

# MiniCourse R packages Day2

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# Bioconductor

[Bioconductor](#) (or just “Bioc”) is “*open source software for bioinformatics*”, based on more than 2000 R packages. It is old enough to have its own [Wikipedia page](#)!

It can be installed... from CRAN.

```
if (!requireNamespace("BiocManager", quietly = TRUE))  
  install.packages("BiocManager")  
BiocManager::install(version = "3.13")
```

Hold on if you are not bioinformatician, we will use it to learn more about *S4* classes.

## Bioconductor core packages

Canonical URLs: <https://bioconductor.org/packages/nameOfThePackage>

The core Bioconductor packages provide core classes that you will find being used in almost every other packages.

```
# Attaches a lot of stuff !!!
```

```
BiocManager::install("GenomicRanges")
```

```
library("GenomicRanges")
```

```
# Use this in your R Markdown files...
```

```
suppressPackageStartupMessages(library("GenomicRanges"))
```

```
# Or since R4.1
```

```
library("GenomicRanges") |> suppressPackageStartupMessages()
```

## Output of library("GenomicRanges")

```
# Note the difference between "loading" and "attaching"  
> library("GenomicRanges")
```

Restarting R session...

```
> library("GenomicRanges")  
Loading required package: stats4  
Loading required package: BiocGenerics  
Loading required package: parallel
```

Attaching package: 'BiocGenerics'

The following objects are masked from 'package:parallel':

```
clusterApply, clusterApplyLB, clusterCall, clusterEvalQ, clusterExport, clu  
parApply, parCapply, parLapply, parLapplyLB, parRapply, parSapply, parSappl
```

The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':

```
IQR, mad, sd, var, xtabs
```

The following objects are masked from 'package:base':

```
anyDuplicated, append, as.data.frame, basename, cbind, colnames, dirname, d  
duplicated, eval, evalq, Filter, Find, get, grep, grepl, intersect, is.unso  
lapply, Map, mapply, match, mget, order, paste, pmax, pmax.int, pmin, pmin.  
Position, rank, rbind, Reduce, rownames, sapply, setdiff, sort, table, tapp
```

## Bioconductor core classes

- ▶ Use the S4 class system.
- ▶ Often names start with capital letters.
- ▶ Some of the core classes are in the core packages that have cryptic names.
- ▶ Today I will not cover annotation databases or genome objects.

# DataFrame

```
DataFrame()
```

```
## DataFrame with 0 rows and 0 columns
```

```
as(airquality, "DataFrame")
```

```
## DataFrame with 153 rows and 6 columns
```

```
##      Ozone   Solar.R    Wind    Temp    Month    Day
##      <integer> <integer> <numeric> <integer> <integer> <integer>
## 1         41       190      7.4       67        5        1
## 2         36       118      8.0       72        5        2
## 3         12       149     12.6       74        5        3
## 4         18       313     11.5       62        5        4
## 5         NA        NA     14.3       56        5        5
## ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...
## 149        30       193      6.9       70        9       26
## 150        NA       145     13.2       77        9       27
## 151         14       191     14.3       75        9       28
## 152         18       131      8.0       76        9       29
## 153         20       223     11.5       68        9       30
```

```
# or just `DataFrame(airquality)` ...
```



# Rle

Run-length encoding (Rle) is a simple and efficient way to compress data.

```
Rle(rpois(1e7, 1e-3))
```

```
## integer-Rle of length 10000000 with 20021 runs
##   Lengths: 2986      1 242      1 386      1 900 ...      1 858      1 868      1
##   Values :      0      1      0      1      0      1      0 ...      1      0      1      0      1
```

A data structure that I like is a DataFrame of Rle values.

```
airquality |> lapply(Rle) |> DataFrame() |> head(3)
```

```
## DataFrame with 3 rows and 6 columns
##   Ozone Solar.R Wind Temp Month Day
##   <Rle>  <Rle> <Rle> <Rle> <Rle> <Rle>
## 1    41    190   7.4   67     5     1
## 2    36    118    8    72     5     2
## 3    12    149  12.6   74     5     3
```

## Other important classes

- ▶ `GRanges`
- ▶ `SummarizedExperiment`
- ▶ `MultiAssayExperiment`

## A few words on the S4 class system

- ▶ polymorphic and functional: core function names dispatch on different methods according to the class of their arguments.
- ▶ Objects have “slots” accessed with the @ sign.
- ▶ copy-on-write / copy-on-modify semantics.
- ▶ Useful as data structure but also for type safety

