

Energy Data Analysis with R

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Preface

This document gives you a short overview of the statistical software R and its ability to analyze and visualize time series in the context of building energy and comfort.

This book is aimed at R beginners as well as advanced R users and is strongly inspired by the R Graphics Cookbook. The goal of this book is to additionally provide specific recipes for energy and comfort related tasks.

The recipes in this book will show you how to complete certain specific tasks. Examples are shown so that you can understand the basic principle and reproduce the analysis or visualization with your own data.

0.1 Why R and RStudio?

Spreadsheet programs like Excel quickly reach their limits when working with large data sets or creating complex graphics. Also the interactive ability of the graphics is limited. The open source programming language R and its graphical user interface RStudio offer many more possibilities for data analysis and data visualization.

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Chapter 1

Getting started

First you have to install R and RStudio.

Chapter 2

R Basics

2.1 Importing data

2.1.1 csv file

```
df <- read.csv("datafile.csv")  
df <- read.csv("datafile.csv", header=FALSE, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
```

```
df <- read.csv("https://github.com/retomarek/r/raw/master/datasets/buildingMonitoringTestDataSet.csv")
```

Attention: By default, strings in the data are treated as factors. `read.csv()` is a convenience wrapper function around `read.table()`. If you need more control over the input, see `?read.table`

2.1.2 Excel File

```
# Only need to install once  
install.packages("xlsx")  
  
library(xlsx)  
  
df <- read.xlsx("datafile.xlsx", 1)  
df <- read.xlsx("datafile.xls", sheetIndex=2)  
df <- read.xlsx("datafile.xls", sheetName="Revenues")
```

For reading older Excel files in the .xls format, the gdata package has the function `read.xls()`:

```
# Only need to install once
install.packages("gdata")

library(gdata)
# Read first sheet
df <- read.xls("datafile.xls")
df <- read.xls("datafile.xls", sheet=2)
```

Both the xlsx and gdata packages require other software to be installed on your computer. For xlsx, you need to install Java on your machine. For gdata, you need Perl, which comes as standard on Linux and Mac OS X, but not Windows. On Windows, you'll need ActiveState Perl. The Community Edition can be obtained for free.

2.2 Data manipulations

2.2.1 data frames

2.2.1.1 change row names of df

```
names(df) <- c("Column1", "Column2", "Column3")
```

2.2.2 wide to long

```
# wide format
head(df)
```

```
##               time WthStnPress WthStnHum WthStnRain WthStnSolRad
## 1 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z    1012.30     87.0        0.8          0
## 2 2018-09-30T23:00:00.000Z    1011.90     87.5        1.1          0
## 3 2018-10-01T00:00:00.000Z    1011.45     87.5        0.5          0
## 4 2018-10-01T01:00:00.000Z    1010.90     86.5        0.5          0
## 5 2018-10-01T02:00:00.000Z    1010.55     88.0        0.6          0
## 6 2018-10-01T03:00:00.000Z    1010.20     89.0        0.1          0
##   WthStnTemp WthStnWindDir WthStnWindSpd BldgEnergyHotwater BldgEnergyHeating
## 1      12.80      157.50         3.2          0              0
## 2      12.35       11.25         1.6         19              0
```

```
## 3      11.90      146.25      2.4      0      0
## 4      11.90      157.50      0.8      0      0
## 5      11.60      146.25      2.4      0      0
## 6      11.75      22.50      0.8      0      0
##   FlatHum FlatTemp FlatVolFlowColdwater FlatVolFlowHotwater
## 1      NA      NA      0.006      0
## 2      NA      NA      0.000      0
## 3      NA      NA      0.000      0
## 4      NA      NA      0.000      0
## 5      NA      NA      0.006      0
## 6      NA      NA      0.000      0
```

```
# convert wide to long format
df.long <- as.data.frame(tidy::pivot_longer(df,
                                           cols = -time,
                                           names_to = "name",
                                           values_to = "value",
                                           values_drop_na = TRUE)
)

# long format
head(df.long)
```

```
##           time           name  value
## 1 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnPress 1012.3
## 2 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnHum   87.0
## 3 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnRain    0.8
## 4 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnSolRad    0.0
## 5 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnTemp   12.8
## 6 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnWindDir 157.5
```

