BIOS 545 Week 1 Lecture 1

Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

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January 11, 2015

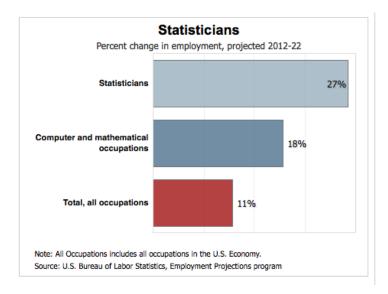
Occupational Outlook Handbook 2014

Employment of computer and information research scientists is projected to grow 18 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. Employment of statisticians is projected to grow 27 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Rapid growth in data collection by businesses may lead to an increased need for data mining services Information research scientists are likely to enjoy excellent job prospects.

Graduates with a master's degree in statistics and a strong background in a related discipline, such as finance, biology, engineering, or computer science, are projected have the best prospects of finding jobs in their field of study.

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New York Times

Data Analysts Captivated by R's Power



Left, Stuart Isett for The New York Times; right, Kieran Scott for The New York Times

R first appeared in 1996, when the statistics professors Robert Gentleman, left, and Ross Ihaka released the code as a free software package.

By ASHLEE VANCE Published: January 6, 2009

http://tinyurl.com/cxa774n

Who Uses R?

Company	How R is Used
Bank of America	Modeling and visualization
Facebook	User analysis and interaction
FDA	Used in parallel with SAS
Ford Motor Company	Decision support
Google	Calculate ROI on advertising
John Deere	Time series modeling and geospatial analysis
National Weather Service	Visualization for flood forecasting
New York Times Newspaper	Data visualization
Nordstrom	Recommendation systems
Orbitz Travel	Search result optimization
Twitter	User experience analysis
Trulia Real Estate	Housing cost predictions
OK Cupid Online Dating	Trend analysis
Lloyd's of London Insurance	Investment recommendation

 $\verb|http://www.revolutionanalytics.com/companies-using-r|$

- R is an interactive framework for data and statistical analysis that also happens to have a builtin programming language.
- Compare this to languages such as Python, Perl, and Java that have data analysis addons
- Which language to use? Use them all if necessary but if data analysis is a large part of the work then R is the "go to" language
- R can reference or call code written in C, C++, Perl, Python, Java, and FORTRAN.
- Most of the effort in using R relates to shaping data for analysis and understanding the available functions and packages.
- To be a good *programmer* in R one must first be a knowledgeable *user* of R.

Differences between R and other statistical packages

"When talking about user friendliness of computer software I like to the analogy of cars vs. busses. Using this analogy programs like SPSS are busses, easy to use for the standard things, but very frustrating if you want to do something that is not already preprogrammed."

"R is a 4-wheel drive SUV with a bike on the back, a kayak on the top, good walking and running shoes in the passenger seat, and a mountain climbing and spelunking gear in the back."

"R can take you anywhere you want to go if you take the time to learn how to use the equipment, but that is going to take longer than learning where the bus stops are in SPSS."

Greg Snow, R-help (May 2006)

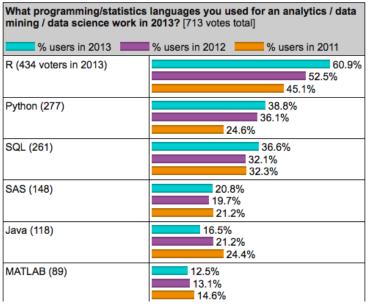
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Cool things about R

- Vast capabilities with a wide range of statistical and graphics techniques
- Written primarily by statisticians
- Free of cost
- Collaborative development with over 6,092 user contributed packages
- Excellent community support with mailing lists, blogs, and tutorials
- Excellent "google" support
- Wildly popular in Academia and increasingly so in the business world

www.slideshare.net/izahn/rintro

R vs Other Languages - kdnuggets.com



Obtaining R

- Go to http://cran.revolutionanalytics.com/
- Click on your platform which will be either Windows or Apple OSX
- You will be redirected to another page which has a download link near the top
- Click it to download and begin installation. Wait till it is finished
- Go to http://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/ to download the RStudio GUI
- Double click the installer to initiate the installation of RStudio
- Once finished start up Rstudio

Base Packages

It is important to note that R comes with a base set of packages as part of every installation.

