# Introduction to R

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### Preamble

R is a high-level statistical programming language. It is widely used for manipulating, graphing and modelling data in a range of fields, from ecology to finance and beyond.

This workshop is an introduction to the basics of R. You will learn:

- 1. How to navigate around the RStudio interface; a free Interactive Development Environment (IDE) for R;
- 2. How to install and load packages that provide extra functionality for R;
- 3. How to import data into R from spreadsheets;
- 4. How to manipulate and summarise data in R; and
- 5. How to produce high-quality visualisations of data in R.

### The RStudio IDE

This section is hands-on. You will be taken through the RStudio environment by the workshop demonstrator.

# Installing and loading packages

R has a wide range of functionality built-in, but, being an open-source software, members of the R community have built and published plug-in 'packages' that extend R's functionality to do more complicated tasks. In this section, you will learn how to install and load several packages that we will use throughout the workshop.

To install a package, make sure you have an internet connection. On the QUT computers, make sure you have external internet access. The workshop demonstrator can help you with this.

Once you're sure that you have internet access, run the following commands:

```
install.packages("dplyr")
install.packages("tidyr")
install.packages("ggplot2")
```

Once the installation commands have run successfully, try to avoid running them again. This may cause problems due to folder permission issues which arise when R tries to overwrite an existing instance of a package.

Installing a package *does not* mean you can immediately access the functionality in the package. You have to load them at the beginning of every R session to use them. To load packages, run the following commands:

```
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(tidyr)
library(ggplot2)
```

## Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 3.5.1

You now have access to the functionality of these packages!

## Setting up a session in R

When people use R, they usually import their data from files that exist somewhere on their computer. These have to be brought into the R environment by running specific commands. However, we can simplify the data loading process by *setting the working directory*, which is the folder where R looks, by default, to find files which you refer to in your code.

There are at least three ways of setting the working directory.

- 1. By running the command setwd() with the path to a folder on your computer.
- 2. By running the command setwd() containing another command which allows you to select the relevant folder in Windows explorer (only on Windows OS),
- 3. By point-and-click methods inside RStudio.

The workshop demonstrator can help you with option (3). But for options (1) and (2), see the code blocks below:

```
# setwd with path to folder written explicitly.
# You will need to change this to suit your own computer and needs.
setwd("D:/Dropbox/NRS")
# setwd with command to select a folder inside Windows explorer.
setwd(choose.dir())
```

This can be the difference between having to write

```
# Without setwd
read.csv("D:/Dropbox/NRS/meuse.csv")
```

and

```
# With setwd
read.csv("meuse.csv")
```

Try setting your working directory to the folder where you've unzipped the contents of the workshop pack.

# Importing data from spreadsheets

Most data you will encounter lives in spreadsheets. You will have to access the spreadsheets from inside R if you want to use them in an R-based workflow.

For this workshop, we will assume that the data of interest lives in a comma-separated-values file (.csv). We will use the command read.csv to access these. However, there are functions in R for reading excel spreadsheets, text files, database tables, and even google forms. Since there is such a wide range of options, we can't deal with all of them. But .csv files are a good place to start, especially for scientific applications.

We assume you have set your working directory to the folder which contains meuse.csv. This file came with your workshop pack. To read this data into R, run the following command:

```
meuse <- read.csv(
  file = "meuse.csv",
  as.is = TRUE
)</pre>
```

Note, the <- is an assignment operator. It is equivalent to =. It just sets the value of the name on its left-hand side to the data/object/thing on its right-hand side.

If the code ran successfully, you won't see anything. To check that you got the result you expected, we have to run a simple command on the data. Let's use names; a function which displays all the column names of a dataset.

```
names(meuse)
```

If you're seeing something like the above, everything is fine.

## Writing out data

You can take an object inside R and write it to a spreadsheet-like file by using

```
write.csv(
  x = meuse,
  file = "a_new_csv.csv",
  row.names = FALSE
)
```

#### A more formal introduction to data structures in R

R is an object-oriented language, so most of its functionality is centred around 'classes' and 'objects'. A class is an abstraction, like when we refer to matrices and their properties, we refer to matrices in general and not necessarily to a particular matrix. An object comes from a class, just like

```
## [,1] [,2]
## [1,] 0.8288837 0.74256586
## [2,] 0.4470552 0.04158413
```

is an object of class matrix.

Classes define what sort of operations are possible with a particular data structure. In this workshop, we will be dealing with objects of class data.frame.

The meuse object we have created is a data.frame. We can query the class of objects using the command class.

```
class(meuse)
```

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

The data.frame class is very versatile. Each data.frame contains a specific number of rows or observations nrow(meuse)

```
## [1] 155
```

and columns or variables

```
ncol(meuse)
```

```
## [1] 14
```

with set names for the variables

```
names(meuse)
```

```
## [1] "x" "y" "cadmium" "copper" "lead" "zinc" "elev" ## [8] "dist" "om" "ffreq" "soil" "lime" "landuse" "dist.m"
```

Each column contains a different type of information. Some might contain discrete variables and others might contain numbers. But all these data types exist within the one object. If it's hard to take in, don't worry too much. Objects of class data.frame are so ubiquitous that most R functions can deal with them. The functions that we will see inside this workshop can all deal with data.frame objects.

