Introduction to R for microbial ecologists

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Aim

This document introduces basic R functions that can be used by microbial ecologists.

Prerequisites to be installed

- R studio : https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/#download
- Download and install the following libraries by running under R studio the following lines

```
install.packages("dplyr")  # To manipulate dataframes
install.packages("tidyr")  # To manipulate dataframes
install.packages("readxl")  # To read Excel files into R

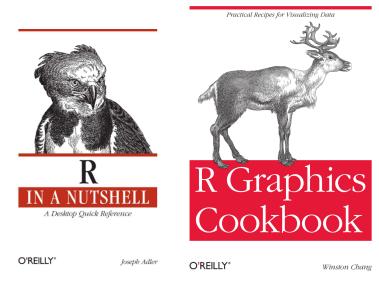
install.packages("ggplot2")  # for high quality graphics
```

```
install.packages("maps")  # to make maps
install.packages("treemap")  # for treemaps
install.packages("FactoMineR") # multivariate analysis

source("https://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
biocLite("Biostrings")  # manipulate sequences
```

Ressources

Books



- R-intro.pdf : Very good introduction to R, short and clear
- R_in_a_nutshell.pdf : Many many receipes to solve all your questions
- R graphics cook book: very good for ggplot2

Web

- Quick-R, very simple : http://www.statmethods.net/
- $\bullet \quad Maps: http://www.molecularecologist.com/2012/09/making-maps-with-r/$

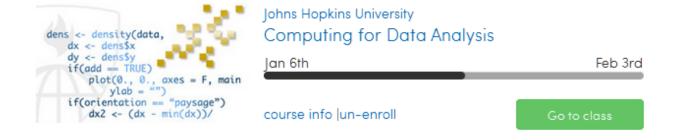


Cheat sheets

- R basics : http://github.com/rstudio/cheatsheets/raw/master/base-r.pdf
- $\bullet \hspace{0.1cm} ggplot 2: \hspace{0.1cm} https://github.com/rstudio/cheatsheets/raw/master/data-visualization-2.1.pdf \\$
- dplyr: https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/data-wrangling-cheatsheet.pdf

On line course

• Coursera: https://www.coursera.org/



Step by step tutorial

Some important points before starting

- R is an interpreted language
- R is case sensitive
- R works with vectors
- Types of variables: character, real, logical, factor
- Special values : TRUE, FALSE, NA
- Types of structures: vector, matrix, list, data frame
- Directory names use the linux convention: use / and not

Start R Studio

Go to the directory where you put the tutorial.

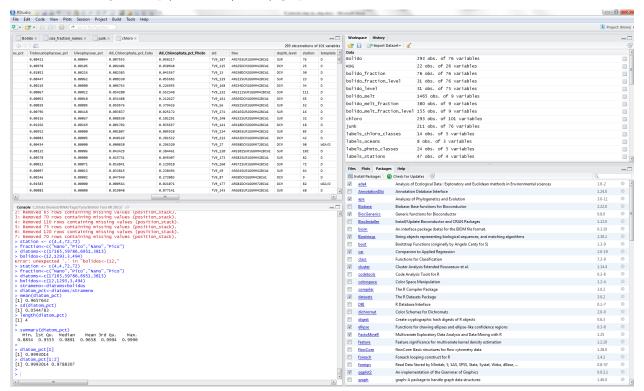
Launch R Studio

Four windows

• top-left : script files / data tables

bottom -left: codetop - left : objects

• bottom - right : help / libraries / files / graphics



Load necessary libraries

```
library("dplyr")  # Needed to filter tables
library("tidyr")  # Needed to reshape tables from wide to long format
library("readxl")  # To read data easily
```

1 - Create simple vectors and data frame

Enter the data

Our aim here to create a small table and then to compute some simple statistics

station	fraction	diatoms	bolidos
4	Nano	17165	2
4	Pico	59786	1293
72	Nano	6951	3
72	Pico	3815	494

```
# We enter each column as a vector
station \leftarrow c("4","4","72","72")
fraction<-c("Nano","Pico","Nano","Pico")</pre>
diatoms<-c(17165,59786,6951,3815)
bolidos < -c(2,1293,3,494)
```

Compute new quantities

```
# Add 2 columns
strameno<-diatoms+bolidos
strameno
## [1] 17167 61079 6954 4309
# Divide one column by the other
diatoms_pct<-diatoms/strameno
diatoms_pct
## [1] 0.9998835 0.9788307 0.9995686 0.8853562
```

Min. 1st Qu. Median

```
Compute statistics
# mean
mean(diatoms_pct)
## [1] 0.9659098
# standard deviation
sd(diatoms_pct)
## [1] 0.05459839
# number of observations
length(diatoms_pct)
## [1] 4
# quick summary
summary(diatoms_pct)
```

Max.

