Introduction to R

1.2 Why R?

Lion Behrens, M.Sc.

UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM
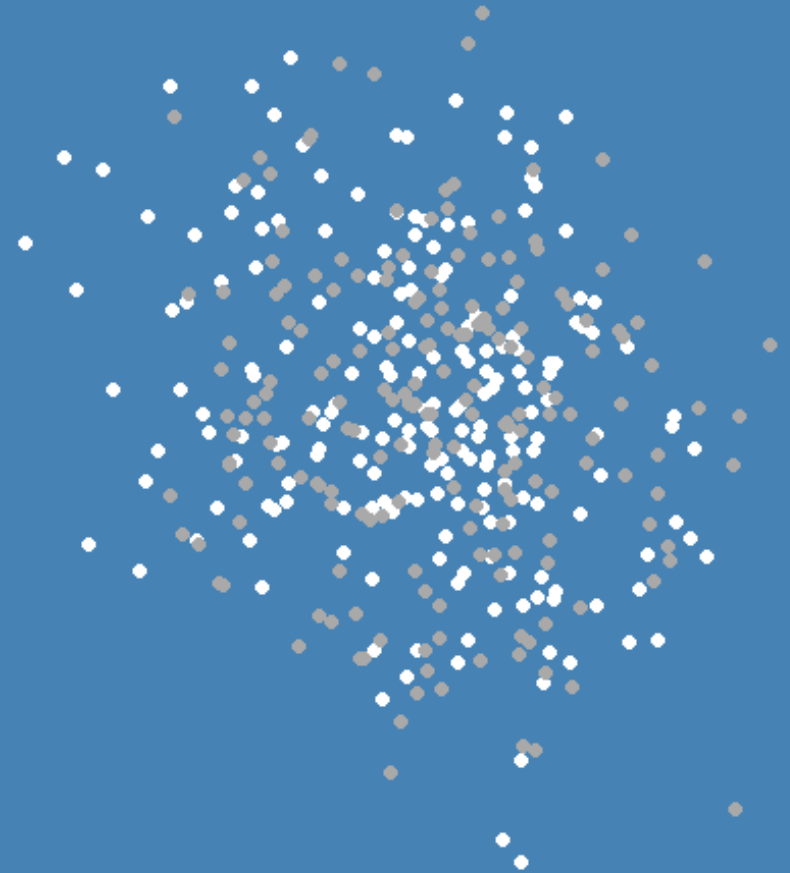
University of Mannheim
Chair of Social Data Science and Methodology
Chair of Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences

Why R?

- Free of cost and open-source

- Functional programming language with features for object orientation

Why R?

- Free of cost and open-source

- Functional programming language with features for object orientation

    - functionalities for all steps in the research process

Why R?

- Free of cost and open-source

- Functional programming language with features for object orientation

    - functionalities for all steps in the research process
    - webscraping, data collection, data wrangling, modeling, statistical simulation

Why R?

- Free of cost and open-source

- Functional programming language with features for object orientation

    - functionalities for all steps in the research process
    - webscraping, data collection, data wrangling, modeling, statistical simulation
    - additional functionalities such as R Markdown, R Shiny, …

- Specifically developed for data analysis

- Very active R community across a large number of disciplines that is willing to help

    - R-Ladies [<- This is a link]
    - Many local R user groups
    - R Community on Stack Overflow
    - *#rstats* hashtag on Twitter

- R is used both in academic research and the industry