Base Packages

> library(help="stats") Description:

Package: stats Version: 3.1.2 Priority: base

Title: The R Stats Package

Author: R Core Team and contributors worldwide R Core Team <R-core@r-project.org> Maintainer:

R statistical functions Description:

License: Part of R 3.1.2

Built: R 3.1.2; x86_64-apple-darwin13.4.0; 2014-10-31 20:19:14 UTC; unix

Index:

Beta

.checkMFClasses Functions to Check the Type of Variables passed

to Model Frames

ATC Akaike's An Information Criterion

ARMAacf Compute Theoretical ACF for an ARMA Process Convert ARMA Process to Infinite MA Process ARMAt.oMA The Beta Distribution

Binomial The Binomial Distribution Box.test Box-Pierce and Ljung-Box Tests C Sets Contrasts for a Factor

Base Packages

> search()

Many packages come with example data that is helpful when attempting to understand how various functions work. To see what data sets are available in a given package, do something like:

```
[1] ".GlobalEnv" "package:lattice" "package:stats" "package:graphics"
[5] "package:grDevices" "package:utils" "package:datasets" "package:methods"
[9] "Autoloads" "package:base"
> data(package="stats") # Find data included in package "stats"
Data sets in package "datasets":
AirPassengers
                        Monthly Airline Passenger Numbers 1949-1960
B.Isales
                        Sales Data with Leading Indicator
BJsales.lead (BJsales) Sales Data with Leading Indicator
BOD
                        Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CD2
                        Carbon Dioxide Uptake in Grass Plants
DNase
                        Elisa assay of DNase
EuStockMarkets
                        Daily Closing Prices of Major European
. .
```

- One of the most powerful aspects of R is the ability to install user-contributed addon packages available in CRAN, (Comprehensive R Archive Network).
- As of December 2014 there are over 6,000 packages available.
- To obtain information on the wide variety of packages then vist the following URL to see some of the areas covered. cran.cnr.berkeley.edu
- Also go to the "Task Views' You can also see packages grouped by domain at http://cran.r-project.org/web/views/

Here are some of the areas covered. There are many more of course

CRAN Task Views

Bayesian Inference

 ChemPhys
 Chemometrics and Computational Physics

 ClinicalTrials
 Clinical Trial Design, Monitoring, and Analysis

 Cluster
 Cluster Analysis & Finite Mixture Models

 Differential Equations
 Differential Equations

 Distributions
 Probability Distributions

 Econometrics
 Computational Econometrics

Environmetrics Analysis of Ecological and Environmental Data

ExperimentalDesign Design of Experiments (DoE) & Analysis of Experimental Data

Finance Empirical Finance
Genetics Statistical Genetics

Genetics Statistical Genetics

Graphic Displays & Dynamic Graphics & Graphic Devices & Visualization

<u>HighPerformanceComputing</u> High-Performance and Parallel Computing with R

Machine Learning & Statistical Learning

Medical Image Analysis

If you are using RStudio there are menu items that can simplify the process of identifying and installing packages. However, you can also do this from the command prompt. Let's say you want to install the "actuar" package from CRAN.

When we use the **library** command to load the contents of the **actuar** package it will show up when we execute the **search()** function. Check it out.

- > library(actuar) # Brings the package into the workspace
- > search()
- [1] ".GlobalEnv" "package:actuar" "package:lattice" "package:stats"
- [5] "package:graphics" "package:grDevices" "package:utils"
- [8] "package:datasets" "package:methods" "Autoloads" "package:base"

On occasion you will need to install a package from a specific repository such as omegahat.org or R-forge. RStudio has menu items that can help with this but you can also do it from the command line.

```
> install.packages("GeoIP", repos = "http://www.omegahat.org/R")
```

Sometimes you download packages written by colleagues and you have to install them from your local hard drive. Again, RStudio can help but you could also do something like:

\$ R CMD INSTALL GeoIP.tar.gz

Finding Documentation

There are lots of free books on the web as well as blogs and Youtube channels for learning ${\sf R}$

