

Fundamentals of Spatial Analysis in R

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Chapter 1

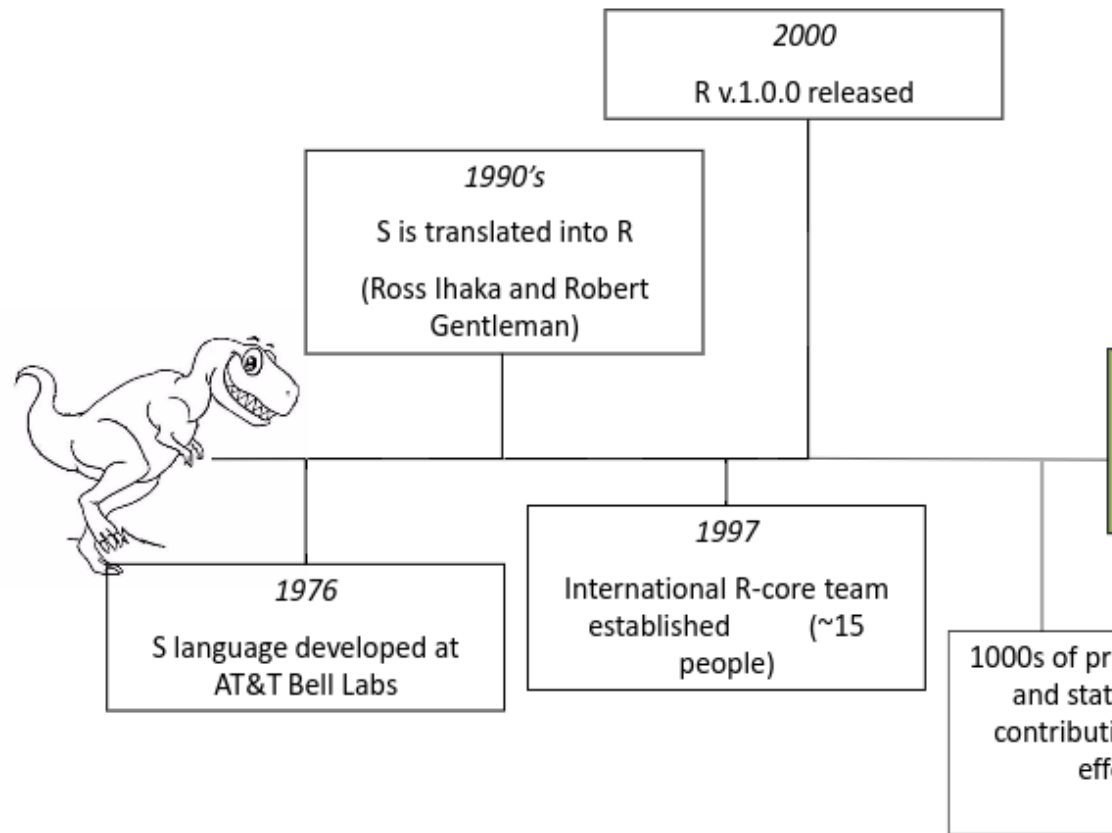
Introduction

- A bit about me
- Intros
- What is everyone's experience level?
- What are you expected to know?
 - Basic R objects and methods
 - **tidyverse** packages and syntax
 - * i.e. **ggplot2**, **dplyr**, **readr**, **tidyr**, the pipe operator `%>%`
 - Very basic familiarity with RMarkdown and with git
 - If these are new, don't sweat it - google them, we'll talk through them as we go if needed
- This portion of workshop there no expectation of experience with spatial in R - if you already have some, you are sure to pick up new tricks - if you don't, we'll cover all the basics

1.0.1 Overview

What is R and why should we use R for spatial analysis? Let's break that into two questions - first, what is R and why should we use it?

- A language and environment for statistical computing and graphics
- R is lightweight, free, open-source and cross-platform
- Works with contributed packages - currently 15,362 - extensibility
- Automation and recording of workflow (reproducibility)
- Optimized work flow - data manipulation, analysis and visualization all in one place
- R does not alter underlying data - manipulation and visualization in memory



of R.bb

Figure 1.1: History of R

- R is great for repetitive graphics

Second, why use R for spatial, or GIS, work?

