Installation Instructions for the EDF2R package

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The EDF2R package allows one to read in EDF files generated by an SR-Research eyetracker from within R. This process is about as fast as the conversion from EDF to ASCII file using the edf2asc program, but using EDF2R the file is directly read into R. See the EDF2R-Usage document for some tips on how to use this package.

Regrettably, EDF2R requires the SR-Research libraries to be installed. This makes the procedure to install EDF2R slightly more complicated than installing a typical R package. Below are the instructions for installing these SR-Research libraries for Mac OS X and Windows. After following these instructions, the EDF2R package should be installed on your computer, and you can load it using the standard:

    library(EDF2R)

call, and use the main function:

    dat <- readEDF("filename.edf")

devtools

To allow installing packages from Github, install **devtools**:

    install.packages(devtools)

and then load devtools so that the install_github function is available:

    library(devtools)

Mac OS X:

To install these libraries if you're using Mac OS X, go to this URL (you might need to register first to get an account for the SR Support website):

 https://www.sr-support.com/forumdisplay.php?17-EyeLink-Display-Software

and download and install the Eyelink Display API Installer for 32 and 64 bit Mac OS X (a .mpkg file).

Note that you will need to have a c compiled installed. It could be that there is one installed by default, but if not, you'll need to install Xcode development tools:

  https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/xcode/id497799835?ls=1&mt=12

including the command line tools (execute "gcc" in a terminal window to check whether the command line tools are installed).

Then, simply issue:

    install_github("hedderik/EDF2R")

and everything should work, so you can make the readEDF function available by issuing:

  library(EDF2R)

Windows: [last checked: October 2014]

To install these libraries if you're using Windows, go to this URL (you might need to register first to get an account for the SR Support website):

  https://www.sr-support.com/showthread.php?6-Windows-Display-Software

and download the listed file:

  EyeLinkDevKit_win32_1.9.214.zip

Install this Developers Kit in the default location (i.e., C:\Program Files\...). Note that you will most probably need administrator access to be allowed to write in this location. Moreover, the package assumes to find some required files in the default locations, so don't install it on another drive or in another directory.

After installing this developers kit, you should install RTools, a package of programs that allow you to compile your own R packages. RTools can be downloaded from:

  http://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/Rtools/

When asked about whether the installer should update the PATH, say YES. After installing RTools, restart R, and from within R, the following command should compile and then install EDF2R:

  install.packages("EDF2R",repos=c("http://www.van-rijn.org/R",getOption("repos")), type="source")

Linux:

Instructions on how to install the libraries on Linux can be found at (again, you might need to register first to get an account):

 https://www.sr-support.com/showthread.php?16-EyeLink-Developers-Kit-for-Linux-(Linux-Display-Software)

If you're using an Ubuntu version, installation can be done using Synaptic. Instructions for other distributions are also provided.