Resource	URL
The R Inferno	http://www.burns-stat.com/documents/books/the-r-inferno/
R Programming Wiki	http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/R_Programming
Intro to Stats Using R	http://ipsur.org
Stats with R	http://zoonek2.free.fr/UNIX/48_R/all.html
Lattice Graphics	http://lmdvr.r-forge.r-project.org
Contributed R Info	http://cran.r-project.org/other-docs.html
simpleR Intro Stats	http://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Verzani-SimpleR.pdf
DIY Intro to R	http://www.unt.edu/rss/class/Jon/R_SC/
R Bloggers	http://www.r-bloggers.com/
R Journal	http://journal.r-project.org/
R Tutorial	http://www.r-tutor.com/r-introduction
Google Style Guide	https://github.com/hadley/devtools/wiki/Style
Applied Epi Using R	http://www.medepi.net/docs/EpidemiologyUsingR.pdf
Rolling your Rs	http://rollingyours.wordpress.com

Finding Documentation

There are some good books you can buy although for this class they aren't required.

Book	Author
R Cookbook	Paul Teetor
R in a Nutshell	Joseph Adler
The Art of Programming	Norman Matloff
Data Manipulation with R	Phil Spector
ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analyses	Hadley Wickham
Intro to Scientific Programming and Simulation Using R	Jones, Maillardet, Robinson
Introductory Statistics with R	Peter Dalgaard
The R Book	Michael J. Crawley
Discovering Statistics Using R	Andy Field

Mailing Lists

- Here are some mailing lists that accept questions relative to R and BioConductor.
- Moderators and participants in these lists take questions seriously, sometimes too seriously,
- Please don't ask a question without first searching through the archives to see if your question has already been answered. Chances are it has.

Mailing Lists	URL
R-Help	http://stat.ethz.ch/mailman/listinfo/r-help
Cross Validated	http://stats.stackexchange.com
Stack Overflow	http://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged

Getting Help

R has a number of ways to get help. Rstudio has a Help menu item. Other ways include the following:

```
> help.start()
                       # Launches a web browser with search capability
> help(function_name) # Get help on "function_name"
>?function_name
                       # Equivalent to the above
> args(function_name)  # See what arguments the function accepts
> example(function_name) # See an example of the function
> example(mean)
mean> x <- c(0:10.50)
mean > xm < - mean(x)
mean> c(xm, mean(x, trim = 0.10))
[1] 8.75 5.50
```

Getting Help

R has a number of ways to get help. Rstudio has a Help menu item. Other ways include the following:

Find all functions and data having to do with time series

```
> help.search("time series")
>??"time series"
                    # Equivalent to the above
Help files with alias or concept or title matching "time series"
using fuzzy matching:
boot::tsboot
                      Bootstrapping of Time Series
datasets::austres
                      Quarterly Time Series of the Number of Australian Residents
datasets::beavers
                      Body Temperature Series of Two Beavers
ggplot2::economics
                      US economic time series.
lattice::xyplot.ts
                      Time series plotting methods
MASS::beav1
                      Body Temperature Series of Beaver 1
MASS::beav2
                      Body Temperature Series of Beaver 2
```

stats::StructTS

stats::ar.ols

stats::ar

. .

Fit Autoregressive Models to Time Series

Fit Autoregressive Models to Time Series by OLS

Fit Structural Time Series

Things to Know!

- Everything in R is an object
- The great thing about R is that there are many different ways to do something
- The bad thing about R is that there are many different ways to do something
- Everything that happens in R is a function call
- Supports procedural programming with functions and object oriented programming
- R is based on a "read-eval-print" loop
- Interpreted langauge