Mean 3rd Qu.

0.8854 0.9555 0.9892 0.9659 0.9996 0.9999

Accessing subsets

```
diatoms_pct[1]
## [1] 0.9998835
diatoms_pct[1:2]
## [1] 0.9998835 0.9788307
```

Data frames

```
tara<-data.frame(station, fraction, diatoms, bolidos, diatoms_pct)
tara</pre>
```

```
##
     station fraction diatoms bolidos diatoms_pct
## 1
          4
                Nano
                                        0.9998835
                        17165
                                    2
## 2
           4
                Pico
                        59786
                                 1293
                                        0.9788307
## 3
         72
                 Nano
                         6951
                                  3
                                        0.9995686
## 4
          72
                 Pico
                         3815
                                  494
                                        0.8853562
```

Access individual columns

```
tara$diatoms
```

```
## [1] 17165 59786 6951 3815
```

Access specific lines

```
tara$diatoms[tara$station==4]
```

```
## [1] 17165 59786
```

Compute statistics of a specific group

```
mean(tara$diatoms[tara$station==4])
```

```
## [1] 38475.5
```

Computing statistics according to a factor

This can be done at least two different ways, but you will see later that it is much easier to do with the dplyr package

```
# Using the tapply function
tapply(tara$diatoms, tara$station, mean)

## 4 72
## 38475.5 5383.0

# Using the aggregate functions
aggregate(data=tara, diatoms~station, FUN="mean")
```

```
## station diatoms
## 1 4 38475.5
## 2 72 5383.0
```

2 - Importing data

4	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	н	1	J	К	L	М	N	0
1	Sample	Bacillariophyta	Bolidophyceae	Chrysophyceae	Dictyochophyceae	Pelagophyceae	Phaeophyceae	Pinguiophyceae	Raphidophyceae	Strameno_all	Photo_all	depth_le	v station	template	fraction
2	TV9_237	17165	12	26	155	233	0	11		17602	22708	DCM		4 WGA/D	5-20
3	TV9_234	6159	42	223	487	138	12	2	0	7063	8817	SUR		4 D	5-20
4	TV9_254	59786	1293	8758	21967	73474	1835	19	0	167132	427846	DCM		4 D	0.8-5
5	TV9_235	4689	1036	7494	21293	4774	526	40	0	39852	93006	SUR		4 D	0.8-5
6	TV9_236	6280	2	21	14	13	0	6	C	6336	8976	DCM		4 WGA/D	180-2000
7	TV9_233	1000	188	670	1026	722	11	5	i o	3622	5392	SUR		4 D	180-2000
8	TV9_20	12517	24	296	265	40	12	50	18	13222	14299	DCM		7 WGA/D	5-20
9	TV9_16	64721	163	593	1658	31	25	229	21	67441	70406	SUR		7 WGA/D	5-20
10	TV9_21	8126	2991	10069	19440	1687	382	20	48	42763	81891	DCM		7 D	0.8-5
11	TV9_17	13584	2261	25834	48876	871	2738	32	23	94219	144725	SUR		7 D	0.8-5
12	TV9_19	661	0	14	13	41	1	4	0	734	892	DCM		7 D	180-2000
13	TV9_15	227	0	5	2	4	0	5		243	342	SUR		7 D	180-2000
14	TV9_22	10354	58	226	510	54	5	40	1	11248	12400	DCM		7 D	20-180
15	TV9_18	10192	1	51	33	19	3	117	0	10416	11464	SUR		7 D	20-180
16	TV9_265	46	0	4	11	7	0	3	0	71	85	DCM		9 WGA/D	5-20
17	TV9_266	53108	866	4821	5586	2591	142	2429	0	69543	104023	SUR		9 WGA/D	5-20
18	TV9_87	17753	265	3870	15548	37127	1478	1	. 16	76058	180809	DCM		9 D	0.8-5
19	TV9_85	7466	2242	18754	39977	970	4516	90	56	74071	159650	SUR		9 D	0.8-5
20	TV9_86	32	0	2	4	16	0	0	0	54	383	DCM		9 D	180-2000
21	TV9_84	2262	65	816	2460	3914	276	4	1	9798	23658	SUR		9 D	180-2000
22	TV9_268	617858	0	1147	0	1	0	521		619527	625534	SUR		11 WGA/D	5-20
23	TV9_267	23786	490	5509	8066	1785	898	151		40685	67697	SUR		11 D	0.8-5
24	TV9_270	655	11	404	920	865	118	1	. 1	2975	6012	SUR		11 D	180-2000
25	TV9_269	560	13	106	154	37	16	5	0	891	1477	SUR		l1 D	20-180

