#### Introduction to R

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#### Why R? Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2011

"Employment in professional, scientific, and technical services is projected to grow by 34 percent, adding about 2.7 million new jobs by 2018. In particular Computer and mathematical science occupations are projected to add almost 785,700 new jobs from 2008 to 2018.

"As a group, these occupations are expected to grow more than twice as fast as the average for all occupations in the economy. Demand for workers in computer and mathematical occupations will be driven by the continuing need for businesses, government agencies, and other organizations to adopt and utilize the latest technologies".

GeneTech / Biostatistician, "Experience with statistical software packages such as R, S-Plus, SAS, and JMP. <a href="http://jobs.gene.com/job/00376705/">http://jobs.gene.com/job/00376705/</a>"

ICF-CDC / Biostatistician "Specialized training in S-Plus, (R's commercial antecedent), SAS, SPSS, BMDP, and/or other statistical analysis software"

XDx Molecular Diagnostics / Biostatistician Consultant - "Expert in R, or other statistical software packages"

IveyExec / Principal Statistician, "Knowledge of statistical software packages: SAS Splus/R, Matlab, C++, Visual Basic"

Tempero Pharmaceuticals / Genomics Data Analyst, Statistical programming using MATLAB and/or R "

Lockheed Martin / Bioinformatics Programmer - "Software application development includes using SAS or S-Plus/R and a working knowledge of relational database design"

#### Data Analysts Captivated by R's Power The New Hork Times



Stuart Isett 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.

#### The New Hork Times

### **Business Computing**

- "Companies as diverse as Google, Pfizer, Merck, Bank of America, and the InterContinental Hotels Group and Shell use R."
- R is really important to the point that it's hard to overvalue it," said Daryl Pregibon, a research scientist at Google, which uses the software widely. "It allows statisticians to do very intricate and complicated analyses without knowing the blood and guts of computing systems."
- R has really become the second language for people coming out of grad school now, and there's an amazing amount of code being written for it," said Max Kuhn, associate director of nonclinical statistics at Pfizer.
- Close to 1,600 different packages reside on just one of the many Web sites devoted to R, and the number of packages has grown exponentially.

- Facebooks Data Team used R to answer two questions about new users: (i) which data points predict whether a user will stay? and (ii) if they stay, which data points predict how active theyll be after three months?
- Facebook used recursive partitioning to infer that two data points are significantly predictive of whether a user remains on Facebook: (i) having more than one session as a new user, and (ii) entering basic profile information.
- For the second question, they fit data to a logistic model using a least angle regression approach to find that activity was predicted by (i) how often a user was reached out to by others, (ii) frequency of third party application use, and (iii) how forthcoming a user was on the site. http://www.dataspora.com/2009/02/predictive-analytics-using-r/

- Google determines the effectiveness of display ads for its customers.
  Using observational data from more than 10 million web users, Google
  compares the search behavior of people who were exposed to the
  display ad (i.e. those that never visited a web page displaying the ad)
  to similar users who did see the ad, to figure out how many additional
  people visit the advertiser's web site as a result of seeing the display
  ad.
- Conditional regression models are used to evaluate the factors that lead to user satisfaction of Google products, such as when users are surveyed on satisfaction with search reports, or when users are asked to rate YouTube videos.

http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2011/08/google-r-effective-ads.html

- R is an interactive framework for data and statistical analysis that also happens to have a programming language.
- Compare this to languages such as Perl, Python, and Java that have data analysis addons
- ➤ Which language to use ? Exploit the strengths of all of them but if data analysis is a big part of the work then consider using R as part of the "pipeline".
- ➤ R can be well integrated with Excel, existing C,C++, Perl, Python, XML, and FORTRAN programs. See <a href="https://www.omegahat.com">www.omegahat.com</a>
- Most of the effort in using R relates to shaping the data for analysis and understanding the available functions and packages - deep programming skills are **not** required but are definitely rewarded.

When talking about user friendliness of computer software I like 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 (though environmentally friendly) with a bike on the back, a kayak on top, good walking and running shoes in the passenger seat, and mountain climbing and spelunking gear in the back. R can take you anywhere you want to go if you take 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)

See Introduction to the R Statistical Computing Environment http://www.slideshare.net/izahn/rintro

- Vast capabilities, wide range of statistical and graphical techniques
- Written primarily by statisticians
- FREE as in free beer: no cost
- FREE as in free speech: collaborative development
- Excellent community support: mailing list, blogs, tutorials
- Easy to extend by writing new functions

Taken from Introduction to the R Statistical Computing Environment http://www.slideshare.net/izahn/rintro

- The R console
  - Displays command history and results
  - · Commands can be typed directly in the console
  - R Console work disappears once session is closed
- A text editor
  - · A plain text editor for writing R code
  - Good ones will have syntax highlighting, parentheses matching etc.
  - Anything that modifies your data should be done in a text editor
- Graphics windows
  - · View, re-size, and save graphics
  - · A good GUI will allow you to cycle through graph history
- Work-space viewer
  - · Some GUIs have work-space browsers that allow you to see stored objects
  - Very helpful if you are absentminded like me and frequently forget what names you gave your data!

Taken from Introduction to the R Statistical Computing Environment http://www.slideshare.net/izahn/rintro

# Installing

#### For Windows:

- Go to <a href="http://www.r-project.org">http://www.r-project.org</a>
- Click on "CRAN" in the left navigation bar. See the list of mirror sites setup by country
- Pick a site in the US such as <a href="http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/">http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/</a>
- Click on "Download R for Windows"
- Then click on the "base" link
- Now click on the link at the top of page (e.g. Download R 2.13.1 for Windows )
- After the download completes then double-click the .exe file to initiate the installation. Answer the questions as they are presented.
- To start R, click on Start -> All Programs -> R
- 9) OPTIONAL: Consider installing R Studio. While its not a requirement it is a great GUI for R. See http://rstudio.org/download/desktop

# Installing

#### For Apple OSX:

- Go to <a href="http://www.r-project.org">http://www.r-project.org</a>
- Click on "CRAN" in the left navigation bar. See the list of mirror sites setup by country
- Pick a site in the US such as <a href="http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/">http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/</a>
- 4) Click on "Download R for Mac OSX". This will start the downlaod
- After the download completes then double-click the .pkg file to initiate the installation. Answer the questions as they are presented.
- 6) To start R, Click on the icon in the Applications dock. You can also launch a Terminal window and type "R" within it.
- 7) OPTIONAL: Consider installing R Studio. While its not a requirement it is a great GUI for R. See http://rstudio.org/download/desktop

## Installing - Packages

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

While this might not look like a lot, each package has lots of useful stuff contained therein. If you wanted to drill down into one of these, here is one way to do it:

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```
> library(help="stats")
```

# Installing - Packages

> library(help="stats")

Information on package 'stats'

#### Description:

Package: stats Version: 2.15.1 Priority: base

Title: The R Stats Package

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

Description: R statistical functions

License: Part of R 2.15.1

Built: R 2.15.1; universal-apple-darwin9.8.0; 2012-06-22 19:10:14 UTC; unix

Index:

.checkMFClasses Functions to Check the Type of Variables passed

to Model Frames

AIC Akaike's An Information Criterion

ARMAacf Compute Theoretical ACF for an ARMA Process
ARMAtoMA Convert ARMA Process to Infinite MA Process

Beta The Beta Distribution
Binomial The Binomial Distribution

Box.test Box-Pierce and Ljung-Box Tests

## Installing - Packages

Many packages also come with test and example data sets that can be very useful when attempting to perfect your knowledge of the various functions. To see what test data sets are available in a give package, do something like:

```
> search()
 [1] ".GlobalEnv" "package:lattice" "package:stats"
"package:graphics" "package:grDevices" "package:utils"
 [7] "package:datasets" "package:methods" "Autoloads"
"package:base"
> data(package="stats")
Data sets in package 'datasets':
AirPassengers
                                       Monthly Airline Passenger Numbers
1949-1960
BJsales
                                       Sales Data with Leading Indicator
BJsales.lead (BJsales)
                                       Sales Data with Leading Indicator
BOD
                                       Biochemical Oxygen Demand
                                       Carbon Dioxide Uptake in Grass Plants
C02
                                       Elisa assay of DNase
DNase
                                       Daily Closing Prices of Major European
EuStockMarkets
Stock Indice
```

While the base R package has many cool functions, you will invariably want to install many of the add-on packages available from CRAN.

To obtain information on the wide variety of packages available for then visit <a href="http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu">http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu</a> Here are some of the available package categories. Use the "search" function to drill down:

Bayesian Inference

ChemPhys Chemometrics and Computational Physics

Clinical Trial Design, Monitoring, and Analysis

Cluster Analysis & Finite Mixture Models

<u>Distributions</u> 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

Graphics Graphic Displays & Dynamic Graphics & Graphic Devices & Visualization

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gRaphical Models in R

HighPerformanceComputing High-Performance and Parallel Computing with R

If you are using an installation of R on Windows you can use a GUI to help you identify and install packages. However, if you are using a straight terminal interface such as when on Linux or OSX Terminal then you will need to something like the following.

Let's say that we have decided that we need the capabilities offered by the "actuar" function on CRAN. This package relates to Actuarial functions. To install it, start R.

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If you are using an installation of R on Windows you can use a GUI to help you identify and install packages. However, if you are using a straight terminal interface such as when on Linux or OSX Terminal then you will need to something like the following.

On occasion, (not often), you will need to install a package from a specific repository. For example, the OmegaHat project at <a href="www.omeghat.org">www.omeghat.org</a> has many interesting add-on packages that aren't necessarily linked into CRAN. To install one of these packages you would do something like:

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

On Linux and OSX it is possible, (though unlikely), that you will have to install a package using the "tar/gzipped" version of the file. This might happen if a colleague has written a package that hasn't been registered on CRAN. To do the install you do something like:

```
$ R CMD INSTALL GeoIP.tar.qz
```

It is also possible that the above \*might\* trigger a permissions error in which case you will have to use the "sudo" command or get the administrator of your system to help.

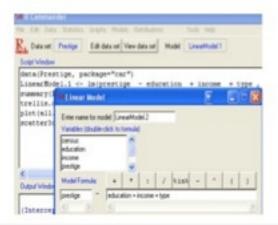
```
$ sudo R CMD INSTALL GeoIP.tar.qz
```

R is provided with a command line interface (CLI), which is the preferred user interface for power users because it allows direct control on calculations and is flexible. However, good knowledge of the language is required.

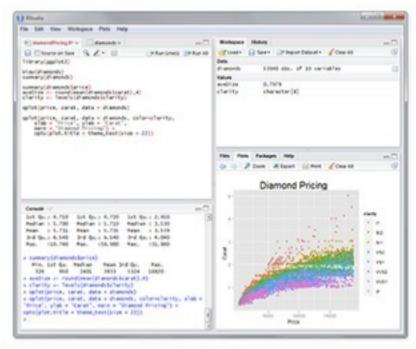
Because of this, the CLI can be intimidating for beginners. Thankfully, there are a number of R GUIs out there to make your life easier: R Commander, R-Studio, JGR, SciViews-R, R.app (OSX), Tinn-R (Windows only), ECLIPSE with STATET, EMACS

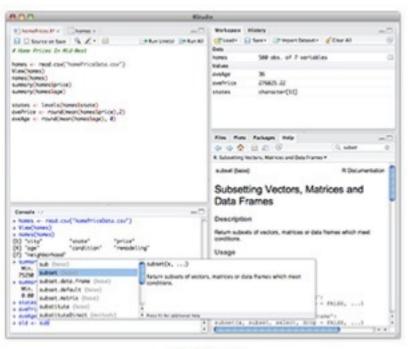
Note that on Windows you get default GUI that provides you with a reasonable amount of menu-drive capability. However, you could also use another GUI if you

so desired.



#### I like to use R-Studio. See <a href="http://rstudio.org">http://rstudio.org</a>





Windows Mac OS X

#### I like to use R-Studio. See <a href="http://rstudio.org">http://rstudio.org</a>

#### Powerful productivity tools

- Syntax highlighting, code completion, and smart indentation
- Execute R code directly from the source editor
- Easily manage multiple working directories using projects
- Quickly navigate code using typeahead search and go to definition

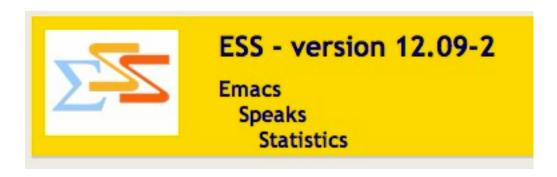
#### An IDE built for R

- Workspace browser and data viewer
- Plot history, zooming, and flexible image and PDF export
- Integrated R help and documentation
- Sweave authoring including one-click PDF preview
- Searchable command history

#### Open and compatible

- Works with any version of R (2.11.1 or greater)
- Runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, and even over the web using RStudio Server
- Integrated with Git and Subversion for version control
- Free and open source (AGPLv3 license)

If you know EMACS then you will probably want to use ESS. See http://ess.r-project.org/index.php?Section=home



Emacs Speaks Statistics (ESS) provides an intelligent, consistent interface between the user and the software. ESS interfaces with SAS, S-PLUS, R, BUGS/JAGS and other statistical analysis packages on Unix, Linux and Microsoft Windows. ESS is itself a package within the emacs text editor and uses emacs features to streamline the creation and use of statistical software. ESS knows the syntax and grammar of statistical analysis packages and provides consistent display and editing features based on that knowledge. ESS assists in interactive and batch execution of statements written in these statistical analysis languages.

Stack Overflow: http://stackoverflow.com

Comprehensive R Archive Network: <a href="http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/">http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/</a>

Manuals: http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/manuals.html

Good Intro Manual: http://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Paradis-rdebuts\_en.pdf

FAQs: http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/faqs.html

The R Journal: <a href="http://journal.r-project.org/">http://journal.r-project.org/</a>

Contributed Documentation: http://cran.cnr.berkeley.edu/other-docs.html

BioConductor: <a href="http://www.bioconductor.org">http://www.bioconductor.org</a> (400+ addons for life scientists)

R Graphical User Interface (GUI): <a href="http://sciviews.org/\_rgui">http://sciviews.org/\_rgui</a>

R Programming Jobs: <a href="http://www.programmingr.com/category/stype/r-job-listings">http://www.programmingr.com/category/stype/r-job-listings</a>

Spreadsheet Addiction: http://www.burnsstat.com/pages/Tutor/

spreadsheet\_addiction.html

#### Learning Resources and Books

[edit]

There are many books on R as well as learning statistics with R. I have listed some free resources and some books that I have found to be useful. I would first start with the free resources since they are quite good and won't cost you anything to get started. If you are enrolled in a class then it is likely that your instructor will have some ideas, suggestions, and requirements for supporting R textbooks and learning resources.

#### Free resources (PDFs, websites, tutorials):

[edit]

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- The R Inferno Patrick Burns. Download the PDF http://www.burns-stat.com/pages/Tutor/R\_inferno.pdf
- The R Programmer Wiki Book. See Wiki at http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/R\_Programming/
- Introduction to Probability and Statistics Using R Jay Kerns. Download from http://ipsur.org/index.html
- Statistics with R Vincent Zoonekynd. Website is at http://zoonek2.free.fr/UNIX/48\_R/all.html
- Lattice Multivariate Data Visualization with R Deepayan Sarkar http://lmdvr.r-forge.r-project.org/figures/figures.html @
- Contributed R Information (A collection of free guides/handouts) http://cran.r-project.org/other-docs.html
- Rtips Paul Johnson. http://pj.freefaculty.org/R/Rtips.html#toc-Subsection-2.1
- simpleR Using R for Introductory Statistics John Verzani http://www.unt.edu/rss/class/splus/Verzani-SimpleR.pdf
- Do it yourself introduction to R University of North Texas http://www.unt.edu/rss/class/Jon/R\_SC/
- R Bloggers A news aggregate site for R http://www.r-bloggers.com/
- R Journal An open access, refereed journal of the R project for statistical computing. It features short to medium length articles covering topics that might be of interest to users or developers of R, http://journal.r-project.org/index.html

Books: [edit]

Note that some of these books have freely available sample chapters on the Internet. If you check out these books on Amazon there is usually a "Look Inside" link so you can determine if the author's style appeals to your or not. Books can be quite expensive so be choosy when making your selection.

- R Cookbook Paul Teetor
- R in a Nutshell Jospeh Adler
- The Art of R Programming: A Tour of Statistical Software Design Norman Matloff
- Data Manipulation with R Phil Spector
- ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analyses
- Introduction to Scientific Programming and Simulation Using R Jones, Maillardet, Robinson
- BioConductor Case Studies Hahne, Huber, Gentleman, Falcon
- Introductory Statistics with R Peter Dalgaard
- Software for Data Analysis: Programming with R John Chambers

Mailing Lists [edit]

Here are some mailing lists that accept questions relative to R and BioConductor. Note that you should review the posting guidelines for each list before posting your question. You should also research the list to first see if your question has been answered. For newcomers to R this is almost always the case (that your question has already been answered previously). When posting - state your question/problem in specific terms along with a self-contained code example. Vague and open-ended questions are quite likely to remain unanswered.

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

The Mailing Lists page contains general information and instructions for using the R-help mailing list. The general procedure is:

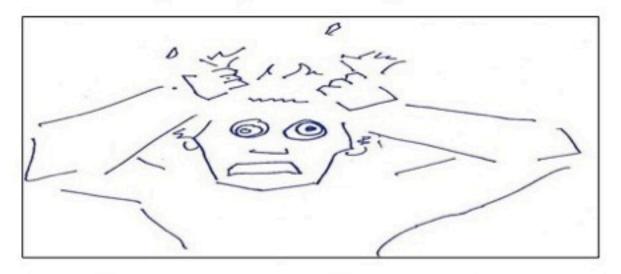
- Subscribe to the R-help list at the Main R Mailing List ( https://stat.ethz.ch/mailman/listinfo/r-help
- Read the Posting Guide (<a href="http://www.r-project.org/posting-guide.html">http://www.r-project.org/posting-guide.html</a>)
   for information on writing an appropriate submission.
- Before posting consider that many basic questions have been previously asked so first spend some time searching the list and its archives before posting.

#### About R-help

The main R mailing list, for announcements about the development of R and the availability of answers about problems and solutions using R, enhancements and patches to the source code comparison and compatibility with S and S-plus, and for the posting of nice examples and beautions on the R Mailing Lists page and follow the posting guide!

#### Style Guides for R Programming

Ever try reading code written by someone else?



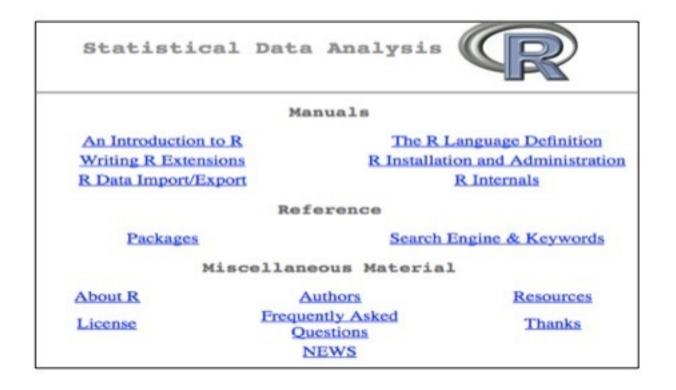
Take some "style" hints from the big guys: See "Google's R Style Guide" and Hadley's Style Guide at:

http://google-styleguide.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/google-r-style.html

https://github.com/hadley/devtools/wiki/Style

R has built-in assistance that can be very useful. Let's take a look

> help.start() # Launches a web browser with a table of contents.



R has built-in assistance that can be very useful. Let's take a look

```
help(function name) # Get help on function
?function name # Equivalent to the above
args(function name) # See what arguments the function accepts
example(function name) # See an example
?mean
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
mean> mean(USArrests, trim = 0.2)
 Murder Assault UrbanPop
    7.42
          167.60
                     66.20
```

R has built-in assistance that can be very useful. Let's take a look

