

BIMM 143

Data analysis with R

Lecture 4

Barry Grant
UC San Diego

<http://thegrantlab.org/bimm143>

Today's Learning Goals

- Familiarity with R's basic **syntax**.
- Familiarity with major R **data structures**.
- Understand the basics of using **functions**.
- Be able to use R to **read** comma-separated **value** (csv) formatted files ready for subsequent analysis.
- Appreciate how you can use R **scripts** to aid with reproducibility.



A large, bold blue letter 'R' is centered within a thick, light grey circular frame. The frame has a thin black border. The background is solid black.

What is R?

R is a freely distributed and widely used programing **language** and **environment** for statistical computing, data analysis and graphics.



R provides an unparalleled interactive environment for data analysis.

It is script-based (*i.e.* driven by computer code) and not GUI-based (point and click with menus).

```
4, sandbox (R)
pico:sandbox> R

R version 3.2.2 (2015-08-14) -- "Fire Safety"
Copyright (C) 2015 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin13.4.0 (64-bit)

R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.
>
```

A screenshot of a terminal window titled '4, sandbox (R)'. The window displays the initial startup message of R version 3.2.2. The message includes the copyright notice, the platform information, a disclaimer about warranty, instructions for redistribution, natural language support, and information about the collaborative nature of the project. The terminal prompt is '>'.

<http://cran.r-project.org>



The Comprehensive R Archive Network

Download and Install R

Precompiled binary distributions of the base system and contributed packages, **Windows and Mac** users most likely want one of these versions of R:

- [Download R for Linux](#)
- [Download R for \(Mac\) OS X](#)
- [Download R for Windows](#)

R is part of many Linux distributions, you should check with your Linux package management system in addition to the link above.

Source Code for all Platforms

Windows and Mac users most likely want to download the precompiled binaries listed in the upper box, not the source code. The sources have to be compiled before you can use them. If you do not know what this means, you probably do not want to do it!

- The latest release (2018-07-02, Feather Spray) [R-3.5.1.tar.gz](#), read [what's new](#) in the latest version.
- Sources of [R alpha and beta releases](#) (daily snapshots, created only in time periods before a planned release).
- Daily snapshots of current patched and development versions are [available here](#). Please read about [new features and bug fixes](#) before filing corresponding feature requests or bug reports.

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> |



pico:sandbox> R

Type "R" in your terminal

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4. sandbox (R)

pico:sandbox> R

Type "R" in your terminal

```
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```

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Type 'q()' to quit R.

> |

This is the R prompt



4. sandbox (R)

pico:sandbox> R

Type "R" in your terminal

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Type '**q()**' to quit R.

This is the R prompt: Type **q()** to quit!

What R is NOT

A performance optimized software library for incorporation into your own C/C++ etc. programs.

A molecular graphics program with a slick GUI.

Backed by a commercial guarantee or license.

Microsoft Excel!

What about Excel?

- Data manipulation is easy
- Can see what is happening
