

Introduction to basic R



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Basic about R

R is ...

- a programming **language**
- a programming **platform** (= environment + interpreter)
- a **software project** driven by the core team and the community
- a very powerful **tool for statistical** computing
- a very powerful **computational tool** in general

Yet ...

- it is **very elegant**
- it becomes more and **more feature-rich**

R is not ...

- a tool to **replace a statistician**
- the **very best** programming language
- the **most elegant** programming solution
- the **most efficient** programming language



R: Engine



RStudio: Dashboard



R

- Programming **language**
- For **data analysis and graphics**
- Refers to both the **language** and the **software** that interprets its **scripts**
- **Free** and **open** source

RStudio

- User **interface** for working with R
- **Wrapper** around the R language
- Extends what R can do and **facilitates writing R code**
- **Free** and **open** source

Timeline

- ca. 1992 — conceived by [Robert Gentleman](#) and [Ross Ihaka](#) (R&R) at the University of Auckland, NZ as a tool for **teaching statistics**
- 1994 — initial version
- 2000 — stable version
- 2011 — [RStudio](#), first release by J.J. Allaire
- ca. 2017 — Tidyverse by [Hadley Wickham](#)



Setting up a project

RStudio

File Edit Code View Plots Session Build Debug

New File

New Project...


Open File... Ctrl+O


Open File in New Column...


Recent Files

New Project Wizard

Create Project


 **New Directory**
Start a project in a brand new working directory >


 **Existing Project**
Associate an existing project with this session


 **Version Control**
Check out an existing project from a version control system


New Project Wizard


Back Project Type


 New Project >


 R Package >

 Shiny Application

 Quarto Project


 Quarto Website

 Quarto Blog

 Quarto Book

New Project Wizard

Back Create New Project



Directory name:
r4ds

Create project as subdirectory of:
~/Desktop Browse...

☐ Create a git repository

☐ Use renv with this project

☐ Open in new session

Create Project Cancel

The working directory

- Where R will **look** for and **save** files
- Check working directory with the **getwd()** , **setwd()** functions

```
> getwd()  
[1] "C:/Users/auue0001/OneDrive - Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet/Dokument"
```

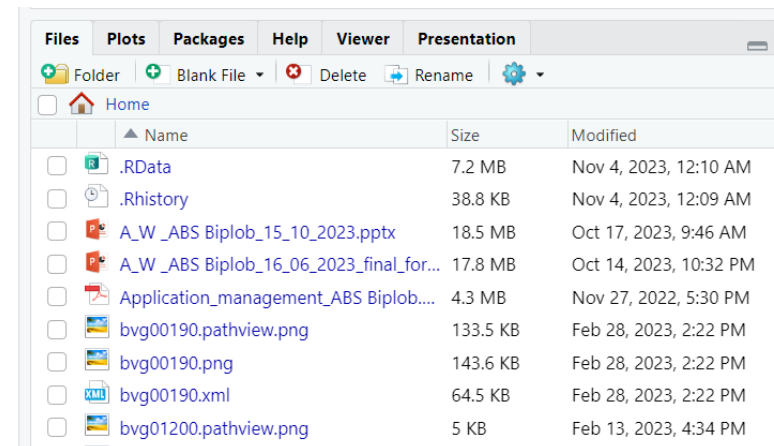
```
> setwd("C:/Users/auue0001/OneDrive - Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet/Dokument")
```


Suggested subdirectories

- data/ for raw data and intermediate datasets
- [data_output/](#) modified versions of raw data
- documents/ outlines, drafts, other text
- fig_output/ graphics generated by scripts
- scripts/ R scripts for different analyses or plotting

create subdirectory

```
dir.create(path = "path_to_working_directory/data_output")
```



