

Getting to use data in R

Alexandre Courtiol & Colin Vulllioud

Leibniz Institute of Zoo and Wildlife Research

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Getting started with R

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
- 3 Matrices and arrays
- 4 Data frames and tibbles
- 5 List
- 6 Importing & exporting data

Handling data in R

There are many types of objects designed to store data in R.

We will focus on:

- vectors
- matrices (and arrays)
- data frames (and tibbles)
- list

Note: if you master those, we are pretty much all set!

Handling data in R

- vector
 - A single row of data
 - All elements have the same type (e.g. numeric, factor, character...)
- matrix & array
 - All rows & columns have same length
 - All rows & columns have the same type (numeric or character)
- data.frame & tibble
 - All rows & columns have same length
 - Each column can have its own type (numeric, factor, character...)
- list
 - Each element can have its own length
 - Each element can have its own type (e.g. numeric, factor, character...)

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- 5 List
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Vector

The vector is the simplest way to store data in **R**; it is a sequence of data elements of the same kind.

- Vectors allow the organisation of entities (e.g. numbers, characters. . .) along one dimension which can be indexed:

```
height.girls <- c(178, 175, 159, 164, 183, 192)
height.boys <- c(181, 189, 174, 177)
```

```
height.girls[2]
## [1] 175

height.boys[3]
## [1] 174
```

Vector

- They can be combined:

```
(height <- c(height.boys, height.girls))  
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 159 164 183 192
```

Vector continued

- They can be indexed logically (i.e. indexed by anything leading to a vector of booleans):

```
(height > 168)
## [1] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE TRUE
## [10] TRUE
```

```
height[height > 168]
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 183 192

height[!(height == min(height))]
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 164 183 192

height[height != min(height)]
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 164 183 192
```


Types of vectors

- character

```
x <- c("bla", "1", "sf", "xx3")
str(x)

## chr [1:4] "bla" "1" "sf" "xx3"
```

- factor

```
x <- as.factor(c("bla", "1", "sf", "xx3"))
str(x)

## Factor w/ 4 levels "1","bla","sf",...: 2 1 3 4
```

- logical

```
x <- c(TRUE, FALSE, T, F)
str(x)

## logi [1:4] TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE
```

- Dates

```
x <- c(as.Date("1999-01-12"), lubridate::ymd("1999-03-12"))
str(x)

## Date[1:2], format: "1999-01-12" "1999-03-12"
```

cool stuff with dates

- Dates object

```
x  
## [1] "1999-01-12" "1999-03-12"
```

- compute differences

```
x[1] - x[2]  
## Time difference of -59 days  
as.numeric(x[1] - x[2])  
## [1] -59
```

- logical

```
x[1] > x[2]  
## [1] FALSE  
x[x > as.Date("1999-02-12")]  
## [1] "1999-03-12"
```

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
 - Factors
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 - what is a data frame
 - dplyr
 - tidyr
- 5 List
- 6 Importing & exporting data

Factors

- They work with other things than numbers:

```
sex <- c("girl","girl","girl","girl","girl", "girl",  
"boy","boy","boy","boy")  
sex <- factor(sex)  
sex  
  
## [1] girl girl girl girl girl girl boy boy boy boy  
## Levels: boy girl
```

```
# Or  
sex <- factor(c(rep("girl", times = 6),  
                rep("boy", times = 4)))  
  
# Or  
sex <- factor(c(rep("girl", times = length(height.girls)),  
                rep("boy", times = length(height.boys))))
```

Changing the order of levels of a factor

You have:

```
my_factor1  
## [1] A A B B C  
## Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
my_factor2  
## [1] A A B B C  
## Levels: C B A
```

Changing the order of levels of a factor

You have:

```
my_factor1
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
my_factor2
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: C B A
```

You do:

```
## Using base:
my_factor2 <- factor(my_factor1, levels(my_factor1)[c(3, 2, 1)])
my_factor2
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: C B A
```

Changing the order of levels of a factor

You have:

```
my_factor1
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
my_factor2
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: C B A
```

You do:

```
## Using base:
my_factor2 <- factor(my_factor1, levels(my_factor1)[c(3, 2, 1)])
my_factor2
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: C B A
```

Note: the order of levels influences the output of linear models and plotting functions (e.g. order in the legend of a ggplot) ...

