

BIOS-IN5410

Introduction to R programming

Learning goals

Introduce you to R and Rstudio

Basic R functionality

Find and install packages

Be able to read package manuals and find help

Read and write files

Plotting data

(Very rough) time plan

Friday Nov 19

09:15-10:00

- Introduction to R and RStudio
- Set up and get going
- Do Exercise 1

10:15 - 12:00

- Go through Exercise 1
- R packages and the Tidyverse
- Rectangular and tidy data
- Working with files
- Exercise 2
- Go through Exercise 2

12:45 - 14:00

- Manipulating data with dplyr
- Exercise 3

14:15 - 16:00

- Go through Exercise 3
- Basic plotting
- Exercise 4
- Go through exercise 4 together

Monday Nov 22

09:15 - 11:30

- Programming basics
 - For loops + Ex 5 (09:15 - 10:30)
 - Ex 5 + If statements + Ex 6 (10:45 - 11:30)
 - Go through exercise 6 (11:30 - 12:00)

12:45

- R scripts
 - Running R on the command line
 - Command line arguments
- Plotting with ggplot2

R resources

Introduction to Data Science - free online book (most of the material in this course is taken from here): <https://rafalab.github.io/dsbook/>

R for Data Science - free online book: <https://r4ds.had.co.nz/>

Software Carpentry - <https://swcarpentry.github.io/r-novice-gapminder/>

The R project

Environment for statistical computing and graphics

It's free

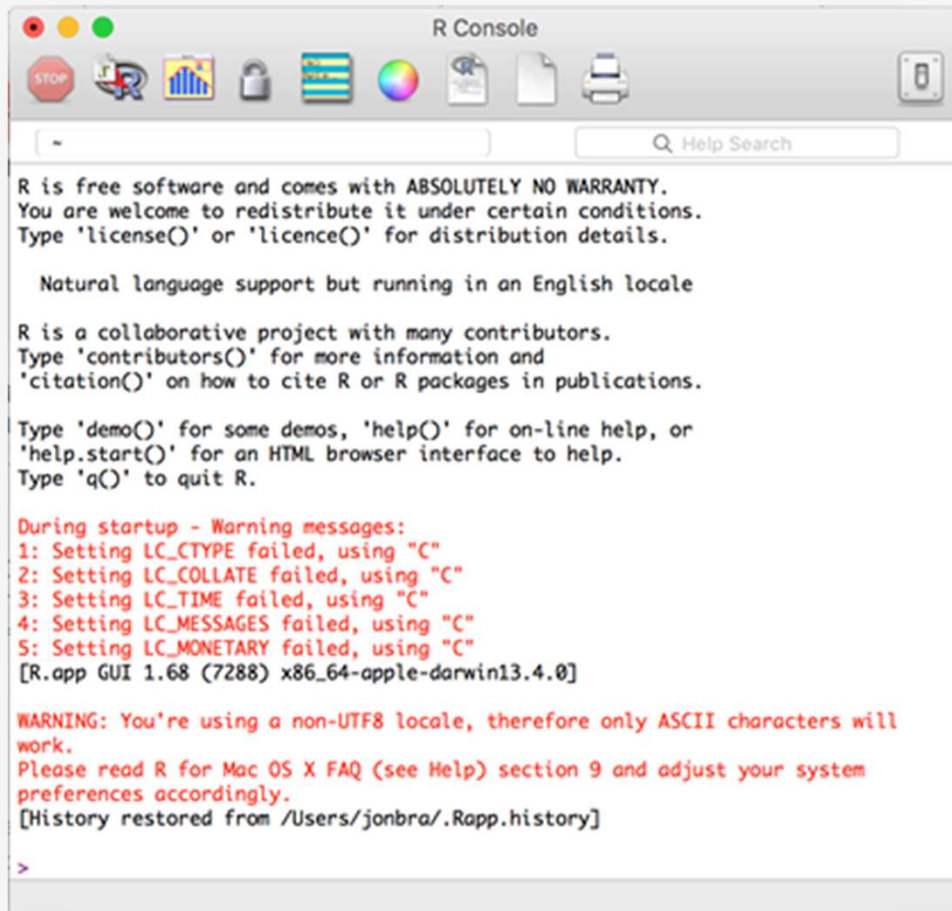
Can be run on Windows, Mac, Unix...

Extremely rich selection of packages

Very good for graphics and plotting



The R console



```
R Console

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

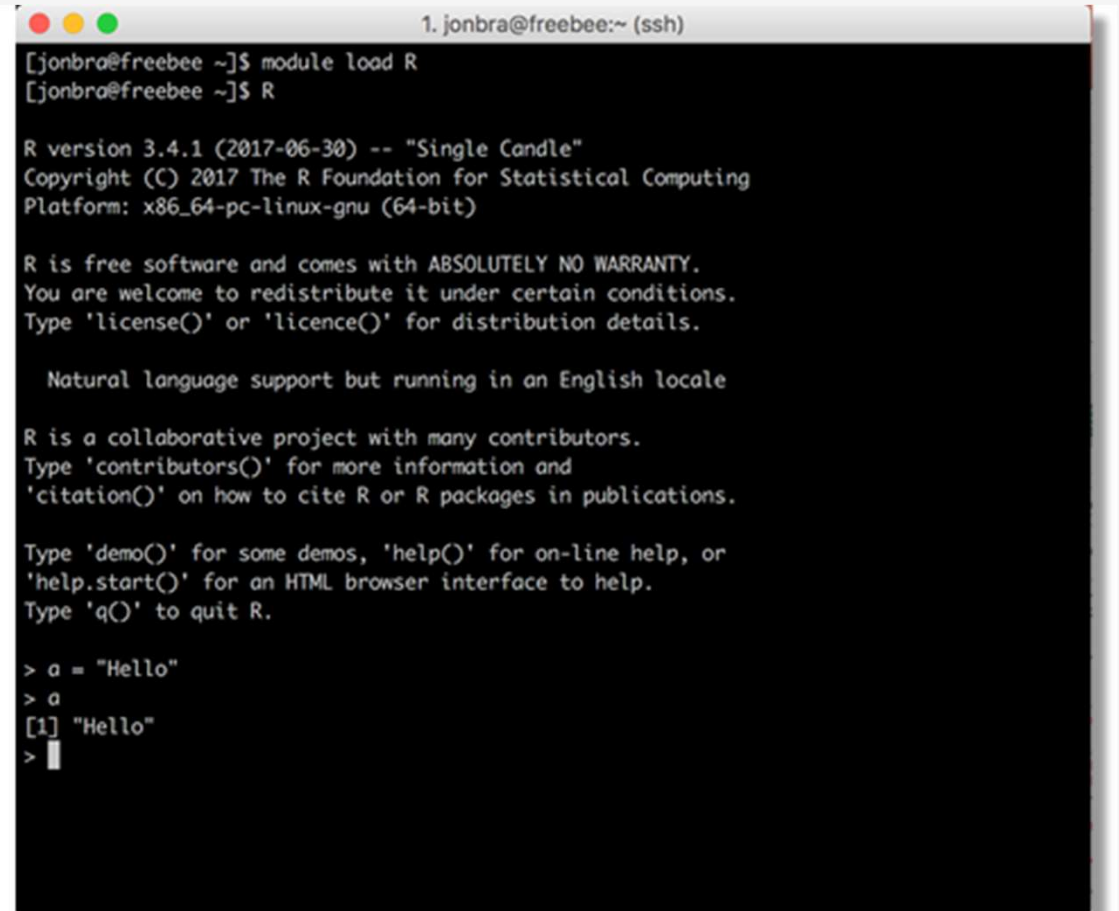
R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

During startup - Warning messages:
1: Setting LC_CTYPE failed, using "C"
2: Setting LC_COLLATE failed, using "C"
3: Setting LC_TIME failed, using "C"
4: Setting LC_MESSAGES failed, using "C"
5: Setting LC_MONETARY failed, using "C"
[R.app GUI 1.68 (7288) x86_64-apple-darwin13.4.0]

WARNING: You're using a non-UTF8 locale, therefore only ASCII characters will
work.
Please read R for Mac OS X FAQ (see Help) section 9 and adjust your system
preferences accordingly.
[History restored from /Users/jonbra/.Rapp.history]

>
```



```
1. jonbra@freebee:~ (ssh)

[jonbra@freebee ~]$ module load R
[jonbra@freebee ~]$ R

R version 3.4.1 (2017-06-30) -- "Single Candle"
Copyright (C) 2017 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit)

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

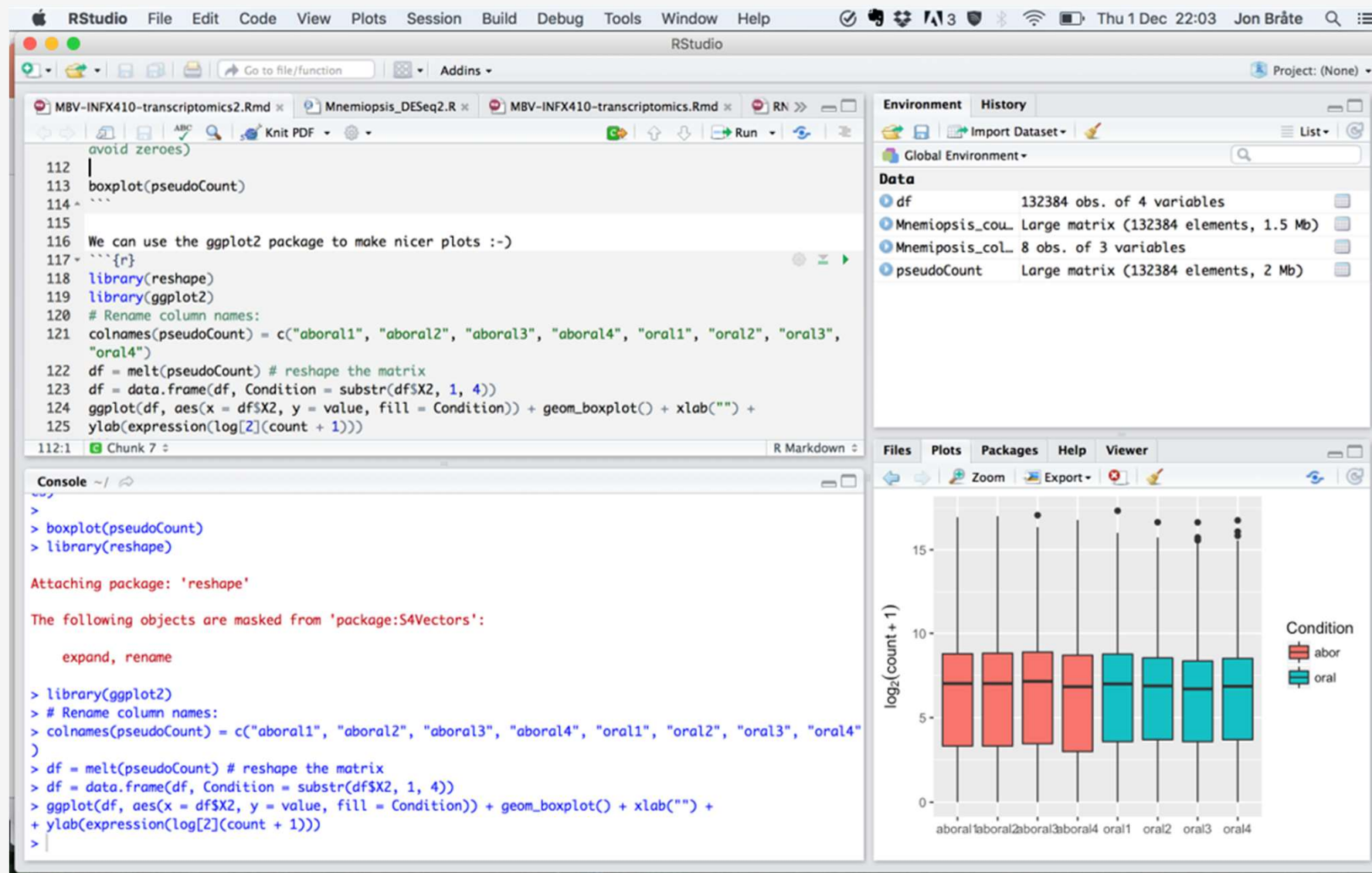
Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> a = "Hello"
> a
[1] "Hello"
> |
```

