

Programming with R
Day 4
Packages
Using and Writing
University of Potsdam

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Last Lecture

- R OOP:
 - OOP terminology
 - S3 method(object)
 - proto object\$method()
 - saveRDS/readRDS
- code documentation
 - R vs Rd files
 - roxygen2 documentation
- R base graphics:
- empty plot surface
- · low level commands
- multifigure plots

Outline

Day 1 (basics)

- setup, install editor, simple programs
- variables, operators
- data structures, control flow

Day 2 (basics)

- functions
- file input/output
- terminal interaction
- command line arguments

Day 3 (advanced)

- object oriented progr.
- code documentation
- R base graphics system

Day 4 (advanced)

- using packages
- writing packages
- package documentation

Day 5 (advanced)

- graphical user interfaces
- tcltk (shiny)

1 R Packages

Outline

1.1	Installing packages from the web	6
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1.3	Writing packages	33
	Exercise 4 - packages	

Outline

- installation
 - CRAN
 - Bioconductor
- usage
 - library
 - require
- writing
 - coding
 - documenting
 - testing
 - packaging
 - installing

1.1 Installing packages from the web

- there are many R packages in the web available
- repositories (tested and quality controlled):
 - https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages
 - https://www.bioconductor.org
- from github (less trustable)

CRAN

https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/

- August 2009 1928 packages
- Juni 2011 3023 packages
- July 2012 3914 packages
- May 2013 4526 packages
- January 2015 6221 packages
- October 2016 9332 packages
- July 2017 10875 packages
- August 2018 12954 packages
- Juny 2019 14311 packages

CRAN September 2020



CRAN Mirrors What's new? Task Views Search

About R R Homepage The R Journal

Software
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R Binaries
Packages
Other

Contributed Packages

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Available Packages

Currently, the CRAN package repository features 16322 available packages.

Table of available packages, sorted by date of publication

Table of available packages, sorted by name

Installation of Packages

Please type help("INSTALL") or help("install.packages") in R for information on how to install packages from this repository. The manual R Installation and Administration (also contained in the R base sources) explains the process in detail.

<u>CRAN Task Views</u> allow you to browse packages by topic and provide tools to automatically install all packages for special areas of interest. Currently, 41 views are available.

Package Check Results

All packages are tested regularly on machines running <u>Debian GNU/Linux</u>, <u>Fedora</u>, macOS (formerly OS X), Solaris and Windows.

⇒ more than 16.000 packages

41 CRAN Task Views - 1



CRAN Mirrors What's new? Task Views

Search

About R R Homepage The R Journal

Software R Sources **R** Binaries Packages

Other Documentation

Manuals FAOs Contributed ChemPhys Chemometrics and Computational Physics ClinicalTrials Clinical Trial Design, Monitoring, and Analysis Cluster Cluster Analysis & Finite Mixture Models

Databases with R Databases DifferentialEquations Differential Equations Distributions Probability Distributions

Econometrics Econometrics Environmetrics Analysis of Ecological and Environmental Data

ExperimentalDesign Design of Experiments (DoE) & Analysis of Experimental Data

ExtremeValue Extreme Value Analysis Finance **Empirical Finance** FunctionalData Functional Data Analysis Statistical Genetics Genetics

Graphic Displays & Dynamic Graphics & Graphic Devices & Visualization Graphics

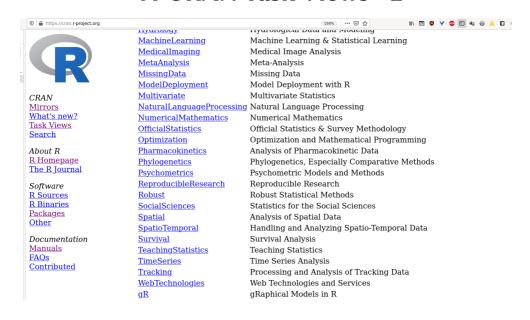
HighPerformanceComputing High-Performance and Parallel Computing with R

Hydrological Data and Modeling Hydrology Machine Learning Machine Learning & Statistical Learning

MedicalImaging Medical Image Analysis

MetaAnalysis Meta-Analysis MissingData Missing Data

41 CRAN Task Views - 2



Installation from CRAN

On Unix systems with package managers, try first the package manager, this ensures automatic updates.