- **But:** graphics are poor
- Looping is hard
- Limited statistical capabilities
- Inflexible and irreproducible
- There are many many things Excel just cannot do!



Use the right tool!



54 **Christie Bahlai** @cbahlai · 2h

Weekly plug for scripted analyses:

Coauthor: "Can you change x,y,z about the analysis?"

Me [not crying]: "Yes." [changes 2 lines of code]

RETWEETS

11

FAVORITES

7



Rule of thumb: Every analysis you do on a dataset will have to be redone 10–15 times before publication.
Plan accordingly!

Why use R?

Productivity

Flexibility

Designed for data analysis

R is designed specifically for data analysis

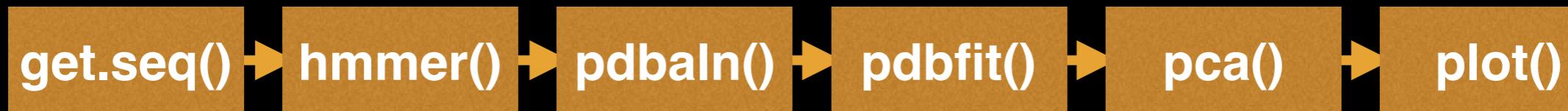
- Large friendly user and developer community.
 - As of Jan 6th 2019 there are 13,645 add on **R packages** on **CRAN** and 1,649 on **Bioconductor** - much more on these later!
- Virtually every statistical technique is either already built into R, or available as a free package.
- Unparalleled data analysis environment for **high-throughput genomic data**.

Modularity	Core R functions are modular and work well with others
Interactivity	R offers an unparalleled exploratory data analysis environment
Infrastructure	Access to existing tools and cutting-edge statistical and graphical methods
Support	Extensive documentation and tutorials available online for R
R Philosophy	Encourages open standards and reproducibility

Modularity	Core R functions are modular and work well with others
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Modularity

R was designed to allow users to interactively build complex workflows by interfacing smaller '**modular**' functions together.



An alternative approach is to write a **single complex program** that takes raw data as input, and after hours of data processing, outputs publication figures and a final table of results.

All-in-one custom 'Monster' program



Which would you prefer and why?



Modular

vs



Custom

Advantages/Disadvantages

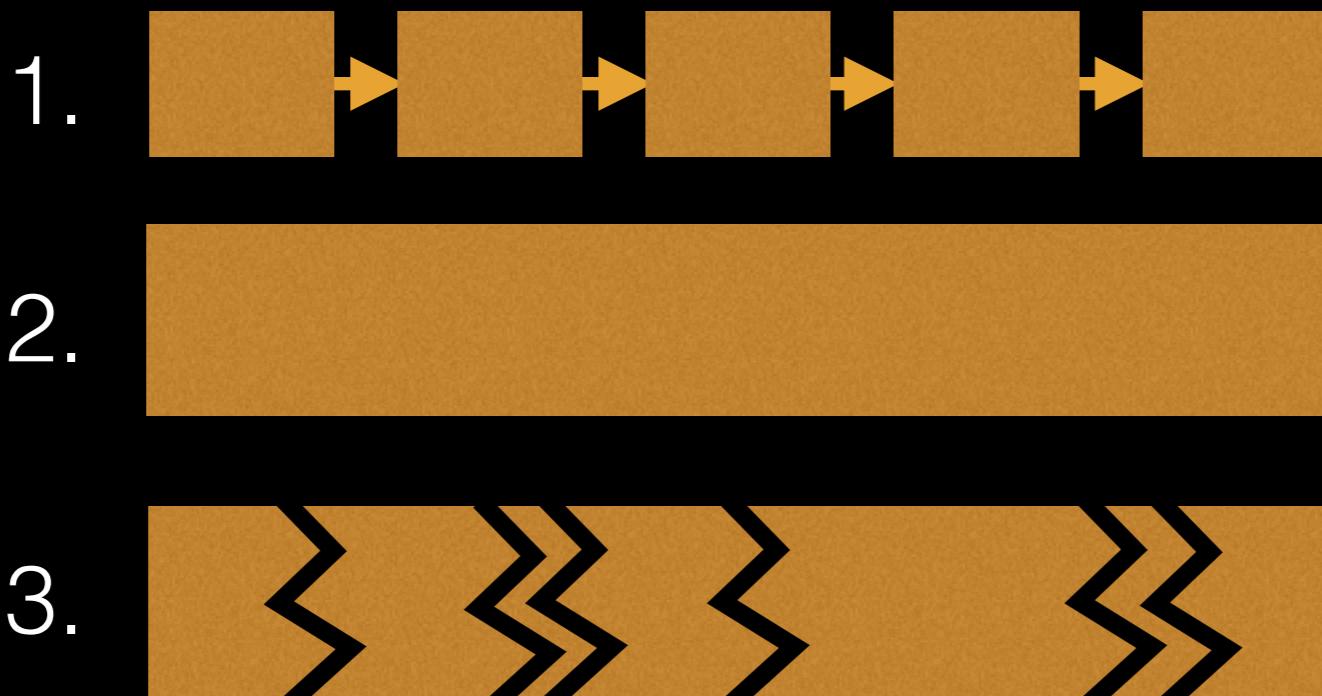
The ‘monster approach’ is customized to a particular project but results in massive, fragile and difficult to modify (therefore inflexible, untransferable, and error prone) code.

With **modular workflows**, it’s easier to:

- Spot errors and figure out where they’re occurring by inspecting intermediate results.
- Experiment with alternative methods by swapping out components.
- Tackle novel problems by remixing existing modular tools.

‘Scripting’ approach

Another common approach to bioinformatics data analysis is to write individual scripts in Perl/ Python/Awk/C etc. to carry out each subsequent step of an analysis



This can offer many advantages but can be challenging to make robustly modular and interactive.

Interactivity & exploratory data analysis

Learning R will give you the freedom to explore and experiment with your data.

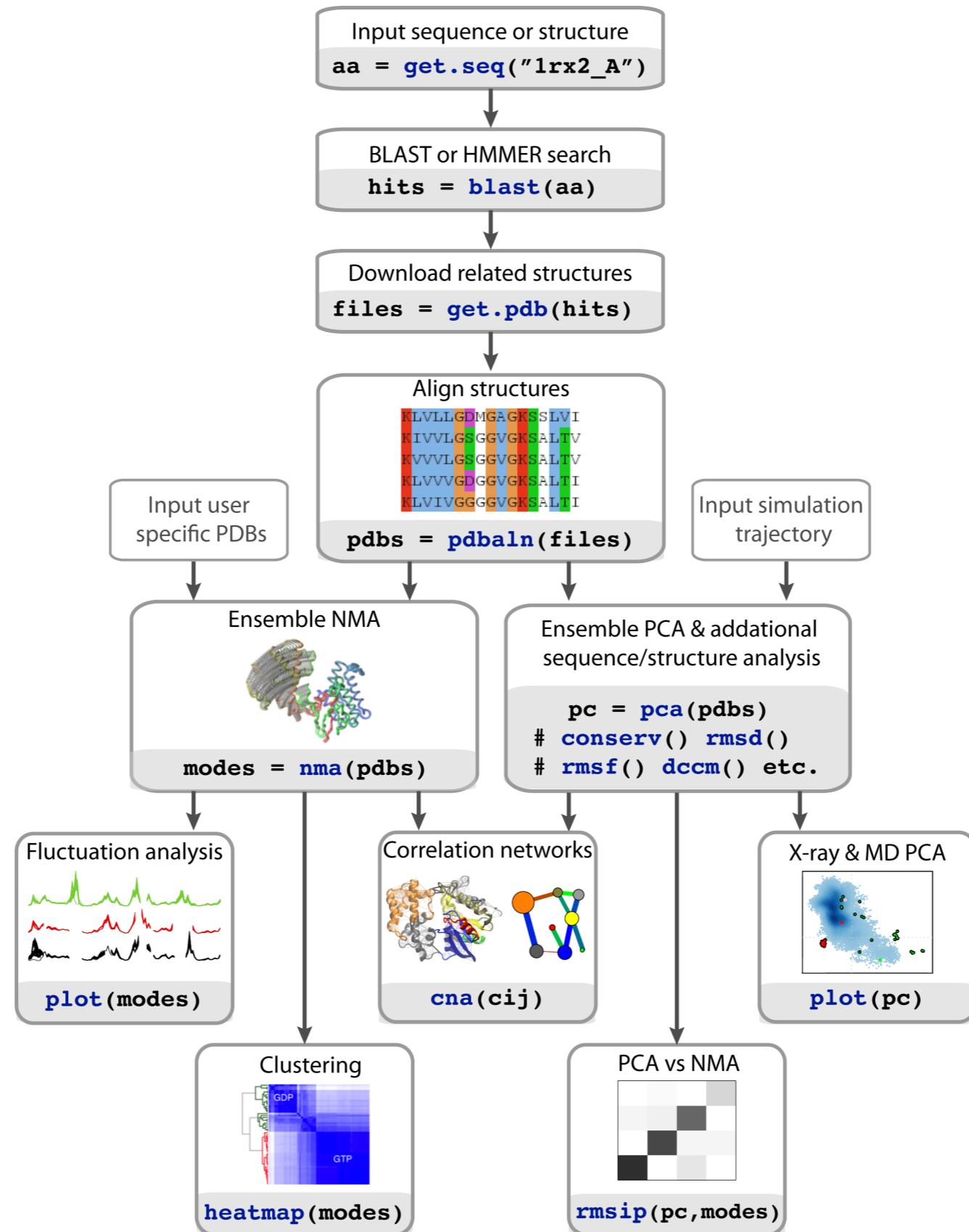
“Data analysis, like experimentation, must be considered as a highly interactive, iterative process, whose actual steps are selected segments of a stubbily branching, tree-like pattern of possible actions”. [J. W. Tukey]

Interactivity & exploratory data analysis

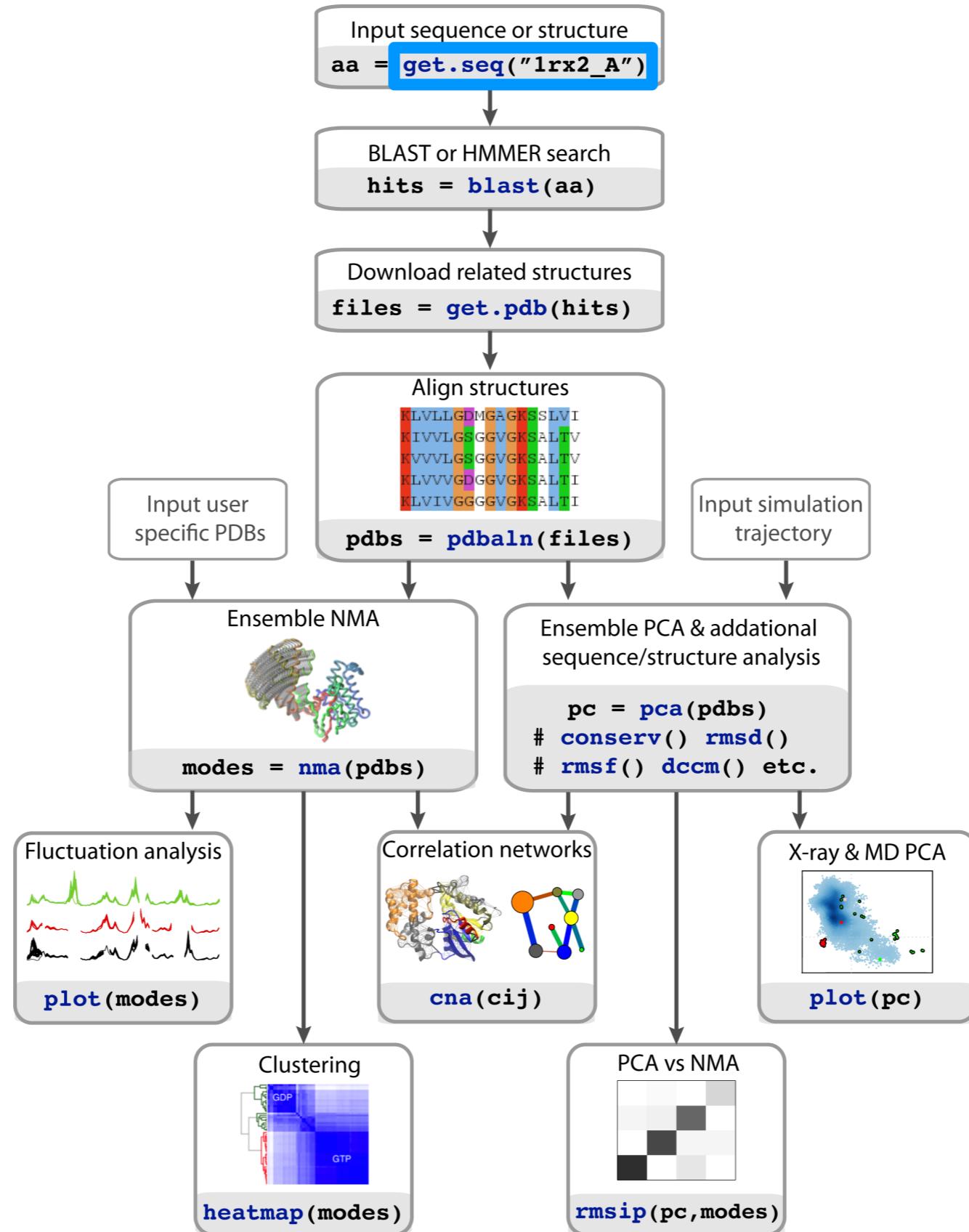
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Bioinformatics data is intrinsically **high dimensional** and frequently ‘messy’ requiring **exploratory data analysis** to find patterns - both those that indicate interesting biological signals or suggest potential problems.



R Features = functions()



How do we use R?

Two main ways to use R