# Viewing data

You can view an entire object inside your console by simply running a command containing the name of the object, like this:

```
meuse
```

But most datasets contain too many rows to display conveniently inside the console.

A more common approach is to look at the first and last six rows of a data.frame object using the head and tail commands.

```
head(meuse) # first six
```

```
y cadmium copper lead zinc elev
                                                           dist
                                                                   om ffreq soil
          Х
                                     299 1022 7.909 0.00135803 13.6
## 1 181072 333611
                       11.7
                                 85
## 2 181025 333558
                        8.6
                                 81
                                     277 1141 6.983 0.01222430 14.0
                                                                                1
## 3 181165 333537
                                          640 7.800 0.10302900 13.0
                                                                                1
                        6.5
                                 68
                                     199
## 4 181298 333484
                        2.6
                                 81
                                     116
                                          257 7.655 0.19009400
                                                                                2
                                          269 7.480 0.27709000
                                                                                2
## 5 181307 333330
                        2.8
                                 48
                                     117
                                                                  8.7
                                                                           1
## 6 181390 333260
                                    137
                                          281 7.791 0.36406700
                                                                                2
                        3.0
                                 61
##
     lime landuse dist.m
## 1
                       50
        1
                Ah
## 2
        1
                Ah
                       30
## 3
                      150
                Ah
        1
## 4
        0
                Ga
                      270
## 5
        0
                Ah
                      380
## 6
                      470
```

```
tail(meuse) # last six
```

```
##
                    y cadmium copper lead zinc
                                                             dist
                                                                   om ffreq soil
                                                 elev
            Х
## 150 179030 330082
                          1.2
                                   20
                                        68
                                             214 8.226 0.3749400 5.7
                                                                                1
## 151 179184 330182
                          0.8
                                   20
                                             166 8.128 0.4238370 4.7
                                                                           3
                                                                                1
                                        49
## 152 179085 330292
                          3.1
                                   39
                                       173
                                             496 8.577 0.4238370 9.1
                                                                           3
                                                                                1
  153 178875 330311
                          2.1
                                   31
                                       119
                                             342 8.429 0.2770900 6.5
                                                                           3
                                                                                1
  154 179466 330381
                          0.8
                                   21
                                        51
                                             162 9.406 0.3586060 5.7
                                                                           3
                                                                                1
  155 180627 330190
                          2.7
                                   27
                                       124
                                             375 8.261 0.0122243 5.5
                                                                           3
                                                                                3
##
       lime landuse dist.m
## 150
          0
                  Ah
                        440
## 151
          0
                  Am
                        540
## 152
          0
                  Ah
                        520
```

These kinds of outputs are much more manageable for the console.

If you want to view your entire dataset in a scrollable window inside RStudio, you can run

```
View(meuse)
```

# Accessing data and subsets of data

There are times when we only want or need one or two columns from a data.frame or a few rows. In these situations, you have to know how to access specific portions of your data.

Let's start with row and column indexing. You can refer to specific rows and columns of matrices and data frames like this:

```
meuse[1,] # This gets the first row
meuse[,1] # This gets the first column
meuse[1,1] # This gets the first row of the first column
```

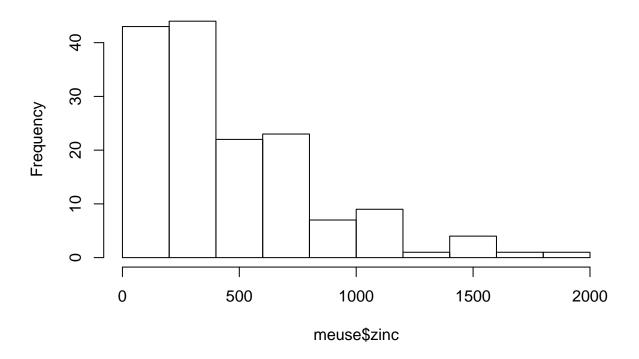
To access multiple rows or multiple columns, we extend the indices with vectors.

```
meuse[c(1,2,3), ]
meuse[1:3, ] # These get the first three rows
meuse[, c(1,2,3)]
meuse[, 1:3] # These get the first three columns
```

More often, it's useful to be able to access entire columns by name. Say, for example, you want to make a histogram of the zinc concentrations around the Meuse river. Then we write

```
hist(meuse$zinc)
```