Interacting with R

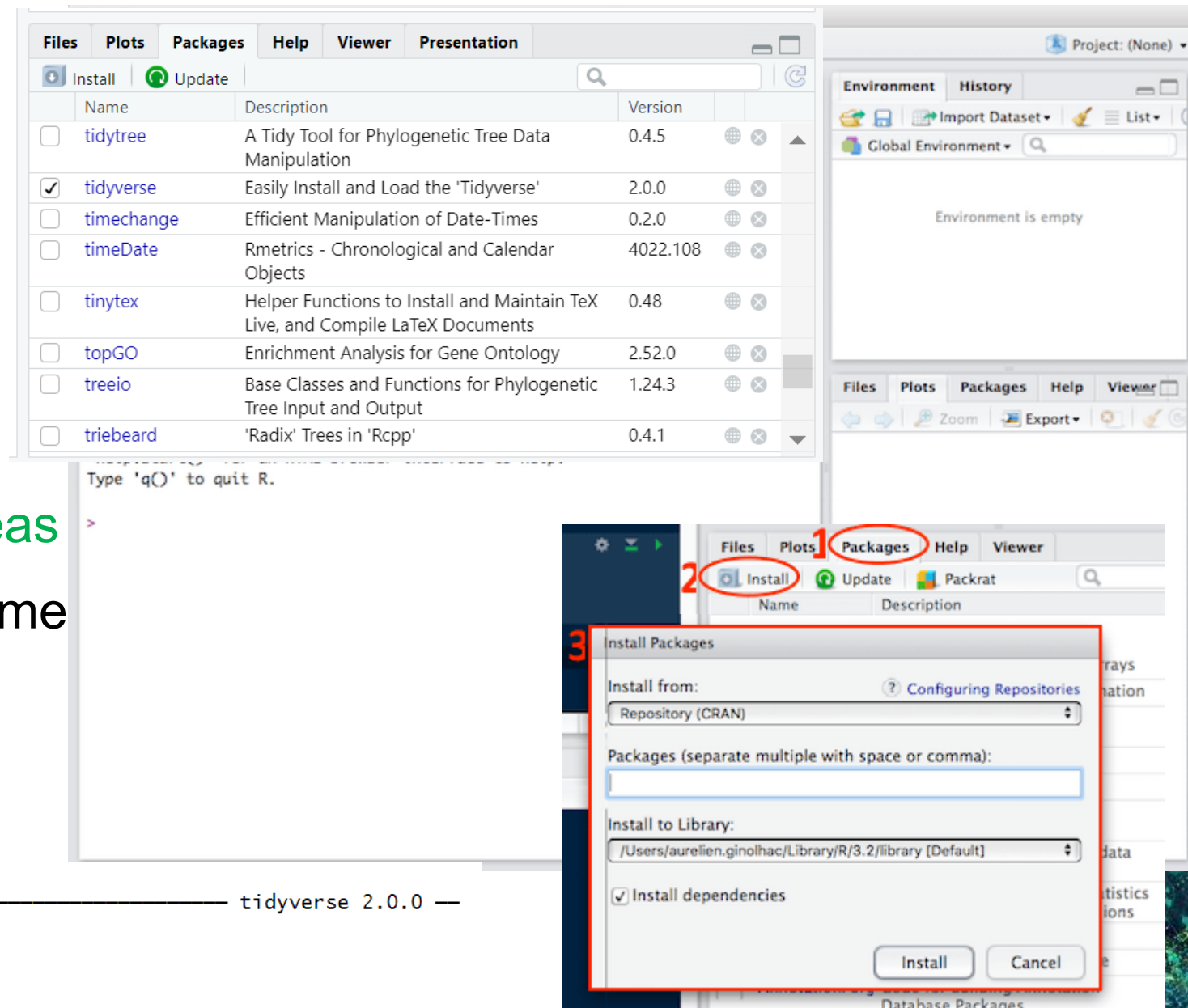
Packages

- developed **by** the **community**
- cover several very **diverse areas** of science/life
- **uniformly** structured and documented
- organized in **repositories**:
 - [CRAN](#)



Packages

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 - [CRAN](https://cran.r-project.org/)



The image shows three screenshots of the RStudio interface illustrating how to install packages:

- Step 1:** The 'Packages' tab in the top toolbar is selected, showing a list of available packages. The 'tidyverse' package is highlighted.
- Step 2:** The 'Install' button (a green circle with a white 'i') is clicked in the 'Packages' tab.
- Step 3:** The 'Install Packages' dialog box is shown. The 'Repository (CRAN)' is selected, and the 'Install to Library' field is set to the default path. The 'Install dependencies' checkbox is checked.

```
> library(tidyverse)
— Attaching core tidyverse packages — tidyverse 2.0.0 —
✓ dplyr      1.1.3    ✓ readr      2.1.4
✓ forcats    1.0.0    ✓ stringr    1.5.0
✓ ggplot2     3.4.4    ✓ tibble     3.2.1
✓ lubridate   1.9.3    ✓ tidyr      1.3.0
✓ purrr       1.0.2
— Conflicts — tidyverse_conflicts() —
✖ dplyr::filter() masks stats::filter()
✖ dplyr::lag()    masks stats::lag()
i Use the conflicted package to force all conflicts to become errors
```


Packages

- developed **by** the **community**
- cover several very **diverse areas** of science/life
- **uniformly** structured and documented
- organized in **repositories**:
 - [CRAN](#)
 - [Bioconductor](#)
 - [R-Forge](#)
 - [GitHub](#)



```
if (!require("BiocManager", quietly = TRUE))
  install.packages("BiocManager")
BiocManager::install(version = "3.18")
```

Assign values to objects

Assign values to objects

```
p <- 3
```

```
x <- c(1, 6, 8)
```

```
y <- c("car", "truck")
```

Scalars, vectors and matrices

Types of vectors and objects

- **Scalar** (0 dimension):

```
p <- 3
```

- **Vector** (arrays -1 dimension) :

```
x <- c(1, 6, 8)
```

```
y <- ("car", "truck")
```

```
1 > vec1 = c(1,4,6,8,10)
2 > vec1
3 [1] 1 4 6 8 10
4 > vec1[5]
5 [1] 10
```

