# **Exploratory Data Analysis with R**

Introduction to R - Part II

Xuemao Zhang East Stroudsburg University

September 9, 2022

### **Outline**

- R Programming
  - R condition statements
  - ► R loops
  - R functions
- Data Input
  - Working directory
  - Data input
  - Data Summaries
- Data output

#### R condition statement: if

Condition statements allow you to specify the execution of your code. They
are extremely useful if you want to run a piece a code if a certain condition is
met. The syntax of if statement is

```
if (test_expression) {statements;}
```

- The any function takes in logical vectors and returns TRUE if one or more elements if TRUE.
- The which functions takes in logical vectors and returns the index for the elements where the logical value is TRUE.

#### R condition statement: if

```
x = c(8, -3, 2, -6);
#any() checks if any of the elements of a vector are TRUE
if(any(x < 0)) print("x contains negative numbers");</pre>
## [1] "x contains negative numbers"
if(any(x < 0))
  {print("x contains negative numbers");
  print(x[which(x<0)]);</pre>
#which() function returns the positions of the elements
}
## [1] "x contains negative numbers"
```

## [1] -3 -6

• The conditional if ... else statement is used to test an expression similar to the if statement. However, if the test\_expression is FALSE, the else part of the function will be evaluated. The syntax is

```
if (test_expression) {
         statement 1;
} else {
         statement 2;
}
```

```
x = c(8, -3, 2, -6);
if(any(x < 0))
  {print("x contains negative numbers");
  print(x[which(x<0)]);</pre>
} else
{print("x contains all positive numbers")}
## [1] "x contains negative numbers"
## [1] -3 -6
x = c(8, 3, 2, 6);
if(any(x < 0))
  {print("x contains negative numbers");
  print(x[which(x<0)]);</pre>
} else
{print("x contains all positive numbers")}
## [1] "x contains all positive numbers"
```

• We can also nest as many if...else statements as required (or desired).

```
k = 21;
if(k > 20){
  print("The number is greater than 20");
} else if (k < 20){
  print("The number is less than 20");
} else {
  print ("The number is equal to 20");
}</pre>
```

## [1] "The number is greater than 20"

• ifelse() function is a shorthand function to the traditional if...else statement. The syntax is

```
ifelse(test_expression, x, y)
```

- The test\_expression must be a logical vector (or an object that can be coerced to logical).
- This returned vector has element from x if test\_expression is TRUE or from y if test\_expression is FALSE.

```
x = c(9,4,0,-4,-9);
sqrt(x); #it gives warning

## Warning in sqrt(x): NaNs produced

## [1] 3 2 0 NaN NaN

sqrt(ifelse(x >= 0, x, NA)) # no warning
```

## [1] 3 2 0 NA NA

### R loops: for loop

- Loops are used in programming to repeat a specific block of code.
- The for loop is used to execute repetitive code statements for a particular number of times. The syntax is

```
for (val in sequence)
{
    statements;
}

for(i in 1:5)
{
    print(i);
}
```

```
## [1] 1
## [1] 2
## [1] 3
## [1] 4
## [1] 5
```

## R loops: while loop

- While loops begin by testing a condition. If it is TRUE, then they execute the statement. Once the statement is executed, the condition is tested again, and so forth, until the condition is FALSE, after which the loop exits.
- The syntax is

```
while(condition)
{expressions;}
i=0;
while (i < 5)
    {
       print(paste("i is", i));
       i=i+1;
    }</pre>
```

```
## [1] "i is 0"
## [1] "i is 1"
## [1] "i is 2"
## [1] "i is 3"
## [1] "i is 4"
```

# R loops: repeat loop

- A repeat loop is used to iterate over a block of code multiple number of times. There is test expression in a repeat loop to end or exit the loop. Rather, we must put a condition statement explicitly inside the body of the loop and use the break function to exit the loop. Failing to do so will result into an infinite loop.
- The syntax is

```
counter = 1;
repeat {
         statements;
         if(test_expression) {
               break;
         }
         counter = counter + 1;
}
```

