Introduction and R

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Learning Objectives

- Introduction to the Statistical Software R
- Reading and Writing Images
- Visualization of Images and Image Data
- Inhomogeneity Correction
- Brain Extraction
- Image Segmentation
- Coregistration Within and Between MRI Studies
- Intensity Normalization
- Segmentation of MS lesions

Course Website/Materials

The Course overview is located at (with slides):
`http://johnmuschelli.com/ISBI_2017.html`

All materials for this course (including source for the slides) is located at:

`https://github.com/muschellij2/imaging_in_r`

RStudio Server

For this course, we will use an RStudio Server because installing all the packages can be a lengthy process. Mostly all the code we show requires a Linux/Mac OSX platform for FSL and other systems:

`http://johnmuschelli.com/rstudio_server.html`

The code to make the server is located at: `https://github.com/muschellij2/rneuro/blob/master/ms_rstudio_droplet.sh`

Installing R: Local

If you want to install things locally:

- You can install the latest R from `http://cran.r-project.org/`
- Install RStudio
- Directions for a local setup is `http://johnmuschelli.com/imaging_in_r/installing_everything_locally/`

Introduction to R

What is R?

- R is a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics
- R is the open source implementation of the S language, which was developed by Bell laboratories
- R is both open source and open development

(source: `http://www.r-project.org/`)

Why R?

- Powerful and flexible
- Free (open source)
- Extensive add-on software (packages)
- Designed for statistical computing
- High level language

Why not R?

- Fairly steep learning curve
  - "Programming" oriented
  - Minimal interface
- Little centralized support, relies on online community and package developers
- Annoying to update
- Slower, and more memory intensive, than the more traditional programming languages (C, Java, Perl, Python)

Working with R

- The R Console "interprets" whatever you type
  - Calculator
  - Creating variables
  - Applying functions
- "Analysis" Script + Interactive Exploration
  - Static copy of what you did (reproducability)
  - Try things out interactively, then add to your script

R essentially is a command line with a set of functions loaded

R Uses Functions, in Packages

- R revolves around functions
  - Commands that take input, performs computations, and returns results
  - When you download R, it has a "base" set of functions/packages (**base R**)
- Functions are enclosed in packages
  - These written by R users/developers (like us) - **some are bad**
  - Think of them as "R Extensions"

RStudio (the software)

RStudio is an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) for R

- It helps the user effectively use R.
- Makes things easier
- Is NOT dropdown statistical tools (such as Stata)
  - See Rcmdr or Radiant
- All snapshots in these slides are taken from `http://ayeimanol-r.net/2013/04/21/289/`

