Week 1: *Getting Started*

🏛 EMSE 6035: Marketing Analytics for Design Decisions

👤 John Paul Helveston

📅 August 30, 2023

Week 1: *Getting Started*

1. Course orientation

2. Intro to conjoint analysis

3. Introductions

BREAK: Teaming

4. Getting started with R & RStudio

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Meet your instructor!

John Helveston, Ph.D.

- 2018 - Present Assistant Professor, Engineering Management & Systems Engineering
- 2016-2018 Postdoc at Institute for Sustainable Energy, Boston University
- 2016 PhD in Engineering & Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University
- 2015 MS in Engineering & Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University
- 2010 BS in Engineering Science & Mechanics at Virginia Tech
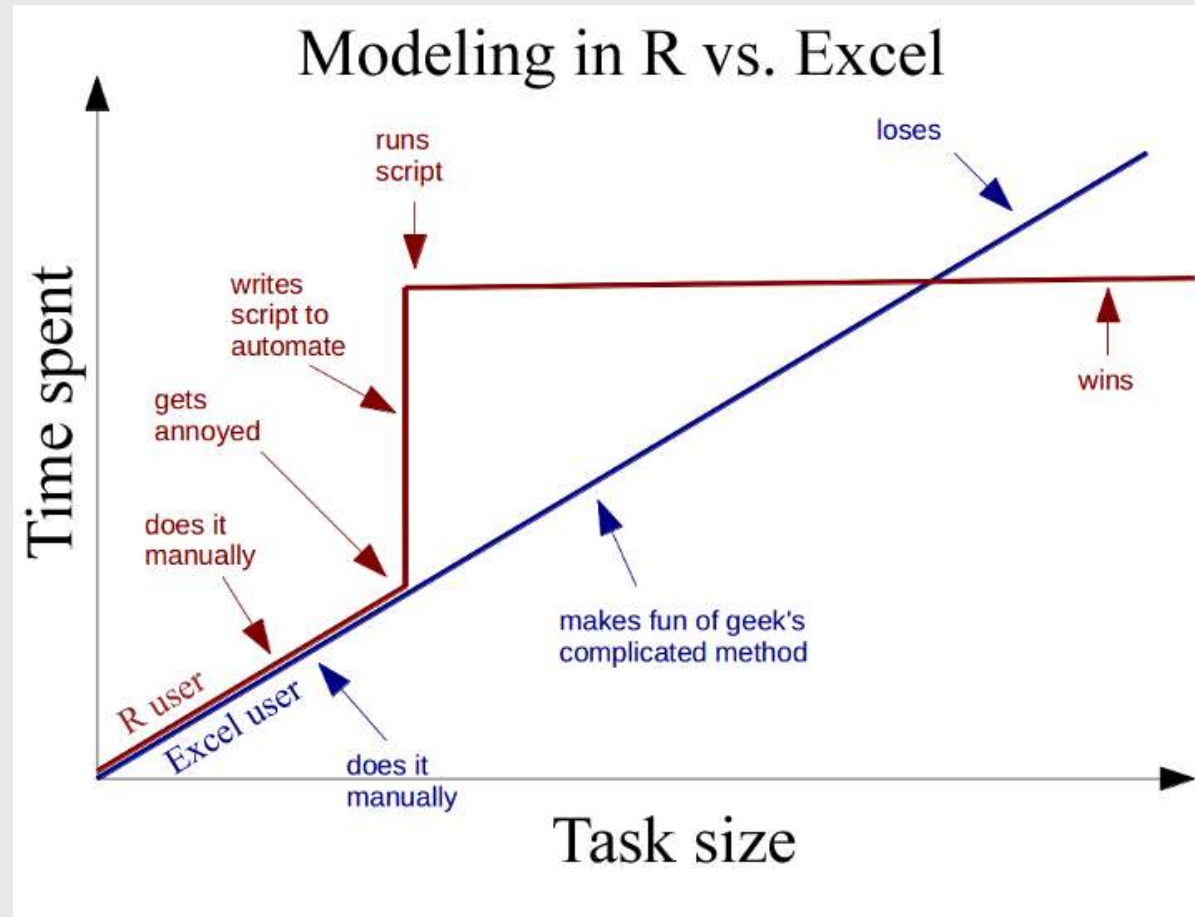- Website: www.jhelvy.com

⚒ Tools

🌐 Course website: https://madd.seas.gwu.edu/2023-Fall/

💬 Course slack: https://emse-madd-f23.slack.com

®️ & RStudio: Course Software Page

Why ℝ?