```
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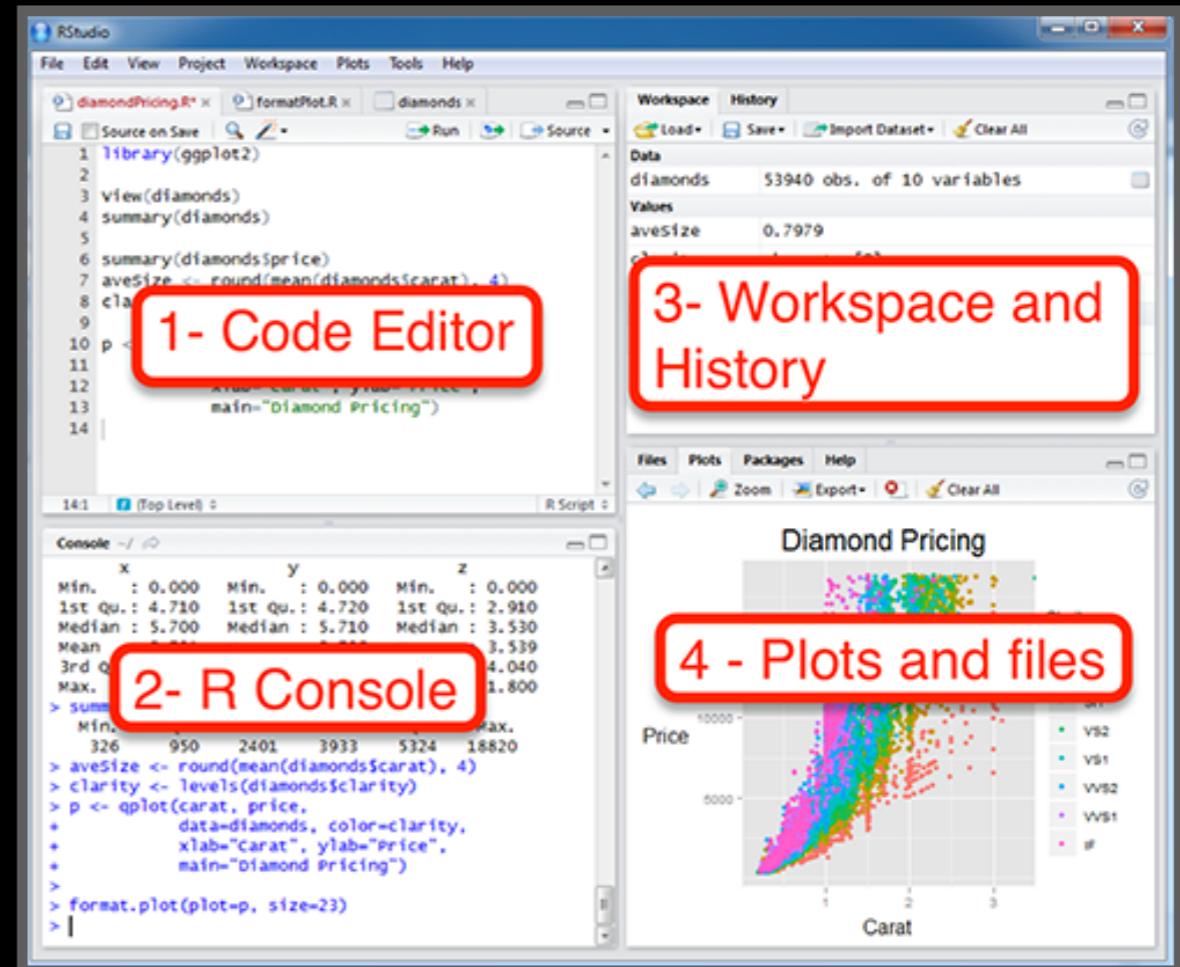
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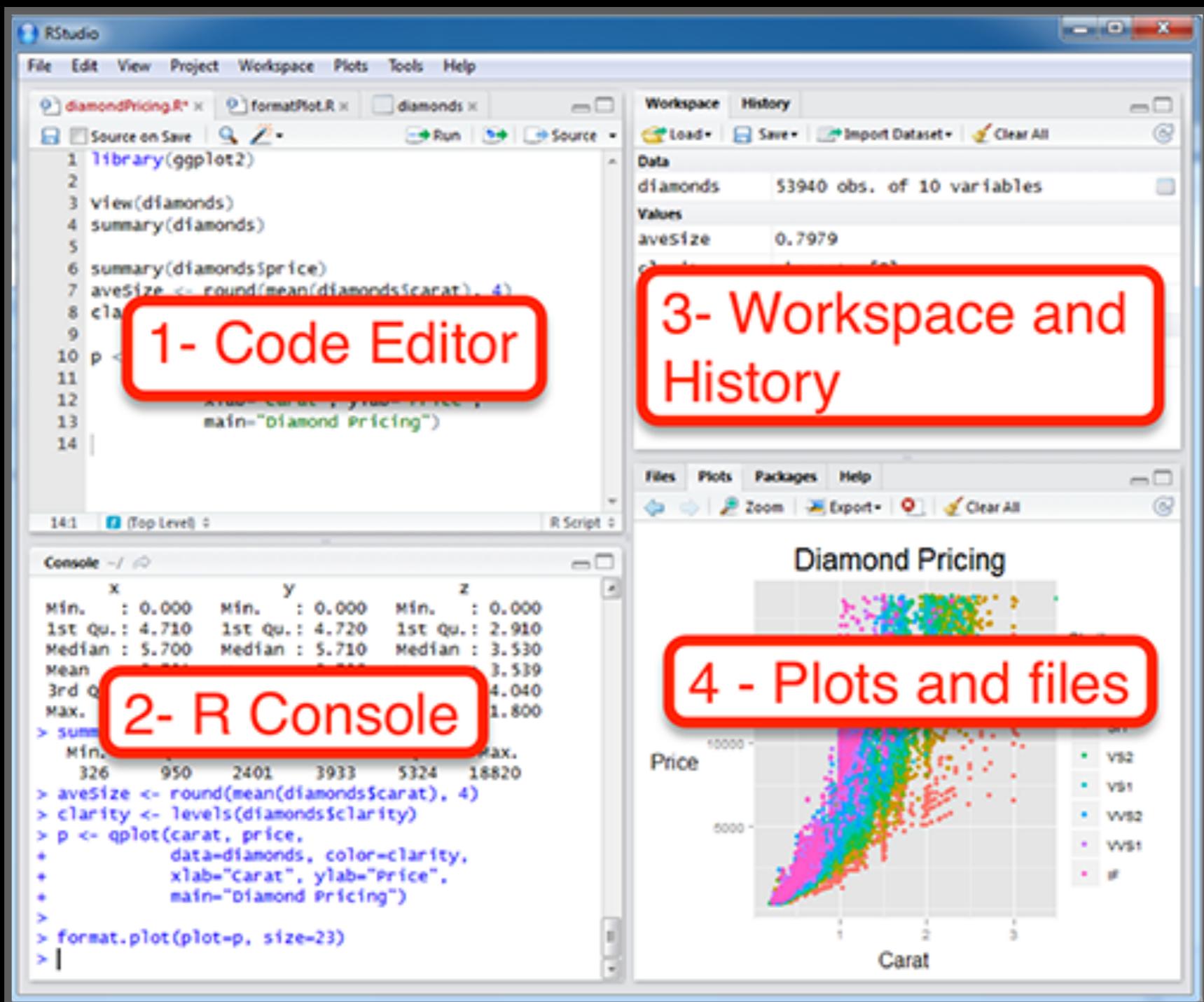
> 
```

1. Terminal

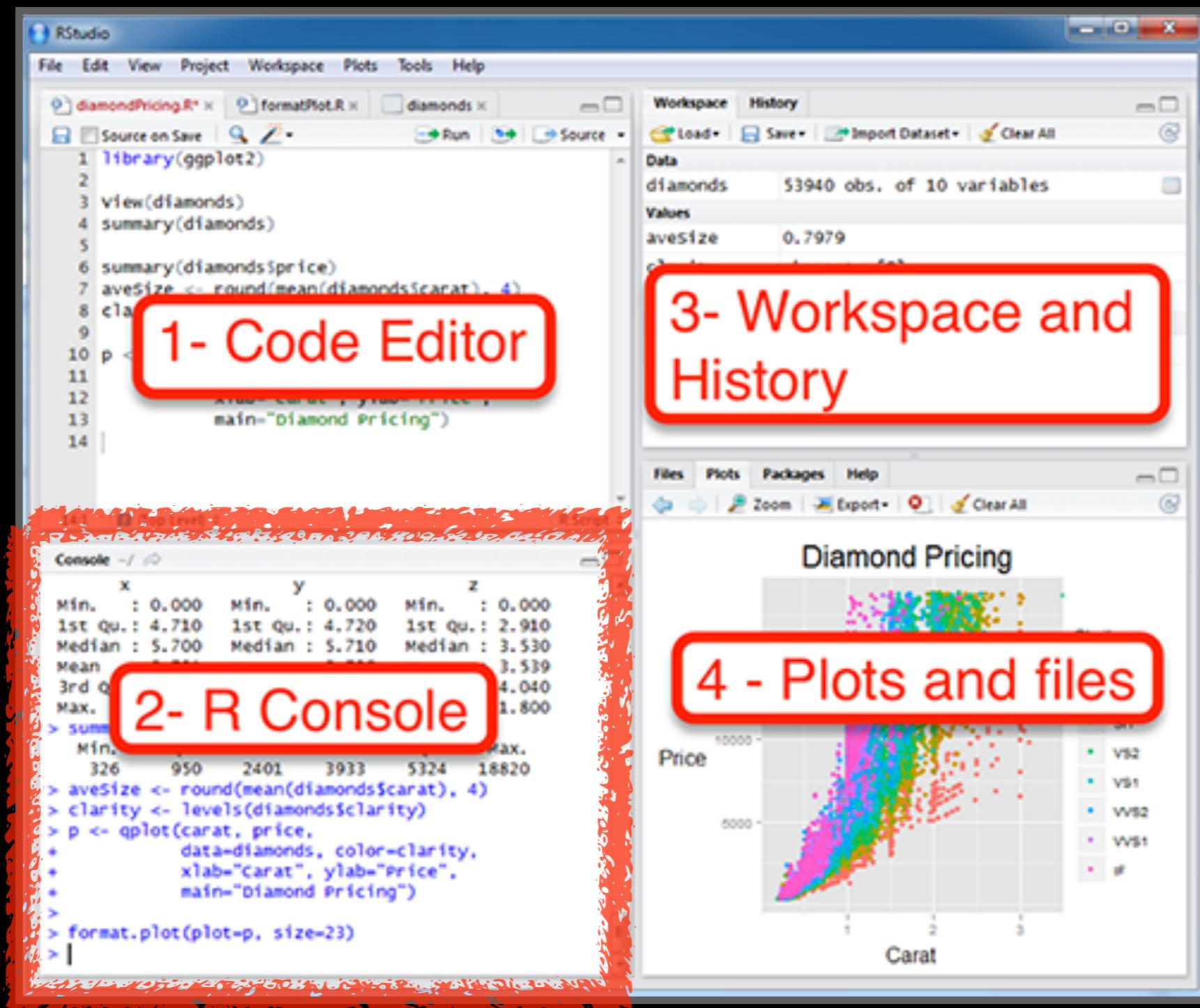


2. RStudio

We will use RStudio today

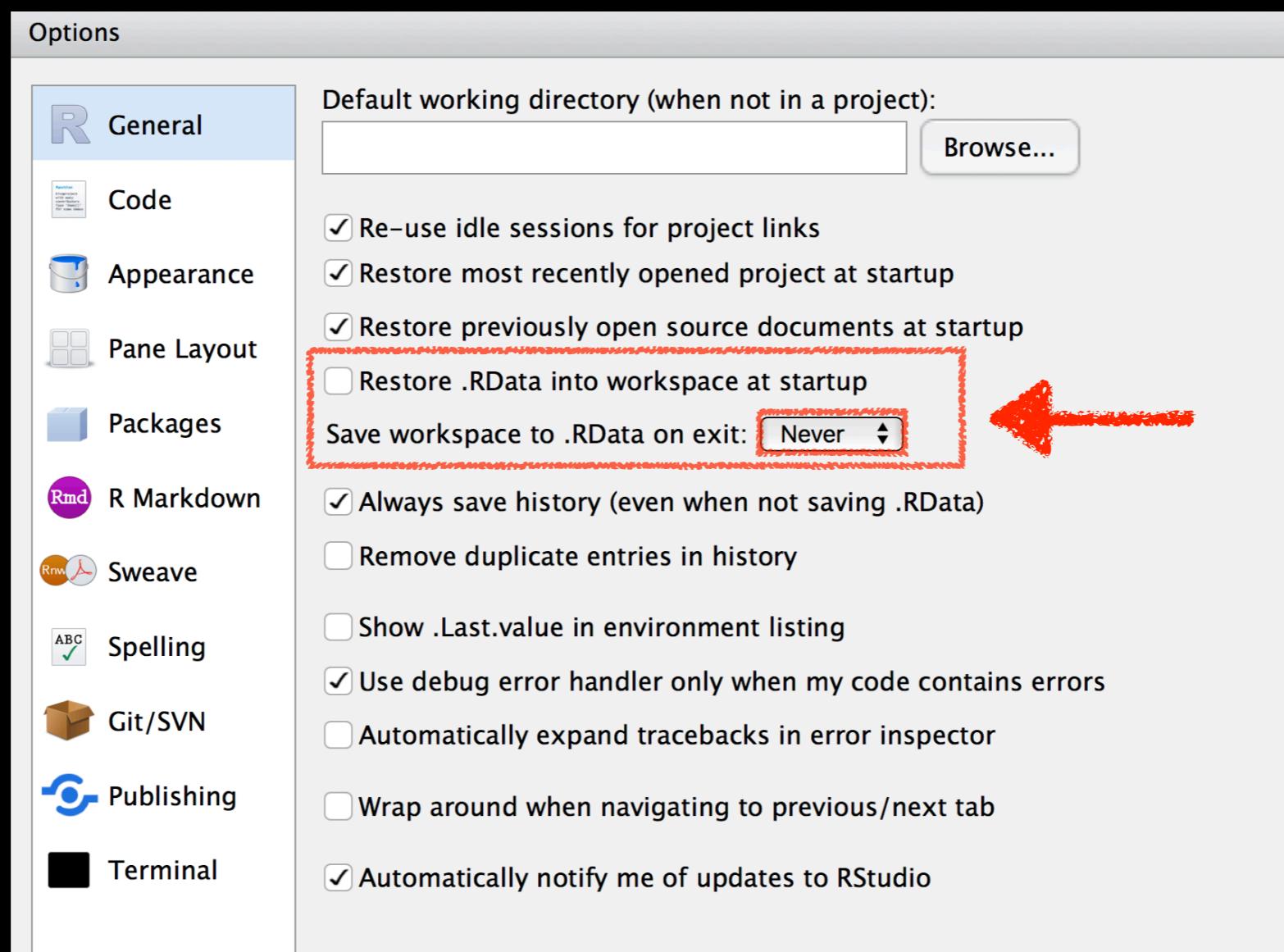


Lets get started...



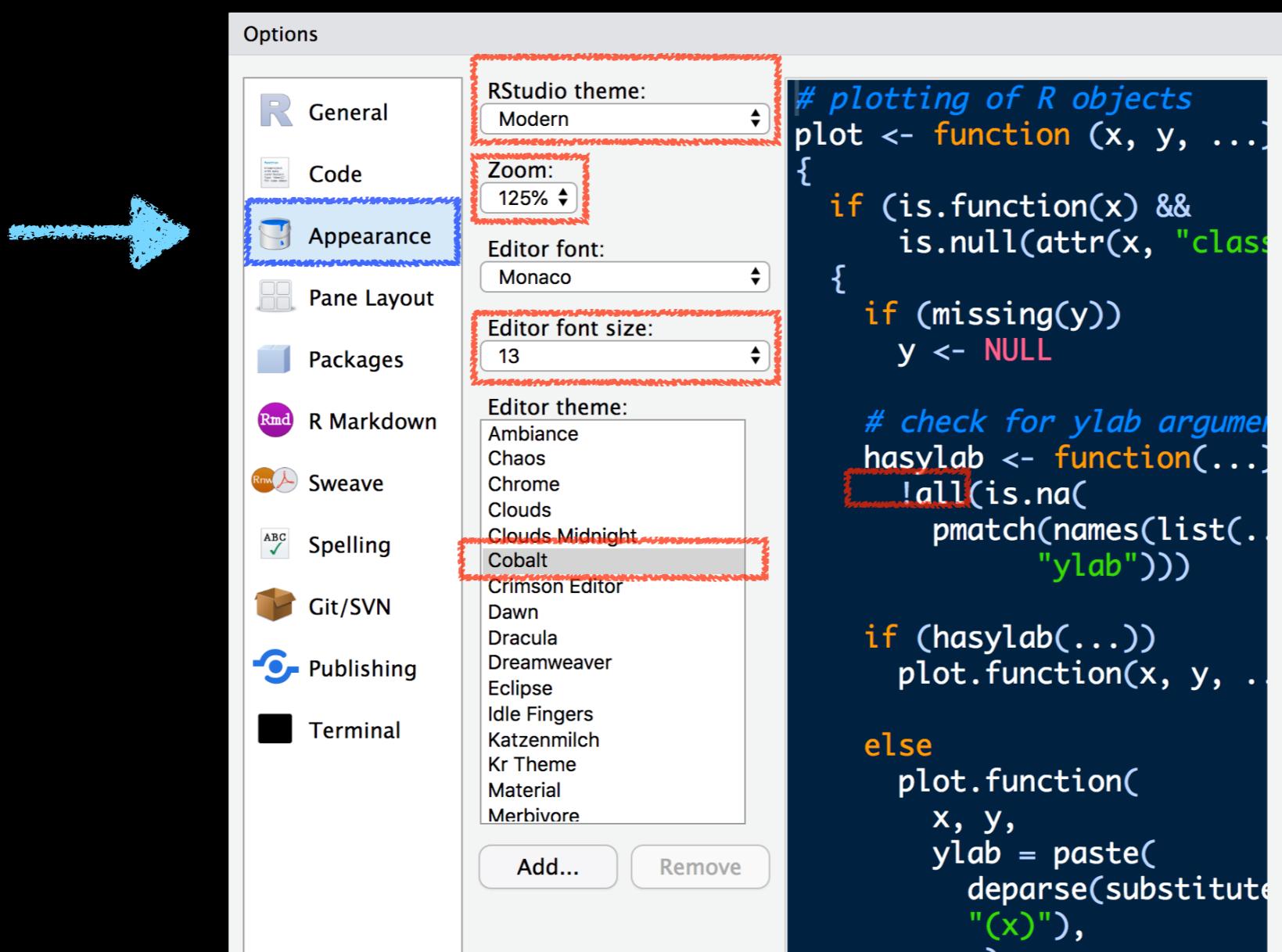