## R loops: repeat loop

```
x = 1;
repeat {
print(x);
x = x+1;
if (x == 6){
break;
}
}
## [1] 1
## [1] 2
```

## [1] 3 ## [1] 4 ## [1] 5

### R loops: break and next

A break statement is used inside a loop (repeat, for, while) to stop the
iterations and flow the control outside of the loop. It is used to exit a loop
immediately if the test\_expression is TRUE.

```
if (test_expression) {break;}

for (i in 1:100) {
   if (i == 4) {
      break;
   }
   print(i);
}
```

Γ1 1

[1] 3

### R loops: break and next

• A next statement is useful when we want to skip the current iteration of a loop without terminating it. On encountering next, the R parser skips further evaluation and starts **next iteration** of the loop. The syntax is

```
if (test_condition) {next;}
for (i in 1:5) {
   if (i == 3){
      next;
   }
   print(i);
}
```

```
## [1] 1
## [1] 2
## [1] 4
## [1] 5
```

- A function is a set of statements organized together to perform a specific task.
- Functions are used to logically break our code into simpler parts which become easy to maintain and understand.
- R has a large number of in-built functions.

```
x = 1:50;
x;

## [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
## [26] 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 49
sum(x); #Find the sum of the numbers

## [1] 1275
mean(x); #Find the average of the numbers

## [1] 25.5
```

 One of the great strengths of R is the user's ability to add functions.user can create their own functions. In fact, many of the functions in R are actually functions of functions. The structure of a function is

```
myfunction <- function(arg1, arg2, ...)
{
statements;
return(object);
}</pre>
```

- Function Name (myfunction): This is the actual name of the function. It is stored in R environment as an object with this name.
- Arguments (arg1, arg2, ...): An argument is a placeholder. When a function is invoked, you pass a value to the argument. Arguments are optional; that is, a function may contain no arguments. Also arguments can have default values.
- Function Body (statements): The function body contains a collection of statements that defines what the function does.
- Return Value (return(object)): The return value of a function is the last expression in the function body to be evaluated.

```
# sum of the first n integers
summ<-function(n)
{
   a=0;
   for(i in 1:n)
   {a=a+i;}
   return(a);
}
summ(10)</pre>
```

## [1] 55

```
# power of a vector or matrix
getPower<-function(x ,power)</pre>
   out <- x ^ power;
   return(out);
}
getPower(x=3,power=2);
## [1] 9
getPower(x=c(1,2,3),power=2);
## [1] 1 4 9
```

- 'Reading in' data is the first step of any real project/analysis
- R can read almost any file format, especially via add-on packages
- We are going to focus on simple delimited files first
  - tab delimited (e.g. '.txt')
  - comma separated (e.g. '.csv')
  - Microsoft excel (e.g. '.xlsx')

#### Common new user mistakes

- Working directory problems: trying to read files that R "can't find"
  - RStudio can help, and so do RStudio Projects
- 2 Lack of comments in code
- Typos (R is case sensitive, x and X are different)
  - RStudio helps with "tab completion" which can help correct your typos
- Data type problems (is that a string or a number?)
- Open ended quotes, parentheses, and brackets
- O Different versions of software

# **Working Directories**

- R "looks" for files on your computer relative to the working directory
- Many people recommend not setting a directory in the scripts
  - assume you're in the directory the script is in
  - ▶ If you open an R file with a new RStudio session, it does this for you.
- If you do set a working directory, do it at the beginning of your script.
- Example of getting and setting the working directory:

```
getwd(); #obtain the current working directory
here::here();
setwd("../Lecture05"); #set (change) the working directory
```

## **Setting a Working Directory**

- Setting the directory can sometimes be finicky
  - ▶ Windows: Default directory structure involves single backslashes (\), but R interprets these as "escape" characters. So you must replace the backslash with forward slashes ("/") or two backslashes ("\")
  - Mac/Linux: Default is forward slashes, so you are okay
- Typical directory structure syntax applies
  - ▶ ".." goes up one level
  - "./" is the current directory
  - "~" is your "home" directory

## **Working Directory**

Note that the dir() function interfaces with your operating system and can show you which files are in your current working directory.