Modeling in R vs. Excel

Learning Objectives

After this class, you will know how to...

- ...work with data in R

- ...design effective surveys to get rich data

- ...analyze consumer choice data to model consumer preferences

- ...design effective charts to communicate insights

Course prerequisites

This course requires prior exposure to:

- Probability theory

- Multivariable calculus

- Linear algebra

- Regression

Not sure?

Take this self assessment

Reflections (30% of grade)

Do some readings, recorded lectures, practice problems

Write a short reflection

📅 ~Every week (10 total)

🕐 Due 11:59pm Tues. before class

✓ Graded for completion (looking for engagement)

Quizzes (10% of grade)

📅 At the start of class every other week-is. Make ups only for excused absences (i.e. don't be late).

📅 5 total, lowest dropped

🕐 ~5 - 10 minutes

Why quiz at all? The "retrieval effect" - basically, you have to *practice* remembering things, otherwise your brain won't remember them (see the book "Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning")

Exam (10% of grade)

Take home exam, 2nd to last week of class

We'll go over exam solutions on last day of class

# Semester Project (45% of grade)

Teams of 3-4 students

Goals:

- Assess market viability of a new technology or design
- Recommend best design choices for target market or application

Key deliverables:

Item	Weight	Due
Project Proposal	5 %	Sep. 24
Survey Plan	5 %	Oct. 03
Pilot Survey	5 %	Oct. 17
Pilot Analysis	5 %	Nov. 05
Final Survey	5 %	Nov. 19
Final Analysis Report	15 %	Dec. 10
Final Presentation	5 %	Dec. 12

