)
sales_tax
```

##	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
##	140000	200000	600000	180000	170000

Arithmetic with vectors

It is important to know that if you sum two vectors in R, it takes the element-wise sum

Example

```
a <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
b <- c(6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
c <- a + b
```

```
c
## [1]  7  9 11 13 15
```

Vector selection

To select elements of a vector (and later matrices, data frames), you can use square brackets , between the square brackets, you indicate what elements to select.

To select the first elements of vector **a**, you type **a[1]**.

To select the second element of the vector, you typed **a[2]**, etc.

Example

```
a  
a[1]  
a[2]
```

Short group work

What does it do?

```
a[a>3]
```

Create special vectors

```
a <- 1:10 # Create sequence 1 to 10  
b <- 10:1 # Create sequence 10 to 1
```

To create sequence with increment of 2 from 1 to 16, we can **seq()** function e.g.

```
seq(1, 16, 2)  
seq(1, 20, 0.1)  
seq(20, 1, -0.1)
```

Create special vectors cont.

If you have a sequence value you don't know the last element, say you just know the start of the sequence and the length of the sequence, e.g.

```
seq(5, by = 2, length = 50)  
length(seq(5, by = 2, length = 50))
```

Repeating elements for certain number of time

```
rep(5, 10) # Repeat 5 in 10 times  
rep(1:4, 5) # Repeat 1 to 4 five times  
rep(1:4, each = 3) # Each element of 1 to 4 3 times
```

Short group work

What are the results of the following line of codes?

```
rep(1:4, each = 3, time = 2)  
rep(1:4, 1:4)  
rep(1:4, c(4, 1, 8, 2))
```


Group work

R for Data science training

1. Create a vector of a number from 1 to 50
2. If x is a vector of 2,3,4,2,4,5,3,5,3,5,7. Use R to get its length
3. Find the sum, mean and variance of vector x.
4. Plot a beautiful bar chart for vector x
5. $x=2, y=3, z = 6,$
 - a. what is $(x+y)^3$
 - b. what is z/y
 - c. what is $x \times y$

Figure 5: Group work

Subsection 2

Matrices

Matrices

In R, a matrix is a collection of elements of the same data type (numeric, character, or logical) arranged into a fixed number of rows and columns.

Since we are only working with rows and columns, a matrix is called two dimensional array.

You can construct a matrix in R with the **matrix ()** function.

Example

```
A <- matrix(1:9, nrow = 3, byrow = T)
```

A

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]  
## [1,]    1    2    3  
## [2,]    4    5    6  
## [3,]    7    8    9
```

Matrices

- The first argument is the collection of elements that #Rstats will arrange into the rows and columns of the matrix. Here, we use 1:9 which is a shortcut for `c(1, 2, ..., 9)`.
- The argument **byrow** indicates that the matrix is filled by the rows. If we want the matrix to be filled by the columns, we just place **byrow=F**
- The argument **nrow** indicates that the matrix should have 3 rows

Short group work

Construct a matrix with 3 rows containing the numbers 1 up to 9 filled **column-wise**

Progressing from vector to matrix

```
row1 <- c(140, 134)
```

```
row2 <- c(160, 158)
```

```
my_matrix <- matrix(c(row1, row2), nrow=2, ncol = 2, byrow = TRUE)
```

Other examples

```
A <- matrix(c(1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17),  
  ncol = 3,  
  byrow = F  
)  
A
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]  
## [1,]    1    7   13  
## [2,]    3    9   15  
## [3,]    5   11   17
```

```
B <- matrix(c(2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18),  
  ncol = 3,  
  byrow = F  
)  
B
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]  
## [1,]    2    8   14  
## [2,]    4   10   16  
## [3,]    6   12   18
```


Matrices selection

To select elements in a matrix we can use square brackets `[,]`, between the square brackets, you indicate the position of the row and column in which the elements to select are.

To select the element in the first row and second column of matrix **A**, you type **A**[1,2].

To select the element in the third row and second column of matrix **A**, you type **A**[3,2], etc.