```
help.search("time series")
```

??"time series"

Help files with alias or concept or title matching 'time series' using fuzzy matching:

boot::tsboot Bootstrapping of Time Series

car::Hartnagel Canadian Crime-Rates 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

R has built-in assistance that can be very useful. Let's take a look

> RSiteSearch("correlation")

A search query has been submitted to <a href="http://search.r-project.org">http://search.r-project.org</a>
The results page should open in your browser shortly



## R vs. SAS vs. MATLAB - Clash of the Titans



Let the debate begin.... But there are no easy answers here. There are lots of good things about all three.

- \* Characteristics of R R Journal, vol. 1/1 (journal.r-project)
- 1) Interactive language for data analysis and programming
- 2) Uses the functional programming model
- 3) Object-oriented
- 4) Modular Accommodates add-on packages
- 5) Collaborative, Open source projects
- \* Everything that is in R is an object
- \* Everything that happens in R is a function call.

## R

\* The R main program is a classical read-eval-print loop
This basically means that you get a command prompt at which to enter things:

>

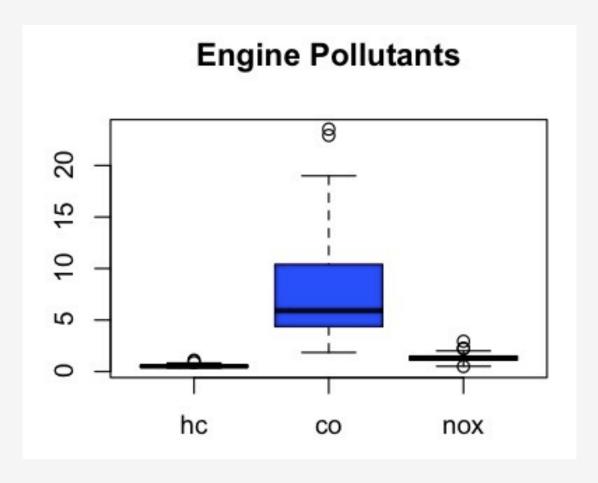
Three things to keep in mind:

- 1) The GREAT thing about R is that there are many different ways to do things.
- 2) The WORST thing about R is that there are many different ways to do things
- 3) To be a good programmer in R one must first be a knowledgeable user of R.

```
url = "http://www.bimcore.emory.edu/R/CSV.DIR/table 7 3.csv"
engine = read.table(url, sep = ",", header=TRUE)
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
      en
                                                 nox
                                   CO
                                           Min.
Min.
      : 1.00
              Min.
                     :0.3400 Min. : 1.850
                                                   :0.490
 1st Qu.:12.75
               1st Qu.:1.110
             Median :0.5100 Median : 5.905
Median :24.50
                                            Median :1.315
Mean :24.00 Mean :0.5502 Mean : 7.879
                                            Mean :1.340
 3rd Qu.:35.25 3rd Qu.:0.6025 3rd Qu.:10.015
                                            3rd Qu.:1.495
Max. :46.00 Max. :1.1000
                             Max. :23.530
                                             Max. :2.940
            http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/cholesterol.html
```

# Check out the data

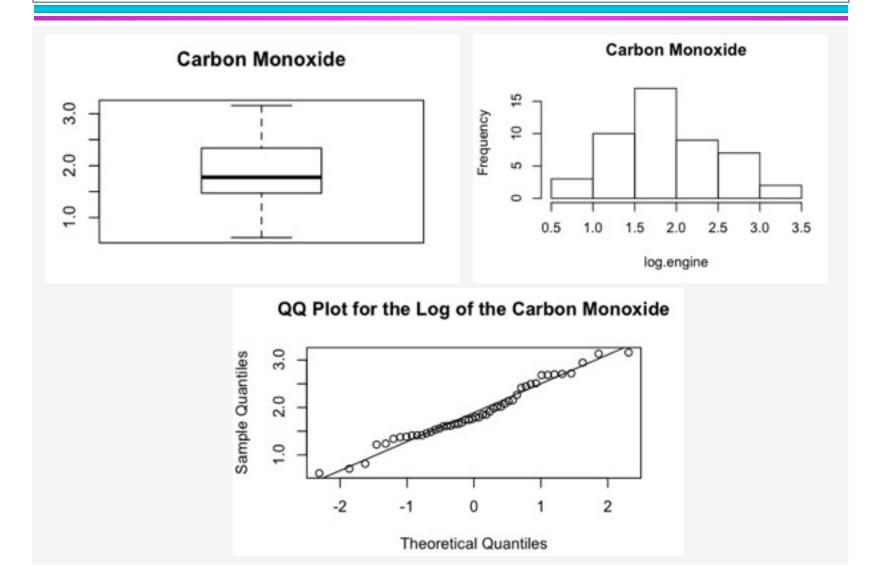
boxplot(engine)



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

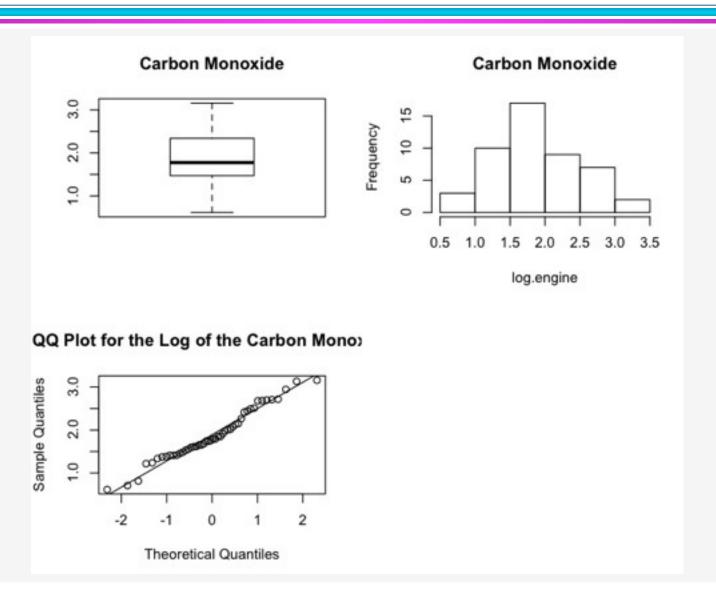
```
# Plot some helpful graphs
par(mfrow=c(1,3))
boxplot(engine$co,main="Carbon Monoxide")
hist(engine$co)
qqnorm(engine$co,main="Carbon Monoxide")
qqline(engine$co)
```

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



```
# 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)
shapiro.test(log.engine)
    Shapiro-Wilk normality test
data: log.engine
W = 0.9693, p-value = 0.2379
              http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/cholesterol.html
```

```
par(mfrow=c(2,2))
log.engine = log(engine$co)
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)
             http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/cholesterol.html
```



```
# Let's build a confidence interval
my.mean = mean(log.engine)
my.sd = sd(log.engine)
n = length(log.engine)
# Get standard error
se = my.sd/sqrt(n)
error = se*qt(0.975, df=n-1)
left = my.mean - error
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 so we reject the null hypothesis. There is a low probability that we would have obtained our sample mean if the true mean really were 5.4.