2.2.3 long to wide

```
# long format
head(df.long)
```

```
##           time           name  value
## 1 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnPress 1012.3
## 2 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnHum   87.0
## 3 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnRain    0.8
## 4 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnSolRad    0.0
## 5 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z   WthStnTemp   12.8
## 6 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z WthStnWindDir 157.5
```

```
# convert long table into wide table
df.wide <- as.data.frame(tidyr::pivot_wider(df.long,
                                           names_from = "name",
                                           values_from = "value")
                        )

# wide format
head(df.wide)
```

```
##           time WthStnPress WthStnHum WthStnRain WthStnSolRad
## 1 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z    1012.30      87.0        0.8          0
## 2 2018-09-30T23:00:00.000Z    1011.90      87.5        1.1          0
## 3 2018-10-01T00:00:00.000Z    1011.45      87.5        0.5          0
## 4 2018-10-01T01:00:00.000Z    1010.90      86.5        0.5          0
## 5 2018-10-01T02:00:00.000Z    1010.55      88.0        0.6          0
## 6 2018-10-01T03:00:00.000Z    1010.20      89.0        0.1          0
##   WthStnTemp WthStnWindDir WthStnWindSpd BldgEnergyHotwater BldgEnergyHeating
## 1      12.80        157.50          3.2              0              0
## 2      12.35         11.25          1.6             19              0
## 3      11.90        146.25          2.4              0              0
## 4      11.90        157.50          0.8              0              0
## 5      11.60        146.25          2.4              0              0
## 6      11.75         22.50          0.8              0              0
##   FlatVolFlowColdwater FlatVolFlowHotwater FlatHum FlatTemp
## 1              0.006              0      NA      NA
## 2              0.000              0      NA      NA
## 3              0.000              0      NA      NA
## 4              0.000              0      NA      NA
## 5              0.006              0      NA      NA
## 6              0.000              0      NA      NA
```

Chapter 3

Data Wrangling

3.1 Add Metadata for later filtering

Firstly we have to load the required libraries and import a dataset into a dataframe:

```
# load data set
data <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/centralOutsideTemp.csv",
                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep = ";")
```

3.1.1 Year, Month, Day, Day of Week

To group, filter and aggregate data we need to have a the date splitted up in day, month and year separately:

```
library(dplyr)
library(lubridate)

df <- data

df$time <- parse_date_time(df$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")
df$year <- as.Date(cut(df$time, breaks = "year"))
df$month <- as.Date(cut(df$time, breaks = "month"))
df$day <- as.Date(cut(df$time, breaks = "day"))
df$weekday <- weekdays(df$time)
```

This code first parses the timestamp with a specific timezone. Then three columns are added.

Please note that the month also contains the year and a day. This is useful for a later step where you can group the series afterwards.

```
head(df,2)
##           time centralOutsideTemp      year      month      day
## 1 2018-03-21 11:00:00           5.2 2018-01-01 2018-03-01 2018-03-21
## 2 2018-03-21 12:00:00           6.7 2018-01-01 2018-03-01 2018-03-21
##      weekday
## 1 Mittwoch
## 2 Mittwoch
tail(df,2)
##           time centralOutsideTemp      year      month      day
## 21864 2020-09-17 10:00:00          26.65 2020-01-01 2020-09-01 2020-09-17
## 21865 2020-09-17 11:00:00          28.10 2020-01-01 2020-09-01 2020-09-17
##      weekday
## 21864 Donnerstag
## 21865 Donnerstag
```

3.1.2 Season of Year

For some analyses it is useful to color single points of a scatterplot according to the season. For this we need to have the season in a separate column:

```
# install redutils library
# devtools::install_github("retomarek/redutils", ref = "master")

# get season from a date
redutils::season(as.Date("2019-04-01"))
```

```
## [1] "Spring"
```

