

# Workshop: Statistical Analysis in R

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# Schedule

*22.2. 9:00 - 12:00: Introduction to R*

Topic 1: The basics of R. What is it, how does it work?

Topic 2: Manipulating data.

Topic 3: Key Components of (Generalized) Linear Models

*22.2. 13:00 - 16:00: Fitting Models and visualization*

Topic 4: Normal linear regression

Topic 5: ANOVA and general linear models

Topic 6: Graphs and visualization

# Schedule

*23.2. 9:00 - 12:00: Mixed-effects and generalized linear models*

Topic 7: Linear mixed-effects models (random effects)

Topic 8: Generalized linear models

Topic 9: Over-dispersion + zero-inflation

*23.2. 13:00 - 15:30: GLMMs and advanced topics*

Topic 10: Generalized linear mixed effects models

Topic 11: Null hypothesis significance testing (NHST) vs information theoretic (IT) approach and model selection



# The basics of R

## *Background:*

- R is a free software package – use with caution
- many R books and (free) online courses/tutorials available

## *Installing R:*

- When you install R, only some package are loaded. You may need to add in packages later on as you need them (more on this later).

# The basics of R

## *Running R:*

- To run R, click on the icon. You get a work session window.
- You could type in your commands here and they would run as you enter them.

**Exercise:** Type in

```
A<- 5
```

```
B<- 6
```

```
C<- A+B
```

- The output appears in the work session window also.
- You could copy and paste this into WORD as this is just simple text.



# The basics of R

## *Running R:*

- Instead of typing the commands into the session window, you can enter your commands into a separate file called *script*.
- The script is just R commands, organized and put into a text file.
- You can run this all at once (only if you are very confident), or in segments (preferred).

**Exercise:** Open a new script window, and type in commands:

```
plot(cars)  
lines(lowess(cars))
```

To run the R commands in the script, simply highlight the parts you want to run and press Ctrl and R at the same time OR, click on Edit and find Run in the list.

- Since a graph is produced, a new window appears.
- You could copy and paste this into WORD.

# The basics of R

## *Useful Things to Know:*

- R is case sensitive. i.e., `Trees` versus `trees`.
- R does not like spaces nor special characters. Instead, use a “.”  
e.g.: `trees.pine` identifies a variable in the dataset `trees`.
- R uses two slashes instead of one to indicate a subfolder. For example, if your data are in: `E:\measurements\trees.txt` then in R you would use `E:\\measurements\\trees.txt` since the single slash has a different meaning in R
- Alternative: `E:/measurements/trees.txt`
- Any R commands that start with `#` are just *comments* that you can add to explain what the script does.



# The basics of R

## Working directory

- To avoid entering always the whole path for saving or reading files you can set a folder as current working directory with `setwd()`
- `setwd("D:/blabla/blub")`
- If you are not sure which it is ask: `getwd()`



# The basics of R

## *Saving and cleaning up:*

- You can save the work session, the script, and the graph window anytime you wish by using **File** and **Save** for the window that is active.
- To save the objects you have created, you can use **File** and **Save Workspace** to save all objects (i.e., all the data and outputs you have put into objects).
- You can then later on use **File** and **Load Workspace** to bring the objects back in and continue your work.
- You can also cut and paste any of the outputs from your session window into **WORD** or other files.

# The basics of R

## *Saving and cleaning up:*

- If you have created a graph, you can use **File** and **Copy** to Clipboard and then **As a Metafile** (gives a better graph than as a Bitmap).
- You can also save the file as a picture using **File** and **Save As..**
- At any time, you can use **Edit** and **Clear Console** to clean out the session window. However, the data you brought in, and any variables and objects will still be there.
- To remove all of these, click on **Misc** and then select **Remove all objects**, OR type `rm(list=ls(all=TRUE))` in the session window.
- When you begin an R session with new data, it is always a good idea to start with no objects.



# The basics of R

*Types of Objects (more on this later in the course):*

- **Factor:** a class variable, often represented as letters but maybe represented as numbers
- **Vector:** a “column” of numbers
- **Matrix:** several columns of numbers
- **Dataframe:** Like a matrix, but can have columns of numbers and columns of letters; names for columns and rows are possible
- **List:** Can be several objects all stored together such as regression outputs, matrices, etc.



# The basics of R - help

The R website has a number of manuals that you might find useful, including an introduction: <http://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/R-intro.pdf> and <http://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/usingR.pdf>

At any time, you can also use `help( )` where the function is given in the brackets or just `? + function name`

- Hard to follow
- Tells you about the specific options for a function and the syntax
- There are usually a few examples

# The basics of R

## *Expanding the R package:*

- When you run R, only some of the functions are brought into the work session automatically to save memory.
- To add others, use `require( )` or `install.packages("package_name ")` where the package is given in brackets.
- Many other parts of R are extra to the main package. To bring these in:
  - Access the website: <https://cran.r-project.org/> host currently >12,000 packages
  - Some packages can be found on <https://r-forge.r-project.org/>
  - Download the package to the R directory to the library sub-folder

For example, if you installed R in: C:\Program Files\R\R-2.8.0\, then you can add more software into C:\Program Files\R\R-2.8.0\library\
- You can then use `library( )` to bring in these other packages for your analysis.



