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Data Research Centre

# Introduction to R

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# Agenda

1. Introduction
2. R-Syntax, Data structures & types
3. Data import
4. Creating, amending, exporting data frames
5. Type coercion
6. Loops and conditions







## Introduction to the session

- For the hands-on session visit the following web page:  
<https://philippbroniecki.github.io/suffolk2019/>



## What is R?

- An environment for statistical computing and graphics
- It is free
- It packs powerful graphical facilities
- It is a simple and effective programming language
- Most statistical models are already implemented
- New models are often implemented in R first





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**Visualization**

**Open source**

**Data science**



**Platform agnostic**

**Computational  
statistics**

EXPLORING DATA  
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## Home of R and help on R questions

- Home of all things R: <https://cran.r-project.org/>
  - Keep R updated – check for new versions
- To get help:
  - Google the question or error message is always a good start
  - <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/r>

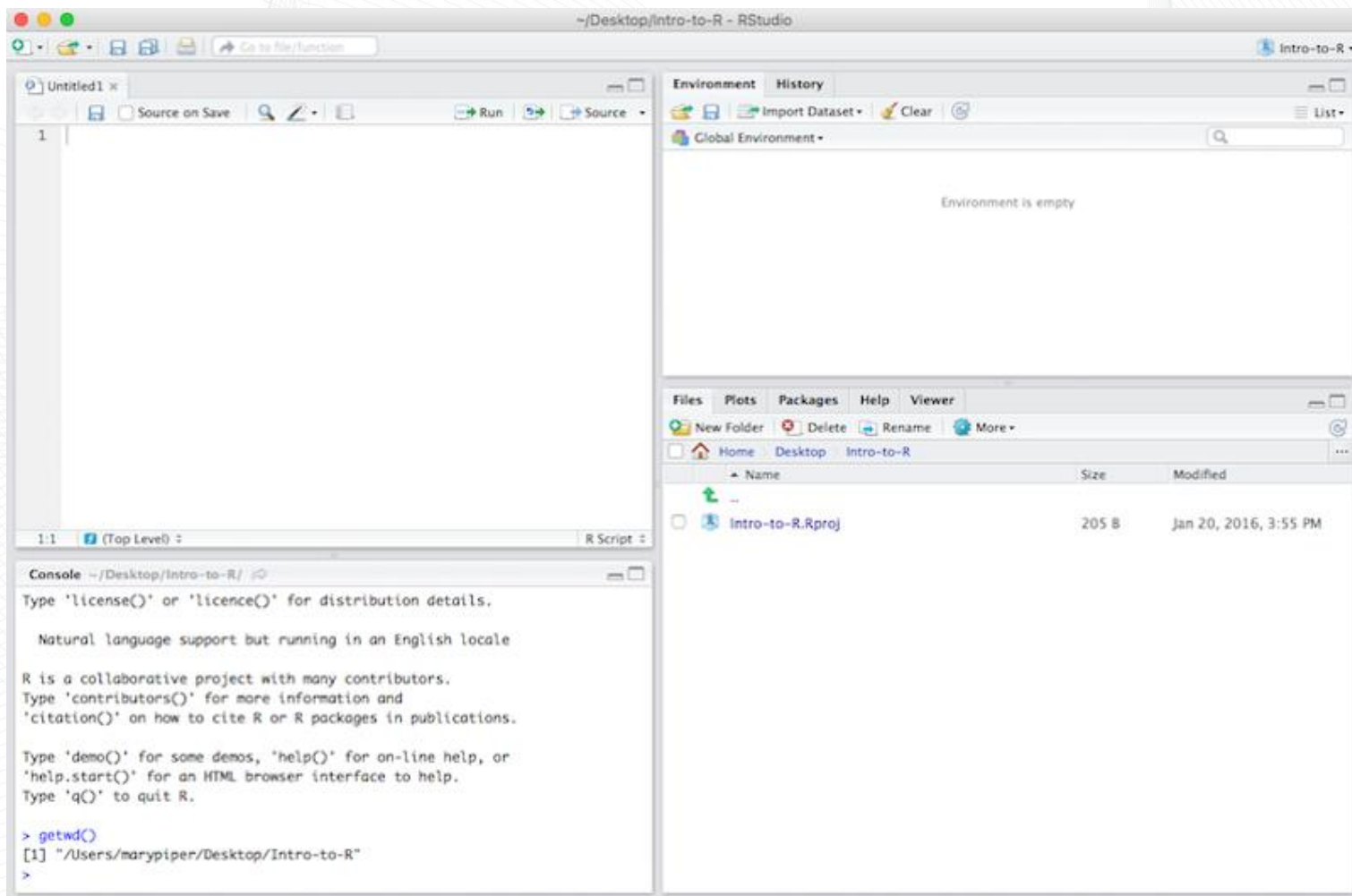




## R Studio

- Working environment R
  - While you do not need R Studio to run R, it makes working with R much easier
  - Just like R, it works on PC, Mac & Linux





