

Intro to R, part 2

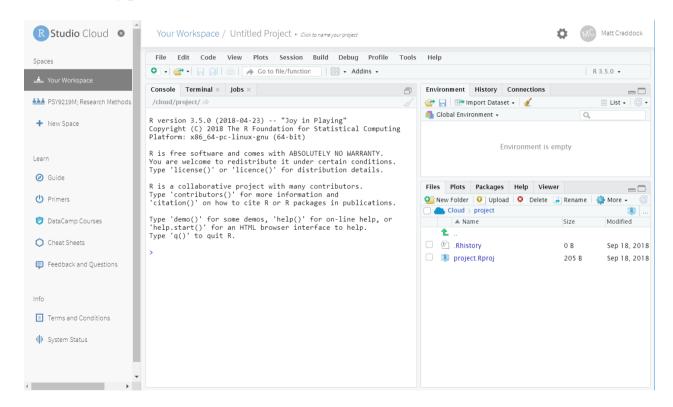
PSY9219M - Research Methods and Skills

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Interacting with R

- The R Console
 - REPL: Read Evaluate Print Loop
 - Type stuff in, it tries to do it



Use of R like a calculator

The R console allows you to use it like a calculator, as below:

```
5 + 5

## [1] 10

10 - 6 * 13

## [1] -68
```

We can assign values to objects

You assign values to objects using <-

```
test_object <- 5
```

<- can be read as "is now", making the code above roughly mean

```
The object "test_object" is now 5 # Do not run!
```

Objects "stand-in" for their values:

```
test_object
```

```
## [1] 5
```

Creation of vectors

Vectors are simply a 1-dimensional collection of values of the same type.

We can create a vector using the **c()** function.

```
c(5, 10, 3, -1, -5)
## [1] 5 10 3 -1 -5
```

This is a one-dimensional vector of length *five*, since it has 5 values.

Basic use of functions to perform calculations

Functions do things to objects.

Brackets after a word in these slides indicate that something is a function, e.g. c(), mean()

```
mean(c(5, 8, 2, 4, 5))

## [1] 4.8

test_object <- c(5, 8, 2, 4, 5)
mean(test_object)

## [1] 4.8</pre>
```

R Scripts

R Scripts

Scripts are a way of writing out a sequence of commands that you want R to execute.

A typical script looks something like this:

```
# Load in required packages using library()
library(tidyverse)
# Define any custom functions here (we haven't covered this!)
# Now load any data you want to work on. (again, we'll cover this later!)
test data <-
 read_csv("data/a-random-RT-file.csv") %>% # I'll explain what %>% means later
 rename(RT = `reaction times`)
# The rest of the script then runs whatever analyses or plotting you want to do
ggplot(test_data,
       aes(x = RT,
           fill = viewpoint)) +
 geom density()
```

R Scripts

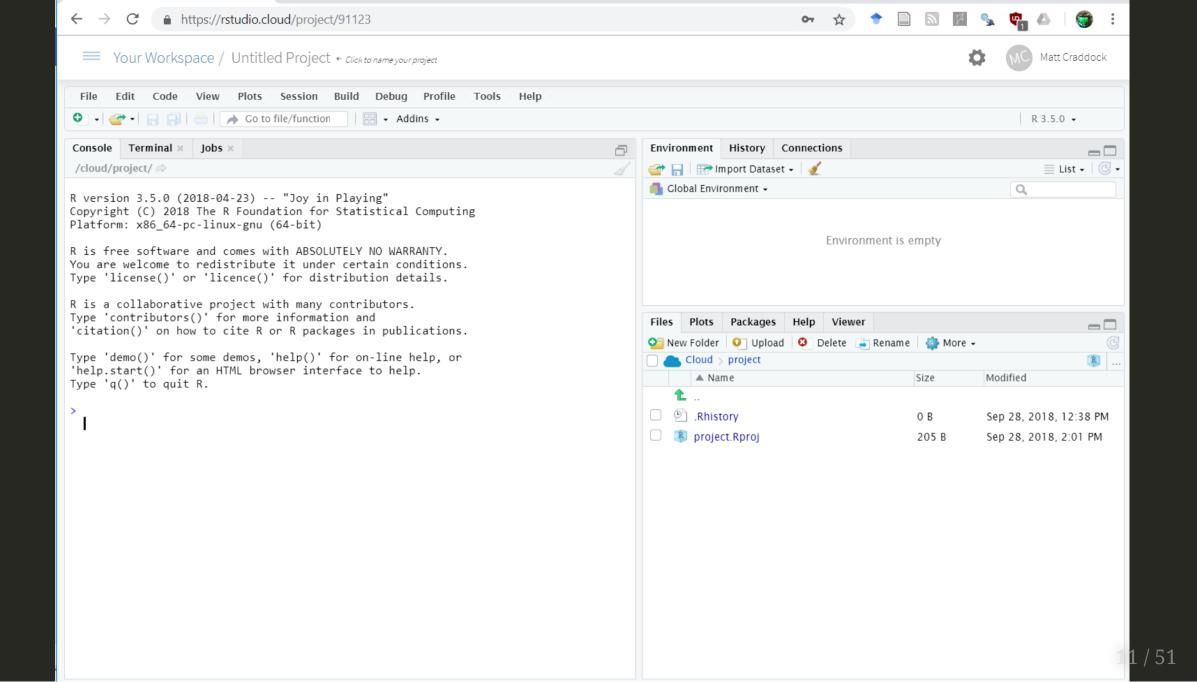
Why is this useful?