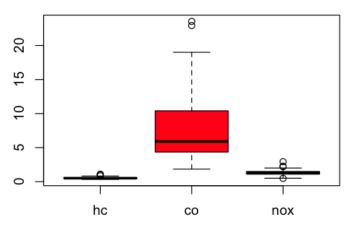
```
url <- "http://steviep42.bitbucket.org/YOUTUBE.DIR/table_7_3.csv"
engine <- read.table(url, sep = ",", header=TRUE)</pre>
engine <- engine[,-1]
head(engine) # 3 engine pollutants
   hc co nox
1 0.50 5.01 1.28
2 0.65 14.67 0.72
3 0.46 8.60 1.17
4 0.41 4.42 1.31
5 0.41 4.95 1.16
summary(engine)
      hc
                      CO
                                    nox
Min. :0.340 Min. : 1.85 Min. :0.49
1st Qu.:0.438 1st Qu.: 4.39 1st Qu.:1.11
Median: 0.510 Median: 5.91 Median: 1.31
Mean :0.550 Mean : 7.88 Mean :1.34
3rd Qu.:0.602 3rd Qu.:10.02 3rd Qu.:1.50
Max. :1.100 Max. :23.53 Max. :2.94
```

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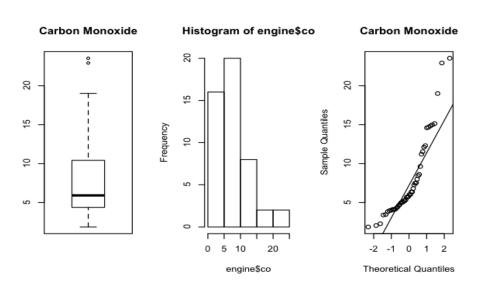
http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/hwI.html

boxplot(engine,col="red",main="Engine Pollutants")

Engine Pollutants



```
par(mfrow=c(1,3))
boxplot(engine$co,main="Carbon Monoxide")
hist(engine$co)
qqnorm(engine$co,main="Carbon Monoxide")
qqline(engine$co)
```

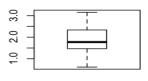


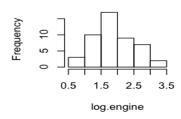
```
# The null hypothesis is that the data is normal
shapiro.test(engine$co)
   Shapiro-Wilk normality test
data: engine$co
W = 0.8357, p-value = 9.289e-06
# Take the log of the CO
log.engine <- log(engine$co)</pre>
shapiro.test(log.engine)
 Shapiro-Wilk normality test
data: log.engine
W = 0.9693, p-value = 0.2379
```

```
par(mfrow=c(2,2))
log.engine <- log(engine$co)</pre>
boxplot(log.engine,main="Carbon Monoxide")
hist(log.engine,main="Carbon Monoxide")
qqnorm(log.engine,main="QQ Plot for the Log of the
                         Carbon Monoxide")
qqline(log.engine)
```

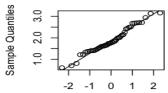
Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide





QQ Plot for the Log of the Carbon Monox



Theoretical Quantiles

```
# Let's build a confidence interval
my.mean <- mean(log.engine)</pre>
my.sd < sd(log.engine)</pre>
n <- length(log.engine)
# Get standard error
se <- my.sd/sqrt(n)
error \leftarrow se*qt(0.975,df=n-1)
left <- my.mean - error</pre>
right <- my.mean + error
c(left,right)
[1] 1.709925 2.057431
c(exp(left),exp(right))
[1] 5.528548 7.825840
```

```
# Test H0: mu = 5.4
# HA:mu != 5.4

lNull <- log(5.4) - error

rNull <- log(5.4) + error

c(lNull,rNull)
[1] 1.512646 1.860152

my.mean
[1] 1.883678</pre>
```

So the mean is outside the range thus we reject the null. There is a low probability that we would have obtained our sample mean if the true mean really was 5.4

```
We could have calculated a p-value by hand
p.val <-2*(1-pt((my.mean-log(5.4))/se,df=n-1))
p.val
[1] 0.02692539
# But its easier to call a procedure to do it all !!!!
t.test(log.engine,mu = log(5.4),alternative = "two.sided")
   One Sample t-test
data: log.engine
t = 2.2841, df = 47, p-value = 0.02693
alternative hypothesis: true mean is not equal to 1.686399
95 percent confidence interval:
  1.709925 2.057431
sample estimates:
mean of x
1.883678
```