If you want to change the language, you can give the function dedicated names for the season:

```
redutils::season(as.Date("2019-04-01"), c("Winter", "Frühling", "Sommer", "Herbst"))
```

```
## [1] "Frühling"
```

To apply this function to a whole dataframe we can use the dplyr mutate function. The code below creates a new column named “season”:

```
df <- data

# apply it for a data frame
df <- dplyr::mutate(df, season = redutils::season(df$time))

head(df, 2)
##           time centralOutsideTemp season
## 1 2018-03-21 11:00:00           5.2 Spring
## 2 2018-03-21 12:00:00           6.7 Spring
tail(df, 2)
##           time centralOutsideTemp season
## 21864 2020-09-17 10:00:00          26.65  Fall
## 21865 2020-09-17 11:00:00          28.10  Fall
```

3.2 Data Frames

3.2.1 Merge two

```
library(dplyr)
library(lubridate)

# read file one and parse dates
dfOutsideTemp <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/centralOut
                        stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep =";")
dfOutsideTemp$time <- parse_date_time(dfOutsideTemp$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")

# read file two and parse dates
dfFlatTempHum <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/flatTempHu
                        stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep =";")

dfFlatTempHum$time <- parse_date_time(dfFlatTempHum$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")

# merge the two files into a new data frame and keep only rows where all values are available
df <- merge(dfOutsideTemp, dfFlatTempHum, by = "time") %>% na.omit()
```


Chapter 4

Explorative Data Analysis

4.1 Get overview

Get an overview of the whole data set and specific series of it

4.1.1 Load data

Load test data set in a data frame (e.g. from a csv-file)

```
df <- read.csv("https://github.com/retomarek/r/raw/master/datasets/buildingMonitoringTestDataSet.csv")
```

4.1.2 Names

show the column headers of the data frame

```
names(df)
```

```
## [1] "time" "WthStnPress" "WthStnHum"
## [4] "WthStnRain" "WthStnSolRad" "WthStnTemp"
## [7] "WthStnWindDir" "WthStnWindSpd" "BldgEnergyHotwater"
## [10] "BldgEnergyHeating" "FlatHum" "FlatTemp"
## [13] "FlatVolFlowColdwater" "FlatVolFlowHotwater"
```

4.1.3 Structure

show the structure of the data frame

```
str(df)
```

```
## 'data.frame':    16394 obs. of  14 variables:
## $ time           : chr  "2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z" "2018-09-30T23:00:00.000Z"
## $ WthStnPress     : num  1012 1012 1011 1011 1011 ...
## $ WthStnHum       : num  87 87.5 87.5 86.5 88 89 86.5 81 78 80.5 ...
## $ WthStnRain      : num  0.8 1.1 0.5 0.5 0.6 0.1 0.2 0 0 0 ...
## $ WthStnSolRad     : num  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 24.5 ...
## $ WthStnTemp       : num  12.8 12.4 11.9 11.9 11.6 ...
## $ WthStnWindDir    : num  157.5 11.2 146.2 157.5 146.2 ...
## $ WthStnWindSpd    : num  3.2 1.6 2.4 0.8 2.4 0.8 0.8 3.2 4 3.2 ...
## $ BldgEnergyHotwater : num  0 19 0 0 0 ...
## $ BldgEnergyHeating  : num  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...
## $ FlatHum          : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ FlatTemp         : num  NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA ...
## $ FlatVolFlowColdwater: num  0.006 0 0 0 0.006 ...
## $ FlatVolFlowHotwater : num  0 0 0 0 0 ...
```

