# Introduction to R

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# Today's Lecture

## Objectives

- Being able to perform simple calculations in R
- 2 Understanding the concepts of variables
- 3 Handling vectors and matrices

Introduction to R

## Outline

- 1 General Information
- 2 Operations, Functions, Variables
- 3 Vectors
- 4 Matrices
- 5 Control Flow
- 6 Extensibility
- 7 Wrap-Up

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# Examples of Statistical Software

Excel Limited capabilities for statistics; good for data preprocessing

SPSS Easy/good for standard procedures

SAS Good for large data sets and complicated analysis

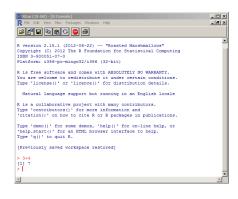
STATA Common in research; various estimators and statistical tests

EViews Strong focus on time series analysis

Matlab Mathematical programming, but statistical methods limited

#### What is R?

- Free software environment aimed at statistical computing
- Supports many operating systems (Linux, Mac OS X, Windows)
- Very frequently used in psychology, bioinformatics, statistics, econometrics, and machine learning

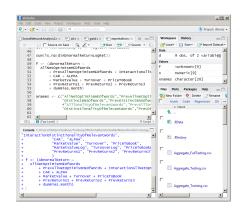


## Retrieving R

Download at http://www.r-project.org

#### R Studio as Editor

- Instead of typing commands into the R Console, you can generate commands by an editor and then send them to the R window
- ... and later modify (correct) them and send again



## Retrieving R Studio (recommended)

Download at http://www.rstudio.com/

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# First Example

```
3*(4+2)
## [1] 18
```

# **Arithmetic Operations**

```
1+2*3
## [1] 7
3/4+2
## [1] 2.75
2*pi-pi
## [1] 3.141593
0/0
## [1] NaN
```

Operation	Description	Example	Result
+	Plus	3+4	7
_	Minus	3-4	-1
*	Times	3 * 4	12
/	Divide	3/4	0.75
^	Exponentiation	3^4	$3^4 = 81$

# **Logic Operators**

## Comparison Operators

Operators <, <=, ==, !=, >=, > return boolean values TRUE or FALSE

```
3 < 4
## [1] TRUE
3 > 4
## [1] FALSE
3 <= 4
## [1] TRUE
```

```
4 == 4

## [1] TRUE

3 != 4

## [1] TRUE
```

# Brackets, Comments and Decimal Points

Brackets can be used to prioritize evaluations

```
3*(4+2)
## [1] 18
```

► Important to use a point instead of a comma!

```
3.141
## [1] 3.141
```

▶ Comments via #

```
3+4 # will be ignored
## [1] 7
```

#### Mathematical Functions

Square root

```
sqrt (1+1)
## [1] 1.414214
```

► Logarithm to the base 10

```
log10 (10*10*10)
## [1] 3
```

Sinus function and rounding

```
sin(pi) # rarely exact: R uses limited number of digits
## [1] 1.224606e-16
round(sin(pi))
## [1] 0
```

## Mathematical Functions

Function	Description	Example	Result
abs()	Absolute Value	abs(3-4)	+1
round()	Rounding	round(3.14)	pprox 3
sqrt()	Square Root	sqrt (81)	$\sqrt{81} = 9$
sin()	Sine	sin(0)	$\sin 0 = 0$
cos()	Cosine	cos(0)	$\cos 0 = 1$
tan()	Tangent	tan(0)	tan 0 = 0
log()	Natural Logarithm	log(e)	lne = 1
log10()	Common Logarithm	log10(100)	$\log_{10} 100 = 2$

# **Exercise: Mathematical Functions**

#### Question

▶ What is the value of abs (3-4\*5)?

```
abs (3-4*5)
```

## [1] 17

### **Variables**

```
x < -2
## [1] 2
x+3
## [1] 5
Х
## [1] 2
x < -x+4
X
## [1] 6
```

- Variables store values during a session
- Value on right is assigned to variable preceding "<-"</p>
- ► No default output after assignment
- Recommended names consist of lettersA–Z plus "\_" and "."
- ▶ Must not contain minus!
  - Should be different from function names, e.g. sin
  - ► Good: x, fit, ratio, etc.
- ► Warning: naming is case-sensitive
  - ► i. e. x and X are different