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

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```
# 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
              http://www.cyclismo.org/tutorial/R/cholesterol.html
```

To find the power we need to set a level for the mean and then find the probability that we would accept the null hypothesis if the mean is really at the prescribed level. Here we will find the power to detect a difference if the level were 7.

#### R - Your First Real Session

```
?mean
                       # Get help on the mean function
example(kmeans)
                 # Run an example of kmeans (if it exists)
рi
                  # Some popular quantities are built-in to R
[1] 3.141593
sqrt(2)
                # Basic arithmetic
[1] 1.414214
print(pi)
                  # Print the comments of the pi variable
[1] 3.141593
X = 3; Y = 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"
```

#### R - Your First Real Session - Calculator

```
2+3
                                           factorial(6)
[1] 5
                                           [1] 720
3/2
                                           choose(32,4)
(1) 1.5
                                           [1] 35960
2^3
                                           # Vector arithmetic is supported
[1] 8
4^2 - 3*2
                                           x < -c(1,2,3,4)
[1] 10
                                           y < -c(5,6,7,8)
(56-14)/6 - 4*7*10/(5^2-5)
                                           x*y
[1] -7
                                           [1] 5 12 21 32
abs(2-4)
                                           y/x
[1] 2
                                           [1] 5.000000 3.000000 2.333333 2.000000
                                           y-x
                                           [1] 4 4 4 4
cos(4*pi)
[1] 1
                                           cos(x*pi) + cos(y*pi)
                                           [1] -2 2 -2 2
```

#### R - Your First Real Session - Calculator

```
ceiling(6.8)
log(10)
                               [1] 7
[1] 2.302585
                               round(6.889,2)
log10(100)
                               [1] 6.89
[1] 2
                               3/0
sin(pi/2)
                               [1] Inf
[1] 1
                               0/0
cos(pi/2)
                               [1] NaN
[1] 6.123234e-17
                               is.finite(3)
> 1.3e6
                               [1]
[1] 1300000
                               x = c(1:8,NA)
> 9 %% 2
                               Χ
[1] 1
                               [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 NA
> 8 %% 2
                               mean(x)
[1] 0
                               [1] NA
> floor(5.7)
                               mean(x,na.rm=T)
[1] 5
                               [1] 4.5
```

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```
Relational Operators
Equal to
                                       if (myvar == "test") {print("EQ")}
                                       if (mnynum == 3)
                                                           {print("EQ")}
Not equal to
                                       if (myvar != "test") {print("NE")}
                                       if (number <= 5)
Less than or equal to
                                                           {print("LTE")}
                             <=
                                       if (number < 10)
                                                           {print("LT")}
Less than
                                       if (number >= 10)
Greater than or equal to
                                                           {print("GTE")}
                                       if (number > 12)
Greater than
                                                           {print("GT")}
Boolean Operators
And
                                       if ((myvar == "test") & (num <= 10) ){
                             8
                                          print("Equal and less than")
                                       7
Not
                                       if (!complete.cases(myvec)) {
                                          print("Non complete cases")
Or
                                       if ((num > 3) | (num < -3)) {
                                         print("Only one of these has to be true")
```

Here are some popular math formulas rewritten in R. Note that many of these are implemented within R for convenient use. However it is helpful to gain a knowledge of operators and their precedence.

```
\# a^2 + b^2 = c^2
                                   # Pythagorean Theorem
a = 2; b = 4
c = 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
```

You can create expressions with R for later evaluation.

```
area = expression( (b*h)/2 )
\# Solve where b = 3 and h = 4
b = 3
h = 4
eval(area)
[1] 6
Note that you can easily make a function out of this also:
area <- function(b,h) {  # b and h are arguments / placeholders</pre>
    my.area = (b*h)/2
    return(my.area)
area(3,4)
[1] 6
```

You can create expressions with R for later evaluation.

```
r1 = expression((-b + sqrt(b^2 - 4*a*c)) / (2*a))
r2 = 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)
[1] -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
```

We could also create a function out of this:

```
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>
```

#### Workspace - Startup

This is one of the more neglected areas when discussing R. However, it is important to understand how one gets information into and out of R. You can setup a file called .Rprofile in your home directory that enables you to configure default options for many things in R.

So if your home directory is /home/wsp or /Users/fender (assumes Linux or OSX) then create a file in your home directory called .Rprofile. Note that you are not obligated to use this capability but the more experience you get with R the more likely you will be interested in using it.

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```
$ touch ~/.Rprofile
$ vi .Rprofile
```

(Then edit it to contain things like on the next slide)

#### Workspace - Startup

```
# Things you might want to change
options(editor="notepad")
cd = setwd
pwd = getwd
lss = dir
# R interactive prompt
options(prompt="> ")
options(continue="+ ")
# General options
options(digits=3)
options(width = 130)
options(graphics.record=TRUE)
.First <- function(){</pre>
 library(Hmisc)
 cat("\nWelcome at", date(), "\n")
.Last <- function(){</pre>
 cat("\nGoodbye at ", date(), "\n")
```

This is one of the more neglected areas when discussing R. However, it is important to understand how one gets information into and out of R.

```
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"
dir(,recursive=TRUE)
 [1] "coolpkg_1.0.tar.gz"
                                                 "coolpkg.pdf"
 [3] "coolpkg.Rcheck/00check.log"
                                                 "coolpkg.Rcheck/00install.out"
 [5] "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg-Ex.pdf"
                                                  "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg-Ex.R"
 [7] "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg-Ex.Rout"
                                                  "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg-manual.log"
 [9] "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg-manual.pdf"
                                                  "coolpkg.Rcheck/coolpkg/data/d.rda"
```

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It is possible to manipulate files from within R. This doesn't mean that this is the best way to do this but it is a possibility.

```
R.home()
[1] "/Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Resources"
setwd(R.home())
list.files()
 [1] "bin"
                                   "doc"
                    "COPYING"
                                                  "etc"
     "fontconfig"
                   "include"
                                    "Info.plist" "lib"
 [9] "library"
                    "man1"
                                   "modules"
                                                  "NEWS"
      "NEWS.pdf"
                     "R"
                                    "Rscript"
                                                  "share"
list.files(path = "doc")
                        "COPYING"
 [1] "AUTHORS"
                                           "COPYRIGHTS"
     "CRAN mirrors.csv" "FAQ"
                                           "html"
 [7] "KEYWORDS"
               "KEYWORDS.db"
                                           "manual" "NEWS.rds" "RESOURCES"
"THANKS"
```

It is possible to manipulate files from within R. This doesn't mean that this is the best way to do this but it is a possibility.

It is possible to manipulate files from within R. This doesn't mean that this is the best way to do this but it is a possibility.

```
my.vec = list.files()
my.vec
                                                              "CRAN mirrors.csv"
 [1] "AUTHORS"
                         "COPYING"
                                         "COPYRIGHTS"
"FAO"
                    "html"
                                             "manual"
                                                                  "NEWS.rds"
 [7] "KEYWORDS"
                         "KEYWORDS.db"
"RESOURCES"
                    "THANKS"
length(my.vec)
[1] 12
```

One can also use the "system" command to run commands at the UNIX level and reroute the output back into the R session.