Linux Fedora:

```
[groth@bariuke build]$ sudo dnf search R-devtools
[sudo] password for groth:
Last metadata expiration check: 9:59:20 ago on Sun
   20 Sep 2020 07:33:48 PM CEST.
====== Name Exactly Matched: R-devtools ======
R-devtools.noarch: Tools to Make Developing R
   Packages Easier
```

[groth@bariuke build]\$ sudo dnf install R-devtools
...

Fedora how many packages?

```
[groth@bariuke build] $ sudo dnf search R-* | head
Last metadata expiration check: 10:00:36 ago on
    Sun 20 Sep 2020 07:33:48 PM CEST.
===== Name & Summary Matched: R-* ========
R-littler-examples.x86_64 : R-littler Examples
====== Name Matched: R-* ============
R-ALL.noarch : Data of T- and B-cell Acute Lymphocytic
   Leukemia
R-AUC.noarch: Threshold independent performance measures
    for probabilistic classifiers
R-AnnotationDbi.noarch: Annotation Database Interface
R-AsioHeaders-devel.noarch: Asio C++ Header Files
R-BH-devel.noarch : Boost C++ Header Files for R
R-BSgenome.noarch: Infrastructure for Biostrings-based
                   genome data packages
R-BSgenome.Celegans.UCSC.ce2.noarch : Caenorhabditis
           elegans genome (UCSC Release ce2)
```

```
[groth@bariuke]$ sudo dnf search R-* | grep -E '^R-' |
   grep -v i686 | wc -l
Last metadata expiration check: 10:01:12 ago on
   Sun 20 Sep 2020 07:33:48 PM CEST.
```

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Information about a package

[groth@bariuke build]\$ sudo dnf info R-brio Available Packages Name : R-brio Version : 1.1.0Release : 1.fc31 Architecture: x86 64 : 42 k Size Source : R-brio-1.1.0-1.fc31.src.rpm Repository : updates Summary : Basic R Input Output URL : https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=brio License : MIT Description : Functions to handle basic input output, : these functions always read and write : UTF-8 (8-bit Unicode Transf. Format) : files and provide more explicit : control over line endings

Installation within R

```
install.packages('pkgname')
```

Other commands:

- available.packages
- · update.packages
- · remove.packages

Package dependencies

If you have the choice between different packages which solves your task prefer packages with few dependencies over packages with many and prefere the MIT or BSD license over GPL licenses. GPL license requires that you always publish your source code if you add such packages to your application bundle.

```
> options(continue=' ')
> options(width=55)
> package.deps <- function(x, mode='all') {
    if (!interactive()) {
        r <- getOption("repos");
        r["CRAN"] <- "https://lib.ugent.be/CRAN/"
        options(repos=r)
}</pre>
```

```
require (tools)
deps=package dependencies(x, recursive=TRUE)[[1]]
if (mode == 'install') {
    idx = which(
    !(deps %in% rownames(installed.packages())))
    return(deps[idx])
} else if (mode == 'nonbase') {
    ipacks=installed.packages()
    bpacks=ipacks[ipacks[,'Priority'] %in%
        c('base', 'recommended'), ]
    rnms=setdiff(rownames(ipacks), rownames(bpacks))
    return(intersect(deps, rnms))
} else if (mode == 'all') {
    return (deps)
} else {
    stop('mode is either install or nonbase')
```

packageDescription

> packageDescription('argparser') Package: argparser Type: Package Title: Command-Line Argument Parser Version: 0.4 Date: 2016-04-03 Author: David J. H. Shih Maintainer: David J. H. Shih <djh.shih@gmail.com> Description: Cross-platform command-line argument parser written purely in R with no external dependencies. It is useful with the Rscript front-end and facilitates turning an R script into an executable

URL: https://bitbucket.org/djhshih/argparser

script.

```
BugReports:
     https://bitbucket.org/djhshih/argparser/issues
Depends: methods
License: GPL (>= 3)
RoxygenNote: 5.0.1
NeedsCompilation: no
Packaged: 2016-04-04 00:02:25 UTC; davids
Repository: CRAN
Date/Publication: 2016-04-04 08:37:01
Built: R 3.6.1; ; 2019-11-03 13:22:01 UTC; unix
-- File: /usr/share/R/library/argparser/Meta/package.rds
> packageDescription('argparser')$License
[1] "GPL (>= 3)"
```

But not showing non-installed packages:

```
> packageDescription('brio')
[1] NA
```

url.show?

url.show("https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/brio/")