## Exercise: Variables

## Question

▶ What is the value of z?

```
x <- 2

x <- x+1

y <- 4

z <- x+y

x <- x+1

z <- z+x
```

```
z ## [1] 11
```

## Exercise: Variables

## Question

x <- 2

Z

## [1] 11

▶ What is the value of z?

```
x <- x+1
y <- 4
z <- x+y
x <- x+1
z <- z+x
```

```
Introduction to R: Operations, Functions, Variables
```

# Strings

- Sequence of characters are named strings
- ► Surrounded by double quotes (")
- ► Necessary for e.g. naming column names

```
"Text"
## [1] "Text"
"3.14"
## [1] "3,14"
"3.14"+1 # mixing strings and numbers does not work
## Error in "3.14" + 1:
                         non-numeric argument to binary
operator
```

## Help Pages

#### Accessing help pages for each function via help (func)

help(sin)

Trig {base}

R Documentation

#### Trigonometric Functions

#### Description

These functions give the obvious trigonometric functions. They respectively compute the cosine, sine, tangent, arc-cosine, arc-sine, arc-tangent, and the two-argument arc-tangent.

#### Usage

cos(x)

sin(x)

tan(x)

acos(x)

asin(x)

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# Creating and Accessing Vectors

► Create vector filled with zeros via numeric(n)

```
numeric(4)
## [1] 0 0 0 0
```

➤ Vector elements are concatenated via c ( . . . )

```
x <- c(4, 0, 6)
x
## [1] 4 0 6
```

 Accessing individual elements via squared brackets []

```
x[1] # first component
## [1] 4
```

 Selecting a range of elements

```
x[c(2,3)]
## [1] 0 6
```

 Selecting everything but a subset of elements

```
x[-1]
## [1] 0 6
x[-c(2,3)]
## [1] 4
```

► Dimension via length()

```
length(x)
## [1] 3
```

# **Updating Vectors**

```
x <- c(4, 0, 6)
```

#### ► Replacing values

```
x[1] <- 2 # replace first component
x
## [1] 2 0 6</pre>
```

#### ► Appending elements

```
y <- c(x, 8) # append an element

Y

## [1] 2 0 6 8
```

### **Vectors: Concatenation**

```
x < -c(4, 0, 6)

y < -c(8, 9)
```

► Combining several vectors is named concatenation

```
z <- c(x, y) # concatenating two vectors
z
## [1] 4 0 6 8 9</pre>
```

► Replicating elements by rep(val, count) to form vectors

```
rep(1, 5) # 5-fold replication of the value 1
## [1] 1 1 1 1 1
rep(c(1, 2), 3) # repeat vector 3 times
## [1] 1 2 1 2 1 2
```

## **Vector Functions**

```
x \leftarrow c(1, 2, 3, 0, 10)
```

#### ▶ Average value

```
mean(x)
## [1] 3.2
```

#### ▶ Variance

```
var(x)
## [1] 15.7
```

#### Sum of all elements

```
sum(x)
## [1] 16
```

## **Exercise: Vectors**

#### Question

► How to compute a standard deviation of  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

```
▶ sqr(var(x))
```

$$\triangleright$$
 sd(x)

$$x < -c(1, 4, 9)$$

#### Solution A

#### Solution B

25

## **Exercise: Vectors**

#### Question

► How to compute a standard deviation of  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

```
▶ sqr(var(x))
```

- ▶ sqrt (var(x))
- ▶ sd(x)

$$x \leftarrow c(1, 4, 9)$$

#### Solution A

```
sqrt (var(x))
## [1] 4.041452
```

#### Solution B

```
sd(x)
## [1] 4.041452
```

# **Vector Operations**

```
x < -c(1, 2)

y < -c(5, 6)
```

#### ► Scaling

```
10*x
## [1] 10 20
```

#### ▶ Addition

```
x+y
## [1] 6 8
10+x
## [1] 11 12
```

▶ Be careful with functions such as sin() on vectors!

