



Introduction to linguistics with R

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What is R and why R?

Advantages

- open source: **free** of charge, constantly under development (you can write your own package too!)
- offers packages for **statistics** and **visualisation**

Drawbacks

- hard at the beginning, getting easier later on
- no buttons to push, you have to **communicate with R** in its **language**

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 - languages
 - trees
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```
> abc <- read.tree(text = "((A,B),C);") #create a tree with three taxa
> plot.phylo(abc, type="clado") #plot the tree
> tiplabels() #plot the tip labels on the tree
> nodelabels() #plot the node on the tree
> abc$edge #show the matrix
> PN<-read.nexus("pamanyungan.txt")
> colorscheme<-rep("black",2*N)
> for(i in 1:(2*N)){
  if(PN$edge[i,2] < N+2){colorscheme[i]<-rainbow(N+1)[PN$edge[i,2]]}
}
> plot(PN,edge.color=colorscheme,edge.width=2,show.tip.label=FALSE)
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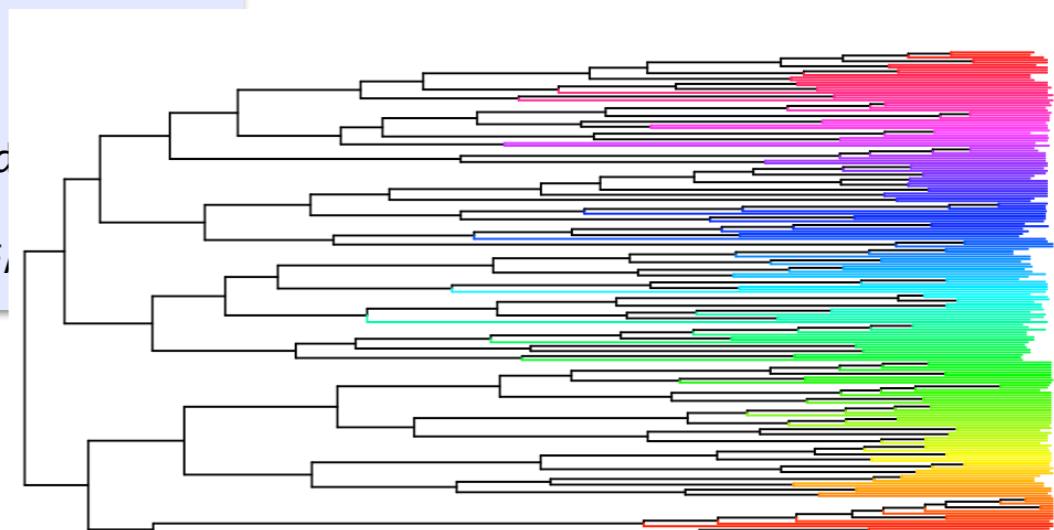
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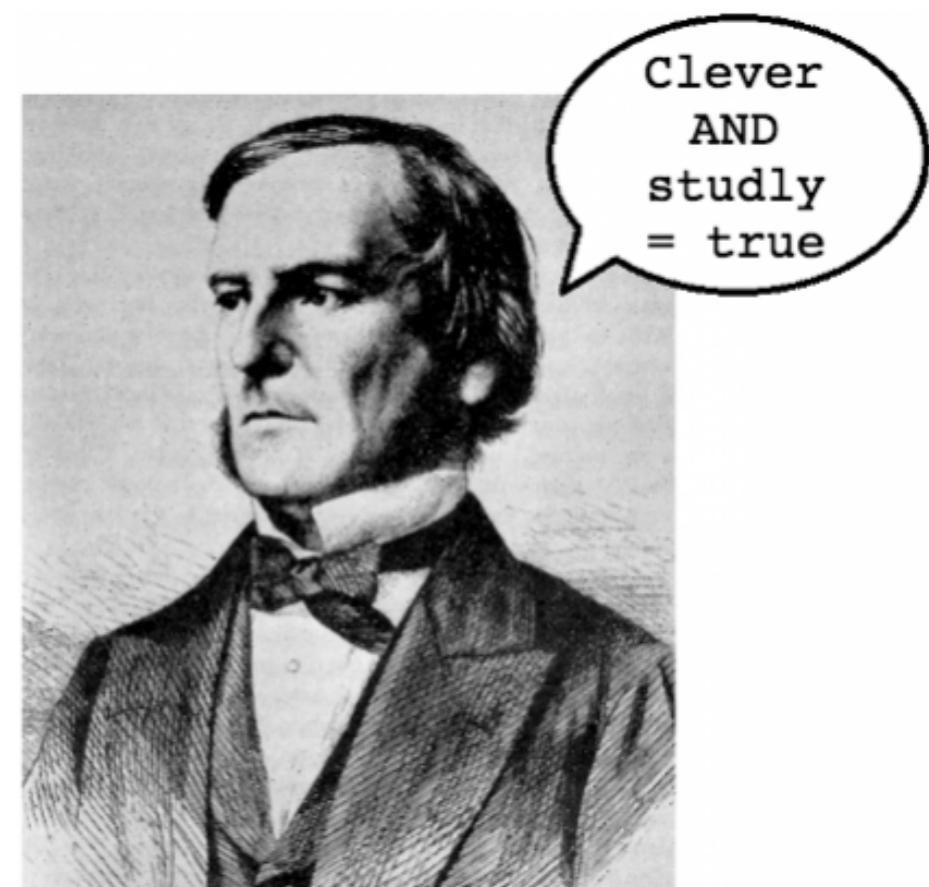
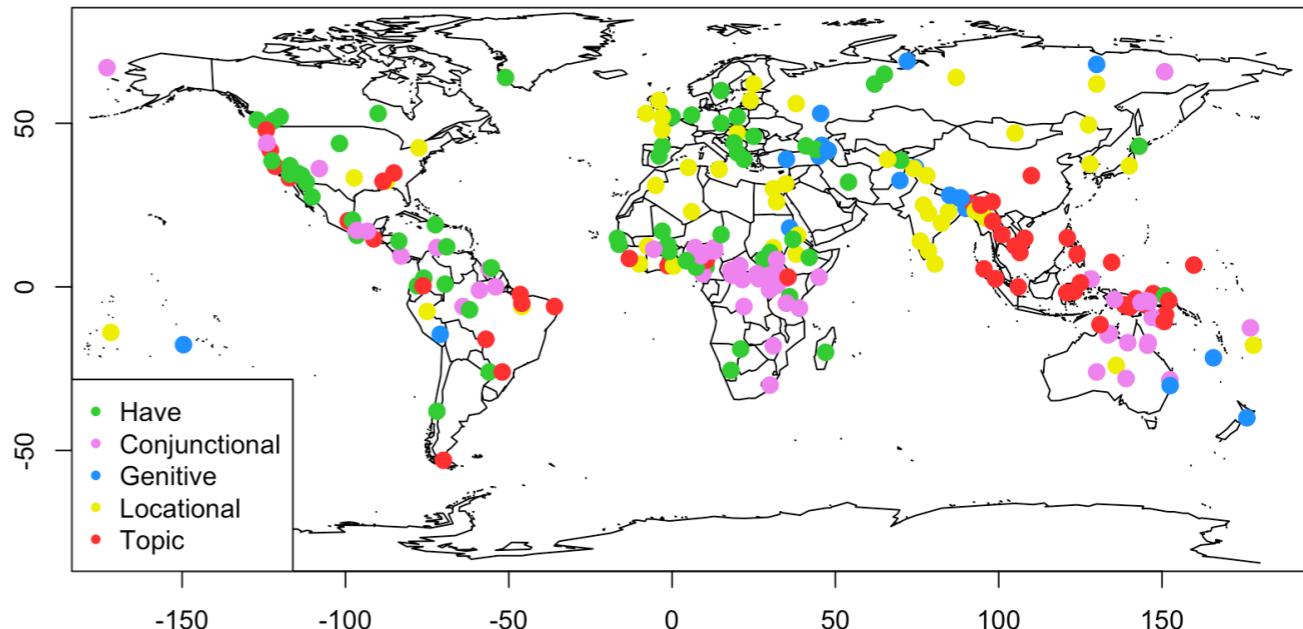
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```