Tools > Global Options

- We will NOT save our workspace...



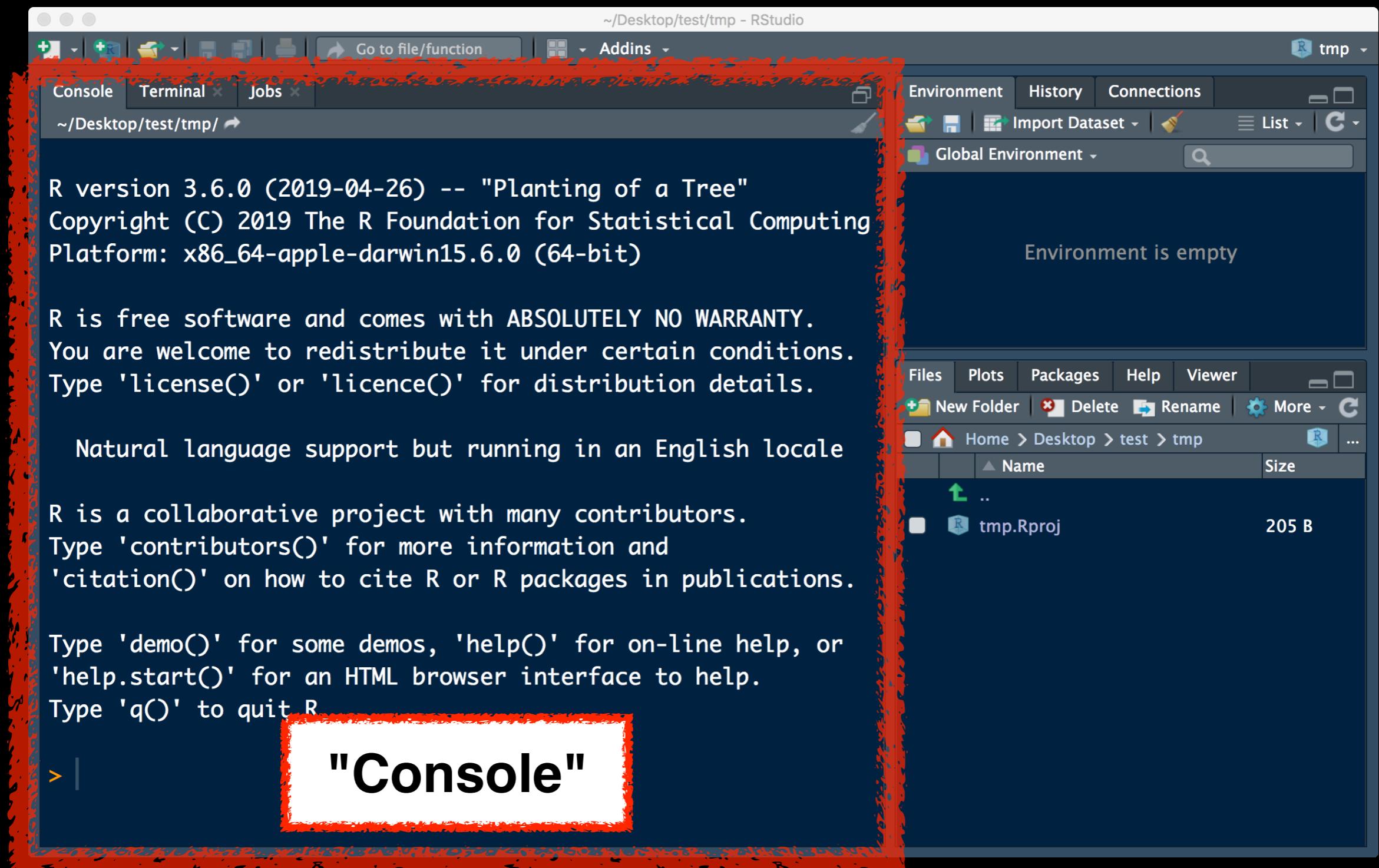
Tools > Global Options

- [Optional] Change to dark Appearance and increase font size, etc. . .



Do it Yourself!

Lets get started....



Some simple R commands

R prompt, don't type this!

1 > 2+2

[1] 4 Result of the command

2 > 3^2
[1] 9

3 > sqrt(25)
[1] 5

4 > 2*(1+1)
[1] 4

5 > 2*1+1 Order of precedence
