

# Lines are models

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# Introduction

We shall use the **R** programming language throughout the course. (as it is free and it is used in other statistics courses at EPFL). Visit the R-project website to download the program. The most popular graphical cross-platform front-end is RStudio Desktop.

**R** is an object-oriented interpreted language. It differs from usual programming languages in that it is designed for interactive analyses.



# Chapter 1

## Projection matrices

### 1.1 Introduction

Since **R** is not a conventional programming language, my teaching approach will be learning-by-doing. The benefit of using *Rmarkdown* is that you see the output directly and you can also copy the code.

Help can be accessed via `help` or simply `?`. If you do not know what to query, use `??` in front of a string, delimited by captions " " as in `??"Cholesky decomposition"`. Help is your best friend if you don't know what a function does, what are its arguments, etc.

#### 1.1.1 Packages

The great strength of **R** comes from its contributed libraries (called packages), which contain functions and datasets provided by third parties. Some of these (`base`, `stats`, `graphics`, etc.) are loaded by default whenever you open a session.

To install a package from CRAN, use `install.packages("package")`, replacing `package` by the package name. Once installed, packages can be loaded using `library(package)`; all the functions in `package` will be available in the environment. The drawback of this approach is that, if a function from another package is already present with the same name, it will be overridden. To palliate to this, you can use the `::` syntax to access a single function from an installed package, following the model `package::function`.

#### 1.1.2 Basics of R

You can find several introductions to **R** online. Have a look at the **R** manuals or better at contributed manuals. A nice official reference is *An introduction to R*. You may wish to look up the following chapters of the **R** language definition (Evaluation of expressions and part of the *Objects* chapter).

Some **R** commands are fairly intuitive, especially if you want to use your console as a calculator. Elementary functions such as `sum`, `min`, `max`, `sqrt`, `log`, `exp`, etc., are self-explanatory.

- Use `<-` to assign to a variable, and `=` for matching arguments inside functions
- Indexing in **R** starts at 1, **not** zero.
- Most functions in **R** are vectorized, so avoid loops as much as possible.
- integers are obtained by appending `L` to the number, so `2L` is an integer and `2` a double.

Besides integers and doubles, the common types are logicals (`TRUE` and `FALSE`, note the capital letters). You can assign `NULL` pointers to arguments. Special types exists for missing values, namely `NA` or `NaN`. These can also be obtained a result of invalid mathematical operations such as `log(-2)`.

The above illustrates a caveat of **R**: invalid calls will often return *something* rather than an error. It is therefore good practice to check that the output is sensical.

**R** is an object oriented language, and the basic elements in **R** are (column) vector. Below is a glossary with some useful commands for performing basic manipulation of vectors and matrix operations:

- `c` creates a vector
- `cbind` (`rbind`) binds column (row) vectors
- `matrix` and `vector` are constructors
- `diag` creates a diagonal matrix (by default with ones)
- `t` is the function for transpose
- `solve` performs matrix inversion
- `%%` is matrix multiplication, `*` is element-wise multiplication
- `crossprod` `crossprod(A, B)` calculates the cross-product, `t(A) %% B` of two matrices `A` and `B`
- `eigen`/`chol`/`qr` perform respectively an eigendecomposition/Cholesky/QR decomposition of a matrix
- `rep` creates a vector of duplicates, `seq` a sequence. For integers  $i, j$  with  $i < j$ , `i:j` generates the sequence  $i, i+1, \dots, j-1, j$ .

Subsetting is fairly intuitive and general; you can use vectors, logical statements. For example, if `x` is a vector, then

- `x[2]` returns the second element
- `x[-2]` returns all but the second element
- `x[1:5]` returns the first five elements
- `x[(length(x) - 5):length(x)]` returns the last five elements
- `x[c(1, 2, 4)]` returns the first, second and fourth element
- `x[x > 3]` return any element greater than 3. Possibly an empty vector of length zero!
- `x[x < -2 | x > 2]` multiple logical conditions.
- `which(x == max(x))` index of elements satisfying a logical condition.

For a matrix `x`, subsetting now involves dimensions: `[1,2]` returns the element in the first row, second column. `x[,2]` will return all of the rows, but only the second column. For lists, you can use `[[` for subsetting by index or the `$` sign by names.

## 1.2 R-tutorial 1

### 1.2.1 Data sets

We start by loading a dataset of the Old Faithful Geyser of Yellowstone National park. This is a `data.frame` object, a matrix whose columns can be of different types (`integer`, `double`, `logical`, `character`). To load a package already present in an **R** package, use the command `data` with the name of the `package` as an argument (must be a string).

```
# Load Old faithful dataset
data(faithful, package = "datasets")
# Query the database for documentation
?faithful
# look at first entries
head(faithful)
```

```
##      eruptions waiting
## 1      3.600      79
## 2      1.800      54
## 3      3.333      74
## 4      2.283      62
## 5      4.533      85
```



```
## 6      2.883      55
str(faithful)

## 'data.frame':   272 obs. of  2 variables:
## $ eruptions: num  3.6 1.8 3.33 2.28 4.53 ...
## $ waiting : num  79 54 74 62 85 55 88 85 51 85 ...
# What kind of object is faithful?
class(faithful)

## [1] "data.frame"
```

Other common classes are `matrix` and `list`. The former has attributes `dim`, `ncol` and `nrow` in addition to `length`, which gives the total number of elements. A `list` is an unstructured class whose elements are accessed using double indexing `[[ ]]` and elements are typically accessed using `$` symbol with names. To delete an element from a list, assign `NULL` to it. `data.frame` is a special type of list where all the elements are vectors of potentially different type, but of the same length.