to make a tree like:



Goals

- R as a calculator
- variable assignment
- functions
- installing packages, loading libraries
- making a map with the packages `maps` and `mapdata`
- Boolean data type, conditional statements, loops



R layout

RStudio

Project: (None)

mini-bayesian-school2017.R *

Source on Save | Run | Source |

#some script
favourite_languages <- c("Turkic", "Mongolic", "Tungusic",
"Japonic", "Koreanic")

Scripts

Environment History

Import Dataset

Global Environment

Data

- data
- hokkaidoMatr
- hokkaidoTab
- Japonic
- kurilMatr
- kurilTab
- Mongolic
- sakhalinMatr
- sakhalinTab
- tea

17 obs. of 7 variables

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

Zoom Export

Workspace/
History

S84 +towgs84=0,0,0")
> data = data
> sakhalin_sp
>
> #import dat
> tea<-read.d
> Turkic<-re
> Mongolic<-r
> Tungusic<-read.csv("Tungusic.csv",sep=";")
Warning messages:

3:48 (Top Level) R Script

Console ~/Documents/eurasia3angle/conferences/orientalistentag2017/data/

80
60
40
20
0

Plots/Help

R layout

RStudio
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mini-bayesian-school2017.R *

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- tea

1 obs. of 1 variable
num [1:351, 1:2] 141 141 141 141 141 ...
351 obs. of 3 variables

2 obs. of 7 variables
num [1:87, 1:2] 156 156 156 156 157 ...
87 obs. of 3 variables

5 obs. of 7 variables
num [1:230, 1:2] 144 144 143 143 143 ...
230 obs. of 3 variables

17 obs. of 7 variables

**Workspace/
History**

You can type in your commands in the console and wait for the output. If R is ready to work, there is a symbol >

```
S84 +towgs84=0,0,0")
> data = data
> sakhalin_sp
>
> #import dat
> tea<-read.d
> Turkic<-re
> Mongolic<-r
> Tungusic<-read.csv("Tungusic.csv",sep=";")
Warning message:
```

Console

40
20
0
50
100
150

Plots/Help

Using the console as a calculator

- Type in the console $1+1$ and press the Enter button
- Type any other mathematical expression and press Enter
- R does not care about spaces

Addition +
Subtraction -
Multiplication *
Division /
Power ^

```
> 23-1  
[1] 22  
> 134 - 23*4  
[1] 42  
> 1+ 2  
[1] 3  
> 2*(6-2)  
[1] 8  
>
```

Command history

- You can scroll through the command history, execute again or modify an older command
- use the keys **↑** and **↓** of the keyboard
- notice how the command reappears at the bottom of the console behind the prompt
- when you reach the command you want to execute again, press Enter
- You cannot modify the text you see above the prompt!
Think of it in terms of not being able to change the past

Variable assignment

- if you use particular numbers and other objects often, you can save them in a variable
- with the assignment operator <-
- the names of the variables should not contain any spaces or any number at the beginning
- if a variable contains several words, you can separate them by dots or underscore:
object.example or object_example

```
> d <- 515082  
> 45-d  
[1] -515037  
> d+123  
[1] 515205  
> d  
[1] 515082
```

Functions

- R contains many built-in functions. e.g. `date()`:

```
> date()  
> [1] "Fri Nov  3 11:38:05 2017"
```

NameOfTheFunction(argument1, argument2, argument3,...)

- Functions can have 0, 1, 2, ... obligatory arguments and also optional arguments.
- Think of it as verbs being atransitive, intransitive, transitive, bitransitive and having adjuncts

Functions

- What do the following functions do? (They do not need any arguments)
 - `ls()`
 - `colors()`
- What does the following one-place function do?
 - `sqrt(9)`
- Try out the function `sum()`, it can take many arguments

Functions

- The most popular function: `c()` (concatenate)

Rule of thumb for beginners:

if something does not function, try to build in the concatenate function `c()`

- `c()` combines arguments to an object that is called **vector**

```
> Pronomina <- c(9773, 1663, 5022, 2500, 691)
> Pronomina
[1] 9773 1663 5022 2500 691
```

Functions

- When is `c()` needed?
 - If one wants to execute the same operation with several objects (e.g. multiplication) (=vectorized calculation)

```
> Pronomina <- c(9773, 1663, 5022, 2500, 691)
> Pronomina
[1] 9773 1663 5022 2500 691
> Pronomina/515082*1000
[1] 18.973678 3.228612 9.749904 4.853596 1.341534
```

Functions

- When is `c()` needed?
 - if a function takes only one argument, but needs to be applied to several objects.