A few important points:

- Your data must be formatted in a clean table form
 - No blank line
 - Each column must contain data of the same type (e.g. dates)
 - Missing data can be represented by empty cells
 - Each line must contain data in ALL columns
- Column titles (the first line)
 - No space (use __)
 - Always begin by letter (not a number)
- Only import primary data, all derived data can (and must) be computed with R which makes data changes much more easy

The hard way - exporting from Excel to a tab-delimited file

- Open Excel file in /data directory : R_Tara.xlsx
- Copy and Paste into text file using Notepad++
- Save as R_Tara.txt

Note: you can also export from Excel but then it must be TAB-delimited (tsv file)

```
tara <- read.delim("data/R_Tara.txt")</pre>
```

Get the name and type of all the columns - Note that strings are of type "factor" Note that empty cells are labelled as $\mathbf{N}\mathbf{A}$ (not available) which is a R constant

```
str(tara)
```

```
## 'data.frame':
                   293 obs. of 28 variables:
##
   $ Sample
                     : Factor w/ 293 levels "TV9_1", "TV9_10",..: 124 121 141 122 123 120 93 58 101 68
  $ Bacillariophyta : int
                            17165 6159 59786 4689 6280 1000 12517 64721 8126 13584 ...
   $ Bolidophyceae
##
                     : int
                            12 42 1293 1036 2 188 24 163 2991 2261 ...
   $ Chrysophyceae
                     : int
                             26 223 8758 7494 21 670 296 593 10069 25834 ...
##
  $ Dictyochophyceae: int
##
                            155 487 21967 21293 14 1026 265 1658 19440 48876 ...
  $ Pelagophyceae
                     : int
                            233 138 73474 4774 13 722 40 31 1687 871 ...
## $ Phaeophyceae
                      : int
                            0 12 1835 526 0 11 12 25 382 2738 ...
   $ Pinguiophyceae : int
                            11 2 19 40 6 5 50 229 20 32 ...
## $ Raphidophyceae : int
                            0 0 0 0 0 0 18 21 48 23 ...
## $ Strameno_all
                      : int 17602 7063 167132 39852 6336 3622 13222 67441 42763 94219 ...
```

```
## $ Photo all
                     : int 22708 8817 427846 93006 8976 5392 14299 70406 81891 144725 ...
## $ depth_level
                     : Factor w/ 2 levels "DCM", "SUR": 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 ...
                     : int 4444447777...
## $ station
                     : Factor w/ 2 levels "D", "WGA/D": 2 1 1 1 2 1 2 2 1 1 ...
## $ template
## $ fraction
                     : Factor w/ 4 levels "0.8-5", "180-2000", ...: 4 4 1 1 2 2 4 4 1 1 ...
## $ ntags
                     : int 1796545 2128487 2122955 976685 1857697 3150580 2549282 1606212 1625284 133
                     : Factor w/ 10 levels "apr", "aug", "dec", ...: 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 ...
## $ Month
## $ Latitude
                     : num
                            36.6 36.6 36.6 36.6 ...
                            -6.57 -6.57 -6.57 -6.57 ...
##
   $ Longitude
                     : num
## $ sampling_depth : num
                            40 3 40 3 40 3 42 3 42 3 ...
## $ date
                     : Factor w/ 77 levels "01-Aug-2011 20:13:34",..: 44 44 44 44 44 44 65 64 65 64 ...