[1] 3

6 > exp(1)

[1] 2.718282

7 > log(2.718282)
[1] 1

8 > log(10, base=10)

[1] 1

Optional argument

9 > log(10

+ , base = 10)

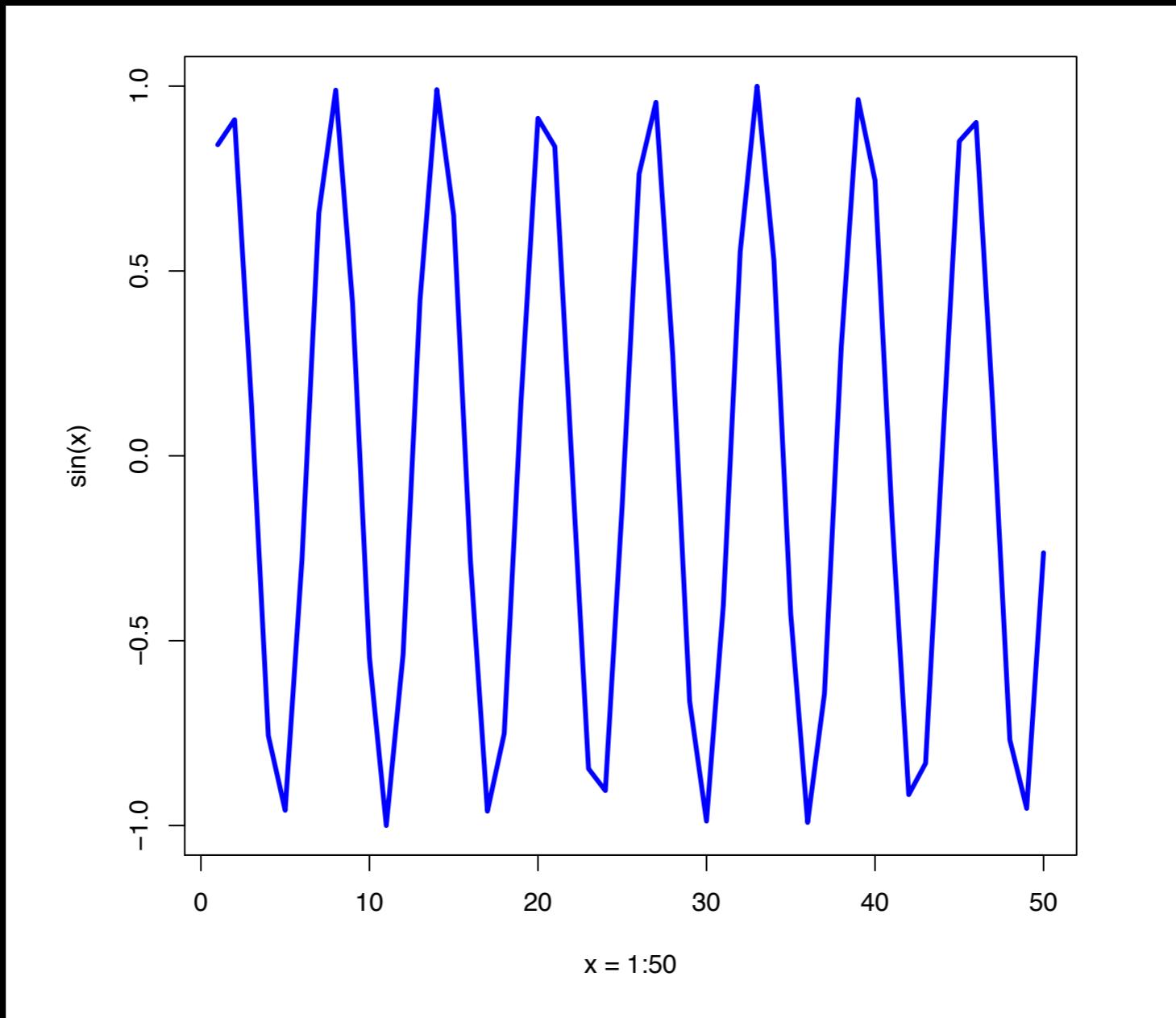
[1] 1

Incomplete command

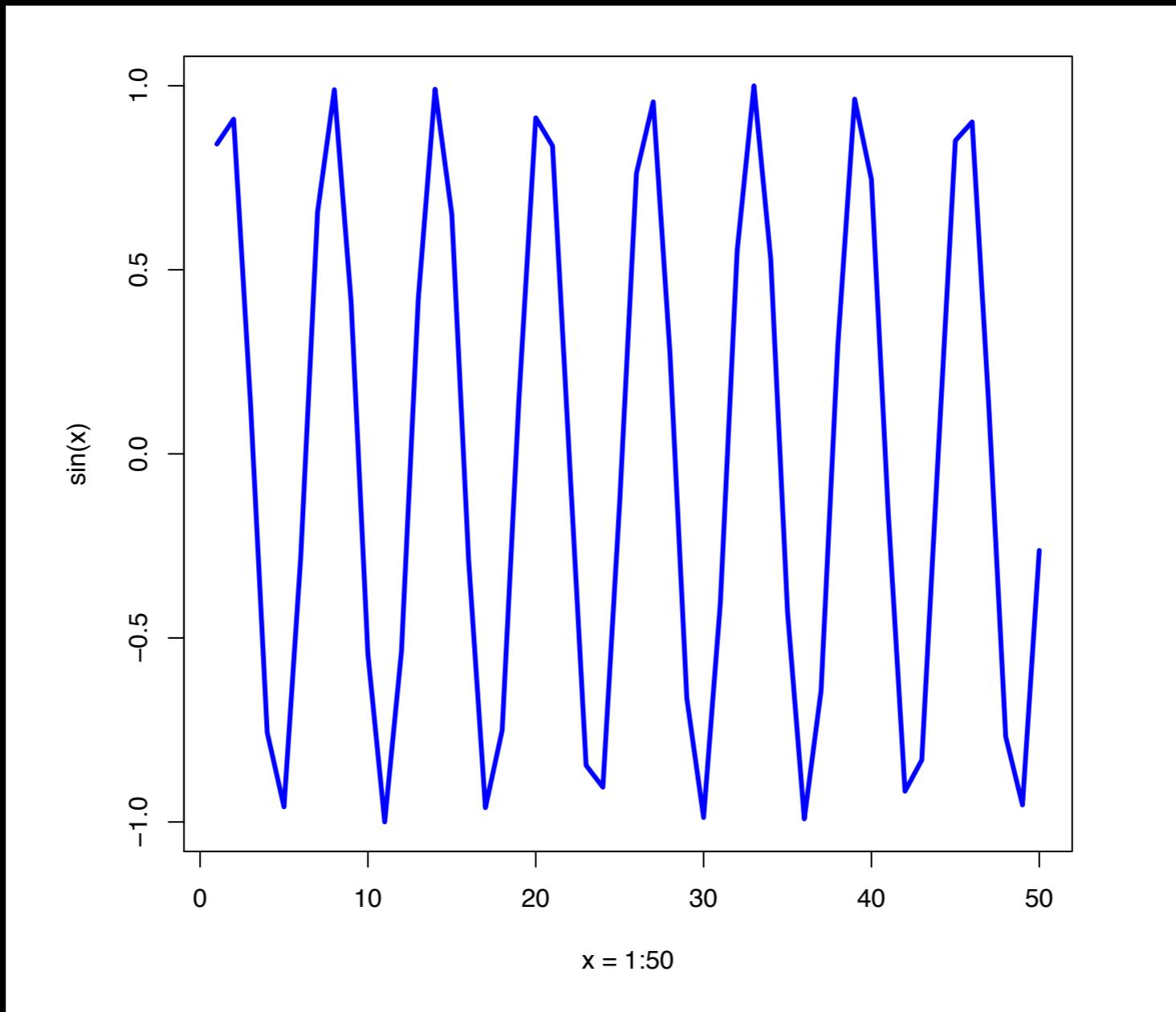
10 > x=1:50

> plot(x, sin(x))

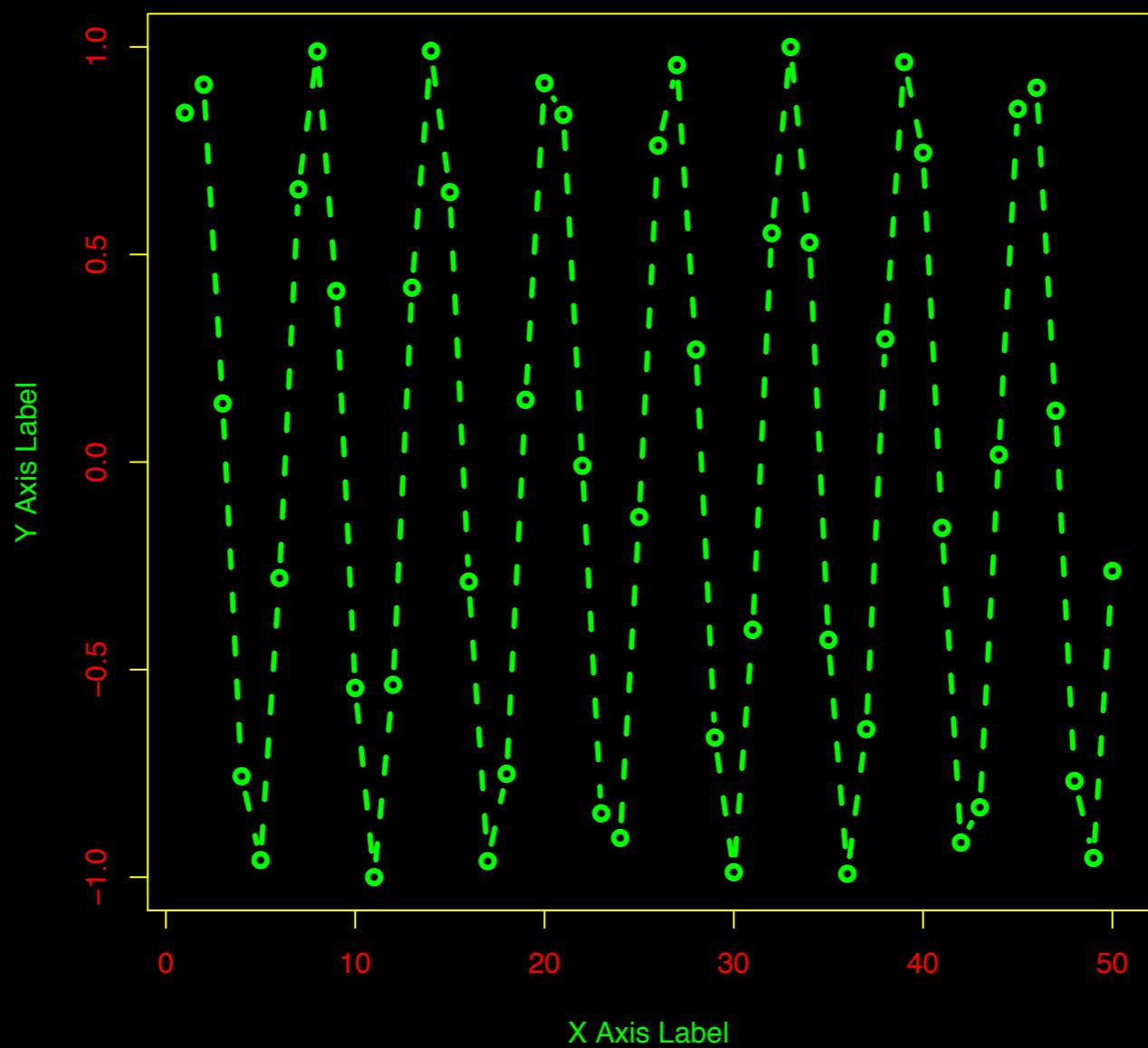
Does your plot look like this?

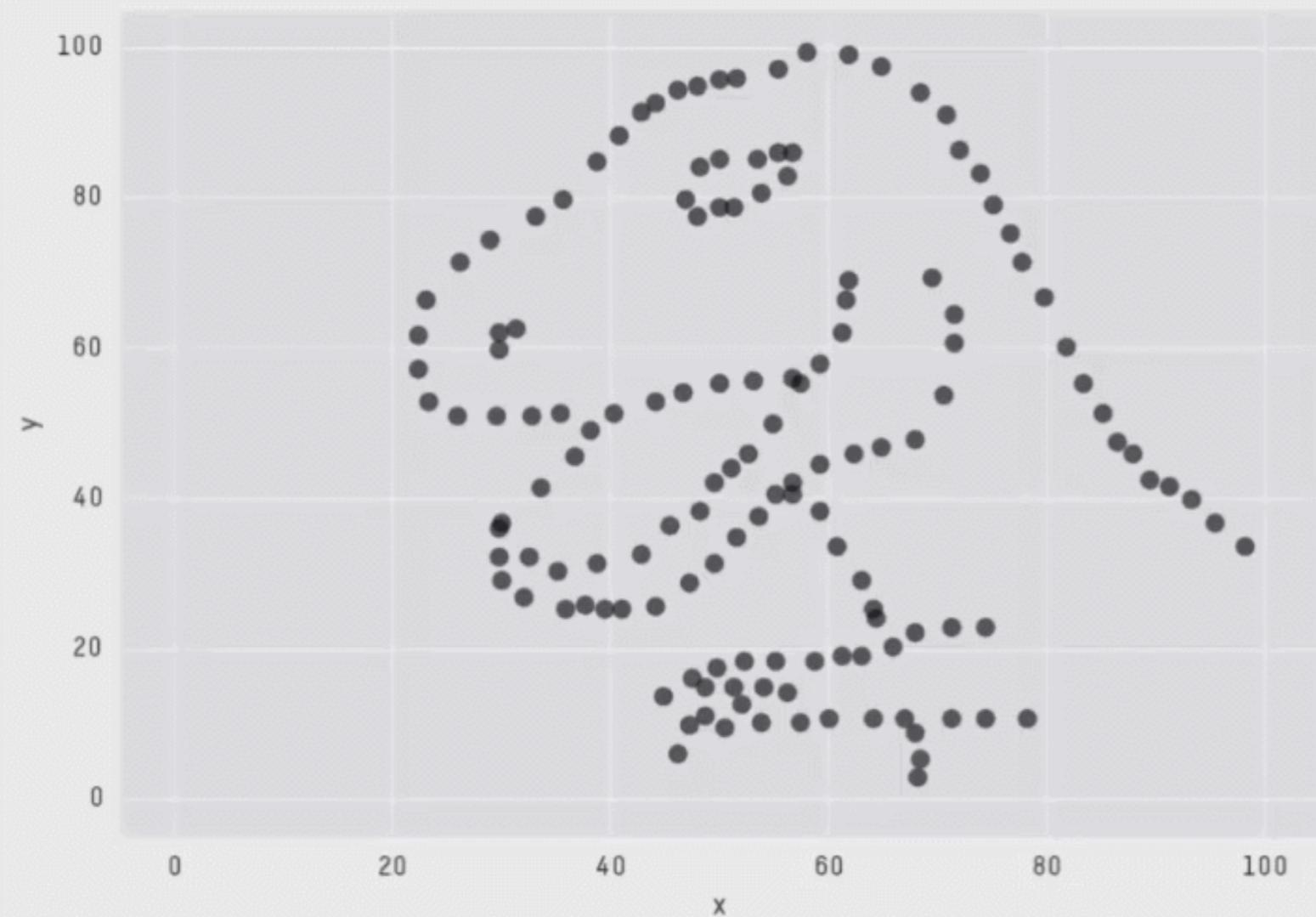