- Spatial and statistical analysis in one environment
- Leverage statistical power of R (i.e. modeling spatial data, data visualization, statistical exploration)
- Can handle vector and raster data, as well as work with spatial databases and pretty much any data format spatial data comes in
- R's GIS capabilities growing rapidly right now - new packages added monthly - currently about 200 spatial packages (depending on how you categorize)

Some drawbacks to using R for GIS work

- R not as good for interactive use as desktop GIS applications like ArcGIS or QGIS (i.e. editing features, panning, zooming, and analysis on selected subsets of features)
- Explicit coordinate system handling by the user, no on-the-fly projection support
- In memory analysis does not scale well with large GIS vector and tabular data
- Steep learning curve
- Up to you to find packages to do what you need - help not always great

1.1 Quick R basics review

```
getwd()
```

```
## [1] "C:/Users/mweber/GitProjects/AWRA_2020_R_Spatial"
```

Which should return something like:

```
[1] "/home/marc/GitProjects/AWRA_GIS_R_Workshop"
```

To see what is in the directory:

```
dir()
```

```
## [1] "_after_body.html"      "_book"
## [3] "_bookdown.yml"         "_bookdown_files"
## [5] "_output.yml"           "02-vector.Rmd"
## [7] "03-raster.Rmd"         "04-application.Rmd"
## [9] "05-summary.Rmd"        "06-references.Rmd"
## [11] "AWRA_2020_R_Spatial.Rmd" "AWRA_2020_R_Spatial.Rproj"
## [13] "AWRA_2020_R_Spatial_files" "book.bib"
## [15] "css"                   "docs"
## [17] "images"                "index.Rmd"
## [19] "js"                    "packages.bib"
```

```
## [21] "preamble.tex"          "README.md"
```

To establish a different directory:

```
setwd("/home/marc/GitProjects")
```

1.1.0.1 Terminology: data structures

R is an interpreted language (access through a command-line interpreter) with a number of data structures (vectors, matrices, arrays, data frames, lists) and extensible objects (regression models, time-series, geospatial coordinates) and supports procedural programming with functions.

To learn about objects, become friends with the built-in `class` and `str` functions. Let's explore the built-in iris data set to start:

```
class(iris)
```

```
## [1] "data.frame"
```

```
str(iris)
```

```
## 'data.frame':    150 obs. of  5 variables:
## $ Sepal.Length: num  5.1 4.9 4.7 4.6 5 5.4 4.6 5 4.4 4.9 ...
## $ Sepal.Width : num  3.5 3 3.2 3.1 3.6 3.9 3.4 3.4 2.9 3.1 ...
## $ Petal.Length: num  1.4 1.4 1.3 1.5 1.4 1.7 1.4 1.5 1.4 1.5 ...
## $ Petal.Width : num  0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1 ...
## $ Species      : Factor w/ 3 levels "setosa","versicolor",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 .
```

As we can see, `iris` is a data frame and is used extensively for beginning tutorials on learning R. Data frames consist of rows of observations on columns of values for variables of interest - they are one of the fundamental and most important data structures in R.

But as we see in the result of `str(iris)` above, following the information that `iris` is a data frame with 150 observations of 5 variables, we get information on each of the variables, in this case that 4 are numeric and one is a factor with three levels.

First off, R has several main data types:

- logical
- integer
- double
- complex
- character
- raw
- list
- NULL
- closure (function)
- special

- builtin (basic functions and operators)
- environment
- S4 (some S4 objects)
- others you won't run into at user level

We can ask what data type something is using `typeof`:

```
typeof(iris)
```

```
[1] "list"
```

```
typeof(iris$Sepal.Length)
```

```
[1] "double"
```

```
typeof(iris$Species)
```

```
[1] "integer"
```

We see a couple interesting things here - `iris`, which we just said is a data frame, is a data type of `list`. `Sepal.Length` is data type `double`, and in `str(iris)` we saw it was numeric - that makes sense - but we see that `Species` is data type `integer`, and in `str(iris)` we were told this variable was a factor with three levels. What's going on here?

