# **R/Tableau Integration**

#### R within Tableau

### **Process Overview**

- Need Rserve
  - Rserve is the R server.
  - Rserve runs in the background and is used by Tableau to run R scripts and then put the returned values back into Tableau data sets.
- Currently, Tableau Online and Tableau Public do not support R, so the R statistical capabilities will not be available through these services.

## **Rserve Install & Setup Instructions**

- 1. Download and Install R.
- 2. Download and Install Rserve.

You will need to install an Rserve for Tableau to connect. After installing, in the RStudio console, enter the following commands:

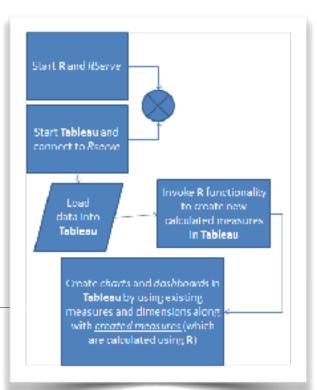
library(Rserve)

Rserve(args="-no-save")

### Here is a list of the available (mostly optional) args for Rserve:

Those are R arguments and documented in the R documentation as well as in --help:

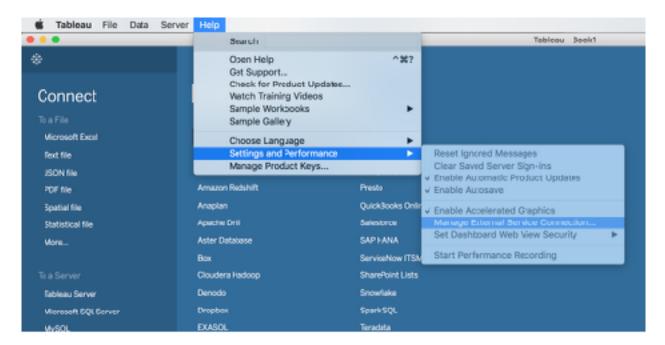
```
$ R --help
[...]
                      Do save workspace at the end of the session
  --save
                      Don't save it
  --no-save
 --no-environ
                      Don't read the site and user environment files
  --no-site-file
                    Don't read the site-wide Rprofile
 --no-init-file
                    Don't read the user R profile
                    Do restore previously saved objects at startup
  --restore
 --no-restore-data Don't restore previously saved objects
  --no-restore-history Don't restore the R history file
                    Don't restore anything
  --no-restore
  --vanilla Combine --no-save, --no-restore, --no-site-file,
          --no-init-file and --no-environ
```



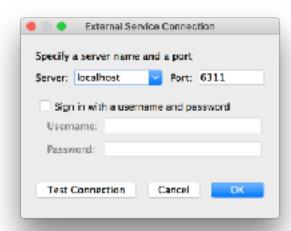
#### 3. Connect Tableau to the R Server.

Once Rserve is installed, open Tableau Desktop and follow the steps below <u>or watch</u> this video on how to integrate R and Tableau.

a. Go to the Help menu and select "Manage External Service Connection".



- b. Use drop down menu to select "Localhost". Check the port is set to the Rserve default of "6311".
- c. Click on the "Test Connection" button to make sure everything runs smoothly. You should see a successful message. Click OK to close.



## Start using the R scripts in Tableau.

Now you will be able to create new calculated fields in Tableau Desktop that utilize the SCRIPT\_\* functions to make R functional calls.

- Tableau has 4 built in functions for using R. They return the data type in their name.
  - SCRIPT\_REAL
  - SCRIPT\_STR
  - SCRIPT\_INT
  - SCRIPT\_BOOL