```
plot(x, sin(x), typ="l", col="blue", lwd=3, xlab="x = 1:50")
```



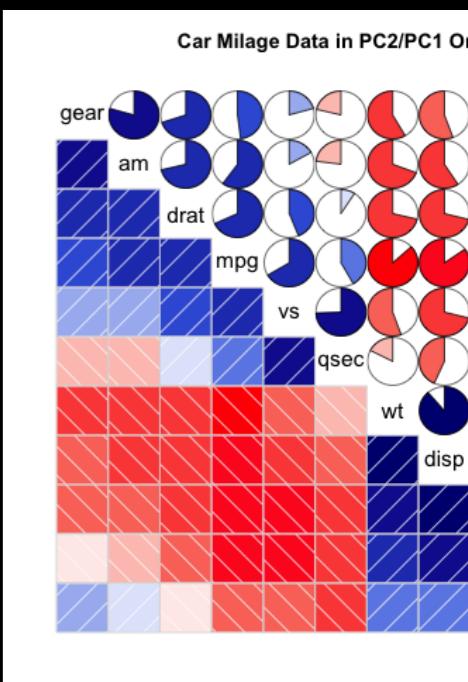
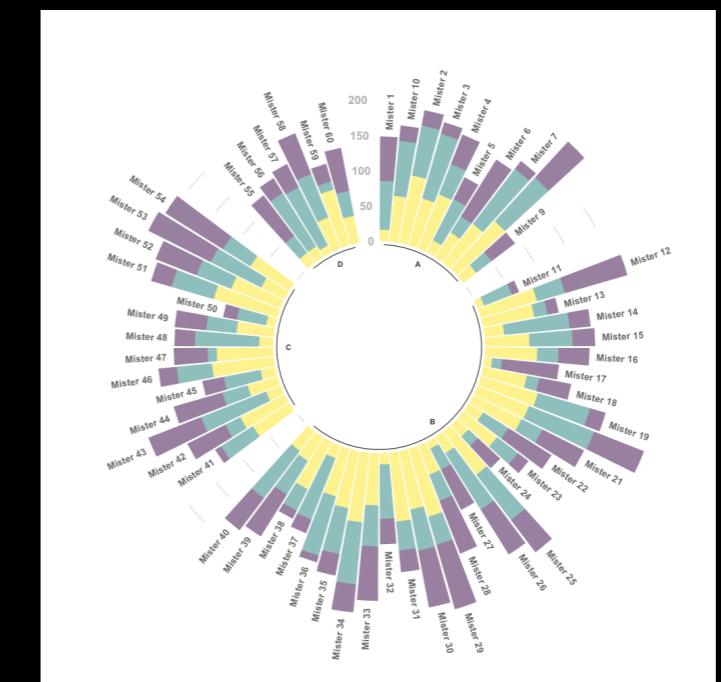
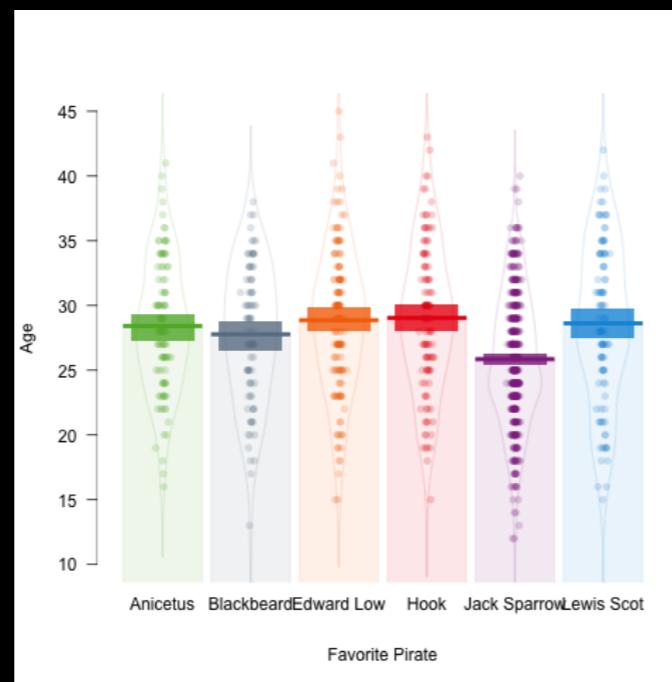
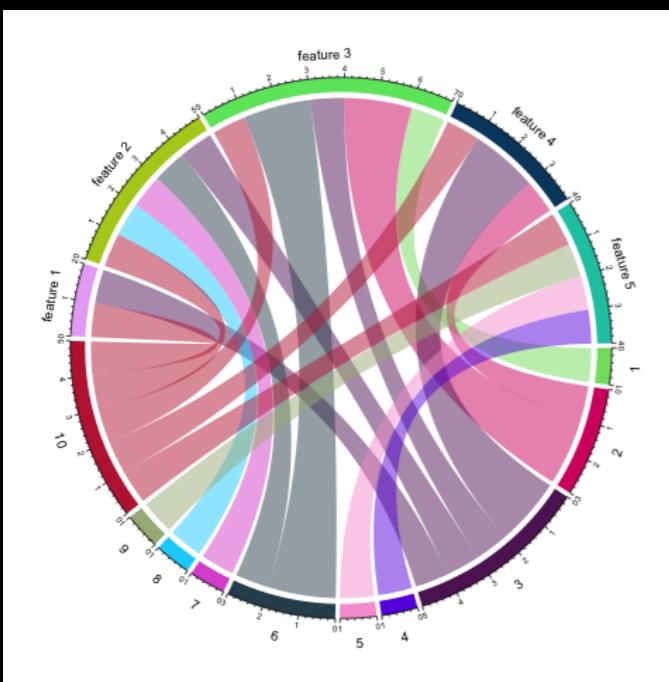
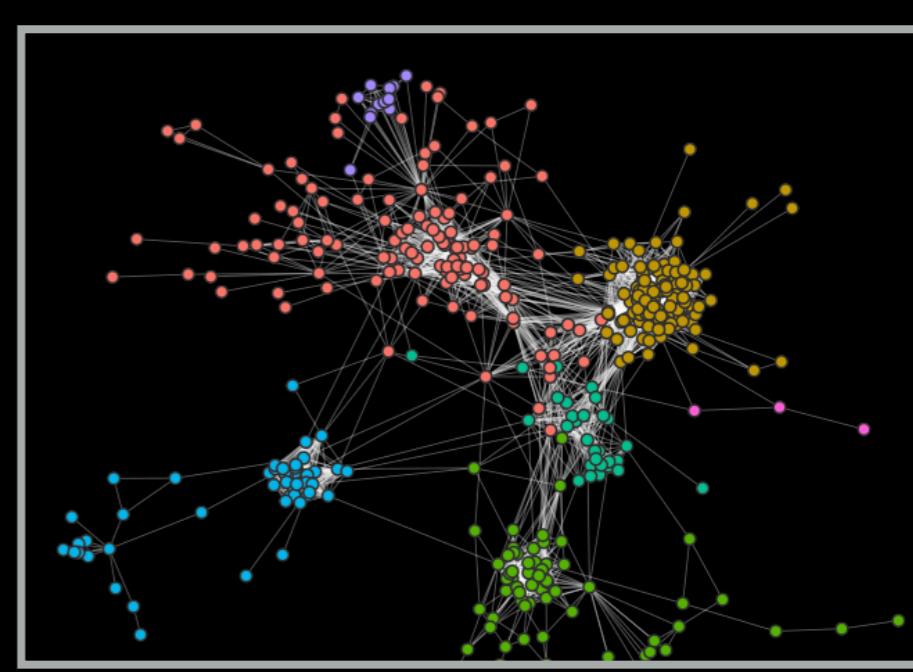
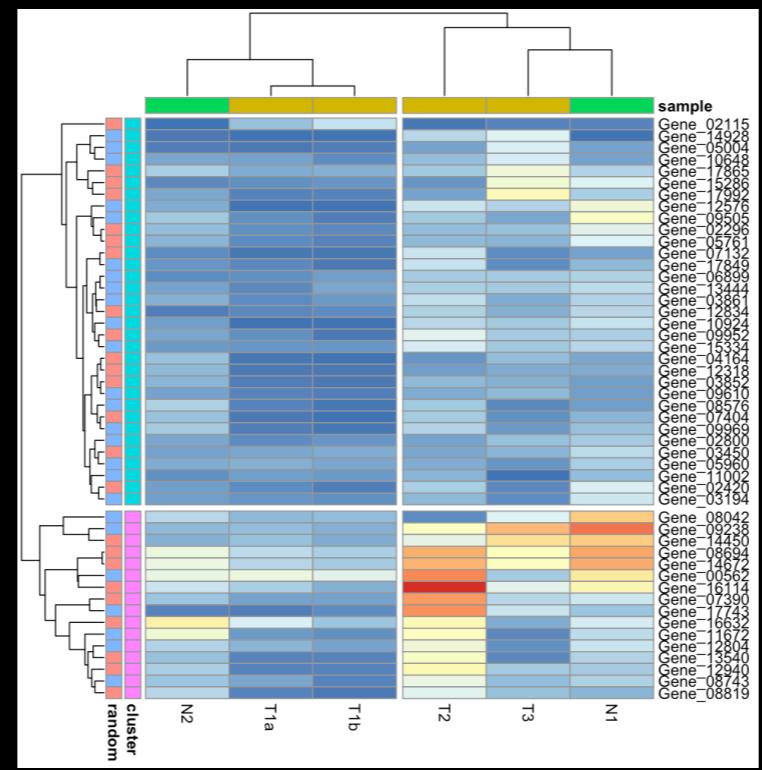
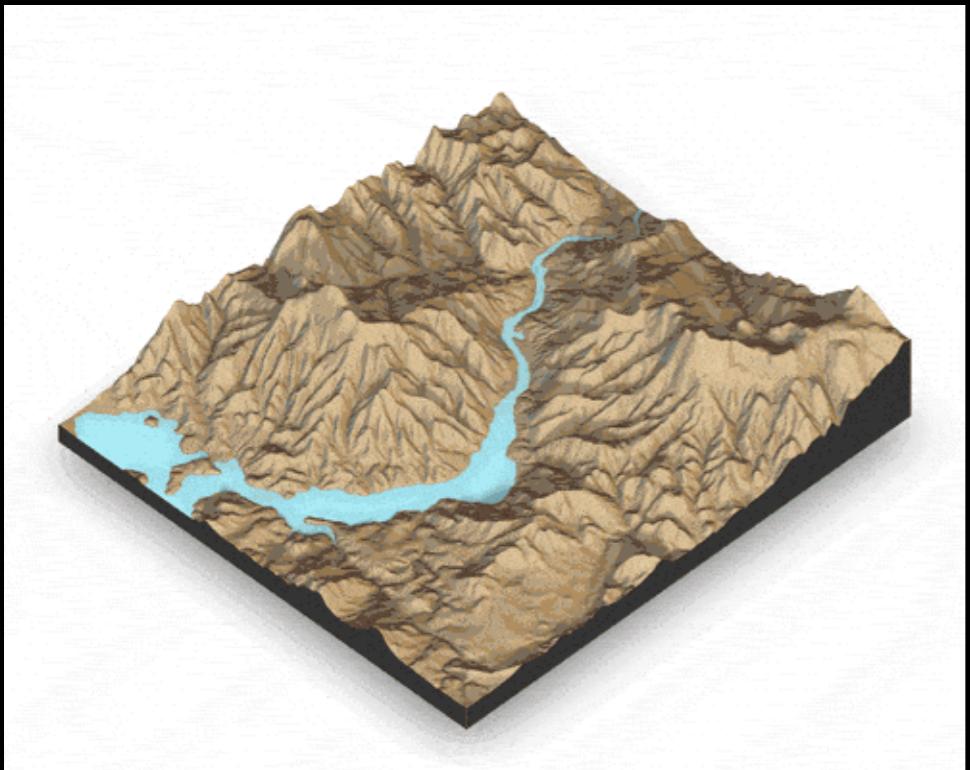
Options: ?plot ?plot.default





X Mean: 54.2659224
Y Mean: 47.8313999
X SD : 16.7649829
Y SD : 26.9342120
Corr. : -0.0642526

Key point: You need to visualize your data!



A close-up photograph of a man's face in profile, looking down at a laptop screen. He has a weary or stressed expression, with his hand resting against his chin. The background is a solid red.

**Learning a new
language is hard!**

Error Messages

Sometimes the commands you enter will generate errors.
Common beginner examples include:

- Incomplete brackets or quotes e.g.

