An intRoduction to R

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Course material



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- R is an open source software for statistical computing, graphics, and so much more
- RStudio is the perfect IDE for $\mathtt{R} \to \mathrm{allows}$ for a better, easier use of \mathtt{R}
- R runs on Windows, MacOs, Unix

CalculatoR

```
3 + 2 \# plus
3 - 2 # minus
3 * 2 # times
3 / 2 # divide
sqrt(4) # square root
log(3) # natural logarithm
exp(3) # exponential
Use brackets as you would do in a normal equation:
(3 * 2) / sqrt(25 + 4)
R ignores everything after # (it's a comment)
```

Assign

The results of the operations can be "stored" into objects with specific names defined by the users.

To assign a value to an object, there are two operators:

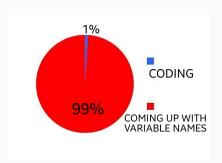
1. =
$$x = \exp(2^2)$$

$$2. <- X <- \log(2^2)$$

The elements on the right are assigned to the object on the left

Careful! R is case sensitive: x and X are two different objects!!!

Variable names



Valid variable names are letters, numbers, dots, underscores (e. g., variable_name)

Variables names cannot start with numbers

Again, R is case sensitive

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R is open source and it used world wide \rightarrow there's a huge community ready to help you

Just copy & paste any error message or wan
ring in google or ask google "how to something in r
"

Ask R to help you! Type ? in your console followed by the name of the function:

?mean()

Will show you the help page of the mean() function

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Organize your files

R projects are the best way to organize your files (and your workflow) It allows you to have all your files in a folder organized in sub folders You don't have to worry about the wording directories because it's all there!

By creating a nw project, you can also initialize a shiny app

Create a new R project

File \rightarrow New project and choose what is best for you (unless you have already initialized a directory for your project, select a new directory):

- R poject "basic"
- R package
- Shiny

and so much more

Take out the trash

The R environment should be always tidy

If it feels like you're losing it, just clean it up:

ls() # list objects in the envrinoment
rm(A) # remove object A from the environment
rm(list=ls()) # remove everything from the environment

Save the environment

It might be useful to save all the computations you have done:

save.image("my-computations.RData")

Then you can upload the environment back:

load("my-Computations.RData")

When to save the environment

The computations are slow and you need them to be always and easily accessible

The best practice wis to save the script and document it in an RMarkdown file

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If you choose not to use the R projects ($\{\text{what a bad, bad, bad idea}\}$), you need to know your directories:

getwd() # the working directory in which you are right now
dir() # list of what's inside the current working directory
Change your working directory:

setwd("C:/Users/huawei/OneDrive/Documenti/GitHub/RcouRse")

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Functions and arguments (pt. I)

Almost everything in R is done with functions, consisting of:

- a name: mean
- a pair of brackets: ()
- some arguments: na.rm = TRUE

```
mean(1:5, trim = 0, na.rm = TRUE)
```

[1] 3

Arguments may be set to default values; what they are is documented in ?mean

Functions and arguments (pt. II)

Arguments can be passed

- without name (in the defined order)
- with name (in arbitrary order) \rightarrow keyword matching mean(x, trim = 0.3, na.rm = TRUE)

No arguments? No problems, just brackets:

Want to see the code of a function? Just type its name in the console without brackets:

mean

Vectors

Vectors are created by combining together different objects

Vectors are created by using the c() function.

All elements inside the c() function must be separated by a comma

Different types of objects \rightarrow types of vectors:

• int: numeric integers

• num: numbers

• logi: logical

• chr: characters

• factor: factor with different levels

int and num

```
int: refers to integer -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3
months = c(5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16)
[1] 5 6 8 10 12 16
num: refers to all numbers from -\infty to \infty 1.0840991, 0.8431089,
0.494389, -0.7730161, 2.9038161, 0.9088839
weight = seq(3, 11, by = 1.5)
[1] 3.0 4.5 6.0 7.5 9.0 10.5
```

logi

Logical values can be TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)

v_logi = c(TRUE, TRUE, FALSE, FALSE, TRUE)