First R Session

```
?mean
                   # Get help on the mean function
example(kmeans) # Run an example of kmeans (if it exists)
рi
                   # Some popular quantities are built-?aAKin to R
Γ17 3.141593
sqrt(2) # Basic arithmetic
[1] 1.414214
print(pi) # Print the comments of the pi variable
[1] 3.141593
X \leftarrow 3; Y \leftarrow 4 # Semicolon lets you enter 2 commands on the same line
Z <- sqrt(X^2 + Y^2) # Variables contain information
# List all variables in the "environment"
ls()
[1] "X" "Y" "Z"
```

log(10) [1] 2.302585	ceiling(6.8) [1] 7	2+3 [1] 5
log10(100) [1] 2	round(6.889,2) [1] 6.89	3/2 [1] 1.5
sin(pi/2) [1] 1	3/0 [1] Inf	2 ³ [1] 8
cos(pi/2) [1] 6.123234e-17	0/0 [1] NaN	(56-14)/6 - 4*7*10/(5^2-5) [1] -7
1.3e6 [1] 1300000	is.finite(3) [1] TRUE	abs(2-4) [1] 2
9 %% 2 [1] 1	x <- c(1:8,NA) [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 NA	
floor(5.7) [1] 5	mean(x) NA	

Common Operators

RELATIONAL OPERATORS

Equal to

```
if (mnynum == 3)
                                                          {print("EQ")}
                                    if (myvar != "test") {print("NE")}
Not equal to
                       !=
Less than or equal to
                       <=
                                    if (number <= 5)
                                                          {print("LTE")}
Less than
                                    if (number < 10)
                                                          {print("LT")}
                       <
Greater than or equal to
                                    if (number >= 10)
                                                          {print("GTE")}
                                    if (number > 12)
                                                          {print("GT")}
Greater than
# BOOLEAN OPERATORS
                              if ((myvar == "test") & (num <= 10) ) {
And
                       &
                                     print("Equal and less than")
                              }
                              if (!complete.cases(myvec)) {
Not.
                                     print("Non complete cases")
                              }
                              if ((num > 3) | (num < -3)) {
Or
                                     print("Only one of these has to be true")
                              }
```

if (myvar == "test") {print("EQ")}

More Examples

Here are some popular math formulas rewritten in R. Note that the variables must first exist in order for the formula to do an actual computation.

```
# a^2 + b^2 = c^2
                                   # Pythagorean Theorem
a <- 2: b <- 4
c \leftarrow sqrt(a^2 + b^2)
                                  # To solve the PT for c
a <- 2: b <- 4: c <- 1
(-b + sqrt(b^2-4*a*c)) / (2*a)
                                  # First case quadratic formula solution
(-b - sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a)
                                  # Second case quadratic formula solution
r <- 4: h <- 6: b <- 3
circumference <- 2*pi*r
                                     # circumference of a circle
area <- (b*h)/2 # Area of a triangle
```

More Examples

You can create expressions that can be evaluated later. The variables they reference don't have to exist. They are placeholders.

```
area <- expression( (b*h)/2 )
# Solve where b =3 and h = 4
b <- 3
h <- 4
eval(area)
[1] 6</pre>
```

Expressions

```
r1 \leftarrow expression((-b + sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a))
 r2 \leftarrow expression((-b - sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a))
 # Solve for ax^2 + bx + c where a = 1, b=6, and c=8
 a = 1 ; b=6 ; c=8
 eval(r1)
\lceil 1 \rceil - 2
 eval(r2)
\lceil 1 \rceil -4
 a*eval(r1)^2 + b*eval(r1) + c
[1] 0
 a*eval(r2)^2 + b*eval(r2) + c
```

[1] 0

Expressions

We can create functions which are "grown up" expressions.

my.quad <- function(a,b,c) {

```
r1 <- (-b + sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a)
r2 <- (-b - sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a)
my.roots = c(r1,r2)
return(my.roots)
}
# Solve for ax^2 + bx + c where a = 1, b=6, and c=8
my.quad(1,6,8)
[1] -2 -4</pre>
```

Startup

- You can use the Preferences menu item in RStudio to specify your default home directory
- When R starts it looks for a file called .Rprofile within your home directory
- You can influence the R environment by setting a number of "startup" variables therein
- Use your favorite editor to create/edit this file in your default folder
- You can change many of these variables or options during an R session but if you want them to be permanent then you will need to edit the .Rpfofile file