You can try some directory navigation:

```
dir("./") # shows directory contents
##
    [1] "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.aux" "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.1
    [3] "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.pdf" "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.l
##
       "Lecture05 R Introduction2.snm" "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.to
##
    [7]
       "Lecture05_R_Introduction2.vrb"
##
                                         "mtcars.csv"
##
    [9]
        "mtcars.txt"
                                          "mtcars data.rda"
## [11] "mtcars2.rds"
dir("..")
##
    [1] "88x31.png"
                       "data"
                                     "Lecture01"
                                                    "Lecture02"
                                                                   "Le
```

```
[6] "Lecture04"
##
                       "Lecture05"
                                      "Lecture06"
                                                     "Lecture07"
                                                                    "Le
   [11] "Lecture09"
##
                       "Lecture10"
                                      "Lecture11"
                                                     "Lecture12"
                                                                    "Le
   [16] "Lecture14"
                       "Lecture15"
                                                                    "Le
##
                                      "Lecture16"
                                                     "Lecture17"
##
   [21] "Lecture19"
                       "Lecture20"
                                      "Lecture21"
                                                     "Lecture22"
                                                                    "Le
```

"Lecture25"

##

"Lecture26"

## Relative vs. absolute paths (From Wiki)

An **absolute or full path** points to the same location in a file system, regardless of the current working directory. To do that, it must include the **root directory**.

This means if I try your code, and you use absolute paths, it won't work unless we have the exact same folder structure where R is looking (bad).

By contrast, a **relative path starts from some given working directory**, avoiding the need to provide the full absolute path. A filename can be considered as a relative path based at the current working directory.

## **Setting the Working Directory**

In RStudio, go to Session --> Set Working Directory --> To Source
File Location

RStudio should put code in the Console, similar to this:

```
setwd("~/Math318/Lecture05");
```

# **Help and Commenting**

 For any function, you can write ?FUNCTION\_NAME, or help("FUNCTION\_NAME") to look at the help file:

```
?dir
help("dir")
```

Commenting in Scripts

Commenting in code is super important. You should be able to go back to your code years after writing it and figure out exactly what the script is doing. Commenting helps you do this.

- Easy way: R Studio features some nice "drop down" support, where you can run some tasks by selecting them from the toolbar.
  - For example, you can easily import text datasets using the "File -> Import Dataset" command. Selecting this will bring up a new screen that lets you specify the formatting of your text file.
  - After importing a datatset, you get the corresponding R commands that you can enter in the console if you want to re-import data.
- Write your code directly.
  - Using base R functions like read.table() and read.csv().
  - Utilizing functions in the readr package called read\_delim() and read\_csv().
  - The readr data import tools are up to two times faster for reading in large datasets.

```
read_delim(): Read a delimited file into a data frame.
read_delim(file, delim, quote = "\"", escape_backslash = FALSE,
    escape_double = TRUE, col_names = TRUE, col_types = NULL,
    locale = default_locale(), na = c("", "NA"), quoted_na = TRUE,
    comment = "", trim_ws = FALSE, skip = 0, n_max = Inf,
    guess_max = min(1000, n_max), progress = interactive())
# for example: `read delim("file.txt",delim="\t")`
```

- The filename is the path to your file, in quotes
- The function will look in your "working directory" if no absolute file path is given
- Note that the filename can also be a path to a file on a website (e.g. 'www.someurl.com/table1.txt')

There is another convenient function for reading in CSV files, where the delimiter is assumed to be a comma:

```
read csv
```

It is from package 'readr"

```
read_csv(file, col_names = TRUE, col_types = NULL,
  locale = default_locale(), na = c("", "NA"), quoted_na = TRUE,
  quote = "\"", comment = "", trim_ws = TRUE, skip = 0,
  n_max = Inf, guess_max = min(1000, n_max),
  progress = show_progress(), skip_empty_rows = TRUE)
```