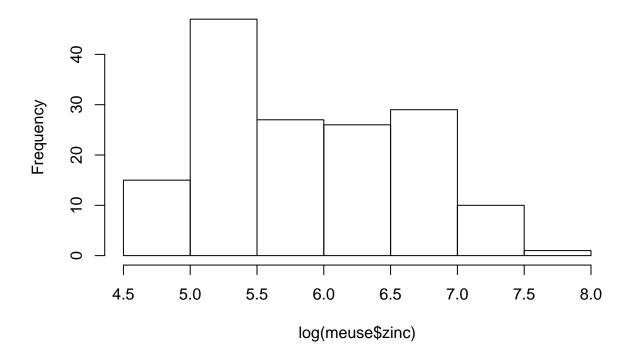
# Histogram of meuse\$zinc



We can do calculations on entire columns conveniently using this \$ notation. For example, for a histogram of  $\log(\text{zinc concentrations})$ , we write

hist(log(meuse\$zinc))

# **Histogram of log(meuse\$zinc)**



Another common situation is where you have to find some parts of your dataset which conform to a set of logical criteria. We can find these using the subset function. It is used like this:

```
meuse_sub <- subset(</pre>
  meuse, # the name of the dataset
  zinc < 200 # the logical condition
)
head(meuse_sub)
##
                   y cadmium copper lead zinc
                                                                  om ffreq soil
            X
                                                  elev
                                                            dist
## 10 181232 333168
                          1.6
                                   24
                                            183 9.049 0.309702 6.3
                                                                          1
                                                                               2
                                                                               2
## 11 181191 333115
                          1.4
                                   25
                                        86
                                            189 9.015 0.315116 6.4
                                                                          1
                                                                               2
                          1.5
## 26 181167 332778
                                   22
                                        76
                                            194 8.973 0.429289 6.3
                                                                          1
                                   24
                                        67
                                                                               2
## 28 180973 332687
                          1.3
                                            180 8.743 0.320574 4.4
                                                                          1
   30 181352 332946
                          1.5
                                   21
                                        65
                                            180 9.043 0.489064 4.8
                                                                          1
                                                                               2
##
   32 180878 332489
                          1.3
                                   21
                                            198 8.727 0.287957 1.0
                                                                               2
##
      lime landuse dist.m
          0
                        420
## 10
                  W
##
         0
                 Fh
                        400
   11
## 26
         0
                  W
                        530
         0
                        400
   28
                 Ag
  30
         0
                        630
##
                 Ag
          0
## 32
                        390
                 Ag
```

We can combine multiple logical conditions. For example,

```
meuse_sub <- subset(</pre>
  meuse,
  zinc < 200 & lead < 200
) # Must satisfy both conditions
head(meuse_sub)
##
                   y cadmium copper lead zinc elev
                                                          dist om ffreq soil
## 10 181232 333168
                         1.6
                                 24
                                           183 9.049 0.309702 6.3
                                                                        1
## 11 181191 333115
                                                                             2
                         1.4
                                 25
                                           189 9.015 0.315116 6.4
                                       86
                                                                       1
## 26 181167 332778
                                 22
                                           194 8.973 0.429289 6.3
                                                                             2
                         1.5
                                      76
                                                                       1
## 28 180973 332687
                         1.3
                                 24
                                       67 180 8.743 0.320574 4.4
                                                                             2
## 30 181352 332946
                         1.5
                                 21
                                       65 180 9.043 0.489064 4.8
                                                                       1
                                                                             2
## 32 180878 332489
                         1.3
                                 21
                                       64 198 8.727 0.287957 1.0
                                                                             2
      lime landuse dist.m
##
## 10
         0
                 W
                       420
## 11
         0
                Fh
                       400
## 26
         0
                 W
                       530
## 28
         0
                       400
                Ag
## 30
         0
                       630
                Ag
## 32
         0
                       390
                 Ag
meuse_sub <- subset(</pre>
  meuse,
  zinc < 200 | lead < 200
) # Can satistfy either condition
head(meuse_sub)
##
                  y cadmium copper lead zinc elev
                                                          dist
                                                                 om ffreq soil
## 3 181165 333537
                        6.5
                                68
                                     199
                                          640 7.800 0.1030290 13.0
                        2.6
                                                                              2
## 4 181298 333484
                                81
                                     116
                                          257 7.655 0.1900940
                                                                8.0
## 5 181307 333330
                        2.8
                                48
                                    117
                                          269 7.480 0.2770900
                                                                8.7
                                                                              2
                                                                              2
## 6 181390 333260
                        3.0
                                61
                                    137
                                          281 7.791 0.3640670
                                                                7.8
## 7 181165 333370
                        3.2
                                    132
                                          346 8.217 0.1900940
                                                                              2
                                31
                                                                9.2
                                                                         1
## 8 181027 333363
                        2.8
                                29
                                    150
                                          406 8.490 0.0921516
                                                                9.5
                                                                              1
##
     lime landuse dist.m
## 3
        1
               Ah
                      150
## 4
        0
               Ga
                      270
## 5
        0
               Ah
                      380
## 6
        0
               Ga
                      470
## 7
        0
                      240
               Ah
## 8
        0
                Ab
                      120
```

# Doing calculations with data

Often it is useful to be able to compute summary statistics of columns in your data. In situations like these, we can write

```
mean(meuse$zinc)
## [1] 469.7161
sd(meuse$zinc)
```

```
## [1] 367.0738
```

If we want to calculate entirely new columns of data based on existing columns of data, we can write things like

```
meuse$log_zinc <- log(meuse$zinc)</pre>
```

In this case, we refer to a column in the dataset (it doesn't have to exist already) and define it based on a calculation involving a column in the dataset which already exists.