4.1.4 Head/Tail

```
head(df)
```

```
##           time WthStnPress WthStnHum WthStnRain WthStnSolRad
## 1 2018-09-30T22:00:00.000Z    1012.30      87.0        0.8          0
## 2 2018-09-30T23:00:00.000Z    1011.90      87.5        1.1          0
## 3 2018-10-01T00:00:00.000Z    1011.45      87.5        0.5          0
## 4 2018-10-01T01:00:00.000Z    1010.90      86.5        0.5          0
## 5 2018-10-01T02:00:00.000Z    1010.55      88.0        0.6          0
## 6 2018-10-01T03:00:00.000Z    1010.20      89.0        0.1          0
##   WthStnTemp WthStnWindDir WthStnWindSpd BldgEnergyHotwater BldgEnergyHeating
## 1      12.80      157.50          3.2          0              0
## 2      12.35      11.25          1.6          19              0
## 3      11.90      146.25          2.4          0              0
## 4      11.90      157.50          0.8          0              0
## 5      11.60      146.25          2.4          0              0
## 6      11.75      22.50          0.8          0              0
##   FlatHum FlatTemp FlatVolFlowColdwater FlatVolFlowHotwater
## 1      NA      NA          0.006          0
## 2      NA      NA          0.000          0
## 3      NA      NA          0.000          0
## 4      NA      NA          0.000          0
## 5      NA      NA          0.006          0
## 6      NA      NA          0.000          0
```

```
tail(df)
```

```
##                                time WthStnPress WthStnHum WthStnRain WthStnSolRad
## 16389 2020-08-13T18:00:00.000Z    1011.650    74.75    2.19964          9
## 16390 2020-08-13T19:00:00.000Z    1012.000    79.00    2.19964          0
## 16391 2020-08-13T20:00:00.000Z    1011.950    78.25    2.19964          0
## 16392 2020-08-13T21:00:00.000Z    1012.025    76.50    2.19964          0
## 16393 2020-08-13T22:00:00.000Z    1012.250    73.00    0.00000          0
## 16394 2020-08-13T23:00:00.000Z          NA          NA          NA          NA
##           WthStnTemp WthStnWindDir WthStnWindSpd BldgEnergyHotwater
## 16389      22.000      162.00      0.000000      NA
## 16390      20.175      124.25      1.609340      NA
## 16391      19.350      125.00      0.402335      NA
## 16392      19.900       93.00      1.609340      NA
## 16393      20.625      116.25      2.414010      NA
## 16394         NA         NA         NA      NA
##           BldgEnergyHeating FlatHum FlatTemp FlatVolFlowColdwater
## 16389              NA      NA      NA      NA
## 16390              NA      NA      NA      NA
## 16391              NA      NA      NA      NA
## 16392              NA      NA      NA      NA
## 16393              NA      NA      NA      NA
## 16394              NA      NA      NA      NA
##           FlatVolFlowHotwater
## 16389              NA
## 16390              NA
## 16391              NA
## 16392              NA
## 16393              NA
## 16394              NA
```

4.1.5 Five number summary

reveals details of a specific series

```
summary(df$WthStnTemp)
```

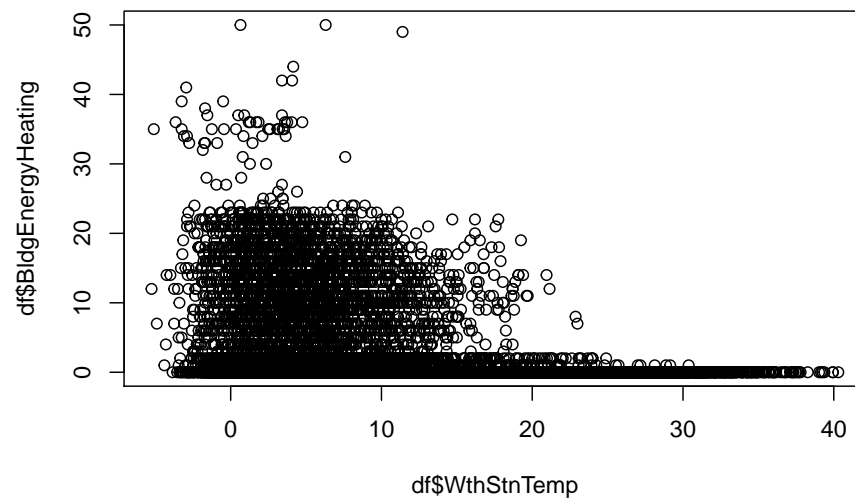
```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.    NA's
##    -5.25   5.50   11.25   11.99   17.35   40.30     12
```