E.g. the function `mean()` takes only one argument, but one normally wants it to calculate the mean of several values

```
> mean(3, 5, 6, 9) this is not what we wanted  
[1] 3  
> my_numbers <- c(3, 5, 6, 9)  
> mean(my_numbers)  
> [1] 5.75  
> mean(c(3, 5, 6, 9)) this functions!  
> [1] 5.75
```

Task: functions

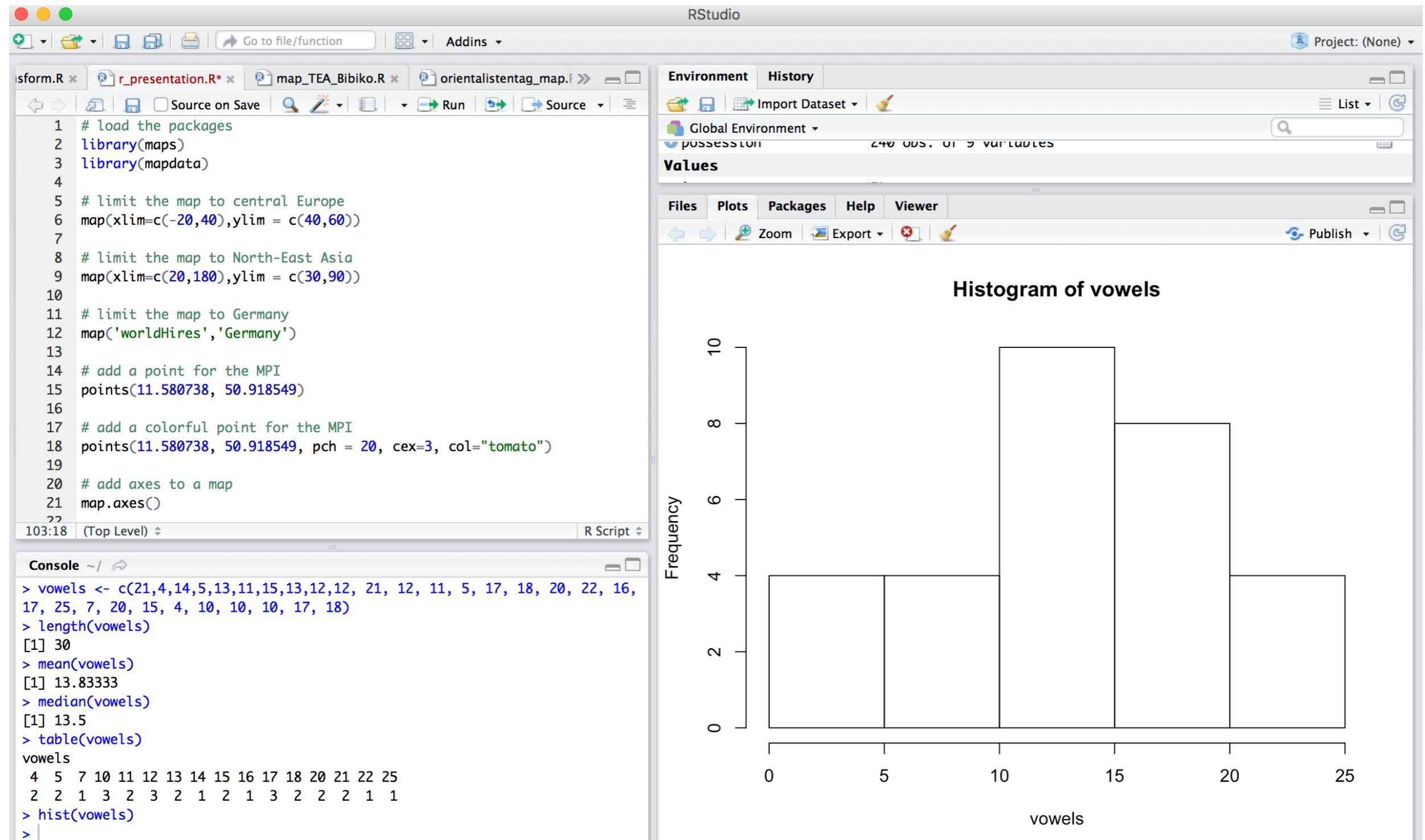
- The following vowel inventory is given ($n=30$):
 - 21,4,14,5,13,11,15,13,12,12, 21, 12, 11, 5, 17, 18, 20, 22, 16, 17, 25, 7, 20, 15, 4, 10, 10, 10, 17, 18
- Save it as a vector in the variable **vowels**
- use the function **c()** to do so
- check, whether you have all the 30 values with the function **length()**
- calculate the mean with the function **mean()**
- calculate the median with the function **median()**
- find out what the function **table()** does

Task: functions

```
> vowels <- c(21,4,14,5,13,11,15,13,12,12, 21, 12, 11,  
5, 17, 18, 20, 22, 16, 17, 25, 7, 20, 15, 4, 10, 10,  
10, 17, 18)  
> length(vowels)  
[1] 30  
> mean(vowels)  
[1] 13.83333  
> median(vowels)  
[1] 13.5  
> table(vowels)  
vowels  
 4   5   7  10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17  18  20  21  22  25  
 2   2   1   3   2   3   2   1   2   1   3   2   2   2   2   1   1
```