Startup . Rprofile

```
# Things you might want to change
options(editor="notepad")
cd = setwd
pwd = getwd
lss = dir
# R interactive prompt
setwd("/Users/fender/steve.test") # Set's my default directory for me.
options(prompt="> ")
options(continue="+ ")
# General options
options(digits=3)
options(width = 130)
options(graphics.record=TRUE)
.First <- function(){
                                   # You can load functions
library(Hmisc)
cat("\nWelcome at", date(), "\n")
}
.Last <- function(){</pre>
cat("\nGoodbye at ", date(), "\n")
}
```

Workspace - Being Organized

Being organized helps! Knowing how to find stuff quickly is essential. Create a master folder that will contain your work in this class.

You can create subfolders according to your projects. Note that some people do this on a DropBox folder to insure that all work is backed up.

```
$ 1s RProjects
RProjects
Data_Files
Genomes
1000_Genomes
Centenarians
HIV
Replicates
Hepatitis
Hep_A
Hep_B
```

Workspace - Navigating Directories

There are a number of functions that allow you to "move" around in your folder structure. These are important to know because sometimes you will need to write code that needs to refer to specific folders and files during execution.

```
getwd()
[1] "/Users/fender/TEST.DIR"

setwd("/Users/fender")
getwd()
[1] "/Users/fender"

setwd("/Users/fender/TEST.DIR")
getwd()
[1] "/Users/fender/TEST.DIR"

dir()
[1] "coolpkg" "coolpkg_1.0.tar.gz" "coolpkg.pdf" "coolpkg.Rcheck"
"g.Rd" "stuff.R"
```

Workspace - Listing Files

R also has some functions that list files in a folder. You can do this visually within R Studio although sometimes you will need to use these commands to open and read in files as part of a program.

```
myfiles <- list.files()</pre>
str(myfiles)
 chr [1:29] "001.csv" "002.csv" "003.csv" "004.csv" "005.csv" "006.csv" ...
myfiles[1:5]
[1] "001.csv" "002.csv" "003.csv" "004.csv" "005.csv"
# You could write a for-loop to process each and every file
for (ii in 1:length(myfiles)) {
    file <- myfiles[ii]
    # Do something
}
```

Workspace - Is()

R creates an environment for each session you initiate. This is very useful because it accumulates all your variables and objects while you experiment with data.

Over time your environment will accumulate lots of variables. In general this is good because you don't lose anything. The **Is()** function can show you what objects you currently have in your environment.

```
ls()
     "access_log"
                                            "cntr"
 [3]
     "ii"
                                            "init"
 [5]
     "mpg"
                                            "mt.cars"
     "mymean"
                                            "myrle"
     "mvstr"
                                            "nhanes1"
[11] "retvec"
                                            "retvectr"
[13] "SacramentocrimeJanuary2006"
                                            "Sacramentorealestatetransactions"
[15] "Sales, Jan 2009"
```

Workspace - rm()

You can remove one or more objects using the **rm()** function

```
ls()
 [1] "access_log"
                                        "cntr"
 [3] "ii"
                                        "init."
 [5] "mpg"
                                        "mt.cars"
 [7] "mymean"
                                        "myrle"
                                        "nhanes1"
 [9] "mystr"
[11] "retvec"
                                        "retvectr"
                                        "Sacramentorealestatetransactions"
[13] "SacramentocrimeJanuary2006"
[15] "Sales, Jan 2009"
rm(access_log) # Removes the object named "access_log"
access_log # Now R can't find it
Error: object 'access_log' not found
rm(mystr,retvec,init) # Remove more than one object at once
```

Workspace - .Rdata

When you quit R you will be asked if you wish to save your current environment to disk. If you type "y" then all objects, (and their values), will be written to a file called **.Rdata**

This is useful because when you restart R in the same folder it will read .**Rdata** which contains all previously saved information.

```
> q()
Save workspace image? [y/n/c]: y
Goodbye at Mon Oct 1 14:26:47 2012

fenders-macbook:TEST.DIR fender$ ls .Rdata
.Rdata
```

The .Rdata file is a "binary" file, (its contents are unintelligible to the eye), that contains all the R objects and values in between sessions. This file could be shared with others if you wanted.