4.2 Basic plots

4.2.1 Scatterplot

4.2.1.1 `plot()`

```
# load data set  
df <- read.csv("https://github.com/retomarek/r/raw/master/datasets/buildingMonitoringT  
  
# crate simple scatterplot  
plot(df$WthStnTemp, df$BldgEnergyHeating)
```



Chapter 5

Data Visualizations

5.1 Building Energy Signature

5.1.1 Basis

- Two separate csv files with time series data from the outside temperature and the energy data with unaligned time intervals
- Energy consumption time series from a energy meter with steadily increasing meter values

5.1.2 Task

You want to create a scatter plot with

- the daily mean outside temperature on the x-axis
- the daily energy consumption on the y-axis
- points colored according to season

5.1.3 Solution

After reading in the two time series the data has to get aggregated per day and then merged. Note that during the aggregation of the energy data you have to calculate the daily consumption from the steadily increasing meter values as well.

Create a new script, copy/paste the following code and run it:

```

library(ggplot2)
library(plotly)
library(dplyr)
library(redutils)
library(lubridate)

# load time series data and aggregate daily mean values
dfOutsideTemp <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/
                           stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep = ";")
dfOutsideTemp$time <- parse_date_time(dfOutsideTemp$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")
dfOutsideTemp$day <- as.Date(cut(dfOutsideTemp$time, breaks = "day"))
dfOutsideTemp <- dfOutsideTemp %>% group_by(day) %>% mutate(tempMean = mean(centralOut
dfOutsideTemp <- dfOutsideTemp %>% select(day, tempMean) %>% unique() %>% na.omit()

dfHeatEnergy <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/
                           stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep = ";")

dfHeatEnergy <- dfHeatEnergy %>% select(time, energyHeatingMeter) %>% na.omit()
dfHeatEnergy$time <- parse_date_time(dfHeatEnergy$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")
dfHeatEnergy$day <- as.Date(cut(dfHeatEnergy$time, breaks = "day"))
dfHeatEnergy <- dfHeatEnergy %>% group_by(day) %>% mutate(energyMax = max(energyHeating
dfHeatEnergy <- dfHeatEnergy %>% select(day, energyMax) %>% unique() %>% na.omit()
dfHeatEnergy <- dfHeatEnergy %>% mutate(energyCons = energyMax - lag(energyMax)) %>% s

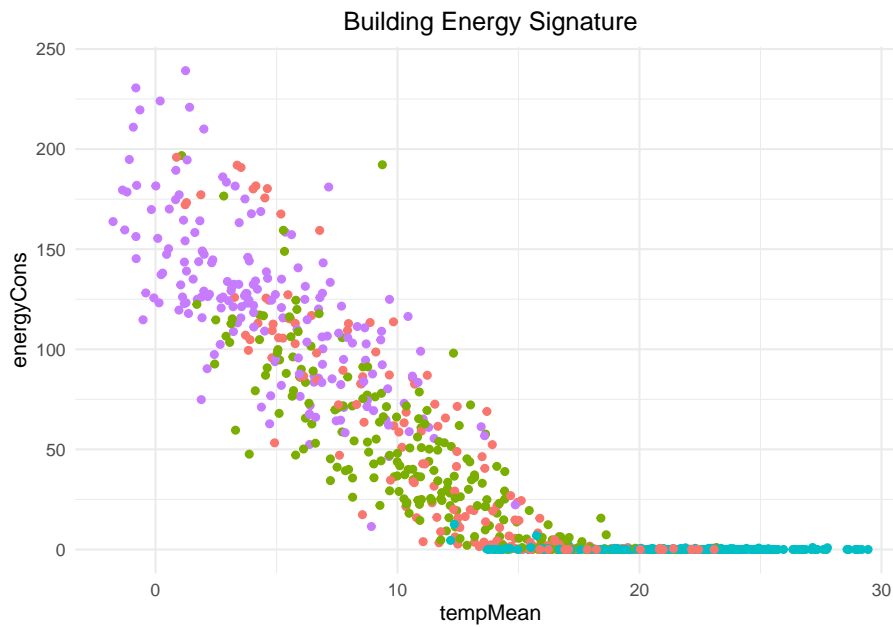
# merge the data in a tidy format
df <- merge(dfOutsideTemp, dfHeatEnergy, by = "day")

# calculate season
df <- df %>% mutate(season = redutils::season(df$day))

# static chart with ggplot
p <- ggplot2::ggplot(df) +
  ggplot2::geom_point(aes(x = tempMean,
                           y = energyCons, color=season,
                           text = paste("</br>Date: ", as.Date(df$day),
                                         "</br>Temp: ", round(df$tempMean, digits = 1),
                                         "</br>Energy: ", round(df$energyCons, digits = 1),
                                         "</br>Season: ", df$season))
  ) +
  ggtitle("Building Energy Signature") +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(
    legend.position="none",
    plot.title = element_text(hjust = 0.5)
  )

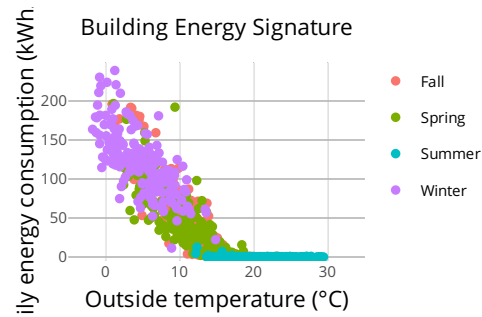
```

