Introduction_to_R

Johanna Jantzen

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Welcome to "Understanding taxonomy," a module in the "Using phylogenies to study trait evolution" series.

In this module, we will learn how to download a list of taxa and their corresponding Taxon IDs from an online database: the Open Tree of Life.

In future modules, we will use these taxa to create phylogenies and study how morphological or ecological traits have evolved for these taxa.

Before completing this module, it is best if you have completed the "XXXXX" module which gives you an introduction to R Studio, R Projects, running scripts, and troubleshooting.

This course has several streams and several difficulty levels. Please choose the appropriate datafiles and scripts according to your goals.

Data for each module are generally included as **csv** files. These files are able to be opened manually or using an R script. Each **csv** file contains columns separated by **commas** (,) and rows separated by **new line characters**.

Navigate to the "Data" folder in the "Files" tab (bottom right corner of the screen) and within that, to the "Introduction_example" folder. Open the file "Acer_rubrum.csv" **manually** by clicking on it and selecting "View File" and check it out. It should look like this:

Now, open the same file using **R**. To run the code below, select the row(s) of text and hit the "Run" button above and "Run Selected Lines".

```
example_file <- read.csv("../Data/Introduction_example/Acer_rubrum.csv",
    stringsAsFactors = FALSE, header = TRUE)
head(example_file)
```

```
##       gbifID kingdom       phylum          class       order       family
    genus
## 1 2859483912 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
## 2 2859481590 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
## 3 2859479256 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
## 4 2859479131 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
## 5 2859478953 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
## 6 2859478951 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
##       species infraspecificEpithet taxonRank
## 1 Acer rubrum                       SPECIES
## 2 Acer rubrum                       SPECIES
```