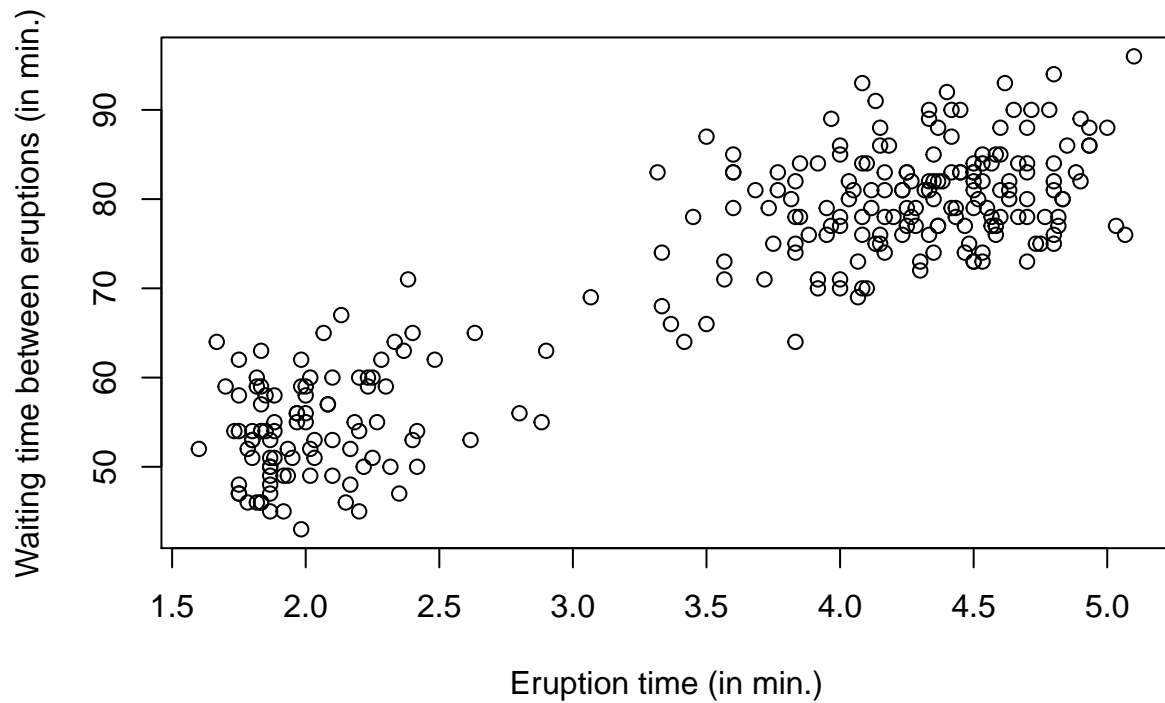
### 1.2.2 Graphics

The `faithful` dataset consists of two variables: the regressand `waiting` and the regressor `eruptions`. One could postulate that the waiting time between eruptions will be smaller if the eruption time is small, since pressure needs to build up for the eruption to happen. We can look at the data to see if there is a linear relationship between the variables.

