

Basic concepts with R (part 4)

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Data Frames	1

1 Introduction

In this tutorial we will work with data frames. On my little experience using R for language analysis, data frames are probably the most useful data structure. It is also important to say that there is a number of operations on data frames that probably will not be covered in this tutorial, mostly because they are so many, that we will learn them along the way.

2 Data Frames

Data frames are matrices like two-dimensional rectangular structures. However, they bring an important difference: data frame columns do not need to be all of the same data kind. In other words, we can mix up, numbers, characters, logical, date in a complex table. Naturally there are restrictions, since such a freedom concerns only the kind of data represented within each column. for example, in the table that follows:

##	Names	Birthdays	Gender	Life	Status	Possible	Age
## 1	Astolfo	1907-06-22	male		FALSE		113
## 2	Eleutério	1987-07-12	male		TRUE		33
## 3	Alarico	1941-11-10	male		FALSE		79
## 4	Genésia	1940-11-15	female		TRUE		80
## 5	Gioconda	1910-07-03	female		FALSE		110
## 6	Ondina	1982-06-21	female		TRUE		38