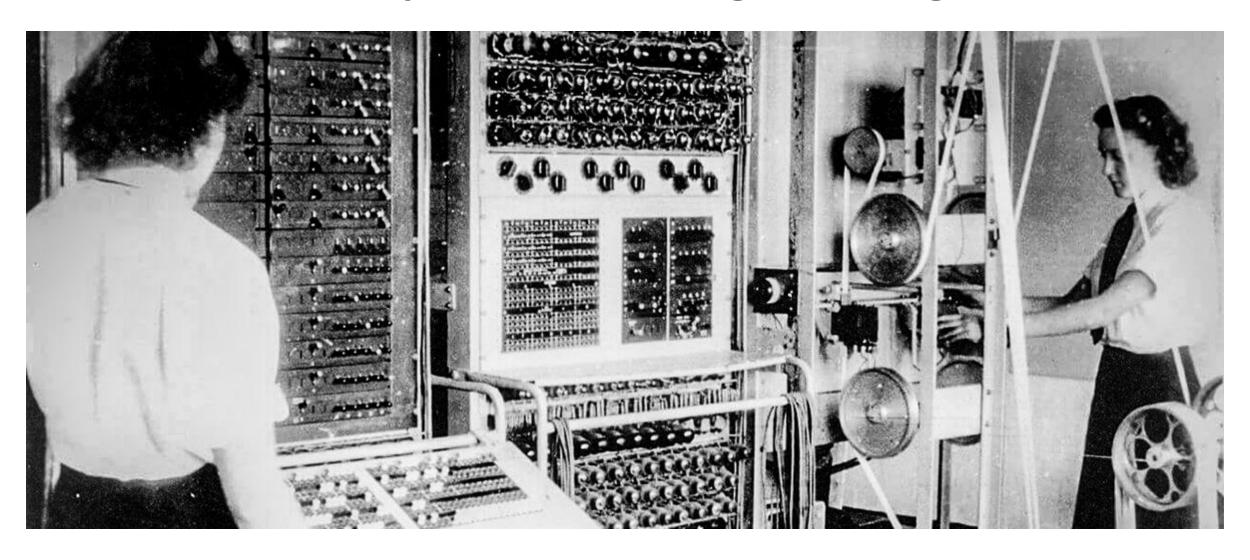
Introduction to R programming

NEUROSYSM930

Dimitrios Kleftogiannis



Computers and Programming

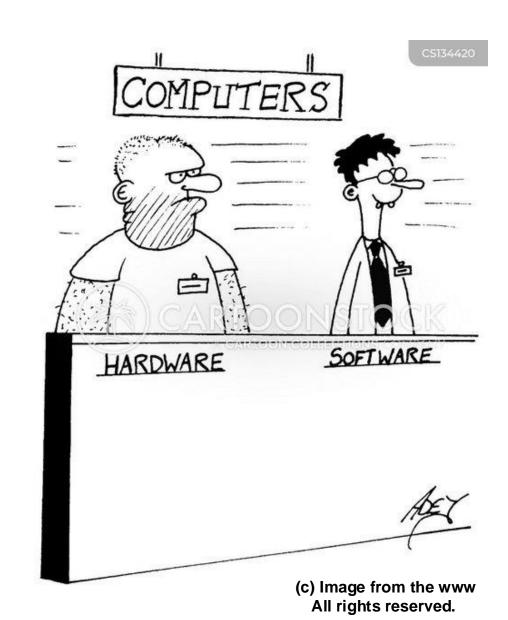


Computers and Programming

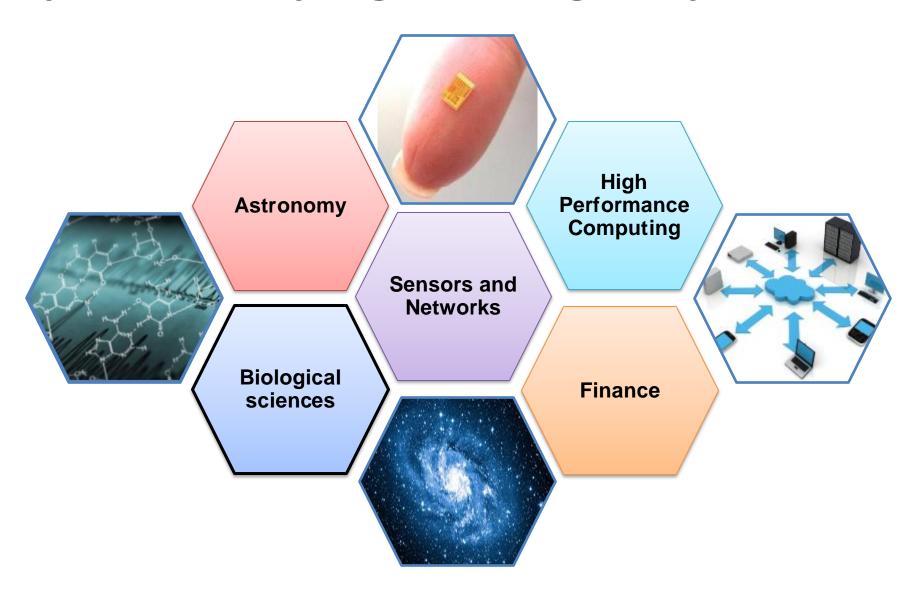