Grades

Percent of final grade
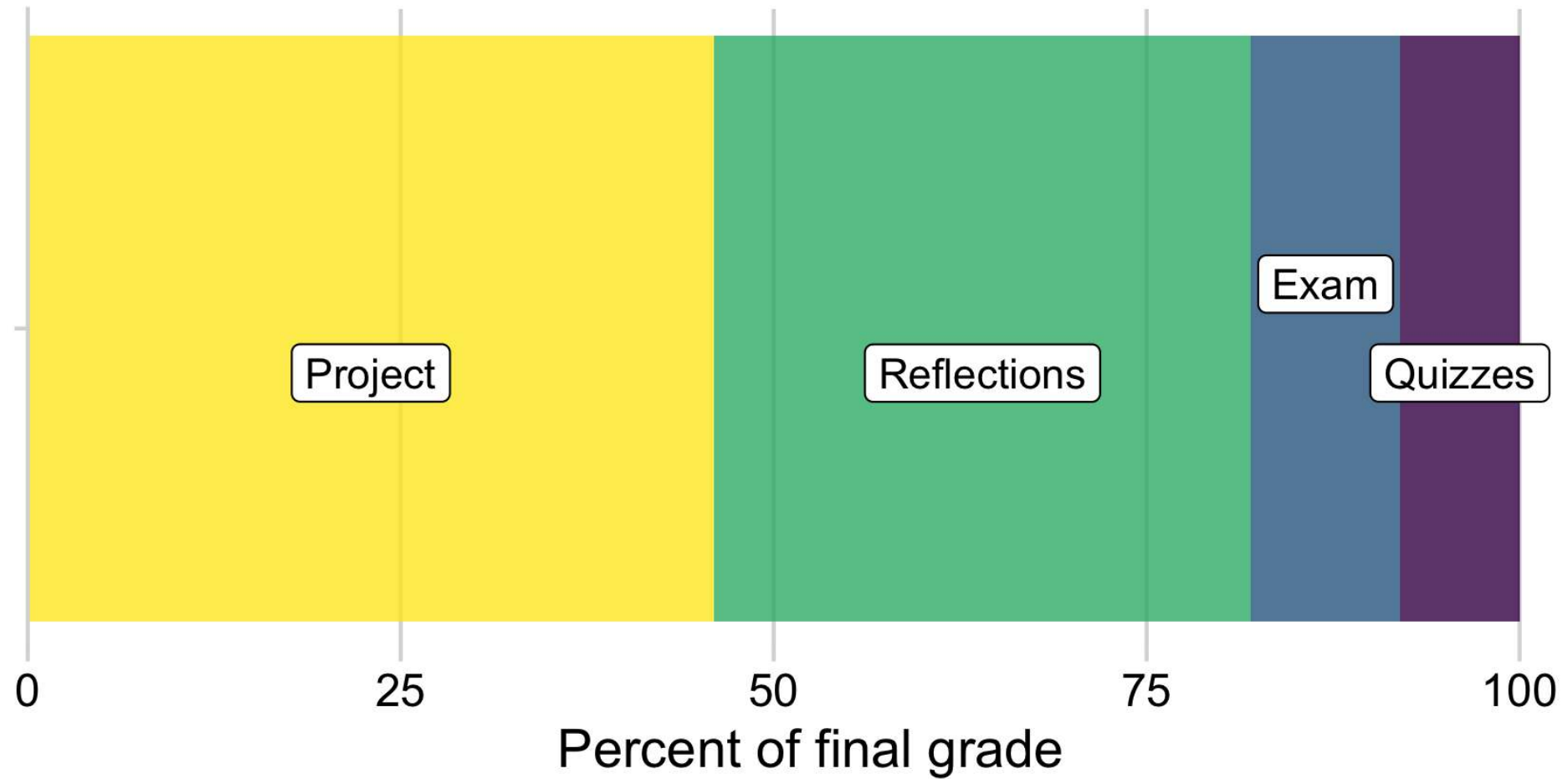
Grades

Item	Weight	Notes
Participation / Attendance	5%	(Yes, I take attendance)
Reflections	30 %	Weekly assignment (10 × 3%, lowest dropped)
Quizzes	10 %	5 quizzes, lowest dropped
Final Exam	10 %	Take home exam
Project Proposal	5 %	Teams of 3-4 students
Survey Plan	5 %	
Pilot Survey	5 %	
Pilot Analysis	5 %	
Final Survey	5 %	
Final Analysis Report	15 %	
Final Presentation	5 %	

Course policies

- BE NICE

- BE HONEST

- DON'T CHEAT

Copying is good, stealing is bad

"Plagiarism is trying to pass someone else's work off as your own. Copying is about reverse-engineering."

-- Austin Kleon, from Steal Like An Artist

Use of chatGPT and other AI tools

- Large language models (LLMs) are pretty good...but sometimes suck.

- Use of AI tools is generally permitted, but **be transparent**.

- All assignments must include a **Use of AI on this assignment** section where you:

  - Describe any AI tool and how it was used along with prompt(s) used.
  - Include a link to the chat transcript.

Use AI as an assistant, not a solutions manual

Curious how LLMs actually work? Check out this article, which provides a simplified description of how they work (which itself is still quite complicated).

Late submissions

- **5** late days - use them anytime, no questions asked

- No more than **2** late days on any one assignment

- Contact me for special cases

How to succeed in this class

👥 Participate during class!

🛠 Start assignments early and **read carefully**!

🛏 Get sleep and take breaks often!

🤼 Ask for help!

Getting Help

Use **Slack** to ask questions.

Schedule a meeting w/Prof. Helveston:

- Mondays from 8:00-4:30pm
- Tuesdays from 8:00-4:30pm
- Fridays from 8:00-4:00pm

</> **GW Coders**

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Engineers often design things nobody wants!

We want to answers to questions like...

- Higher prices decrease demand, but by how much?

- How much more is a consumer willing to pay for increased performance in X?

- How will my product compete against competitors in the market?

Answers depend on knowing what people want

Directly asking people what they want isn't always helpful

(People want everything)

Which feature do you care more about?

Battery Life?

Brand?
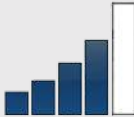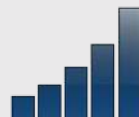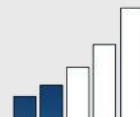
Signal quality?
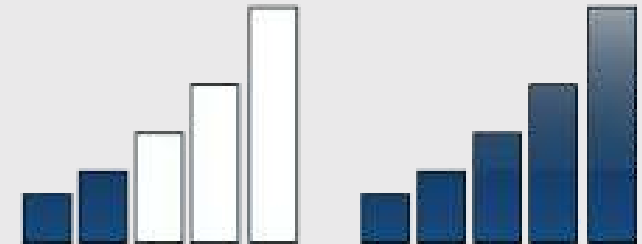
Conjoint approach:
Use consumer choice data to model preferences

Attribute	Phone 1	Phone 2	Phone 3
Price	$400	$450	$350
Brand	Apple	LG	SAMSUNG
Battery Life			
Signal Quality			
N chosen:	350	250	400