RStudio - an R IDE



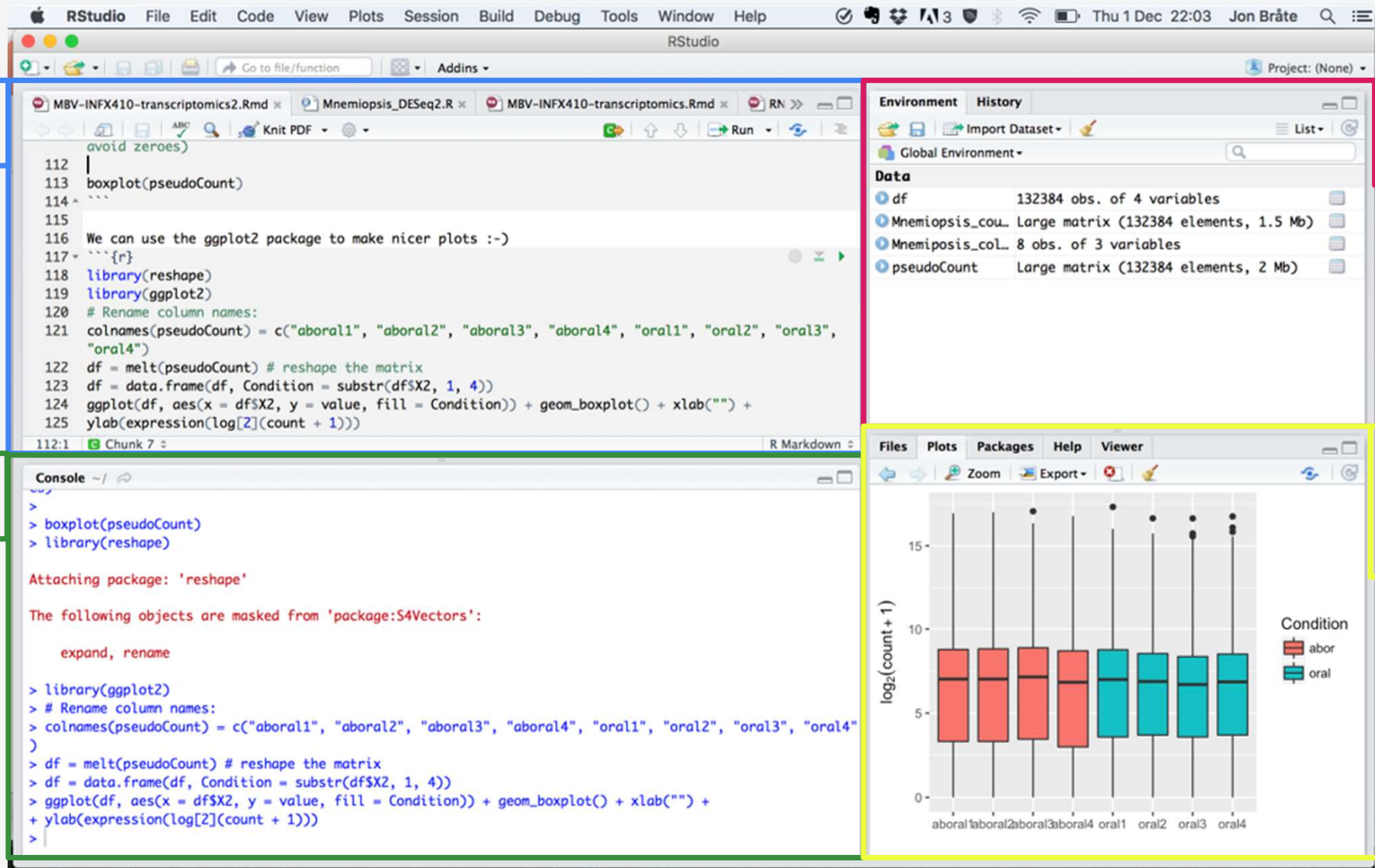
RStudio - an R IDE

Text
editor

Environment
window

Console

View plots,
packages,
files, help
and more



RStudio - cheat sheet

Check out the [RStudio cheat sheet](#) in the GitHub repo - especially the shortcuts.

Keyboard Shortcuts

RUN CODE

	Windows/Linux	Mac
Search command history	Ctrl+↑	Cmd+↑
Interrupt current command	Esc	Esc
Clear console	Ctrl+L	Ctrl+L

NAVIGATE CODE

	Windows/Linux	Mac
Go to File/Function	Ctrl+.	Ctrl+.

WRITE CODE

Attempt completion	Tab or Ctrl+Space	Tab or Ctrl+Space
Insert <- (assignment operator)	Alt+-	Option+-
Insert %>% (pipe operator)	Ctrl+Shift+M	Cmd+Shift+M
(Un)Comment selection	Ctrl+Shift+C	Cmd+Shift+C

MAKE PACKAGES

	Windows/Linux	Mac
Load All (devtools)	Ctrl+Shift+L	Cmd+Shift+L
Test Package (Desktop)	Ctrl+Shift+T	Cmd+Shift+T
Document Package	Ctrl+Shift+D	Cmd+Shift+D

DOCUMENTS AND APPS

Knit Document (knitr)	Ctrl+Shift+K	Cmd+Shift+K
Insert chunk (Sweave & Knitr)	Ctrl+Alt+I	Cmd+Option+I
Run from start to current line	Ctrl+Alt+B	Cmd+Option+B

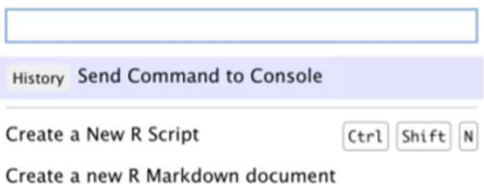
MORE KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

Keyboard Shortcuts Help	Alt+Shift+K	Option+Shift+K
Show Command Palette	Ctrl+Shift+P	Cmd+Shift+P

View the Keyboard Shortcut Quick Reference with **Tools > Keyboard Shortcuts** or **Alt/Option + Shift + K**



Search for keyboard shortcuts with **Tools > Show Command Palette** or **Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + P**.