## $ chloro_hplc
                            NA 0.0984 NA 0.0984 NA ...
                     : num
## $ tara_NO2
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA NA 0.005 0.076 0.005 0.076 ...
## $ tara_P04
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA NA O.026 0.041 0.026 0.041 ...
## $ NO2NO3
                            NA NA NA NA NA NA O.4 O.23 O.4 O.23 ...
                     : num
## $ tara_SI
                            NA NA NA NA NA NA O.652 O.998 O.652 O.998 ...
                     : num
## $ tara_temp
                     : num NA NA NA NA ...
## $ tara_salinity
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA ...
The easy way - Read directly Excel (readxl library)
tara <- read_excel("data/R_Tara.xlsx", sheet = "R Tara")</pre>
Get the name and type of all the columns - Note that strings are now of type "char", which is better
str(tara)
                                               293 obs. of 28 variables:
```

```
## Classes 'tbl_df', 'tbl' and 'data.frame':
                    : chr "TV9_237" "TV9_234" "TV9_254" "TV9_235" ...
   $ Sample
## $ Bacillariophyta : num 17165 6159 59786 4689 6280 ...
## $ Bolidophyceae
                    : num
                           12 42 1293 1036 2 ...
## $ Chrysophyceae
                     : num
                           26 223 8758 7494 21 ...
## $ Dictyochophyceae: num 155 487 21967 21293 14 ...
## $ Pelagophyceae
                    : num
                           233 138 73474 4774 13 ...
## $ Phaeophyceae
                     : num
                           0 12 1835 526 0 ...
## $ Pinguiophyceae : num 11 2 19 40 6 5 50 229 20 32 ...
## $ Raphidophyceae : num 0 0 0 0 0 18 21 48 23 ...
## $ Strameno_all
                     : num 17602 7063 167132 39852 6336 ...
## $ Photo_all
                           22708 8817 427846 93006 8976 ...
                     : num
                     : chr
                           "DCM" "SUR" "DCM" "SUR" ...
## $ depth_level
## $ station
                     : num 4444447777...
                     : chr
                           "WGA/D" "D" "D" "D" ...
## $ template
                     : chr
                            "5-20" "5-20" "0.8-5" "0.8-5" ...
## $ fraction
## $ ntags
                     : num
                           1796545 2128487 2122955 976685 1857697 ...
## $ Month
                    : chr "sep" "sep" "sep" "sep" ...
## $ Latitude
                           36.6 36.6 36.6 36.6 36.6 ...
                     : num
                     : num
## $ Longitude
                           -6.57 -6.57 -6.57 -6.57 ...
## $ sampling_depth : num 40 3 40 3 40 3 42 3 42 3 ...
                           "15-Sep-2009 16:45:02" "15-Sep-2009 16:45:02" "15-Sep-2009 16:45:02" "15-S
## $ date
                     : chr
## $ chloro_hplc
                     : num NA 0.0984 NA 0.0984 NA ...
## $ tara_NO2
                     : num NA NA NA NA ...
## $ tara_P04
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ NO2NO3
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ tara_SI
                     : num NA NA NA NA ...
                     : num NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ tara_temp
```