First off, `class` refers to the abstract type of an object in R, whereas `typeof` or `mode` refer to how an object is stored in memory. So `iris` is an object of class `data.frame`, but it is stored in memory as a list (i.e. each column is an item in a list). Note that this allows data frames to have columns of different classes, whereas a matrix needs to be all of the same mode.

For our `Species` column, We see it's `mode` is numeric, it's `typeof` is `integer`, and it's `class` is `factor`. Nominal variables in R are treated as a vector of integers 1:k, where k is the number of unique values of that nominal variable and a mapping of the character strings to these integer values.

This allows us to quickly see all the unique values of a particular nominal variable or quickly re-assign a level of a nominal variable to a new value - remember, everything in R is in memory, so don't worry about tweaking the data!

```
levels(iris$Species)
```

```
levels(iris$Species)[1] <- 'sibirica'
```

See if you can explain how that re-assignment we just did worked.

To access particular columns in a data frame, as we saw above, we use the `$` operator - we can see the value for `Species` for each observation in `iris` by doing:

```
iris$Species
```

To access particular columns or rows of a data frame, we use indexing:

```
iris[1,3] # the 1st row and the 3rd column
```

```
[1] 1.4
```

```
iris[4,5] # the 4th row and the 5th column
```

```
[1] sibirica
```

```
Levels: sibirica versicolor virginica
```

A handy function is `names`, which you can use to get or to set data frame variable names:

```
names(iris)
```

```
names(iris)[1] <- 'Length of Sepal'
```

Explain what this last line did

1.1.1.0.2 Overview of Classes and Methods

- Class: object types
 - `class()`: gives the class type
 - `typeof()`: information on how the object is stored
 - `str()`: how the object is structured
- Method: generic functions
 - `print()`
 - `plot()`
 - `'summary()'`

1.2 Workshop Data and Logistics

- Downloading content via Github
- Using RMarkdown and RStudio
- Schedule

1.3 Spatial Data in R

Moving on from sp

1.4 Code along

Just a sampling of things we'll cover. Run code, examine output, ask any questions - we'll explore it all in more detail through the morning.



Figure 1.2: Moving on from ‘sp’

1.4.1 Geocoding example with tmaptools using open street map

```
# uses OSM
library(tmap)
library(tmaptools)
library(dplyr)
tex_cap <- tmaptools::geocode_OSM("Texas Capital",
  as.sf = TRUE) %>%
  glimpse()

## Observations: 1
## Variables: 8
## $ query      <chr> "Texas Capital"
## $ lat        <dbl> -31.46748
## $ lon        <dbl> -64.22844
## $ lat_min    <dbl> -31.46748
## $ lat_max    <dbl> -31.46748
## $ lon_min    <dbl> -64.22995
## $ lon_max    <dbl> -64.22723
## $ geometry   <POINT [°]> POINT (-64.22844 -31.46748)
```

1.4.2 Interactive mapping

```
library(mapview)
mapview(tex_cap)
```

```
## PhantomJS not found. You can install it with webshot::install_phantomjs(). If it is
```