A (super) short introduction to R functionality

(you don't need to remember all the details. Use the slides as
a reference)

Variable assignment

We assign values to variables with the assignment operator "<-" (can also use "="). Just typing the variable by itself at the prompt will print out the value.

```
> x <- 1
```

```
> x
```

```
[1] 1
```

```
> x = 1
```

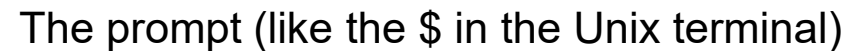
```
> x
```

```
[1] 1
```

```
> y <- 2
```

```
> x + y
```

```
[1] 3
```



The prompt (like the \$ in the Unix terminal)

R is very good for mathematics

```
> 1+1 # Simple arithmetic
[1] 2
> 2 + 3 * 4 # Operator precedence
[1] 14
> 3 ^ 2 # Exponentiation
[1] 9
> exp(1) # Basic mathematical functions are available
[1] 2.718282
> sqrt(10)
[1] 3.162278
> pi # The constant pi is predefined
[1] 3.141593
> 2*pi*6378 # Circumference of earth at equator (in km)
[1] 40074.16
```

Functions

R functions are invoked by its name, then followed by the parenthesis, and zero or more arguments. The following apply the function `c()` to combine three numeric values into a vector.

```
> c(1, 2, 3)
[1] 1 2 3
```

Function name

Arguments (separated by comma)

Comments

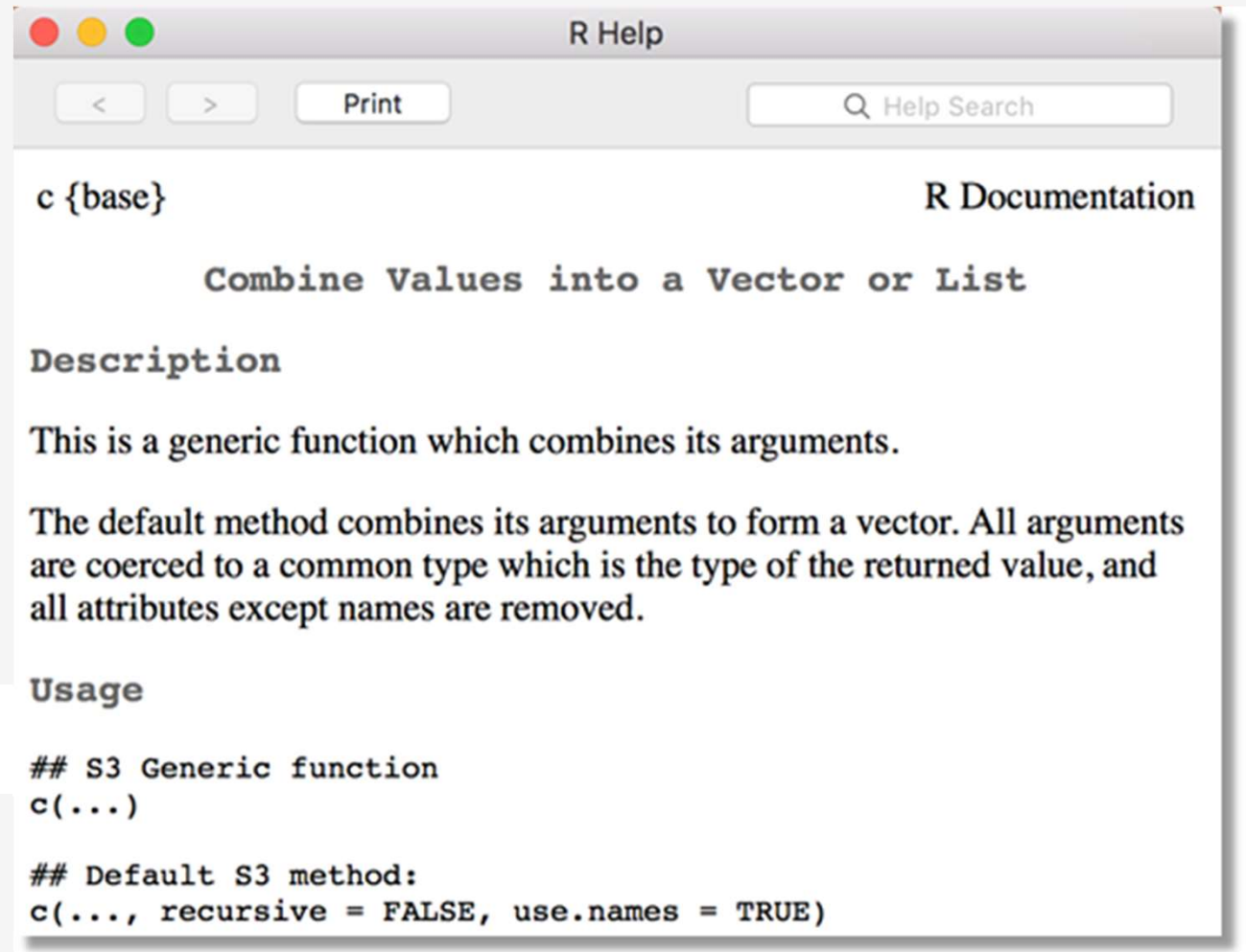
Just like in unix/bash, all text after the hash tag "#" within the same line is considered a comment.

```
> 1 + 1 # This is a comment  
[1] 2
```

Getting help

R provides extensive documentation. For example, entering `?c` or `help(c)` at the prompt gives documentation of the function `c` in R.

```
> help(c)
```



Get started with R

Install R (r-project.org)

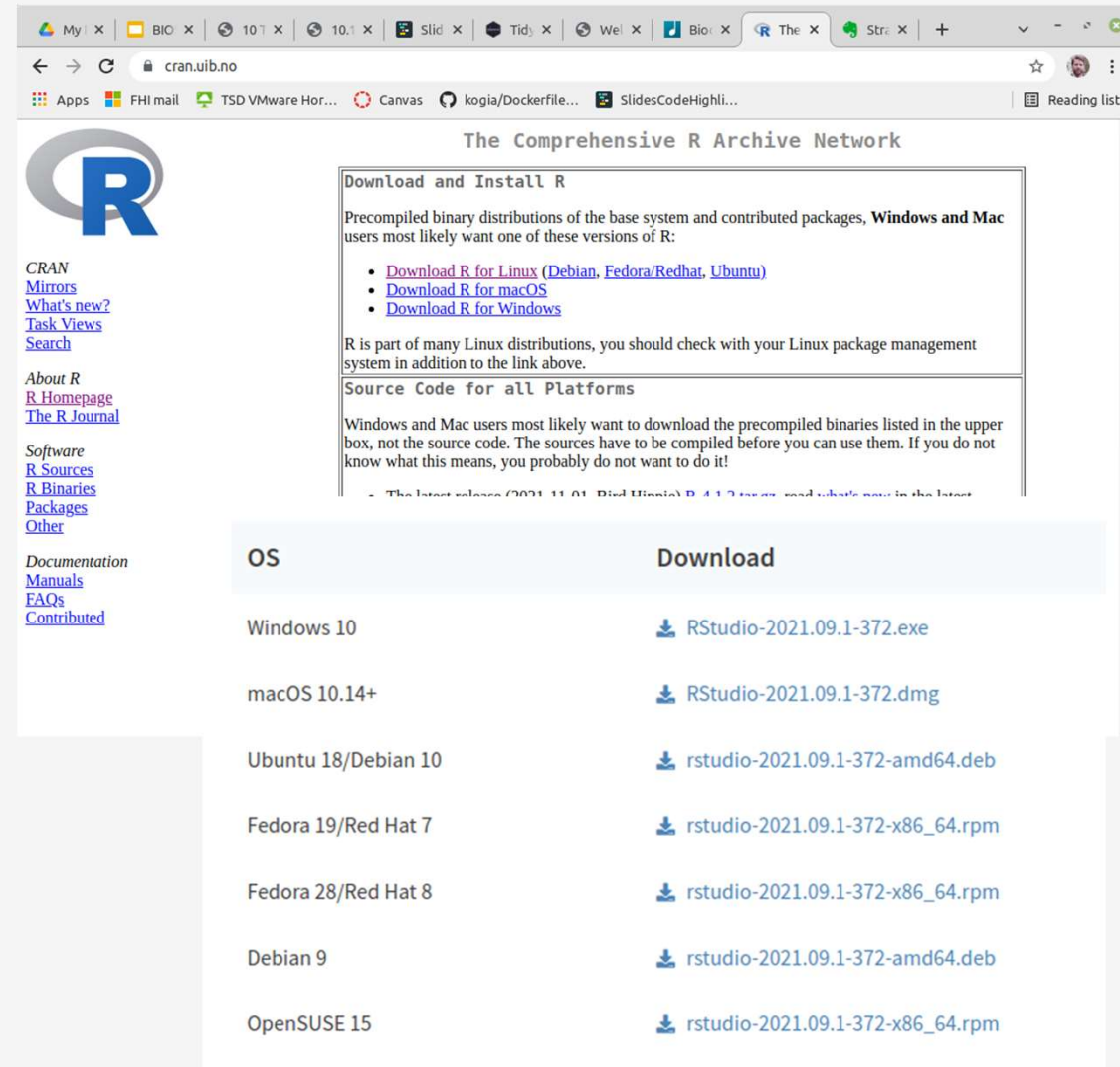
cran.uib.no

Choose the right OS

Install RStudio (rstudio.com)