- **Matrix** (2 dimension):

```
1 mat=matrix(data=c(9,2,3,4,5,6),ncol=3)
2 > mat
3      [,1] [,2] [,3]
4 [1,]    9    3    5
5 [2,]    2    4    6
```

Types of vectors and objects

- **character:** `y <- ("car", "truck")`
- **numeric:** `x <- c(1.1, 6.2, 8.4)`
- **integer:** `z <- 2`
- **logical:** `TRUE, FALSE`
- **complex:** `1+4i` (complex numbers with real and imaginary parts)

R has many functions to examine features of vectors and other objects:

- `class()` - what kind of object is it (high-level)?
- `typeof()` - what is the object's data type (low-level)?
- `length()` - how long is it? What about two dimensional objects?
- `attributes()` - does it have any metadata?

Structures

Data structures

- Matrix
- Data frames
- Factors (r assign a level for each values)
- Arrays
- Lists

```
> x <- 1:12

> # Create a 3 x 4 array from the vector
> my_array <- array(values, dim = c(3, 4))

> # Print the array
> print(my_array)
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
[1,]  1   4   7  10
[2,]  2   5   8  11
[3,]  3   6   9  12
> values
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
```

```
1 mat=matrix(data=c(9,2,3,4,5,6),ncol=3)
2 > mat
3           [,1] [,2] [,3]
4 [1,]      9   3   5
5 [2,]      2   4   6
```

```
1 > t = data.frame(x = c(11,12,14),
2   y = c(19,20,21), z = c(10,9,7))
3 > t
4      x y z
5 1 11 19 10
6 2 12 20  9
7 3 14 21  7
```

```
1 > L = list(one=1, two=c(1,2),
2   five=seq(0, 1, length=5))
3 > L
4 $one
5 [1] 1
6 $two
7 [1] 1 2
```


Getting a dataset in R

country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	1999	745	19987071
Afghanistan	2000	2666	20595360
Brazil	1999	37737	172006362
Brazil	2000	80488	174504898
China	1999	212258	1272915272
China	2000	213766	1280425583

variables

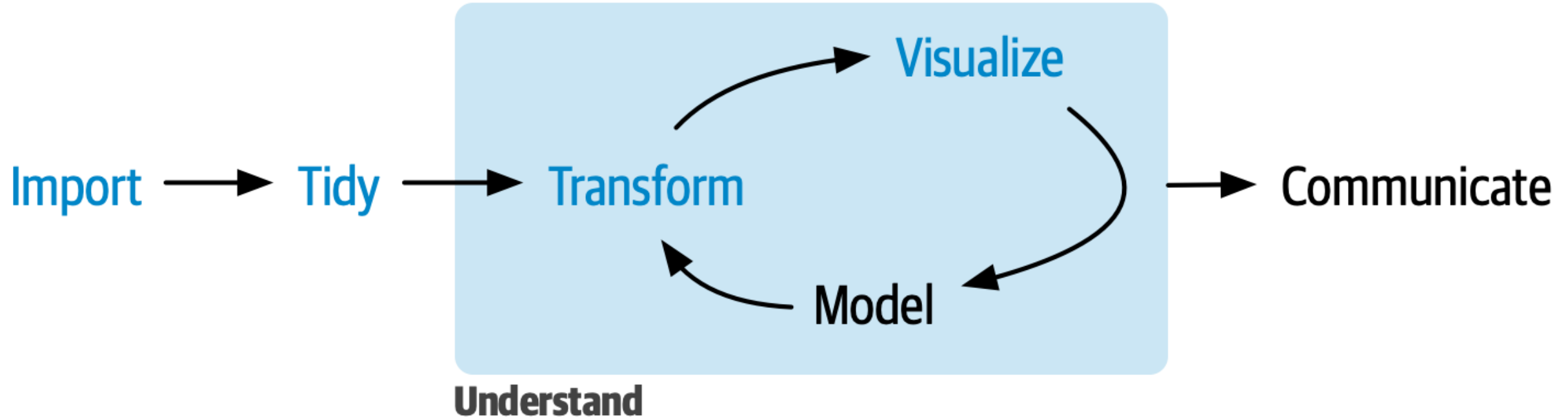
country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	1999	745	19987071
Afghanistan	2000	2666	20595360
Brazil	1999	37737	172006362
Brazil	2000	80488	174504898
China	1999	212258	1272915272
China	2000	213766	1280425583

observations

country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	99	745	19987071
Afghanistan	00	2666	20595360
Brazil	99	37737	172006362
Brazil	00	80488	174504898
China	99	212258	1272915272
China	00	213766	1280425583

values

Processes



How to **export** or save as **results** or **data**

```
write.csv(df , file = "path/to/your/saving/folder/df.csv")
```

```
writexl::write_xlsx (test_df, path = "C:/Users/your_username/test_df.xlsx",  
col_names = TRUE, format_headers = TRUE)
```