1.4.3 Choropleth map

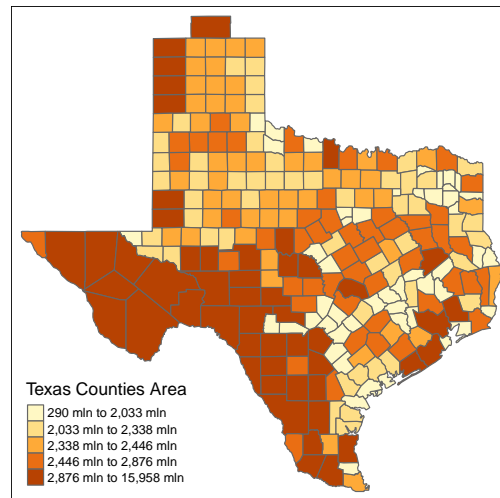
The package `maps` (automatically installed and loaded with `ggplot2`) provides maps of the USA, with state and county borders, that can be retrieved and converted as `sf` objects:

```
library(sf)
library(maps)
counties <- st_as_sf(map("county", plot = FALSE, fill = TRUE))
counties <- subset(counties, grepl("texas", counties$ID) & !grepl('missouri,texas', counties$area)
counties$area <- as.numeric(st_area(counties))
head(counties)
```

```
## Simple feature collection with 6 features and 2 fields
## geometry type:  MULTIPOLYGON
## dimension:      XY
## bbox:           xmin: -103.0751 ymin: 28.14942 xmax: -94.13123 ymax: 37.00161
## epsg (SRID):    4326
## proj4string:     +proj=longlat +datum=WGS84 +no_defs
##               ID              geom              area
## 2165 oklahoma,texas MULTIPOLYGON (((-101.6255 3... 5434507068
## 2488 texas,anderson MULTIPOLYGON (((-95.75271 3... 2817584981
## 2489 texas,andrews MULTIPOLYGON (((-102.2042 3... 3962852909
## 2490 texas,angelina MULTIPOLYGON (((-94.13123 3... 2200352194
## 2491 texas,aransas MULTIPOLYGON (((-96.80122 2... 290370313
## 2492 texas,archer MULTIPOLYGON (((-98.42269 3... 2422607253
```

```
tm_shape(counties) +
  tm_polygons("area",
    style="quantile",
    title="Texas Counties Area")
```

```
## Warning: The shape counties is invalid. See sf::st_is_valid
```



example-1.bb

1.5 Challenge: Does this work?

Did my .css styling adjustment work?

1.5.1 Answer

1. Yes
2. No

Chapter 2

Vector data with sf

- Some key aspects of sf

Name	Island	Land_area	Population
Northland	North	12500.5611	175500
Auckland	North	4941.5726	1657200
Waikato	North	23900.0364	460100
Bay of Plenty	North	12071.1447	299900
Gisborne	North	8385.8266	48500
Hawke's Bay	North	14137.5244	164000
Taranaki	North	7254.4804	118000
Manawatu-Wanganui	North	22220.6084	234500
Wellington	North	8048.5528	513900
West Coast	South	23245.4559	32400
Canterbury	South	44504.4991	612000
Otago	South	31186.3092	224200

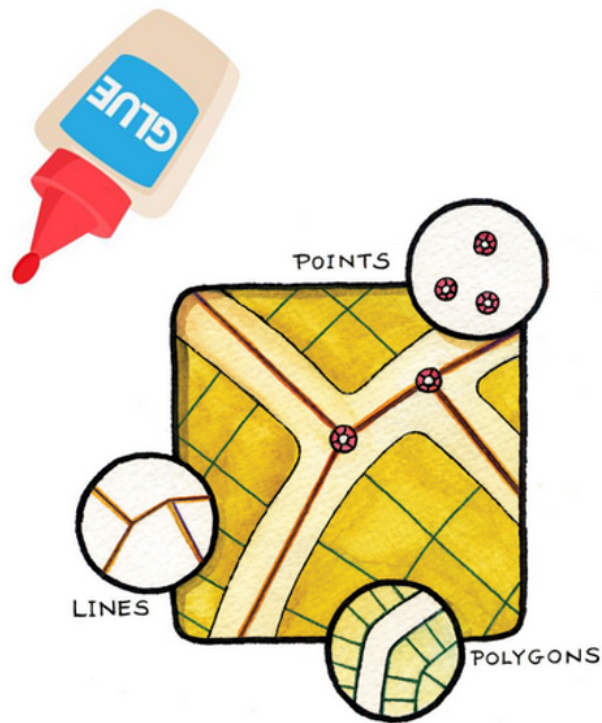


Figure 2.1: Sticky geometry with 'sf'

Load `tidycensus` - you'll need to set your Census API key. A key can be obtained from [here](#).