Choose the right OS

<https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/#download>

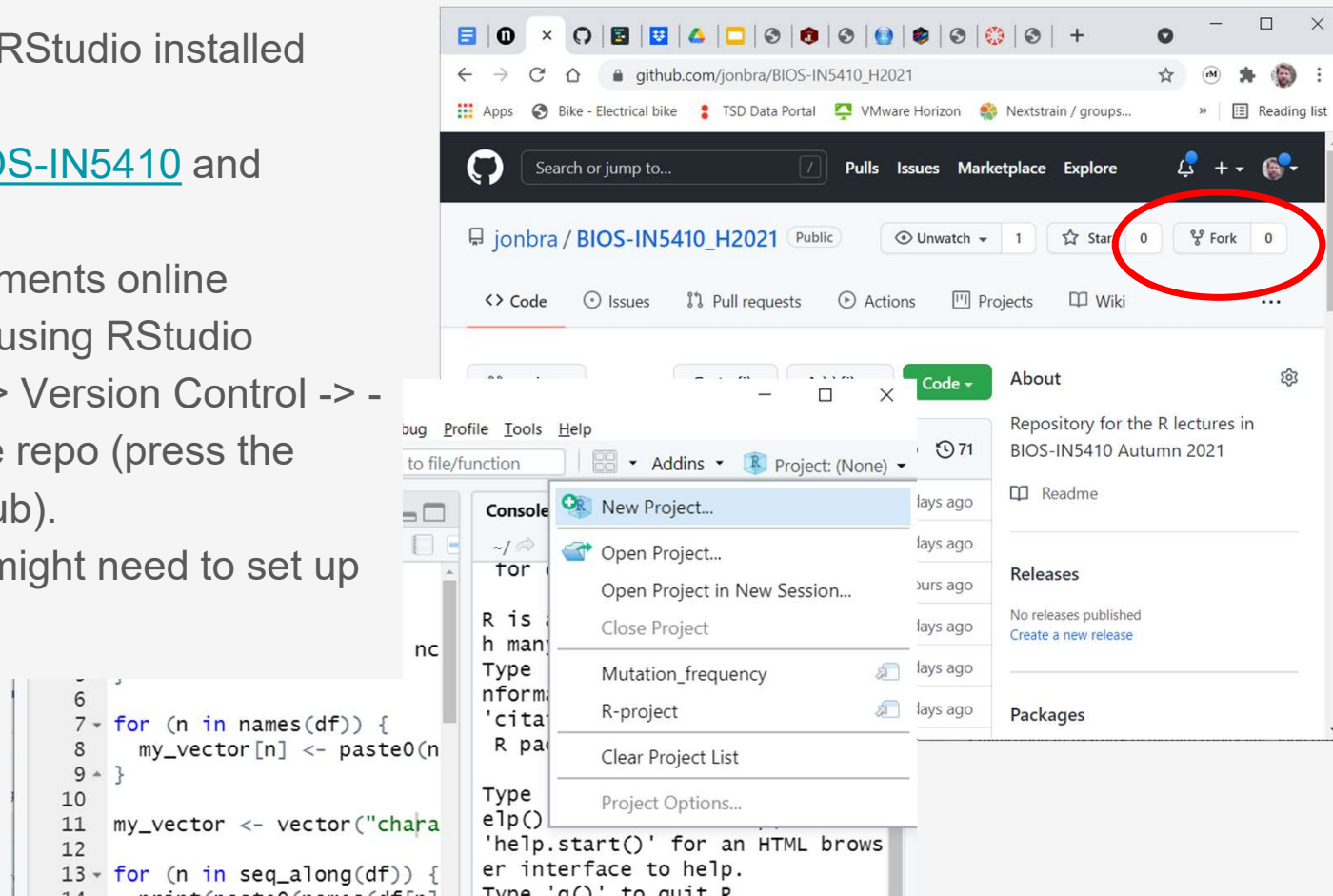


The screenshot shows the CRAN website (cran.uib.no) with the R logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled "The Comprehensive R Archive Network" and contains a section "Download and Install R". This section provides precompiled binary distributions for Windows and Mac users, with links to download R for Linux (Debian, Fedora/Redhat, Ubuntu), macOS, and Windows. Below this, there is a section "Source Code for all Platforms" which explains that Windows and Mac users should download precompiled binaries instead of source code. At the bottom, there is a table listing the download links for various operating systems.

OS	Download
Windows 10	RStudio-2021.09.1-372.exe
macOS 10.14+	RStudio-2021.09.1-372.dmg
Ubuntu 18/Debian 10	rstudio-2021.09.1-372-amd64.deb
Fedora 19/Red Hat 7	rstudio-2021.09.1-372-x86_64.rpm
Fedora 28/Red Hat 8	rstudio-2021.09.1-372-x86_64.rpm
Debian 9	rstudio-2021.09.1-372-amd64.deb
OpenSUSE 15	rstudio-2021.09.1-372-x86_64.rpm

Time to try R for yourself

- First, make sure you have R and RStudio installed and working
- Then go to github.com/jonbra/BIOS-IN5410 and either:
 - Just read the different documents online
 - Or, fork and clone the repo using RStudio (Project -> New Project... -> Version Control -> Git -> Paste the link to the repo (press the green Code button on GitHub)).
 - NB! To clone the repo you might need to set up ssh keys – can be tricky!



Time to try R for yourself

- Make sure R and RStudio is installed and working.
- Test writing commands, both in the editor and the console.
- Try to assign some variables, change them, etc.
- Do [Exercise 1](#) in your repo (we will always go through the exercises together).
- And just play around in R and RStudio (e.g. check out the cheat sheet).
- *And help each other! I haven't given you all the details you need so you need to check the help menus and search the web.*

First break

R-packages

In addition to “base R”, there are thousands of so-called “packages” that gives additional functionality to R.

CRAN and Bioconductor are the main repositories for packages.

Packages needs to be installed, e.g. by typing

```
install.packages("package")
```

And activated before use by typing

```
library("package")
```

The image displays two browser windows. The top window shows the CRAN (Comprehensive R Archive Network) website at cran.r-project.org. It features the R logo, navigation links for CRAN, Mirrors, What's new?, Task Views, Search, About R, R Homepage, The R Journal, Software, R Sources, R Binaries, Packages, Other, Documentation, Manuals, FAQs, and Contributed. The main content area is titled 'Contributed Packages' and states that the CRAN package repository features 18424 available packages. It provides links to 'Table of available packages, sorted by date of publication' and 'Table of available packages, sorted by name'. Under 'Installation of Packages', it instructs users to type `help("INSTALL")` or install packages from this repository. It also mentions 'CRAN Task Views' for installing packages for special architectures. The 'Package Check Results' section states that all packages are tested regularly (formerly OS X), Solaris and Windows. The 'Writing Your Own Packages' section mentions the manual 'Writing R Extensions' for new packages and how to contribute.

The bottom window shows the Bioconductor website at bioconductor.org. It features the Bioconductor logo and navigation links for Home, Install, Help, Developers, and About. The main content area is titled 'About Bioconductor' and describes it as open source software for bioinformatics. It provides links to 'Install', 'Learn', 'Use', and 'Develop'. The 'Install' section lists links for 'Discover 2083 software packages available in Bioconductor release 3.14', 'Get started with Bioconductor', 'Install Bioconductor', 'Get support', 'Latest newsletter', 'Follow us on twitter', and 'Install R'. The 'Learn' section lists links for 'Master Bioconductor tools', 'Courses', 'Support site', 'Package vignettes', 'Literature citations', 'Common work flows', 'FAQ', 'Community resources', and 'Videos'. The 'Use' section lists links for 'Create bioinformatic solutions with Bioconductor', 'Software, Annotation, and Experiment packages', 'Docker and Amazon machine images', 'Latest release announcement', 'Use Bioconductor in the AnVIL', 'See our project updates', 'Community Slack sign-up', 'Support site', and 'Events calendar: email events at bioconductor.org to add an event'. The 'Develop' section lists links for 'Contribute to Bioconductor', 'Developer resources', 'Use BioC "dev"', 'Dev' packages', 'Package guidelines', 'New package submission', 'Git source control', 'Build reports', and 'Browseable code base'.

