

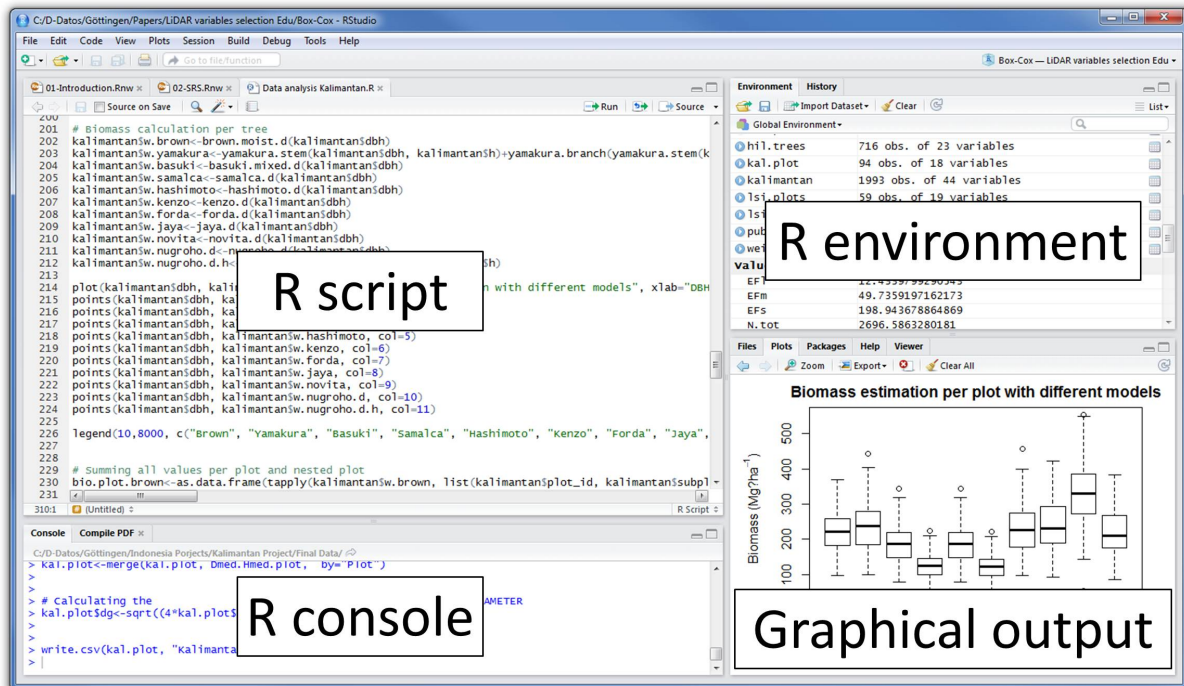
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Experience of using language R as an novice

Introduction



Ross Ihaka

R as some of you may know is a statistical analysis system created by Ross Ihaka and Robert Gentleman ("R language definition", 2000) whose features are: * effective data processing and simple tools for saving results * a set of operators for processing arrays, matrices, and other complex constructions * large, consistent, integrated collection tools for statistical analysis * numerous graphic tools * a simple and effective programming language that includes a lot of possibilities

I have been fortunate to work with such a programming language, even though I haven't had any prior experience working with such a programming language and moreover with Data Scientists. Since I decided to major in Statistics, I started to learn it and I found that R is powerful and convenient for data analysing and data visualizing. After last weeks learning and practicing on Rstudio, I have some experience and opinions which are related to some extended reading about using Language R.

R can easily load and save data

In the begining, I went through a few hours of tutoring by getting an understanding of the R environment, how to install it, and an overview of RStudio and I realized how amazing it is! What fascinates me is that you can easily import a local file and store the data into one data variable. For example, the syntax would be:

```
mydata <- read.csv("nba2017-player-statistics.csv")
```

Furthermore, after you load objects into memory and play with it and when you shutdown your environment your data is not cleared! Rather you can save it and it retains such information per project.

R is a language with many functions

The another reason that I like to use R is that there is a wide range of functions is available in the base package. Since I am taking stat134 this semester, I found that there are some concepts and model of basic distributions can be simulated in R by various functions. There is also a large number of other packages that increase the potential of R. They are located separately and must be loaded into memory. A comprehensive list of such packages, along with their descriptions, can be found on the Internet at: URL: <http://cran.rproject.org/src/contrib/PACKAGES.html>.