[1] TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE TRUE

logical vectors are often obtained from a comparison:

months > 12

[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE

chr and factor

```
chr: characters a, b, c, D, E, F
v chr = c(letters[1:3], LETTERS[4:6])
[1] "a" "b" "c" "D" "E" "F"
factor: use numbers or characters to identify the variable levels
ses = factor(c(rep(c("low", "medium", "high"), each = 2)))
[1] low low medium medium high high
Levels: high low medium
Change order of the levels:
ses1 = factor(ses, levels = c("medium", "high", "low"))
[1] low low medium medium high high
Levels: medium high low
```

Create vectors

Concatenate elements with c(): vec = c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Sequences:

$$-5:5$$
 # vector of 11 numbers from -5 to 5

$$seq(-3, 3, by = 0.5)$$
 # sequence in steps of 0.5 from -3 to 3

Repeating elements:

Create vectors II

```
rep(c("condA", "condB"), each = 3)
[1] "condA" "condA" "condA" "condB" "condB"
rep(c("on", "off"), c(3, 2))
[1] "on" "on" "on" "off" "off"
pasteO("item", 1:4)
[1] "item1" "item2" "item3" "item4"
```

Don't mix them up unless you truly want to

```
\begin{array}{l} \verb|int+num+num|\\ \verb|int/num+logi| \to \verb|int/num|\\ \verb|int/num+factor| \to \verb|int/num|\\ \verb|int/num+chr| \to \verb|chr|\\ \verb|chr+logi| \to \verb|chr|\\ \end{array}
```

Vectors and operations

Vectors can be summed/subtracted/divided and multiplied with one another

```
a = c(1:8)
а
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
b = c(4:1)
b
[1] 4 3 2 1
a - b
[1] -3 -1 1 3 1 3 5 7
```

If the vectors do not have the same length, you get a warning

Vectors and operations PT. II

The function is applied to each value of the vector:

sqrt(a)

[1] 1.000000 1.414214 1.732051 2.000000 2.236068 2.449490 2.6

The same operation can be applied to each element of the vector:

[1] 12.25 6.25 2.25 0.25 0.25 2.25 6.25 12.25

(a - mean(a))^2 # squared deviation

30

Matrices and arrays

```
Create a 3 \times 4 matrix:
A = matrix(1:12, nrow=3, ncol = 4, byrow = TRUE)
Label and transpose:
rownames(A) = c(paste("a", 1:3)) # colnames()
t(A) # transpose matrix
    a 1 a 2 a 3
[1,] 1 5 9
[2,] 2 6 10
[3,] 3 7 11
[4,] 4 8 12
```

Matrices and arrays

Matrix can be created by concatenating columns or rows:

```
cbind(a1 = 1:4, a2 = 5:8, a3 = 9:12) # column bind rbind(a1 = 1:4, a2 = 5.8, a3 = 9:12) # row bind
```

Matrices and arrays

```
array(data, c(nrow, ncol, ntab))
my array = array(1:30, c(2, 5, 3)) # 2 x 5 x 3 array
, , 1
    [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,] 1 3 5 7 9
[2,] 2 4 6 8 10
, , 2
    [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,] 11 13 15 17 19
[2,] 12 14 16 18 20
```

Work with vectors, atrices, arrays

Index elements in vectors vector_name[position]

weight[2] # second element in vector weight

weight[6] = 15.2 # replace sixth element of weight

```
weight[seq(1, 6, by = 2)] # elements 1, 3, 5
weight[2:6] # elements 2 to 6
weight[-2] # without elemt 2
Logic applies as well:
weight[weight > 7] # values greater than 7
weight[weight >= 4.5 & weight < 8] # values between 4.5 and 8</pre>
```

Work with vectors, atrices, arrays II

```
Access elements in matrices: matrix_name[row, column]
A[2, 3] # cell in row 2 column 3
A[2, ] # second row
A[, 3] # third column
```

Work with vectors, atrices, arrays III

```
Access elements in arrays array_name[row, col, tab]

my_array[2, 1, 3] # cell in 2nd row 1st col of 3rd tab

my_array[, , 3] # 3rd tab

my_array[1, ,2] # 1st row in tab 2
```

Lists

Can store different objects (e.g., vectors, data frames, other lists):

```
my_list = list(w = weight, m = months, s = ses1, a = A)
```

The components of the list can be extracted with \$ or [[]] and the name (or position) of the component:

Extract months:

```
my_list[["m"]] # my_list$a
[1] 5 6 8 10 12 16
```

Extract weight:

```
my_list[[1]] # my_list$months or my_list[["a"]]
[1] 3.0 4.5 6.0 7.5 9.0 10.5
```

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Data frames are lists that consist of vectors and factors of equal length. The rows in a data frame refer to one unit:

```
id = paste0("sbj", 1:6)
babies = data.frame(id, months, weight)
```

babies

	id	months	weight		
1	sbj1	5	3.0		
2	sbj2	6	4.5		
3	sbj3	8	6.0		
4	sbj4	10	7.5		
5	sbj5	12	9.0		
6	sbj6	16	10.5		

Working with data frames

Index elements in a data frame:

babies\$months # column months of babies

```
babies$months[2] # second element of column months
babies[, "id"] # column id
babies[2, ] # second row of babies (obs on baby 2)
Logic applies:
babies[babies$weigth > 7, ] # all obs above 7 kg
babies[babies$id %in% c("sbj1", "sbj6"), ] # obs of sbj1 and
```

Working with data frames II

```
dim(babies) # show the dimensions of the data frame
Γ1 6 3
names(babies) # variable names (= colnames(babies))
[1] "id" "months" "weight"
View(babies) # open data viewer
plot(babies) # pariwise plot
```

You can use these commands also on other R objects

Working with data frames III

```
str(babies) # show details on babies

'data.frame': 6 obs. of 3 variables:

$ id : chr "sbj1" "sbj2" "sbj3" "sbj4" ...

$ months: num 5 6 8 10 12 16

$ weight: num 3 4.5 6 7.5 9 10.5
```

summary(babies) # descriptive statistics

V--- --- --- the --- ----- de also --- --- Delicate

id		months		weight		
Length:6	Min	. :	5.0	Min.	:	3.000
Class :ch	aracter 1st	Qu.:	6.5	1st Qu.	:	4.875
Mode :ch	aracter Med	ian :	9.0	Median	:	6.750
	Mea	n :	9.5	Mean	:	6.750
3		Qu.:1	1.5	3rd Qu.	:	8.625
	Max	. :1	6.0	Max.	: 1	10.500

Sorting

```
order():
babies[order(babies$weight), ] # sort by increasing weight
   id months weight
1 sbj1 5 3.0
2 sbj2 6 4.5
3 sbj3 8 6.0
4 sbj4 10 7.5
5 sbj5 12 9.0
6 sbj6 16 10.5
babies[order(babies$weight, # sort by decreasing weight
```

Multiple arguments in order:

decreasing = T),]

Aggregating

Aggregate a response variable according to grouping variable(s) (e.g., averaging per experimental conditions):

```
# Single response variable, single grouping variable
aggregate(y ~ x, data = data, FUN, ...)
```

```
# Multiple response variables, multiple grouping variables
aggregate(cbind(y1, y2) ~ x1 + x2, data = data, FUN, ...)
```

Aggregating: Example

```
head(ToothGrowth) # Vitamin C and tooth growth (Guinea Pigs)
  len supp dose
1 4.2 VC 0.5
2 11.5 VC 0.5
3 7.3 VC 0.5
4 5.8 VC 0.5
5 6.4 VC 0.5
6 10.0 VC 0.5
Aggregate across supplement and dose of Vitamin C:
aggregate(len ~ supp + dose, data = ToothGrowth, mean)
 supp dose len
```

2 VC 0.5 7.98 3 OJ 1.0 22.70 4 VC 1.0 16.77

OJ 0.5 13.23

1

Reshaping: Long to wide

Data can be organized in wide format (i.e., one line for each statistical unit) or in long format (i.e., one line for each observation).

```
head(Indometh) # Long format
```

. . .