 Here would be reading in the data from the command line, specifying the file path:

```
library(readr);
quiz1 = read_tsv("../data/quiz1.txt");
## Rows: 40 Columns: 7
## -- Column specification -----
## Delimiter: "\t"
## dbl (7): ID, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5, Q6
##
## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this
## i Specify the column types or set `show col types = FALSE` to qu:
str(quiz1); #missing values are represented by NA
   spec tbl df [40 x 7] (S3: spec tbl df/tbl/data.frame)
    $ ID: num [1:40] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
##
    $ Q1: num [1:40] 8 8 10 6 10 NA 10 10 10 8 ...
##
    $ Q2: num [1:40] 9 8 7 5 6 9 5 10 10 10 ...
##
    $ Q3: num [1:40] 10 8 10 9 8 10 9 10 6 10 ...
##
          Stroudsburg University

Exploratory Data Analysis with R
Xuemao Zhang East Stroudsburg University
```

```
quiz2 = read_csv("../data/quiz2.csv");
## Rows: 40 Columns: 7
## -- Column specification -----
## Delimiter: ","
## dbl (7): ID, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5, Q6
##
## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this
## i Specify the column types or set `show_col_types = FALSE` to qu:
#quiz2 = read.csv("../data/quiz2.csv",header=TRUE, sep=",");
str(quiz2);
   spec_tbl_df [40 x 7] (S3: spec_tbl_df/tbl_df/tbl/data.frame)
    $ ID: num [1:40] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
##
    $ Q1: num [1:40] 8 8 10 6 10 NA 10 10 10 8 ...
##
    $ Q2: num [1:40] 9 8 7 5 6 9 5 10 10 10 ...
##
    $ Q3: num [1:40] 10 8 10 9 8 10 9 10 6 10 ...
##
    $ Q4: num [1:40] 9.5 10 10 8 6 10 8 9 7 4 ...
##
    $ Q5: num [1:40] 10 9 10 5 NA 10 10 10 8 10 ...
##
##
    $ Q6: num [1:40] 8 8 8 NA NA NA 7 7 10 7 ...
```

- The read\_delim() and related functions returns a "tibble" is a data.frame
  with special printing, which is the primary data format for most data cleaning
  and analyses.
- Tibbles are a modern take on data frames. They keep the features that have stood the test of time, and drop the features that used to be convenient but are now frustrating (i.e. converting character vectors to factors).
- Mostly, tbl (tibbles) are the same as data.frames, except they don't print all lines.
- For more information, see Tibbles

Skimming a dataset

We will learn to do lots of Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) in the course, one overview function, skim() like the R base function summary(), is very useful in data cleaning. To use this function, we need to load the package it comes from, skimr.

```
library(skimr)
```

• Let's import a dataset from a website

 ${\tt url} = {\tt 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/rfordatascience/tidytuesday/master/data/2021/2021-02-02/hbcu\_all.csv'}$ 

hbcu=readr::read\_csv(url)

skimr::skim(hbcu)

- clean up the names of the variables using package janitor
  - Resulting names are unique and consist only of the \_ character, numbers, and letters.

```
library(janitor)
hbcu <- clean_names(hbcu)</pre>
```

## Data Input with tbl\_dfs

- read\_csv is popular but the base function read.csv is still largely used.
- When using the dropdown menu in RStudio, it uses read\_csv, which is an
  improved version of reading in CSVs. It returns a tbl (tibble), that is a
  data.frame with improved printing and subsetting properties:

```
head(quiz2);
```

```
# A tibble: 6 \times 7
 ##
                                                                                        TD
                                                                                                                                                        Q1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                         Q2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Q3
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            04
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Q5
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Q6
                                                       <dbl> <dbl > <db > <d
 ##
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               9.5
 ## 1
                                                                                                   1
                                                                                                                                                                   8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    9
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        8
 ## 2
                                                                                                                         8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        8
## 3
                                                                                                3
                                                                                                                                                        10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        8
## 4
                                                                                                 4
                                                                                                                                          6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    5
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    9 8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      5
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             NΑ
                                                                                                 5
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    8 6
 ## 5
                                                                                                                                                        10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           NΑ
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             NA
                                                                                                   6
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    9
 ## 6
                                                                                                                                                        NA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              NA
 class(quiz2);
```

