TRiA-FoR R Workshop

Overview

- PowerPoint on R and programmingR basics tutorial
- R basics tutorial
- A Mountain Pine Beetle problem set
- Q&A / "office hours"

Why programming?

Automation

Computers are good at ...

- Being precise
- Repeating things



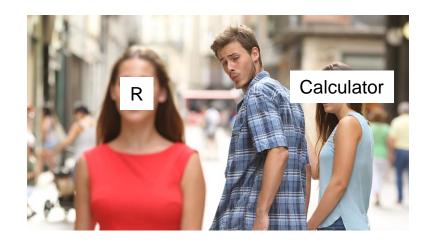
Example: calculating relative abundance of lodgepole pine

Data, in CSV format

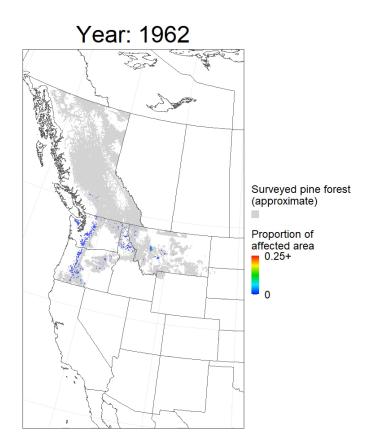
	А	В
1	lodge_abund	pine_abund
2	10	25
3	12	75
4	4000	10113
5	325	430
6	2	3

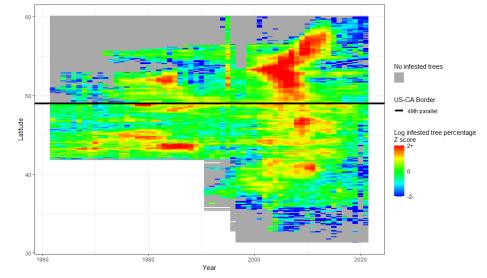
R code

```
df <- read.csv("file_name.csv")
relative_abund <- lodge_abund / pine_abund
print(relative_abund)</pre>
```

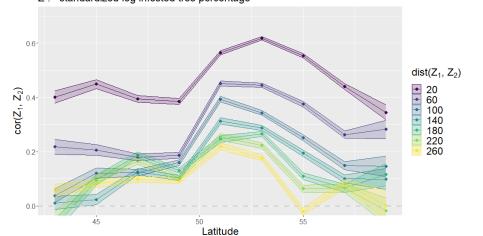


You can make cool things





MPB spatial correlations across latitude, by distance Z := standardized log infested tree percentage



R and R Studio



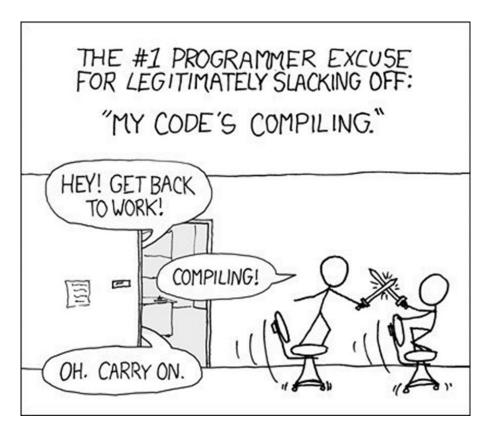
Every other programming language



Why R?

- It's free and open source
- Lots of Packages
- Your collaborators use R
- R Studio
 - A widely-used Interactive Development Environment (IDE)
- Designed for data wrangling and stats
- Interpreted language

Interpreted means you can run one line at a time



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- Dynamic typing

Dynamic typing means R tries to figure out what you mean



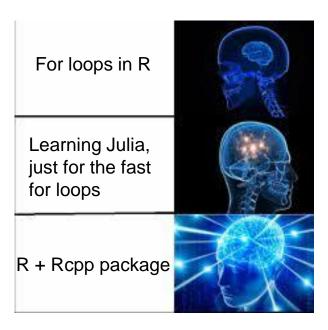
Static, declared typing int x = 1 String y = "1" x+y = ERROR

Dynamic typing

x = 1 y = "1"x+y = 2

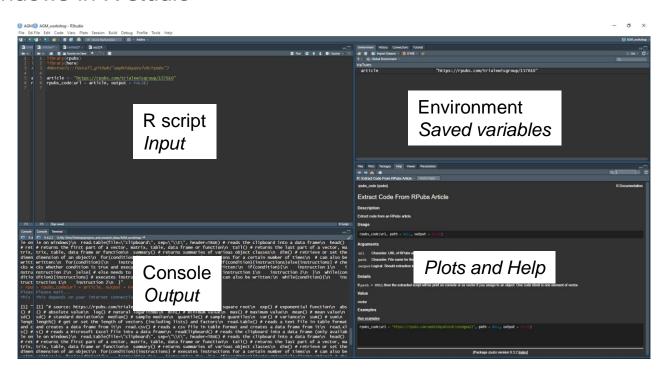
Cons

- Quirky
 - E.g. three ways to extract a column from a dataframe
- Slow
 - But packages can fix that



Some things to know

The windows in R studio



Some things to know

Good style matters. We will cover this as we go, but...

- Consistently use a variable naming convention
 - my_vector_ab NOT my.VectorAb
- Comment your code
- Space between operators
 - \circ log(3 + 2 * 5) NOT log(3+2*5)

When you read some incredibly bad code, thinking "What moron wrote this...", but halfway through it starts to become familiar.



Keys to learning R

#1 Dive in

Resources

- Stack exchange
- Google
 - "site:https://stackoverflow.com/ [query]"
- ChatGPT
- Youtube
- Documentation. In the R console, write ?function_name

Stack Overflow



ChatGPT

I'm afraid I have a stupid question. In R, how do I get the last thing in a vector? There are no stupid questions! In R, it's common to have questions like this when you're learning or working with the language. To get the last element of a vector in R, you can use the `length()` function to find the length of the vector, and then use that to index into the vector. Here's an example: Copy code # create a vector $my_vector <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$ # get the last element of the vector last_element <- my_vector[length(my_vector)]</pre> # print the last element print(last_element) In this example, 'length(my_vector)' returns 5 because there are 5 elements in `my_vector`. Then `my_vector[5]` gets the 5th (last) element of `my_vector`, which is 5 in this case.

Our hope for you