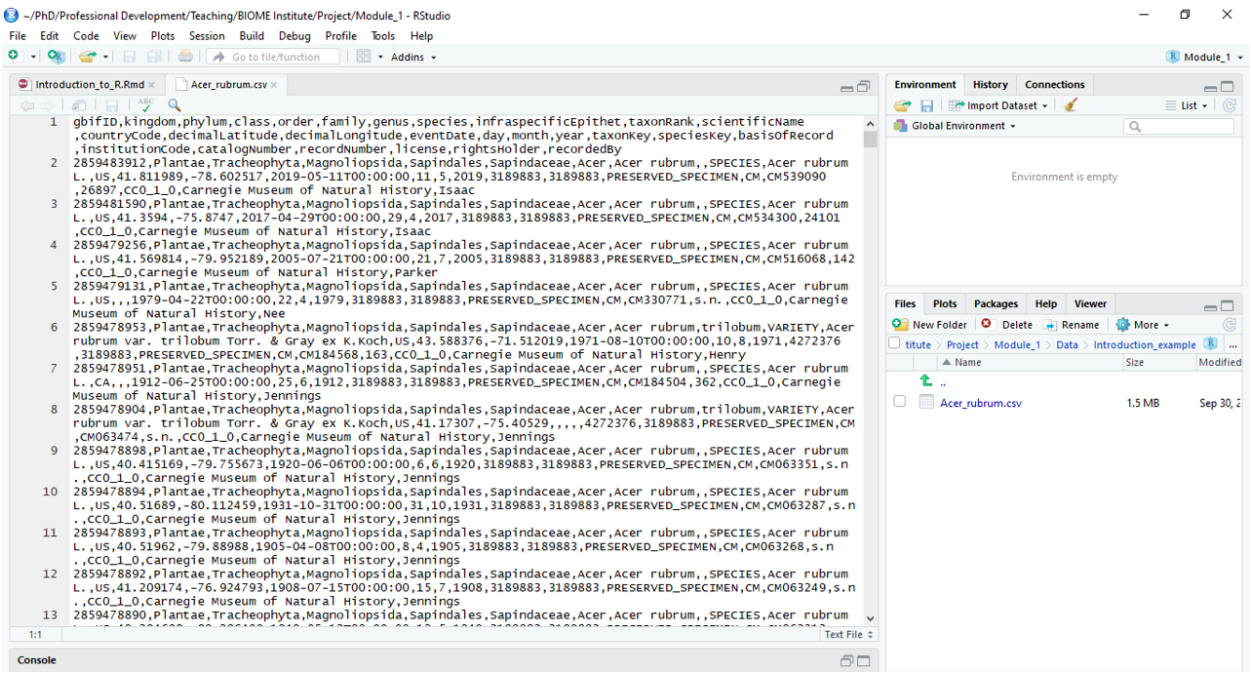

Figure 1: Image of csv file as opened manually

```
## 3 Acer rubrum                          SPECIES
## 4 Acer rubrum                          SPECIES
## 5 Acer rubrum              trilobum    VARIETY
## 6 Acer rubrum                          SPECIES
##                                  scientificName countryCode
    decimalLatitude
## 1                                 Acer rubrum L.          US
    41.81199
## 2                                 Acer rubrum L.          US
    41.35940
## 3                                 Acer rubrum L.          US
    41.56981
## 4                                 Acer rubrum L.          US
                NA
## 5 Acer rubrum var. trilobum Torr. & Gray ex K.Koch          US
    43.58838
## 6                                 Acer rubrum L.          CA
                NA
##   decimalLongitude             eventDate day month year taxonKey speciesKey
## 1         -78.60252 2019-05-11T00:00:00  11     5 2019  3189883    3189883
## 2         -75.87470 2017-04-29T00:00:00  29     4 2017  3189883    3189883
## 3         -79.95219 2005-07-21T00:00:00  21     7 2005  3189883    3189883
## 4                NA 1979-04-22T00:00:00  22     4 1979  3189883    3189883
## 5         -71.51202 1971-08-10T00:00:00  10     8 1971  4272376    3189883
## 6                NA 1912-06-25T00:00:00  25     6 1912  3189883    3189883
##        basisOfRecord institutionCode catalogNumber recordNumber license
## 1 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN              CM      CM539090        26897 CC0_1_0
## 2 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN              CM      CM534300        24101 CC0_1_0
## 3 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN              CM      CM516068          142 CC0_1_0
```

```
## 4 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN                CM       CM330771          s.n. CC0_1_0
## 5 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN                CM       CM184568           163 CC0_1_0
## 6 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN                CM       CM184504           362 CC0_1_0
##                            rightsHolder recordedBy
## 1 Carnegie Museum of Natural History       Isaac
## 2 Carnegie Museum of Natural History       Isaac
## 3 Carnegie Museum of Natural History      Parker
## 4 Carnegie Museum of Natural History         Nee
## 5 Carnegie Museum of Natural History       Henry
## 6 Carnegie Museum of Natural History    Jennings
```

We can use several functions to learn more about our dataset. For example, we can use *nrow()* to count how many rows there are in the dataset. Try it now. How many rows are there? What about columns?

```
nrow(example_file)
```

```
## [1] 6688
```

```
ncol(example_file)
```

```
## [1] 27
```

You will notice that we are using the **object** *example_file* to refer to the dataset. **Objects** are easy ways to assign large amounts of information to a single string of letters and/or numbers.

Let's assign a single individual row to a new object: *row1*

```
row1 <- example_file[1,]
```

In this example, we are assigning the **object** *row1* the value of *example_file[1,]* which represents the first row and all columns of the **object** *example_file* using the **operator** <- . Let's see what that looks like. Here, rather than asking to see a subset of the data, as we did above with the *head()* **function**, we can run the **object** itself and see the whole thing.

```
row1
```

```
##       gbifID kingdom       phylum          class       order       family
    genus
## 1 2859483912 Plantae Tracheophyta Magnoliopsida Sapindales Sapindaceae
    Acer
##       species infraspecificEpithet taxonRank scientificName countryCode
## 1 Acer rubrum                       SPECIES Acer rubrum L.          US
##   decimalLatitude decimalLongitude           eventDate day month year
    taxonKey
## 1        41.81199        -78.60252 2019-05-11T00:00:00  11     5 2019
    3189883
##   speciesKey      basisOfRecord institutionCode catalogNumber recordNumber
## 1    3189883 PRESERVED_SPECIMEN              CM       CM539090        26897
##   license                        rightsHolder recordedBy
## 1 CC0_1_0 Carnegie Museum of Natural History       Isaac
```