Task: histogram

- Produce a histogram using the function `hist()`



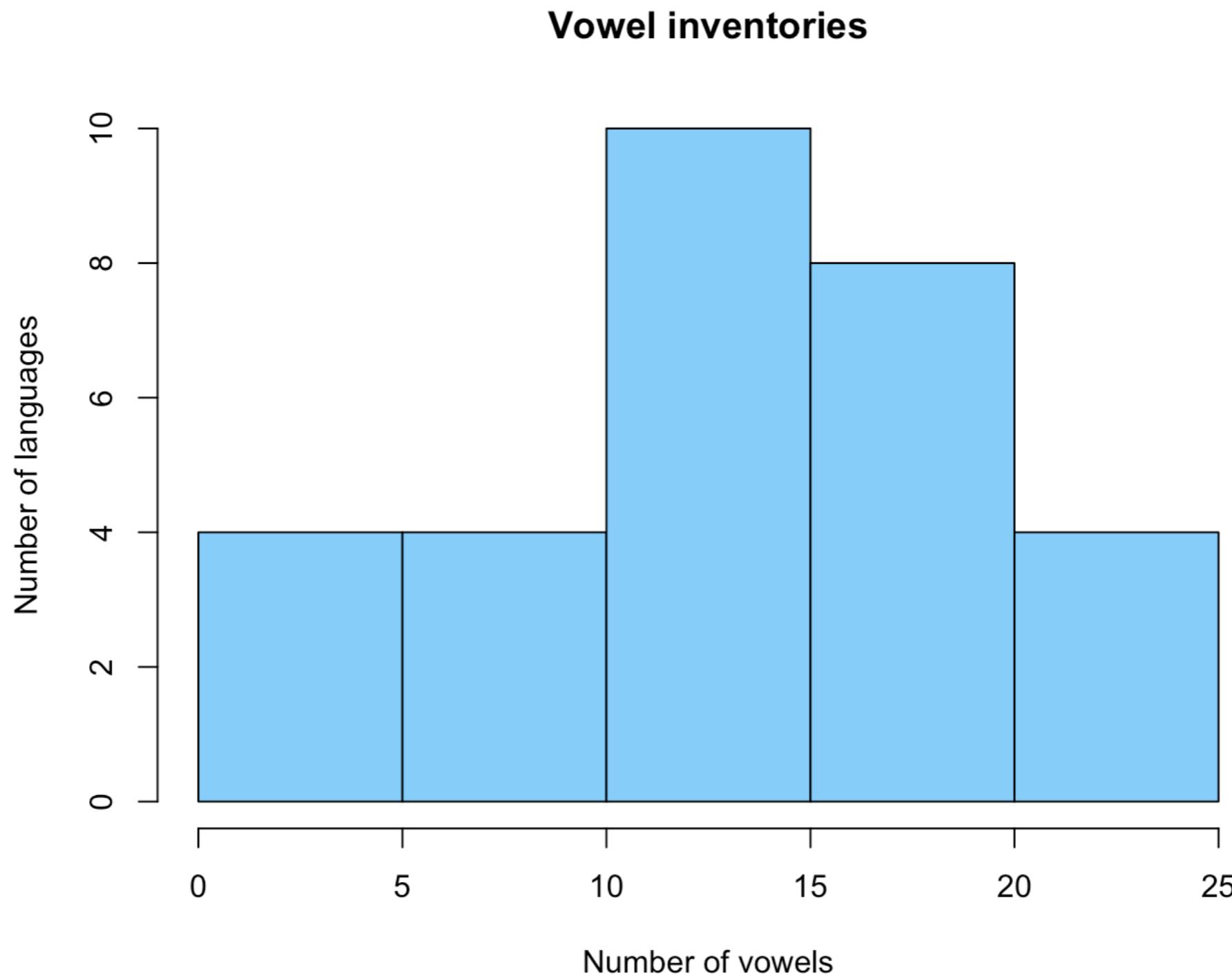
Task: histogram

- The function `hist()` can take many optional arguments

NameOfTheFunction(argument1, argument2, argument3,...)

- `col = “red”` changes the color of the histogram
- you can get a list of other colors by calling the function `colors()`
- other optional arguments are:
 - `main = ‘Vowel inventories’` inserts a title
 - `xlab = ‘...’` changes the name of the x axis
 - `ylab = ‘...’`
- use `?hist` to find out what other arguments it can take

Task: histogram



Installing packages

- R contains hundreds of packages, only some of them are preinstalled, most of them have to be installed individually.
- Two ways:
 1. **Tools -> Install packages...** and then type the name of the package
 - 2. `> install.packages("maps")`
 - `> install.packages("mapdata")`

Loading packages

- To activate a package for the current R session, you need to load it:

```
> library(maps)
```

```
> library(mapdata)
```

Making your first map

- you can make use of the function `map()` and enjoy the map of the world:

```
> map()
```

- or restrict it to a particular region by limiting the axes:

```
> map(xlim = c(-20,40), ylim = c(40,60))
```

Making your first map



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```
> map(xlim = c(-20,40), ylim = c(40,60))
```

```
> map(xlim = c(20,180), ylim = c(30,90))
```

Making your first map



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> map(xlim = c(-20,40), ylim = c(40,60))
```

```
> map(xlim = c(20,180), ylim = c(30,90))
```

Making your first map

- or select a country by typing 'worldHires' and then the name of the country:

```
> map('worldHires', 'Germany')
```



Plotting points

- now that we have a map of Germany, we can add a point for our current location to it!
- for this you need to use the function **points()** and specify two arguments: longitude and latitude

```
> points(x = __ . __, y = __ . __)
```

longitude

latitude

Hint: longitude: 11.580738, latitude: 50.918549

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```
> points(x = - - . - -, y = - - .
```

longitude

latitu

Hint: longitude: 11.580738, latitude: 50.9



Plotting points

- you can make your point more prominent by specifying its colour, size and shape:

col

cex

pch = “plotting character”

- let's add some power to our institute:

```
> points(11.580738, 50.918549,  
  pch = 20, cex=3, col="tomato")
```

(for some symbols, 21-25, you need to specify the background, e.g. **bg** = "pink")

- go ahead and give the institute a new shape and colour!

List of pch values in R

○	△	+	×	◇
1	2	3	4	5
▽	⊗	*	◊	⊕
6	7	8	9	10
☒	田	☒	■	■
11	12	13	14	15
●	▲	◆	●	•
16	17	18	19	20
○	□	◊	△	▽
21	22	23	24	25

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Layers

- making a map is done by putting layers on top of each other:
the first layer is an empty map:

```
> map(xlim = c(20, 180), ylim = c(30, 90))
```

- points are plotted on top of it:

```
> points(124.0, 48.0, col = 'red', pch = 20)
> points(106.289, 48.324, col = 'red', pch = 20)
```

- the first point does not disappear, instead, the second point is added to the map

Plotting points

- But more often you need to plot more than one point!
- Remember how to put in several data points into one argument? Go ahead and add two points in one go.

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```



- We will download a dataset from WALS, but before we continue, let's catch up on data formats

Data formats

a column in excel → a ; or \t in a text editor

	A	B	C	D	E
1		Meaning	Root	Japanese	
2				Standard romanization	IPA
3					
4	1	fire (n.)	*pi(C)i	hi	çɪ
5			*u-matu		
6	2	nose (n.)	*pana	hana	hana
7	3	go (v.)	*ik-	ik-	ik-
8			*par-		
9	4	water (n.)	*mi-ntu	mizu	mizui
10	5	mouth (n.)	*kuti	kuti	kutsei
11	6	tongue (n.)	*sita	sita	çita

- .csv **comma-separated values** (; or ,)
- .tsv **tab-separated values** (\t)