Somebody asks you how you performed a particular analysis. In particular, they want detailed instructions of how you created a plot, filtered out outliers or missing data, and performed a linear regression.

Q1: How would you do that if you used SPSS?

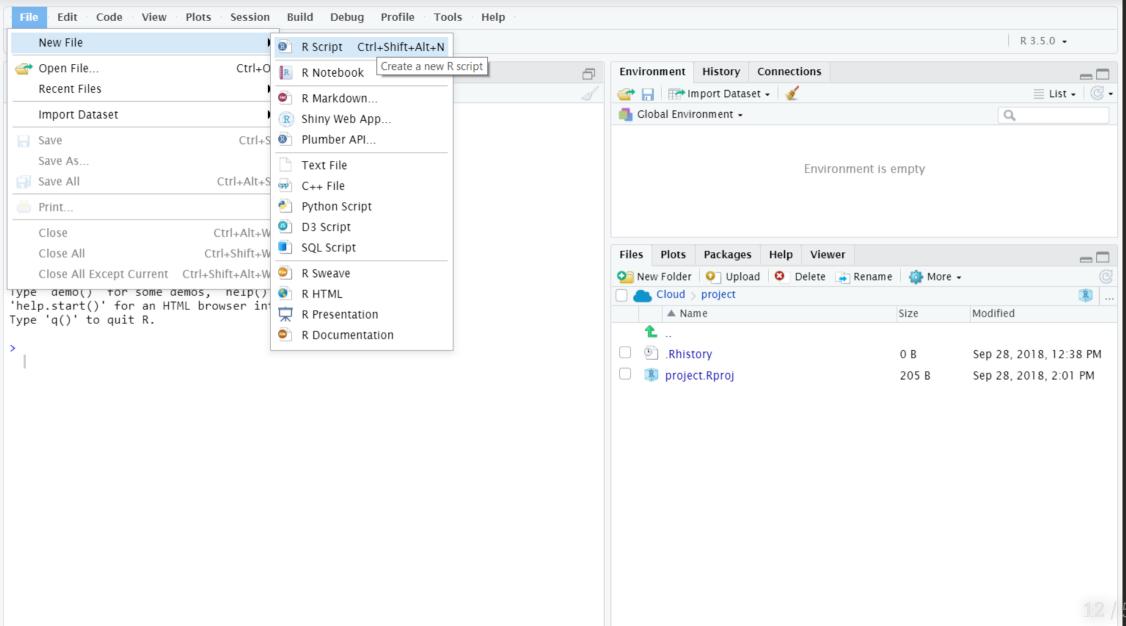
Q2: How would you do that if you used R?