#### Advanced summaries of data

Being able to compute summary statistics on columns of data is important. However, this isn't necessarily useful when your dataset contains distinct groups of observations and you need to be able to calculate statistics within each of those groups.

In the meuse dataset, there are three types of soil (just labelled 1, 2, 3) where concentrations of various heavy metals were observed. We might want to know the mean concentration of lead, cadmium and copper in each of the soil types.

To do this, we need to use the group\_by and summarise functions inside the package dplyr.

In the first step, we identify the column which contains the grouping variable for our dataset. In this case, it's called 'soil'.

```
meuse_soil_groups <- group_by(
  meuse, # The dataset
  soil # The grouping variable
)</pre>
```

Note that there is superficially nothing different about the new data.frame object. The changes have occurred under the hood, in the internal logical of R, so that when we perform the summaries on cadmium, lead and copper concentrations, we get the results we want.

The next step involves using the summarise function like so

```
summarise(
  meuse_soil_groups, # The grouped dataset
  Mean_Cd = mean(cadmium),
  Mean_Pb = mean(lead),
   Mean_Cu = mean(copper)
  # Format: name = calculation(column)
)
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 4
##
      soil Mean_Cd Mean_Pb Mean_Cu
##
     <int>
             <dbl>
                      <dbl>
                               <dbl>
## 1
         1
             4.30
                      191.
                                47.3
         2
## 2
             1.73
                       98.9
                                30.1
## 3
         3
             0.558
                       58.2
                                23
```

Note that this is quite different to

```
summarise(
  meuse,
  Mean_Cd = mean(cadmium),
  Mean_Pb = mean(lead),
  Mean_Cu = mean(copper)
)
```

```
## Mean_Cd Mean_Pb Mean_Cu
## 1 3.245806 153.3613 40.31613
```

We can do more than just calculate means. Virtually any function is allowed to be used inside summarise, as long as its output is a single value. To demonstrate, if we want the mean, median, standard deviation and sum of the lead concentrations in each soil group, we would write

```
summarise(
  meuse_soil_groups,
 Mean = mean(lead),
 Median = median(lead),
  StdDev = sd(lead),
  Sum = sum(lead)
)
## # A tibble: 3 x 5
##
      soil Mean Median StdDev
                                  Sum
##
                  <dbl> <dbl> <int>
     <int> <dbl>
## 1
         1 191.
                  170
                          119. 18522
## 2
         2
           98.9
                   80
                          58.7
                                 4550
```

Note also that the names we give to the new columns are completely arbitrary, as long as they are valid column names; i.e. they don't contain special characters or start with numbers.

# Graphical summaries of data

One of the main attractions of R is the ability to create publication-quality figures with ease. In this section, you will learn about two different ways to plot data in R:

1. base plot

3

58.2

48.5

24.7

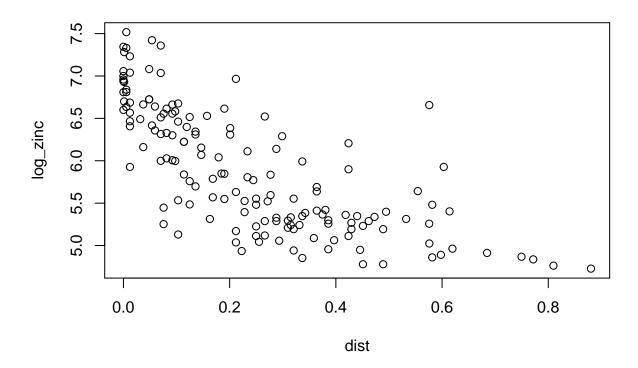
699

## 3

2. ggplot2

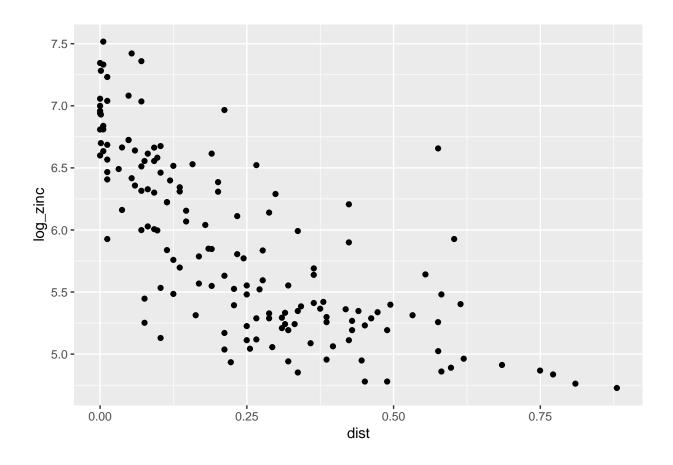
Base plot is the graphics device that comes pre-packaged with every installation of R. You can learn it quickly but it takes a long time to master, and for complicated tasks it is very difficult to use. It is characterised by the use of single-line commands like

```
plot(log_zinc ~ dist, data = meuse)
```



The package ggplot2 provides a different framework for plotting, which takes a bit of time to learn but, once you learn it, you can create beautiful plots in very little time. It is characterised by the use of longer, multi-line commands that are built up layer-by-layer to produce a plot.

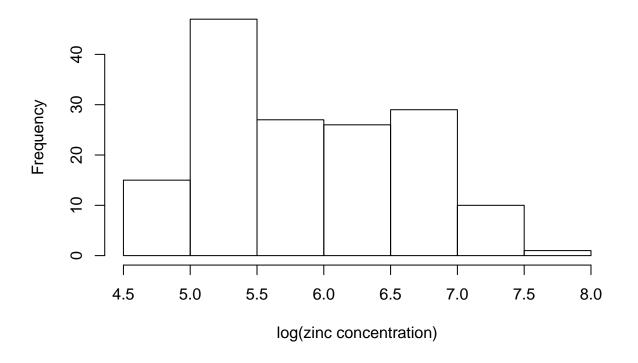
```
ggplot(
  data = meuse,
  aes(x = dist, y = log_zinc)
) +
  geom_point()
```



# Histograms

You can make histograms in base plot by using hist.

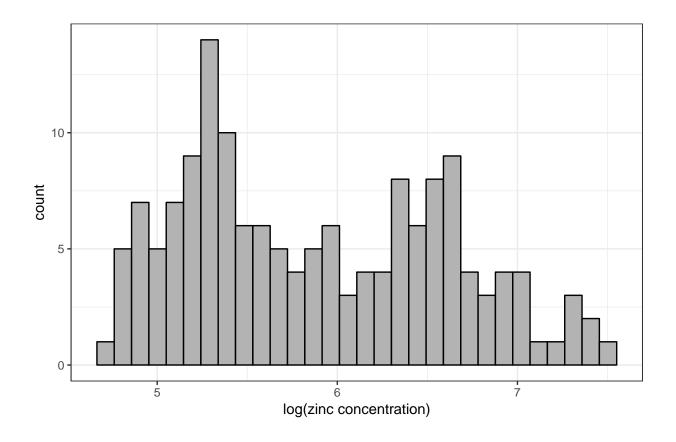
```
hist(
  meuse$log_zinc, # A single column of data
  xlab = "log(zinc concentration)",
  # xlab for x-axis label
  main = ""
  # main for plot title
)
```



In ggplot2, the plot is opened using ggplot and then the histogram is drawn using geom\_histogram.

```
ggplot(
  data = meuse, # The dataset
  aes(
    x = log_zinc # Name of column to draw in histogram
  )
) +
  geom_histogram(
   col = "black", # for bar outline
   fill = "grey70" # for bar filling
  ) + # Draws a histogram
  theme_bw() + # Controls background display
  labs(
    x = "log(zinc concentration)",
    \# x for x-axis label
   title = ""
    # title for plot title
  )
```

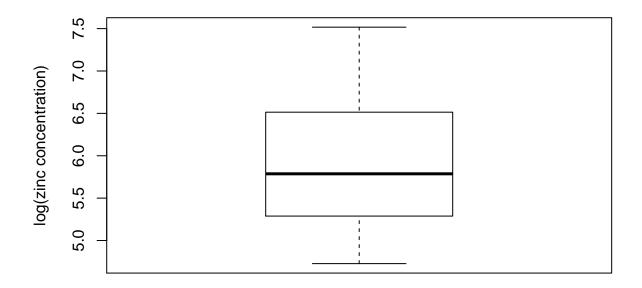
## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



# Boxplots

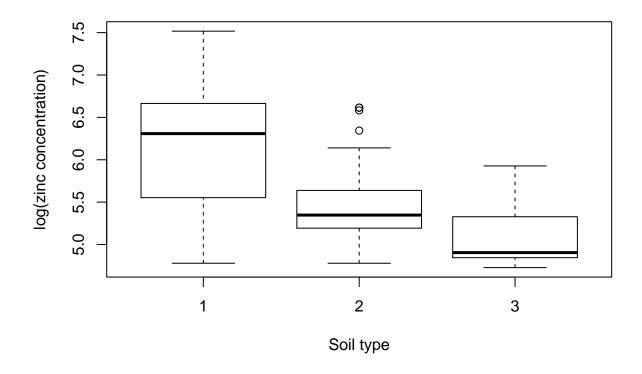
Boxplots for a single variable can be drawn using boxplot.

```
boxplot(
  meuse$log_zinc,
  main = "",
  xlab = "",
  ylab = "log(zinc concentration)"
)
```