\$ tara_salinity : num NA NA NA NA NA ...

3 - Compute derived quantities and Statistics (using dplyr library)

Compute % of Bacilliar ophyta and Pelagophyceae vs Total photosynthetic

Mean and SD as a function of size fraction and depth_level

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 5
## # Groups: fraction [?]
     fraction depth_level Baci_pct_mean Baci_pct_SD
##
     <chr>>
              <chr>>
                                   <dbl>
                                                <dbl> <int>
## 1 0.8-5
              DCM
                                    14.5
                                                 15.6
                                                         33
## 2 0.8-5
              SUR
                                    12.5
                                                 15.0
                                                         40
## 3 180-2000 DCM
                                    59.0
                                                 30.2
                                                         31
## 4 180-2000 SUR
                                    53.7
                                                 29.9
                                                         45
## 5 20-180
              DCM
                                    84.7
                                                 20.6
                                                         28
## 6 20-180
              SUR
                                    81.7
                                                 19.6
                                                         42
## 7 5-20
              DCM
                                    73.8
                                                 26.5
                                                         33
## 8 5-20
              SUR
                                                 27.7
                                    74.6
                                                         41
```

4 - Do simple X-Y plots (using ggplot2 library)

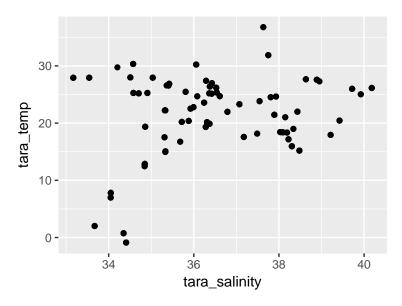
