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Programming for Cognitive Science

Lecture 3 – R for data analysis

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Parallelization





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Part 1

Data import/export



Data import/export

Usually, the data have the form of a matrix with **observations/samples** in rows and **features/variables** in columns.

We usually import the data from:

- packages
- text files
- Excel sheets

Samples	Variables			

Importing data from packages

To use an installed package:

```
library(package_name)
```

To use a dataset from an installed and loaded package:

```
data("dataset_name")  
attach(dataset_name)
```

Importing data from text files

```
read.table(file, header = FALSE, sep = "", dec = ".", ...)
```

Name of the file

Does the first row contain
names of the variables?

The character used
for field separation

The character used
for decimal points

Example:

```
Species,Weight,Length1,Length2,Length3,Height,Width  
Bream,242,23.2,25.4,30,11.52,4.02  
Bream,290,24,26.3,31.2,12.48,4.3056  
Bream,340,23.9,26.5,31.1,12.3778,4.6961  
Bream,363,26.3,29,33.5,12.73,4.4555
```

```
read.table(file, header = TRUE, sep = ",", ...)
```



Importing data from text files

Other functions:

- `read.csv(file, header = TRUE, sep = ",", dec = ".", ...)`
- `read.csv2(file, header = TRUE, sep = ";", dec = ",", ...)`
- `read.delim(file, header = TRUE, sep = "\t", dec = ".", ...)`
- `read.delim2(file, header = TRUE, sep = "\t", dec = ",", ...)`

Tabulator

Exporting data to text files

```
write.table(x, file = "file_name", append = FALSE,
```

Name of object to save

Name of the file

Should we modify the existing file
or create a new one?

```
quote = TRUE, sep = " ", eol = "\n",
```

Should values be in quotes?

The character for field separation

The character to mark
the end of each row:
"\n" – new line/ENTER

```
na = "NA", dec = ".",
```

What should be printed
instead of missing values?

The character used
for decimal points

```
row.names = TRUE, col.names = TRUE, ...)
```

Should the row
and column
names be saved?



Exporting data to text files

Other functions:

- `write.csv(...)`
- `write.csv2(...)`

Importing data from Excel sheets

- library(xlsx)
read.xlsx(file, sheetIndex, sheetName = NULL, header = TRUE, ...)

Name of the file

Which sheet to import?

Does the first row contain names of the variables?

- library(openxlsx)
read.xlsx(xlsxFile, sheet, colNames = TRUE, rowNames = FALSE, ...)

Name of the file

Which sheet to import?

Does the first row contain names of the variables?

Does the first column contain names of the sample?



Exporting data to Excel sheets

- library(xlsx)
write.xlsx(x, file, sheetName = "Sheet1", append = FALSE,

Name of object to save

Name of the file

Name of the sheet

Should we modify the existing file
or create a new one?

col.names = TRUE, row.names = TRUE, ...)

Should the row
and column
names be saved?

- library(openxlsx)
write.xlsx(x, file, ...)

Name of object to save

Name of the file





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Part 2

Data cleaning



Missing data

- `is.na(x)` – returns TRUE if the value is missing and FALSE otherwise
- `complete.cases(x)` – returns FALSE if the value is missing and TRUE otherwise

— Let's move on to coding...



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Part 3

Statistical analysis



Probability distributions

Normal distribution:

- `dnorm` - density function
- `pnorm` - cumulative distribution function
- `qnorm` - quantile function (inverse cumulative distribution function)
- `rnorm` - random generator

Other available distributions:

- `unif` - uniform
- `binom` - binomial
- `chisq` - Chi-square
- `pois` - Poisson
- etc.

Statistical hypothesis testing

- 1) Is there a statistically significant difference in horsepower between cars with 8 cylinders and cars with 6 cylinders?
- 2) A lady claimed that she can tell only by the taste if milk or tea was poured into her cup first. Can she really?

— Let's move on to coding...



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Part 4

Parallelization



Parallel computing

- When many multiple calculations are needed for different parameters, we can make them simultaneously (in parallel) at different cores instead of one after another in a loop.
- This can significantly reduce time of calculations.

mclapply {parallel}

Parallel version of lapply. Applies a function to each list element, returns list.

```
mclapply(L, FUN)
```

L	list
FUN	function

mclapply {parallel}

```
library(parallel)
L <- list(a = 1, b = 1:3, c = 10:100)
mclapply(L, length)
$a
[1] 1
$b
[1] 3
$c
[1] 91
```

%dopar% {doParallel}

One can use the %dopar% function to parallelize for loops. The result returned is a list:

```
library(doParallel)
cl <- makeCluster(2)
registerDoParallel(cl)
foreach(i=1:3) %dopar% sqrt(i)
stopCluster(cl)
```

— Let's move on to coding...



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