

Econometrics 1 *Applied Econometrics with R*

Lecture 2: Basics of R

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R installation

See <http://huangjp.szu.edu.cn/Rinstall.html>

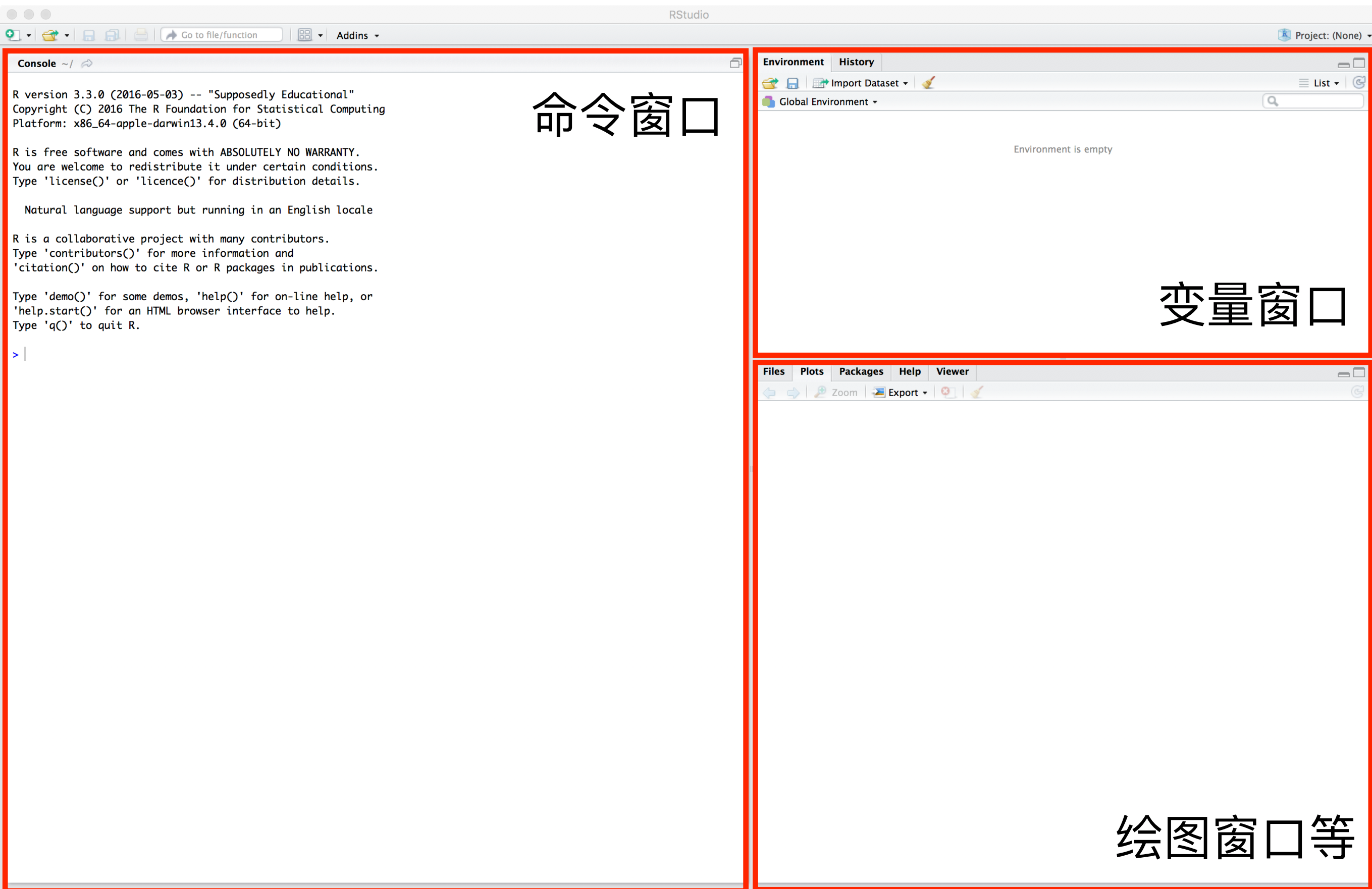
1. Download and install R
2. Download and install RStudio
3. Install packages
AER, car, etc.