RStudio

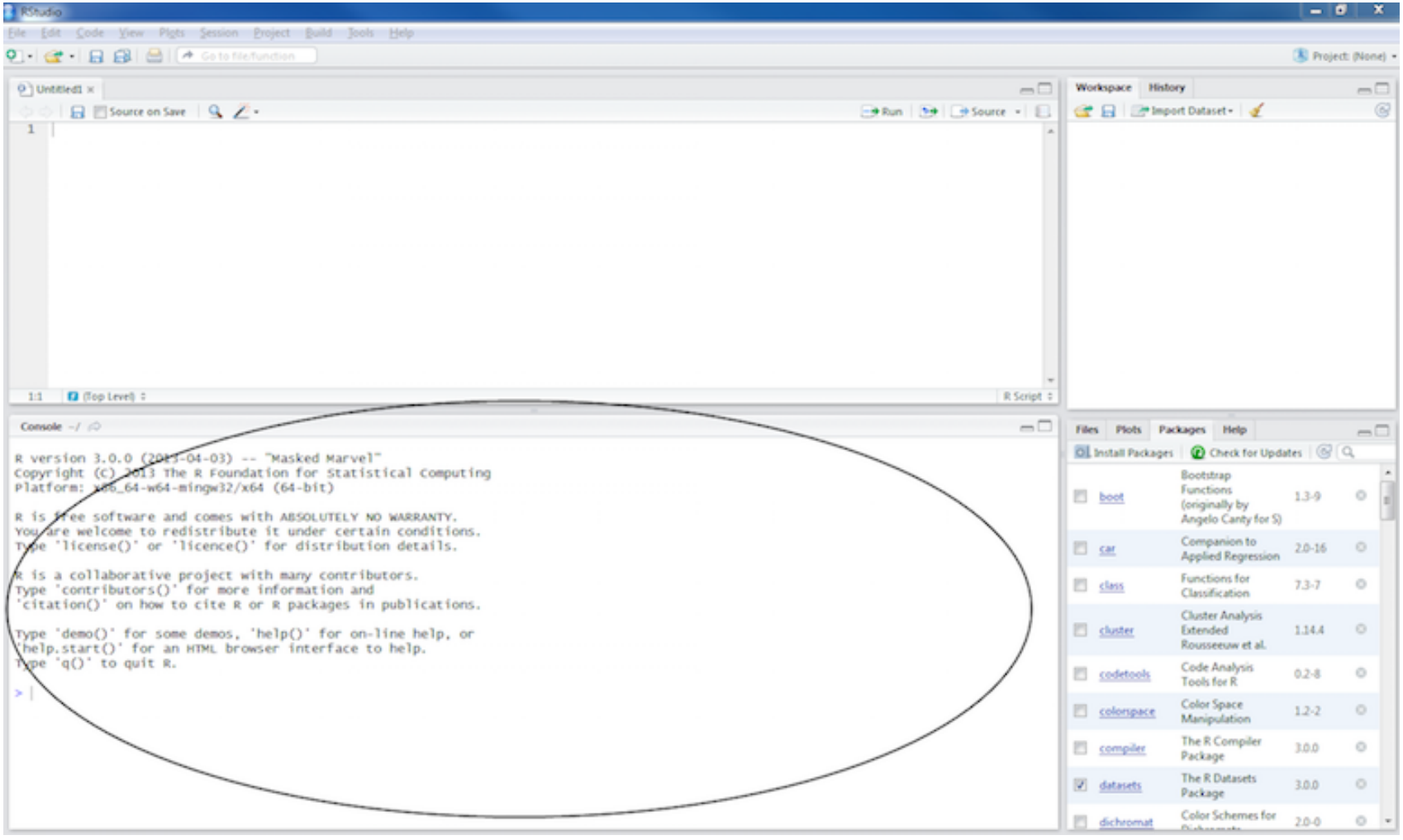
Easier working with R

- Syntax highlighting, code completion, and smart indentation
- Easily manage multiple working directories and projects

More information

- Workspace browser and data viewer
- Plot history, zooming, and flexible image and PDF export
- Integrated R help and documentation
- Searchable command history

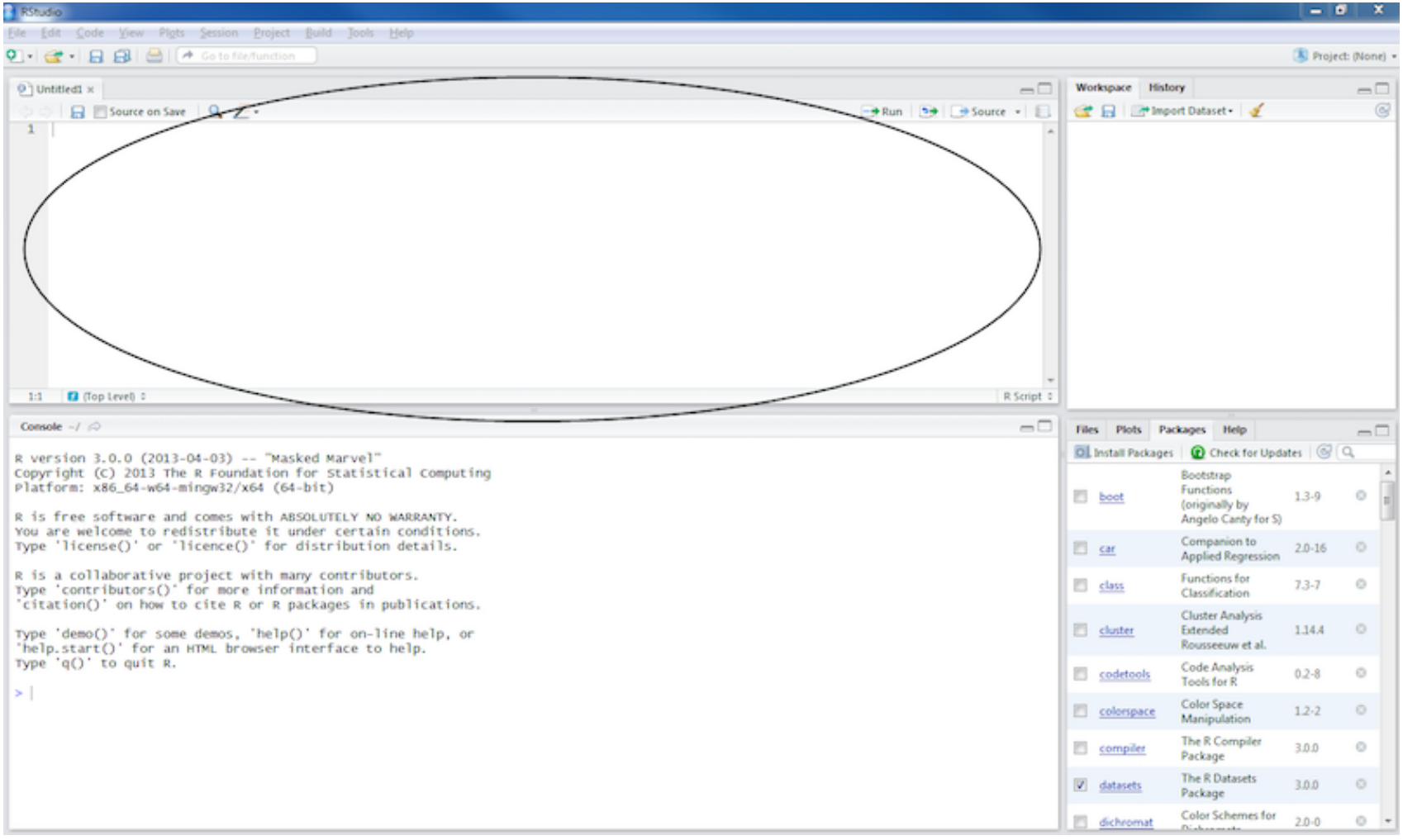
RStudio/R Console



RStudio/R Console

- Where code is executed (where things happen)
- You can type here for things interactively
- Code is **not saved** on your disk