Load the ggplot2 library

library("ggplot2") # To do graphics

X vs Y

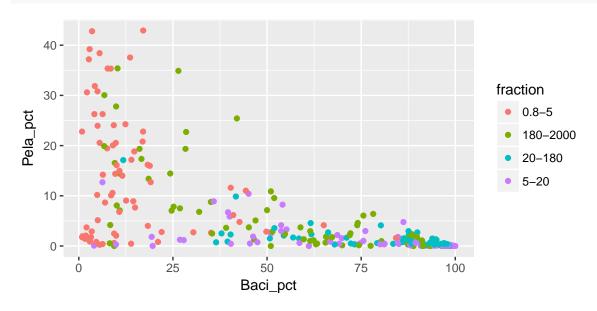
qplot(tara_salinity,tara_temp, data=tara)

Warning: Removed 32 rows containing missing values (geom_point).

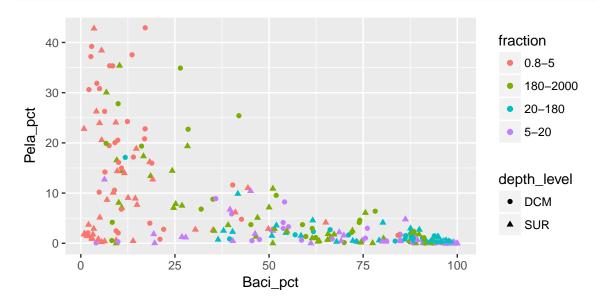


X vs Y with variation in color of points with size fraction

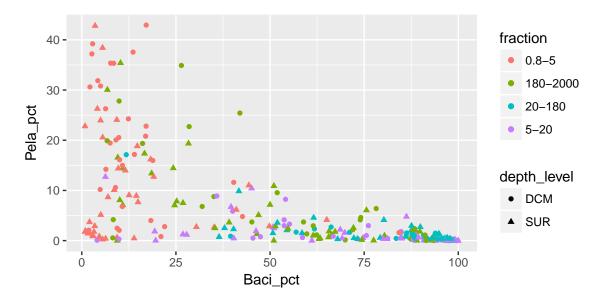
qplot(Baci_pct,Pela_pct, data=tara,color=fraction)



X vs Y with variation in color of points with size fraction and shape with depth level qplot(Baci_pct,Pela_pct, data=tara, color=fraction, shape=depth_level)



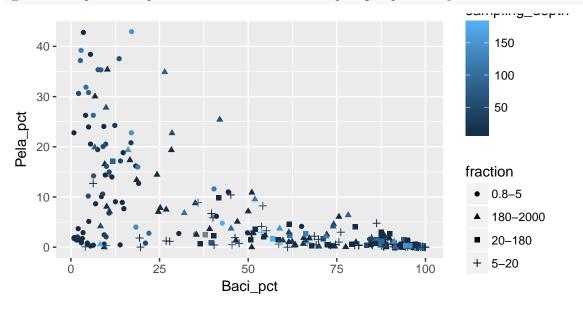
X vs Y with variation in color of points with size fraction and shape with depth level qplot(Baci_pct,Pela_pct, data=tara,color=fraction, shape=depth_level)



X vs Y with variation sampling_depth for color of points and shape with with size fraction.

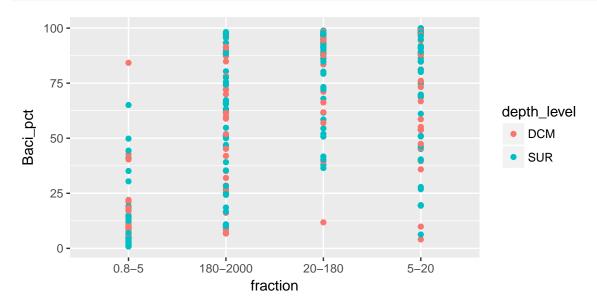
Note that sampling_depth is a continuous variable





Categorical data vs y with variation in color of points with depth level

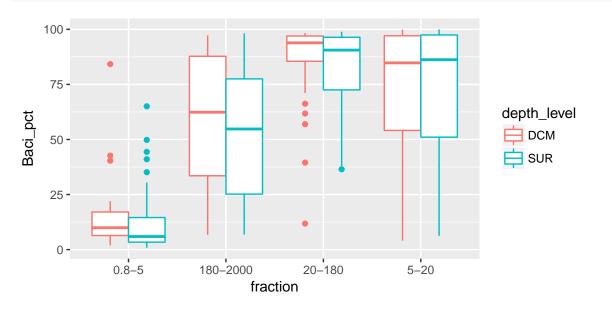
qplot(fraction,Baci_pct, data=tara, color=depth_level)



5 - Other types of plots

Boxplot for the same data

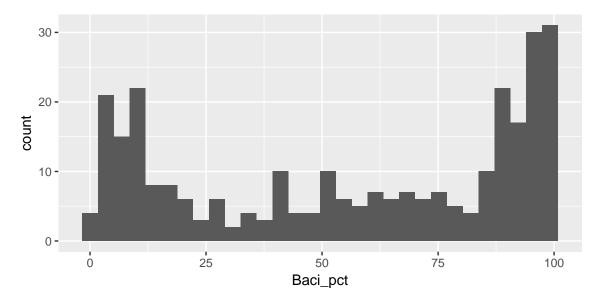
qplot(fraction,Baci_pct, data=tara, color=depth_level, geom="boxplot")



Histogram for all the data

qplot(Baci_pct, data=tara, geom="histogram")

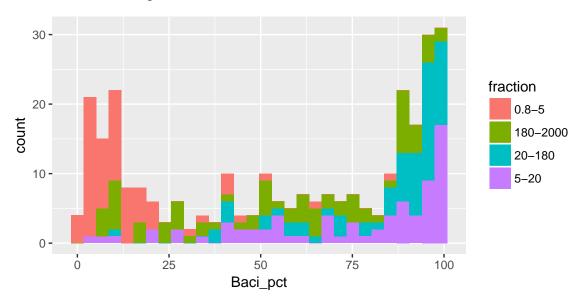
`stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



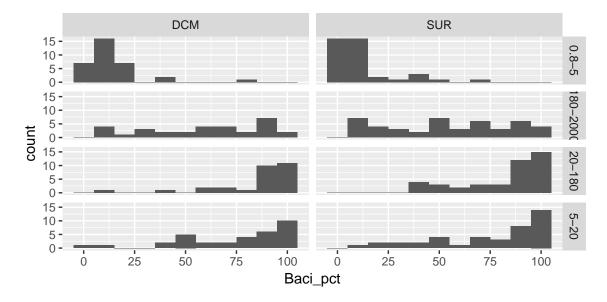
Histogram with different color for each size fraction

qplot(Baci_pct, data=tara, fill=fraction, geom="histogram")

`stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.

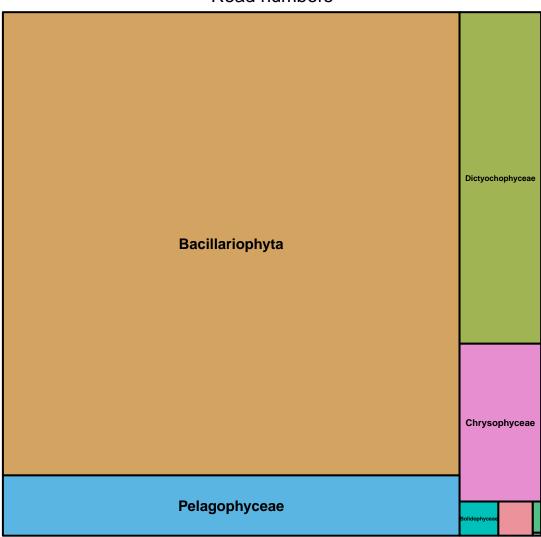


Histogram with different graphs (facets) for each size fraction and depth and change bin width qplot(Baci_pct, data=tara, facets=fraction~depth_level, geom="histogram",binwidth=10)



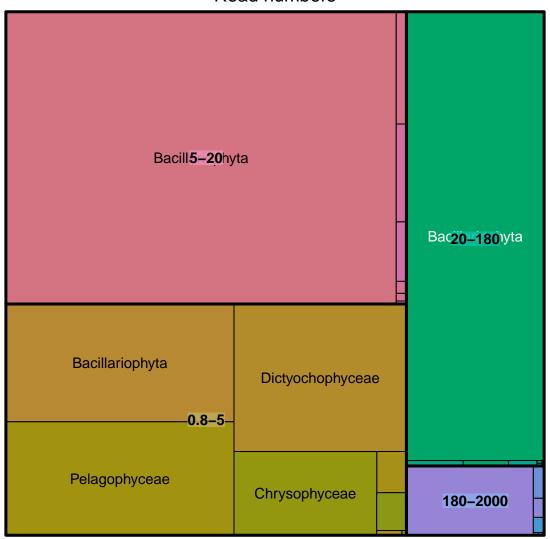
6 - Tree maps (much better than Pie charts...)

Read numbers