❖ A computer is just machine (*hardware*) for executing programs (*software*)

The process of creating a program is called *programming*, and it is the focus of this course

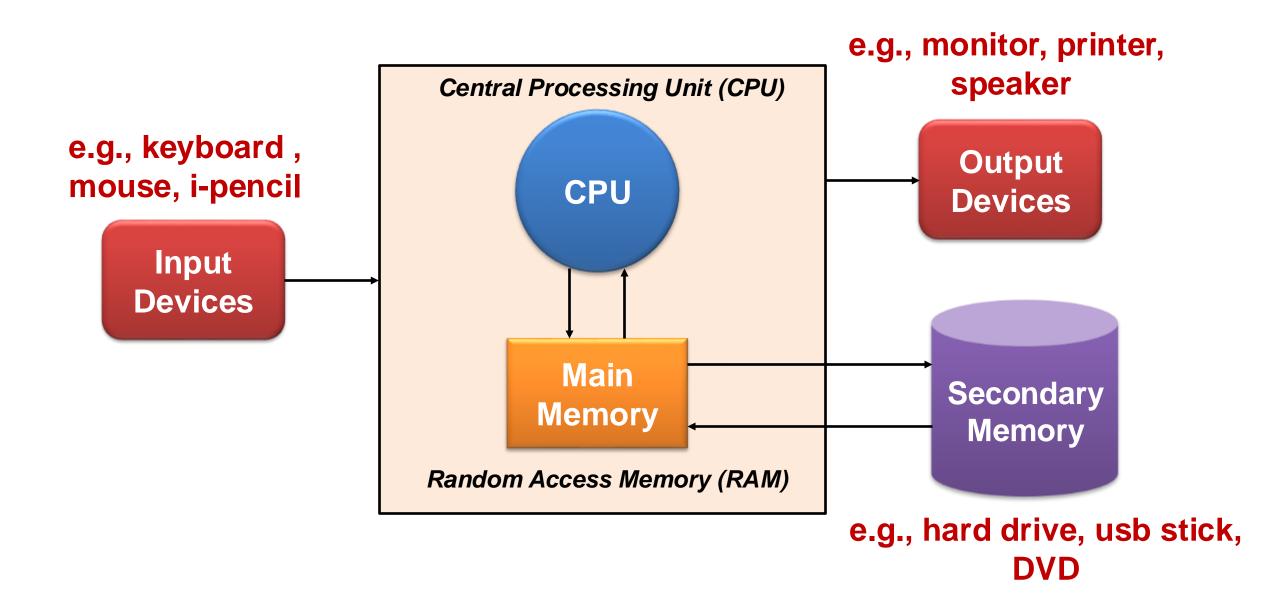
Anyone can learn programming!