⇒ But display to the terminal as html, unreadable

url2txt

```
> url2txt <- function (url,file=tempfile(),quiet=TRUE) {</pre>
     download.file(url, destfile = file, mode = "w",
         quiet=quiet)
     fin=fin = file(file, 'r')
     res=''
     flag=FALSE
     while(length((line=readLines(fin, n=1L)))>0) {
         if (grepl('<body>', line)) {
             flag=TRUE
         } else if (flag) {
             line=qsub('</?.+?>','',line)
             res=paste(res, '\n', line)
     close(fin)
     return (res)
```

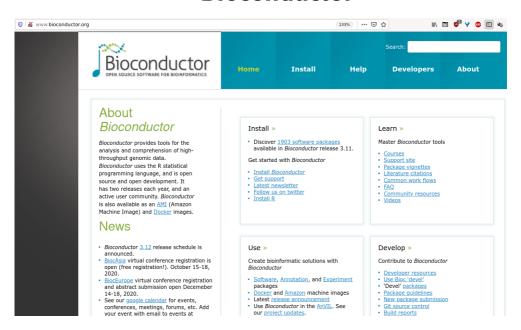
```
> cat(substr(
  url2txt("https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/brio")
  1,250))
```

brio: Basic R Input Output

Functions to handle basic input output, these functions read and write UTF-8 (8-bit Unicode Transformation For more explicit control over line endings.

Version: 1.1.0

Bioconductor



Aim

Bioconductor provides tools for the analysis and comprehension of high-throughput genomic data. Bioconductor uses the R statistical programming language, and is open source and open development. It has two releases each year, and an active user community.

•••

Discover 1903 software packages available in Bioconductor release 3.11.

https://bioconductor.org/

Installation of Bioconductor packages

Example: package impute - Imputation for microarray data (currently KNN only)

CRAN vs Bioconductor

Bioconductor is more restrictive:

- should use S4 as OOP system
- S3 is not allowed
- must have vignette
- no line in code wider than 80 characters
- no dots in function or method names
- ...

See:

```
http://bioconductor.org/developers/package-guidelines/
```

Github

Sometimes a package might be available only on github or you might (need) to try out the newest package version.

Example:

```
library(devtools)
install_github("hadley/dplyr")
```

⇒ **Do this if you must!** No real integrity check for the code.

1.2 Using packages

- library returns error if not installed
- require returns false if not installed

Use require for install on request

```
if (!require('argparser')) {
    # in scripts you need to set the repo
    if (!interactive()) {
        r <- getOption("repos");
        r["CRAN"] <- "https://lib.ugent.be/CRAN/"
        options(repos=r)
    }
    install.packages('argparser')
    library('argparser')
}</pre>
```

The install.packages lib argument

R has normally two standard library folders where it puts its R packages, it is recommend to place non-standard packages not into the main package folder (Windows: 'C:/Program Files/...').

So I usually use if I install as root the second standard folder, on Windows this is mostly somewhere in C:/Users. To find out which are the folders where your R-libraries are places use the .libPaths() function:

```
> print(.libPaths())
[1] "/home/groth/workspace/delfgroth/myr/rlibs"
[2] "/home/groth/R/x86_64-redhat-linux-gnu-library/3.6"
[3] "/usr/lib64/R/library"
[4] "/usr/share/R/library"
```

Modifying the .libPaths() folders

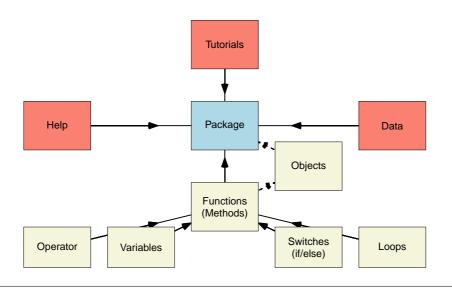
You can add manually an additional folder the .libPaths() folders.

```
.libPaths(c('/new/path/',.libPaths()))
# now install it into the first folder of libPaths()
install.packages('pkgname',lib=.libPaths()[1])
```

To use this new folder you have then every time to start your scripts with:

```
.libPaths(c('/new/path/',.libPaths()))
```

1.3 Writing packages



THE References

R Core team Writing R extensions (199 pages!):

https://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/r-release/
R-exts.pdf

Wickham - R packages (198 pages, Book):

https://r-pkgs.org/ (HTML)

Take this as references but we try to make it shorter here (KISS).

When to write a package?

When to start writing an R package?

As soon as you have 2 functions.

