# naming things

prepared by Jenny Bryan for

Reproducible Science Workshop



# Names matter



# NO

```
myabstract.docx
Joe's Filenames Use Spaces and Punctuation.xlsx
figure I.png
fig 2.png
JW7d^(2sl@deletethisandyourcareerisoverWx2*.txt
```

# YES

```
2014-06-08_abstract-for-sla.docx
joes-filenames-are-getting-better.xlsx
fig01_scatterplot-talk-length-vs-interest.png
fig02_histogram-talk-attendance.png
1986-01-28_raw-data-from-challenger-o-rings.txt
```

# three principles for (file) names

machine readable

human readable

plays well with default ordering

### awesome file names :)

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A04.csv
```

### "machine readable"

### regular expression and globbing friendly

 avoid spaces, punctuation, accented characters, case sensitivity

### easy to compute on

- deliberate use of delimiters

#### Excerpt of complete file listing:

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A04.csv
```

#### Example of **globbing** to narrow file listing:

```
Jennifers-MacBook-Pro-3:2014-03-21 jenny$ ls *Plasmid*

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A01.csv

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A02.csv

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A03.csv

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_B01.csv

....

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv

2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
```

#### Same using Mac OS Finder search facilities:

#	Q Plasmid		(
arch: This Mac "data" Shared		(	Save .
Name	Kind	A Last Opened	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_A01.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_A02.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_A03.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_B01.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_B02.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_B03.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_C01.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_C02.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_C03.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_D01.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_D02.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_D03.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_E01.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_E02.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_E03.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_F01.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_F02.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAYe-100-1MutantFraction_F03.c	sv comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_G01.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_G02.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_G03.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_H01.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_H02.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY100-1MutantFraction_H03.cs	v comma-separated values	2014-05-08 8:05 PM	
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY0-1MutantFraction_platefile.cs		2014-05-08 3:06 PM	

#### Same using R's ability to narrow file list by regex:

```
> list.files(pattern = "Plasmid") %>% head
[1] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A01.csv"
[2] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A02.csv"
[3] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A03.csv"
[4] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_B01.csv"
[5] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_B02.csv"
[6] "2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_B03.csv"
```

Deliberate use of "\_" and "-" allows us to recover metadata from the filenames.

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
```

```
> flist <- list.files(pattern = "Plasmid") %>% head
> stringr::str_split_fixed(flist, "[_\\.]", 5)
     [,1]
                  [,2]
                                    [,3]
[1,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY" "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                           "A01"
[2,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                           "A02" "csv"
[3,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                           "A03" "csv"
[4,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                           "B01" "csv"
[5,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                                                           "B02" "csv"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
[6,] "2013-06-26"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                           "B03" "csv"
                  "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
       date
                                                  sample set
                                                                          well
                      assay
```

This happens to be R but also possible in the shell, Python, etc.

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
```

```
> flist <- list.files(pattern = "Plasmid") %>% head
> stringr::str_split_fixed(flist, "[_\\.]", 5)
     [,1]
                  [,2]
                                    [,3]
                                                                            [,4]
[1,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY" "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                            "A01"
[2,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY" "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                            "A02" "csv"
[3,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                            "A03" "csv"
[4,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
                                                                            "B01" "csv"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
[5,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                                                            "B02" "csv"
                                    "Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction"
[6,] "2013-06-26" "BRAFWTNEGASSAY"
                                                                            "B03" "csv"
```

- "\_" underscore used to delimit units of meta-data I want later
- "-" hyphen used to delimit words so my eyes don't bleed