Changing the levels of a factor

You have:

```
my_factor1
## [1] A A B B C
## Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
my_factor2
## [1] A A A A D
## Levels: A D
```

You do:

```
## Using base:
levels(my_factor1)
## [1] "A" "B" "C"
my_factor2 <- my_factor1
levels(my_factor2) <- c("A", "A", "D") ## in same order!
my_factor2
## [1] A A A A D
## Levels: A D
```

```
## Using dplyr:
my_factor2 <- recode(my_factor1, A = "A", B = "A", C = "D")
my_factor2
## [1] A A A A D
## Levels: A D
```


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- 3 Matrices and arrays**
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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
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 - **what is a data frame**
 - dplyr
 - tidyr
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Data frames

Data frames allow the organisation of entities as a matrix-like structure whose columns have the same length:

```
dataframe.ht <- data.frame(Height = height, Sex = sex)
dataframe.ht
##      Height Sex
## 1      181 girl
## 2      189 girl
## 3      174 girl
## 4      177 girl
## 5      178 girl
## 6      175 girl
## 7      159 boy
## 8      164 boy
## 9      183 boy
## 10     192 boy
```

Data frames

It is good practice to always check their structure:

```
str(dataframe.ht)

## 'data.frame': 10 obs. of  2 variables:
##  $ Height: num  181 189 174 177 178 175 159 164 183 192
##  $ Sex    : Factor w/ 2 levels "boy","girl": 2 2 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 1
```

Data frames

You access the columns by means of the extractor `$`

```
height
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 159 164 183 192

rm(list = c("height", "sex")) # removing original vectors
height
## Error in eval(expr, envir, enclos): object 'height' not found
dataframe.ht$Height #Or: with(data = dataframe.ht, Height)
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 159 164 183 192
```

⇒ What is the average height?

Data frames

Some functions can take a data frame as an input:

```
summary(dataframe.ht)
##      Height      Sex
## Min.   :159.0   boy :4
## 1st Qu.:174.2   girl:6
## Median :177.5
## Mean   :177.2
## 3rd Qu.:182.5
## Max.   :192.0
```

Note: this will be the case of a lot of functions performing statistical tests!

Data frames

How to compute the average height per sex?

- simple

```
mean(dataframe.ht$Height[dataframe.ht$Sex == "boy"])  
## [1] 174.5
```

- more elegant

```
tapply(X = dataframe.ht$Height, INDEX = dataframe.ht$Sex,  
       FUN = mean)  
  
##   boy  girl  
## 174.5 179.0  
  
# Or: with(data = dataframe.ht, tapply(X = Height,  
#   INDEX = Sex, FUN = mean))
```

- even more elegant but dangerous

```
library(dplyr)  
dataframe.ht %>% group_by(Sex) %>% summarize(mean = mean(Height)) ## be aware of the rounding  
  
## # A tibble: 2 x 2  
##   Sex    mean  
##   <fct> <dbl>  
## 1 boy    174.  
## 2 girl   179
```


Data frames

They can also be indexed:

```
dataframe.ht[1, ]  
##   Height Sex  
## 1    181 girl  
dataframe.ht[, 1] # Or: dataframe.ht[, "Sex"]  
## [1] 181 189 174 177 178 175 159 164 183 192
```

Data frames

They can be edited:

```
dataframe.ht[1, 1]
## [1] 181

dataframe.ht[1, 1] <- 171.3
dataframe.ht[1, 1]
## [1] 171.3

dataframe.ht$linenumber <- 1:nrow(dataframe.ht) # add column
ncol(dataframe.ht) # try dim()
## [1] 3

dataframe.ht$linenumber <- NULL # remove column
ncol(dataframe.ht)
## [1] 2
```

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 - Factors
- 3 Matrices and arrays
- 4 Data frames and tibbles
 - what is a data frame
 - **dplyr**
 - tidy
- 5 List
- 6 Importing & exporting data

dplyr

- dplyr is a useful package for data manipulation

dplyr

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- `dplyr` is a grammar of data manipulation: one verb = one operation

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- operations can be chained with the pipe operator `%>%`

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- dplyr is a useful package for data manipulation
- dplyr is a grammar of data manipulation: one verb = one operation
- operations can be chained with the pipe operator `%>%`
- the pipe operator `%>%` takes the output from one function as input of another function.