Why 2? After you have more than one function it starts to get easy to lose track of what your functions do, it starts to be tempting to name your functions foo or tempfunction or some other such nonsense. You are also tempted to put all of the functions in one file and just source it. That was what I did with my first project, which ended up being an epically comical set of about 3,000 lines of code in one R file. Ask my advisor about it sometime, he probably is still laughing about it.

https://github.com/jtleek/rpackages

Benefits:

- more structured work
- you don't have to hunt for the latest version of a certain function
- you can publish it
- someone else can use it more easily then your arbitary collections of code
- you can give him/her your tar.gz file of your package
- BTW: Where was this package.deps function or was it named package.dependencies?

Hints

- Write your first package if you start your first real project using R
- You might not have the intension to publish it at all, that is not the point, the point is to structure your work!
- Have one personal collection of functions in your own package (my one is dgtools) and one project specific package (I have mcgraph, asg, swiss, ...)
- use git to track your code changes
- we cover this in 1st semester course "Databases and Practical Programming (Using Python 3)"
- Good: 2nd semester (Machine Learning course)
- Latest: project thesis 3rd semester if done with R

Steps

- setup a minimal R-package one function, one data set
- have on folder for all your developer versions of the package rlibs-dev
- run R CMD check pgkname
- run R CMD BUILD pkgname
- run R CMD INSTALL pkgname.VERSION.tar.gz
- have one folder for all your own installed packages rlibs

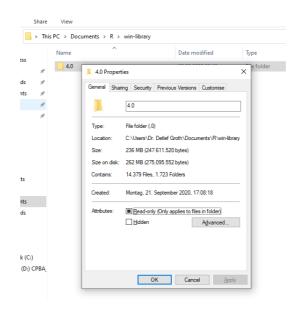
KISS with devtools?

```
> package.deps('devtools', mode='nonbase')
                              "cli"
 [1] "usethis"
                 "callr"
           "ellipsis" "httr"
 [4] "desc"
 [7] "jsonlite" "memoise" "pkgbuild"
[10] "pkgload" "rcmdcheck" "remotes"
[13] "rlang" "roxygen2" "rstudioapi"
[16] "sessioninfo" "testthat" "withr"
               "R6"
[19] "processx"
                              "assertthat"
[22] "crayon" "glue"
                              "fansi"
[25] "digest"
                 "yaml"
                              "rprojroot"
[28] "htmltools"
                 "htmlwidgets" "magrittr"
[31] "crosstalk"
                 "promises"
                              "curl"
[34] "mime"
                 "openssl"
                              "prettyunits"
                              "commonmark"
[37] "xopen"
                "brew"
[40] "knitr"
                 "purrr"
                              "Rcpp"
[43] "stringi"
                 "stringr"
                              "xm12"
```

```
[46] "evaluate"
                 "praise"
                               "clipr"
                               "git2r"
[49] "fs"
                 "ah"
[52] "whisker"
                 "lazyeval"
                               "ini"
[55] "base64enc" "highr"
                               "markdown"
[58] "xfun"
             "askpass"
                               "ps"
[61] "later" "tibble" "backports"
[64] "sys"
               "BH"
                               "lifecycle"
[67] "pillar"
              "pkgconfig" "vctrs"
[70] "utf8"
> length(package.deps('devtools',mode='nonbase'))
[1] 70
```

 \Rightarrow not really KISS

250MB, 14.000 files for devtools ...



KISS with roxygen2? Only slightly better!

```
> package.deps('roxygen2', mode='nonbase')
                 "commonmark" "desc"
 [1] "brew"
 [4] "digest" "knitr" "pkgload"
 [7] "purrr"
              "R6"
                              "Rcpp"
[10] "rlang" "stringi" "stringr"
          "assertthat" "crayon"
[13] "xml2"
[16] "rprojroot" "evaluate" "highr"
[19] "markdown" "yaml"
                              "xfun"
                 "pkgbuild"
[22] "cli"
                              "rstudioapi"
                 "magrittr" "glue"
[25] "withr"
[28] "fansi"
                 "mime"
                              "callr"
[31] "prettyunits" "backports" "processx"
[34] "ps"
> length(package.deps('roxygen2', mode='nonbase'))
[1] 34
```

Package folders and files

```
[groth@bariuke build]$ ls -R pwr2020
pwr2020:
data DESCRIPTION LICENSE man NAMESPACE
pwr2020/data:
tdata.rda
pwr2020/man:
add2.Rd add.Rd pwr2020-package.Rd tdata.Rd
pwr2020/R:
add2.R add.R pwr2020-internal.R
```