Those packages are useful in many different uses: * To install package For example:

```
library(dplyr)
```

```
##
## Attaching package: 'dplyr'
```

```
## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
## filter, lag
```

```
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
## intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
```

```
library(ggplot2)
library(Rcpp)
```

```
## Warning: package 'Rcpp' was built under R version 3.4.2
```

- To load data For example:

```
mydata <- read.csv("nba2017-player-statistics.csv")
```

- To manipulate data For example:

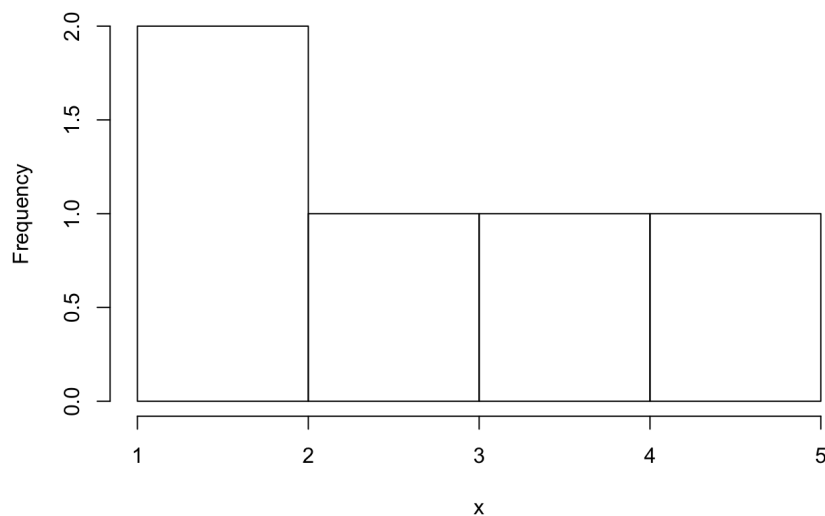
```
str <- str(mydata)
```

```
## 'data.frame': 441 obs. of 24 variables:
## $ Player : Factor w/ 441 levels "A.J. Hammons",...: 5 16 30 103 146 161 169 181 189 213 ...
## $ Team : Factor w/ 30 levels "ATL","BOS","BRK",...: 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
## $ Position : Factor w/ 5 levels "C","PF","PG",...: 1 2 5 3 4 3 4 5 4 2 ...
## $ Experience : Factor w/ 19 levels "1","10","11",...: 18 3 15 19 18 14 13 11 19 15 ...
## $ Salary : num 26540100 12000000 8269663 1450000 1410598 ...
## $ Rank : int 4 6 5 15 11 1 3 13 8 10 ...
## $ Age : int 30 29 26 22 31 27 26 21 20 29 ...
## $ GP : int 68 80 55 5 47 76 72 29 78 78 ...
## $ GS : int 68 77 55 0 0 76 72 0 20 6 ...
## $ MIN : int 2193 1608 1835 17 538 2569 2335 220 1341 1232 ...
## $ FGM : int 379 213 359 3 95 682 333 25 192 114 ...
## $ FGA : int 801 370 775 4 232 1473 720 58 423 262 ...
## $ Points3 : int 86 27 108 1 39 245 157 12 46 45 ...
## $ Points3_atts: int 242 66 277 1 111 646 394 35 135 130 ...
## $ Points2 : int 293 186 251 2 56 437 176 13 146 69 ...
## $ Points2_atts: int 559 304 498 3 121 827 326 23 288 132 ...
## $ FTM : int 108 67 68 3 33 590 176 6 85 26 ...
## $ FTA : int 135 100 93 6 41 649 217 9 124 37 ...
## $ OREB : int 95 117 65 2 17 43 48 6 45 60 ...
## $ DREB : int 369 248 269 2 68 162 367 20 175 213 ...
## $ AST : int 337 140 121 3 33 449 155 4 64 71 ...
## $ STL : int 52 52 68 0 9 70 72 10 35 26 ...
## $ BLK : int 87 62 11 0 7 13 23 2 18 17 ...
## $ TO : int 116 77 88 0 25 210 79 4 68 39 ...
```

- To visualize data For example:

```
x <- 1 : 5
hist(x)
```

Histogram of x



There is a bunch of packages that

we have not cover but they are still useful in the following uses: * To model data For example:

```
x <- 1:5
y <- rnorm(5)
lm(y~x)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = y ~ x)
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept)          x
##      -1.2716      0.1815
```