## [1] "spec\_tbl\_df" "tbl\_df"

"tbl"

"data.frame"

## **Data Input**

#### quiz2;

```
A tibble: 40 x 7
           ID
##
                  Q1
                          Q2
                                  QЗ
                                         Q4
                                                 Q5
                                                         Q6
       <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
##
##
            1
                    8
                           9
                                  10
                                        9.5
                                                 10
                                                          8
                    8
                           8
                                   8
                                       10
                                                          8
##
##
     3
            3
                   10
                                  10
                                       10
                                                          8
                                                 10
    4
            4
                    6
                           5
                                        8
                                                  5
                                                         NA
##
##
     5
            5
                   10
                           6
                                   8
                                        6
                                                 NA
                                                         NA
##
     6
            6
                  NA
                           9
                                  10
                                       10
                                                 10
                                                         NA
     7
                   10
                           5
                                   9
                                        8
                                                 10
                                                          7
##
                                                          7
##
    8
            8
                   10
                          10
                                  10
                                        9
                                                 10
##
            9
                   10
                          10
                                   6
                                                  8
                                                         10
##
   10
           10
                    8
                          10
                                  10
                                        4
                                                 10
##
           with 30 more rows
```

## **Base R: Data Input**

- There are also data importing functions provided in base R (rather than the readr package), like read.delim and read.csv.
- These functions have slightly different syntax for reading in data, like header and as.is.
- However, while many online resources use the base R tools, the latest version
  of RStudio switched to use these new readr data import tools,
- But you can use whatever function you feel more comfortable with.

# Base R: Data Input

```
quiz1 = read.csv("../data/quiz1.txt",header=TRUE, sep="");
str(quiz1);
##
   'data.frame':
                40 obs. of 7 variables:
##
    $ ID: int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
##
    $ Q1: int 8 8 10 6 10 9 10 10 10 8 ...
##
    $ Q2: int 9 8 7 5 6 10 5 10 10 10 ...
    $ Q3: int 10 8 10 9 8 10 9 10 6 10 ...
##
    $ Q4: num
               9.5 10 10 8 6 10 8 9 7 4 ...
##
    $ Q5: int 10 9 10 5 NA NA 10 10 8 10 ...
##
##
    $ Q6: int 8 8 8 NA NA NA 7 7 10 7 ...
head(quiz1);
```

```
9 10
                   9.5 10
## 1
         8
## 2
         8
            8
                8 10.0
## 3
      3 10
            7 10 10.0 10
## 4
        6
             5
                9
                   8.0
                        5 NA
## 5
        10
                8
                   6.0 NA NA
               10
                  10.0 NA NA
```

Q2 Q3

Q4 Q5 Q6

ID Q1

##

# Base R: Data Input

```
quiz2 = read.csv("../data/quiz2.csv", header=TRUE, sep=",");
str(quiz2);
##
   'data.frame':
                40 obs. of 7 variables:
##
    $ ID: int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
##
    $ Q1: int 8 8 10 6 10 NA 10 10 10 8 ...
##
    $ Q2: int 9 8 7 5 6 9 5 10 10 10 ...
    $ Q3: int 10 8 10 9 8 10 9 10 6 10 ...
##
    $ Q4: num
               9.5 10 10 8 6 10 8 9 7 4 ...
##
    $ Q5: int 10 9 10 5 NA 10 10 10 8 10 ...
##
##
    $ Q6: int 8 8 8 NA NA NA 7 7 10 7 ...
head(quiz2);
```

```
##
     ID Q1
           Q2 Q3
                  Q4 Q5 Q6
            9 10
                   9.5 10
## 1
         8
## 2
      2
         8
            8
               8 10.0
## 3
      3 10
            7 10 10.0 10
## 4
      4 6
            5
               9
                   8.0
                        5 NA
## 5
      5 10
               8
                   6.0 NA NA
        NΑ
               10
                 10.0 10 NA
##
```