Essentials

- Folder R: the R files with your code, multiple functions can be in the same file
- Folder man: The Rd manual files for your documentation, each function or dataset has its own file
- File DESCRIPTION: the meta information about your package (Name, Description, Author, Version, License, Dependencies (Imports, Depends))
- File NAMESPACE: the exported functions or data sets

Optionals

- Folder data: R data sets which can be loaded using the data command
- Folder inst: additional files required by your package like images, Tcl scripts etc.
- Folder vignettes: tutorials on how to use your package.
- File LICENSE: if you provide a special licsense just as the MIT license
- File NEWS or ChangeLog: a file with information on updates in your package

DESCRIPTION

- > source('../scripts/file.head.R')
 > file.head('pwr2020/DESCRIPTION',10)
- Package: pwr2020 Type: Package
- Title: Package for course Programming with R
- Version: 0.1
- Date: 2020-09-18
- Author: Detlef Groth, University of Potsdam
- Maintainer: Who to complain to <dgroth@uni-potsdam.de>
- Description: Collection of utility functions for the cour
- License: MIT + file LICENSE

NAMESPACE

```
> file.head('pwr2020/NAMESPACE',10)
exportPattern("^[[:alpha:]]+")

$\iff See: https:
//www.regular-expressions.info/posixbrackets.html
[:alpha:] Alphabetic characters [a-zA-Z]
# better export only lower case letters
[:lower:] lowercase letters [a-z]
```

R/add.R

```
> file.head('pwr2020/R/add.R',10)
add <-
function (x, y)
{
    x + y
}</pre>
```

man/add.Rd

```
> file.head('pwr2020/man/add.Rd',-1)
\name{add}
\title{
    add two numbers
\description{
    A intial starting function ...
\usage{
    add(x, y)
\arguments{
  \item{x}{
    numercial value
  \item{y}{
```

```
\details{
     Some more details ...
 \value{
     return the sum of x and y
 \author{
     Detlef Groth, University of Potsdam
 \note{
     further notes ...
 \seealso{
     See also % \code{\link{add2}}
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```

numerical value

```
\examples {
    add(2,3)
    x=2
    y=3
    add(x,y)
}
\keyword{ arith } % use one of RShowDoc("KEYWORDS")
```

Minimal package: mini

Files:

- DESCRIPTION
- NAMESPACE
- LICENSE
- man/add.Rd
- R/add.R

⇒ That is a KISS approach !!

Steps in Installation

- build: R CMD build pkgname
- check: R CMD check pkgname_VERSION.tar.gz
- install: R CMD INSTALL pkgname_VERSION.tar.gz

Mini Build

```
#!/bin/bash
R CMD build mini |
    perl -pe 's/[^-:\*\/._A-Za-z0-9\s]+/"/g'

> * checking for file "mini/DESCRIPTION" ... OK

> * preparing "mini":

> * checking DESCRIPTION meta-information ... OK

> * checking for LF line-endings in source and make files

> * checking for empty or unneeded directories

> * building "mini_0.1.tar.gz"
Rbuildsh
```

⇒ the Perl onliner just for replacing special characters which LaTeX can't compile ...

Mini Check

```
#!/bin/bash
R CMD check mini_0.1.tar.gz |
    perl -pe 's/[^-\*\]._A-Za-z0-9\s]+/"/q' | tail
⇒ * checking Rd cross-references ... OK
⇒ * checking for missing documentation entries ... OK
\Rightarrow * checking for code/documentation mismatches ... OK
⇒ * checking Rd "usage sections ... OK
⇒ * checking Rd contents ... OK
\Rightarrow * checking for unstated dependencies in examples ... OK
\Rightarrow * checking examples ... OK
\Rightarrow * checking PDF version of manual ... OK
⇒ * DONE
⇒ Status: OK
```

Rcheck sh

Mini INSTALL

```
#!/bin/bash
R CMD INSTALL --html mini_0.1.tar.gz \
    -1 ../../../myr/rlibs 2>&1 |
    perl -pe 's/[^-\*:\/._A-Za-z0-9\s]+/"/q'
⇒ * installing *source* package "mini" ...
⇒ ** using staged installation
\Rightarrow ** R
⇒ ** byte-compile and prepare package for lazy loading
⇒ ** help
⇒ *** installing help indices
⇒ converting help for package "mini"
      finding HTML links ... done
\Rightarrow
\Rightarrow add
                                                html
⇒ ** building package indices
⇒ ** testing if installed package can be loaded from temp
⇒ ** testing if installed package can be loaded from fina
⇒ ** testing if installed package keeps a record of tempo
```

 \Rightarrow * DONE "mini"

Rinstall.sh

⇒ redirect stderr to stdout: 2>&1

Result

[groth@bariuke]\$ ls ../../myr/rlibs/mini DESCRIPTION help html INDEX LICENSE Meta NAMESPACE R

Mini Test