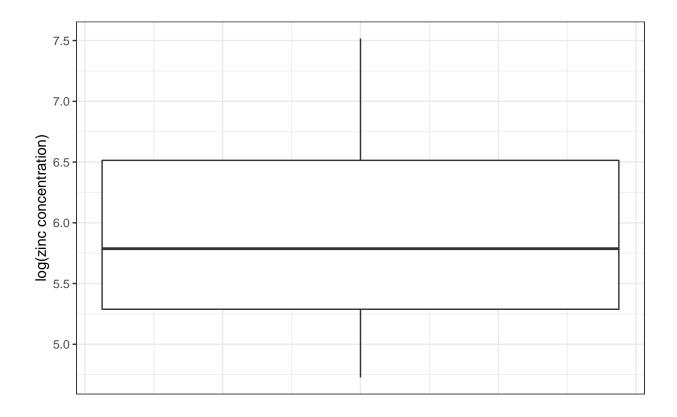
We can split the boxplots out by a discrete variable, also.

```
boxplot(
  log_zinc ~ soil,
  data = meuse, # the dataset
  main = "",
  xlab = "Soil type",
  ylab = "log(zinc concentration)"
)
```



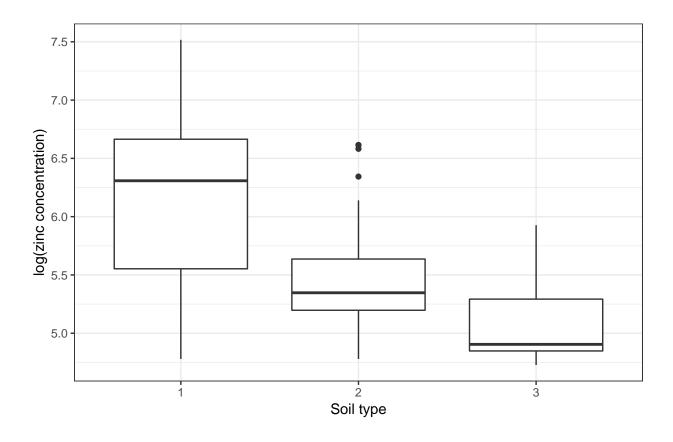
In ggplot2, we can do the same things but the single-variable boxplot requires more code to create.

```
ggplot(
  data = meuse,
  aes(x = 0, y = log_zinc)
) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  theme_bw() +
  labs(
    x = "",
    y = "log(zinc concentration)",
    title = ""
) +
  theme(
    axis.ticks.x = element_blank(),
    axis.text.x = element_blank()
) # Removes text from x axis
```



However, it is slightly more elegant for the boxplot split out by a factor.

```
ggplot(
  data = meuse,
  aes(x = as.factor(soil), y = log_zinc)
) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  theme_bw() +
  labs(
    x = "Soil type",
    y = "log(zinc concentration)",
    title = ""
)
```



### Scatter plots

Simple scatter plots are easy to create in base plot and ggplot2. We have already seen examples of these.