```
treemap(tara_tree, index = c("fraction", "Class"), vSize= "n_seq", title = "Read numbers")
```

Read numbers



7 - Bar graphs

Absolute abundance

Only keep surface samples

```
tara_bar <- tara_tree %>% filter((depth_level=="SUR")&(fraction=="0.8-5"))

Do the bar plot for absolute read numbers

* Note: rotation of labels: theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))

ggplot(tara_bar, aes(x = Sample , y = n_seq, fill=Class)) +

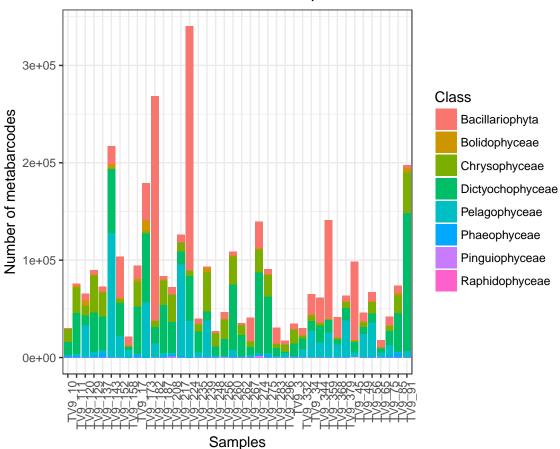
geom_bar(stat = "identity") +

theme_bw() + ggtitle("Tara - Surface - Fraction 0.8-5 µm") +

xlab("Samples")+ylab("Number of metabarcodes") +

theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))
```

Tara - Surface - Fraction 0.8-5 µm



Relative abundance

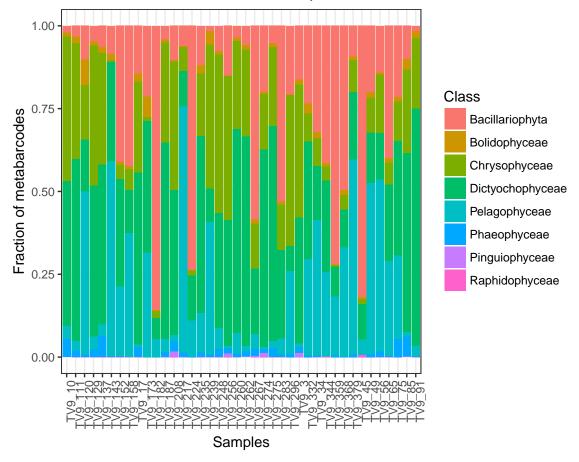
Compute the relative abundance of each sequence by dividing by the total number of barcodes

```
tara_bar <- tara_bar %>% mutate(n_seq_rel = n_seq / Strameno_all)
```

Do the bar plot for relative read numbers

```
ggplot(tara_bar, aes(x = Sample , y = n_seq_rel, fill=Class)) +
geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
theme_bw() + ggtitle("Tara - Surface - Fraction 0.8-5 µm") +
xlab("Samples")+ ylab("Fraction of metabarcodes") +
theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))
```

Tara - Surface - Fraction 0.8-5 µm



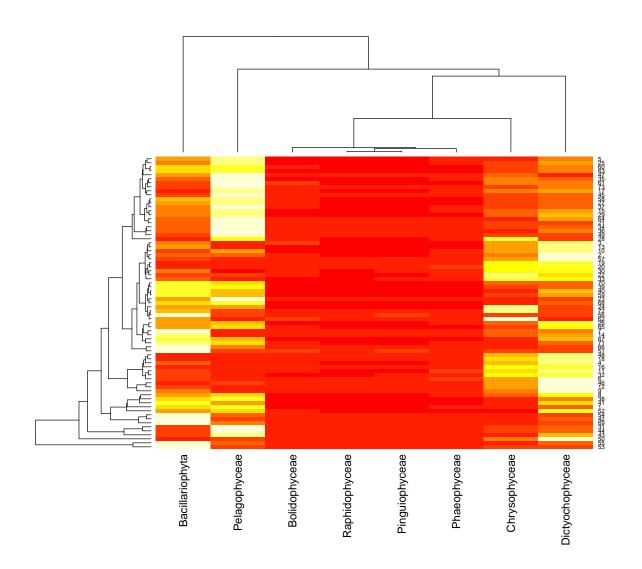
8 - Heat maps

Note: for metabarcoding data use phyloseq package.

Select the fraction and columns (from Bacillariophyta to Raphidophyceae) to be plotted and transform to a matrix

Draw heatmap

```
heatmap(tara_heat.matrix, margins = c(20,6) )
```



9 - Multivariate analysis (FactoMiner package)

```
library("FactoMineR")  # For PCA

Principal component analysis (PCA)

# Select only the 0.8-5 µm fraction and only the colums with phytplankon data and metadata tara_multi<- tara %>% filter(fraction=="0.8-5")

# Define row names as "Station_Depth level" (points with be labelled by row names)
row.names(tara_multi)<-paste(tara_multi$station,tara_multi$depth_level,sep="_")

## Warning: Setting row names on a tibble is deprecated.

# Select only with phytoplankon data and metadata tara_multi<- tara_multi %>% select(Bacillariophyta:Raphidophyceae, chloro_hplc:tara_salinity)

