

# Working with Experimental Data

22 January 2020

*Modern Research Methods*

Course Website: <https://cumulativescience.netlify.com/>

# Last Time: Intro to R

## Interacting with R with an Rmarkdown notebook in Rstudio (Cloud)

```
---
```

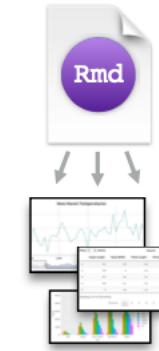
```
title: "Assignment 0: Intro to R and RStudio"
subtitle: "Modern Research Methods"
author: "Molly Lewis"
date: "`r format(Sys.time(), '%d %B %Y')`"
output:
  html_document:
    highlight: kate
    theme: cosmo
---
```

```
```{r}
365 + 112
```
```

Header (YAML)

R chunks

The mean number of boy baptisms in a given year is `r my\_mean\_boys`.



### Reproducible Research

At the click of a button, or the type of a command, you can rerun the code in an R Markdown file to reproduce your work and export the results as a finished report.

### Plain text (with inline R)

# Rmarkdown – formatting text

## Plain text

End a line with two spaces  
to start a new paragraph.

\*italics\* and \*\*bold\*\*

`verbatim code`

sub/superscript<sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub>

~~strikethrough~~

escaped: \\* \\_ \\

endash: --, emdash: ---

equation: \$A = \pi \* r^2\$

equation block:

\$\$E = mc^2\$\$

> block quote

# Header1 {#anchor}

## Header 2 {#css\_id}

### Header 3 {.css\_class}

#### Header 4

## Plain text

End a line with two spaces  
to start a new paragraph.

*italics* and **bold**

verbatim code

sub/superscript<sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub>

strikethrough

escaped: \* \\_

endash: -, emdash: —

equation:  $A = \pi * r^2$

equation block:

$$E = mc^2$$

## block quote

## Header1

## Header 2

<<http://www.rstudio.com>>

[link]([www.rstudio.com](http://www.rstudio.com))

Jump to [Header 1] (#anchor)

image:

! [Caption] (smallorb.png)

\* unordered list

+ sub-item 1

+ sub-item 2

- sub-sub-item 1

<http://www.rstudio.com>

link

Jump to [Header 1](#)

image:



Caption

\* unordered list

◦ sub-item 1

◦ sub-item 2

## : Definition 1

| Right | Left | Default | Center |
|-------|------|---------|--------|
| 12    | 12   | 12      | 12     |
| 123   | 123  | 123     | 123    |
| 1     | 1    | 1       | 1      |

- slide bullet 1

- slide bullet 2

(>- to have bullets appear on click)

horizontal rule/slide break:

\*\*\*

A footnote [^1]

Right Left Default Center

12 12 12 12

123 123 123 123

1 1 1 1

• slide bullet 1

• slide bullet 2

(>- to have bullets appear on click)

horizontal rule/slide break:

[\[Cheatsheat\]](#)

A footnote <sup>1</sup>

# Rmarkdown – setting “options” for R chunks

Useful options:

**message** – display messages in knitted document?

**warning** – display warnings?

**include** – include chunk after running?

**eval** – run code?

Can specify “global” option (all chunks) -  
**knitr::opts\_chunk\$set()**

Useful to label chunks

```
##Load Arbuthnot data**  
```{r, message = TRUE}  
arbuthnot <- read_csv("data/arbuthnot.csv")  
```
```

**Load Arbuthnot data**

```
arbuthnot <- read_csv("data/arbuthnot.csv")
```

```
##Load Arbuthnot data**  
```{r, message = FALSE}  
arbuthnot <- read_csv("data/arbuthnot.csv")  
```
```

```
knitr::opts_chunk$set(eval = TRUE, message = FALSE)
```

```
```{r calculate_sum}  
365 + 112  
```
```

# R Syntax

Variable assignment: `=` or `<-`

Data types:

- Numeric – e.g., 1, 2, 3, 6.2
- Character string – e.g., "apple"
- Logical - e.g., TRUE/FALSE

Data Structures:

- Vector
- Data frame/tibble

Functions

```
function_name <- function(var){  
  Do something  
  return(new_variable)  
}
```

