University of Essex

Mastering Data Analysis & Visualization Using R

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MA902: Research Methods - R Courses

R courses: 19^{th} October & 2^{nd} November 2019

Structure

The R courses include two 'days' structered as follows:

Day 1: 19^{th} Oct. 2019 - Introduction to R.

Day 2: 2^{nd} Nov. 2019 - Data visualisation & dynamic reports.

Introduction to R

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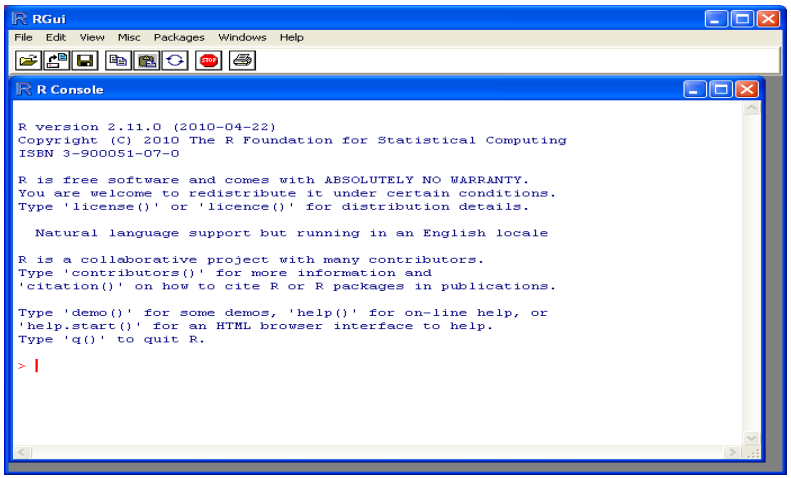
MA902: Research Methods - R Courses, 19^{th} October 2019

Contents

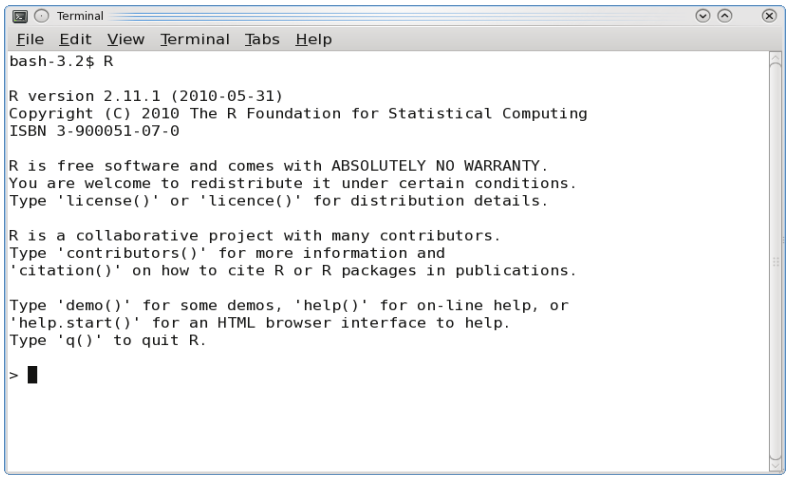
What is R?

- R is a language (environment) for data analysis.
- Command-line orianted available for Windows, Linux and Mac OS X.

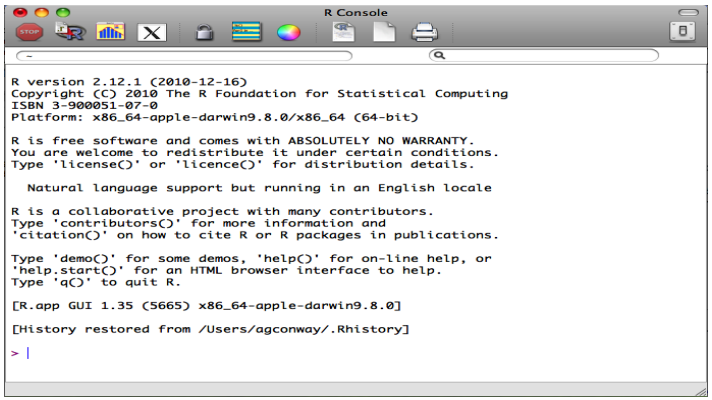
Windows



Linux



Mac OS X



Why R?

- R is free, and available on every major platform (www.cran.r-project.org).
- Massive set of packages for statistical modelling, visulaisation, AI, ML, and data science.
- Powerful tools for communicating results:
  - RMarkdown - turns your results into HTML, PDF, Word documents, PowerPoint presentations, and more.
  - Shiny - makes beautiful interactive apps without any knowledge of HTML or Javascript.
- Many IDE, e.g. RStudio which tailored to the needs of data science and statistical programming.
- Cutting edge tools - Researchers do often publish an R package with their technical articles.
- Strongly supported open-source communities (e.g. over 50% of software engineers at RStudio work on open source projects)

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Editors

Functionality of editor softwares

- Easy tools for writing, managing and organizing R scripts
- offers syntax Auto-completion
- An effective interface to communicate with R

Examples of Editors

Windows	**Linux**	**Mac OS X**
✓ RStudio	✓ RStudio	✓ RStudio
✓ RWinEdt	✓ JGR	

RStudio is highly recommended

- Multi-platform IDE (Download: www.rstudio.com)
- Provides excellent handy features and professional products.