```
> .libPaths(c('../../../myr/',.libPaths()))
> library(mini)
> ls('package:mini')
[1] "add"
> mini::add(2,3)
[1] 5
> add(2,3)
[1] 5
add
              package:mini R Documentation
add two numbers
Description:
     A intial starting function ...
Usage:
     add(x, y)
```

Summary

- install.packages
- library
- require
- writing packages
- devtools/roxygen2
- minimal approach

1.4 Exercise 4 - packages

Goals:

- we will create a minimal R-package called pwr2020
- · we will learn how to build and install the package
- we will add 1-2 additional functions to the package such as file.head(filename, n) and termcolor(color, txt)
- On Windows we have to create batch files to aid in checking, building and installing.

Task 1: Setup your working environment

- start Geany
- inside your R-labs directory creatr two other folder:
 - rlibs therein will your packages installed
 - rlibs-dev therein will your packages developed
- download the mini.zip file from Moodle (Download folder)
- unpack this mini.zip file into your rlibs-dev folder
- so you must have a folder rlibs-dev/mini
- Windows:
 - download the three Batch (.bat) files
 - place those three files into the rlibs-dev folder
 - so you should have a file like rlibs-dev/Rcmdbuild.bat

Task 2: Building, Checking, Installing the mini package

• UNIX:

- open a terminal and switch into the directory
 R-labs/rlibs-dev
- run the command: R CMD build mini
- a file mini_0.1.tar.gz should be generated
- run the command R CMD check -no-manual mini_0.1.tar.gz
- check if this runs ok
- if this is the case run: R CMD INSTALL -1 ../rlibs -html mini_0.1.tar.gz

Windows:

- Open a console/powershell and switch into the R-labs/rlibs-dev directory using the cd command
- do a directory listing ls to check if your batch files are here

- run the command: .\Rcmdbuild.bat mini
- a file mini_0.1.tar.gz should be generated
- run the command .\Rcmdcheck.bat mini_0.1.tar.gz
- check if this runs ok
- if this is the case run: .\Rcmdinstall.bat mini_0.1.tar.gz

Task 3: Test the mini package

- lets test first the mini package
- start R
- we have to extend the library path that R finds the mini package
- below is my R session on Windows which I used to test the package

```
> .libPaths(
  c("C:/Users/Dr. Detlef Groth/Documents/Rlabs/rlibs'
  .libPaths()))
> library(mini)
> mini::add(3,4)
7
```

- \Rightarrow Adapt the path and check if you can add two numbers mini package.
- \Rightarrow Be sure to use the tab key for folder completion, don't write the long file name by Hand !!

Task 4: Create a pwr2020 package

- pwr2020 because a pwr package exists already on CRAN
- Create a copy of the mini folder in the same directory and rename the new folder pwr2020.
- You should keep the mini package for future creations of new packages from scratch.
- So don't change anything in the mini package
- In Geany open the file browser sidebar left for easier navigation (Plugins->Filebrowser)
- Open the files pwr2020/DESCRIPTION and pwr/LICENSE in Geany and change the neccessary details, author, package name etc.
- Create a new file pwr2020/R/file_head.R and add the code from the lecture to this file.
- Rename the function to file_head.
- Create a new file pwr2020/man/file_head.Rd
- Copy the manual from add.Rd to this file and adapt this to your

needs

• In the examples section add the following code:

- After adding the two files do again a package build, check and install.
- Test the new function in an interactive R session.

Task 5: Add a termcolor function ...

to the package and use a few standard colors. Give a default color of green.

```
termcolor <- function (msg, col='GREEN') {
   if (col=='GREEN') {
      return(cat(codegreen, msg, resetcode))
   } else if (col == 'RED') {</pre>
```

```
etc
}
```

Task 6 - Homework

- add the FastaUtils.R file from day 3 exercise to the package
- comment first only the read.fasta function
- do a stupid example x=1 just for checking
- · we will add a real fasta example later

References