Use random utility framework to predict probability of choosing phone j

1. $u_j = \beta_1 \text{price}_j + \beta_2 \text{brand}_j + \beta_3 \text{battery}_j + \beta_4 \text{signal}_j + \varepsilon_j$

2. Assume $\varepsilon_j \sim$ iid extreme value

3. Probability of choosing phone j: $P_j = \frac{e^{\beta' x_j}}{\sum_k^J e^{\beta' x_k}}$

4. Estimate $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$ by minimizing $-L = -\sum_n^N \sum_j^J y_{nj} \ln P_{nj}$

Willingness to Pay
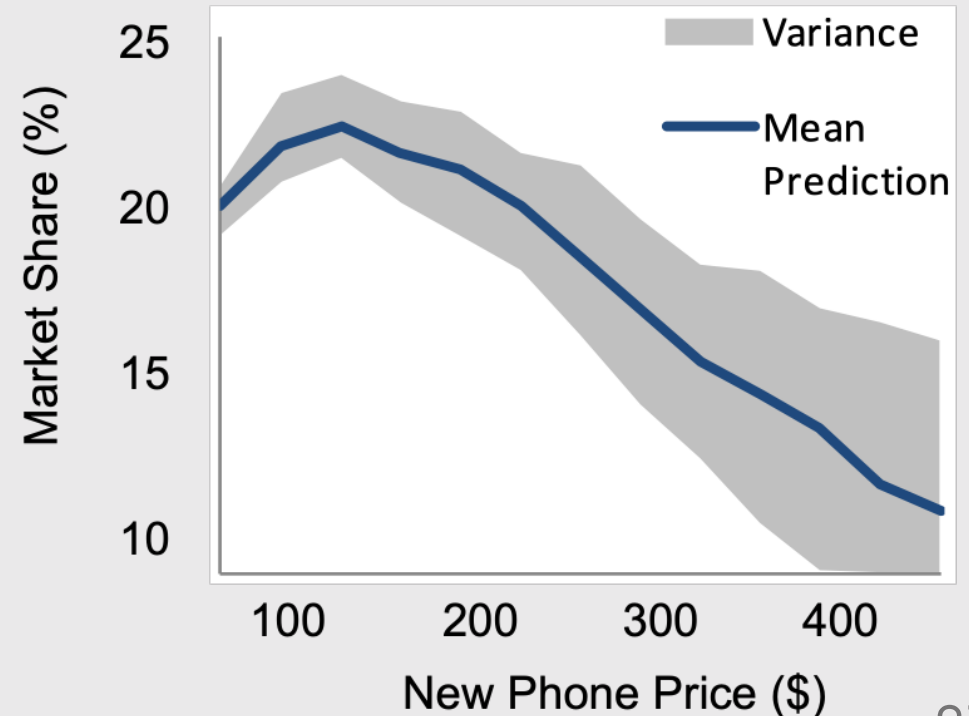
$$u_j = \beta' x_j + \alpha p_j + \varepsilon_j$$

$$\omega = \frac{\beta}{-\alpha}$$

"Respondents on average are willing to pay $XX to improve battery life by XX%"

Make predictions

$$P_j = \frac{e^{\hat{\beta}' x_j}}{\sum_k^J e^{\hat{\beta}' x_k}}$$

Example: *Pocket Charge*

A Flexible, Portable Solar Charger

Product Diagram

Attribute Units

Price – USD
Weight – Kg
Power Output – Watts
Durability – Months
Portability – LxWxH