Tidyverse

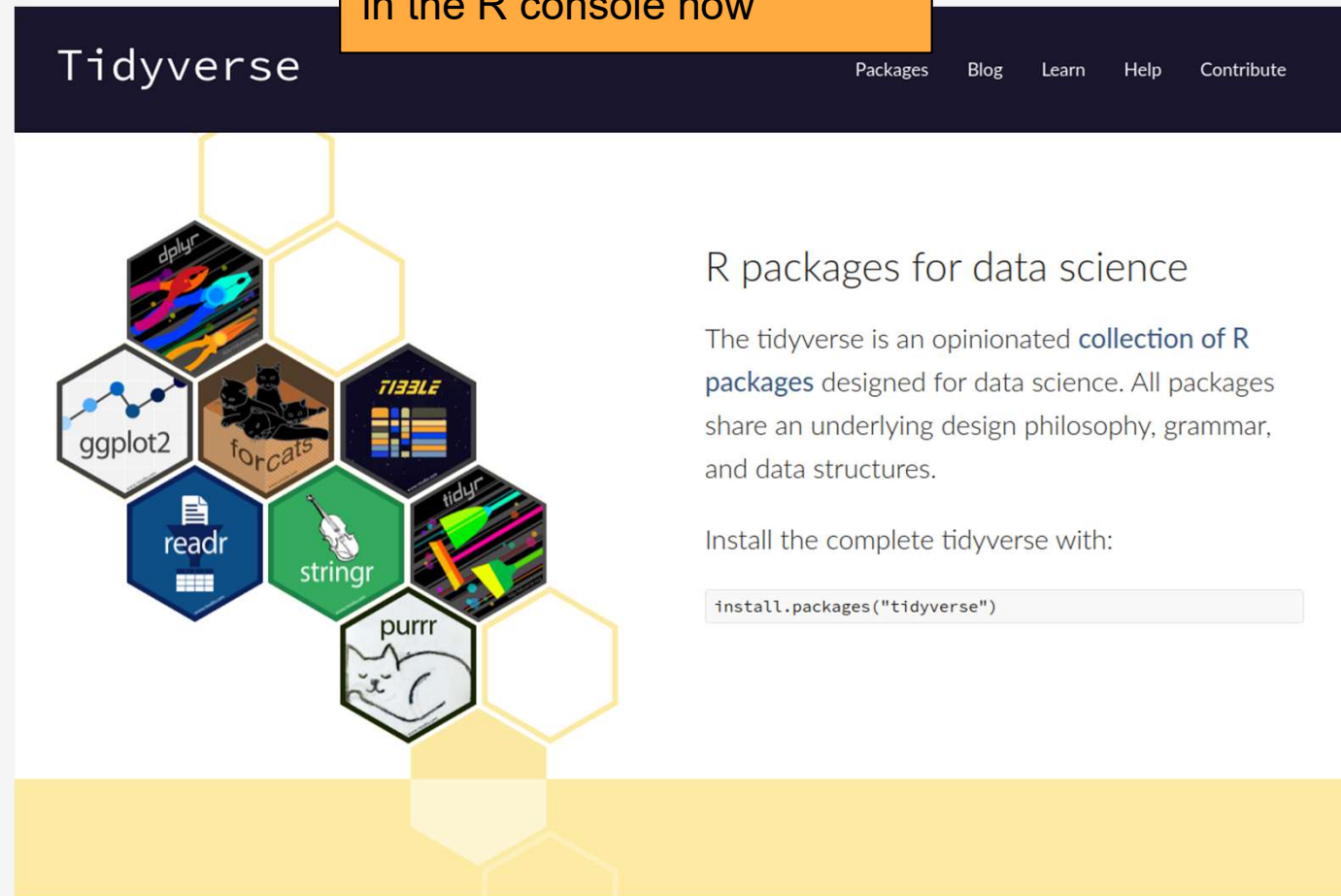
*“A system of packages for **data manipulation, exploration and visualization** that share a common design philosophy.”*

Centered around “Rectangular data structures” (e.g. data frames, matrices..)

tidyverse.org

```
install.packages("tidyverse")
```

Everyone should try to run
`install.packages("tidyverse")`
in the R console now



Free online book for learning R and the tidyverse: <https://r4ds.had.co.nz/>

The rectangular data type

A lot of the work you will do in R is centered around “rectangular data”, or data frames. Data frames are like tables with each row is a record and the columns are the different variables.

	state	abb	region	population	total
1	Alabama	AL	South	4779736	135
2	Alaska	AK	West	710231	19
3	Arizona	AZ	West	6392017	232
4	Arkansas	AR	South	2915918	93
5	California	CA	West	37253956	1257
6	Colorado	CO	West	5029196	65

Tidy data

country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	1999	745	19987071
Afghanistan	2000	2666	20595360
Brazil	1999	37737	172006362
Brazil	2000	80488	174504898
China	1999	212258	1272915272
China	2000	216766	128042583

variables

country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	1999	745	19987071
Afghanistan	2000	2666	20595360
Brazil	1999	37737	172006362
Brazil	2000	80488	174504898
China	1999	212258	1272915272
China	2000	216766	128042583

observations

country	year	cases	population
Afghanistan	1999	745	19987071
Afghanistan	2000	2666	20595360
Brazil	1999	37737	172006362
Brazil	2000	80488	174504898
China	1999	212258	1272915272
China	2000	216766	128042583

values

Tidy data

We say that a data table is in *tidy format* if each row represents one observation and columns represent the different variables available for each of these observations.

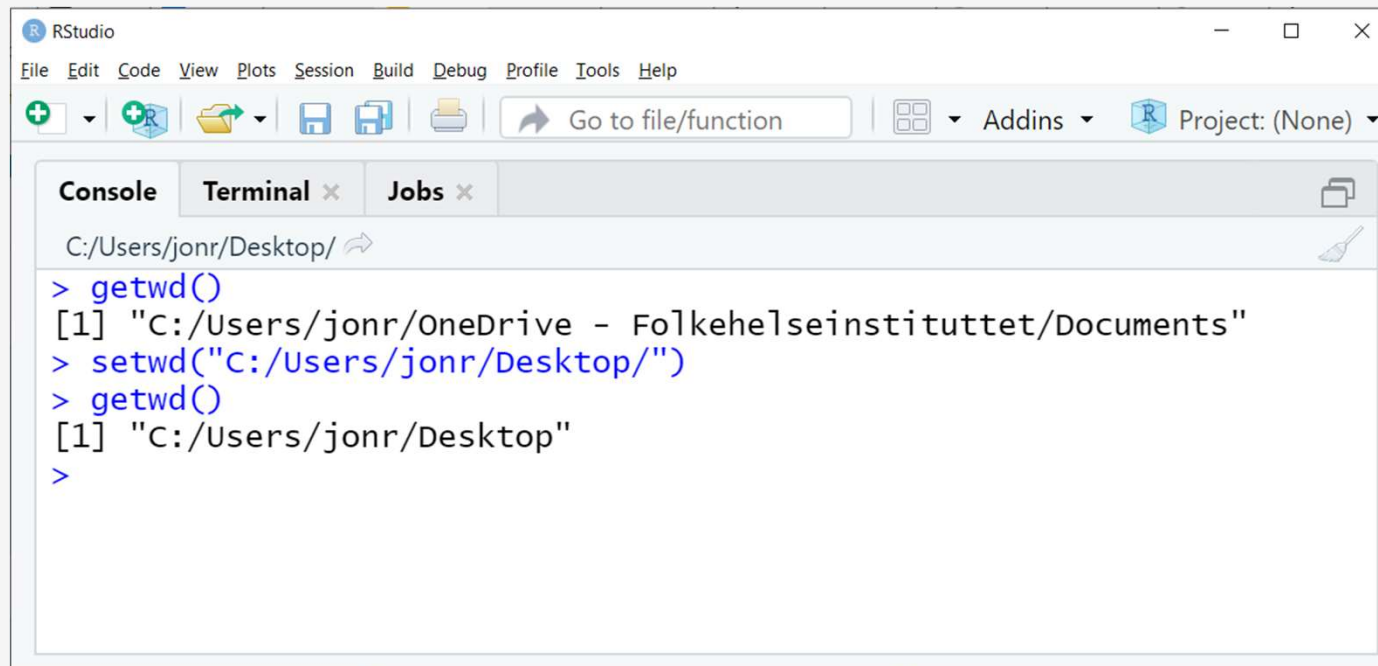
	country	year	fertility
1	Germany	1960	2.41
2	South Korea	1960	6.16
3	Germany	1961	2.44
4	South Korea	1961	5.99
5	Germany	1962	2.47
6	South Korea	1962	5.79

