You Have To Get Your Data From Somewhere

Andy Grogan-Kaylor

2020-02-27

Contents

1   You Have To Get Your Data From Somewhere

In learning R, as well as RMarkdown, one of the most difficult tasks seems to be understanding how to import data.

Read your data into a dataset using the *right function* for the *right format* from the *correct location*.

2   Basic Idea

```
mydata¹ <- function²("path/to/³file.extension⁴")
```

3   Examples

3.1   Data Already in R Format

```
mydata <- load("/project1/mydata.RData") # load data in R format
```

3.2   Data in CSV

```
library(readr) # library to read CSV

dataset <- read_csv("/project1/mydata.csv")
```

3.3   Data in Excel

```
library(readxl) # library to read Excel

dataset <- read_excel("/project1/mydata.xlsx")
```

[1] How R will refer to your data. R's *nickname* for your data.

[2] The correct function for the type of data you are reading in, e.g. RData, CSV, Excel.

[3] Where is your data located? The *path* to your data.

[4] What is the *filename* of the file containing your data? Note that the extension often tells you *what kind* of data this is.