# The basics of R

## *Learning R:*

- Documentation and examples using R code or script on the web.
- Examples are very helpful for reducing the time you spend in getting R to do what you would like.
- Practice.
- **Google!!!**
- <http://stackoverflow.com/>
- R-bloggers, R for Dummies,....



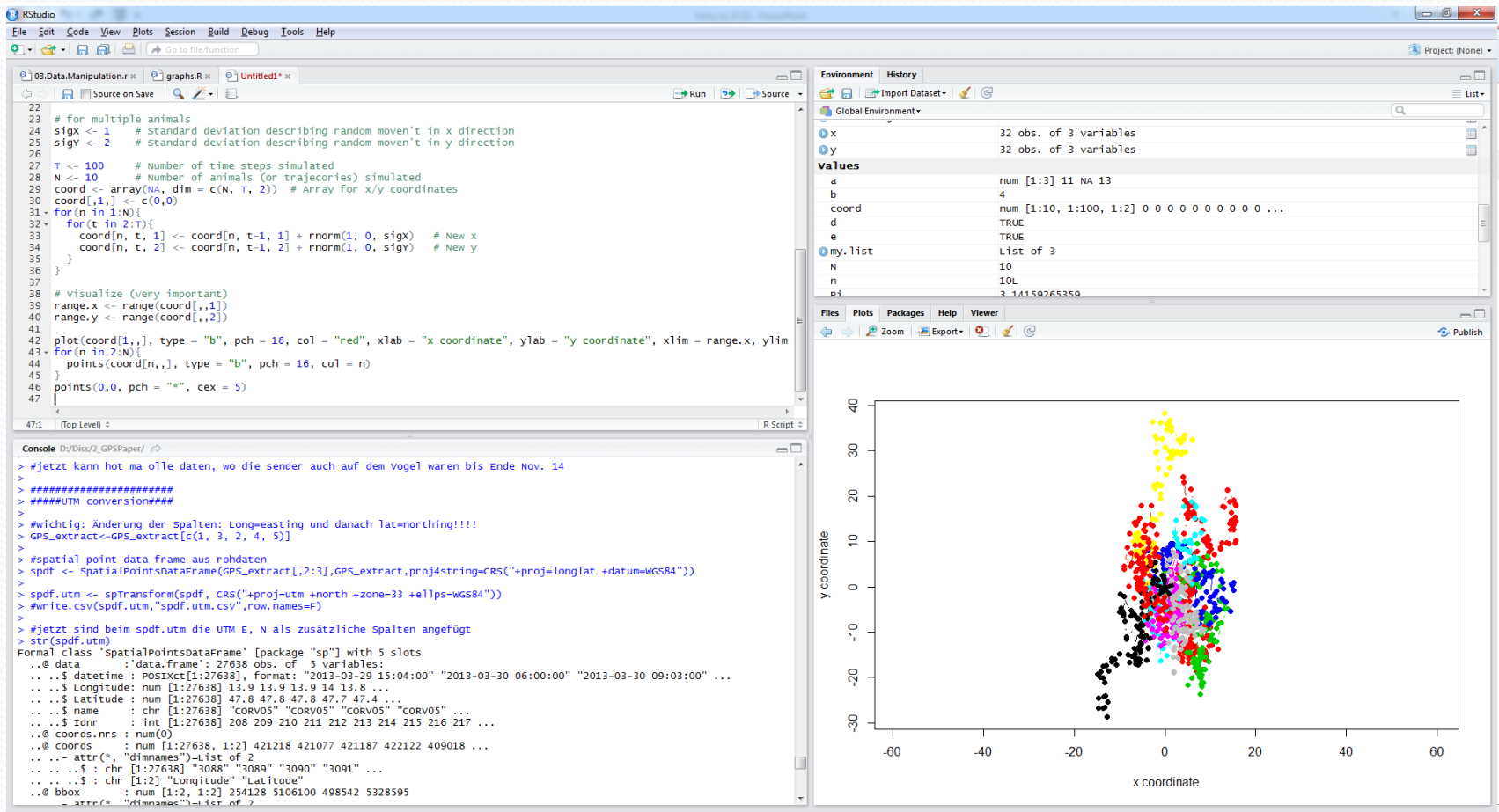
# R Studio

**Rstudio** (IDE, integrated development environment) divides its window into 4 panels, each of which may have multiple structure tabs. Which tabs are in which panels is configurable.

Some of the important tabs include:

- Console:** This is where you can execute R commands interactively
- History:** A record of past commands (can be saved, reloaded, etc.)
- Workspace:** A listing of the objects available in your R session
- Plots:** Where plots show up
- Help:** Where documentation files appear when you ask for them
- Files:** A file manager for locating, loading, moving, renaming, files.
- Packages:** Install and load packages here.
- Open Files:** Open files have a tab labeled with the file name.

# R Studio





# Importing data into R (R-Studio)

Data can be imported as csv file (comma separated value), which can be created from e.g. Excel

```
read.csv("test.csv")
```

Caution: Depending on your system settings the „list separator“ can be set to „;“ instead of „,“

```
read.csv("test.csv", sep=";") #specify list separator
```

For windows this can also be changed in Start/ControlPanel/Region and Language/Additional settings/List separator

Or open data in Rstudio via ImportDataset From Txt file and specify

In (German) Excel often comma (,) is used instead of point(.) for decimals - this can be changed in File/Options/Advanced/Decimal and Thousands separators

**-> Exercise: import data**