Decision Variable Units

Power Density – W/Kg
Degradation Rate – Hours
Packing Design – Cm^3

Durability

Degradation Protections

Portability

Power Output

Power Density

Packing Design

Weight

Example survey choice question

	Choice 1		Choice 2		Choice 3
Price (USD)	200	Price (USD)	50	Price (USD)	100
Weight (lbs)	3	Weight (lbs)	0.5	Weight (lbs)	0.5
Power Output (Watts)	16 (One cellphone in 2 hours)	Power Output (Watts)	16 (One cellphone in 2 hours)	Power Output (Watts)	16 (One cellphone in 2 hours)
Years of Manufacturers Warranty	1	Years of Manufacturers Warranty	1	Years of Manufacturers Warranty	3
Portability	Compacted size of a thumb drive	Portability	Compacted size of a deck of cards	Portability	Compacted size of a box fan
	○		○		○
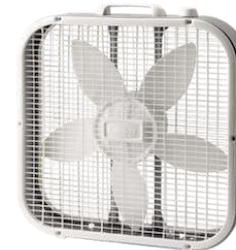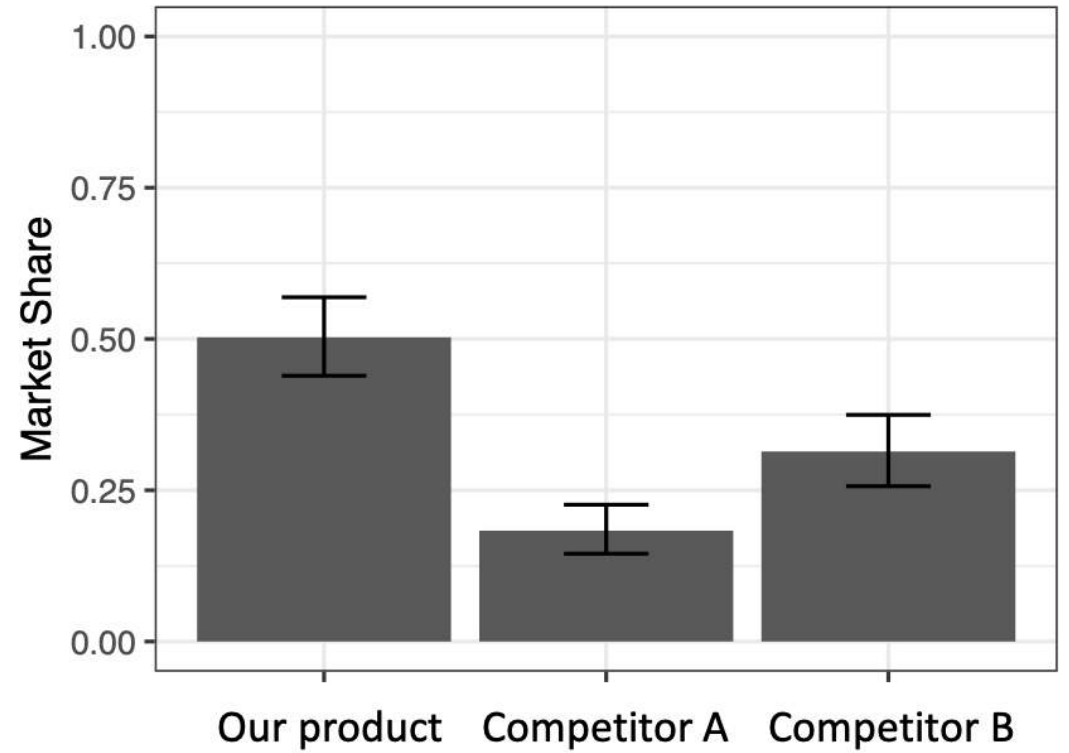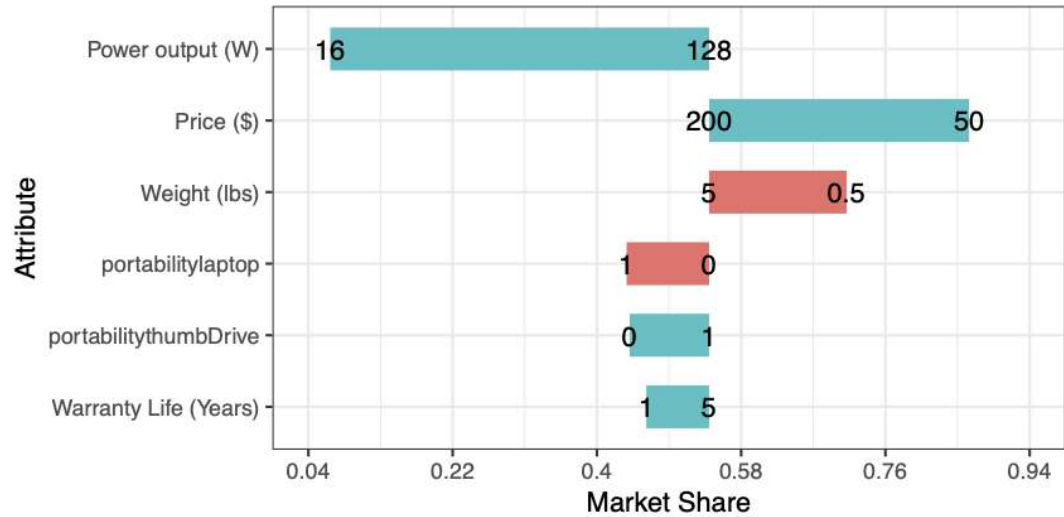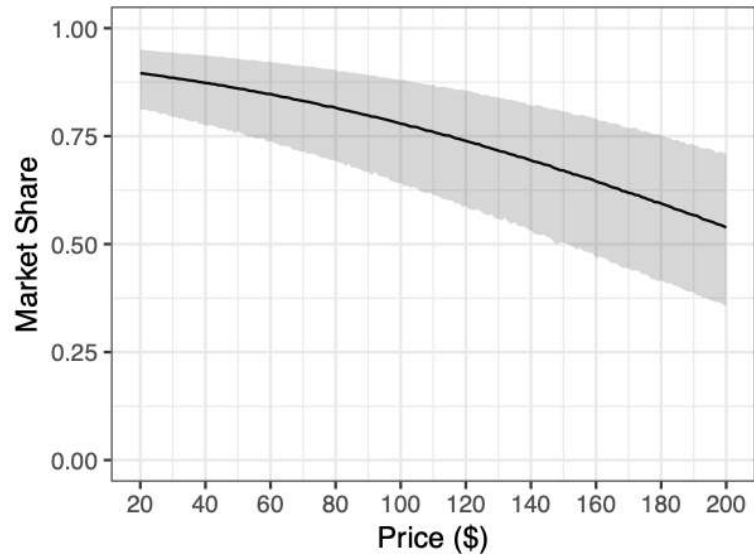
Your project starts now!