Source/Editor

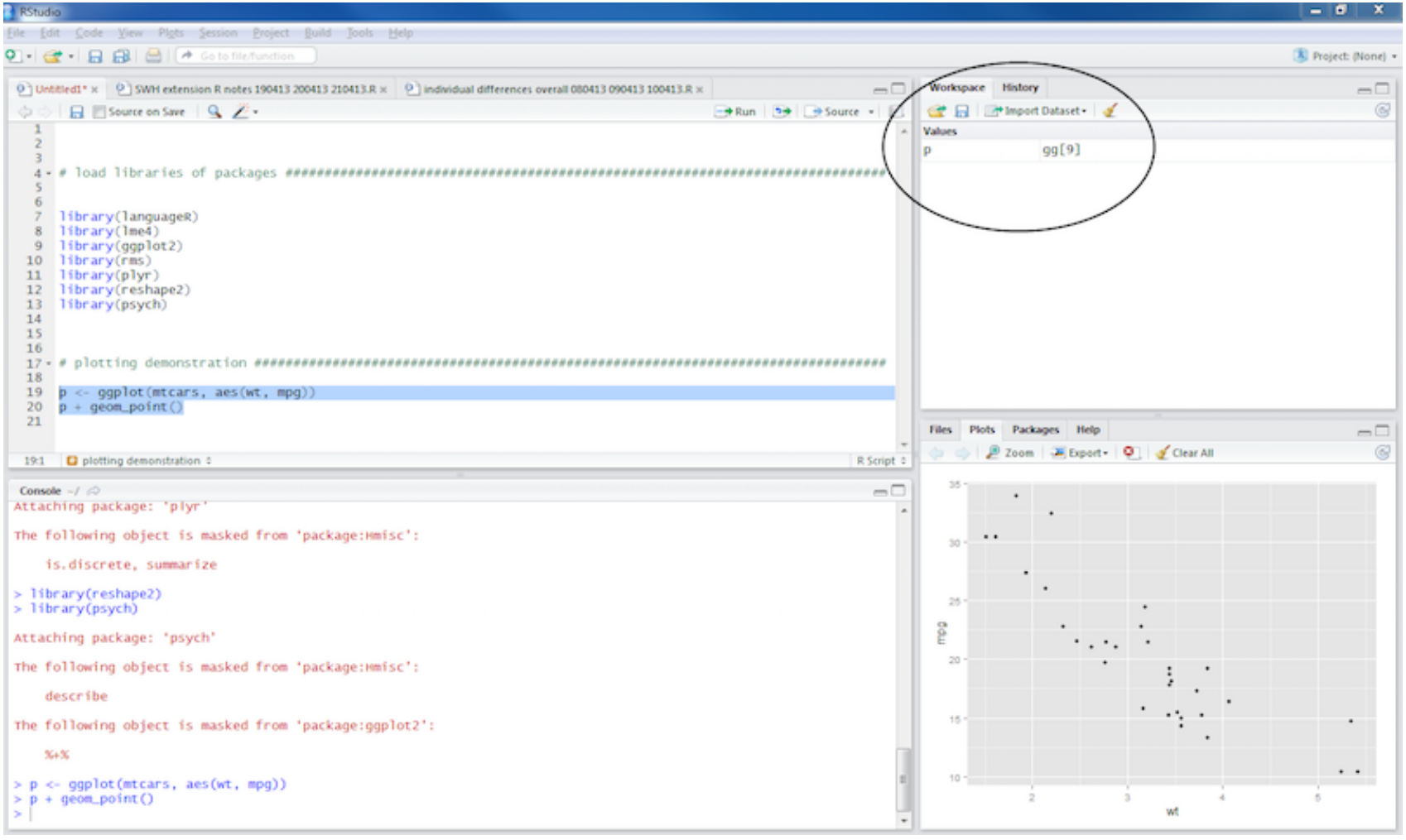


Source

- Where files open to
- Have R code and comments in them
- Can highlight and press (CMD+Enter (Mac) or Ctrl+Enter (Windows)) to run the code

In a .R file (we call a script), code is saved on your disk

Workspace/Environment



Workspace/Environment

- Tells you what **objects** are in R
- What exists in memory/what is loaded?/what did I read in?

History

- Shows previous commands. Good to look at for debugging, but **don't rely** on it as a script. Make a script!
- Also type the "up" key in the Console to scroll through previous commands

Other Panes

- **Files** - shows the files on your computer of the directory you are working in
- **Viewer** - can view data or R objects
- **Help** - shows help of R commands
- **Plots** - pretty pictures
- **Packages** - list of R packages that are loaded in memory