Data frames

Useful dplyr verbs

add column with mutate()

```
dataframe.ht <- dataframe.ht %>% mutate(ID = 1:nrow(dataframe.ht))  
head(dataframe.ht, n= 3)
```

```
##   Height Sex ID  
## 1  171.3 girl 1  
## 2  189.0 girl 2  
## 3  174.0 girl 3
```


Data frames

Useful dplyr verbs

add column with mutate()

```
dataframe.ht <- dataframe.ht %>% mutate(ID = 1:nrow(dataframe.ht))
head(dataframe.ht, n= 3)

##   Height Sex ID
## 1  171.3 girl 1
## 2  189.0 girl 2
## 3  174.0 girl 3
```

select columns with select()

```
dataframe.ht.sex <- dataframe.ht %>% select(Sex)
head(dataframe.ht.sex, n= 3)

##   Sex
## 1 girl
## 2 girl
## 3 girl
```

Data frames

Useful dplyr verbs

add column with mutate()

```
dataframe.ht <- dataframe.ht %>% mutate(ID = 1:nrow(dataframe.ht))
head(dataframe.ht, n= 3)

##   Height Sex ID
## 1  171.3 girl 1
## 2  189.0 girl 2
## 3  174.0 girl 3
```

select columns with select()

```
dataframe.ht.sex <- dataframe.ht %>% select(Sex)
head(dataframe.ht.sex, n= 3)

##   Sex
## 1 girl
## 2 girl
## 3 girl
```

select rows with filter()

```
dataframe.ht.female <- dataframe.ht %>% filter(Sex == "girl")
head(dataframe.ht.female, n= 3)

##   Height Sex ID
## 1  171.3 girl 1
## 2  189.0 girl 2
## 3  174.0 girl 3
```

mutate_if()

you want to change all numeric variables into character variables

you have:

```
## 'data.frame': 10 obs. of 6 variables:
## $ Height : num 171 189 174 177 178 ...
## $ Sex : chr "girl" "girl" "girl" "girl" ...
## $ ID : int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
## $ mean_H : num 177 177 177 177 177 ...
## $ median_H: num 176 176 176 176 176 ...
## $ n : int 6 6 6 6 6 6 4 4 4 4
```

you want

```
## 'data.frame': 10 obs. of 6 variables:
## $ Height : chr "171.3" "189" "174" "177" ...
## $ Sex : chr "girl" "girl" "girl" "girl" ...
## $ ID : chr "1" "2" "3" "4" ...
## $ mean_H : chr "177.38" "177.38" "177.38" "177.38" ...
## $ median_H: chr "176" "176" "176" "176" ...
## $ n : chr "6" "6" "6" "6" ...
```

you do:

```
x_numeric <- x %>% mutate_if(is.numeric, ~ as.character())
```

group_by()

- `group_by()` allow you to perform operation on grouped data.

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- it is mostly used with `summarize()` -> one value per group

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- `group_by()` allow you to perform operation on grouped data.
- it is mostly used with `summarize()` -> one value per group
- or with `mutate()` -> one value per observation

group_by() with summarize()

You want the mean height of males and females, the median height and the number in each group:

you do:

```
x <- dataframe.ht %>%  
  group_by(Sex) %>%  
  summarize(mean_H = mean(Height, na.rm = T),  
            median_H = median(Height, na.rm = T),  
            n = n())
```

you get:

```
as.data.frame(x)  
##      Sex  mean_H median_H n  
## 1  boy 174.5000   173.5 4  
## 2 girl 177.3833   176.0 6
```

group_by() with mutate()

You want the mean height of males and females, the median height and the number in each group but get the value for each individual

you do:

```
x <- dataframe.ht %>%  
  group_by(Sex) %>%  
  mutate(mean_H = mean(Height, na.rm = T),  
         median_H = median(Height, na.rm = T),  
         n = n())
```

you get:

```
as.data.frame(x)
```

	Height	Sex	ID	mean_H	median_H	n
## 1	171.3	girl	1	177.3833	176.0	6
## 2	189.0	girl	2	177.3833	176.0	6
## 3	174.0	girl	3	177.3833	176.0	6
## 4	177.0	girl	4	177.3833	176.0	6
## 5	178.0	girl	5	177.3833	176.0	6
## 6	175.0	girl	6	177.3833	176.0	6
## 7	159.0	boy	7	174.5000	173.5	4
## 8	164.0	boy	8	174.5000	173.5	4
## 9	183.0	boy	9	174.5000	173.5	4
## 10	192.0	boy	10	174.5000	173.5	4

joining data frame

you have df1:

```
my_df1
##      ID      age
## 1  ID-1 12.49418
## 2  ID-2 15.73457
## 3  ID-3 11.65749
## 4  ID-4 21.38112
## 5  ID-5 16.31803
## 6  ID-6 11.71813
## 11 ID-11 21.04712
```

you have df2:

```
my_df2
##      ID school grade origin
## 1  ID-4 Youhou 76.42 French
## 2  ID-5 bababa 71.88 Swiss
## 3  ID-1 genius 78.38 French
## 4  ID-12 Youhou 75.64 German
## 5  ID-7 bababa 61.49 German
## 6  ID-3 genius 20.21 French
## 7  ID-8 Youhou 72.40 German
## 8  ID-6 bababa 58.88 German
## 9  ID-2 genius 56.88 Swiss
## 10 ID-10 Youhou 30.58 French
```