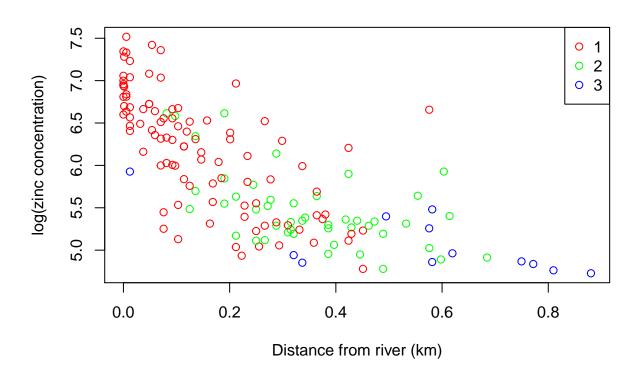
However, when it comes to more advanced scatter plots, with points coloured by a third variable, and with a legend, ggplot2 is much more elegant than base plot.

```
# base plot

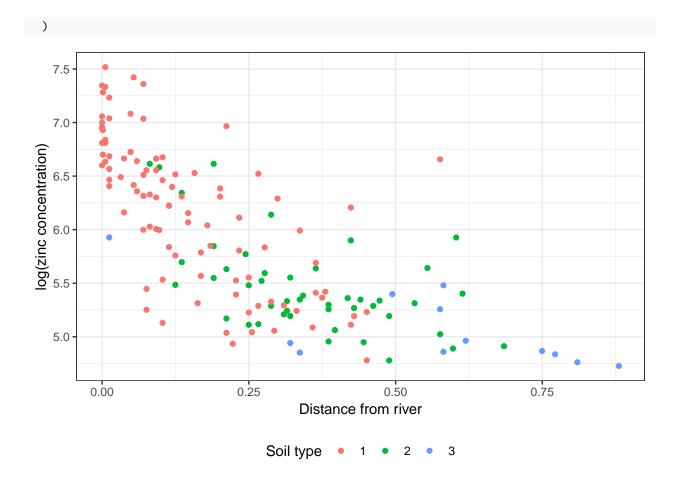
meuse$col <- NA # must create separate column with colour names
meuse$col[meuse$soil == 1] <- "red"
meuse$col[meuse$soil == 2] <- "green"
meuse$col[meuse$soil == 3] <- "blue"

plot(
    log_zinc ~ dist,
    data = meuse,
    col = meuse$col,
    xlab = "Distance from river (km)",
    ylab = "log(zinc concentration)",
    main = ""
)
legend(
    x = "topright",
    col = c("red", "green", "blue"),</pre>
```

```
pch = c(1, 1, 1),
  legend = c("1", "2", "3")
) # Legend must be plotted separately
```



```
# ggplot2
ggplot(
  data = meuse,
  aes(
    x = dist,
    y = log_zinc
) +
  geom_point(
    aes(
      col = as.factor(soil) # Simply map variable to colour
    )
  ) +
  theme_bw() +
  labs(
    x = "Distance from river",
    y = "log(zinc concentration)",
    col = "Soil type" # Label legend
  ) +
  theme(
    legend.position = "bottom" # legend placement
```



# Simple modelling of data

Statistical modelling is a huge area and a can of worms, so we won't go too far into it. But here, we will do some linear modelling of data.

Linear models are

- A general case of a few very old methods (T-tests, ANOVA)
- Useful for statistical modelling of general trends
- Very easy to compute
- Make assumptions which can be restrictive

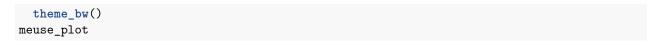
In R, linear models are computed using the 1m function.

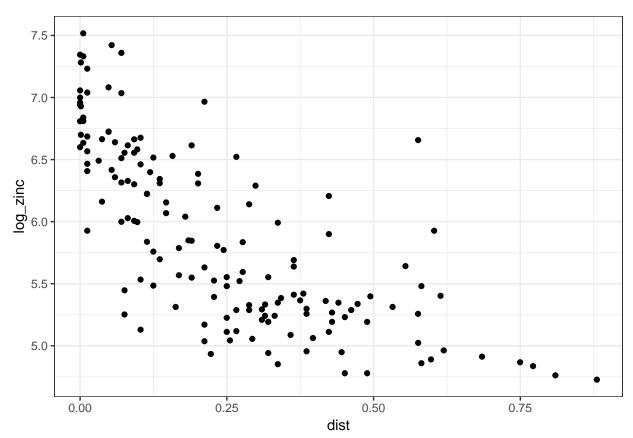
### Running a model

Let's say we are interested in the correlation between log(zinc) concentrations in soil and distance away from the river. We expect it to decrease with distance because zinc is a heavy metal that settles quickly from the water column during floods.

It is usually a good idea to make a plot first, to see whether the relationship is clear.

```
meuse_plot <- ggplot(data = meuse, aes(x = dist, y = log_zinc)) +
   geom_point() +</pre>
```



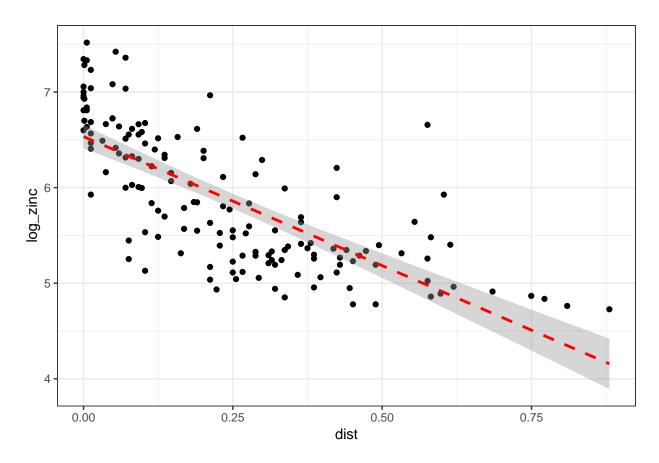


This plot confirms our general ideas. So now we can run a model using this code:

```
model <- lm(
   log_zinc ~ dist, # Formula: y ~ x1 + x2 + x3 + ...
   data = meuse # The data set
)</pre>
```

The model looks like this:

```
meuse_plot +
  geom_smooth(method = lm, lty = 2, col = "red")
```



If we want a statistical summary of our model, we can run the following code. There is a lot going on here and it will be explained in the workshop.