- To report results For example:

```
mymodel <- lm(y~x)
summary(mymodel)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = y ~ x)
##
## Residuals:
##      1      2      3      4      5
##  0.02763 -0.19558 -0.44810  1.37245 -0.75639
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  -1.2716     0.9942   -1.279   0.291
## x              0.1815     0.2998    0.605   0.588
##
## Residual standard error: 0.9479 on 3 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.1089, Adjusted R-squared:  -0.1882
## F-statistic: 0.3664 on 1 and 3 DF,  p-value: 0.5877
```

- To write high performance R code

```
cppFunction('int add(int x, int y, int z) {
  int sum = x + y + z;
  return sum;
}')
```

- To work with the web
- To write your own R packages R performs a wide variety of functions, such as data manipulation, statistical modeling, and graphics. One really big advantage of R, however, is its extensibility. People can easily write their own software and distribute it in the form of add-on packages. Because of the relative ease of creating these packages, literally thousands of them exist. In fact, many new statistical methods are published with an R package attached.
- Etc

Rstudio is easy to use

The screenshot displays the RStudio interface with four main panels:

- R script:** The top-left pane shows a script with R code for biomass calculation, including data loading, plotting, and model fitting.
- R console:** The bottom-left pane shows the execution of R commands, such as `kal.plot <- merge(kal.plot, Dmed.Hmed.plot, by="Plot")` and `bio.plot.brown <- as.data.frame(tapply(kalimantaniw.brown, list(kalimantaniw.plot_id, kalimantaniwsubpl`.
- R environment:** The top-right pane lists the objects in the global environment, including `h1l.trees` (716 obs. of 23 variables), `kal.plot` (94 obs. of 18 variables), `kalimantan` (1993 obs. of 44 variables), and `tsi.plots` (59 obs. of 19 variables).
- Graphical output:** The bottom-right pane displays a box plot titled "Biomass estimation per plot with different models", showing biomass (Mg/ha) on the y-axis (ranging from 100 to 500) for various plots on the x-axis.

Rstudio GUI

When I first started to learn to use R, I was bound and determined to use the basic R GUI. Without knowing much about it, I also didn't want to use RStudio. It seemed overly complicated to download an additional software package for something that already functioned on its own. One day though, I found my thought was wrong because Rstudio is easy and convient to use.

- It is easy to write scripts As soon as you create a new script, the windows within your RStudio session adjust automatically so you can see both your script and the results in your console when you run your syntax.

Even better is the ability to call up potential syntax options while you are writing just by using the tab key.

- RStudio makes it convenient to view and interact with the objects stored in your environment. In the basic R GUI, you can always list the objects you have stored in your environment. But RStudio has a very useful “Environment” window available.

This shows all of the objects that you have stored, including data; scalars, vectors, and matrices; model outputs; etc., along with a summary of the information that is stored in those objects.

You can even click on your data sets directly to open them and view them as spreadsheets.

- RStudio makes it easy to set your working directory and access files on your computer. Especially if you are working in Windows, one of the most tedious parts of programming in R is setting your working directory to access your files.

With RStudio, you can navigate to folders on your computer in the “Files” window, view any files you have in that folder, and set that folder as the working directory.

Summary(Take-home message)

Since I am just a beginner of using command-based software, I cannot compare R language with other softwares. However, after learning and practicing R on Rstudio in past weeks, I found that R is a very useful method of data analysing because it can easily load and save data, has lots of useful functions and its GUI is easy and convient to use.

Works Cited

Ihaka, Ross, and Robert Gentleman. “R: A Language For Data Analysis And Graphics.” Journal Of Computational And Graphical Statistics, vol 5, no. 3, 1996, pp. 299-314. Informa UK Limited, doi:10.1080/10618600.1996.10474713. “Mean In R.” Youtube, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MeDxJixwaPs>. Team, R. Core. “R language definition.” Vienna, Austria: R foundation for statistical computing (2000). “Rproject.Org.” Cran.Rproject.Org, 2017, <http://cran.rproject.org/doc/FAQ/R-FAQ.html>. “Rproject.Org.” Cran.Rproject.Org, 2017, <http://cran.rproject.org/src/contrib/PACKAGES.html>. “R - Mean, Variance And Much More.” Youtube, 2017, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FI0Ygu9_bpA. “Central Tendency In R: Mean, Median, And Mode.” Youtube, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEBzPCT9oGA>.