

Workspace and Files

Raphael Carvalho

09/05/2019

Workspace and Files

Determine which directory your R session is using as its current working directory using `getwd()`.

```
getwd()
```

```
## [1] "/Users/raphaelcarvalho/Documents/Cursos/JHU-datascience/rprogramming"
```

List all the objects in your local workspace using `ls()`.

```
ls()
```

```
## character(0)
```

Assign 9 to `x` using `x <- 9`.

```
x <- 9
```

Now take a look at objects that are in your workspace using `ls()`.

```
ls()
```

```
## [1] "x"
```

List all the files in your working directory using `list.files()` or `dir()`.

```
x <- 9
```

List all the files in your working directory using `list.files()` or `dir()`.

```
list.files()
```

```
## [1] "README.md"          "swirl_lesson_1.html" "swirl_lesson_1.pdf"
## [4] "swirl_lesson_1.Rmd"  "swirl_lesson_2.html" "swirl_lesson_2.Rmd"
## [7] "swirl_lesson_3.html" "swirl_lesson_3.Rmd"  "swirl_lesson_4.Rmd"
## [10] "swirl_lesson_5.pdf"  "swirl_lesson_5.Rmd"
```

Using the `args()` function on a function name is also a handy way to see what arguments a function can take. Use the `args()` function to determine the arguments to `list.files()`.

```
args(list.files)
```

```
## function (path = ".", pattern = NULL, all.files = FALSE, full.names = FALSE,
##      recursive = FALSE, ignore.case = FALSE, include.dirs = FALSE,
##      no.. = FALSE)
## NULL
```

Assign the value of the current working directory to a variable called “old.dir”.

```
old.dir <- getwd()
```

Use `dir.create()` to create a directory in the current working directory called “testdir”.

```
dir.create("testdir")
```

Set your working directory to “testdir” with the `setwd()` command.

```
setwd("testdir")
```

Create a file in your working directory called “mytest.R” using the `file.create()` function.

```
file.create("mytest.R")
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

This should be the only file in this newly created directory. Let’s check this by listing all the files in the current directory.

```
list.files()
```

```
## [1] "mytest.R"          "README.md"          "swirl_lesson_1.html"
## [4] "swirl_lesson_1.pdf" "swirl_lesson_1.Rmd" "swirl_lesson_2.html"
## [7] "swirl_lesson_2.Rmd" "swirl_lesson_3.html" "swirl_lesson_3.Rmd"
## [10] "swirl_lesson_4.Rmd" "swirl_lesson_5.pdf" "swirl_lesson_5.Rmd"
## [13] "testdir"
```

Check to see if “mytest.R” exists in the working directory using the `file.exists()` function.

```
file.exists("mytest.R")
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

Access information about the file “mytest.R” by using `file.info()`.

```
file.info("mytest.R")
```

```
##          size isdir mode                mtime                ctime
## mytest.R    0 FALSE  644 2019-05-19 16:14:58 2019-05-19 16:14:58
##                                     atime uid gid                uname grname
## mytest.R 2019-05-19 16:14:58 501   20 raphaelcarvalho  staff
```

Change the name of the file “mytest.R” to “mytest2.R” by using `file.rename()`.

```
file.rename("mytest.R", "mytest2.R")
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

Make a copy of “mytest2.R” called “mytest3.R” using `file.copy()`.

```
file.copy("mytest2.R", "mytest3.R")
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

Provide the relative path to the file “mytest3.R” by using `file.path()`.

```
file.path("mytest3.R")
```

```
## [1] "mytest3.R"
```

You can use `file.path` to construct file and directory paths that are independent of the operating system your R code is running on. Pass ‘folder1’ and ‘folder2’ as arguments to `file.path` to make a platform-independent pathname.

```
file.path("folder1", "folder2")
```

```
## [1] "folder1/folder2"
```

Create a directory in the current working directory called “testdir2” and a subdirectory for it called “testdir3”, all in one command by using `dir.create()` and `file.path()`.

```
dir.create("testdir2", "testdir3", recursive = TRUE)
```

Go back to your original working directory using `setwd()`. (Recall that we created the variable `old.dir` with the full path for the original working directory at the start of these questions.)

```
setwd(old.dir)
```

Removing everything:

```
file.remove('mytest2.R', 'mytest3.R')
```

```
## [1] TRUE TRUE
```

```
file.remove("./testdir", "./testdir2")
```

```
## [1] TRUE TRUE
```