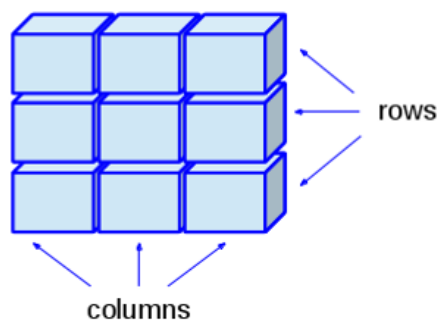


## R-Syntax, data structures and types

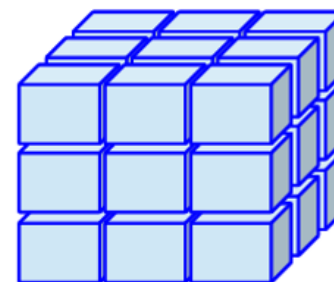
Vector



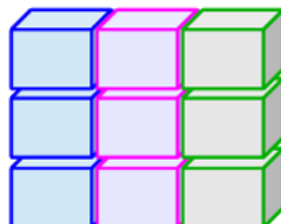
Matrix



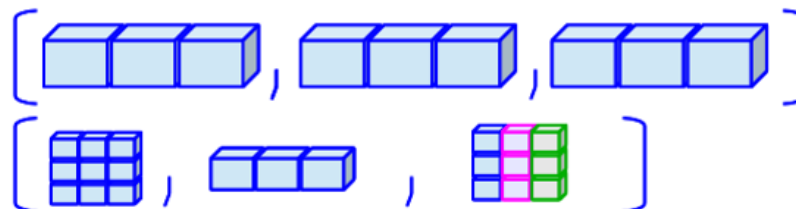
Array



Data Frame  
(Table)



Lists



<http://venus.ifca.unican.es/RIntro/dataStruct.html>



# Data structures and types

- Vectors: one-dimensional; store collection data of same mode; one coordinate to identify a unique vector element):
  - Numeric vectors (mode: numeric)
  - Logical vectors (mode: logical)
  - Character vector or vector of strings (mode: character)
  - Factors are vectors for categorical variables that assign a label to each category
- Matrices: two dimensional, store data of same mode; two coordinates to identify a unique matrix element
- Arrays: n-dimensional; store data of same mode; n coordinates needed to identify a unique array element
- Lists: ordered collection of objects, elements can be of different types
- Data frames: Matrices that can store data of different modes
  - For Analysis: Always place observations in rows & variables in columns
  - Call missing values for numeric mode NA and for string mode ""





## Vectors

- Numeric vectors
  - `a <- 5`
  - `a <- c(1, 50, 9, 42)`
- Logical vectors
  - `b <- a < 10`
- Character vectors
  - `a <- "this is text"`





# Matrix

```
> # create a matrix with 3 rows and 4 columns
> a <- matrix( data = c(90, 5, 137, 9, 87, 40, 2, 52, 4, 102, 32, 41),
+             nrow = 3,
+             ncol = 4,
+             byrow = TRUE
+             )
> a
      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
[1,]   90    5  137    9
[2,]   87   40    2   52
[3,]    4  102   32   41
> # check the dimensions of a
> dim(a)
[1] 3 4
```

|    |     |     |    |
|----|-----|-----|----|
| 90 | 5   | 137 | 9  |
| 87 | 40  | 2   | 52 |
| 4  | 102 | 32  | 41 |



# Array

```
> # create an array with 2 rows, 3 columns & 4 layers
> a <- array(data = 1:24, dim = c(2, 3, 4))
> a
, , 1
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]     1     3     5
[2,]     2     4     6

, , 2
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]     7     9    11
[2,]     8    10    12

, , 3
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    13    15    17
[2,]    14    16    18

, , 4
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    19    21    23
[2,]    20    22    24

> # check dimensions of a
> dim(a)
[1] 2 3 4
```





# Data frame

- Each row is a vector
- Each column is a vector
- All rows must have equal length
- All columns must have equal length

|     |     |        |      |
|-----|-----|--------|------|
| "A" | 102 | "Hela" | TRUE |
| "B" | 40  | "BHK"  | F    |
| "C" | 12  | "hESC" | T    |



# Data frame

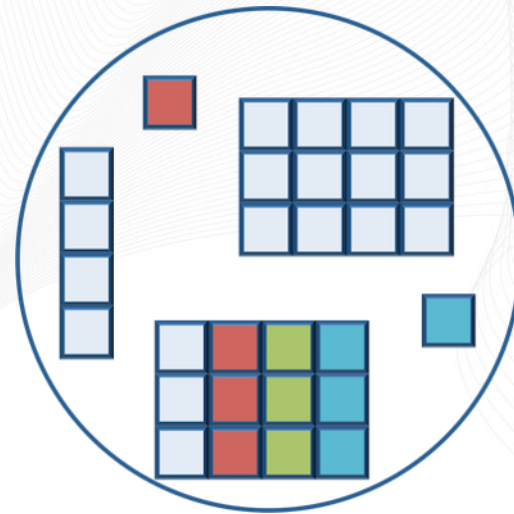
- We will use data frames for analysis
- Data frames can store different data modes (numeric, factor, character)
- Data frames are rectangular
  - All rows have the same length
  - All columns have the same length





# List

- Lists hold any number of any types of other data structures
- If you have variables of different data structures you wish to combine you can put all of those into one list object by using the `list()` function and placing all the items you wish to combine within parentheses:
- `a <- list( object1, object2, object3)`







## Math functions

|                           |                                 |                          |                         |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <code>log(x)</code>       | Natural log.                    | <code>sum(x)</code>      | Sum.                    |
| <code>exp(x)</code>       | Exponential.                    | <code>mean(x)</code>     | Mean.                   |
| <code>max(x)</code>       | Largest element.                | <code>median(x)</code>   | Median.                 |
| <code>min(x)</code>       | Smallest element.               | <code>quantile(x)</code> | Percentage quantiles.   |
| <code>round(x, n)</code>  | Round to n decimal places.      | <code>rank(x)</code>     | Rank of elements.       |
| <code>signif(x, n)</code> | Round to n significant figures. | <code>var(x)</code>      | The variance.           |
| <code>cor(x, y)</code>    | Correlation.                    | <code>sd(x)</code>       | The standard deviation. |



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# Thank you

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