

# Statistics Environment R

## Introduction, Overview, Applications

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# What is R?

- R is “a **language** and **environment** for statistical computing and graphics”.
- R is Free Software under the terms of the GNU General Public License (GPL).
- **R Foundation of Statistical Computing**
- As an integrated suite for data analysis it includes:
  - well-developed high-level programming language.
  - extensible through packages and C/C++/Fortran codes
  - effective data handling and storage facilities,
  - large, integrated collection of tools for data analysis
  - graphical facilities for statistical (and other) plots
  - elaborate help system (text, PDF, HTML, LaTeX, ...)



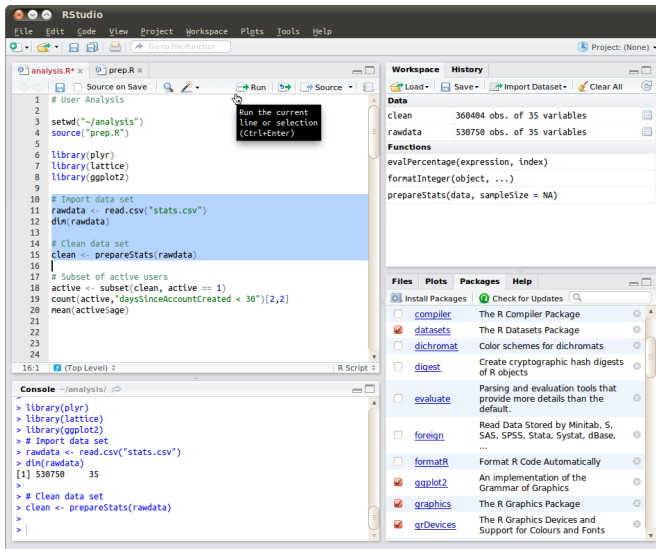
# History of R (as Open Source project)

- John Chambers: "S Programming Language"(1985/88)  
ACM Software Award to J. Chambers (1998)
- \*S-PLUS\* – commercial implementation of S (1988–2008)
- Ross Ihaka and Robert Gentleman, Sidney (1995)  
Environment for statistical computing (Mac)  
"R: Language for Data Analysis and Graphics"(1996)
- Martin Mächler hosts R on a server at the ETH Zürich  
**R Core Development Team (1998)**  
R becomes an official part of the GNU project
- R version 1.0.0 stable for production use (2000)
- ... CRAN ... R-Forge ... RStudio ... Rcpp ...
- R version 3.0 (April 2013)  
> 5000 user contributed packages on CRAN

# R Resources

- R home and download pages (95 mirrors worldwide)  
`http://www.r-project.org, cran.r-project.org`
- Contributed packages (sorted by name or date of publication)  
`cran.r-project.org/web/packages/`
- Mailing lists (searchable)  
`https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-help/,  
stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/r/`
- Task Views  
`cran.r-project.org/web/views/`
- R Journal and the Journal of Statistical Software  
`journal.r-project.org/, www.jstatsoft.org/`
- Books related to R (a.o., Springer UseR Series, CRC R Series)  
`www.R-project.org/doc/bib/R-books.html`

# Graphical User Interface: RStudio



# Reproducible Research

- “Combine technical report, data analysis, and experimental data s.t. research can be recreated, better understood and verified.”
- RStudio supports document preparation by
  - Markup languages: Markdown (HTML) or LaTeX (PDF)
  - knitr: literate programming  
Presentation + analysis + executable code
  - Unix-like shell programs, e.g., GNU make, pandoc
  - Storing data, code and text on Git/Github repositories
- Minimal requirements for reproducible research: fingerprinting of data, reproducing random numbers, identification of R and package versions, reproducing system settings, etc., are not covered in this framework!