How to **export** or save as **plot**

```
dev.print (device=jpeg, file="path/to/your/saving/plots/figure_1a.jpg",  
width=par("din")[1]*300, res=300, quality=100)
```

```
ggsave("path/to/your/saving/plots/figure_1a.png", plot = p1, bg ="white")
```

**!! Practical session (afternoon session): read a
test csv file into Rstudio!!**

Seeking help

- RStudio help interface
 - `?sum`
 - `help.search()`, with term in “” inside parentheses
- Google or chatgpt “R <task>”
- When asking others
 - Use correct words
 - Reduce to reproducible example
 - Always include output of `sessionInfo()` function

Handle large datasets

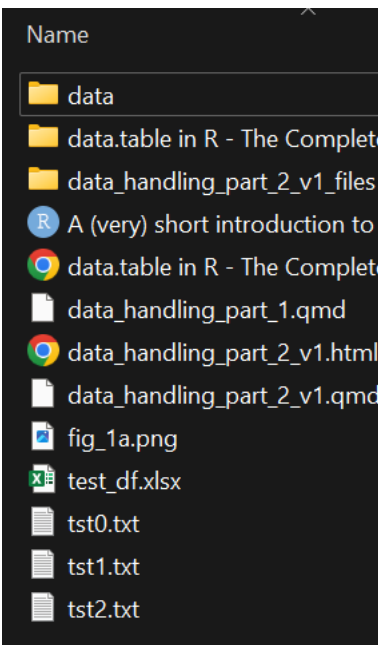


Start by looking at the file names and sizes:

```
fhvhv_csv_files <- list.files("original_csv", recursive=TRUE, full.names = TRUE)
data.frame(file = fhvhv_csv_files, size_Mb = file.size(fhvhv_csv_files) / 1024^2)
```

##	file	size_Mb
## 1	original_csv/2020/01/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-01.csv	1243.4975
## 2	original_csv/2020/02/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-02.csv	1313.2442
## 3	original_csv/2020/03/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-03.csv	808.5597
## 4	original_csv/2020/04/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-04.csv	259.5806
## 5	original_csv/2020/05/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-05.csv	366.5430
## 6	original_csv/2020/06/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-06.csv	454.5977
## 7	original_csv/2020/07/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-07.csv	599.2560
## 8	original_csv/2020/08/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-08.csv	667.6880
## 9	original_csv/2020/09/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-09.csv	728.5463
## 10	original_csv/2020/10/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-10.csv	798.4743
## 11	original_csv/2020/11/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-11.csv	698.0638
## 12	original_csv/2020/12/fhvhv_tripdata_2020-12.csv	700.6804

We can already guess based on these file sizes that with only 4 Gb of RAM available we're going to have a problem.




Handle large datasets

- Good management strategies for large files
 - if you work with **10 to 100 GB** regularly!?
 - r-datatable.com
 - `library(data.table)`
 - R script: *firstscript.R*

`install.packages("arrow")`

Data Transformation with data.table :: CHEAT SHEET



Basics

data.table is an extremely fast and memory efficient package for transforming data in R. It works by converting R's native data frame objects into data.tables with new and enhanced functionality. The basics of working with data.tables are:

dt[i, j, by]

Take data.table dt, subset rows using i and manipulate columns with j, grouped according to by.

data.tables are also data frames - functions that work with data frames therefore also work with data.tables.

Create a data.table

`data.table(a = c(1, 2), b = c("a", "b"))` - create a data.table from scratch. Analogous to `data.frame()`.

`setDT(df)` or `as.data.table(df)` - convert a data frame or a list to a data.table.

Subset rows using i

`dt[1:2,]` - subset rows based on row numbers.

`dt[a > 5,]` - subset rows based on values in one or more columns.

LOGICAL OPERATORS TO USE IN i

<	<=	is.na()	is.null()	isLike%
>	>=	is.na()	is.null()	isBetween%

Manipulate columns with j

EXTRACT

`dt[, c(2)]` - extract columns by number. Prefix column numbers with "~" to drop.

`dt[, (b, c)]` - extract columns by name.

SUMMARIZE

`dt[, .x = sum(a)]` - create a data.table with new columns based on the summarized values of rows.

Summary functions like `mean()`, `median()`, `min()`, `max()`, etc. can be used to summarize rows.

COMPUTE COLUMNS

`dt[, c := 1 + 2]` - compute a column based on an expression.

`dt[a == 1, c := 1 + 2]` - compute a column based on an expression but only for a subset of rows.

`dt[, "c" := (c = 1, d = 2)]` - compute multiple columns based on separate expressions.

DELETE COLUMN

`dt[, c := NULL]` - delete a column.

CONVERT COLUMN TYPE

`dt[, b := as.integer(b)]` - convert the type of a column using `as.integer()`, `as.numeric()`, `as.character()`, `as.Date()`, etc.