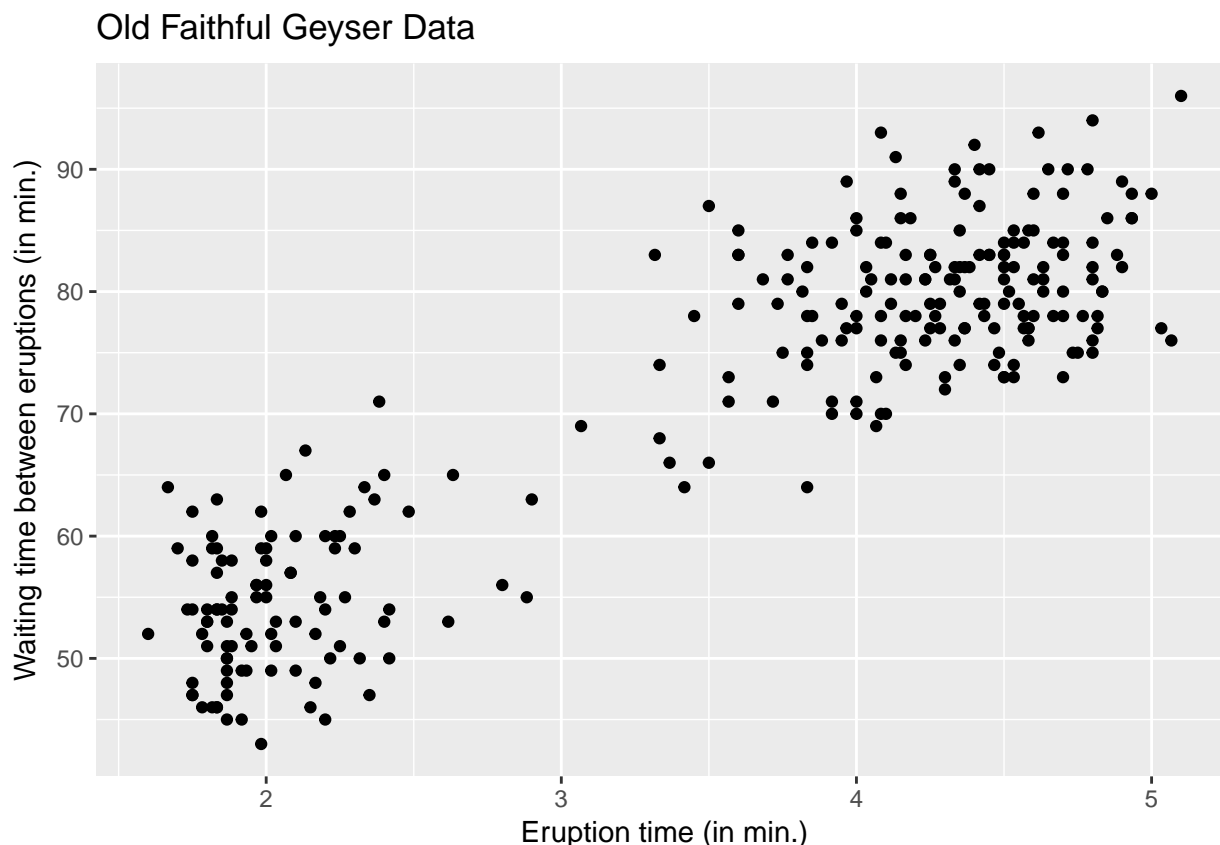
There are two options: the base graphics package and the package `ggplot2`. The syntax for the two options is detailed below. Always label the axis and include units.

```
# Scatterplots
# Using default R commands
plot(waiting ~ eruptions, data = faithful,
     xlab = "Eruption time (in min.)",
     ylab = "Waiting time between eruptions (in min.)",
     main = "Old Faithful Geyser Data")
```

## Old Faithful Geyser Data



```
#install.packages("ggplot2") #do this once only
#using the grammar of graphics (more modular)
library(ggplot2)
ggplot(data = faithful, aes(x = eruptions, y = waiting)) +
  geom_point() +
  labs(title = "Old Faithful Geyser Data",
       x = "Eruption time (in min.)",
       y = "Waiting time between eruptions (in min.)")
```



A simple linear model of the form  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$ , where  $\varepsilon_i$  is a noise variable with expectation zero and  $\mathbf{x}$  = eruptions and  $\mathbf{y}$  = waiting. We first create a matrix with a column of  $\mathbf{1}_n$  for the intercept. We bind vectors by column (`cbind`) into a matrix, recycling arguments if necessary. Use `<-` to assign values to a variable and `$` to obtain a column of the data frame

```
## Manipulating matrices
n <- nrow(faithful)
p <- ncol(faithful)
y <- faithful$waiting
X <- cbind(1, faithful$eruptions)
```

We can now create an orthogonal projection matrix  $\mathbf{H}_X$  onto the  $\text{span}(\mathbf{X})$ . We can verify the properties of  $\mathbf{H}_X$  numerically using `all.equal` to check for equalities.

### 1.2.3 Projection matrices

```
Hx <- X %*% solve(crossprod(X)) %*% t(X)
# Create projection matrix onto complement
# `diag(n)` is the n by n identity matrix
Mx <- diag(n) - Hx
# Check that projection leaves X invariant
isTRUE(all.equal(X, Hx %*% X))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
# Check that orthogonal projection maps X to zero matrix of dimension (n, p)
isTRUE(all.equal(matrix(0, nrow = n, ncol = p), Mx %*% X))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
#Check that the matrix Hx is idempotent
isTRUE(all.equal(Hx %*% Hx, Hx))

## [1] TRUE
#Check that the matrix Hx is symmetric
isTRUE(all.equal(t(Hx), Hx))

## [1] TRUE
#Check that only a two eigenvalue are 1 and the rest are zero
isTRUE(all.equal(eigen(Hx, only.values = TRUE)$values, c(rep(1, p), rep(0, n - p))))

## [1] TRUE
#Check that the matrix has rank p
isTRUE(all.equal(Matrix::rankMatrix(Hx), p, check.attributes = FALSE))

## [1] TRUE
```

## Your turn

- Install the **R** package ISLR and load the dataset `Auto`. Be careful, as **R** is case-sensitive.
- Query the help file for information about the data set.
- Look at the first lines of `Auto`
- Create an explanatory variable `x` with horsepower and mileage per gallon as response `y`.
- Create a scatterplot of `y` against `x`. Is there a linear relationship between the two variables?
- Append a vector of ones to `x` and create a projection matrix.
- Check that projection matrix is symmetric and idempotent.