Example

```
A
```

```
A[1, 2]
```

```
A[3, 2]
```

Arithmetic Operation

We can perform all the arithmetic operations on matrices

- Addition

```
C <- A + B
```

```
C
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]    3   15   27
## [2,]    7   19   31
## [3,]   11   23   35
```

- Subtraction

```
D <- B - A
```

```
D
```

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

Arithmetic Operation

Multiplication

```
F <- A %*% B
```

```
F
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]  
## [1,]  108  234  360  
## [2,]  132  294  456  
## [3,]  156  354  552
```

Arithmetic Operation

- Transpose

$$G = t(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 & 13 \\ 3 & 9 & 15 \\ 5 & 11 & 17 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
G <- t(A)
G
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]    1    3    5
## [2,]    7    9   11
## [3,]   13   15   17
```

Arithmetic Operation

- Determinant

$$G = \det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 7 & 13 \\ 3 & 9 & 15 \\ 5 & 11 & 17 \end{vmatrix}$$

```
G <- det(A)
```

```
G
```

```
## [1] 4.263256e-14
```

Subsection 3

Dataframe

Dataframe

Dataframes are another way to put data in tables! Unlike matrices, dataframes can have different types of data!

A dataframe has the variables of a data set as columns and the observations as rows. This will be a familiar concept for those coming from different statistical software packages such as Excel, SPSS, or STATA

The function for dataframe is `data.frame()`.

Example

```
# Make a dataframe with columns named a and b  
data.frame(a = 2:4, b = 5:7)
```

a	b
2	5
3	6
4	7

The numbers 1 2 3 at the left on your console are row labels and are not a column of the dataframe

Each column in a dataframe is a vector!

Dataframe

Example

```
a <- c(6, 5, 1)
b <- c(1, 1, 3)
data <- data.frame(a, b) # The output is ?
```

Group work

Create a dataframe and call it data from the following vectors:

```
# Set the same seed to get the same sample
set.seed(123)
height <- rnorm(n = 100, mean = 135, sd = 12)
weight <- rnorm(n = 100, mean = 55, sd = 9)
```

Quick, have a look at your dataset

Working with large datasets is common in data science. When you work with (extremely) large datasets and dataframes, your first task as a data analyst is to develop a clear understanding of its structure and main elements. Therefore, it is often useful to show only part of the entire dataset.

- ➊ `head()`: enables you to show the first observations of a dataframe.
- ➋ `tail()`: enables you to print out the last observations in your dataset.

Both `head()` and `tail()` print a top line called `header`, which contains the names of the different variables in your data set.

Have a look at the structure

Another method that is often used to get a rapid overview of your dataset is the function `str()`.

- ③ `str()`: Shows you the structure of your dataset

The structure of a dataframe tells you :

- ① The total number of observations
- ② The total number of variables
- ③ A full list of the variables names
- ④ The first observations

Note

Applying the `str()` function will often be the first thing that you do when receiving a new dataset or dataframe. It is a great way to get more insight in your dataset before diving into the real analysis.

Example

Considering these vectors:

```
# Set the same seed to get the same sample  
set.seed(123)  
height <- rnorm(n = 100, mean = 155, sd = 13)  
weight <- rnorm(n = 100, mean = 69, sd = 11)
```

Create a dataframe for it.

```
data <- data.frame(height, weight)
```

```
str(data)
```

```
## 'data.frame':    120 obs. of  2 variables:  
##  $ height: num  161 150 131 141 130 129 125 127 154 134 ...  
##  $ weight: num  58 66 43 61 51 62 55 61 68 56 ...
```

Example

```
head(data, 5)
```

height	weight
161	58
150	66
131	43
141	61
130	51

```
tail(data, 3)
```

	height	weight
118	119	65
119	155	35
120	145	67

Using built-in datasets in R

There are several ways to find the included datasets in R.

Using `data()` will give you a list of the datasets of all loaded packages.

Example

This shows all the R datasets in the package datasets.

```
data()
```

Example

```
library(datasets)
```

```
data <- airquality
```

```
str(data)
```

To get help in the proper description of the dataset `?airquality`

Section 5

Summary

Summary

This tutorial introduced us to R and RStudio. We also learnt various atomic data types in R.

The end

Thank you!

References



Wickham, H., & Golemund, G. (2016). R for data science: import, tidy, transform, visualize, and model data. " O'Reilly Media, Inc."