Group according to by

`dt[, j, by = .(a)]` - group rows by values in specified columns.

`dt[, j, keyby = .(a)]` - group and simultaneously sort rows by values in specified columns.

COMMON GROUPED OPERATIONS

`dt[, c := sum(b), by = a]` - summarize rows within groups.

`dt[, c := sum(b), by = a]` - create a new column and compute rows within groups.

`dt[, SD[1], by = a]` - extract first row of groups.

`dt[, SD[N], by = a]` - extract last row of groups.

Chaining

`dt[,][...]` - perform a sequence of data table operations by chaining multiple "i".

Functions for data.tables

REORDER

`setorder(dt, a, -b)` - reorder a data table according to specified columns. Prefix column names with "-" for descending order.

* SET FUNCTIONS AND :=

data.table's functions prefixed with "set" and the operator "!=" work without "<-" to alter data without making copies in memory. E.g., the more efficient `setDT(dt)` is analogous to `dt[0] = as.data.table(df)`.

UNIQUE ROWS

`unique(dt, by = c("a", "b"))` - extract unique rows based on columns specified in "by". Leave out "by" to use all columns.

`uniqueN(dt, by = c("a", "b"))` - count the number of unique rows based on columns specified in "by".

RENAME COLUMNS

`setnames(dt, c("a", "b"), c("x", "y"))` - rename columns.

SET KEYS

`setkey(dt, a, b)` - set keys to enable fast repeated lookup in specified columns using "dt[, value, i]" or for merging without specifying merging columns using "dt_a[dt_b]".

Combine data.tables

JOIN

`dt_a[dt_b, on = .(b = y)]` - join data.tables on rows with equal values.

`dt_a[dt_b, on = .(b = y, c = z)]` - join data.tables on rows with equal and unequal values.

ROLLING JOIN

`dt_a[dt_b, on = .(id = id, date = date), roll = TRUE]` - join data.tables on matching rows in id columns but only keep the most recent preceding match with the left data table according to date columns. "roll = INF" reverses direction.

BIND

`rbind(dt_a, dt_b)` - combine rows of two data.tables.

`cbind(dt_a, dt_b)` - combine columns of two data.tables.

Reshape a data.table

RESHAPE TO WIDE FORMAT

`dcast(dt, id ~ y, value.var = c("a", "b"))`

Reshape a data table from long to wide format.

dt: A data table.

id ~ y: Formula with a LHS: ID columns containing IDs for multiple entries. And a RHS: columns with values to spread in column headers.

value.var: Columns containing values to fill into cells.

RESHAPE TO LONG FORMAT

`melt(dt, id.vars = c("id"), measure.vars = patterns("a", "b"), value.name = c("a", "b"))`

Reshape a data table from wide to long format.

dt: A data table.

id.vars: ID columns with IDs for multiple entries.

measure.vars: Columns containing values to fill into cells (often in pattern form).

variable.name, value.name: Names of new columns for variables and values derived from old headers.

Apply function to cols.

APPLY A FUNCTION TO MULTIPLE COLUMNS

`dt[, lapply(.SD, mean), .SDcols = c("a", "b")]` - apply a function - e.g. `mean()`, `as.character()`, `which.max()` - to columns specified in .SDcols with `lapply()` and the .SD symbol. Also works with groups.

`cols = c("a")`
`dt[, paste0(cols, "_m") := lapply(.SD, mean), .SDcols = cols]` - apply a function to specified columns and assign the result with suffixed variable names to the original data.

Sequential rows

ROW IDS

`dt[, c := 1:N, by = b]` - within groups, compute a column with sequential row IDs.

LAG & LEAD

`dt[, c := shift(a, 1, by = b)]` - within groups, duplicate a column with rows lagged by specified amount.

`dt[, c := shift(a, 1, type = "lead", by = b)]` - within groups, duplicate a column with rows leading by specified amount.