Let's see what just the first column would look like.

```
col1 <- example_file[,1]
head(col1)
```

```
## [1] 2859483912 2859481590 2859479256 2859479131 2859478953 2859478951
```

Sometimes it's hard to visualize lots of data at once, which is why the summary tools, viewing a subset, or viewing the structure of the dataset can be useful.

```
str(example_file)
```

```
## 'data.frame':    6688 obs. of  27 variables:
## $ gbifID              : num  2.86e+09 2.86e+09 2.86e+09 2.86e+09 2.86e+09
    ...
## $ kingdom             : chr  "Plantae" "Plantae" "Plantae" "Plantae" ...
## $ phylum              : chr  "Tracheophyta" "Tracheophyta" "Tracheophyta"
    "Tracheophyta" ...
## $ class               : chr  "Magnoliopsida" "Magnoliopsida" "
    Magnoliopsida" "Magnoliopsida" ...
## $ order               : chr  "Sapindales" "Sapindales" "Sapindales" "
    Sapindales" ...
## $ family              : chr  "Sapindaceae" "Sapindaceae" "Sapindaceae" "
    Sapindaceae" ...
## $ genus               : chr  "Acer" "Acer" "Acer" "Acer" ...
## $ species             : chr  "Acer rubrum" "Acer rubrum" "Acer rubrum" "
    Acer rubrum" ...
## $ infraspecificEpithet: chr  "" "" "" "" ...
## $ taxonRank           : chr  "SPECIES" "SPECIES" "SPECIES" "SPECIES" ...
## $ scientificName      : chr  "Acer rubrum L." "Acer rubrum L." "Acer
    rubrum L." "Acer rubrum L." ...
## $ countryCode         : chr  "US" "US" "US" "US" ...
## $ decimalLatitude     : num  41.8 41.4 41.6 NA 43.6 ...
## $ decimalLongitude    : num  -78.6 -75.9 -80 NA -71.5 ...
## $ eventDate           : chr  "2019-05-11T00:00:00" "2017-04-29T00:00:00"
    "2005-07-21T00:00:00" "1979-04-22T00:00:00" ...
## $ day                 : int  11 29 21 22 10 25 NA 6 31 8 ...
## $ month               : int  5 4 7 4 8 6 NA 6 10 4 ...
## $ year                : int  2019 2017 2005 1979 1971 1912 NA 1920 1931
    1905 ...
## $ taxonKey            : int  3189883 3189883 3189883 3189883 4272376
    3189883 4272376 3189883 3189883 3189883 ...
## $ speciesKey          : int  3189883 3189883 3189883 3189883 3189883
    3189883 3189883 3189883 3189883 3189883 ...
## $ basisOfRecord       : chr  "PRESERVED_SPECIMEN" "PRESERVED_SPECIMEN" "
    PRESERVED_SPECIMEN" "PRESERVED_SPECIMEN" ...
## $ institutionCode     : chr  "CM" "CM" "CM" "CM" ...
## $ catalogNumber       : chr  "CM539090" "CM534300" "CM516068" "CM330771"
    ...
## $ recordNumber        : chr  "26897" "24101" "142" "s.n." ...
## $ license             : chr  "CC0_1_0" "CC0_1_0" "CC0_1_0" "CC0_1_0" ...
## $ rightsHolder        : chr  "Carnegie Museum of Natural History" "
    Carnegie Museum of Natural History" "Carnegie Museum of Natural History" "
    Carnegie Museum of Natural History" ...
## $ recordedBy          : chr  "Isaac" "Isaac" "Parker" "Nee" ...
```

Another important element is the concept of **classes** of **objects**. If the data is a number, it is often stored as a *numeric* or *integer* **class** while words or other groups of letters are stored as *character* **classes**. If you look at column *kingdom*, for example, you can see that it has the **class** *character* while the *gbifID* which is composed of numbers, is stored as *numeric*.

I think that is enough of an introduction for now so let's get into this module!