# Generating Sequences

#### ► Integer sequences

```
1:4

## [1] 1 2 3 4

4:1

## [1] 4 3 2 1
```

#### ► Arbitrary sequences

```
(1:10)/10
## [1] 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
seq(4, 5, 0.1) # notation: start, end, step size
## [1] 4.0 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.9 5.0
```

### **Exercise: Vectors**

## Question

- ► How to compute  $\sum_{i=1}^{100} i$ ?
  - ▶ sum(1:100)
  - ▶ sum(1,100)
  - ▶ sum(1-100)

```
sum(1:100)
## [1] 5050
```

### **Exercise: Vectors**

## Question

- ► How to compute  $\sum_{i=1}^{100} i$ ?
  - ▶ sum(1:100)
  - ▶ sum(1,100)
  - ▶ sum(1-100)

```
sum(1:100)
## [1] 5050
```

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# Matrices from Combining Vectors

► Generating matrices by combining vectors with cbind(...)

```
height <- c(163, 186, 172)
shoe_size <- c(39, 44, 41)
m <- as.data.frame(cbind(height, shoe_size))
```

#### ...but exhausting!

► as.data.frame(...) necessary to store data of different types (numeric, strings, etc.)

# Files formatted as Comma Separated Values

- Support of naive Excel format is unsatisfactory
- Recommended: Export as Comma Separated Values (CSV)
- ► In Excel via Save As → file type is CSV (Comma separated)
- ► Then: right mouse click → Open with → Text Editor → Check if there are commas

### Example File: persons.csv

```
name, height, shoesize, age
Julia, 163, 39, 24
Robin, 186, 44, 26
Kevin, 172, 41, 21
Max, 184, 43, 22
Jerry, 193, 45, 31
```

#### Matrices from Text Files

read.csv(filename, ...) imports data frame from text file

- ► header=TRUE specifies whether columns have names
- ▶ sep=", " specifies column delimiter
- ▶ as.data.frame (...) guarantees output as data frame

► Alternatively, choose path to file via file.choose() manually

```
d <- as.data.frame(read.csv(file.choose(),
    header=TRUE, sep=","))</pre>
```

# Output: Matrices

Show first 6 rows only (useful for large files)

```
head(d)

## name height shoesize age

## 1 Julia 163 39 24

## 2 Robin 186 44 26

## 3 Kevin 172 41 21

## 4 Max 184 43 22

## 5 Jerry 193 45 31
```

#### ▶ Show column names

```
str(d)
## 'data.frame': 5 obs. of 4 variables:
## $ name : Factor w/ 5 levels "Jerry","Julia",..: 2 5 3 4 1
## $ height : int 163 186 172 184 193
## $ shoesize: int 39 44 41 43 45
## $ age : int 24 26 21 22 31
```

## **Accessing Matrices**

▶ Dimension (#rows, #columns) or number of rows/columns

```
dim(d)
## [1] 5 4
## [1] 5
ncol(d)
```

► Access columns by name

```
d$height
## [1] 163 186 172 184 193
d[["height"]]
## [1] 163 186 172 184 193
```

## [1] 4

► Accessing an individual element (notation: #row, #column)

```
d[1,2]
## [1] 163
```

## Selecting Elements

Using single condition to select a subset of rows

► Connecting several conditions (& is and, | is or)

```
d[d$age < 25 & d$height <= 163, ]
## name height shoesize age
## 1 Julia 163 39 24</pre>
```

## **Exercise: Selecting Elements**

#### Question

► How to select all elements with age 26 or shoesize 45?

```
    d[d$age = 26 | d$shoesize = 45, ]
    d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45, ]
    d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45]
    d[d$age == 26 & d$shoesize == 45, ]
```

```
d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45, ]
##    name height shoesize age
## 2 Robin    186     44     26
## 5 Jerry    193     45     31
```

## **Exercise: Selecting Elements**

#### Question

► How to select all elements with age 26 or shoesize 45?

```
    d[d$age = 26 | d$shoesize = 45, ]
    d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45, ]
    d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45]
    d[d$age == 26 & d$shoesize == 45, ]
```

```
d[d$age == 26 | d$shoesize == 45, ]
## name height shoesize age
## 2 Robin    186     44     26
## 5 Jerry    193     45     31
```

## Adding Columns and Column Names

### ► Adding columns

```
d[["heightInInch"]] <- d$height/2.51
d$heightInInch
## [1] 64.94024 74.10359 68.52590 73.30677 76.89243</pre>
```

► Getting column names via colnames ()

```
colnames (d)
## [1] "name" "height" "shoesize" "age"
## [5] "heightInInch"
```

► Updating column names

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## Managing Code Execution

- Control flow specifies order in which statements are executed
- Previous concepts can only execute R code in a linear fashion
- ► Control flow constructs can choose which execution path to follow