R for Python programmers: <http://ramnathv.github.io/pycon2014-r/>

# Data

- **Variable** – unique measurement or quantity
  - e.g., temperature, mood, attendance, # of books owned, reaction time, color
- Types of variables:
  - **Qualitative** – describe quality (no intrinsic ordering)
  - **Quantitative** – describe quantity
    - **Binary** – 1 or 0 (or, TRUE or FALSE)
    - **Integers** – whole numbers
    - **Real numbers** – have fractional/decimal part
- **Observation**– Smallest unit you have data about (person, trial in an experiment, city, school)
- **Value** – Quantity/quality associated with a particular variable and observation

Variable – Jan. high temp. in PGH  
Observation – day  
Value – 38 degrees

Variable – age of students in MRM  
Observation – student  
Value – 19.3 years

Variable – Condition  
Observation – person  
Value – tennis class or chess class

# Discrete vs. continuous measurement

**Discrete** – measurement can only take one of a set of values

- Days of the week, dog breeds, # of children, # of Twitter followers, # of Yelp stars
- No “middle ground”

**Continuous** – measurement that is real number, and could take one of any range of values

- Most quantitative variables (reaction time, judgement on slider scale)
- Limited by precision of instrument



**Chipotle Mexican Grill**



# CONTINUOUS

measured data, can have  $\infty$  values within possible range.



I AM 3.1" TALL

I WEIGH 34.16 grams

# DISCRETE

OBSERVATIONS CAN ONLY EXIST AT LIMITED VALUES, OFTEN COUNTS.



I HAVE 8 LEGS  
and  
4 SPOTS!

@allison\_horst



Artwork by  
@allison\_horst

# What makes a good measurement?

**Reliability** – Consistency of measurement (Do you say the same thing today as yesterday?)

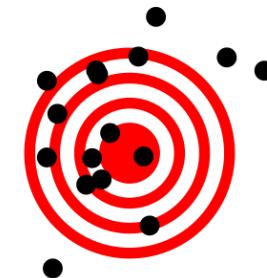
**Validity** – Are we measuring the construct we want to measure?

Suppose the thing we're trying to measure is the center of the bullseye...

A: Reliable and valid



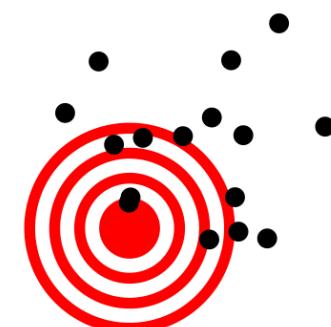
B: Unreliable but valid



C: Reliable but invalid



D: Unreliable and invalid



# Example: Measuring “Conceptual Complexity”

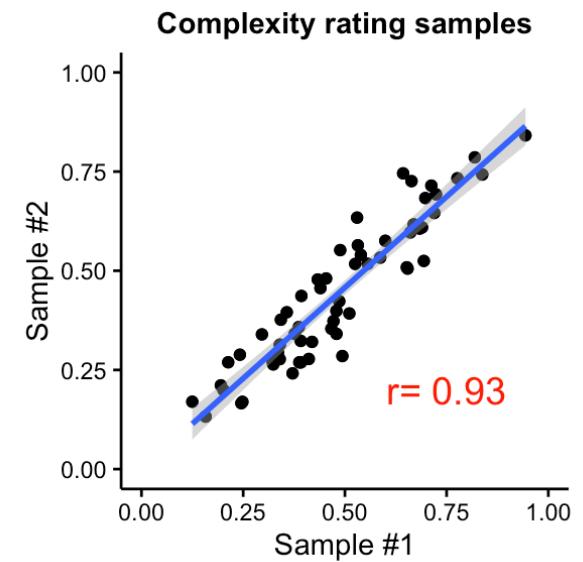
table vs. democracy



How complicated is this object?

A screenshot of a complexity rating interface. At the top, it asks "How complicated is this object?". Below is a central image of a yellow and grey object. At the bottom is a horizontal slider scale with the words "simple" on the left and "complicated" on the right. A red square marker is positioned near the center of the scale. Below the scale is a "Next" button. At the very bottom of the interface are the numbers "0" and "1".

N Sample 1 = 60 participants  
N Sample 2 = 60 participants



Evaluate the reliability and validity of this measure.

(Lewis & Frank, 2016)