An introduction to R

R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing and Graphics

- <https://www.r-project.org/>
- R is free to use (open source under GNU license)
- R can be run on Windows/MacOS/Unix systems
- R is *interactive*
- R has many packages that are ready for use
- You can develop your own tools with R





Play with R

R is a high level calculator

```
> 1 + 2↵
```

```
[1] 3
```

```
> 2^24↵
```

```
[1] 16777216
```

```
> factorial(5)↵
```

```
[1] 120
```

```
> log(exp(sin(pi/4)^2) * exp(cos(pi/4)^2))↵
```

```
[1] 1
```

- Try the following commands (functions):

`log()`, `exp()`, `sin()`, `cos()`, `tan()`,
`sign()`, `sqrt()`, `abs()`, `min()`, `max()`

- Use `?` or `help()` to see help documents of commands, for example

`?sign`, `help(sign)`

- Calculate the value of $\phi(2.5)$, where

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$$

Variable

- Assignment operator “<-”

```
> x <- 25↵
```

```
> y <- 3↵
```

```
> x * y↵
```

- Characters that can be used in a variable name:
A~Z, a~z, 0~9, _
- A variable name should start with a letter

Vector

- `c()`

```
> x <- c(2, 3.5, -3, 6.4, 21.9) ↵
```

- The i-th element of a vector

```
> x[3] ↵
```

- The length of a vector

```
> length(x) ↵
```

Understand the difference between “`()`” and “`[]`”:

- “`()`” is used with a function
- “`[]`” is used with a variable (vector or matrix)

Try arithmetic with vectors

- `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `^`, `sqrt()`, `exp()`, `log()`
- `mean()`, `var()`, `prod()`
- `sort()`, `order()`
- Calculate unbiased sample variance using

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

and compare your result with that of `var()`

Generating patterned vectors

- How to generate a vector (1, 2, 3, 4, ..., 20)

```
> x <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,  
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20)↵
```

```
> x <- 1:20↵
```

- Use `seq()`, `rep()`

```
> x <- seq(from = 1, to = 2, by = 0.1)↵
```

```
> y <- rep(x, times = 5)↵
```

Matrix

- Create a matrix from a vector

```
> x <- 1:12↵
```

```
> y <- matrix(x, nrow = 3, ncol = 4)↵
```

- Elements of a matrix

```
> y[2, 3]↵
```

```
> y[2, ]↵
```

```
> y[, 4]↵
```

```
> y[3, c(1, 3)]↵
```

Basic matrix algebra

- Try $+$, $-$, $*$, $/$, $^$, $\text{sqrt}()$, $\text{exp}()$, $\text{log}()$ with a matrix

- Create a matrix $z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$

- Matrix multiplication

```
> z %*% z
```

- Transpose

```
> t(z)
```

Basic matrix algebra

- Inverse

```
> solve(z) ←
```

Since $A \times A^{-1} = I$, A^{-1} can be seen as the solution of equation $A \times X = B$ where $B = I$. `solve()` returns the solution of this type of equations. See the help document and learn its usage using `?solve`

- Check your result

```
> z %*% solve(z) ←
```

Other matrix operations

- Size of a given matrix: `dim()`, `nrow()`, `ncol()`

- Patterned matrix — the identity matrix

```
> diag(4) ↵
```

- Combining matrices

```
> cbind(z, diag(2)) ↵
```

```
> rbind(z, solve(z)) ↵
```

References

1. Kleiber, C. and Zeileis, A., *Applied Econometrics with R*, Springer, 2008.
2. Venables, W. N., Smith, D. M., and the R Core Team, *An Introduction to R*, Version 3.5.1, 2018-07-02.

<https://cran.r-project.org/manuals.html>