Computers and programming are part of our life



But first we need to understand a computer



Programming languages

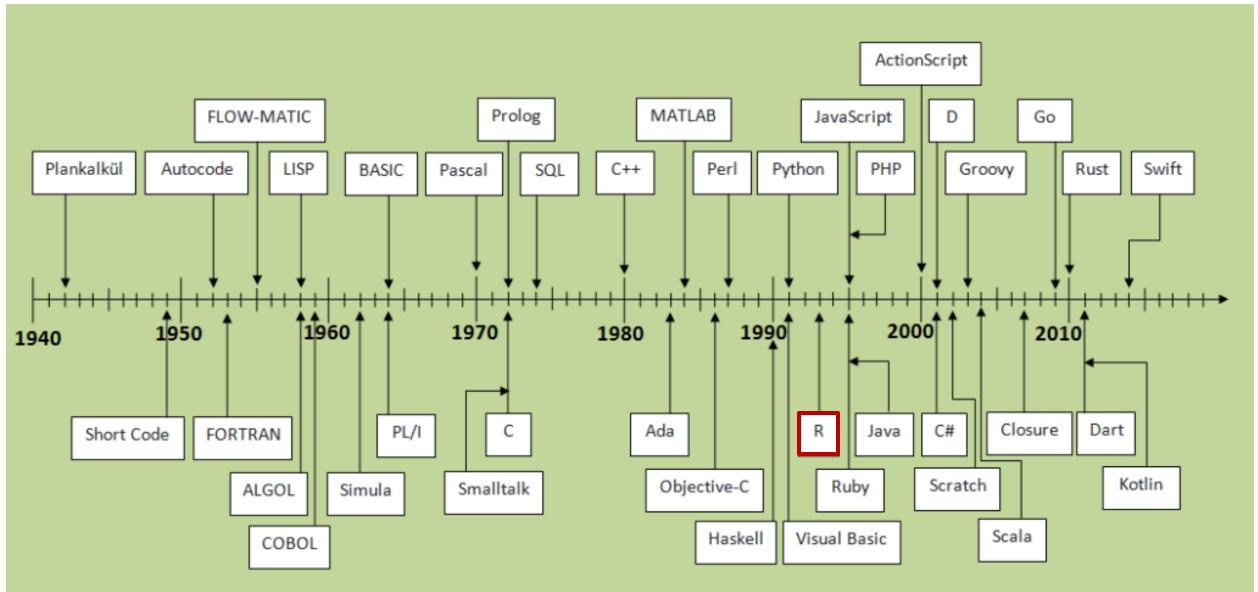
 The hardware understands a very low-level language known as machine language which is translated to binary....

For example:

- 1. Load the number from memory location 2001 into the CPU
- 2. Load the number from memory location 2002 into the CPU
- 3. Add the two numbers in the CPU
- 4. Store the result into location 2003

- We need to use a higher-level language and convert it into a machine language that the hardware can execute...
 - > Compiled languages > use a complex program called compiler
 - ➤ Interpreted languages → executes the code on the fly

Timeline of Programming Languages







The brief history of R



"R is a programming language for statistical computing and data visualization. It has been adopted in the fields of data mining, bioinformatics, and data analysis" (wiki)

- ➤ R was developed in 1993 by Ross Ihaka and Robert Gentleman at the University of Auckland
- > It was based on the S statistical programming language
- > R software is open-source and free software licensed by the GNU Project
- In 1998, the Comprehensive R Archive Network CRAN was established
 - ✓ Now CRAN has more than 21,500 packages