Workspace - save()

You can also save one or more objects to a file using the **save()** function. The inverse of the **save()** function is the **load()** function.

```
my.lm <- lm(mpg ~ wt,mtcars)

ls(my.lm)
[1] "assign" "call" "coefficients" "df.residual" "effects" "fitted.values"
[7] "model" "qr" "rank" "residuals" "terms" "xlevels"

save(my.lm,file="/Users/myhome/mylmresults")

# You can come back later and load this file

mylmstuff <- load("/Users/myhome/mylmresults")</pre>
```

Variables

As in most programming languages, it is customary to store or hold the results of an operation in a variable name.

In R such results are assigned with the symbols "<-" or "=". Variable names are case sensitive.

```
A <- 2.5  # The "<-" is the preferred method of assignment

A = 2.5  # This is equivalent to the above although using the "=" is # discouraged except in setting function arguments.
```

```
A
[1] 2.5

mynewvar <- A + 3

MYNEWVAR <- A + 3  # Two different variables
```

Variables

- R has several one-letter reserved words: c, q, s, t, C, D, F, I, T
- Variables cannot begin with the period characters "."
- Variable names are case sensitive, so "myvar" is different from "Myvar"
- Variable names cannot begin with numbers or symbols $(\%,\$,_)$
- Variable names cannot contain spaves in the name ("my var")

Variables

GOOD mean.height smoker non.smoker temp.var patient_id Eye.Color State_Population disease.state White_Cell_Count jobTitle

BAD .mean.height _myvariable _Mean.height 1variable 1_variable %some.var some.var "some var" \$myvar

Reading and Writing Files

R has a number of builtin example data frames. One common way to import data is via ".csv" files. Before we consider reading a .csv file let's first create one.

```
head(mtcars)
               mpg cyl disp hp drat wt qsec vs am gear carb
               21.0 6 160 110 3.90 2.620 16.46 0 1 4 4
Mazda RX4
Mazda RX4 Wag 21.0 6 160 110 3.90 2.875 17.02 0 1 4 4
Datsun 710 22.8 4 108 93 3.85 2.320 18.61 1 1 4 1
Hornet 4 Drive 21.4 6 258 110 3.08 3.215 19.44 1 0 3 1
write.table(mtcars,file="mtcars.csv",
           row.names=TRUE,
                                         # Row names get saved
           col.names=TRUE,
                                         # Header gets saved
           sep=",")
                                         # Field seperator is ,
$ head mtcars.csv
"mpg","cyl","disp","hp","drat","wt","qsec","vs","am","gear","carb"
"Mazda RX4",21,6,160,110,3.9,2.62,16.46,0,1,4,4
"Mazda RX4 Wag",21,6,160,110,3.9,2.875,17.02,0,1,4,4
```

Reading and Writing Files

The first line of mtcars.csv describes the column names. Each subsequent row represents an observation with each field being separated by a ",". Let's read it in:

```
mycars <- read.table("mtcars.csv",header=TRUE,sep=",")</pre>
```

head(mycars)

```
mpg cyl disp hp drat wt qsec vs am gear carb
Mazda RX4
                21.0
                          160 110 3.90 2.620 16.46 0
Mazda RX4 Wag
                21.0
                          160 110 3.90 2.875 17.02 0 1
                              93 3.85 2.320 18.61 1 1
Datsun 710
                22.8
                21.4
                         258 110 3.08 3.215 19.44 1 0
Hornet 4 Drive
Hornet Sportabout 18.7
                         360 175 3.15 3.440 17.02 0 0
                18.1
Valiant
                         225 105 2.76 3.460 20.22 1
```

Reading Tabular Data from the Internet

You already know that you can read CSV files directly a URL. But you can also read data directly from a table from a website.

Take a look at this example. Let's say we want to get the data in the first table from here:http://msenux.redwoods.edu/math/R/regression.php

Scatterplots

The data set in the table that follows is taken from measured the heights of 161 children in Kalama, a villi recorded each month, with the study lasting several y follows.