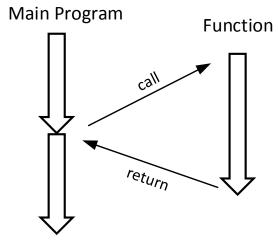
Functions: Combines sequence of statements into a self-contained task

Conditional expressions: Different computations according to a specific condition

Loops: Sequence of statements which may be executed more than once

### **Functions**

- ► Functions avoid repeating the same code more than once
- ► Leave the current evaluation context to execute pre-defined commands



Introduction to R: Control Flow

### **Functions**

- Extend set of built-in functions with opportunity for customization
- ► Functions **can** consist of the following:
  - 1 Name to refer to (avoid existing function names in R)
  - 2 Function body is a sequence of statements
  - 3 Arguments define additional parameters passed to the function body
  - 4 Return value which can be used after executing the function
- Simple example

```
f <- function(x,y) {
  return(2*x + y^2)
}
f(-3, 5)
## [1] 19</pre>
```

#### **Functions**

General syntax

```
functionname <- function(argument1, argument2, ...) {
  function_body
  return(value)
}</pre>
```

- ▶ Return value is the last evaluated expression
  - → Alternative: set explicitly with return (...)
- Curly brackets can be omitted if the function contains only one statement (not recommended)
- Be cautious since the order of the arguments matters
- Values in functions are not printed in console
  - $\rightarrow$  Remedy is print (...)

### **Examples of Functions**

```
square <- function(x) x*x # last value is return value
square(10)
## [1] 100</pre>
```

```
cubic <- function(x) {
    # Print value to screen from inside the function
    print(c("Value: ", x, " Cubic: ", x*x*x))
    # no return value
}
cubic(10)

## [1] "Value: " "10" " Cubic: " "1000"</pre>
```

## **Examples of Functions**

```
hello <- function() { # no arguments
  print("world")
}
hello()
## [1] "world"</pre>
```

```
my.mean <- function(x) {
   return (sum(x)/length(x))
}
my.mean(1:100)
## [1] 50.5</pre>
```

## Scope in Functions

- Variables created inside a function only exists within it → local
- They are thus inaccessible from outside of the function
- Scope denotes when the name binding of variable is valid

```
x <- "A"
g <- function(x) {
    x <- "B"
    return(x)
}
x <- "C"</pre>
```

▶ What are the values?

```
g(x) # Return value of function x
x # Value of x after function execution
```

Solution

```
## [1] "B"
## [1] "C"
```

## Scope in Functions

- Variables created inside a function only exists within it → local
- They are thus inaccessible from outside of the function
- Scope denotes when the name binding of variable is valid

```
x <- "A"
g <- function(x) {
    x <- "B"
    return(x)
}
x <- "C"</pre>
```

▶ What are the values?

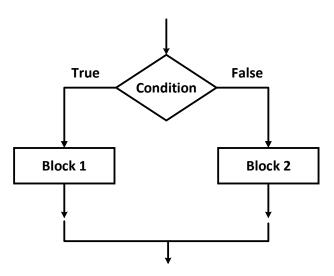
```
g(x) # Return value of function x
x # Value of x after function execution
```

Solution

```
## [1] "B"
## [1] "C"
```

### **If-Else Conditions**

Conditional execution requires a condition to be met



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### **If-Else Conditions**

- ► Keyword if with optional else clause
- General syntax:

#### if condition

```
if (condition) {
  statement1
}
```

If condition is true, then statement is executed

#### if-else condition

```
if (condition) {
   statement1
} else {
   statement2
}
```

If condition is true, then statement1 is executed, otherwise statement2

### **If-Else Conditions**

► Example

```
grade <- 2
if (grade <= 4) {
    print("Passed")
} else {
    print("Failed")
}
## [1] "Passed"</pre>
```

```
grade <- 5
if (grade <= 4) {
    print("Passed")
} else {
    print("Failed")
}
## [1] "Failed"</pre>
```

► Condition must be of length 1 and evaluate as either TRUE or FALSE

```
if (c(TRUE, FALSE)) { # don't do this!
   print("something")
}

## Warning in if (c(TRUE, FALSE)) {: the condition has length > 1 and only the first element will be used
## [1] "something"
```