```
1 ;Meaning;Root;Japanese;-
2 ;;;Standard romanization;IPA;-
3 1;fire (n.);*p_(C)i;hi;çɪ;-
4 ;;*u-matu;;-
5 2;nose (n.);*pana;hana;hana;-
6 3;go (v.);*ik-;ik-;ik-;-
7 ;;*par-;;-
8 4;water (n.);*mi-ntu;mizu;miz_;;
9 5;mouth (n.);*kuti;kuti;k_t_i;-
10 6;tongue (n.);*sita;sita;çita;
```

Data formats

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	A	B	C	D	E
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3					
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7	3	go (v.)	*ik-	ik-	ik-
8			*par-		
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- .csv comma-separated values (; or ,)

```

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4 ;;*u-matu;;-
5 2;nose· (n.);*pana;hana;hana;-
6 3;go· (v.);*ik-;ik-;ik-
7 ;;*par-;;
8 4;water· (n.);*mi-ntu;mizu;miz_;;
9 5;mouth· (n.);*kuti;kuti;k_t_i-
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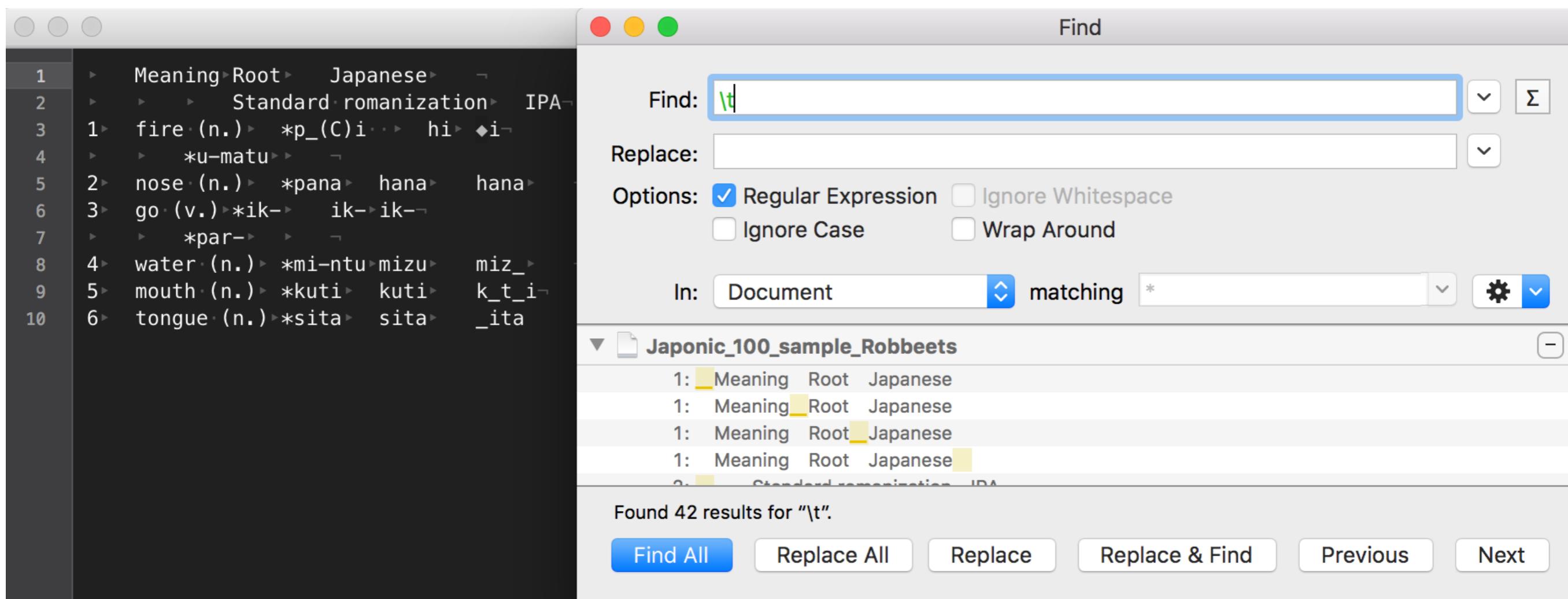
```

1 |> Meaning|> Root|> Japanese|> -
2 |> |> |> Standard· romanization|> IPA-
3 1|> fire· (n.)|> *p_(C)i··|> hi|◆i-
4 |> |> |> *u-matu|> -
5 2|> nose· (n.)|> *pana|> hana|> hana|> -
6 3|> go· (v.)|> *ik-|> ik-|> ik-|> -
7 |> |> |> *par-|> -
8 4|> water· (n.)|> *mi-ntu|mizu|> miz_|
9 5|> mouth· (n.)|> *kuti|> kuti|> k_t_i-
10 6|> tongue· (n.)|> *sita|> sita|> _ita

```

What's with this \t?

- \t stands for the 'tab' and is a regular expression



Other regular expressions would be \n (new line), \d (a digit), \D (a non-digit), etc.

You can find an interactive fun course on regular expressions [here](#).

Getting the data

- Let us read in some languages with their coordinates from WALS, Feature 117A: Predicative Possession. First open the data as **tab-separated values**, copy and paste it into a new text editor file

The screenshot shows the homepage of THE WORLD ATLAS OF LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ONLINE. The header features the title in orange and a world map. Below the header is a green navigation bar with links: Home, Features, Chapters, Languages, References, and Authors. The main content area is titled "Feature 117A: Predicative Possession".

Feature 117A: Predicative Possession

The screenshot shows the "Feature 117A: Predicative Possession" page. On the left, there is a sidebar with download options: WALS XML, GeoJSON for tilemill, html, GeoJSON, Solr JSON, RDF serialized as nt, RDF serialized as turtle, RDF serialized as n3, GeoRSS, RDF serialized as xml, JSON, KML, and tab-separated values (which is highlighted). The main content area includes a text snippet about the feature, a search input field, a "Submit" button, and a "Values" table. The table lists five categories with corresponding colored dots on the map: Locational (blue), Genitive (red), Topic (pink), Conjunctional (yellow), and 'Have' (black). The map shows the distribution of these values across the world.