	country	1960	1961	1962
1	Germany	2.41	2.44	2.47
2	South Korea	6.16	5.99	5.79

<https://rafalab.github.io/dsbook/tidyverse.html>

Working directory

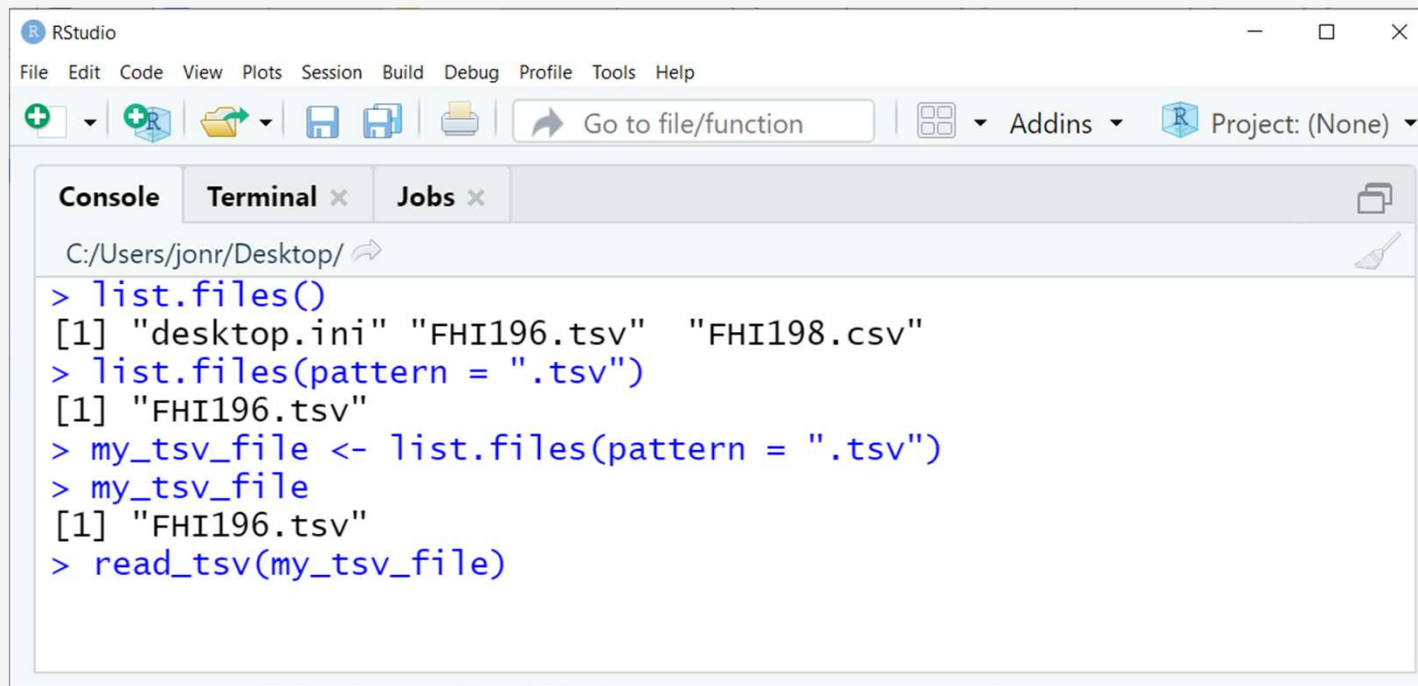
The `getwd()` function lets you see where on your file system R is currently working. Change the working directory with `setwd()`.



```
RStudio
File Edit Code View Plots Session Build Debug Profile Tools Help
+ + R + Save Save Print Go to file/function Addins Project: (None)
Console Terminal x Jobs x
C:/Users/jonr/Desktop/
> getwd()
[1] "C:/Users/jonr/OneDrive - Folkehelsetilskudd/Documents"
> setwd("C:/Users/jonr/Desktop/")
> getwd()
[1] "C:/Users/jonr/Desktop"
>
```

File system - access files

list.files() and *list.dirs()* will show the files and the directories in the working directory. Use the *pattern* argument to filter what kind of files or directories to be listed.

A screenshot of the RStudio application window. The title bar says 'RStudio'. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'Code', 'View', 'Plots', 'Session', 'Build', 'Debug', 'Profile', 'Tools', and 'Help'. The toolbar contains icons for creating a new file, opening a file, saving, and other standard functions. Below the toolbar is a 'Go to file/function' search bar. The main panel has tabs for 'Console', 'Terminal', and 'Jobs'. The 'Console' tab is active, showing the current working directory as 'C:/Users/jonr/Desktop/'. The console output shows the following R commands and their results:

```
> list.files()
[1] "desktop.ini" "FHI196.tsv"  "FHI198.csv"
> list.files(pattern = ".tsv")
[1] "FHI196.tsv"
> my_tsv_file <- list.files(pattern = ".tsv")
> my_tsv_file
[1] "FHI196.tsv"
> read_tsv(my_tsv_file)
```

Getting data into R - the readr package

There are many ways of getting data from files into R. The [readr](#) package offers several functions for reading different data types.

`read_csv()`: comma separated (CSV) files

`read_tsv()`: tab separated files

`read_delim()`: general delimited files

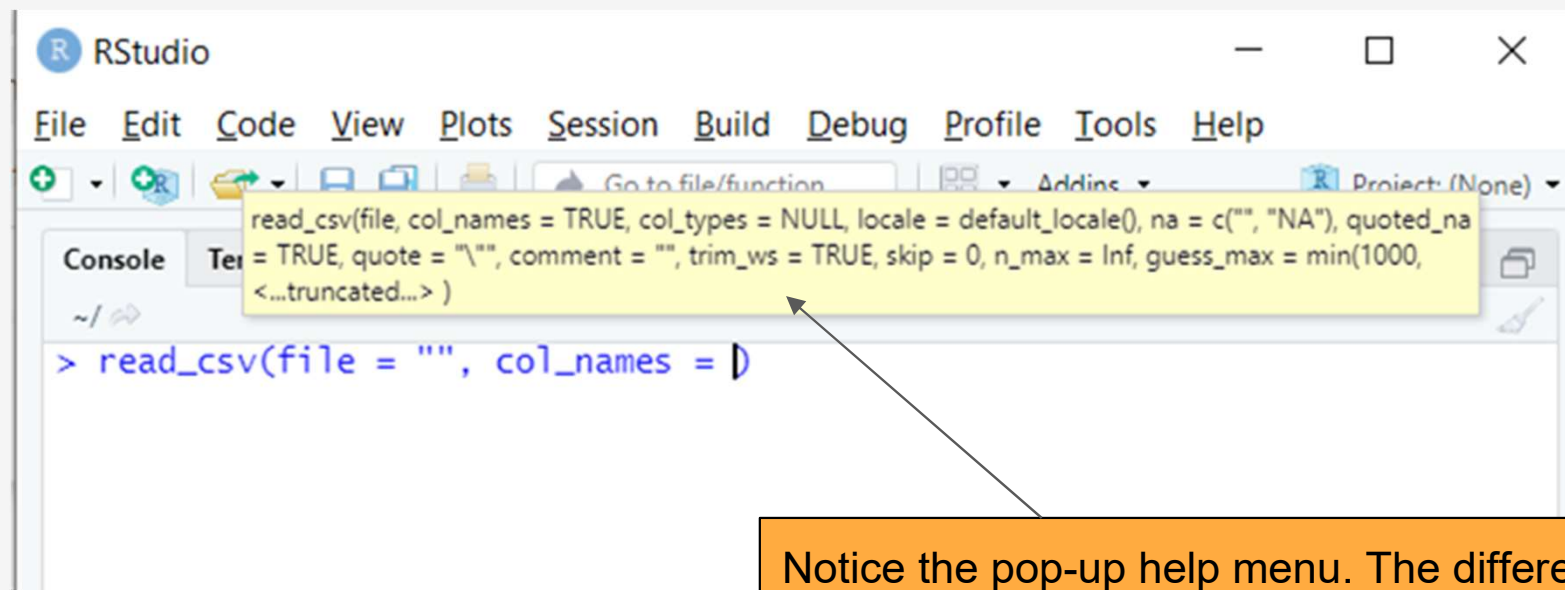
`read_fwf()`: fixed width files

`read_table()`: tabular files where columns are separated by white-space.

`read_log()`: web log files

Getting data into R - the readr package

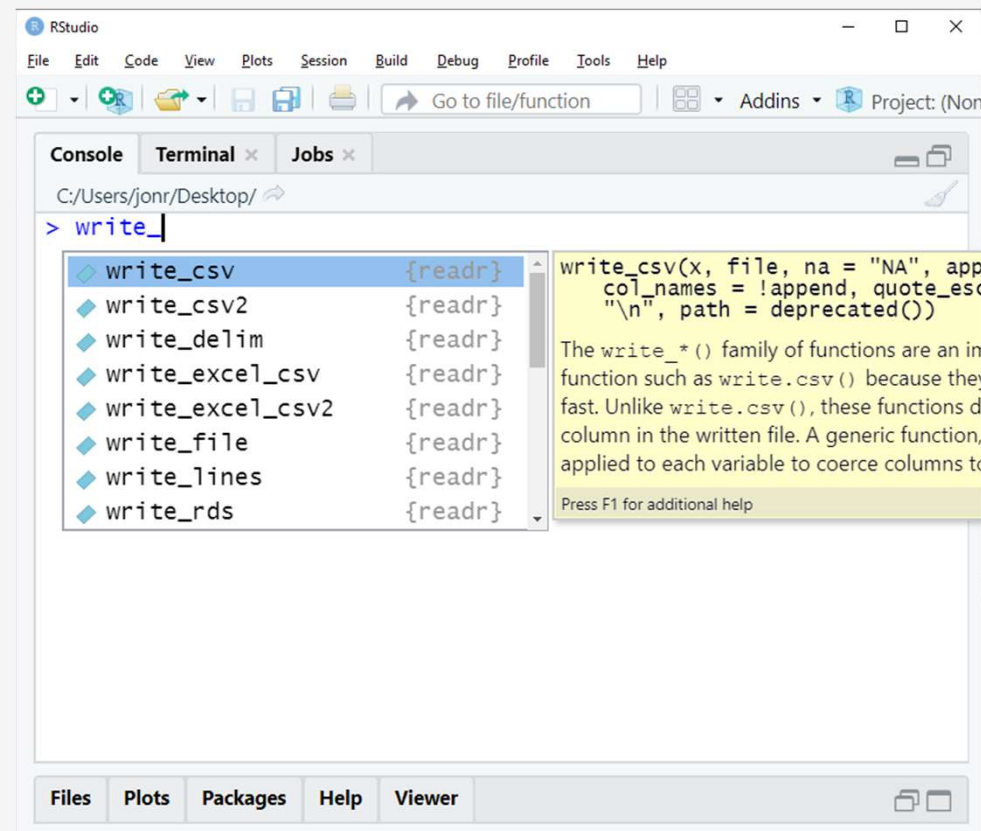
The functions have different arguments that can be used to further specify the structure of the file to be read. E.g. does the file have a header line? What type of symbol separates the columns? Are there any lines that should be skipped? Etc.



Notice the pop-up help menu. The different arguments are shown, with default values.