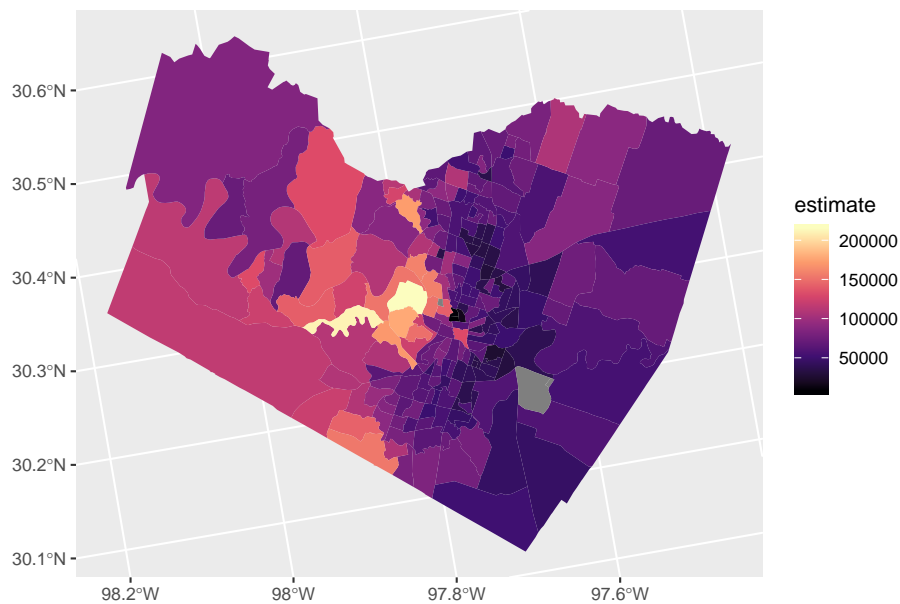
```
library(tidycensus)
library(tidyverse)

census_api_key("YOUR API KEY GOES HERE")

library(tidycensus)
library(ggplot2)
options(tigris_use_cache = TRUE)
austin_tracts <- get_acs(state = 'TX', county = 'Travis', geography = "tract",
                        variables = "B19013_001", geometry = TRUE)

## Getting data from the 2013-2017 5-year ACS

austin_tracts %>%
  ggplot(aes(fill = estimate)) +
  geom_sf(color = NA) +
  coord_sf(crs = 26911) +
  scale_fill_viridis_c(option = "magma")
```



Chapter 3

Raster data

Chapter 4

Applications

Some *significant* applications are demonstrated in this chapter.

4.1 Example one

4.2 Example two

Chapter 5

Final Words

We have finished a nice book.

References

5.0.1 R Spatial Resources

- R Spatial - **Spatial Data Science with R**
- **Geocomputation with R**
- **R Spatial Task View**
- **Modern Geospatial Data Analysis with R** by Zev Ross
- **Spatial Data Science - Pebesma and Bivand**
- **Spatial Data Science Course- Prof. Adam Wilson**
- **Introduction to Mapping and Spatial Analysis with R**
- **Google R Style Guide**
- **Advanced R** by Hadley Wickham
- **Intro to GIS and Spatial Analysis** by Manuel Gimond
- **FOSS4G2019 R for Geospatial Processing**
- **An Introduction to Spatial Analysis and Mapping in R**

5.0.2 R Vector Processing / Simple Features Resources

- **Simple Features for R**
- **Spatial Data in R: New Directions**
- **sp-sf Migration**
- **An Exploration of Simple Features for R**
- **Simple Features: Building Spatial Data Pipelines in R**
- **Tidy spatial data in R: using dplyr, tidyr, and ggplot2 with sf**

5.0.3 R Raster Resources

- Wageningen University **Intro to Raster**
- Wageningen University **Advanced Raster Analysis**
- **The Visual Raster Cheat Sheet GitHub Repo**
- **Rastervis**
- **stars - spatiotemporal arrays**

5.0.4 R Mapping Resources

- **mapview**
- **Leaflet for R**
- **tmap**
- Zev Ross **Creating beautiful demographic maps in R with the `tidycensus` and `tmap` packages**
- Geocomputation with R: **Making maps with R**
- Ryan Peek: **Mapping in R**