Value	Count
Locational	48
Genitive	22
Topic	48
Conjunctional	59
'Have'	63

Cleaning the data

- Now delete the head of the file:

```
1 Leon Stassen. 2013. Predative Possession.-
2 In: Dryer, Matthew S. & Haspelmath, Martin (eds.)-
3 The World Atlas of Language Structures Online.-
4 Leipzig: Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology.-
5 (Available online at http://wals.info/chapter/117, Accessed on 2017-10-30.)-
6 -
7 -
8 
9 abk>Abkhaz> 5> 'Have'> 43.083333333> 41.0> Northwest-Caucasian>Northwest-Caucasian>Simple
10 ace>Acehnese> 3> Topic> 5.5>95.5> Malayo-Sumbawan>Austronesian> Simple Clauses-
11 acl>Acholi> 4> Conjunctional> 3.0>32.6666666667> Nilotic>Eastern-Sudanic>Simple Clauses-
12 ahu>Aghu> 3> Topic> -6.1666666667> 140.166666667> Awju-Dumut> Trans-New Guinea> Simple
```

(You could also open this text file in excel by clicking **Open with >** and see how it is represented there.)

Reading in the data

read the file into R:

```
> possession <- read.csv(file.choose(), sep = "\t")
```

or

```
> possession <- read.csv("filename.txt", sep = "\t")
```

⋮

the name of your file goes here

but remember to check and set your working directory before doing so:

```
> getwd()  
> setwd("/bla/bla")
```

Inspecting the data

now have a look at what the first rows of the data look like:

```
> head(possession)
```

you might get something like this:

wals.code	name	value	description	latitude	longitude	genus
1	abk	Abkhaz	5	'Have'	43.083333	41.000000 Northwest Caucasian
2	ace	Acehnese	3	Topic	5.500000	95.500000 Malayo-Sumbawan
3	acl	Acholi	4	Conjunctional	3.000000	32.66667 Nilotic
4	ahu	Aghu	3	Topic	-6.166667	140.16667 Awju-Dumut
5	agl	Aghul	1	Locational	41.750000	47.66667 Lezgic
6	ain	Ainu	5	'Have'	43.000000	143.00000 Ainu
			family	area		
1	Northwest Caucasian Simple Clauses					
2	Austronesian Simple Clauses					
3	Eastern Sudanic Simple Clauses					

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3	acl	Acholi	4	Conjunctional	3.000000	32.666667	Nilotic
4	ahu	Aghu	3	Topic	-6.166667	140.166667	Awju-Dumut
5	agl	Aghul	1	Locational	41.750000	47.666667	Lezgic
6	ain	Ainu	5	'Have'	43.000000	143.000000	Ainu
			family	area			
1	Northwest Caucasian Simple Clauses						
2	Austronesian Simple Clauses						
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2 ace	Acehnese	3	Topic	5.500000	95.500000	Malayo-Sumbawan
3 acl	Acholi	4	Conjunctional	3.000000	32.66667	Nilotic
4 ahu	Aghu	3	Topic	-6.166667	140.16667	Awju-Dumut
5 agl	Aghul	1	Locational	41.750000	47.66667	Lezgic
6 ain	Ainu	5	'Have'	43.000000	143.00000	Ainu
			family	area		
1	Northwest Caucasian	Simple Clauses				
2	Austronesian	Simple Clauses				
3	Eastern Sudanic	Simple Clauses				

**how do we access a column in R?
(two possibilities)**

Plotting points on the map

- Remember we needed the coordinate values to plot the points?

```
> points(x = ___. ___, y = ___. ___)
```

longitude

latitude

- Now we can feed R our two columns in the x and y arguments:

```
> map()
> points(x = possession$longitude,
          y = possession$latitude)
```

Customizing points

- It would be interesting to have a map displaying possession types by alternating colours. We leave the choice of colors to R first:

```
> points(x = possession$longitude, y = possession$latitude,  
         col = possession$description, pch = 20)
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```
> table(possession$description)
```

'Have'	Conjunctional	Genitive	Locational	Topic
63	59	22	48	48

Barplot: fresh up

- let's revise the kind of a barplot we can already make:

```
> barplot(table(possession$description),  
         col = c("limegreen", "violet", "dodgerblue", "yellow2",  
         "firebrick1"),  
         ylim = c(0, 70))
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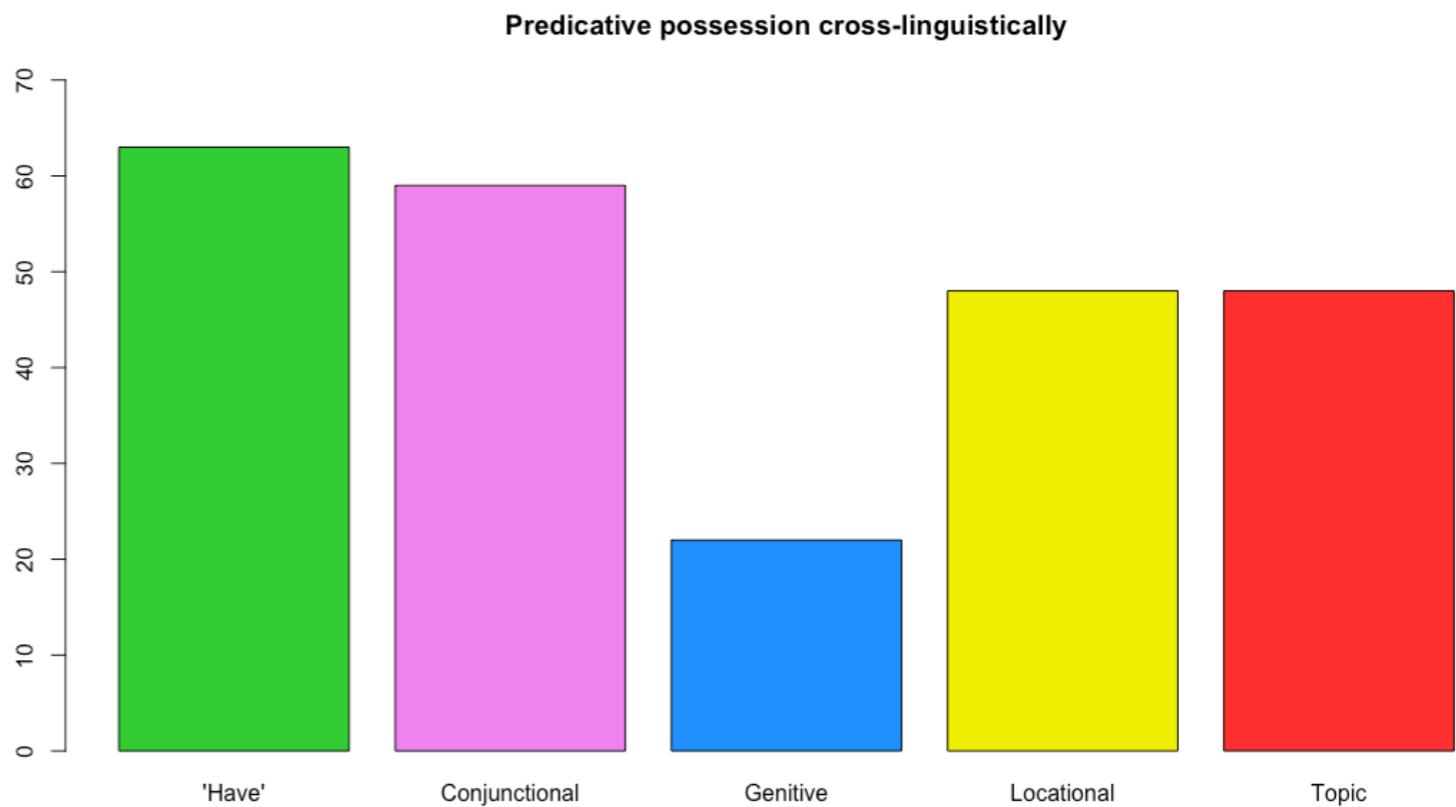
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         main = "Predicative possession cross-linguistically")
```