```
((4+8)*20 <enter>
```

```
+
```

This returns a + here, which means you need to enter the remaining bracket - R is waiting for you to finish your input.

Press <ESC> to abandon this line if you don't want to fix it.

- Not separating arguments by commas e.g.

```
plot(1:10 col="red")
```

- Typos including miss-spelling functions and using wrong type of brackets e.g.

```
exp{4}
```

Do it Yourself!

Your turn!

https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_W20/class-material/04_rintro/

If you have done the introductory DataCamp course
then feel free to jump to section #3 *Object Assignment*

Topics Covered:

Calling Functions

Getting help in R

Vectors and vectorization

Workspace and working directory

RStudio projects

Topics Covered:

Calling Functions
Getting help in R

Vectors and vectorization

Workspace and working directory
RStudio projects

Vectors

- Vectors are the most basic data structure in R
- All elements of a vector must be the same type

```
dbl_var <- c(1, 2.5, 4.5)
log_var <- c(TRUE, FALSE, T, F)
chr_var <- c("these are", "some", "strings")
```

- When you attempt to combine different types they will be coerced to the most flexible type.

```
var <- c(1, "G", "4", 0.05, TRUE)
```

Names

- You can name a vector in several ways:
 - When creating it:

```
x <- c(a = 1, b = 2, c = 3)
```
 - By modifying an existing vector in place:

```
x <- 1:3; names(x) <- c("a", "b", "c")
```
- You can then use the names to access a subset of vector elements:

```
x [ c("b", "a") ]
```

Why is this useful?

- Because if you know the name (i.e. your label) then you don't have to remember which element of a vector the data you are after was stored in.
Consider this *fictional* example:

```
> grades <- c(alice=80, barry=99, chandra=60, chris=100)
> grades["barry"]
barry
99
> which.max(grades)
chris
4
> sort(grades)
chandra alice barry chris
60    80    99   100
```

R has many data structures

These include:

- **vector**
- **data frame**
- list
- matrix
- factors

data.frame

- **data.frame** is the *de facto* data structure for most **tabular data** and what we use for statistics and plotting with **ggplot2** - more on this later!
- Arguably the most important R data structure
- Data frames can have additional attributes such as **rownames()** and **colnames()**, which can be useful for annotating data, with things like `subject_id` or `sample_id`

data.frame continued . . .

- Created with the function **data.frame()**

```
dat <- data.frame(id = letters[1:10], x = 1:10, y = 11:20)
```

- Or more commonly when reading delimited files (*i.e.* **importing data**) with the functions **read.csv()**, **read.table()**, **read_xlsx()** etc...

```
dep <- read.csv2("http://bio3d.uib.no/data/pdb_deposition2.csv")
```

- R Studio can do this for you via:
File > Import Dataset > From CSV...

Useful `data.frame` Functions

- **`head()`** -and **`tail()`** shows first 6 rows and last 6 rows respectively
- **`dim()`** - returns the dimensions (i.e. number of rows and columns)
- **`nrow()`** and **`ncol()`** returns the number of rows and columns separately.
- **`rownames()`** and **`colnames()`**- shows the names attribute for rows and columns
- **`str()`** - returns the structure including name, type and preview of data in each column

Key Points

- R's basic data types are **logical**, **character**, **numeric**, integer and complex.
- R's basic data structures include **vectors**, lists, **data frames**, matrices and factors.
- Objects may have attributes, such as **name**, **dimension**, and **class**.

Topics Covered:

Calling Functions

Getting help in R

Vectors and vectorization

Workspace and working directory

RStudio projects

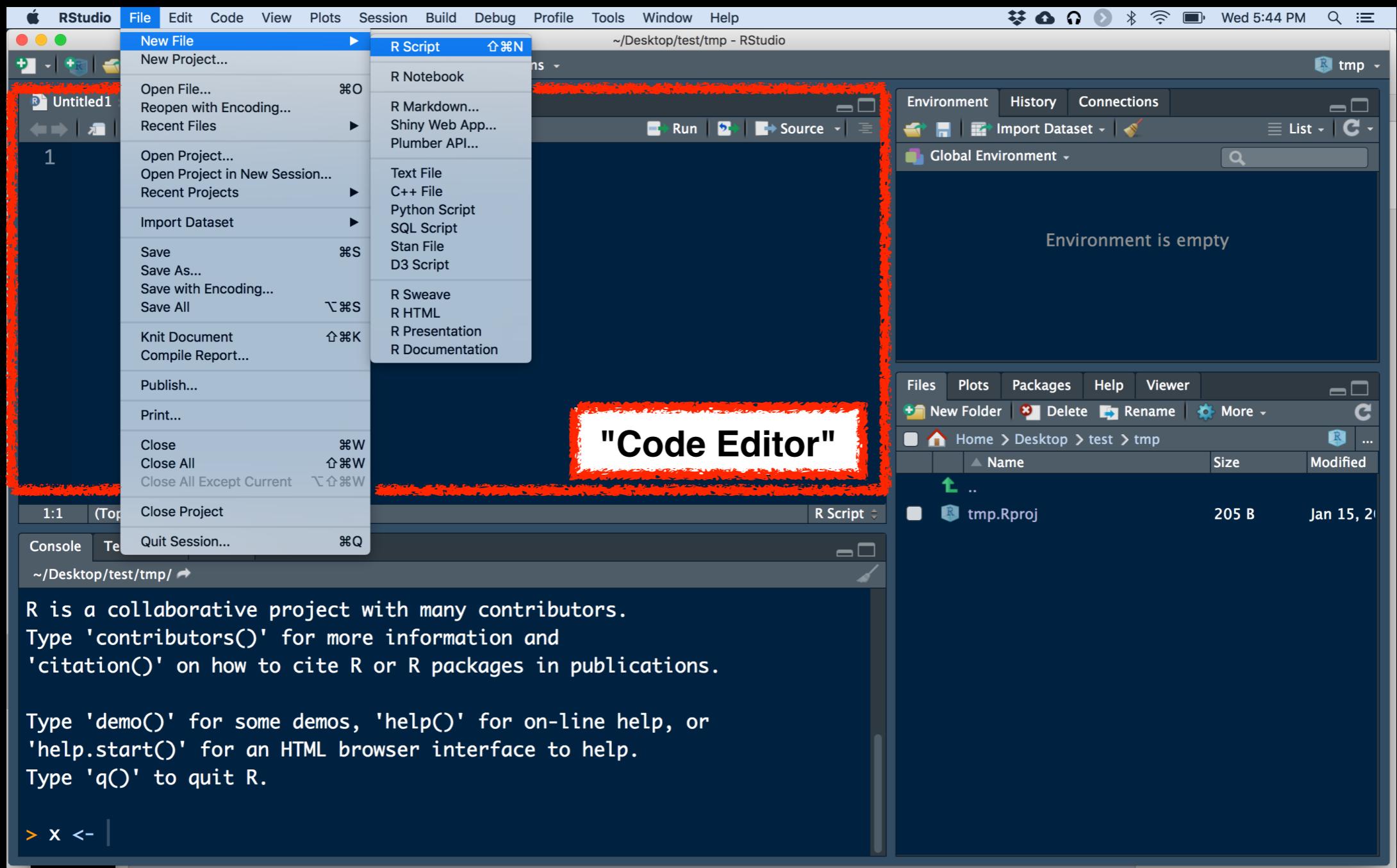
Topics Covered:

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Getting help in R

Vectors and vectorization

Workspace and **working directory**
RStudio **projects**

Side-note: Use the code editor for R scripts



R scripts

- A simple text file with your R commands (e.g. lecture04.r) that contains your R code for one complete analysis
- **Scientific method**: complete record of your analysis
- **Reproducible**: rerunning your code is easy for you or someone else
- In RStudio, select code and type <**ctrl+enter**> to run the code in the R console
- **Key point**: Save your R script!

Side-note: RStudio shortcuts

The screenshot shows the RStudio interface. In the code editor, there are three lines of R code:

```
1 View(faithful)
2 plot(faithful)
3
```

The toolbar above the editor has three buttons: "Run" (green border), "Re-run Last" (blue border), and "Source" (red border). Three arrows point from text labels to these buttons:

- A green arrow points to the "Run" button with the text: "Sends current line or selection to console (faster to type: command/ctrl+enter)"
- A blue arrow points to the "Re-run Last" button with the text: "Re-send the lines of code you last ran to the console (useful after edits)"
- A red arrow points to the "Source" button with the text: "Sends entire file to console"

Other RStudio shortcuts!
Up/Down arrows (recall cmds)
Ctrl + 2 (move cursor to console)
Ctrl +1 (move cursor to editor)

Sends current line or
selection to console (faster
to type:
command/ctrl+enter)

Re-send the lines of
code you last ran to the
console
(useful after edits)

Rscript: Third way to use R

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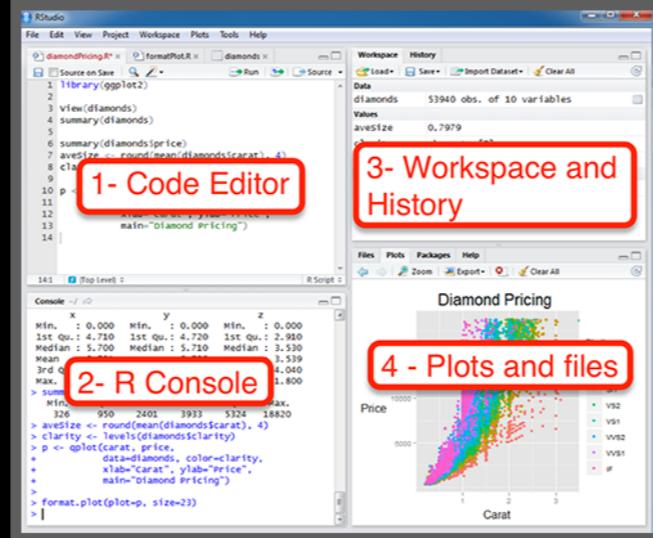
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> |
```



> Rscript --vanilla
my_analysis.R

1. Terminal

2. RStudio

3. Rscript

From the command line!

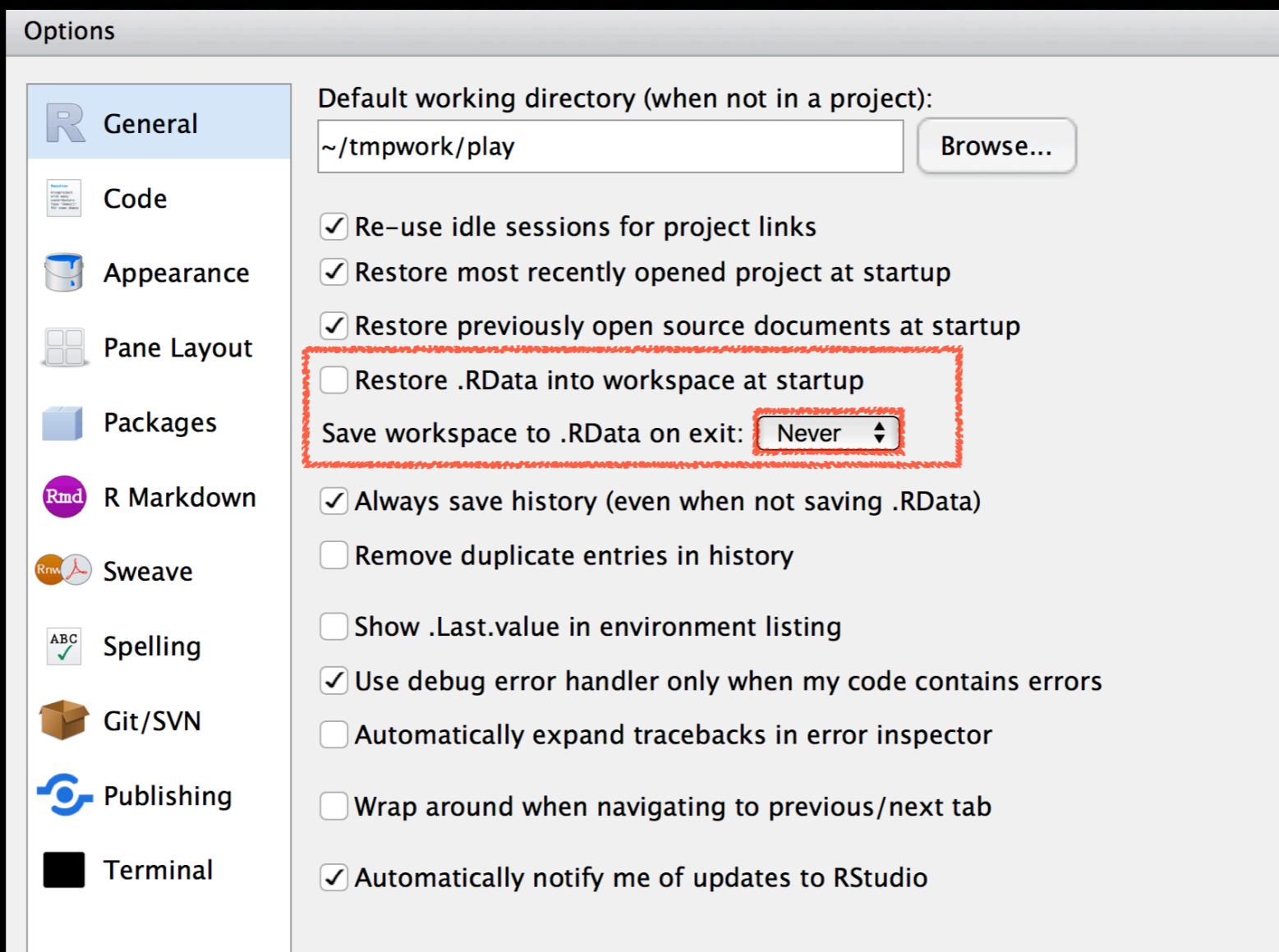
> Rscript --vanilla my_analysis.R
or within R: source("my_analysis.R")