```
system("ls -1")
AUTHORS
COPYING
COPYRIGHTS
CRAN mirrors.csv
FAQ
KEYWORDS
KEYWORDS.db
NEWS.rds
RESOURCES
THANKS
html
manual
system("ls -1",intern=T)
 [1] "AUTHORS"
                         "COPYING"
                                            "COPYRIGHTS"
"CRAN mirrors.csv" "FAQ"
                                       "KEYWORDS"
 [7] "KEYWORDS.db" "NEWS.rds"
                                            "RESOURCES"
                                                                "THANKS"
"html"
                   "manual"
```

## Workspace - Saving Workspace

If you haven't noticed already, whenever you quit R it will prompt you to to save your workspace. What this means is that you will have the ability to save a copy of all your current R objects (as evidenced by the ls()) command. Generally you will want to save it.

Behind the scenes it stores the information into a BINARY file called .Rdata in whatever directory you are currently in.

```
> 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
```

When you start R back up in this directory it will load this file by default. A rookie mistake is when users start R from another directory expecting to find their objects reloaded

#### Workspace - Saving Workspace

If you want finer-grained control then you can specify your own file name.

```
save(list = ls(all=TRUE), file = "/Users/myhome/.MyRdata")
```

You can also elect to save only specific objects to a file.

You can retrieve the contents of this file from any future R session by doing:

```
load("/Users/myhome/.MyLM")
```

## Workspace - Saving Workspace

In general I suggest that you create a master directory to contain your R projects. You can then create sub-directories to house your various efforts.

That way when you come back to them after some lapse in time (e.g. semester break, vacation, etc) you can look at your directory structure and know where to pick back up.

```
$ ls RProjects

|-RProjects
|-Genomes
|---1000_Genomes
|---Centenarians
|-HIV
|---Replicates
|-Influenza
```

Each subdirectory could have its own .RData file (or whatever you want to name it) to keep objects for that project intact. Don't pile up everything into one directory because it gets really confusing.

# Workspace - Navigating

This is one of the more neglected areas when discussing R. However, it is important to understand how one gets information into and out of R.

```
ls()  # Check to see what objects there are in memory
character(0)

source("stuff.R",echo=TRUE)

f = function(x) x + y
g = function(x) x - y

ls()  # Ah, we now have two functions in the workspace.
[1] "f" "g"
```

## Workspace - Navigating

This is one of the more neglected areas when discussing R. However, it is important to understand how one gets information into and out of R.

#### Workspace - Basic I/O - 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.

```
X <- 2.5  # These two statements are equivalent
X = 2.5 # Same as above

X
[1] 2.5

mynewvar = X + 3

MYNEWVAR = X + 3  # Two different variables</pre>
```

R has several one-letter reserved words: c, q, s, t, C, D, F, I, and T

You cannot begin a variable name with a period character "."

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## Workspace - Basic I/O - Variables

#### **Valid Names**

Variable names in R are case-sensitive, so myvar is not the same as MYVAR

Variables names should not begin with numbers (e.g. 1) or symbols (%,\_)

Variable names should not contain spaces in the name (my var)

#### Workspace - Basic I/O - Variables

#### Valid Variable Names

mean.height
smoker
non.smoker
temp.var
patient\_id
Eye.Color
State\_Population
disease.state
White\_Cell\_Count
jobTitle

#### **Invalid Variable Names**

.mean.height
\_myvariable
\_Mean.height
lvariable
1\_variable
%some.var
some var
"some var"

#### <u>Scope</u>

R uses lexical scoping, which we will explore in some detail later.

Since variables cannot be declared, (they pop into existence on first assignment) it is not always easy to determine the scope of a variable. You cannot tell just by looking at the source code of a function whether a variable is local to that function.

#### Workspace - Basic I/O

You can use the scan function to enter data from the command line. This is also useful when pasting in a row of numbers from a website.

```
my.input.vector = scan()
1: 8 9 10 11 23 48 73
8:
Read 7 items

my.input.vector
[1] 8 9 10 11 23 48 73
```

The cat command can be used to take some input and write it to a file:

```
cat("TITLE extra line", "2 3 5 7", file="ex.data")
cat("TITLE extra line", "2 3 5 7", "11 13 17",
+ file="ex.data", sep="\n")
dir(pattern="ex.data")
[1] "ex.data"
```

#### Workspace - Basic I/O

You can prompt users for input but this isn't really all that common. But let's say you wanted to prompt the user to enter a number:

```
n <- readline("enter a positive integer: ")
enter a positive integer: 23
n
[1] "23"</pre>
```

You could make this more involved by doing some error checking to make sure they enter in an integer.

```
n = -1
while(n < 1 ){
    n <- readline("enter a positive integer: ")
    n <- ifelse(grepl("\\D",n),-1,as.integer(n))
    if(is.na(n)){break} # breaks when hit enter
}
enter a positive integer: sdfs
enter a positive integer: 45</pre>
```

#### Workspace - Basic I/O

It is also very easy to turn around and write data frames and matrices to .CSV file for use with any program that uses .CSV files (e.g. SAS, SPSS, Minitab, Excel, etc).

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

# Workspace - CSV files

You can also read text files a line at a time use the readLines() function. Again, this is not so common an activity but it is something you should have some exposure to. Let's say we have a comma delimited file.

From time to time you might want to capture the output of your work though as you already know this is possible using the "save" command to save the contents of your environment. The "cat", "write", and "write.table" commands allow you to save specific variables to a file.

The "sink" command exists to provide a way to redirect the output from R commands directly to a file. This might be something you would do if you were running a very long running batch job. This would let you see the progress of your program on an incremental basis.

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Let's say we have the following R statements:

```
set.seed(123)
x <-rnorm(10)
y <-rnorm(10)

print(x)
cat ("y =", y, "\n")

t.test(x,y)
plot(x,y)</pre>
```

If we run this interactively the output from this would look like the following. We would also see a plot window because of the call to the plot command.

```
set.seed(123)
x < -rnorm(10)
y < -rnorm(10)
print(x)
 [1] -0.56047565 -0.23017749 1.55870831 0.07050839 0.12928774 1.71506499
 [7] 0.46091621 -1.26506123 -0.68685285 -0.44566197
cat ("y =", y, "\n")
y = 1.224082 \ 0.3598138 \ 0.4007715 \ 0.1106827 \ -0.5558411 \ 1.786913 \ 0.4978505 \ -1.966617
0.7013559 -0.4727914
t.test(x,y)
     Welch Two Sample t-test
data: x and y
t = -0.3006, df = 17.872, p-value = 0.7672
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
 -1.0710488 0.8030562
sample estimates:
mean of x mean of y
0.07462564 0.20862196
```

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If we wanted we could redirect all the output from the print, cat statement and t.test function to a file called "my.results.txt"

```
sink("my.results.txt") # All output will now go to "my.results.txt"

set.seed(123)
x <-rnorm(10)
y <-rnorm(10)

print(x)
cat ("y =", y, "\n")

t.test(x,y)
plot(x,y)

sink() # This will turn off the sink</pre>
```

If we run this then we see only the statements as they are processed but not any of the output. To see the output we look at "my.results.txt"

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If we run this then we see only the statements as they are processed but not any of the output. To see the output we look at "my.results.txt". Note that the result of the plot command will go by default to a file named "Rplots.pdf" located in the current working directory.