p



Add the following part to your script to make the chart above interactive:

```
# continuation from upper ggplot code section
plotly::ggplotly(p, tooltip = c("text")) %>%
  layout(xaxis = list(title = "Outside temperature (\u00B0C)",
    range = c(min(-5,min(df$tempMean)), max(35,max(df$tempMean))), zeroline = F),
    yaxis = list(title = "Daily energy consumption (kWh/d)",
    range = c(-5, max(df$energyCons) + 10)),
    showlegend = TRUE
  ) %>%
  plotly::config(displayModeBar = FALSE, displaylogo = FALSE)
```



5.2 Mollier hx Diagram

5.2.1 Basis

- A csv file with time series from multiple temperature and humidity sensors in °C and %rH

5.2.2 Task

You want to plot a mollier h-x diagram with

- scatter plot of temperature- and humidity sensor data (mean values per day)
- points colored according to season
- comfort zone

5.2.3 Solution

The sensor data is not in a constant interval and not yet aggregated. So after reading in the time series the data has to be filtered and aggregated per day.

Finally use the plot function `mollierHxDiagram` from the `redutils` package (R Energy Data Utilities) which you can install as follows:

```
install.packages("devtools")
library(devtools)
install_github("hslu-ige-laes/redutils")
```

Create a new script, copy/paste the following code and run it:

```
library(redutils)
library(dplyr)
library(r2d3)
library(lubridate)

# read data
data <- read.csv("https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/edar/raw/master/sampleData/flatTempHum.csv",
                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE, sep=";")

# select temperature and humidity and remove empty cells
data <- data %>% select(time, FlatA_Temp, FlatA_Hum) %>% na.omit()

# create column with day for later grouping
data$time <- parse_date_time(data$time, "YmdHMS", tz = "Europe/Zurich")
data$day <- as.Date(cut(data$time, breaks = "day"))

# calculate daily mean of temperature and humidity
data <- data %>% group_by(day) %>% mutate(tempMean = mean(as.numeric(FlatA_Temp))) %>% ungroup()
data <- data %>% group_by(day) %>% mutate(humMean = mean(as.numeric(FlatA_Hum))) %>% ungroup()

# shrink down to daily values and remove rows with empty values
data <- data %>% select(day, tempMean, humMean) %>% unique() %>% na.omit()

# plot mollier hx diagram
redutils::mollierHxDiagram(data)
```

5.2.4 Discussion

The diagram is based on D3 and packaged into the package `redutils`. The original D3 source with a html integration you can find here: <https://github.com/hslu-ige-laes/d3-mollierhx>

5.2.5 See Also

If your two time series are in separate files, you must first read them in separately and then merge them into one data frame. See chapter 3.2.1

Appendix A

Installing R and R Studio

- Before we can start the first analysis, we have to install “R” and “RStudio”.
- “R” is a programming language used for statistical computing while “RStudio” provides a graphical user interface.
- “R” may be used without “RStudio”, but “RStudio” may not be used without “R”. Both, “R” and “RStudio” are free of charge and there are no licence fees.