R workspaces

- When you close RStudio, **SAVE YOUR .R SCRIPT**
 - You can also save data and variables in an R workspace, but this is generally not recommended
 - Exception: working with an enormous dataset
 - Better to start with a clean, empty workspace so that past analyses don't interfere with current analyses
 - `rm(list = ls())` clears out your workspace or broom icon
- You should be able to reproduce everything from your R script, so save your R script, don't save your workspace!

R workspaces

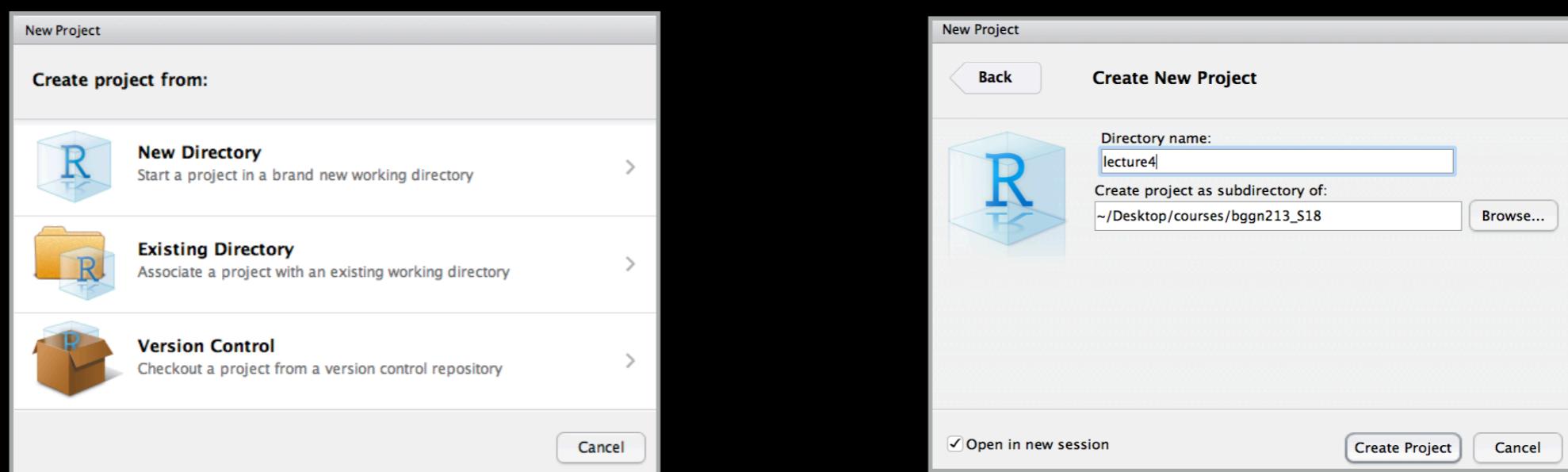
- Set Tools > Global Options



RStudio Projects

- We will use a new RStudio **project** for each new class going forward.

File > New Project > New Directory > New Project...



- These projects will help keep us **organized** and divide our work into multiple contexts, each with their own working directory, workspace, history, and source documents.

Learning Resources

- **TryR**. An excellent interactive online R tutorial for beginners.
 [< http://tryr.codeschool.com/ >](http://tryr.codeschool.com/)
- **RStudio**. A well designed reference card for RStudio.
 [< https://help.github.com/categories/bootcamp/ >](https://help.github.com/categories/bootcamp/)
- **DataCamp**. Online tutorials using R in your browser.
 [< https://www.datacamp.com/ >](https://www.datacamp.com/)
- **R for Data Science**. A new O'Reilly book that will teach you how to do data science with R, by Garrett Grolemund and Hadley Wickham.
 [< http://r4ds.had.co.nz/ >](http://r4ds.had.co.nz/)

Learning Resources

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 [< http://tryr.codeschool.com/ >](http://tryr.codeschool.com/)
- **RStudio**. A well designed reference card for RStudio.
 [< https://help.github.com/categories/bootcamp/ >](https://help.github.com/categories/bootcamp/)
- **DataCamp**. Online tutorials using R in your browser.
 [< https://www.datacamp.com/ >](https://www.datacamp.com/)
- **R for Data Science**. A new O'Reilly book that will teach you how to do data science with R, by Garrett Grolemund and Hadley Wickham.
 [< http://r4ds.had.co.nz/ >](http://r4ds.had.co.nz/)

< https://www.datacamp.com/ >

The screenshot shows the DataCamp homepage with a red circle highlighting the user profile icon in the top right corner. The profile icon has a red notification badge with the number '3'.

Your Latest Activity

Introduction to Spark in R using dplyr

You are doing awesome barryus! So far you've earned 250 XP!

The last chapter you were working on was [Light My Fire: Starting To Use Spark With dplyr Syntax](#).

DAILY PRACTICE

Learning data science requires practice **every day**. Build your data science fluency with DataCamp practice mode.

Notifications:

- You have a new assignment: Conditionals and Con... 16 days ago
- You have a new assignment: Working with the RSt... 16 days ago
- You have a new assignment: Introduction to R 16 days ago
- bjgrant invited you to the group 'Foundations o... 16 days ago
- You have a new assignment: Orientation 9 months ago

[See all notifications](#)

Final Knowledge Check!

- What is R and why should we use it?
- Familiarity with R's basic syntax.
- Familiarity with major R data structures namely *vectors* and *data.frames* (with more on *lists* and *matrices* next day).
- Understand the basics of using functions (arguments, vectorization and re-cycling).
- Be able to use R to read and parse comma-separated (.csv) formatted files ready for subsequent analysis.
- Appreciate how you can use R scripts to aid with reproducibility.

Reference Slides:

Optional!

<http://swcarpentry.github.io/r-novice-inflammation/>

Sections: 1, 11 & 12 only!

Optional!

Optional Exercise

Use R to do the following. Create a new script to save your work and code up the following four equations:

$$1 + 2(3 + 4)$$

$$\ln(4^3+3^{2+1})$$

$$\sqrt{(4+3)(2+1)}$$

$$\left(\frac{1+2}{3+4}\right)^2$$

Help from within R

- Getting help for a function

```
> help("log")
```

```
> ?log
```

- Searching across packages

```
> help.search("logarithm")
```

- Finding all functions of a particular type

```
> apropos("log")
```

```
[7] "as.logical" "as.logical.factor" "dlogis" "is.logical"
```

```
[13] "log" "log10" "log1p" "log2" "logLik" "logb"
```

```
[19] "logical" "loglin" "plogis" "print.logLik" "qlogis" "rlogis"
```

-Or use google

(e.g. "r log function") to find online docs

`log {base}`

Logarithms and Exponentials

Description

What the function does in general terms

`log` computes logarithms, by default natural logarithms, `log10` computes common (i.e., base 10) logarithms, and `log2` computes binary (i.e., base 2) logarithms. The general form `log(x, base)` computes logarithms with base `base`.

`log1p(x)` computes $\log(1+x)$ accurately also for $|x| \ll 1$ (and less accurately when x is approximately -1).

`exp` computes the exponential function.

`expm1(x)` computes $\exp(x) - 1$ accurately also for $|x| \ll 1$.

Usage

How to use the function

```
log(x, base = exp(1))
logb(x, base = exp(1))
log10(x)
log2(x)

log1p(x)

exp(x)
expm1(x)
```

Arguments

What does the function need

`x` a numeric or complex vector.

`base` a positive or complex number: the base with respect to which logarithms are computed.
Defaults to `e=exp(1)`.

Details

All except `logb` are generic functions: methods can be defined for them individually or via the [Math](#) group generic.

`log10` and `log2` are only convenience wrappers, but logs to bases 10 and 2 (whether computed via `log` or the wrappers) will be computed more efficiently and accurately where supported by the OS. Methods can be set for them individually (and otherwise methods for `log` will be used).

`logb` is a wrapper for `log` for compatibility with S. If (S3 or S4) methods are set for `log` they will be dispatched. Do not set S4 methods on `logb` itself.

All except `log` are [primitive](#) functions.

?log

Value

What does the function return

A vector of the same length as `x` containing the transformed values. `log(0)` gives `-Inf`, and `log(x)` for negative values of `x` is `NaN`. `exp(-Inf)` is 0.

For complex inputs to the log functions, the value is a complex number with imaginary part in the range $[-\pi i, \pi i]$: which end of the range is used might be platform-specific.

S4 methods

`exp`, `expm1`, `log`, `log10`, `log2` and `log1p` are S4 generic and are members of the [Math](#) group generic.

Note that this means that the S4 generic for `log` has a signature with only one argument, `x`, but that `base` can be passed to methods (but will not be used for method selection). On the other hand, if you only set a method for the [Math](#) group generic then `base` argument of `log` will be ignored for your class.

Source

`log1p` and `expm1` may be taken from the operating system, but if not available there are based on the Fortran subroutine `dlnrel` by W. Fullerton of Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory (see <http://www.netlib.org/slatec/fnlib/dlnrel.f> and (for small `x`) a single Newton step for the solution of `log1p(y) = x` respectively).

References

Becker, R. A., Chambers, J. M. and Wilks, A. R. (1988) *The New S Language*. Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole. (for `log`, `log10` and `exp`.)

Chambers, J. M. (1998) *Programming with Data. A Guide to the S Language*. Springer. (for `logb`.)

See Also

Discover other related functions

[Trig](#), [sqrt](#), [Arithmetic](#).

Examples

Sample code showing how it works

```
log(exp(3))
log10(1e7) # = 7
```

```
x <- 10^{-(1+2*1:9)}
cbind(x, log(1+x), log1p(x), exp(x)-1, expm1(x))
```