You want to merge the two data frames

joining data frame with base R

You can use `merge()`

```
my_df3 <- merge(my_df1, my_df2)
```

```
my_df3
##      ID      age school grade origin
## 1 ID-1 12.49418  genius  78.38 French
## 2 ID-2 15.73457  genius  56.88  Swiss
## 3 ID-3 11.65749  genius  20.21 French
## 4 ID-4 21.38112 Youhou  76.42 French
## 5 ID-5 16.31803 bababa  71.88  Swiss
## 6 ID-6 11.71813 bababa  58.88 German
```

joining data frame with dplyr join()

or use `inner_join()`

```
library(dplyr)
my_df3 <- inner_join(my_df1, my_df2)
## Joining, by = "ID"
```

```
my_df3
##      ID      age school grade origin
## 1 ID-1 12.49418  genius  78.38 French
## 2 ID-2 15.73457  genius  56.88  Swiss
## 3 ID-3 11.65749  genius  20.21 French
## 4 ID-4 21.38112 Youhou  76.42 French
## 5 ID-5 16.31803 bababa  71.88  Swiss
## 6 ID-6 11.71813 bababa  58.88 German
```

joining data frame with left_join()

left_join() or right_join() keep all the rows of the data frame on the left (or right)
adds NA when no data are present

```
library(dplyr)
my_df3 <- left_join(my_df1, my_df2)
## Joining, by = "ID"
```

```
my_df3
##      ID      age school grade origin
## 1 ID-1 12.49418 genius 78.38 French
## 2 ID-2 15.73457 genius 56.88 Swiss
## 3 ID-3 11.65749 genius 20.21 French
## 4 ID-4 21.38112 Youhou 76.42 French
## 5 ID-5 16.31803 bababa 71.88 Swiss
## 6 ID-6 11.71813 bababa 58.88 German
## 7 ID-11 21.04712 <NA>    NA    <NA>
```

joining data frame with full_join()

full_join() keep all the rows of the two data frame
adds NA when no data are present

```
library(dplyr)
my_df3 <- full_join(my_df1, my_df2)
## Joining, by = "ID"
```

```
my_df3
##      ID      age school grade origin
## 1 ID-1 12.49418  genius  78.38 French
## 2 ID-2 15.73457  genius  56.88  Swiss
## 3 ID-3 11.65749  genius  20.21 French
## 4 ID-4 21.38112 Youhou  76.42 French
## 5 ID-5 16.31803 bababa  71.88  Swiss
## 6 ID-6 11.71813 bababa  58.88 German
## 7 ID-11 21.04712  <NA>    NA  <NA>
## 8 ID-12      NA Youhou  75.64 German
## 9 ID-7      NA bababa  61.49 German
## 10 ID-8      NA Youhou  72.40 German
## 11 ID-10     NA Youhou  30.58 French
```

Getting started with R

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
 - Factors
- 3 Matrices and arrays
- 4 Data frames and tibbles
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 - dplyr
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- 5 List
- 6 Importing & exporting data

reshaping data frame

- one row = one observation, one column = one variable

reshaping data frame

- one row = one observation, one column = one variable
- `gather()` turns wide data into long

reshaping data frame

- one row = one observation, one column = one variable
- `gather()` turns wide data into long
- `spread()` turns long data into wide

reshaping data frame

you have wide data:

```
head(my_df1)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3

dim(my_df1)
## [1] 1 6
```

you want long data:

```
head(my_df2)
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3

dim(my_df2)
## [1] 4 4
```

reshaping data frame

you have wide data:

```
head(my_df1)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3

dim(my_df1)
## [1] 1 6
```

you want long data:

```
head(my_df2)
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3

dim(my_df2)
## [1] 4 4
```

you do:

```
my_df2 <- my_df1 %>% gather("Age", "Height", -Sex, -ID) %>% arrange(ID, Age)
```

reshaping data frame

you have wide data:

```
head(my_df1)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3

dim(my_df1)
## [1] 1 6
```

you want long data:

```
head(my_df2)
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3

dim(my_df2)
## [1] 4 4
```

you do:

```
my_df2 <- my_df1 %>% gather("Age", "Height", -Sex, -ID) %>% arrange(ID, Age)
```

or:

```
my_df2 <- my_df1 %>% gather("Age", "Height", 3:ncol(my_df1)) %>% arrange(ID, Age)
```

