

R: Where the H*ck to Start

satRday DC

Jessica Duncan
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About me

- Liberal Arts academic background
- Variety of industries before MSDS
- Now data analyst & graduate TA
- Also really like doggos



"hi here's a cute dog pic yay R thank you for coming to my talk byebye"

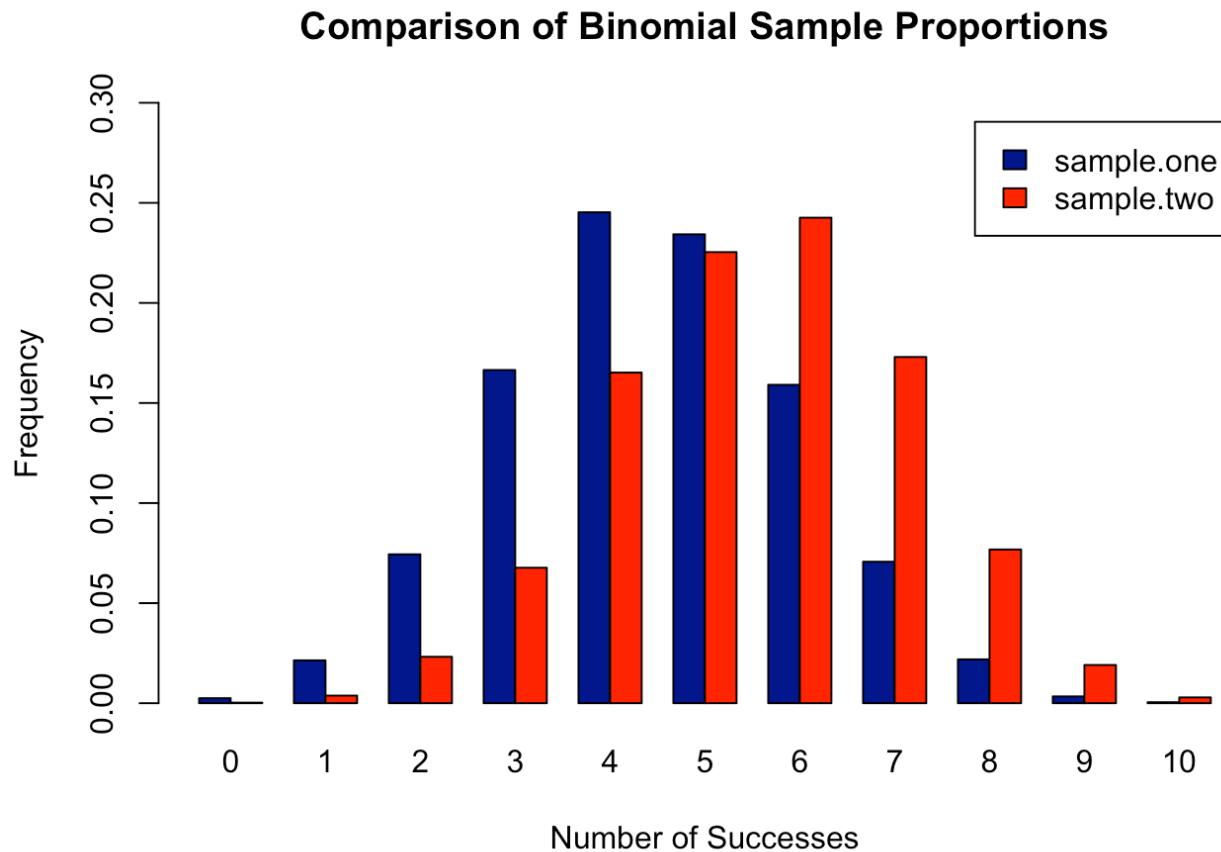


How I Got Started in R

SPOILER ALERT: 0/10 do not recommend

- Enrolled in a data science masters degree with zero programming experience
- Began curriculum with two intro-level python courses
- Quickly realized I'm in over my head
- Came thisclose to quitting
- Rallied and managed to complete my first quarter
- Switched to R for the remainder of my grad program

one of my first R things:

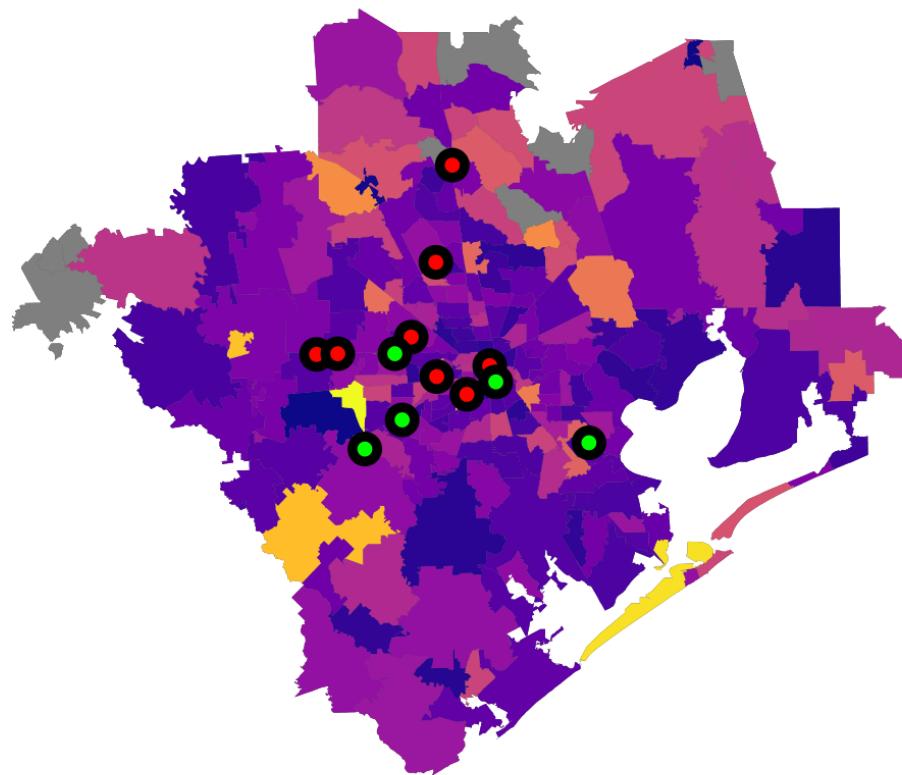


How I Got Better in R

- Did a bunch of grad school assignments
- Googled a LOT of things and wore out cmd+c/cmd+v
- Graduated with an MSDS feeling pretty good about my skills
- Moved into my company's data science dept; felt less good about my skills
- Worked daily in R for last year+ with support of veteran R users

