Files and the Filesystem

File Paths

/Users/christina/Documents/my_project/data.csv /home/christina/my_project/data.csv C:\Users\christina\Documents\my_project\data.csv
are examples of
/my_project/data/data.csv data.csv data/data.csv
are examples of
The working directory is
Special Patterns
In file paths,
means
~ means
Working with Files
To retrieve information from a file, from it. To put information into a file, to it.
CSV (comma separated values) files are one type of plain text file. Plain text files have no such as bold text, colors, or fonts.
R and Python expect that when data is stored in CSV (or tab-delimited) files, each observation is a and each variable is a Rows and columns may or may not have names. Data is stored in a rectangle: each row has the same number of columns, and each column has the same number of rows.