read & write files

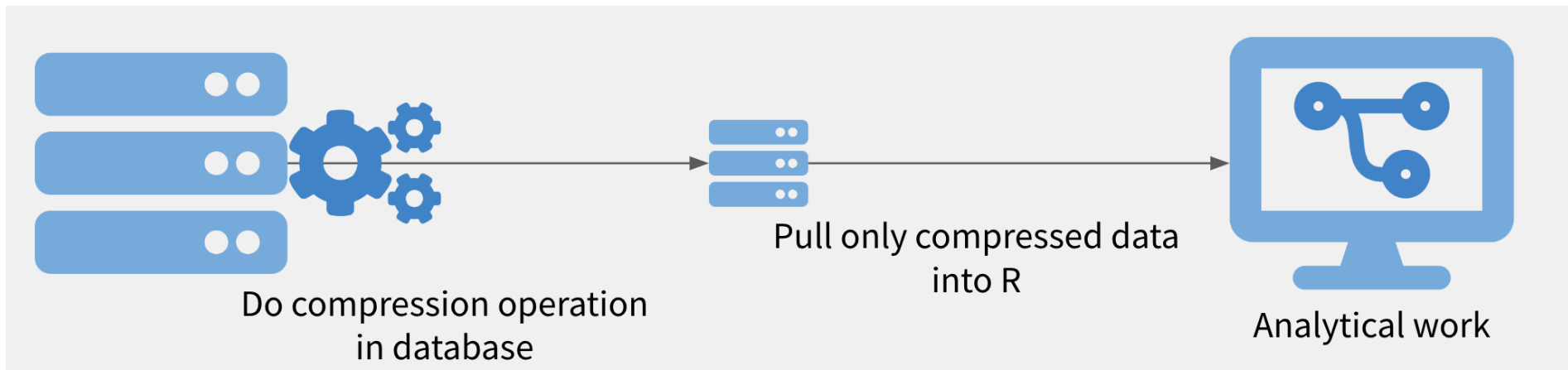
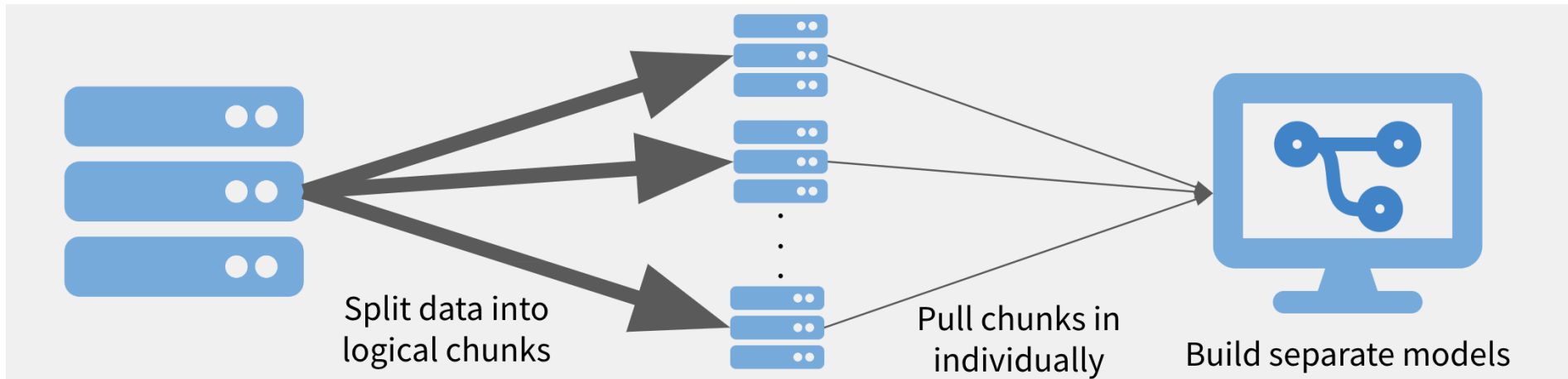
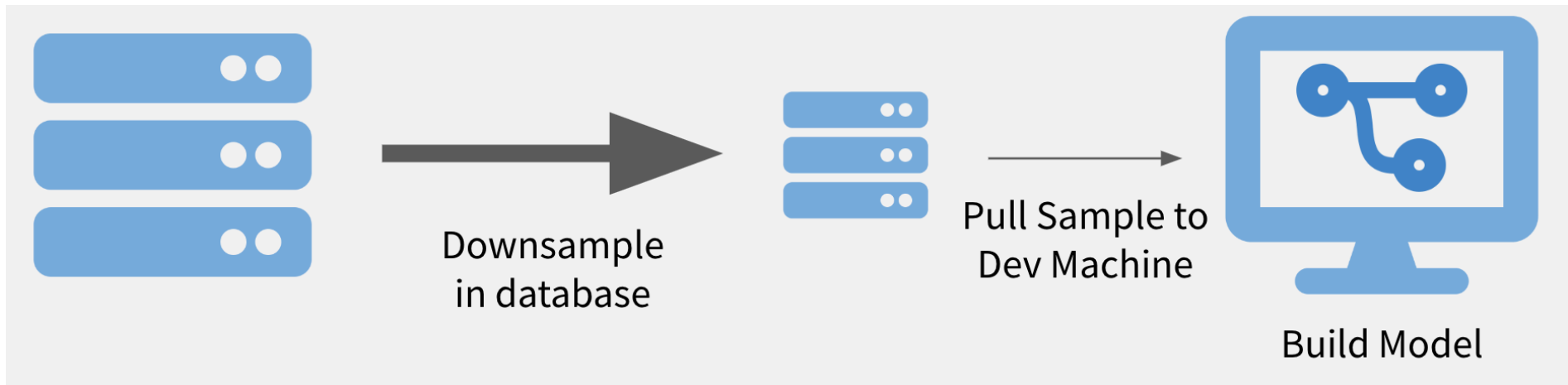
IMPORT

`fread("file.csv")` - read data from a flat file such as .csv or .tsv into R.