#### "machine readable"

easy to search for files later

easy to narrow file lists based on names

easy to extract info from file names, e.g. by splitting

new to regular expressions and globbing? be kind to yourself and avoid

- spaces in file names
- punctuation
- accented characters
- different files named "foo" and "Foo"

name contains info on content

connects to concept of a <u>slug</u> from semantic URLs

Jennifers-MacBook-Pro-3:analysis jenny\$ ls -1

```
01 marshal-data.md
                                                        01.md
                                                        01.r
01 marshal-data.r
02 pre-dea-filtering.md
                                                        02.md
02 pre-dea-filtering.r
                                                        02.r
03 dea-with-limma-voom.md
                                                        03.md
03 dea-with-limma-voom.r
                                                        03.r
04 explore-dea-results.md
                                                        04.md
04 explore-dea-results.r
                                                        04.r
90 limma-model-term-name-fiasco.md
                                                        90.md
90 limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
                                                        90.r
Makefile
                                                        Makefile
figure
                                                        figure
helper01 load-counts.r
                                                        helper01.r
helper02 load-exp-des.r
                                                        helper02.r
helper03 load-focus-statinf.r
                                                        helper03.r
helper04 extract-and-tidy.r
                                                        helper04.r
tmp.txt
                                                        tmp.txt
```

Which set of file(name)s do you want at 3a.m. before a deadline?

```
01 marshal-data.r
02 pre-dea-filtering.r
03 dea-with-limma-voom.r
04 explore-dea-results.r
90 limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
helper01 load-counts.r
helper02 load-exp-des.r
helper03 load-focus-statinf.r
helper04 extract-and-tidy.r
```



easy to figure out what the heck something is, based on its name

put something numeric first

use the ISO 8601 standard for dates

left pad other numbers with zeros

# chronological order

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
```

#### logical order

```
01_marshal-data.r
02_pre-dea-filtering.r
03_dea-with-limma-voom.r
04_explore-dea-results.r
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
helper01_load-counts.r
helper02_load-exp-des.r
helper03_load-focus-statinf.r
helper04_extract-and-tidy.r
```

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A04.csv
```

```
01_marshal-data.r
02_pre-dea-filtering.r
03_dea-with-limma-voom.r
04_explore-dea-results.r
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
helper01_load-counts.r
helper02_load-exp-des.r
helper03_load-focus-statinf.r
helper04_extract-and-tidy.r
```

## put something numeric first

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A04.csv
```

#### use the ISO 8601 standard for dates

YYY-MM-DD

#### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

OUR DIFFERENT WAYS OF WRITING DATES AS NUMBERS CAN LEAD TO ONLINE CONFUSION. THAT'S WHY IN 1988 ISO SET A GLOBAL STANDARD NUMERIC DATE FORMAT.

THIS IS THE CORRECT WAY TO WRITE NUMERIC DATES:

2013-02-27

THE FOLLOWING FORMATS ARE THEREFORE DISCOURAGED:

02/27/2013 02/27/13 27/02/2013 27/02/13 2013.0227 2013.02.27 27.02.13 27-02-13 27.2.13 2013. II. 27.  $^{27}2$ -13 2013.158904109 MMXIII-II-XXVII MMXIII  $^{LVII}_{CCLXV}$  1330300800 ((3+3)×(111+1)-1)×3/3-1/3³  $^{20}2$ 3  $^{11}2$ 37  $^{11}2$ 37 10/11011/1101 02/27/20/13  $^{11}2$ 37  $^{11}2$ 37



### left pad other numbers with zeros

```
01_marshal-data.r
02_pre-dea-filtering.r
03_dea-with-limma-voom.r
04_explore-dea-results.r
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
helper01_load-counts.r
helper02_load-exp-des.r
helper03_load-focus-statinf.r
helper04_extract-and-tidy.r
```

# if you don't left pad, you get this:

```
10_final-figs-for-publication.R
1_data-cleaning.R
2_fit-model.R
```

### which is just sad

put something numeric first

use the ISO 8601 standard for dates

left pad other numbers with zeros

# three principles for (file) names

machine readable

human readable

plays well with default ordering

# three principles for (file) names

easy to implement NOW

payoffs accumulate as your skills evolve and projects get more complex

## go forth and use awesome file names:)

```
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H01.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
```

```
01_marshal-data.r
02_pre-dea-filtering.r
03_dea-with-limma-voom.r
04_explore-dea-results.r
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.r
helper01_load-counts.r
helper02_load-exp-des.r
helper03_load-focus-statinf.r
helper04_extract-and-tidy.r
```