## **Data Input: Excel format**

 Sometimes, a data set is in Excel format. We can use the readxl package to access Excel files

```
library(readxl);
quiz3 = read_excel("../data/quiz3.xls", sheet=1);
# read in the first worksheet
str(quiz3);
## tibble [40 x 7] (S3: tbl_df/tbl/data.frame)
##
    $ ID: num [1:40] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
    $ Q1: num [1:40] 8 8 10 6 10 NA 10 10 10 8 ...
##
    $ Q2: num [1:40] 9 8 7 5 6 9 5 10 10 10 ...
##
##
    $ Q3: num [1:40] 10 8 10 9 8 10 9 10 6 10 ...
##
    $ Q4: num [1:40] 9.5 10 10 8 6 10 8 9 7 4 ...
##
    $ Q5: num [1:40] 10 9 10 5 NA 10 10 10 8 10 ...
##
    $ Q6: num [1:40] 8 8 8 NA NA NA 7 7 10 7 ...
head(quiz3);
## # A tibble: 6 x 7
```

### **Data Input - Other Software**

- haven package (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/haven/index.html)
   reads in SAS, SPSS, Stata formats
- sas7bdat reads .sas7bdat files

#### **Data Summaries**

- nrow() displays the number of rows of a data frame
- ncol() displays the number of columns
- dim() displays a vector of length 2: # rows, # columns

```
dim(mtcars);
## [1] 32 11
nrow(mtcars);
## [1] 32
ncol(mtcars);
## [1] 11
```

#### **Data Summaries**

- colnames() displays the column names (if any) and rownames() displays the row names (if any)
- Note that tibbles do not have rownames

```
colnames(mtcars);
## [1] "mpg" "cyl" "disp" "hp" "drat" "wt" "qsec" "vs"
                                                              "am'
## [11] "carb"
rownames(mtcars);
```

```
[1] "Mazda RX4"
                              "Mazda RX4 Wag"
                                                    "Datsun 710"
##
##
    [4] "Hornet 4 Drive"
                              "Hornet Sportabout"
                                                    "Valiant"
```

```
##
    [7] "Duster 360"
                               "Merc 240D"
                                                      "Merc 230"
   [10] "Merc 280"
                               "Merc 280C"
                                                      "Merc 450SE"
##
   [13] "Merc 450SL"
                               "Merc 450SLC"
                                                      "Cadillac Fleets
##
   [16] "Lincoln Continental" "Chrysler Imperial"
                                                      "Fiat 128"
```

"Tovota Corolla" [19] "Honda Civic" "Toyota Corona" ## ## [22] "Dodge Challenger" "AMC Javelin" "Camaro 728" [25] "Pontiac Firebird" "Fiat X1-9" "Porsche 914-2" ##

"Ford Pantera L"

"Ferrari Dino"

### **Data output**

While its nice to be able to read in a variety of data formats, it's equally important to be able to output data in the R workspace to your hard/usb drive.

write.table(): prints its required argument x (after converting it to a data.frame if it is not one nor a matrix) to a file or connection.

### **Data output**

x: the R data.frame or matrix you want to write

file: the file name where you want to R object written. It can be an absolute path, or a filename (which writes the file to your working directory)

sep: what character separates the columns?

- sep ="," = .csv Note there is also a write.csv() function
- sep ="\t" = tab delimited

row.names: setting this to TRUE or FALSE

### **Data output**

 Note that row.names=TRUE would make the first column contain the row names, which is not very useful for Excel.

You will find that the two files mtcars.txt and mtcars.csv are saved on your current directory.

### More ways to save: write\_rds

If you want to save one object, you can use readr::write\_rds to save to an rds file:

```
write_rds(mtcars, file="mtcars2.rds");
```

• To read this back in to R, you need to use read\_rds, but **need to assign it**:

```
mtcars3 = read_rds(file="mtcars2.rds");
identical(mtcars, mtcars3); # test if they are the same
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

### More ways to save: save

 The save command can save a set of R objects into an "R data file", with the extension .rda or .RData.

```
x = 5;
save(mtcars, x, file = "mtcars_data.rda");
```

• The opposite of save is load. The ls() command lists the items in the workspace/environment and rm removes them:

#### License



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.