Explore the R architecture

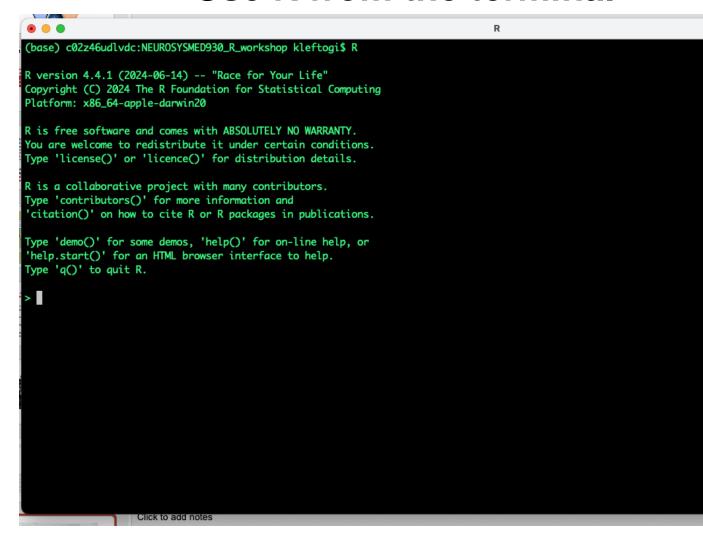
R is the engine

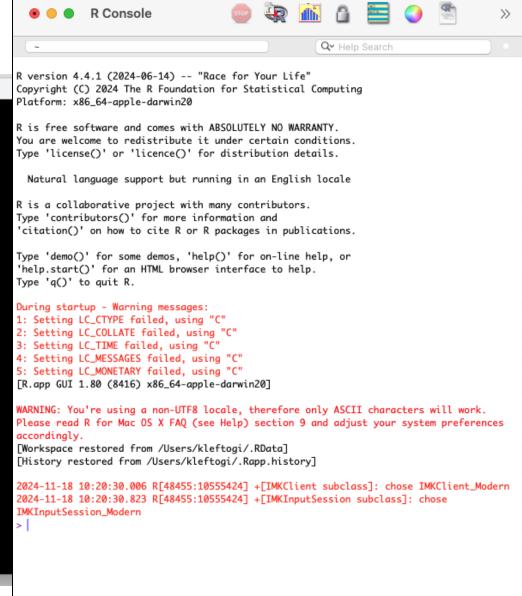


RStudio is the dashboard



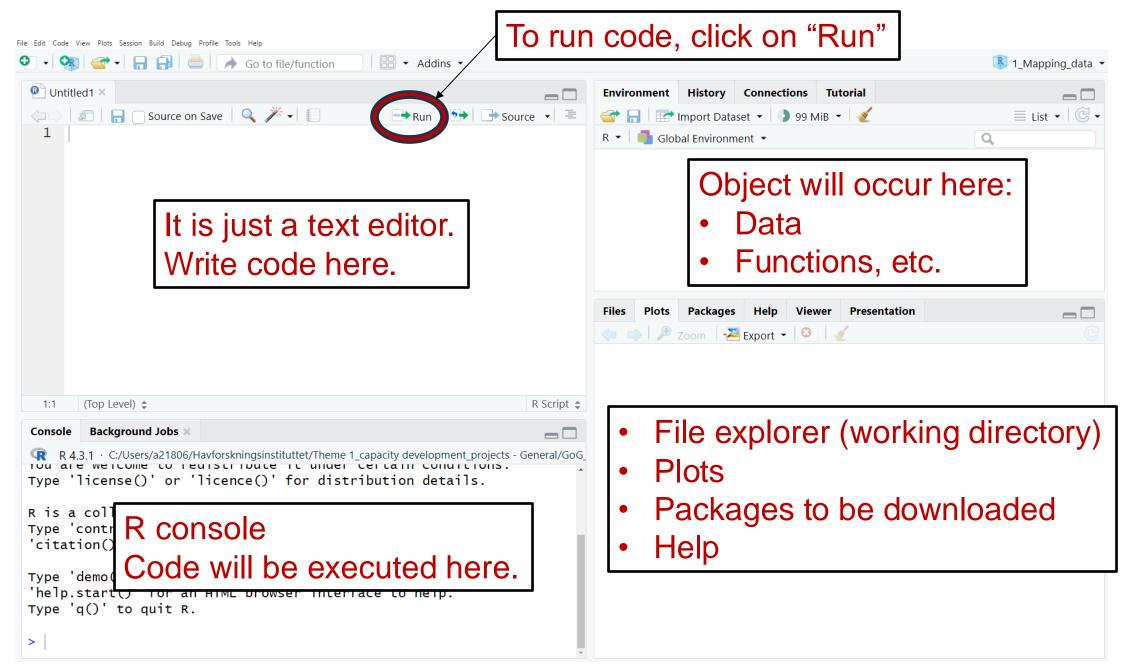
Use R from the terminal





Use the R console

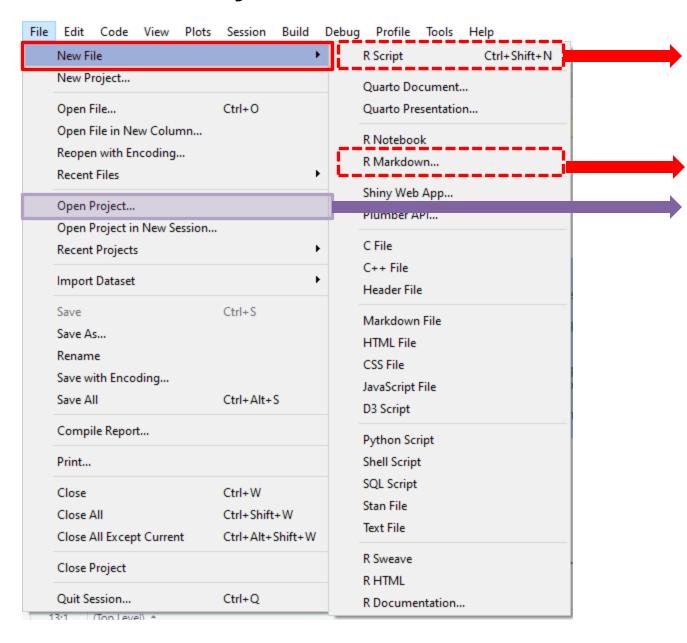
The R studio environment



What shall I do now?

- > As any other programming language R has its own syntax and semantics
- ➤ No buttons and clicking to perform computations...
- ➤ But you need to learn how to program and you must invest time on that ! Because...