A.1 Download and Install R

A.1.1 Windows

1. Open <https://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/base/> and press the link “Download R...”
2. Run the downloaded installer file and follow the installation wizard

The wizard will install R into your “Program Files” folders and add a shortcut in your Start menu. Note that you will need to have all necessary administration rights to install new software on your machine.

A.1.2 Mac OSX

1. Open <https://cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx/> and download the latest *.pkg file
2. Run the downloaded installer file and follow the installation wizard

The installer allows you to customize your installation. However the default values will be suitable for most users.

A.1.3 Linux

R is part of many Linux distributions, therefore you should check with your Linux package management system if it's already installed.

The CRAN website provides files to build R from source on Debian, Redhat, SUSE, and Ubuntu systems under the link “Download R for Linux”

- Open <https://cran.r-project.org/bin/linux/> and then follow the directory trail to the version of Linux you wish to install R on top of

The exact installation procedure will vary depending on your Linux operating system. CRAN supports the process by grouping each set of source files with documentation or README files that explain how to install on your system.

A.2 Download and Install RStudio

R Studio is a development environment for R.

1. Open <https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/> and download “RStudio Desktop Open Source”
2. Follow the on-screen instructions
3. Once you have installed R Studio, you can run it like any other application via

A.3 Open RStudio

Now that you have both R and RStudio on your computer, you can begin using R by opening the RStudio program. Open RStudio just as you would any program, by clicking on its icon or by typing “RStudio” at the Windows Run prompt.

Appendix B

Packages in R

Many functions of R are not pre-installed and must be loaded manually. R packages are similar to libraries in C, Python etc. An R package bundles useful functions, help files and data sets. You can use these functions within your own R code once you load the package.

The following chapters describe how to install, load, update and use packages.

B.1 Install Packages

The easiest way to install an R Package is to use the RStudio tab “Packages”:

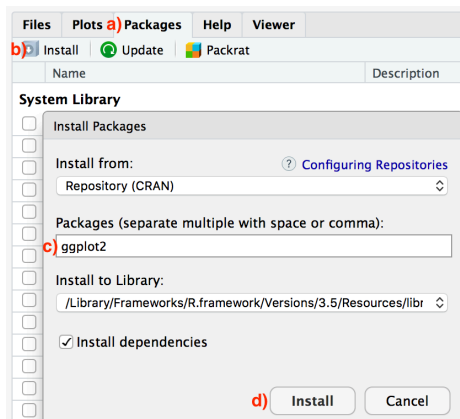


Figure B.1: Install packages via RStudio GUI

a) Click on the “Packages” tab

- b) Click on “Install” next to Update
- c) Type the name of the package under “Packages, in this case type ggplot2
- d) Click “Install”

This will search for the package “ggplot” specified on a server (the so-called CRAN website). If the package exists, it will be downloaded to a library folder on your computer. Here R can access the package in future R sessions without having to reinstall it.

An other way is to use the `install.packages` function. Open R (if already opened please close all projects) and type the following at the command line:

```
install.packages("ggplot2")
```

If you want to install a package directly from github, the package “devtools” must be installed first:

```
install.packages("devtools")  
library(devtools)  
install_github("hslu-ige-laes/redutils")
```

B.2 Loading Packages

If you have installed a package, its functions are not yet available in your R project. To use an R package in your script, you must load it with the following command:

```
install.packages("ggplot2")
```

B.3 Updating Packages

R packages are often constantly updated on CRAN or GitHub, so you may want to update them once in a while with:

```
update.packages(ask = FALSE)
```