Learn more with <https://adv-r.hadley.nz/s4.html>

## Let's extend a S4 class

It is strongly recommended to re-use the core Bioc classes in packages designed for Bioconductor.

```
library(methods)
setClass("BetterList", contains = "SimpleList")
setMethod("show", "BetterList", function(object) {
  callNextMethod()
  cat("This superior version of the SimpleList class is brought to you by the OIST")
})
SimpleList(a=1, b=2) |> as("BetterList")
```

```
## BetterList of length 2
```

```
## names(2): a b
```

```
## This superior version of the SimpleList class is brought to you by the OIST
```

## It also works on S3 classes

It is a matter of taste whether to do so or not.

```
setClass("BetterList2", contains = "list")
setMethod("show", "BetterList2", function(object) {
  callNextMethod()
  cat("This superior version of the list class is also brought to you by the OI
})
list(c=3) |> as("BetterList2")
```

```
## An object of class "BetterList2"
## [[1]]
## [1] 3
##
## This superior version of the list class is also brought to you by the OIST m
```

## Use for type safety

```
setClass("ListOfChars", contains = "SimpleList", validity = function (object){  
  # Actually not so safe, what is the list contains sublists?  
  all(sapply(object, is.character))  
})  
setMethod("show", "ListOfChars", function(object) {  
  callNextMethod()  
  cat("This safer version of the SimpleList class is surely brought to you by t  
})  
SimpleList("haha", "hoho") |> as("ListOfChars") |> validObject()
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
# Try this!  
# SimpleList("haha", 1) |> as("ListOfChars") |> validObject()
```

## When to Depend or Import Bioc packages

- ▶ If you use their functions internally, Import the packages in the DESCRIPTION file and import their functions in NAMESPACE. Typical examples: IRanges, S4Vectors.
- ▶ If you want their functions to be easily available to their users, just Depend on the packages in the DESCRIPTION file. Typical examples: GenomicRanges, SummarizedExperiment, ggplot2.

## Tip for easier debugging of your package.

Do the ground work in a S3 function, and wrap it in the S4 system.

```
setGeneric("countRows", function(x) standardGeneric("countRows") )
```

```
## [1] "countRows"
```

```
.countRows <- function(x) {  
  if (nrow(x) > 0) cat("Owow, there are rows \n")  
  cat("I found ", nrow(x), "rows.\n")  
  cat("I think I finished counting\n")  
}
```

```
setMethod("countRows", "DataFrame", .countRows)  
airquality |> DataFrame() |> countRows()
```

```
## Owow, there are rows
```

```
## I found 153 rows.
```

```
## I think I finished counting
```

And now you can set the debugger to jump straight in your code instead of navigating through multiple layers of S4 dispatch.

```
debugonce(rowCounter:::.countRows)  
airquality |> DataFrame() |> countRows()
```



## More on Bioconductor

- ▶ Releases twice a year, shortly after R releases.
- ▶ Maintains a release and a devel branch in parallel. Version numbers are even and odd respectively.  
<http://www.bioconductor.org/developers/how-to/version-numbering/>
- ▶ Support site: <https://support.bioconductor.org/>
- ▶ Browse all source code at <https://code.bioconductor.org/>
- ▶ [Submission process](#) takes place on GitHub by opening an [issue on Bioconductor/Contributions](#)

- ▶ Not the only hosting platform, there is also [GitLab](#), etc.
- ▶ Useful to manage source code of course, but also
- ▶ There are functions to install a package directly from a GitHub repository.

```
remotes::install_github("user/repo"), remotes::install_bioc()
```

- ▶ Reminder: never use passwordless SSH keys, use `ssh-add` instead (you might need to run `eval $(ssh-agent)` first). Make your keys transiently available on Deigo with `ssh -A`.

## Get a Zenodo DOI for packages via Git repositories

CRAN or Bioconductor, and journals provide DOIs. How about non-peer-reviewed packages ?

You can get DOIs from [Zenodo](#), or alternatively [Dryad](#), [figshare](#), etc.

Zenodo has a good integration with GitHub. [Random example](#). [Documentation](#)

## GitHub actions

GitHub actions for regression testing: example with the [charles-plessy/CAGEr](#) package.

```
usethis::use_github_action()
```

```
biocthis::use_bioc_github_action()
```

# Pkgdown

GitHub actions are also used for building GitHub pages.

The website of pkgdown is of course built with pkgdown, so let's have a look.

<https://pkgdown.r-lib.org/>

<https://pkgdown.r-lib.org/articles/linking.html>

Example with the [oist/GenomicBreaks](#) package

Now, let's try it together !