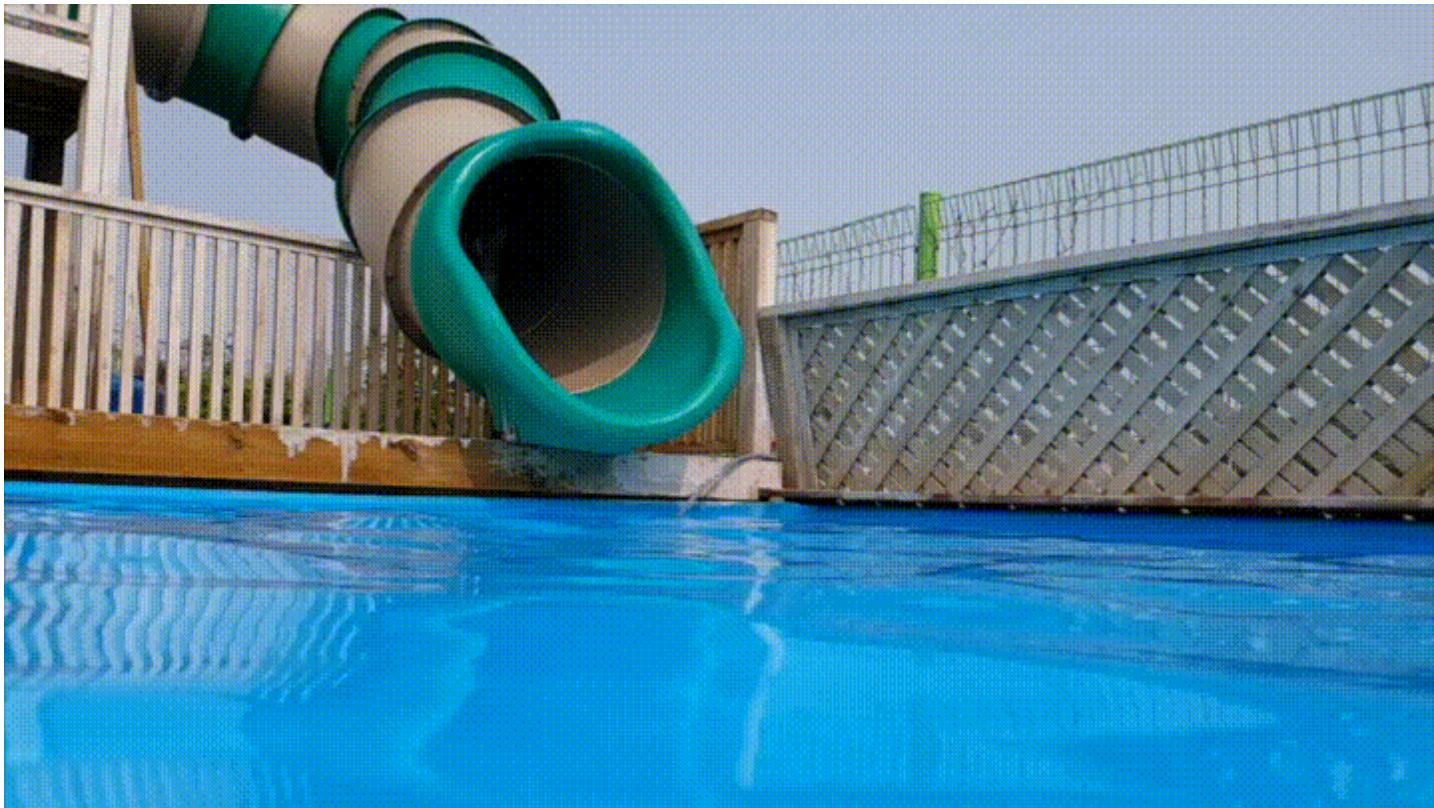


my latest cool R thing!



My Best Advice?

– Dive in!



First Things First

- [R](#) (open source programming language)
- [RStudio](#) (IDE)
- Some data
- Learning goals

A Warning...



Terms You Should Know

- CRAN (Comprehensive R Archive Network)
- environment
- working directory
- project
- *install.packages(...)*
- *library(...)*
- *?...*
- *browseVignettes(...)*
- *#comment*

Useful Packages

- [dplyr](#)
- [tidyr](#)
- [ggplot2](#)
- [lubridate](#)
- [rmarkdown](#)
- [shiny](#)



Resources

- [R Reference Card 2.0](#)
- [R for Data Science](#)
- [R Graphics Cookbook](#)
- [R Markdown: The Definitive Guide](#)
- [Base R Cheat Sheet](#)
 - Plus: cheatsheets linked in ‘Packages’ slide

Parting Thoughts

- Set small, specific goals so you don't get overwhelmed
- Many, many ways to do the same thing
- Use #comments liberally
- Remember: even the experts Google for answers... all. the. time.



ADOPTABLE KITTEHS!!
(you know need a quarantine friend or two)



Connect With Me (or Kittens!)



jessicamduncan



jdunc923



JessicaMDuncan



nova_foster_kittens

Credits go to...

- Close up dog face, slide 3: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/adorable-blur-breed-close-up-406014/>
- ‘I have no idea what I’m doing’, slide 6: <https://barkpost.com/humor/funny-dog-memes/>
- Corgi slide gif, slide 8: <https://giphy.com/gifs/swim-doing-adorableflop-vfe2WbJh8CW8U/media>
- ‘Real world data’, slide 10: VooDooEconometrician on Reddit
https://www.reddit.com/r/rstatsmemes/comments/cw4axj/trying_to_apply_a_fancy_new_r_library_to_my_real/
- ‘I gib 10/10’ gif, slide 12: Maya polar bear on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwkEt_IWZYQ
- ‘Trust me’ gif, slide 14: <https://tenor.com/view/dog-gif-9796017>