Mean Height versus Age	
Age in Months	Average Height in Centimeters
18	76.1
19	77
20	78.1
21	78.2
22	78.8
23	79.7

Reading Tabular Data from the Internet

```
library(XML)
url <- "http://msenux.redwoods.edu/math/R/regression.php"</pre>
my.table <- readHTMLTable(url, which=1, skip=1)</pre>
head(my.table,5)
  Age in Months Average Height in Centimeters
              18
                                              76.1
2
                                                77
              19
3
              20
                                              78.1
                                              78.2
              21
5
              22
                                              78.8
names(my.table) <- c("Age", "Height")</pre>
head(my.table,5)
  Age Height
   18
        76.1
   19
           77
   20
      78.1
6
   21
        78.2
```

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Reading Excel Files

library(RODBC)

It is possible to read an Excel spreadsheet although the best thing to do is to first save the spreadsheet into a .csv file and then import it into R using **read.table()** function. However, you can read the spreadsheet directly from a file using the add on **RODBC** package.

```
channel <- odbcConnectExcel("examp.xls")</pre>
## list the spreadsheets
sqlTables(channel)
  TABLE_CAT TABLE_SCHEM TABLE_NAME TABLE_TYPE REMARKS
1 C:\\bdr NA Sheet1$ SYSTEM TABLE NA
2 C:\\bdr NA Sheet2$ SYSTEM TABLE NA
3 C:\\bdr NA Sheet3$ SYSTEM TABLE NA
4 C:\\bdr NA Sheet1$Print_Area TABLE NA
## retrieve the contents of sheet 1, by either of
sh1 <- sqlFetch(channel, "Sheet1")</pre>
sh1 <- sqlQuery(channel, "select * from [Sheet1$]")</pre>
```

Reading Files from Other Packages

It is possible to read data sets from other statistical packages although I think the best way is to first export data to CSV files and then into R. But here are the available functions.

Function(s)	Purpose
read.epinfo	Read saved objects from EpiInfo
read.xport	Read saved objects in SAS export format
read.spss	Read saved objects from SPSS written using the save or export command
read.systat	Read saved objects from SYSTAT rectangular (mtype=1) data only
read.dta	Read saved objects from STATA (versions 5-9)
read.mtp	Read Minitab Portable Worksheet Files
read.octave	Read saved objects from GNU octave
read.dbf	Read or write saved objects from DBF files (FoxPro, dBase,etc)

Reading Files from Other Packages

R can process XML files which is a format that underlies many websites that distribute interesting data. As an example we can use R and XML to "geocode" cities.

Google Maps API Web Services [191]

Introduction	The Google Geocoding API
Directions API	What is Geocoding?
Distance Matrix API	Audience
Elevation API	Usage Limits
	Geocoding Requests
Geocoding API	Geocoding Responses
Time Zone API	JSON Output Formats
	XML Output Formats
Blog	Status Codes
	Results
Forum	Address Component Types
FAQ	Reverse Geocoding
	Viewport Biasing
	Region Biasing
	Component Filtering

Reading XML

```
- <GeocodeResponse>
   <status>OK</status>
  - <result>
     <type>locality</type>
     <type>political</type>
      <formatted_address>Atlanta, GA, USA</formatted_address>
    - <address_component>
        <long name>Atlanta</long name>
        <short name>Atlanta</short name>
        <type>locality</type>
        <type>political</type>
      </address component>
    - <address_component>
        <long_name>Fulton</long_name>
        <short_name>Fulton</short_name>
        <type>administrative_area_level_2</type>
        <type>political</type>
      </address_component>
```

Reading XML

As an example we'll get the latitude and longitude corresponding to the city of Atlanta, Georgia

```
library(RCurl)
library(XML)
my.url <- "http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/xml?
address <- Atlanta.GA&sensor=false"
txt <- getURL(my.url)
hold <- xmlTreeParse(txt,useInternalNodes=TRUE)
hold
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<GeocodeResponse>
<status>OK</status>
<result>
<type>locality</type>
place <- getNodeSet(hold,"//GeocodeResponse/result[1]/geometry/location[1]/*")</pre>
as.numeric(sapply(place,xmlValue))
[1] 33.74900 -84.38798
```