`fread("file.csv", select = c("a", "b"))` - read specified columns from a flat file into R.

EXPORT

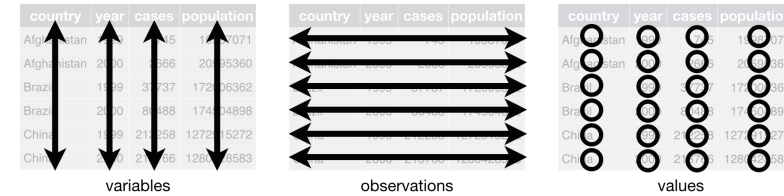
`fwrite(dt, "file.csv")` - write data to a flat file from R.



Good housekeeping strategies for scripts

- **Comments, Structure:**
 - Use #
 - Outline
- **Consistent Naming Conventions:**
 - Use consistent naming conventions for variables, functions, and objects
 - Avoid duplicating code. create a function or use a loop
- **Version Control:**
 - Git. Platforms like GitHub or GitLab repositories.
- **Imports and Dependencies:**
 - List all package imports at the top of your script
 - call `rhistry::sessionInfo()`
- **File Organization:**
 - Separate your R scripts, data, documentation, and output files into logical folders.
- **Reproducibility:**
 - Use [Quarto](#), R Markdown Documents:
 - Documentation Files:
 - Create README files

Filtering of genotype data



- Subset data, metadata
 - Based on “rows (observations)”, “variable” or “values”
 - Filter
- Missing data (“NA”, stat, summary)

```
height_sub_12 <- subset(data, height<12)
```

```
data_filter_na <- data[!is.na(data$height),]
```



- `mutate()` adds new variables that are functions of existing variables
- `select()` picks variables based on their names.
- `filter()` picks cases based on their values.
- `summarise()` reduces multiple values down to a single summary.
- `arrange()` changes the ordering of the rows.

Conversion of different genotype file formats

Common programs used to handle the file formats:

- Hapmap: `library(plink)`, `library(VariantAnnotation)`
- Numeric: `library(readxl)`, `writexl`, `library(jsonlite)`
- Haploid format – one letter code (`readLines` function)