 - ✓ You can do basically everything you need in your daily data wrangling life with only one software solution...
 - ✓ Statistics and machine learning
 - ✓ Small and big data exploration
 - ✓ Great visualization
 - ✓ Develop web-apps even databases
- > R packages are essentially free R programs that provide extra functionalities
 - ✓ Need to be downloaded and installed

Different ways to create code



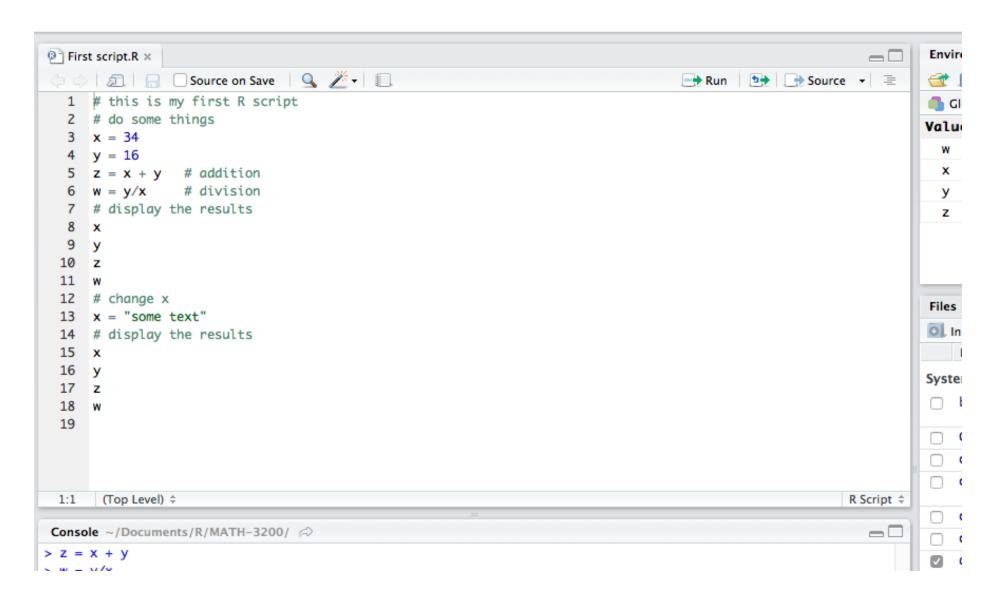
New text editor (to write code)