[View project Ideas](#)

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Introduce yourself

- Preferred name

- Degree program

- Prior experience

- What do you hope to gain from this class?

- Project interests?

Break

1. If you haven't already, install everything on the software page

2. Stand up, meet each other, (maybe form teams?...use this sheet)

05 : 00

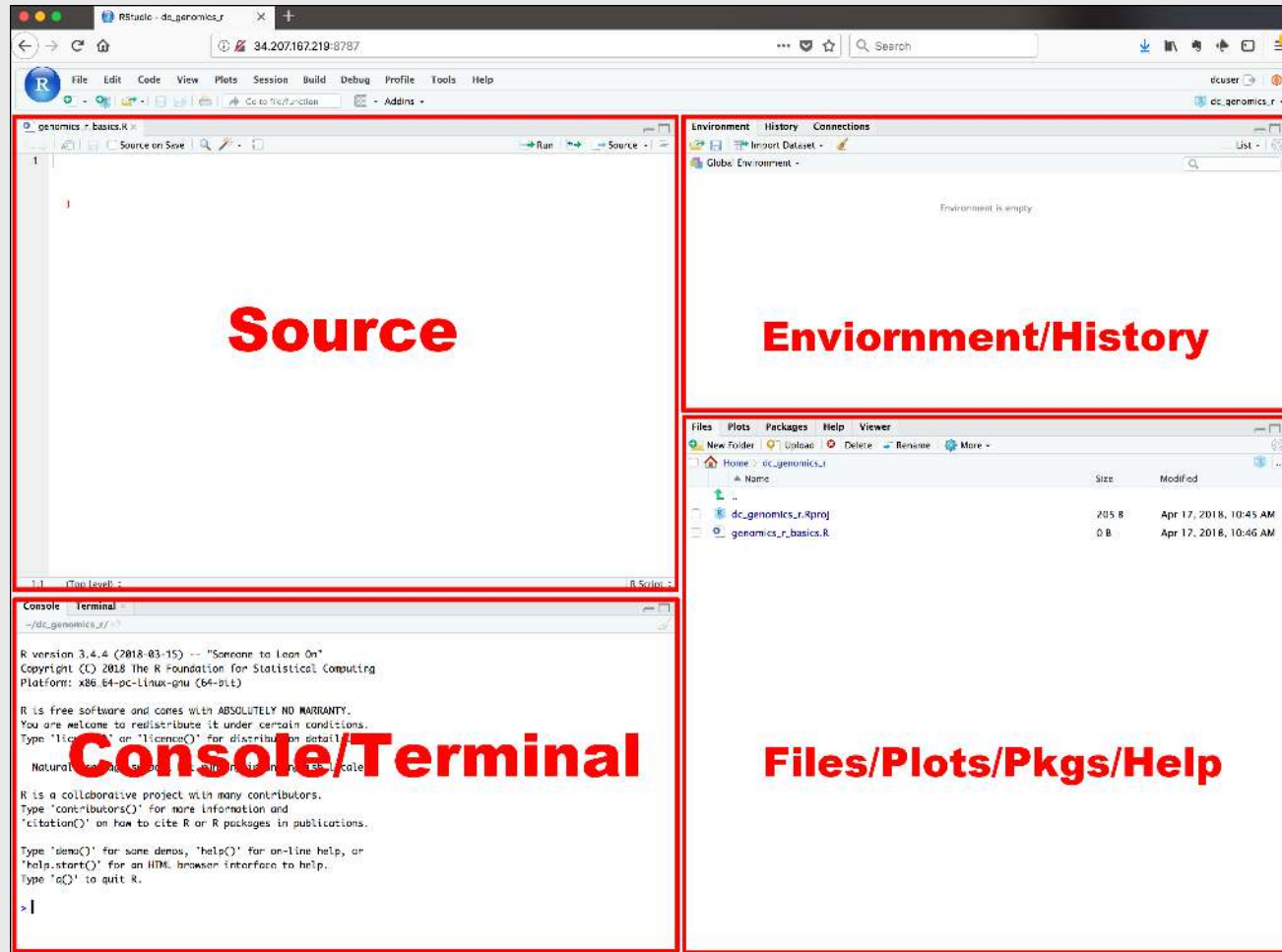# Week 1: *Getting Started*

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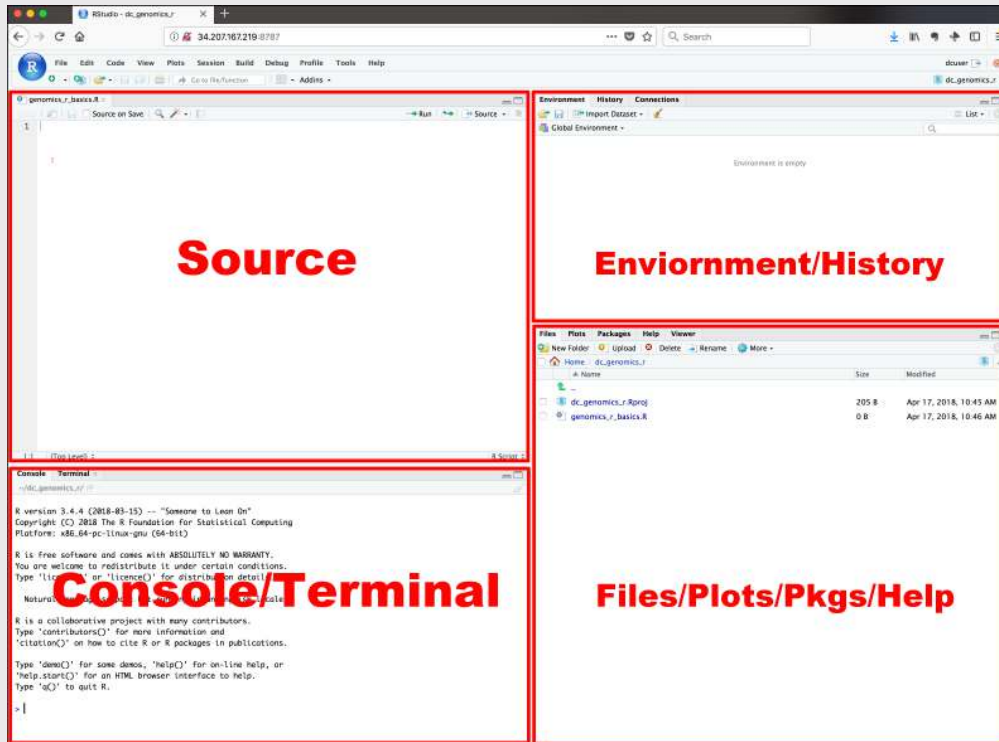
4. Getting started with R & RStudio

RStudio Orientation

- Know the boxes
- Customize the layout
- Customize the look
- Extra themes

Open `intro-to-R.R` file and follow along

View prior code in history pane

Use "up" arrow see previous code

Staying organized

1) Save your code in .R files

File > New File > R Script

2) Keep work in R Project files

File > New Project...

Your turn

A. Practice getting organized

1. Open RStudio and create a new R project called `week1`.
2. Create a new R script and save it as `practice.R`.
3. Open the `practice.R` file and write your answers to these questions in it.