```
$ more my.results.txt
[1] -0.56047565 -0.23017749 1.55870831 0.07050839 0.12928774 1.71506499
[7] 0.46091621 -1.26506123 -0.68685285 -0.44566197
y = 1.224082 \ 0.3598138 \ 0.4007715 \ 0.1106827 \ -0.5558411 \ 1.786913 \ 0.4978505
-1.966617 0.7013559 -0.4727914
        Welch Two Sample t-test
data: x and y
t = -0.3006, df = 17.872, p-value = 0.7672
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
 -1.0710488 0.8030562
sample estimates:
mean of x mean of y
0.07462564 0.20862196
```

Okay, an alternative approach to using sink is to run your R jobs as "batch" jobs. Let's put these commands into a file called test.R. Note the we don't have any "sink" commands.

```
set.seed(123)
x <-rnorm(10)
y <-rnorm(10)

print(x)
cat ("y =", y, "\n")

t.test(x,y)
plot(x,y)</pre>
```

We can run this as a batch job on Linux and OSX like:

```
$ R CMD BATCH test.R myout
```

This will put your results into a file "myout". As before the plots will be stashed into a file called "Rplots.pdf".

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If you wanted more control over how your plot was named then you can use one of the functions designed to create plots in a known format (PNG, JPEG, PDF).

```
set.seed(123)
x < -rnorm(10)
y \leftarrow rnorm(10)
print(x)
cat ("y =", y, "\n")
t.test(x,y)
pdf("myplots.pdf") # Redirects plots to myplots.pdf
plot(x,y)
dev.off()
                      # Turns off plot redirection
We can run this as a batch job on Linux and OSX like:
$ R CMD BATCH test.R myout
```

#### Workspace - Tables

Note that you can read CSV files directly from the Internet as long as you have the URL. AND there are dedicated functions to intelligently parse the data so you don't have to do all the things you had to do in the previous slide.

```
url = "http://www.bimcore.emory.edu/BIOS560R/DATA.DIR/hsb2.csv"
my.input = read.table(url,header=T,sep=",")
head(my.input)
                           prgtype read write math science socst
 gender id race ses schtyp
      0 70
                           general
                                           52
                                               41
                                                       47
                  1
                                     57
                                                            57
1
      1 121
                           vocati
                                     68
                                          59
                                               53
                                                       63
                                                            61
              4 3
3
      0 86
                         1 general
                                     44
                                          33
                                              54
                                                       58
                                                            31
              4 3
4
      0 141
                          vocati
                                     63
                                             47
                                                            56
                                          44
                                                       53
              4 2
                         1 academic
      0 172
                                     47
                                          52 57
                                                       53
                                                            61
      0 113
                         1 academic
                                     44
                                          52
                                               51
                                                       63
                                                            61
```

### Workspace - Tables

Sometimes you want to read data from the Internet but its not in a CSV file. Its in a HTML table. 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 villa 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			

#### Workspace - Tables

Let's write a little R code to get this information:

```
library(XML)
url = "http://msenux.redwoods.edu/math/R/regression.php"
my.table = readHTMLTable(url,which=1)
my.table
                       V1
                                                    V2
                                                   <NA>
  Mean Height versus Age
2
           Age in Months Average Height in Centimeters
3
                       18
                                                   76.1
                       19
                                                     77
my.table = my.table[-1:-2,]
names(my.table) = c("Age","Height")
head(my.table)
 Age Height
3 18
       76.1
       77
  19
 20 78.1
  21 78.2
  22
       78.8
```

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Let's look at a more involved example. Look at the follow info on World Population <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\_population">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\_population</a>

This page has many tables. Let's get the data corresponding to the one that looks like:

Rank ¢	Country / Territory	Population ¢	Date ¢	% of world population \$	Source ¢
1	China <sup>[note 2]</sup>	1,353,430,000	October 1, 2012	19.2%	[71
2	India	1,210,193,422	March 2011	17%	[72
3	United States	314,490,000	October 1, 2012	4.47%	[73
4	Indonesia	238,400,000	May 2010	3.33%	[74
5	Brazil	197,067,000	October 1, 2012	2.8%	[75
6	C Pakistan	180,819,000	October 1, 2012	2.57%	[76
7	■ Nigeria	170,123,740	July 2012	2.42%	[77
8	Bangladesh	161,083,804	July 2012	2.29%	[78
9	Russia	141,927,297	January 1, 2010	2.015%	[79
10	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	127,610,000	May 1, 2012	1.81%	[80

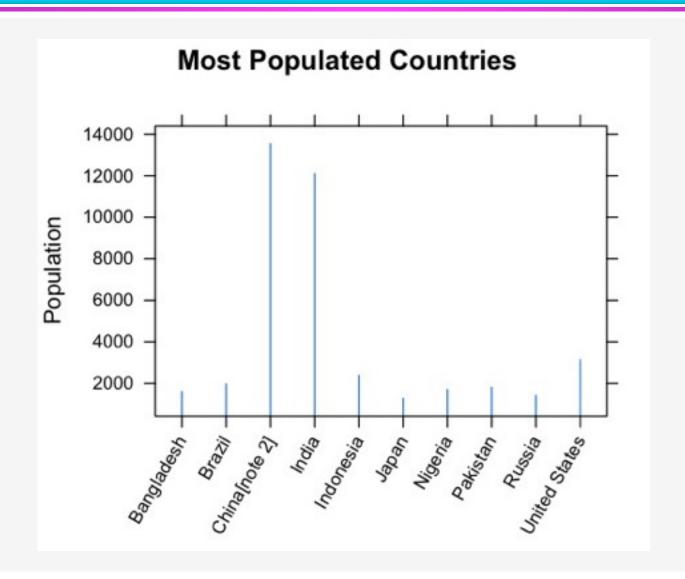
This appears to be the 5th table on the page. Note that this is one of those things that you will probably have to try a few times before you get it right.

```
url = "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World population"
table.four = readHTMLTable(url, which=4) # Most densely populated countries
table.four
  Rank Country / Territory
                            Population Date % of world\npopulation Source
            China[note 2] 1,353,430,000 October 1, 2012
                                                                     19.2%
1
     1
                                                                            [71]
2
                   India 1,210,193,422
                                          March 2011
                                                                      17%
                                                                            [72]
3
            United States 314,490,000 October 1, 2012
                                                                     4.47%
                                                                            [73]
                Indonesia 238,400,000
                                            May 2010
                                                                     3.33%
                                                                            [74]
```

Okay, we got the data but its a little messy. Let's clean it up some.

Okay, we got the data but its a little messy. Let's clean it up some.