Another type of text editor great for data presentation

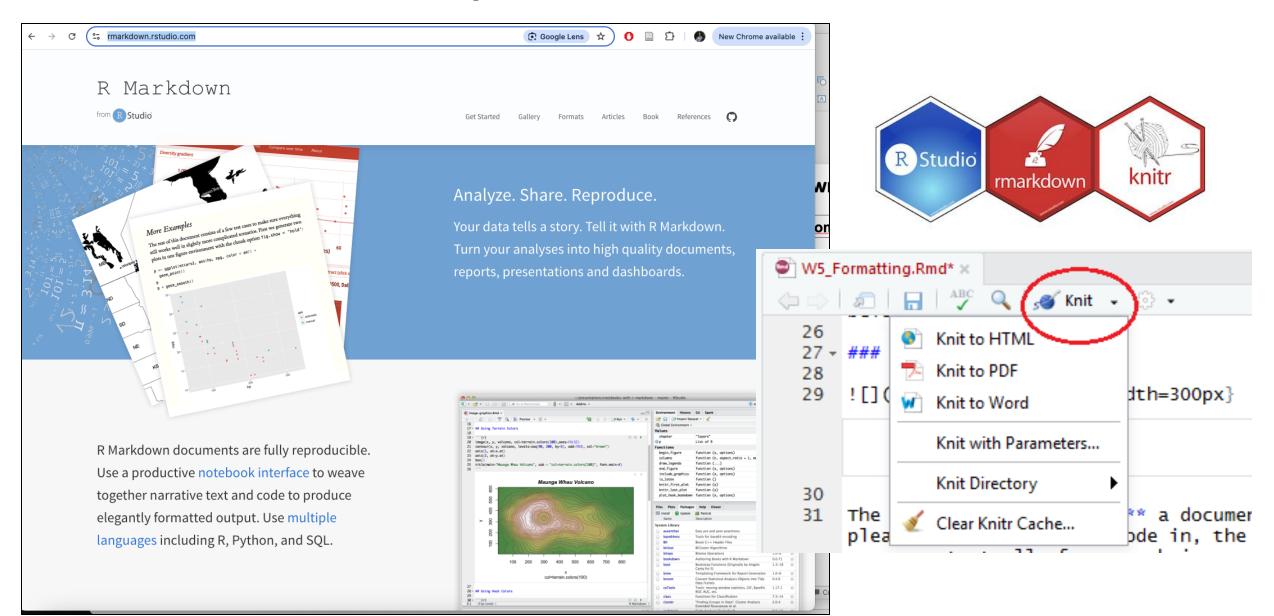
Includes several files and generates a nice working space that:

- ✓ You can copy the folder anywhere
- ✓ You can share the whole folder with collogues

R Scripts vs. R Markdowns



R Scripts vs. R Markdowns



Basic R concepts and terminology

• Console → where you enter in commands

 Run → the act of telling R to perform a computation by giving it commands in the console

Objects → where values are saved in R, check the Environment panel

Data types → integers, doubles/numerics, logicals, and characters.