### Else-If Clauses

- ► Multiple conditions can be checked with else if clauses
- ► The last else clause applies when no other conditions are fulfilled
- ► The same behavior can also be achieved with nested if-clauses

#### else-if clause

```
if (grade == 1) {
   print("very good")
} else if (grade == 2) {
   print("good")
} else {
   print("not a good grade")
}
```

#### **Nested if-condition**

```
if (grade == 1) {
   print("very good")
} else {
   if (grade == 2) {
      print("good")
   } else {
      print("not a good grade")
   }
}
```

### If-Else Function

 As an alternative, one can also reach the same control flow via the function ifelse(...)

```
ifelse(condition, statement1, statement2)
# executes statement1 if condition is true,
# otherwise statement2
```

```
grade <- 2
ifelse(grade <= 4, "Passed", "Failed")
## [1] "Passed"</pre>
```

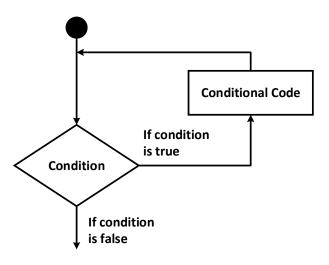
ifelse(...) can also work with vectors as if it was applied to each element separately

```
grades <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
ifelse(grades <= 4, "Passed", "Failed")
## [1] "Passed" "Passed" "Passed" "Failed"</pre>
```

This allows for the efficient comparison of vectors

## For Loop

▶ for loops execute statements for a fixed number of repetitions



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### For Loop

General syntax

```
for (counter in looping_vector) {
    # code to be executed for each element in the sequence
}
```

- ► In every iteration of the loop, one value in the looping vector is assigned to the counter variable that can be used in the statements of the body of the loop.
- ► Examples

```
for (i in 4:7) {
   print(i)
}
## [1] 4
## [1] 5
## [1] 6
## [1] 7
```

```
a <- c()
for (i in 1:3) {
    a[i] <- sqrt(i)
}
a
## [1] 1.000000 1.414214 1.732051</pre>
```

# While Loop

- Loop where the number of iterations is controlled by a condition
- The condition is checked in every iteration
- ▶ When the condition is met, the loop body in curly brackets is executed
- ► General syntax

```
while (condition) {
  # code to be executed
}
```

► Examples

```
z <- 1
# same behavior as for loop
while (z <= 4) {
    print(z)
    z <- z + 1
}
## [1] 1
## [1] 2
## [1] 3
## [1] 3
duction to R:Control Flow</pre>
```

```
z <- 1
# iterates all odd numbers
while (z <= 5) {
    z <- z + 2
    print(z)
}
## [1] 3
## [1] 5
## [1] 7</pre>
```

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## Extending R: Packages

- Most routines (from e.g. time series, statistical tests, plotting) are in so-called packages
- Packages must be downloaded & installed before usage
- ► When accessing routines, must be loaded via library (package)
- ► Installing packages by clicking:

#### In R Console

- Menu Packages
- ► Install package(s) . . .
- Choose arbitrary server
- Choose package

#### In R Studio

- Menu Tools
- Install packages
- Enter package name in middle input box
- ► Press Install

Introduction to R: Extensibility

### Exercise

#### Question

- You are doing an analysis in R and need to use the summary () function but you are not exactly sure how it works. Which of the following commands should you run?
  - help(summary)
  - ▶ ?summary
  - man(summary)
  - ?summary()

Any of the above commands work except for man (summary). Make sure you always read the documentation so you know what functions do when you use them!

Introduction to R: Extensibility

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# Tutorials on Using R

- Search Internet → many tutorials available online
- R Manual is the official introductory document

```
\rightarrow http://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/R-intro.pdf
```

- ► Helpful examples and demonstrations
  - → http://www.statmethods.net
- Help pages in R describe parameters in detail, contain examples, but aim at advanced audience

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### Recommended Books

 R in Action: Data Analysis and Graphics with R (Manning, 2011, by Kabacoff)
 URL: statmethods.net

► Many more . . .



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# Summary: Commands

+, -, etc.	Algebraic operators
&,  , <, <=, etc.	Logic operators
help(func)	Help pages
mean(),var()	Functions on vectors
sd()	Standard deviation
seq()	Generate sequences
d\$column	Accessing columns of a matrix
read.csv()	Reading text files

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