Long to wide

```
# From long to wide
df.w <- reshape(Indometh, v.names = "conc", timevar = "time",</pre>
    idvar = "Subject", direction = "wide")
   Subject conc.0.25 conc.0.5 conc.0.75 conc.1 conc.1.25 conc
1
               1.50
                        0.94
                                 0.78
                                        0.48
                                                  0.37
                                                        0.
12
               2.03
                       1.63
                                 0.71
                                       0.70
                                                  0.64
                                                        0.
23
        3
               2.72
                       1.49
                                 1.16
                                       0.80
                                                  0.80
                                                        0.
        4
34
               1.85 1.39
                                 1.02
                                       0.89
                                                 0.59
                                                        0.
        5
                                        0.39
45
               2.05 1.04
                                 0.81
                                                 0.30
                                                        0.
56
               2.31
                       1.44
                                 1.03
                                        0.84
                                                  0.64
                                                        0.
   conc.5 conc.6 conc.8
```

. . .

Reshaping: Wide to long

```
# From wide to long
df.l <- reshape(df.w, varying = list(2:12), v.names = "conc",</pre>
   idvar = "Subject", direction = "long", times = c(0.25, 0.5,
       0.75, 1, 1.25, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8)
      Subject time conc
1.0.25 1 0.25 1.50
2.0.25 2 0.25 2.03
3.0.25 3 0.25 2.72
# reorder by subject
df.1[order(df.1$Subject), ]
      Subject time conc
1.0.25 1 0.25 1.50
1.0.5 1 0.50 0.94
                                                            48
1.0.75 1 0.75 0.78
```

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Reading tabular txt files:

ASCII text files in tabular or spread sheet form (one line per observation, one column per variable) are read using read.table()

```
data = read.table("C:/RcouRse/file.txt", header = TRUE)
```

data is a data frame where the original numerical varibales are converted in numeric vectors and character variables are converted in factors.

Arguments:

- header: variable names in the first line? TRUE/FALSE
- sep: which separator between the columns (e.g., comma, \t)
- dec: 1.2 or 1,2?

Reading other files

Combine data frames

If they have the same number of columns/rows

```
all_data = rbind(data, data1, data2) # same columns
all_data = cbind(data, data1, data2) # same rows
```

If they have different rows/columns but they share at least one characteristic (e.g., ID):

```
all_data = merge(data1, data2,
by = "ID")
```

If there are different IDs in the two datasets \rightarrow added in new rows

all_data contains all columns in data1 and data2. The columns of the IDs in data1 but not in data2 (and vice versa) will be filled with NAs accordingly

Export data

Writing text (or csv) file:

```
write.table(data, # what you eant to write
            file = "mydata.txt", # its name + extension
            header = TRUE, # first row with col names?
            sep = "\t", # column separtor
            ....) # other arguments
R environment (again):
save(dat, file = "exp1 data.rda") # save something specific
save(file = "the earth.rda") # save the environment
load("the earth.rda") # load it back
```

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Be ready to make mistakes (a lot of mistakes)

Coding is hard art

Think like a computer would think \rightarrow not one gigantic problem but a series of small problems leading to a big solution

Remember: You're not alone stackoverflow (or Google in general) is your best friend

ifelse()

Conditional execution:

```
Easy: ifelse(test, if true, if false)
ifelse(weight > 7, "big boy", "small boy")
[1] "small boy" "small boy" "big boy" "big boy"
```

Pros

- Super easy to use - Can embed multiple 'ifelse()' cycles

Cons

- It works fine until you have simple tests

if () {} else {}

If you have only one condition:

```
if (test_1) {
  command_1
} else {
  command_2
}
```

if () {} else {}

Multiple conditions:

```
if (test 1) {
  command_1
} else if (test 2) {
  command 2
} else {
  command 3
}
test_1 (and test_2, if you have it) must evaluate in either TRUE or
FALSE
if(!is.na(x)) y <- x^2 else stop("x is missing")</pre>
```

Loops

```
for() and while()
Repeat a command over and over again:
# Don't do this at home
x \leftarrow rnorm(10)
y <- numeric(10) # create an empty container
for(i in seq_along(x)) {
y[i] \leftarrow x[i] - mean(x)
The best solution would have been:
y = x - mean(x)
```

Avoiding loops

Avoiding loops

```
Don't loop, apply()!
apply()
X <- matrix(rnorm(20),</pre>
             nrow = 5, ncol = 4)
apply(X, 2, max) # maximum for each column
for()
y = NULL
for (i in 1:ncol(X)) {
  y[i] = max(X[, i])
```