# Help System

- Getting help for functions and operators  
`?lm`, `? "["`, `??solve`, `help.start()`
- **Extended/-able help system** for package authors
  - structured help templates (Rd format)
  - automatic tests for correctness, checking examples
  - formatted inline help
  - automatic conversion to other formats: HTML, LaTeX, ...
  - generation of package manual in PDF format
- User and reference manuals easily available
- Web-based online help  
Search facilities for package manuals and mailing lists  
Online documentation: <http://www.Rdocumentation.org/>

# Object Orientation

“Everything in R is an object.”

- **S3 classes**

‘informal classes’, using method dispatching on polymorphic functions  
e.g., generic functions `summary` or `plot`: `methods(plot)`

- **S4 classes**

newer, fully object-oriented system [*seldom used*]

- **OO in packages**

prototype-based: `proto`, `R.OO`; multiple inheritance: `mutatr`

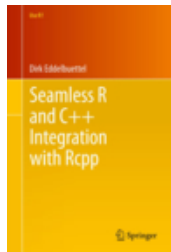
- **Reference Classes (Chambers)**

mutable objects, message-passing mechanism ( $\leftrightarrow$  C++)



# Integrating Fortran / C / C++

- Dynamically linked Fortran / C / C++ code can be directly used in R and is fully supported by package management and CRAN facilities
- 'Rcpp' provides an interface for seamlessly accessing, extending or modifying R objects at the C++ level  
'Rinline': use uncompiled C++ code in R programs
- Other languages:
  - 'rJava': low-level R to Java interface
  - 'rPython': permits calls from R to Python
  - 'R.matlab': TCP/IP interface with the Matlab process



# Package Management

- Packages are 'bundles' of functions, data files, help files, source files (Fortran, C, C++), vignettes, and additional information such as DESCRIPTION, NAMESPACE, NEWS
- **R builds and checks packages** with 50(!) different checks
- Source files are compiled and added as dynamically linked libraries
- User-contributed packages are stored on CRAN (> 5000) and are installed and updated from there:  

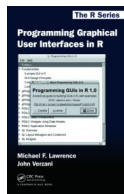
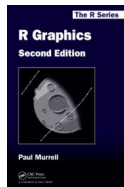
```
install.packages("pracma") ... update.packages()  
library(pracma)
```
- Packages can be stored and checked on R-Forge (subversion repository)

# Data Sources

- Reading in data files: Text, CSV files (URL addresses)  
`read.table(<file>, header=TRUE, sep='\t', ...)`
- Data files from other systems: \*.mat (Matlab),  
Excel, ODS, SAS, SPSS, Stata, Systat, IDL(?), ...
- Database connections: DBI, ODBC, JDBC  
Oracle, MySQL, PostgreSQL, **SQLite**  
(non-SQL:) MongoDB, ArangoDB
- Internet data sources: Statistical databases, data archives  
Finance, economics, ecological, census data, geographic,  
demographic, weather, medical, forensic, genomic/sequencing, ...
- Example:

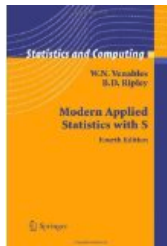
# Statistical Graphs

- Statistical Graphs are completely customized scatter plots, function graphs, density diagrams, pie charts, histograms, box and mosaic plots, spine/spinograms, ... advanced: grid graphics, 'pairs', 'coplots'
- Dynamic graphics: 'animation' package, 'rgobi'
- Importing and exporting graphics formats
- '**ggplot2**' (Grammar of Graphics) for professional plots
- *Missing Links*: high-quality 3D-Graphs, interactive graphs
- Building Graphical User Interfaces  
Packages: '**gWidgets**', 'RGtk2', 'qtbase', 'tkltk'