```
table.four = table.four[,-4:-6] # Eliminate the 4th-6th column
table.four
   Rank Country / Territory Population
                  China[73] 1,352,190,000
1
2
      2
                      India 1,210,193,422
# Get rid of the commas in the numbers
table.four$Population=as.numeric(gsub(",","",table.five$Population))/100000
# Give the columns new names
names(table.four) = c("Rank", "Country", "Population")
# Plot the data
library(lattice)
xyplot(Population ~ Country, table. four, scales = list(x = c(rot=60)),
       type="h",main="Most Densely Populated Countries")
```



# Workspace - Other Stats Packages

Its also possible to read data sets from other statistical packages. However, as with Excel, I suggest you export those datasets into a CSV format and then import them into R.

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)		

## Workspace - Excel

You can even read directly from Excel spreadsheets but this is usually something you wouldn't do. Always try to save the data out of Excel into a CSV file and then import it into R.

If you simply MUST read the Excel spreadsheet directly then use an approach similar to the following. Note that I've never done this so can't say that it will work. Also, this might work only on Windows machines.

```
> library(RODBC)
> channel <- odbcConnectExcel("examp.xls")</pre>
## list the spreadsheets
> sqlTables(channel)
       TABLE CAT TABLE SCHEM
                                      TABLE NAME
                                                   TABLE TYPE REMARKS
     1 C:\\bdr
                                         Sheet1$ SYSTEM TABLE
                                                                     NA
                           NA
     2 C:\\bdr
                           NΑ
                                         Sheet2$ SYSTEM TABLE
                                                                    NA
     3 C:\\bdr
                                         Sheet3$ SYSTEM TABLE
                                                                    NA
                           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>
```

Note that you can also read and write to relational databases. We will explore this much more in depth in a later module. You may wonder - Why should you care about connecting to relational databases from R. Good reasons include:

- \* There are limitations on the types of data that R handles well. Since all data being manipulated by R are resident in memory, and several copies of the data can be created during execution of a function,
- \* R is not well suited to extremely large data sets. Data objects that are more than a (few) hundred megabytes in size can cause R to run out of memory, particularly on a 32-bit operating system.
- \* R does not easily support concurrent access to data. That is, if more than one user is accessing, and perhaps updating, the same data, the changes made by one user will not be visible to the others.
- \* R does support persistence of data, in that you can save a data object or an entire worksheet from one session and restore it at the subsequent session, but the format of the stored data is specific to R and not easily manipulated by other systems.

Database management systems (DBMSs) and, in particular, relational DBMSs (RDBMSs) are designed to do all of these things well. Their strengths are:

- 1. To provide fast access to selected parts of large databases.
- 2. Powerful ways to summarize and cross-tabulate columns in databases.
- 3. Store data in more organized ways than the rectangular grid model of spreadsheets and R data frames.
- 4. Concurrent access from multiple clients running on multiple hosts while enforcing security constraints on access to the data.
- 5. Ability to act as a server to a wide range of clients.

The sort of statistical applications for which DBMS might be used are to extract a 10% sample of the data, to cross-tabulate data to produce a multi-dimensional contingency table, and to extract data group by group from a database for separate analysis.

Note that you can also read and write to relational databases. We will explore this much more in depth in a later module. For now here is an example of how you might connect to a MySQL database.

```
m <- dbDriver("SQLite")</pre>
   # initialize a new database to a tempfile and copy some data.frame
   # from the base package into it
tfile <- tempfile()
con <- dbConnect(m, dbname = tfile)</pre>
data(USArrests)
dbWriteTable(con, "USArrests", USArrests)
   # query
rs <- dbSendQuery(con, "select * from USArrests")</pre>
d1 <- fetch(rs, n = 10)  # extract data in chunks of 10 rows</pre>
d1
    row names Murder Assault UrbanPop Rape
      Alabama
               13.2
                        236
                                 58 21.2
1
      Alaska 10.0 263 48 44.5
2
                    294
                               80 31.0
3
     Arizona 8.1
4
     Arkansas 8.8
                    190 50 19.5
   California 9.0 276 91 40.6
              7.9 204
     Colorado
                                 78 38.7
```

Note that you can also read and write to relational databases. We will explore this much more in depth in a later module. For now here is an example of how you might connect to a MySQL database.

```
## Select from the loaded table
dbClearResult(rs)
rs <- dbSendQuery(con, "select * from USArrests where
                                Assault > 10 order by Murder")
d1 \leftarrow fetch(rs, n = 10)
d1
      row names Murder Assault UrbanPop Rape
   North Dakota
                   0.8
1
                            45
                                     44 7.3
2
                   2.1
          Maine
                            83
                                     51 7.8
3
                   2.1
  New Hampshire
                            57
                                     56 9.5
4
           Iowa
                   2.2
                            56
                                     57 11.3
5
        Vermont
                   2.2
                         48
                                     32 11.2
          Idaho
                   2.6
                                     54 14.2
6
                           120
7
      Wisconsin
                   2.6
                        53
                                     66 10.8
8
      Minnesota
                   2.7
                        72
                                     66 14.9
9
           Utah
                   3.2
                           120
                                     80 22.9
    Connecticut
                   3.3
10
                           110
                                     77 11.1
```

Another way to work with data sets as if they were databases is to use the "sqldf" package. We'll look more closely at this in the data frame section. This package is very useful if you already know SQL and are just learning R. sqldf is an add on package so you will first need to install it.

```
install.packages("sqldf", dependencies = TRUE)
library(sqldf)
data(mtcars)
sqldf("select * from mtcars where mpg > 20 AND cyl == 4")
```

R can also process XML files from the Internet, which is very powerful. As an example we'll access Google's GeoCoding pages to get the Latitude and Longitude for Atlanta, GA from within a program. Its just a simple example.

https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/geocoding/



R can also process XML files from the Internet, which is very powerful. As an example we'll access Google's GeoCoding pages to get the Latitude and Longitude for Atlanta, GA from within a program. Its just a simple example.

```
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]/*")
as.numeric(sapply(place,xmlValue))
[1] 33.74900 -84.38798
```

R can also process XML files from the Internet, which is very powerful. As an example we'll access Google's GeoCoding pages to get the Latitude and Longitude for Atlanta, GA from within a program. Its just a simple example.

```
- <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>
```

The interesting thing is that we can then use this information to query other resources. Say for example we can look at the Personal Weather Stations Web site and get quick assessment of the weather in the area based on a survey of weather stations.

```
my.url = "http://api.wunderground.com/auto/wui/geo/GeoLookupXML/index.xml?
query=33.749,-84.38798"
myweather = getURL(url)
hold = xmlTreeParse(myweather, useInternalNodes=TRUE)
qstr = "//location/nearby weather stations/pws/station[distance mi<5]/</pre>
ancestor-or-self::station/id"
stationsXml = getNodeSet(hold,qstr)
stations = sapply(stationsXml,xmlValue)
> stations
[1] "KGAATLAN40" "KGAATLAN49" "KGAATLAN37" "KGAATLAN68" "KGAATLAN57"
[6] "KGAATLAN54" "KGAATLAN16"
```