#### summary(model)

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = log_zinc ~ dist, data = meuse)
##
## Residuals:
##
        Min
                  1Q
                      Median
                                   ЗQ
                                           Max
## -1.12573 -0.36442 -0.00161 0.31932 1.67774
##
  Coefficients:
##
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
               6.53380
                          0.06172 105.87
                                            <2e-16 ***
## (Intercept)
                          0.19874 -13.59
## dist
               -2.69991
                                            <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.4876 on 153 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.5468, Adjusted R-squared: 0.5438
## F-statistic: 184.6 on 1 and 153 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

### Model diagnostics

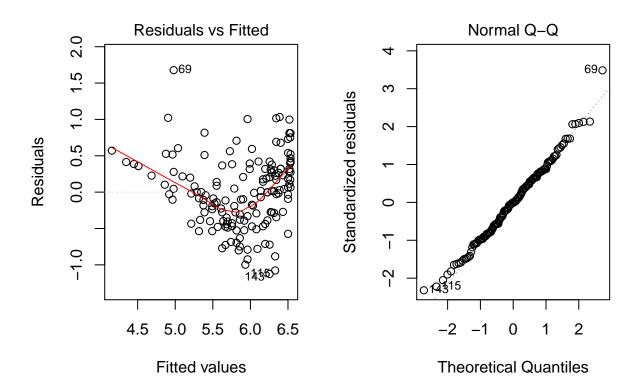
Linear modelling makes a few assumptions, namely that:

- The errors (residuals) are normally distributed
- The errors are homoscedastic

We need to check these to see whether a linear model really is appropriate for our data. This is usually done graphically using a normal qq-plot and a residuals vs fitted plot.

Thankfully, we can get these really easily for our linear models with

```
par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
plot(model, which = 1:2)
```



# Programming elements in R

R is a programming language, so it comes with all the basic programming elements such as loops.

#### Ifs

Sometimes you want code to execute one way if a certain logical condition is true and another if it is not. Here, you need an if statement. In R, these look like

```
x <- runif(1)
x # show what x is</pre>
```

```
## [1] 0.04198193
logical_condition <- x > 0.5
logical_condition # is x greater than .5?

## [1] FALSE
if(logical_condition){
   print("Yee") # executes if true
} else {
   print("Haw") # executes if false
}

## [1] "Haw"
```

### Writing a loop

The most common type of loop is a for loop. In R, they are set up like this:

```
for(i in 1:10){
 print((1:i)^2)
}
## [1] 1
## [1] 1 4
## [1] 1 4 9
## [1]
       1 4 9 16
         4 9 16 25
## [1]
       1
       1 4 9 16 25 36
## [1]
       1 4 9 16 25 36 49
## [1]
       1 4 9 16 25 36 49 64
## [1]
       1 4 9 16 25 36 49 64 81
                9 16 25 36 49 64 81 100
  [1]
         1
```

Pretty simple right? In this case, there's an index i which takes values from 1 through to 10 and in each iteration, we display all the squares of the numbers from 1 through to i.

These can be used to accomplish great things.

#### Writing a function

If we have a process that we need to do repeatedly, we can set up a function; a set of code that accepts some inputs and returns an output after performing a fixed operation.

In R, the anatomy of a function is

```
do_something_useless <- function(x, y, z){
    # This function takes three numbers x, y, z and computes
    # x + y * z^2 - y^2 * z
    return(x + y * z^2 - y^2 * z)
}</pre>
```

Once we define a function, we can use it by writing down its name and giving it its inputs.

```
do_something_useless(1, 2, 3)
```

```
## [1] 7
```

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#### Writing our own cumsum function

Say we want to write a function that takes a vector of numbers and computes the cumulative sum at each element of that vector. This is how we would do it in R:

```
cumsum_ <- function(
  vec # Our vector of numbers
){

# Compute how long the vector is
  number_elements <- length(vec)

# Assign an empty vector to store results
  cumulative_sum <- vector("numeric", number_elements)

# Run a for loop
for(i in 1:number_elements){
    # Assign i'th cumulative sum
    cumulative_sum[i] <- sum(vec[1:i])
}

# Spit out result
  return(cumulative_sum)
}</pre>
```

Now we want to test our function. R has its own inbuilt cumsum so we will check our function's answers against that.

```
# Test 1:
cumsum_(1:3) # our function

## [1] 1 3 6

cumsum(1:3) # inbuilt

## [1] 1 3 6

# Test 2:
cumsum_(c(608, 1, 999))

## [1] 608 609 1608

cumsum(c(608, 1, 999))

## [1] 608 609 1608

# Test 3:
cumsum_(c(-1, 1, 2))

## [1] -1 0 2

cumsum(c(-1, 1, 2))

## [1] -1 0 2
```