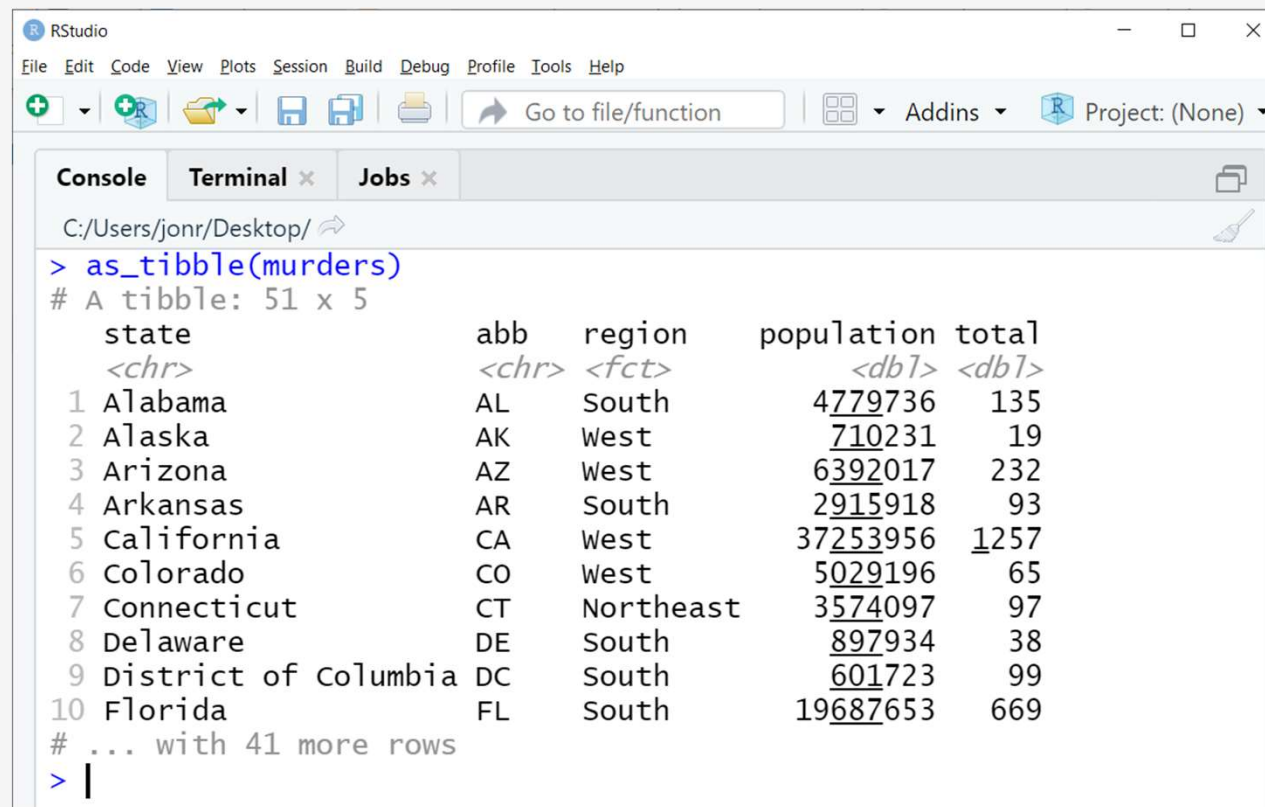
Getting data out of R

The readr package also comes with complementary write functions that can write files in different formats.



Tibbles

A tibble is a special kind of data frame. Tibbles are the preferred format in the tidyverse and most tidyverse operations result in a tibble. Tibbles also display better when printed in R.



```
RStudio
File Edit Code View Plots Session Build Debug Profile Tools Help
+ +R + Save Print Go to file/function Addins Project: (None)

Console Terminal x Jobs x
C:/Users/jonr/Desktop/
> as_tibble(murders)
# A tibble: 51 x 5
  state      abb region population total
  <chr>    <chr> <fct>      <dbl> <dbl>
1 Alabama AL    South    4779736  135
2 Alaska  AK    West     710231  19
3 Arizona AZ    West     6392017  232
4 Arkansas AR    South    2915918  93
5 California CA    West    37253956 1257
6 Colorado CO    West     5029196  65
7 Connecticut CT    Northeast 3574097  97
8 Delaware DE    South     897934  38
9 District of Columbia DC    South     601723  99
10 Florida FL    South    19687653 669
# ... with 41 more rows
> |
```

Do Exercise 2

Manipulating rectangular data with the dplyr package

The dplyr package

The **dplyr** package of the tidyverse has functions for doing some of the most common operations when working with data frames. For example:

```
mutate() # adds new variables by manipulating existing variables
select() # picks variables based on their names.
filter() # picks cases based on their values.
summarise() # reduces multiple values down to a single summary.
arrange() # changes the ordering of the rows.
group_by() # perform operations "by group"
```

Selecting columns with **select()**

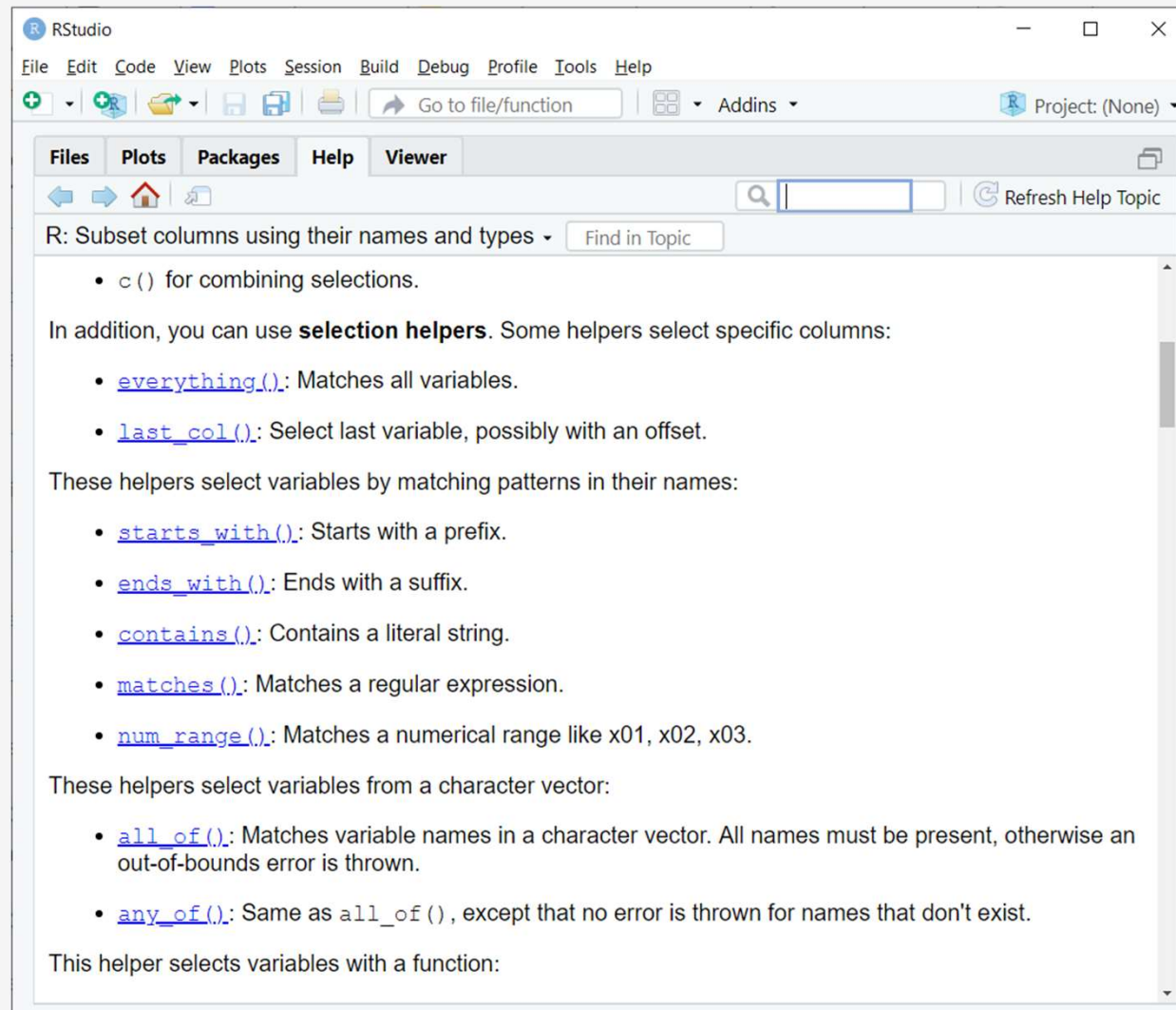
`select()` allows you to select different columns based on a wide range of different criteria. Check the cheat sheet or the help pages for all the options.

```
> murders <- as_tibble(murders)

> new_table <- select(murders, state, population,
total)
> new_table
# A tibble: 51 x 3
  state                population total
  <chr>                <dbl> <dbl>
1 Alabama              4779736   135
2 Alaska               710231    19
3 Arizona             6392017   232
4 Arkansas            2915918    93
5 California          37253956  1257
6 Colorado            5029196    65
7 Connecticut         3574097    97
8 Delaware            897934    38
9 District of Columbia 601723    99
10 Florida            19687653   669

# ... with 41 more rows
```

