Set Up Guide – Introduction to R for Absolute Beginners

This workshop will use the open access statistical software programme R to create some interesting data visualisations. This guide will help you to set up R and RStudio prior to the workshop. This means that we can spend as much time as possible working on our data visualisation!

If you have any problems with the following set up, please get in touch with Carla via email (C.Cebula@ed.ac.uk)

Step 1 - Install R

Install the application

- Click here to download the R installer. You can choose to download this from any of the four sources found under the heading UK. Make sure that you download the correct software for the computer you are using (Windows, Mac or Linux).
- This will take you to a series of options, select the base option where it says 'install R for the first time'.
- Select the option 'Download R 3.5.1 for …'
- Open the exe file that is downloaded and select next until you have successfully installed R.

Test the software…

- Locate the application on your computer and open it

Step 2 - Install RStudio

RStudio provides a graphical front-end for R. Whereas R is used by typing commands at a command prompt, RStudio gives access to the same underlying functionality via a desktop application that uses tools that will be more familiar to you (windows, menu bars, mouse and keyboard interface, etc). RStudio will help you to get the most out of the software - this is how you will be using R for this workshop.

- Install the application
  - Click here to download the RStudio installer. Please select the free option 'RStudio Desktop: Open Source License' and ensure that you choose the correct version of the software for your operating system.
  - As with R, open the exe file and accept the conditions.
- Test the software
  - Locate the application on your computer and open it.

Step 3 – Eduroam access

During the workshop we will add some extra packages to R so you will need to make sure you have Eduroam set up on your laptop. Instructions for this can be found [here](#). When you search for a wireless network on-campus you will see that you have the choice of Central or Eduroam - please select Eduroam.

Step 4 – On the day

We ask that on the day you bring:

- Your laptop (with the above software installed if possible)
- Power cable