reshaping data frame

The reverse is done with `spread()`

you have wide data:

```
head(my_df2)
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3

dim(my_df2)
## [1] 4 4
```

you want long data:

```
head(my_df1)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3

dim(my_df1)
## [1] 1 6
```

reshaping data frame

The reverse is done with `spread()`

you have wide data:

```
head(my_df2)
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3
dim(my_df2)
## [1] 4 4
```

you want long data:

```
head(my_df1)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3
dim(my_df1)
## [1] 1 6
```

you do:

```
my_df2 %>% spread(-Sex, -ID)
##   ID Sex age1 age2 age3 age4
## 1  1 girl 71.3 146.3 161.3 171.3
```

some other useful functions

`unite()` merges 2 columns of a data frame

```
my_df3 <- my_df2 %>% unite(New_col, ID, Sex)
head(my_df3)
```

```
##   New_col Age Height
## 1 1_girl age1   71.3
## 2 1_girl age2  146.3
## 3 1_girl age3  161.3
## 4 1_girl age4  171.3
```

some other useful functions

unite() merges 2 columns of a data frame

```
my_df3 <- my_df2 %>% unite(New_col, ID, Sex)
head(my_df3)
```

```
##   New_col Age Height
## 1 1_girl age1   71.3
## 2 1_girl age2  146.3
## 3 1_girl age3  161.3
## 4 1_girl age4  171.3
```

separate() separate 2 columns of a data frame

```
my_df3 %>% separate(New_col, c("ID", "Sex"))
```

```
##   ID Sex Age Height
## 1  1 girl age1   71.3
## 2  1 girl age2  146.3
## 3  1 girl age3  161.3
## 4  1 girl age4  171.3
```


cheating data frame

plenty of informative cheatsheets on: <https://www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets/>

Getting started with R

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
- 3 Matrices and arrays
- 4 Data frames and tibbles
- 5 List**
- 6 Importing & exporting data

Lists

Lists allow the organisation of any set of entities into a single R object:

```
list.ht <- list(girls = height.girls, boys = height.boys)
list.ht
## $girls
## [1] 178 175 159 164 183 192
##
## $boys
## [1] 181 189 174 177
```

Lists

Lists can also be indexed and their elements extracted:

```
list.ht$girls
## [1] 178 175 159 164 183 192
list.ht["boys"] # still a list
## $boys
## [1] 181 189 174 177
list.ht[["boys"]] # vector
## [1] 181 189 174 177
list.ht[[2]][3]
## [1] 174
```

Lists

Some functions can take a list as an input:

```
lapply(list.ht, FUN = mean)
## $girls
## [1] 175.1667
##
## $boys
## [1] 180.25
```

Summary

```
dataframe.ht
```

```
##      Height  Sex ID
## 1    171.3 girl  1
## 2    189.0 girl  2
## 3    174.0 girl  3
## 4    177.0 girl  4
## 5    178.0 girl  5
## 6    175.0 girl  6
## 7    159.0 boy   7
## 8    164.0 boy   8
## 9    183.0 boy   9
## 10   192.0 boy  10
```

```
list.ht
```

```
## $girls
## [1] 178 175 159 164 183 192
##
## $boys
## [1] 181 189 174 177
```

Summary

- `data.frame`

- All columns have same length
- Each column can have its own class (e.g. `numeric`, `factor`, `character`)

- `list`

- Each element can have its own length
- Each element can have its own class (e.g. `numeric`, `factor`, `character`)

Getting started with R

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vectors
- 3 Matrices and arrays
- 4 Data frames and tibbles
- 5 List
- 6 Importing & exporting data**

Working directory

```
getwd() # to change, use setwd()
## [1] "/Users/alex/Dropbox/Boulot/Mes_projets_de_recherche/R_packages/BeginR_project/BeginR/sources_vignettes/usingdata"
dir() # listing all files in the working directory
## [1] "usingdata.nav"      "usingdata.pdf"
## [3] "usingdata.pdf.asis" "usingdata.Rnw"
## [5] "usingdata.snm"      "usingdata.tex"
## [7] "usingdata.toc"      "usingdata.vrb"
dir(pattern = "*.csv")
## character(0)
```

Exporting and importing data in R

```
write.csv(dataframe.ht,  
  file = "my.first.R.dataframe.csv", row.names = FALSE)  
  
rm(list = ls()) # deleting everything in R  
  
dataframe.ht <- read.csv("my.first.R.dataframe.csv")
```

R cannot read/write .xls files out of the box
Packages can do that but it is safer to use .csv files
Excel can read and write .csv files!

Challenge #2

Create a dataframe using your favorite spreadsheet software
and import it in R!