Selecting columns with **select()**



Adding columns with **mutate()**

total and *population* are columns in the data. *rate* is created by `mutate()`

`mutate()` allows to add a column by doing operations on other columns in the data frame.

```
> murders <- mutate(murders, rate = total / population * 100000)
> murders
# A tibble: 51 x 6
  state      abb region population total  rate
  <chr>    <chr> <fct>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 Alabama  AL    South    4779736  135  2.82
2 Alaska   AK    West     710231   19  2.68
3 Arizona  AZ    West    6392017  232  3.63
4 Arkansas AR    South    2915918   93  3.19
5 California CA    West    37253956 1257  3.37
6 Colorado CO    West     5029196   65  1.29
7 Connecticut CT    Northeast 3574097   97  2.71
8 Delaware DE    South     897934   38  4.23
9 District of Columbia DC    South     601723   99 16.5
10 Florida  FL    South    19687653  669  3.40
# ... with 41 more rows
```

Subsetting rows with **filter()**

`filter()` allows to select rows based on various criteria. E.g. select states with murder rate below or equal to 0.7.

```
> filter(murders, rate <= 0.7)
# A tibble: 5 x 6
  state      abb region      population total  rate
  <chr>      <chr> <fct>          <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 Hawaii    HI      West          1360301     7 0.515
2 Iowa      IA      North Central  3046355    21 0.689
3 New Hampshire NH      Northeast    1316470     5 0.380
4 North Dakota ND      North Central   672591     4 0.595
5 Vermont   VT      Northeast     625741     2 0.320
```

The “pipe”

NB! The “pipe” is not part of base R, but needs to be activated by loading a package (e.g. `library(tidyverse)`).

Just like “|” in unix/bash, the `%>%` (NB: look for the RStudio shortcut) symbol allows you to chain operations together. The pipe is particularly useful when using “tidyverse-style” functions (you will learn about that soon).

```
> murders %>% mutate(rate = total / population * 100000) %>%  
  filter(rate <= 0.7)
```

A tibble: 5 x 6

	state <chr>	abb <chr>	region <fct>	population <dbl>	total <dbl>	rate <dbl>
1	Hawaii	HI	West	1360301	7	0.515
2	Iowa	IA	North Central	3046355	21	0.689
3	New Hampshire	NH	Northeast	1316470	5	0.380
	North Dakota	ND	North Central	672591	4	0.595
	Vermont	VT	Northeast	625741	2	0.320

Notice how the data object is no longer the first argument in the `mutate()` and `filter()` functions.

group_by()

group_by() allows you to split the data into groups and perform operations on each group.

```
> murders %>% group_by(region)
# A tibble: 51 x 5
# Groups:   region [4]
  state      abb region population total
  <chr>    <chr> <fct>      <dbl> <dbl>
1 Alabama AL    South    4779736  135
2 Alaska  AK    West     710231   19
3 Arizona AZ    West    6392017  232
4 Arkansas AR    South    2915918   93
5 California CA    West    37253956 1257
6 Colorado CO    West     5029196   65
7 Connecticut CT    Northeast 3574097   97
8 Delaware DE    South     897934   38
9 District of Columbia DC    South     601723   99
10 Florida FL    South    19687653  669
# ... with 41 more rows
```

Notice the new Groups information

group_by(), then summarize

The function `summarize()` works particularly well on grouped data frames. Summarize can be used to quickly generate descriptive statistics.

```
> murders %>% group_by(region) %>%  
  summarize(count = n())  
# A tibble: 4 x 2  
  region      count  
* <fct>      <int>  
1 Northeast      9  
2 South          17  
3 North Central  12  
4 West           13
```


group_by(), then summarize

The function `summarize()` works particularly well on grouped data frames. Summarize can be used to quickly generate descriptive statistics.

```
> murders %>% mutate(rate = total / population * 100000)
%>% group_by(region) %>% summarize(median_rate =
median(rate)) %>% filter(median_rate < 2.0)
# A tibble: 3 x 2
  region      median_rate
  <fct>         <dbl>
1 Northeast      1.80
2 North Central  1.97
3 West           1.29
```

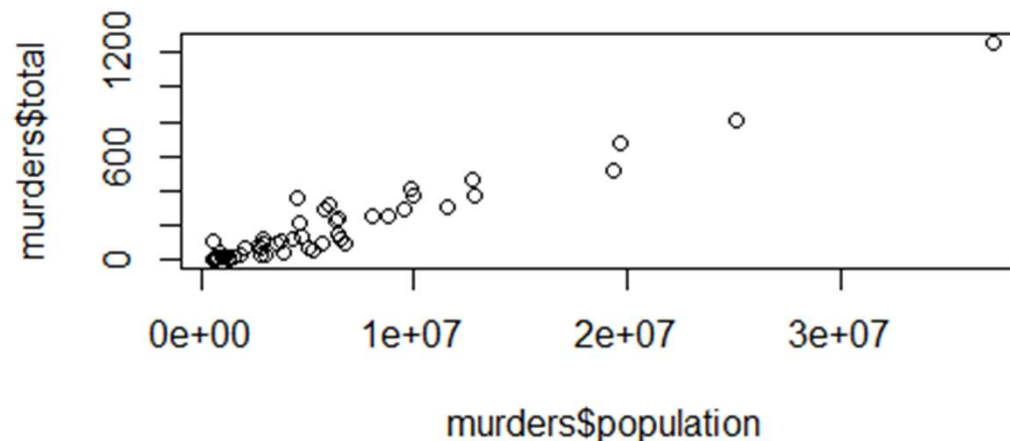
Do Exercise 3

Basic plotting

Basic plotting in R - scatterplot

R has several functions for making plots to quickly visualize your data. The **plot()** function can plot two variables against each other. `plot()` takes two arguments, `x =` and `y =`.

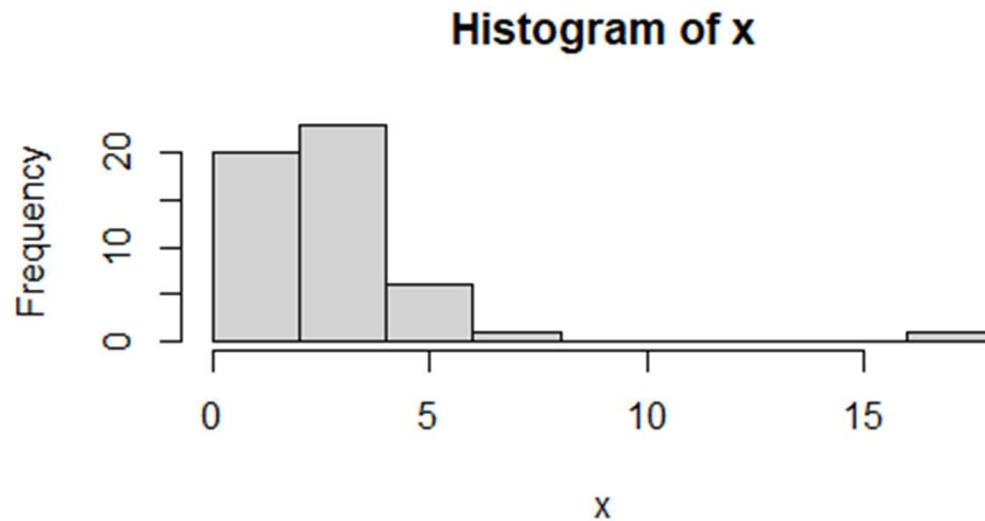
```
> plot(murders$population, murders$total)
```



Basic plotting in R - histogram

The **hist()** function is a quick method to get a summary of your data.

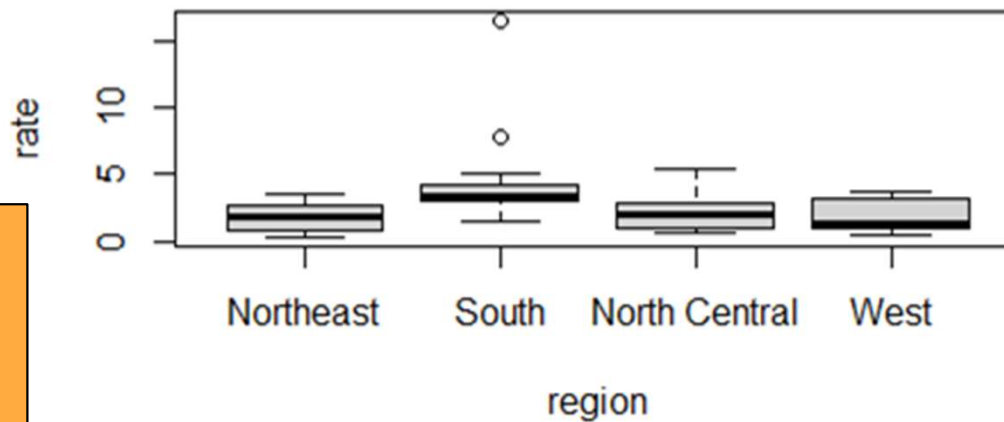
```
> x <- murders$total / murders$population*100000  
> hist(x)
```



Basic plotting in R - boxplot

The **boxplot()** function is great for quickly comparing groups of data.

```
murders <- mutate(murders, rate = total / population * 100000)  
boxplot(rate~region, data = murders)
```



The “~” symbol (tilde) is used here to design a “formula”. The formula tells R to calculate statistics of the “rate” (e.g. median) across the different “regions”.

Do Exercise 4