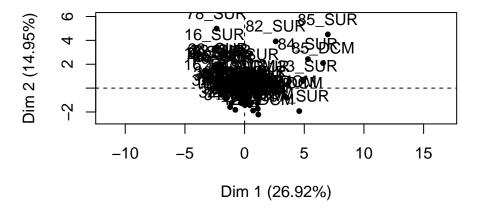
# Scale the matrix
tara_multi<- scale(tara_multi)

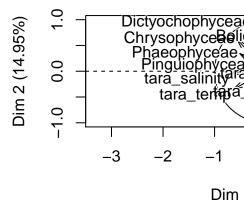
# Do the PCA
tara_pca<-PCA(tara_multi): Missing values are imputed by the mean of the
```

variable: you should use the imputePCA function of the missMDA package

Individuals factor map (PCA)

Variables fa





10 - Maps

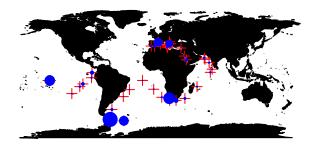
```
library("maps") # Maps
```

Select only surface and small fraction

```
tara_map <-tara %>% filter((fraction=="0.8-5")&(depth_level=="SUR"))
```

Draw the world map and add the stations

Bacilliorophyta as % of Photosynthetic – 0.8–5 µm – surface



11 - Manipulate sequences

In BioConductor there are many packages that can process sequences either GenBank or short reads

```
library("Biostrings") # To manipulate sequences
```

Read sequences from metagenome (454)

```
seq<-readDNAStringSet("data/BIOSOPE_T142_reads_random.fasta", format="fasta")</pre>
```

Compute length of sequence (discard N), compute statistics and plot histogram

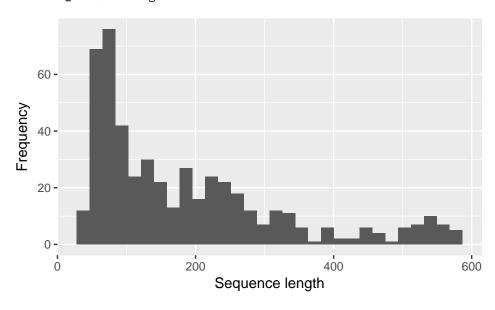
```
Length_seq<-letterFrequency(seq, letters="ATCG")
range(Length_seq)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 41 581
mean(Length_seq)
```

```
## [1] 185.89
```

```
qplot(Length_seq, geom="histogram", xlab="Sequence length", ylab="Frequency")
```

`stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



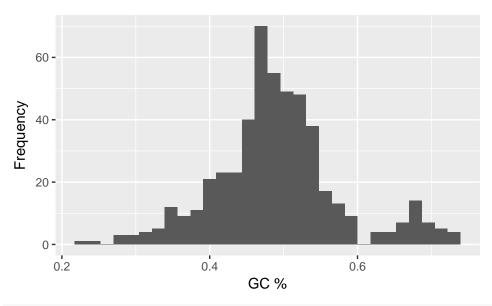
Compute GC% and do simple plots

```
# Compute number of "GC"
GC_seq <- letterFrequency(seq, letters="CG")

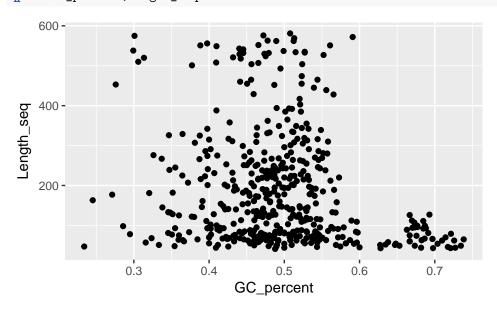
# Compute GC % in sequence
GC_percent <- GC_seq/Length_seq

# Do histogram
qplot(GC_percent, geom="histogram", xlab="GC %", ylab="Frequency")</pre>
```

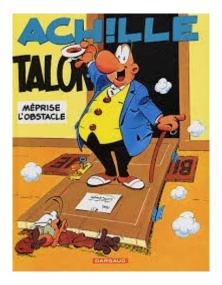
`stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



Plot GC % vs Length of sequence
qplot(GC_percent,Length_seq)



Exercice : Load sequence from Bathycoccus and compare GC% to that of the whole metagenome
seq <- readDNAStringSet("data/BIOSOPE_T142_reads_Bathy.fasta", format="fasta")</pre>



Your turn now. These are just a few of the things you can do, possibilities are endless...