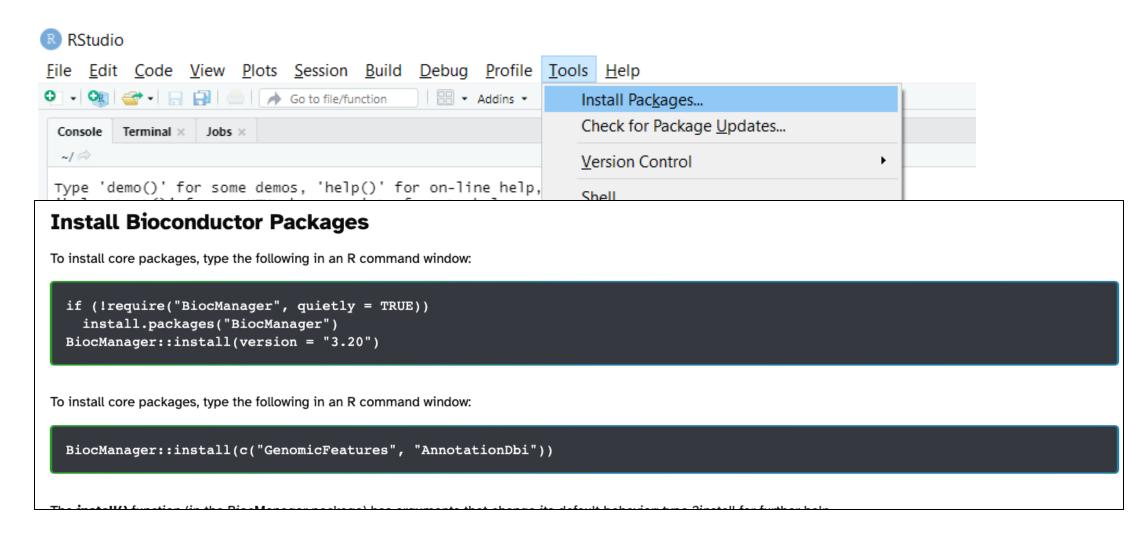
Errors, warnings and messages



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Packages

> Different ways to install packages exist



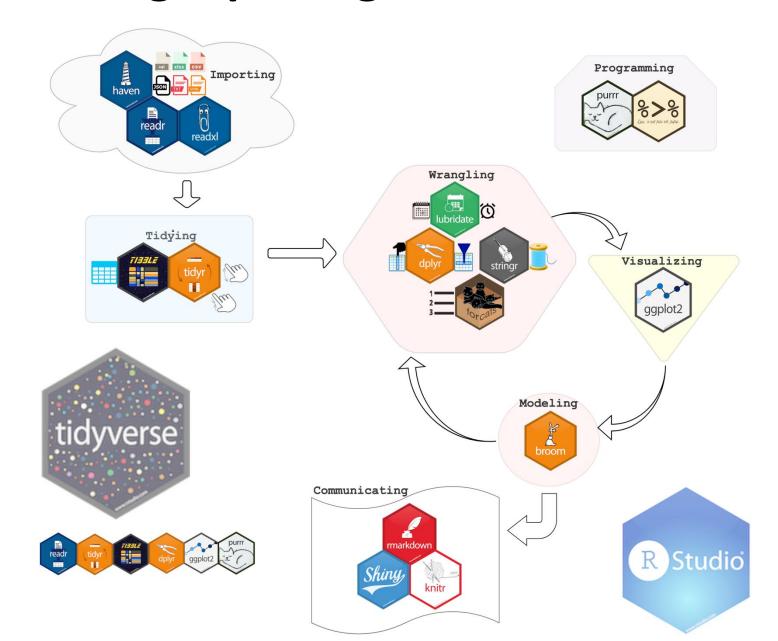
Packages

Never forget to load the installed packages....



And never forget that R is distributed with fifteen "base packages": base, compiler, datasets, grDevices, graphics, grid, methods, parallel, splines, stats, stats4, tcltk, tools, translations, and utils

By combining R packages, we create workflows







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Thanks for your attention!

Q&A

dimitrios.kleftogiannis@uib.no

https://www.uib.no/en/persons/Dimitrios.Kleftogiannis