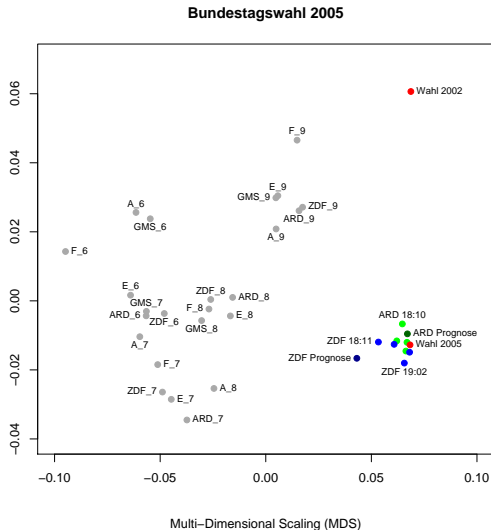


# Computational Statistics

- Classical univariate Statistics:  
Distributions, summaries, random data, robust methods, density estimation, hypotheses testing, ...
- **Linear regression**, generalized/additive linear models  
**Formula language** for linear models:  $y \sim x_1 + x_2 - 1$
- Nonlinear and smooth regression
- Multivariate Statistics:  
cluster/factor/discriminant analysis, classification  
visualization methods: PCA, MDS, SOM, ICA, etc.
- Tree-based methods, random and mixed effects
- Time series, survival analysis, spatial analysis



# Example: Multidimensional Scaling



## Example: R code for MDS

```
umf <- read.table("umfragen.txt", sep="\t", header=T, row.names=1)
umf <- umf[,-6]

dumf <- dist(umf)
cumf <- cmdscale(dumf)

# plotting
clrs <- c(rep("darkgray", 24), "darkgreen", rep("green", 4),
          "darkblue", rep("blue", 4), rep("red", 2))
plot(cumf, pch=19, col=clrs,
     xlim=c(-0.10,0.10), ylim=c(-0.04,0.07),
     xlab=, ylab=,
     main="Bundestagswahl 2005",
     sub="Multi-Dimensional Scaling (MDS)")
identify(cumf[,1], cumf[,2], labels=row.names(umf), cex=0.75)
```

# Time Series

- Reading time series from different sources

- text files, spreadsheets
- Internet time series databases
- PostgreSQL time series ('TSdbi')
- Handling of time and date

- **Forecasting** and Modeling

Decomposition, seasonal trends, ARMA/ARIMA  
spectral analysis, state space identification

- 'signal' package, but no 'control' package

- **Time Series Data Mining**

- Clustering and classification
- Dynamic time warping
- Functional Data Analysis (FDA)

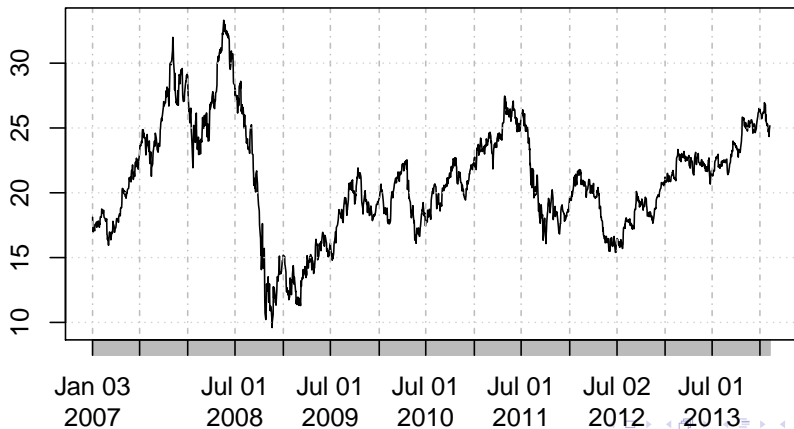




## Example: Financial Time Series

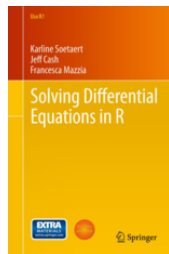
```
library(quantmod); getSymbols("ABB"); plot(ABB)
```