Creating R Scripts



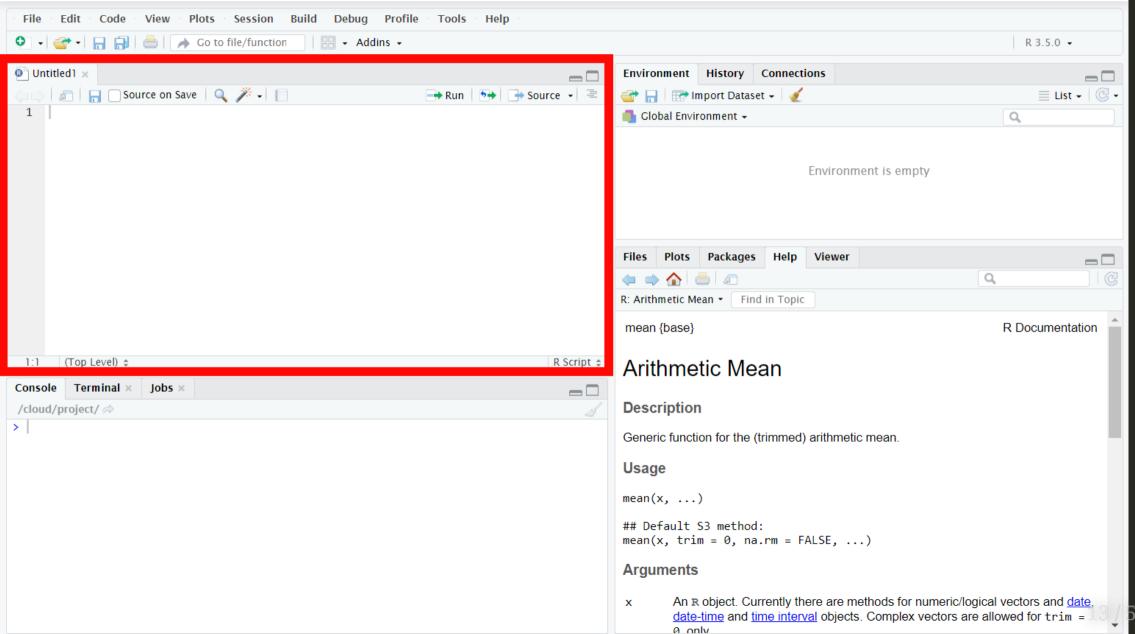












R Markdown

R Markdown

R Markdown is a framework for producing high-quality reports and for what's called **Literate programming**.

Literate programming is a mixture of plain text and code.

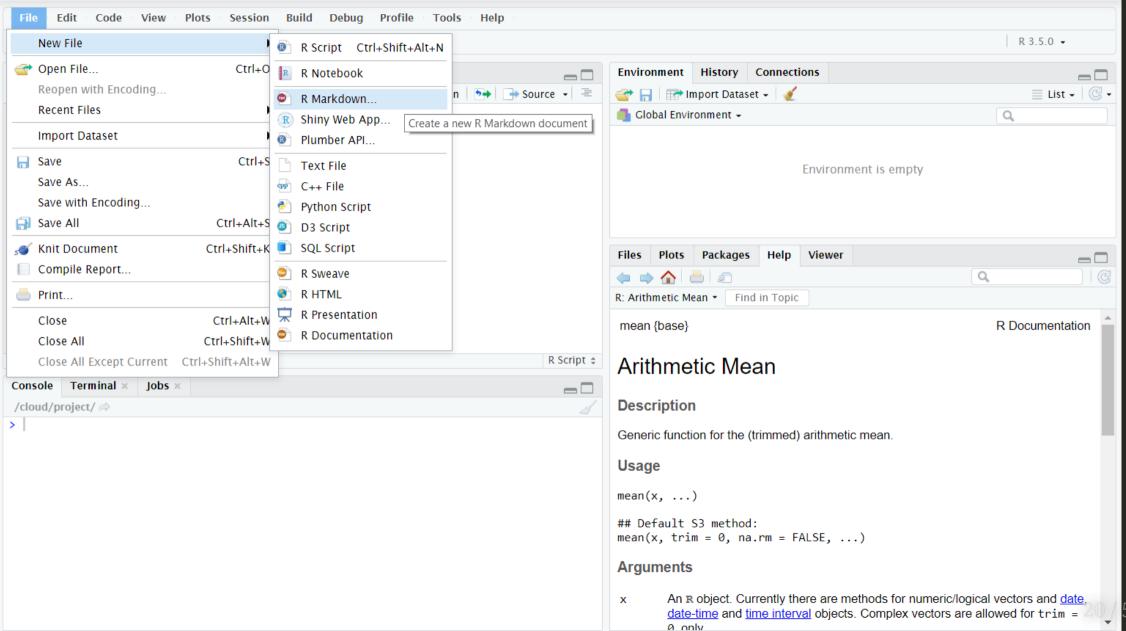
Whereas in scripts you need to use the # symbol to indicate comments, as here

```
# This is a comment
```

...with R Markdown you can mix plain text and code using **chunks** to delineate sections of code.

