

Basic Introduction to



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Course administration

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Goals

- Start to code
- Learn how to use R for the analysis of your data
- Know where and how to get help if you are stuck

Why use R?

- Reproducibility
- Keep original data untouched
- It is open source... with a large community
- Advanced statistics
- State-of-the-art graphics
- Powerful data manipulation
- Supports large datasets
- Fast computation
- Easier automation
- Anyone can contribute
- ...

RStudio



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with the following components:

- Script editor (write code):** The top-left pane shows an R script file named 'Why_use_R.R'. The code includes comments and commands for reading a CSV file, replacing values, deleting data in a specific region, and plotting the data.
- Environment / History (loaded objects):** The top-right pane shows the 'Global Environment' with a search bar. Below it, the 'Data' section shows 'data_L1' with 998 observations of 4 variables.
- Console (executed code):** The bottom-left pane shows the output of the executed code, including the same commands as the script editor.
- Files / Plots / Packages / Help:** The bottom-right pane shows a file explorer view of the project directory, listing files like '.gitignore', '.Rhistory', '01_Data', '02_Slides', '03_Script', 'Introduction_to_R.Rproj', 'LICENSE', and 'README.md'.

Shortcuts

	Mac	Windows / Linux
Run line	Cmd + Enter	Ctrl + Enter
# Comment line	Alt + 3	
[] Square brackets	Alt + 5 / Alt + 6	
{ } Curly brackets	Alt + 8 / Alt + 9	
OR operator	Alt + 7	
~ Tilde	Alt + N	
Show RStudio shortcuts	Alt + Shift + K	Option + Shift + K

Capabilities of R

- Nice graphs
https://www.r-graph-gallery.com/violin_and_boxplot_ggplot2.html
- Maps with R
<https://www.r-graph-gallery.com/choropleth-map.html>
- Interactive web applications (R Shiny)
<https://shiny.rstudio.com/gallery/movie-explorer.html>
- R and databases
<https://db.rstudio.com/getting-started/connect-to-database>

Where to get help

- Websites
 - RStudio Cheat Sheets
<https://www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets/>
 - Google
e.g. „r how to merge two data frames“
 - <https://stackoverflow.com/>
 - <https://www.r-bloggers.com/>
- Online book
 - R for Data Science
<https://r4ds.had.co.nz/>

...more help

- Other R courses
 - R: tidyverse for data science (UZH)
<https://app.connect.uzh.ch/apps/id/kurse.nsf/veranstaltungen.xsp>
 - Specialised R-Workshops (2 days, 1ECTS for PhD students, Plant Science Center)
<https://www.plantsciences.uzh.ch/en/teaching/phdplantscience/coursecatalogue.html>
 - Zurich R Courses
<https://www.zhrcourses.uzh.ch/en.html>
 - Specialised R-Workshops (1 day intensive course, small groups)
<https://ethz.ch/services/de/it-services/katalog/support-weiterbildung/it-training/kurse.html>

Course certificate

Write an email to kurssekretariat@id.uzh.ch to get the course certificate.

Sources

For the development of this course I was mainly inspired by the course material of Jan Wunders *R* course

Introduction to R (Wunder, 2016)