`10:00`

B. Creating & working with objects

1). Create objects to store the values in this table:

City	Area (sq. mi.)	Population (thousands)
San Francisco, CA	47	884
Chicago, IL	228	2,716
Washington, DC	61	694

2) Using the objects you created, answer the following questions:

- Which city has the highest density?
- How many *more* people would need to live in DC for it to have the same population density as San Francisco?

>15,000 packages on the CRAN
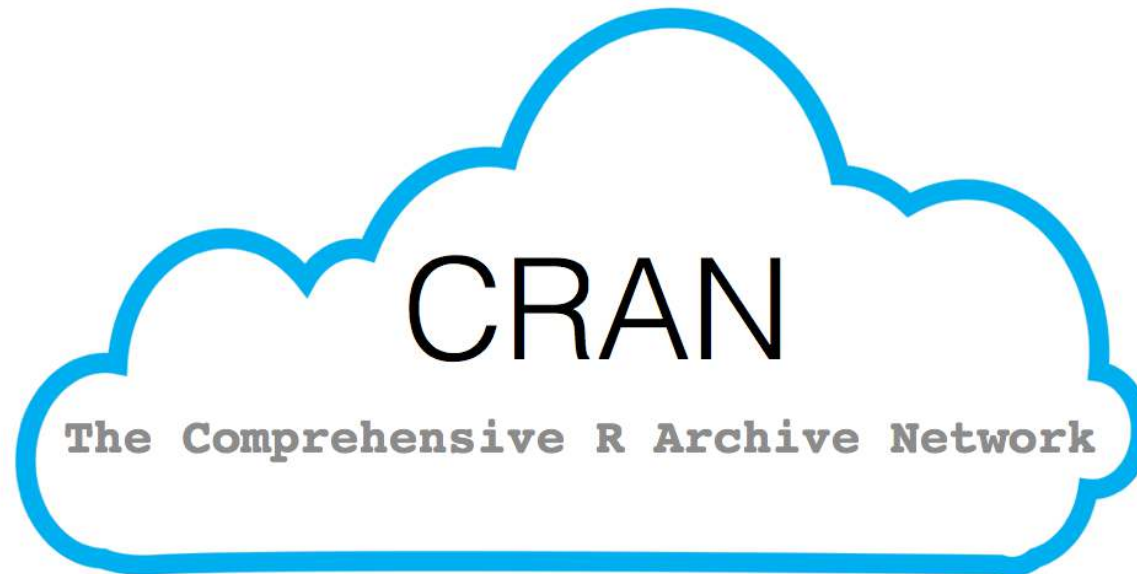
Installing packages

`install.packages("packagename")`

(The package name **must** be in quotes)

```
install.packages("packagename") # This works
install.packages(packagename)   # This doesn't work
```

You only need to install a package once!

Loading packages

`library(packagename)`: Loads all the functions in a package

(The package name *doesn't* need to be in quotes)

```
library("packagename") # This works
library(packagename)   # This also works
```

You need to *load* the package every time you use it!

Installing vs. Loading

INSTALL ONCE:

USE MANY TIMES:

Example: **wikifacts**

Install the Wikifacts package, by Keith McNulty:

```
install.packages("wikifacts")
```

Load the package:

```
library(wikifacts) # Load the library
```

Use one of the package functions

```
wiki_randomfact()
```

```
#> [1] "Did you know that shortly before sports shooter William Riedell was to compete
in the 1936 Olympics, he had his pistols confiscated by the New York police because the
precinct chief had decided there were \"too many guns\"? (Courtesy of Wikipedia)"
```

Example: **wikifacts**

Now, restart your RStudio session:

> Session -> Restart R

Try using the package function again:

```
wiki_randomfact()
```

```
#> Error in wiki_randomfact(): could not find function "wiki_randomfact"
```

Using only *some* package functions

You don't always have to load the whole library.

Functions can be accessed with this pattern:

`packagename::functionname()`

```
wikifacts::wiki_randomfact()
```

```
#> [1] "Did you know that on February 18 in 1268 — The Battle of Wesenberg took place
between Novgorodian and Pskovian forces against the Livonian Order and its allies,
ending with Russian forces retreating from Danish Estonia. (Courtesy of Wikipedia)"
```

If you haven't yet, install [these packages](#)

Back `intro-to-R.R` for the rest of class!