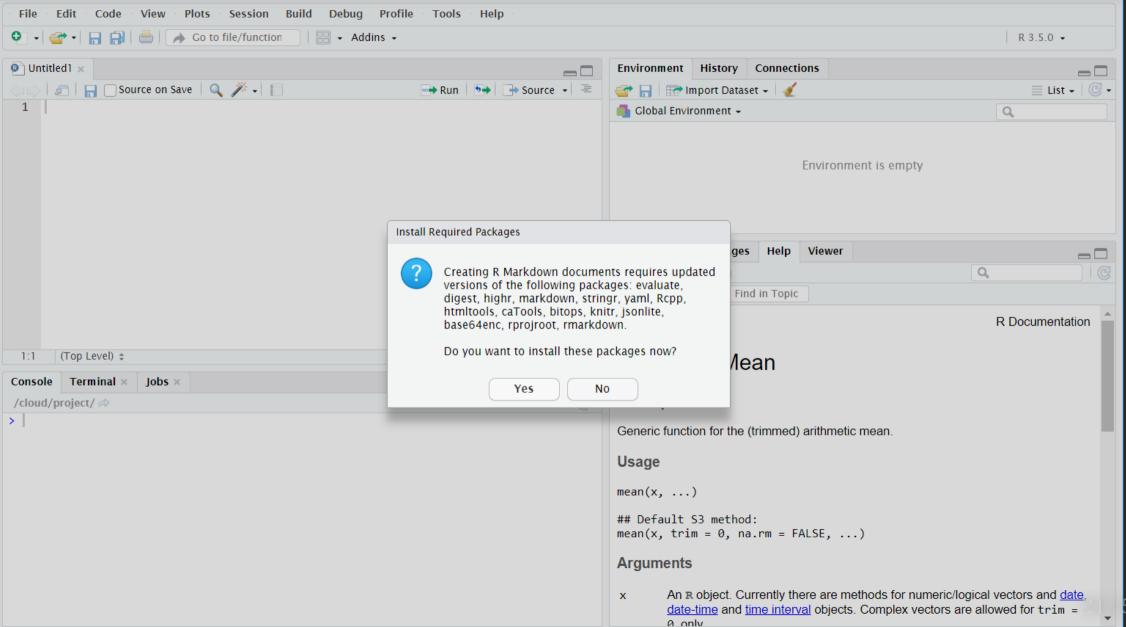






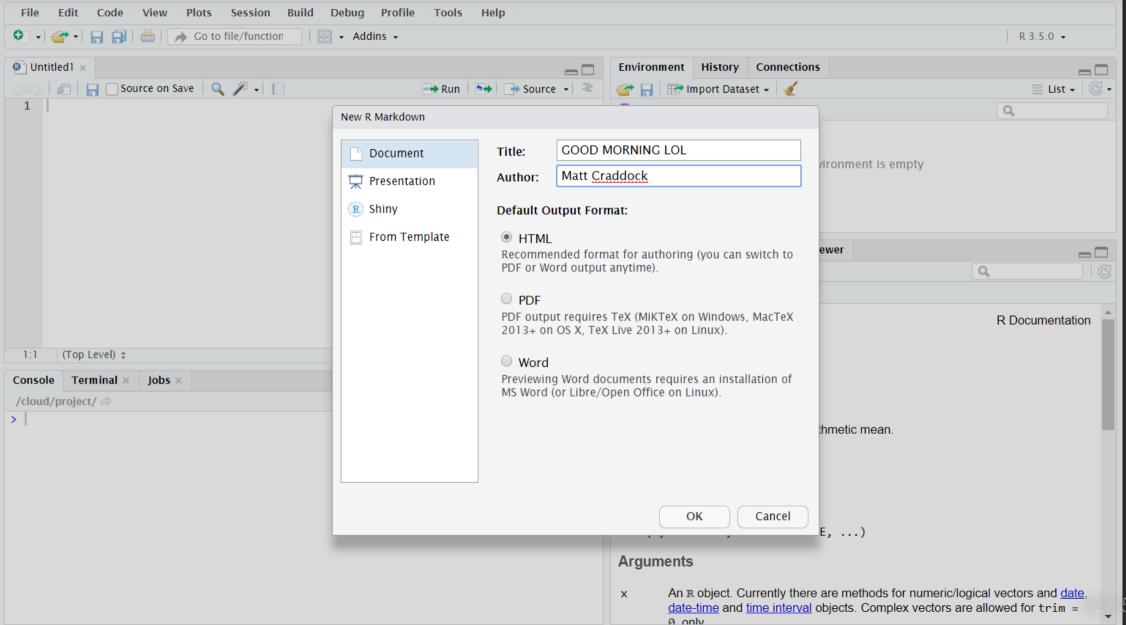








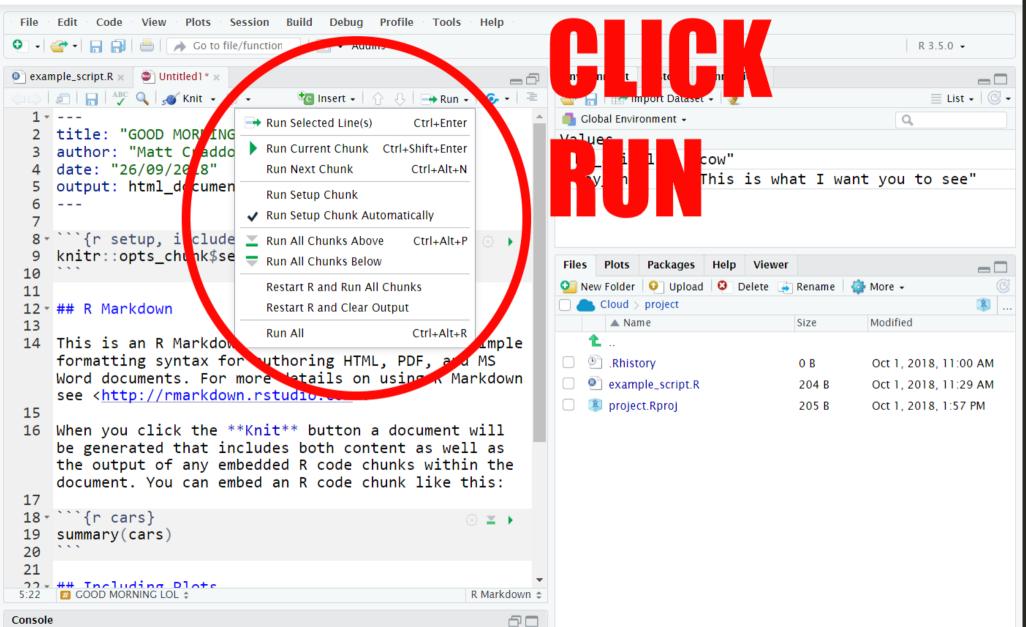




Console

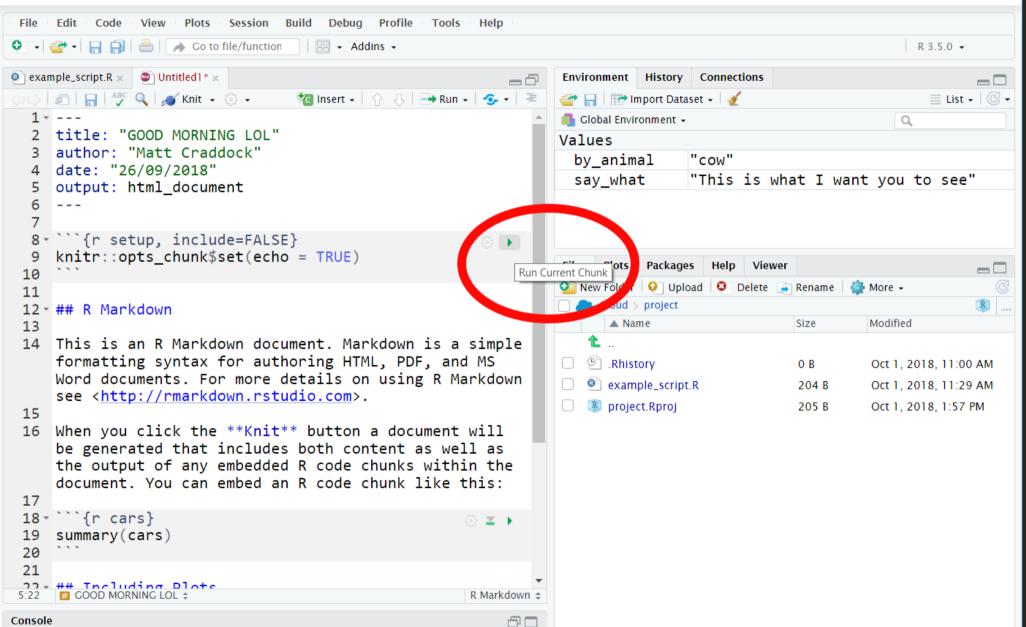






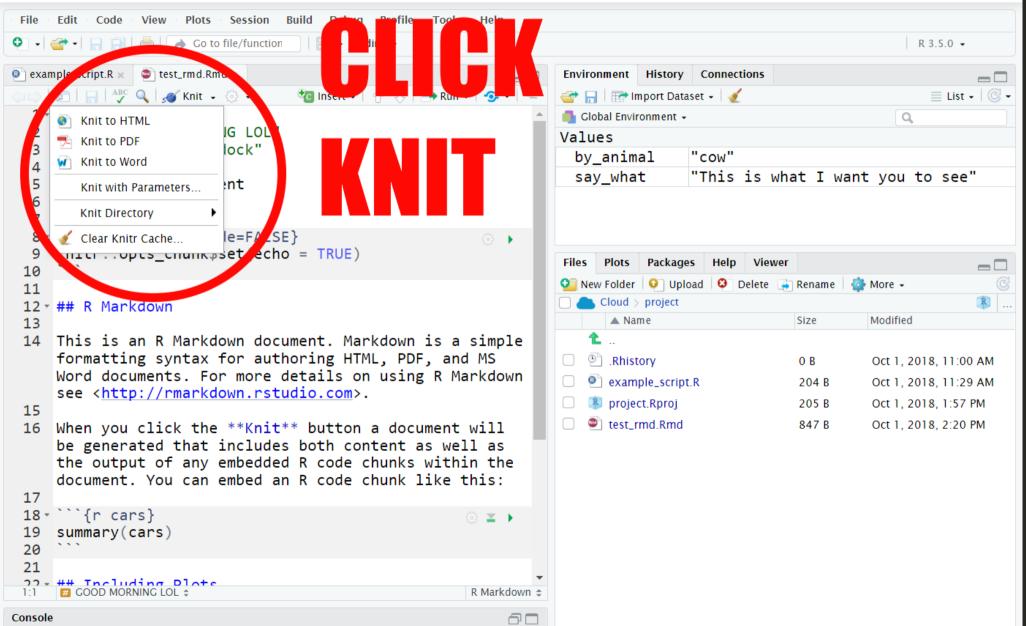












Basic data types

Basic data types

There are five basic data types in R:

Type	Description	Examples
double	Floating point value	3.12
integer	Integer	1, 2, 3
numeric	Any real number	3.4, 2, -2.3
character	Text	"Hi there", "8.5", "ABC123"
logical	Assertion of truth/falsity	TRUE, FALSE

There are some additional types to be aware of, particularly *factors*, but we'll come back to them in a later session.

Checking data types

We can use the **class()** function to check what type a given object is.

```
class(10)
## [1] "numeric"
class(10L) # using L after the number turns it into an *integer*
## [1] "integer"
class(TRUE)
## [1] "logical"
class("Wednesday")
## [1] "character"
```

Basic containers



Vectors

A vector is a collection of values which all have the same basic **type**.

A numeric vector is thus a collection of numeric values:

```
some_numbers <- c(5, 3, 6, 8)
some_numbers</pre>
```

[1] 5 3 6 8

... and a character vector is a collection of character values

```
char_example <- c("Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday")
char_example</pre>
```

```
## [1] "Monday" "Tuesday" "Wednesday" "Thursday"
```

More about vectors

The colon (:) operator can be used to produce a sequence of numbers:

```
one_to_ten <- 1:10
one_to_ten
## [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</pre>
```

Vectors can also be given names:

```
one_to_four <- 1:4
names(one_to_four) <- char_example
one_to_four

## Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday
## 1 2 3 4</pre>
```

Extracting values

Sometimes you only want a specific subset of a vector. For example, suppose that you only want the third value. For this, we need the [] (square brackets) operator.