Avoiding loops

```
Group-wise calculations: tapply()
tapply() (t for table) may be used to do group-wise calculations on
vectors. Frequently it is employed to calculate group-wise means.
with (ToothGrowth.
     tapply(len, list(supp, dose), mean))
     0.5 1 2
OJ 13.23 22.70 26.06
VC 7.98 16.77 26.14
(You could have done it with aggregate())
```

Writing functions

```
Compute Cohen's d:
dcohen = function(group1, group2) { # Arguments
  mean 1 = mean(group1) ; mean 2 = mean(group2)
  var_1 = var(group1) ; var_2 = mean(group2) # body
  d = (mean_1 - mean_2)/sqrt(((var_1 + var_2)/2))
  return(d) # results
}
Use it:
dcohen(data$placebo, data$drug)
```

Named arguments

```
Take this function:

fun1 <- function(data, data.frame, graph, limit) { ... }

It can be called as:

fun1(d, df, TRUE, 20)

fun1(d, df, graph=TRUE, limit=20)

fun1(data=d, limit=20, graph=TRUE, data.frame=df)

Positional matching and keyword matching (as in built-in functions)
```

Defaults

Arguments can be given default values \rightarrow the arguments can be omitted!

It can be called as

```
ans <- fun1(d, df)
```

which is now equivalent to the three cases above, but:

```
ans <- fun1(d, df, limit=10)</pre>
```

which changes one of the defaults.

Methods and classes

The return value of a function may have a specified $class \rightarrow determines$ how it will be treated by other functions.

For example, many classes have tailored print methods.

```
methods(print)
```

- [1] print.acf*
- [2] print.AES*
- [3] print.all_vars*
- [4] print.anova*
- [5] print.any_vars*
- [6] print.aov*
- [7] print.aovlist*

. . . .

Define a print method!

```
... as another function:
print.cohen <- function(obj){</pre>
  cat("\nMy Cohen's d\n\n")
  cat("Effect size: ", obj$d, "\n")
  invisible(obj) # return the object
}
We have to change our dcohen function a bit:
dcohen = function(group1, group2) { # Arguments
  dvalue = list(d = d)
  class(dvalue) = "cohend"
  return(dvalue) # results
```

Debugging

```
Use the traceback() function:
foo <- function(x) { print(1); bar(2) }
bar <- function(x) { x + a.variable.which.does.not.exist }
Call foo() and...
foo() #
[1] 1
Error: object 'a.variable.which.does.not.exist' not found</pre>
```

Use traceback():

traceback() # find out where the error occurred

2: bar(2)

1: foo()

Note: traceback() appears as default

String processing

```
substr(x, start, stop)  # extract substring
grep(pattern, x)  # match pattern
gsub(pattern, replacement, x) # replace pattern
pattern = regular expression (?regex):
foo # match pattern foo
    .* # match arbitrary character zero or more times
[a-z0-9] # match alphanumeric character
```

Example

Match string that starts with a or b and replace it by its starting letter.

```
gsub("(^[ab]).*", "\\1", c("aaa", "bbc", "cba"))
[1] "a"    "b"    "cba"
```

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- Traditional graphics
- Grid graphics & ggplot2

For both:

- High level functions \rightarrow actually produce the plot
- Low level functions \rightarrow make it looks better =)

Export graphics file

```
postscript() # vector graphics
pdf()
png()
                # bitmap graphics
tiff()
jpeg()
bmp()
Remember to run off the graphic device once you've saved the graph:
dev.off()
(You can do it also manually)
```

Traditional graphics I

High level functions

```
plot()
           # scatter plot, specialized plot methods
boxplot()
hist()
           # histogram
qqnorm()
           # quantile-quantile plot
barplot()
pie()
       # pie chart
pairs() # scatter plot matrix
persp() # 3d plot
contour() # contour plot
coplot() # conditional plot
interaction.plot()
demo(graphics) for a guided tour of base graphics!
```

Traditional graphics II

Low level functions

```
points()
               # add points
lines()
               # add lines
rect()
polygon()
abline()
               # add line with intercept a, slope b
arrows()
text()
               # add text in plotting region
mtext()
               # add text in margins region
axis()
               # customize axes
box()
               # box around plot
legend()
```

Plot layout

Each plot is composed of two regions:

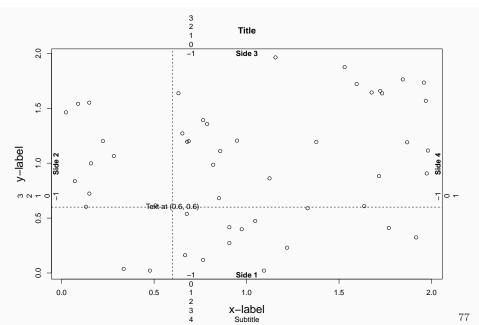
- The plotting regions (contains the actual plot)
- The margins region (contain axes and labels)

A scatter plot:

Now add some text:

```
text(0.6, 0.6, "Text at (0.6, 0.6)")
abline(h=.6, v=.6, lty=2) # horizont. and vertic.
# lines
```

Margins region



Rome wasn't built in a day

and neither your graph

Display the interaction between the two factors of a two-factorial experiment:

```
dat <- read.table(header=TRUE, text="</pre>
A B rt
a1 b1 825
a1 b2 792
a1 b3 840
a2 b1 997
a2 b2 902
a2 b3 786
")
```

Force A and B to be factor:

```
dat[,1:2] = lapply(dat[,1:2], as.factor)
```

First: The plot

Mean reaction time (ms)

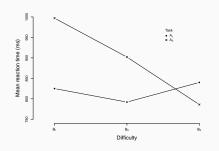
Difficulty 79

Populate the content

Plot the data points separately for each level of factor A.

Add axes and a legend.

Final result



- Error bars may be added using the arrows() function.
- Via par() many graphical parameters may be set (see ?par), for example par(mgp=c(2, .7, 0)) reduces the distance between labels and axes

Graphical parameters I

```
adj # justification of text
bty # box type for legend
cex # size of text or data symbols (multiplier)
col # color, see colors()
las # rotation of text in margins
lty # line type (solid, dashed, dotted, ...)
lwd # line width
mpg # placement of axis ticks and tick labels
pch # data symbol type
tck # length of axis ticks
type # type of plot (points, lines, both, none)
```

Graphical parameters II

ggplot2

ggplot2 (Grammar of Graphics plot, Wickman, 2016) is one of the best packages for plotting raw data and results:

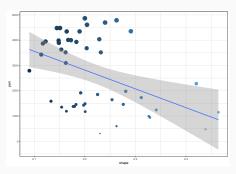
```
install.packages("ggplot2") ; library(ggplot2)
The code for the previous plot:
ggplot(dat, aes(x = B, y = rt, group = A)) +
  geom point(pch=dat$A, size = 5) +
  geom_line(aes(linetype=A), size=1) + theme_classic() +
  ylab("RT") + scale_linetype_manual("Task", values =c(3,4),
                                labels = c("A1", "A2")) +
  scale_x_discrete(labels = c("B1", "B2", "B3")) +
  theme(legend.position="top",
        panel.background = element rect(fill = "#FAFAFA", colour =
        plot.background = element_rect(fill = "#FAFAFA"),
        legend.key = element rect(fill = "#FAFAFA"))
                                                                 84
```

Took . . A1 . . A2

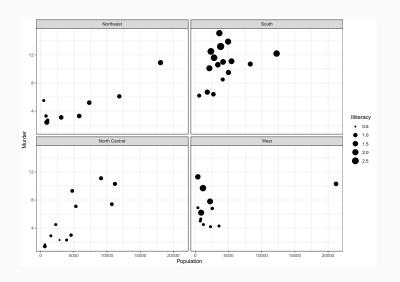
Raw data

```
ggplot(rock,
       aes(y=peri,x=shape, color =shape,
           size = peri)) + geom_point() +
  theme_bw() + theme(legend.position = "none")
               ped
```

Linear model



Multi Panel



Multi panel code

Different plots in the same panel

use grid.arrange() function from the gridExtra package: install.packages("grideExtra") library(gridExtra) murder raw = ggplot(states, # raw data aes(x = Illiteracy, y = Murder)) +murder_lm = ggplot(states, # lm aes(x = Illiteracy, y = Murder)) + Combine the plots together: grid.arrange(murder_raw, murder_lm, nrow=1) # plots forced to be on same raw

Combine the plots together