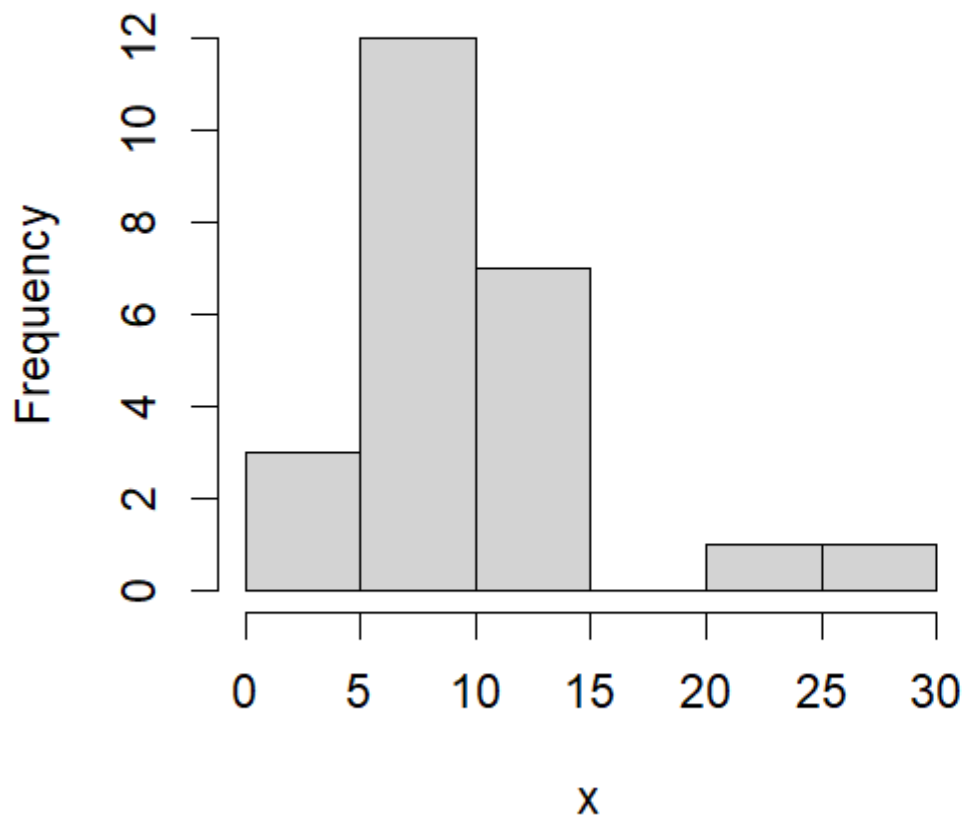


Outliers in genotype and phenotype datasets

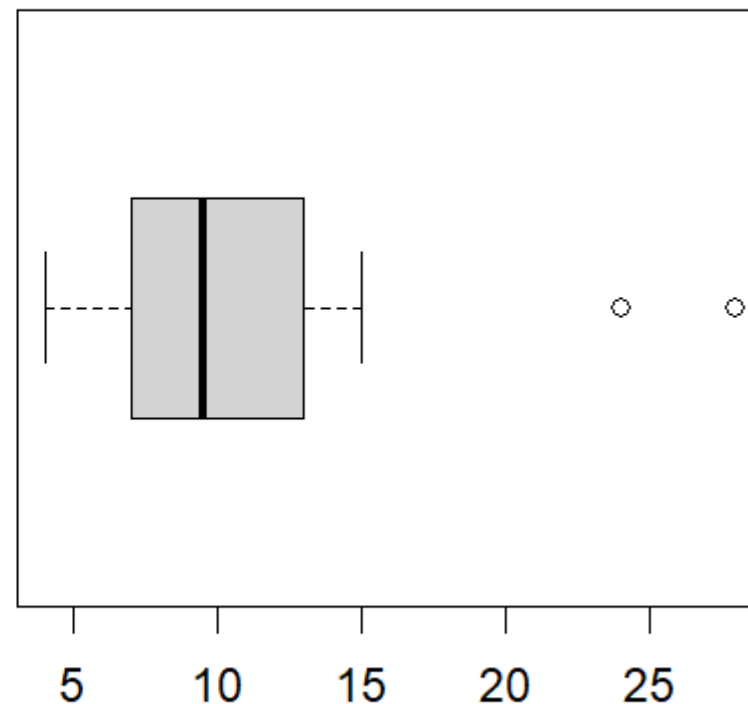
- Histogram, scatterplot, and boxplot, Q-Q plot, chi square test

$x = c(10, 4, 6, 8, 9, 8, 7, 6, 12, 14, 11, 9, 8, 4, 5, 10, 14, 12, 15, 7, 10, 14, 24, 28)$

Histogram

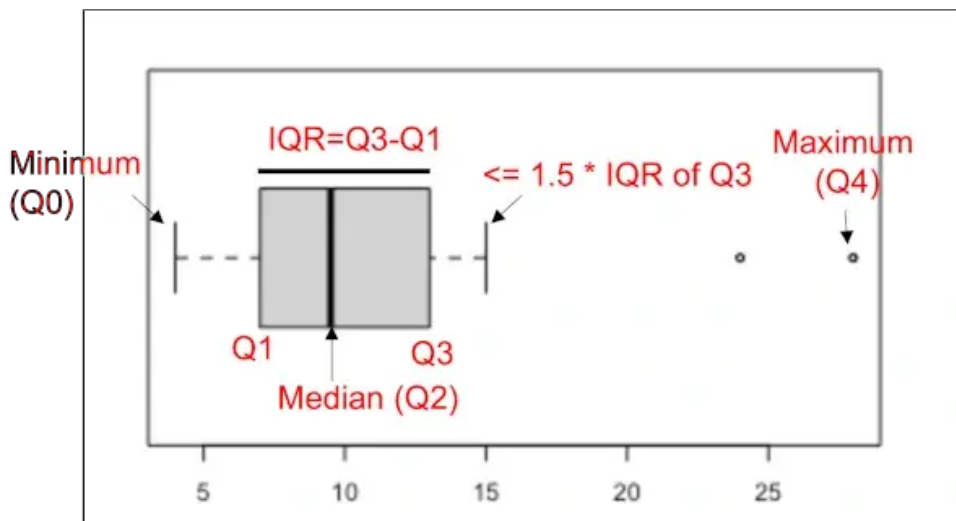


Boxplot



Outliers in genotype and phenotype datasets

- Histogram, scatterplot, and boxplot, Q-Q plot, chi square test
- IQR



```
x = c(10,4,6,8,9,8,7,6,12,14,11,9,8,4,5,10,14,12,15,7,10,14,24,28)
```

```
# get values of Q1, Q3, and IQR
```

```
summary(x)
```

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
4.00  7.00  9.50 10.62 12.50 28.00
```

```
# get IQR
```

```
IQR(x)
```

```
[1] 5.5
```

```
# get threshold values for outliers
```

```
Tmin = 7-(1.5*5.5)
```

```
Tmax = 12.50+(1.5*5.5)
```

```
# find outlier
```

```
x[which(x < Tmin | x > Tmax)]
```

```
[1] 24 28
```

```
# remove outlier
```

```
x[which(x > Tmin & x < Tmax)]
```

```
[1] 10 4 6 8 9 8 7 6 12 14 11 9 8 4 5 10 14 12 15 7 10 14
```

Questions?!



Acknowledgements

- NBIS