**ABB**



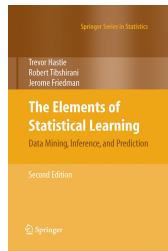
# Differential Equations

- Several packages offer to solve differential equations, e.g. 'deSolve' or 'bvpSolve', mostly by integrating known free solvers written in C or Fortran:
  - Ordinary differential equations (ODEs)
  - Partial differential equations (PDEs)
  - Boundary value problems, e.g. reactive transport equations
  - Differential algebraic equations (DAEs)
  - Delay differential equations (DDEs)



# Statistical Learning

- Linear regression and classification
- Kernel smoothing methods (e.g., radial basis functions)
- **CART**, Decision Trees, **MARS**, Earth
- Neural Networks, Kohonen maps
- Support Vector Machines (classification, regression)
- **Random Forests**, ensemble learning
- Graphical models [, Bayesian networks]
- Boosting, AdaBoost, JackKnife methods
- Model assessment and selection



T. Hastie, R. Tibshirani, J. Freedman: *The Elements of Statistical Learning*  
James, Witten, Hastie & Tibshirani: *An Introduction to Statistical Learning – With Applications in R*.

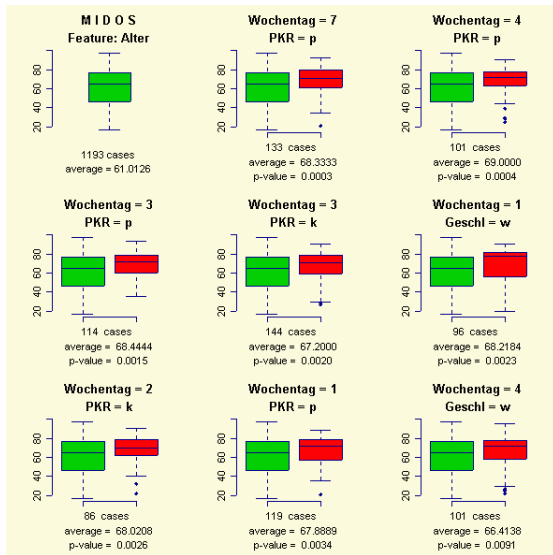
Cousera Course on “Statistical Learning” online since Jan 21, 2014

# Data Mining with R

Database Mining...Data Mining...Predictive Analytics...Big Data...Data Science

- Packages providing Data Mining functionality:
  - **Weka**: open source machine learning software
  - Decision trees: Cubist, **C5.0** (Quinlan) [GritBot ?]
  - Random Forest (Breiman): ensemble learning
  - FactorMineR: sequence analysis
- Rattle: graphical user interface for data mining in R
- RODM: interface to Oracle Data Mining
- Vikamine: open source Subgroup Discovery
- Integration of R in Data Mining environments  
(free) Weka, KNIME, RapidMiner; (comm.) SAS Enterprise Miner

# Example: MIDOS Graph



# Optimization with R (I)

- Optimization in Base R  
`optim(par, fn, gr, lower, upper, method="Nelder-Mead", "BFGS", "CG", "L-BFGS-B", "SANN")`
- (Nonlinear) Least-Squares optimization: 'nls', 'nls', 'minpack.lm', ...
- Derivative-free optimization: 'dfoptim'
- (Mixed-integer) Linear Programming:  
'lpSolve', 'Rglpk', 'Rsymphony', 'rneos' (NEOS server)
- Nonlinear Optimization: 'nloptr' (NLOpt library)
- Constraint Optimization: 'alabama', 'Rsolnp'  
(using "augmented Lagrangian")

## Optimization with R (II)

- Global Optimization: 'GenSA', 'PSO', 'soma', 'cmaes', 'DEoptim', 'RcppDE', 'DEoptimR' (differential evolution)
- Convex Optimization: 'Rcsdp' (semi-definite programming) CVX ?? ("disciplined convex programming") [Matlab toolbox]
- QP-QC (w/ quadratic constraints) ?? – MIQP ??
- Non-smooth Optimization: ?? (e.g., minimax problems)
- Discrete Optimization: 'knapsack', 'TSP'
- Modeling language ?? [MathProg, AMPL, GAMS, ZIMPL]
- Recommendations: See the "Optimization" task view !, or Special Issue "Optimization in R", J. of Stat. Software, 2014