- alternatively you can specify the xlab and the ylab

Customising points

- Save the colors you like in a vector:

```
> posscolors <- c("limegreen", "violet", "dodgerblue",
  "yellow2", "firebrick1")
```

- condition the colors by the column on possession types:

```
> points(x = possession$longitude,
          y = possession$latitude,
          col = posscolors[possession$description])
```

vector with colors

column the colors depend on

Customising the basic map

Make profit of the optional arguments:

- no internal boundaries: `interior = FALSE`
(only if `fill = FALSE`, otherwise the argument is ignored)
- background in blue: `bg = "lightskyblue1"`
- continents in grey: `fill = TRUE, col = "lightgrey"`
(if `fill = FALSE`, the color is used for lines)
- add axes: `map.axes()`
- add a title: `title()`

e.g.

```
> map(bg="lightskyblue1", interior = FALSE)
> map(bg="lightskyblue1", fill=TRUE, col = "lightgrey")
> title("Predicative possession", cex=0.5)
```

Adding a legend and text

```
> legend("bottomright",  
        legend = c("Have", "Conjunctional",  
                  "Genitive", "Locational", "Topic"),  
        pch = 20,  
        col = posscolors)
```

position

text of the legend

type of point

color vector

- add a WALS-code to each data point on the map

(WARNING: looks ugly)

```
> text(x = possession$longitude,  
       y = possession$latitude,  
       possession$wals.code)
```

Working with data frames

- At times you have a list of questions as rows and a list of languages as column names. But this is not what you want as input for your nexus file!
- R offers a function `t()`, which transposes the data frame by reversing the rows and the columns

```
1 Japanese> Miyako> Korean> Evenki>
2 0 0 0 0 0 NA 0 0<
3 0 0 0 0 0 NA 0 0<
4 0 NA NA 1 NA NA 1 0<
5 0 0 1 1 NA 0 NA<
6 0 0 1 1 1 1 0<
7 0 0 0 0 NA 0 0<
8 1 0 1 0 0 0 0<
9 1 0 NA 1 0 NA NA 0<
10 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1<
11 1 0 1 1 1 NA 1 NA<
12 1 0 1 1 1 1 NA 1<
13 0 1 1 1 1 NA 1<
```



```
1 "", "V1", "V2", "V3", "V4", "V5", "V6", "V7<
2 . , "V27", "V28", "V29", "V30", "V31", "V32<
3 "Japanese", 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1<
4 "Miyako", 0, 0, NA, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0<
5 "Korean", 0, 0, NA, 0, 0, 0, 1, NA, 1, 1, 1, 1<
6 "Even", 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1<
7 "Evenki", 0, 0, NA, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1<
8 "Manchu", NA, NA, NA, NA, 1, NA, 0, NA, 0, NA,<
9 "Negidal", 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, NA, 1, 1, NA, NA<
10 "Olcha", 0, 0, 0, NA, 0, 0, 0, 1, NA, 1, 1, 1, 1<
```

Working with data frames

- download the data set *structural.csv* from github, folder *R course*
- read in your data in R:

```
> structural <- read.csv(file.choose(), sep = "\t")
```

- apply the transpose function **t()**:

```
> t_structural <- t(structural)
```

- save the result by applying the function **write.csv()**

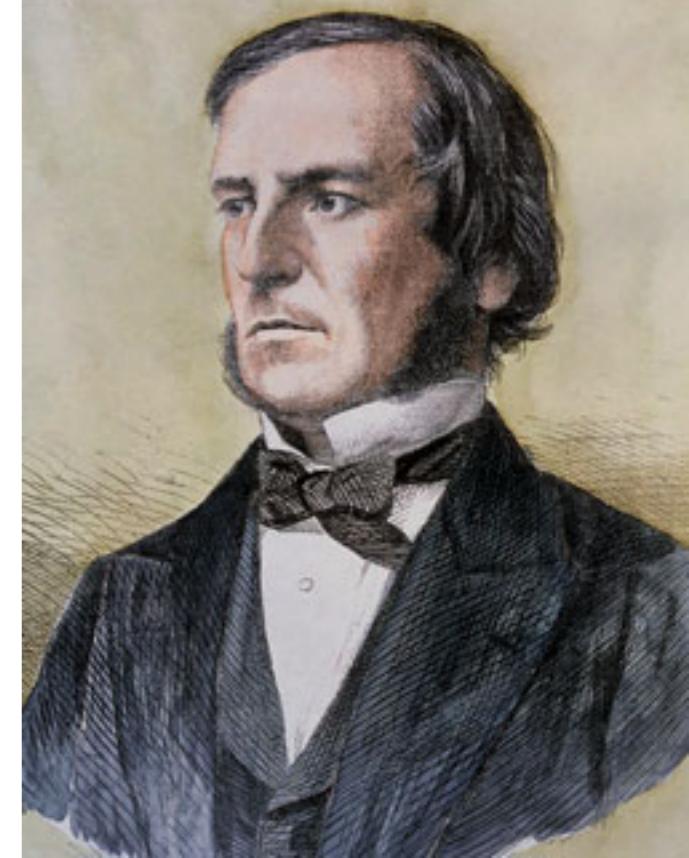
```
> write.csv(t_structural, "t_structural.txt")
```

Booleans

Boolean data type can take only two values: TRUE and FALSE.