We put an *index* inbetween the [] operator.

```
char_example[3]
## [1] "Wednesday"
```

Note that you can also supply *multiple* values:

```
char_example[2:3]

## [1] "Tuesday" "Wednesday"

char_example[c(2, 4)]

## [1] "Tuesday" "Thursday"
```

Extracting values

If your vector is *named*, you can also use the names as *indices*.

```
one_to_four
     Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday
##
##
one_to_four["Wednesday"]
## Wednesday
##
one_to_four[c("Monday", "Wednesday")]
     Monday Wednesday
##
##
```

Matrices

Matrices are 2-dimensional collections of values.

All values must be of the same type.

```
matrix(1:9, nrow = 3, ncol = 3)

## [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 1 4 7
## [2,] 2 5 8
## [3,] 3 6 9
```

This is quite a common format. For example, each row could represent an individual participant. Each column could represent a different numerical measure.

Matrices



Accessing matrices

Since matrices are two-dimensional, you need to give two indices to make sure you get the value you want. Again, you can use the [] operator.

```
[row, col]
```

Here I extract the number from the 2nd row down, 3rd column across.

Lists



Lists

Lists are a collection of objects of varying length and type.

```
album_list <-
  list(The_Beatles = c(
    "Sgt. Pepper",
    "The White Album",
    "Revolver",
    "Abbey Road"),
    Nirvana = c(
        "Bleach",
        "Nevermind",
        "In Utero")
    )</pre>
```

Each element is labelled, just like a mason jar on a shelf.

Each element has different contents, just like our mason jars.

Lists

```
names(album_list)

## [1] "The_Beatles" "Nirvana"

length(album_list)

## [1] 2

album_list["The_Beatles"]

## $The_Beatles
## [1] "Sgt. Pepper" "The White Album" "Revolver" "Abbey Road"
```

Data frames

Data frames are rectangular collections of data. Most of the data you encounter in psychology is in this kind of format.

Data frames can be a mix of different types. Each column contains only values of one *type*. Each row thus contains different types of information about one thing, which could be a participant, or a single trial's worth of data from one participant.

Show ₅ • entries		Search:				
	mpg +	cyl 🖣	disp 🕈	hp 🖣		drat 🛊
Mazda RX4	21	6	160	110		3.9
Mazda RX4 Wag	21	6	160	110		3.9
Datsun 710	22.8	4	108	93		3.85
Hornet 4 Drive	21.4	6	258	110		3.08
Hornet Sportabout	18.7	8	360	175		3.15
Showing 1 to 5 of 32 entries	Previous	1 2	3 4	5 6	7	Next

Creating a data frame

Extracting information from data frames

The [] operator works:

```
days_of_the_week[1, 2]
## [1] 1
```

Alternatively you can specify a column name:

3 3 ## 4 4 ## 5 5 ## 6 6

7

Extracting information from data frames

A special operator you can use for data frame columns is the dollar sign, \$

Combine the data frame's name with the column name as below:

[1] Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday ## Levels: Friday Monday Saturday Sunday Thursday Tuesday Wednesday

Question: what **class()** is this?

Wrapping up

This week's concepts

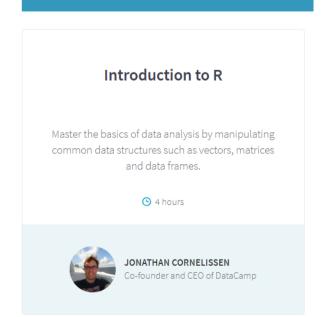
• R Markdown - Chapter 27 of R4DS - see also https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com

• vectors and lists in Chapter 20 of R4DS

• Practice using **vectors**, **matrices**, **lists**, and **data.frames** using DataCamp's Intro to R

DataCamp Courses

course



Prep for next week

• Get on DataCamp!

• Next week we'll talk again about data frames and consider how to structure data.

DataCamp Courses

• Look at Section 2 (Wrangle) of R4DS for information on **tibbles** (which are essentially

data frames...).