## Application Areas / Related Projects

- Econometrics / Financial Engineering: **Rmetrics**  
“Financial Market Analysis w/ R” <<https://www.rmetrics.org/>>
- Bioinformatics: **Bioconductor** <[www.bioconductor.org/](http://www.bioconductor.org/)>  
“Analysis and comprehension of high-throughput genomic data”
- Spatial Statistics: Rgeo <[www.R-project.org/Rgeo](http://www.R-project.org/Rgeo)>
- Robust Statistics: <[www.statistik.tuwien.ac.at/rsr/](http://www.statistik.tuwien.ac.at/rsr/)>
- Social Network Analysis: ‘igraph’, ‘sna’
- Optimization “community”
- See the ‘R task View’s <[cran.r-project.org/web/views/](http://cran.r-project.org/web/views/)>



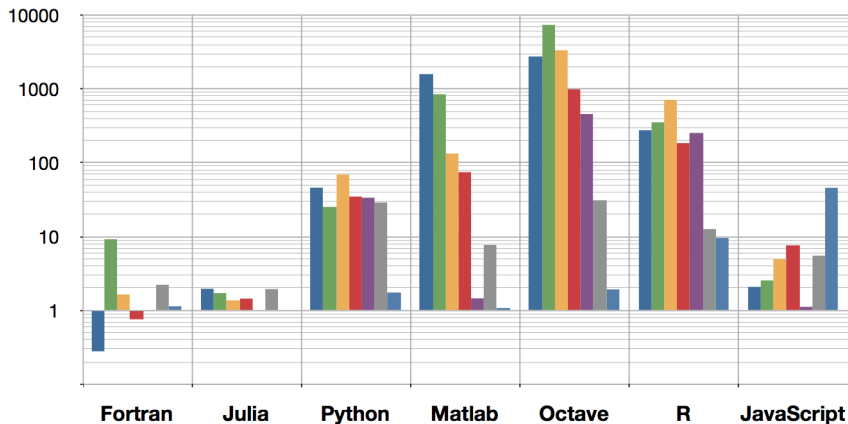
# High Performance / Parallel Computing

- High Performance Computing
  - 'Rcpp' family of packages, e.g., RcppArmadillo, RcppEigen
  - 'RcppOctave' – interface to Octave *and* Matlab
- **Parallel Computing**
  - Message Passing Interface (MPI)
  - Packages for explicit / implicit parallelism
  - Grid computing, GPUs
- Apache **Hadoop** framework (HDFS, MapReduce)
- Cloud Computing, e.g., Amazon Web / EC2 services
- Large memory / big data support / profiling tools

# Gang of Forty

Matlab Maple Mathematica SciPy SciLab IDL R  
Octave S-PLUS SAS J APL Maxima Mathcad  
Axiom Sage Lush Ch LabView O-Matrix PV-WAVE  
Igor Pro OriginLab FreeMat Yorick GAUSS MuPad  
Genius SciRuby Ox Stata JLab Magma Euler Rlab  
Speakeasy GDL Nickle gretl ana Torch7

# Obligatory Performance Slide



Execution time relative to C++

# Some Examples of R and Matlab Syntax

## Matlab

```
x = [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
y = A(:, 2)
```

```
% defined in 'myfun.m'
function [a,b] = myfun(x,y,z)
...
end
```

```
if x == 1
    y = 0
else
    y = x
end
```

## R

```
x <- c(1, 3, 5, 7, 9)
y <- A[, 2]
```

```
# defined interactively
myfun <- function(x,y,z=1e-0.7) {
    ...
}
```

```
if (x == 1) {
    y <- 0
} else {
    y <- x
}
```