Named after George Boole, who first defined an algebraic system of logic in the mid 19th century.

[Wikipedia](#)



Boolean operators:

> greater than

< less than

>= greater or equal to

<= less or equal to

== is equal to

!= is not equal to

- A Boolean condition evaluates to either TRUE or FALSE
- try typing some common sense thing in R console with a Boolean operator:

```
> 1 == 2
```

Booleans

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- check whether the number in **n[1]** is bigger than in **n[5]**

```
> n[1] > n[5]
```

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> phoible$con>20
```

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```
> phoible$language[phoible$con>50]
```

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- you can play around with our previous dataset on predicative possession and **count the number of cases, for which the locational type “is true”**

```
> sum(possession$description=="Locational")
```

Conditional statements

An if-statement is a request to your computer to do a particular thing if a condition is met.

The if-statement consists of:

1. `if`
2. a condition in (), e.g. `(n < m)`
3. a trunk in `{}`

```
> n <- 1  
> m <- 2  
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  print("That's not  
surprising!") }
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we can express our astonishment about the number of consonants in some languages by:

```
> if (sum(phoible$con>50) > 10) {print ("Wow, that's a  
lot!")}
```

Loops

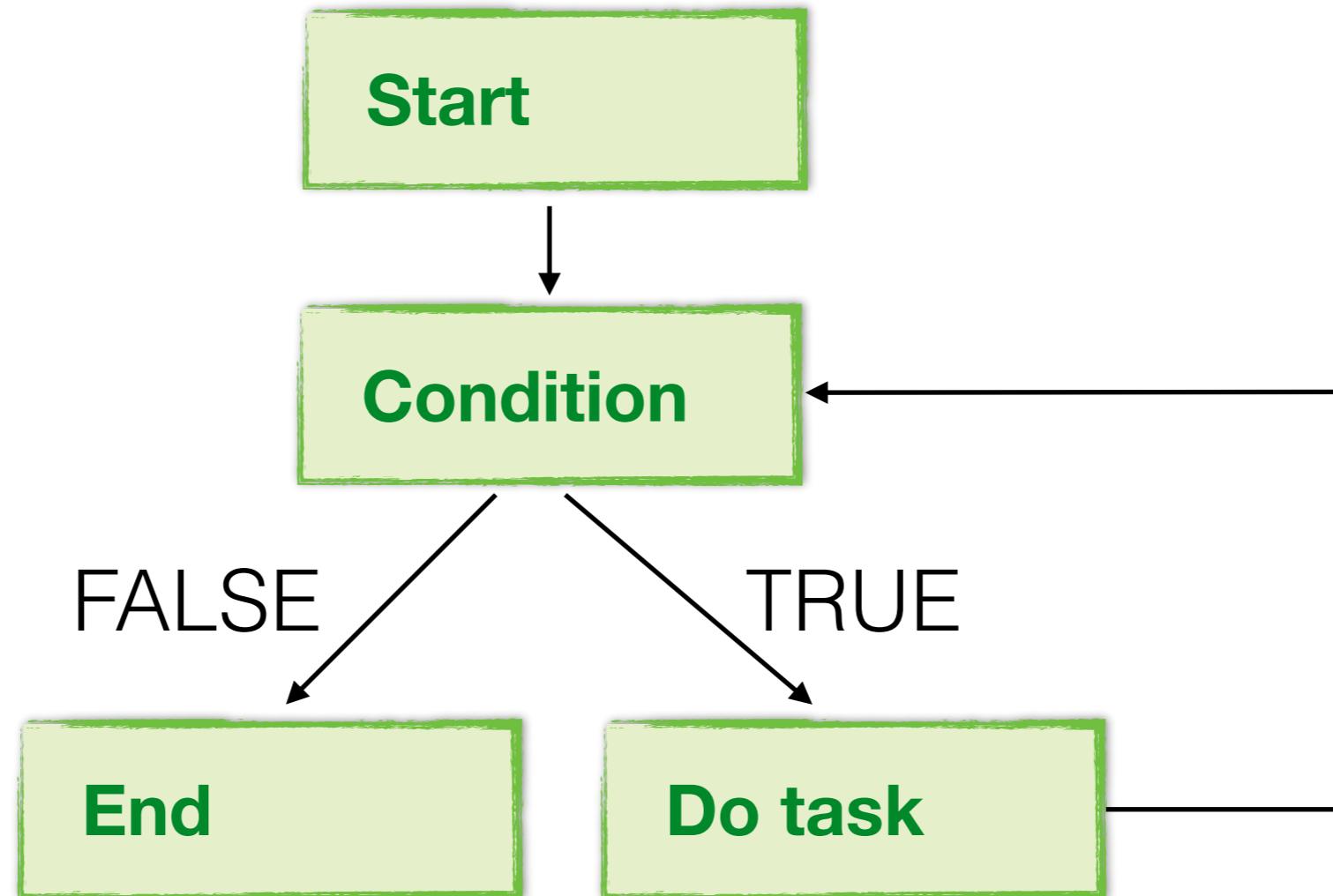
Loops

Two kinds of iterations:

1. **while**: do a particular thing as long as the condition is valid
2. **for**: do a particular thing as many times as I have decided

If you know exactly, how many times you want an operation to take place, for-loop is the right thing for you

Loops



for-loop

The for-loop consists of:

1. `for`
2. a count variable, e.g. `i`
3. a range, e.g. `1:5`
4. a trunk in `{}`

```
> n <- c(1,2,3,4,5)  
  
> for(i in 1:5) {  
  n[i] <- n[i]*2  
  print(n[i])  
}
```

for-loop

```
> n <- c(1,2,3,4,5)

> for(i in 1:5) {
  print("We enter the loop with the value of n:")
  print(n[i])
  n[i] <- n[i]*2
  print("We leave the loop with the value of n:")
  print(n[i])
}

print(i)
```

```
> 1*2
> 2*2
> 3*2
> 4*2
> 5*2
```