

# Quick Tour of R and R Studio

Robert Olendorf

February 12, 2106

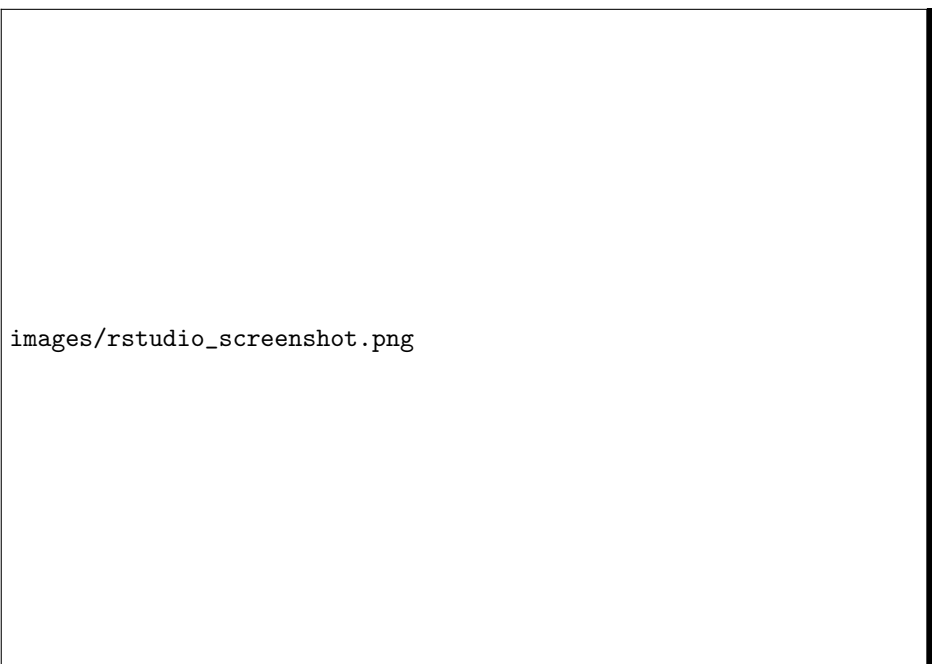


Figure 1: Screen shot from the typical default layout.

## 1 R Studio

R Studio is an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) for the R Statistical Package. You can run R fine from the command line and using text editors such as Notepad++ or Textmate, but it provides a nice comprehensive view of your current project. It's also probably easier for beginners to learn on.

When you open R Studio you should get something like the screenshot shown in figure 1. **Section A** is where your scripts and other documents are displayed. **Section B** is the *Console*, where you do your interactive programming. **Section C** contains several tabs. It will usually contain at least your *Environment*, a listing of all your objects (ie. variables, data) and a *History* tab for your *Console* input. **Section D** contains a number of tabs. Minimally it will contain a *Files* tab, a *Plots* tab, a *Packages* tab, and a *Help* tab. The *Files* tab allows you to easily navigate the directory structure of your project. The *Plots* tab displays previews of plots you generate. The *Packages* tab lets you easily manage your R packages. The *Help* tab displays the help.

Our first task is to define a default working direcotry. This is where R will start when you are not working on a project. Opening and saving files will be relative to this directory. Choose [**Preferences**] from the [**RStudio**] menu.

## 2 R Basics