Concepts of R

- In an interactive session, R works with Read-Eval-Print mode:
  - Input: `5 + 2`
  - Evaluation: R evaluates the input expression `5 + 2 = 7`
  - Output: R prints the resulted output(s) `[1] 7`
- Comments are identifyed by #
- Input prompt: >
- Prompt turns to '+' when an expression needs to be completed.

Sources for R help

Embeded Help System

- Search help for a topic — `help.search("sum")`
- Search help for a function — `help("sum")` or `?sum`
- Search help for usages of a function — `example("sum")` or `demo()`

Integrated Help System

- HTML help system via your web browser — `help.start()`

Online Sources & Communities

- rweekly: www.rweekly.org
- R seek: http://www.rseek.org
- Twitter: #rstats twitter community

Simple operations

- Arithmetic operations

```
> 5 + 3
[1] 8
```

```
> 13 - 7
[1] 6
```

```
> 3 * 4
[1] 12
```

```
> 20 / 4
[1] 5
```

```
> 2 ^ 3
[1] 8
```

- Boolean operations

```
> 3 == 5
[1] FALSE
```

```
> !(2 > 3)
[1] TRUE
```

```
> TRUE | FALSE
[1] TRUE
```

```
> T & F
[1] FALSE
```

- Simple functions

```
> exp(1)
[1] 2.71828
```

```
> log(100, base = 10)
[1] 2
```

```
> sqrt(16)
[1] 4
```

Assign values

Example: BMI Calculation

Calculation of the Body Mass Index for a person whose weight in kilograms and height in meters are w and h respectively.

$$BMI = \frac{w}{h^2}$$

```
> w <- 100              # assignment of weight value
> h <- 1.75             # assignment of height value
> BMI <- w/(h^2)        # calculation of BMI
> BMI
[1] 32.65306
```

Vectors

- Combinations of elements from the same data type

```
> x <- c(2,4,6)
> x
[1] 2 4 6
```

```
> days <- c("Monday", "Thursday")
> days
[1] "Monday" "Thursday"
```

- Sequences

```
> x <- 3:5
> x
[1] 3 4 5
```

```
> x <- seq(from=10, to=20, by=2)
> x
[1] 10 12 14 16 18 20
```

- Replications

```
> x <- rep(5, times=3)
> x
[1] 5 5 5
```

```
> x <- rep(c(1,2,3), each=2)
> x
[1] 1 1 2 2 3 3
```

Arithmetic operations using vectors

- Arithmetics are defined in a component-wise fashion

```
> x <- c(5, 10, 15); y <- 1:3
> A <- sqrt(7)*((x^2)+y)
> A
[1] 68.78953 269.86663 603.23130

> round(A, digits = 2)
[1] 68.79 269.87 603.23
```

- Length of a vector

```
> length(x)
[1] 3
```

Indexing elements of a vector

- Vector elements are selected with a set of indices locating in square brackets:

✓ *Regular indexing*

```
> x <- 11 : 20
> x [3]
[1] 13
```

```
> x <- seq(0, 1, by=0.1)
> x [c(1, 2, 5)]
[1] 0.0 0.1 0.4
```

✓ *Reverse indexing*

```
> x <- 1 : 5
> x [-2]
[1] 1 3 4 5
```

```
> x <- c(1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13)
> x [-(1 : 3)]
[1] 7 11 13
```

Arithmetics for vectors with different lengths

Prior to operation, the elements of the shorter vector are repeated in a cycled way until the length of the longer one is reached.

```
# equivalent to c(1,2,1,2) + c(1,2,3,4)
> c(1,2) + c(1,2,3,4)

[1] 2 4 4 6
```

If the length of the longer vector is not a multiple of the length of the shorter one, a warning is printed.

```
# equivalent to c(1,2,1,2,1) + c(1,2,3,4,5)
> c(1,2) + c(1,2,3,4,5)

[1] 2 4 4 6 6
Warning message:
In c(1, 2) + c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5) :  longer object length is
not a multiple of shorter object length
```

Practical Intro-1

Logical values

A boolean expression, e.g. `a <= b`, returns logical value: `TRUE` or `FALSE`. R treats `TRUE` as 1 and `FALSE` as 0 when they are used in an arithmetic operation.

```
> 3 <= 5
[1] TRUE

> TRUE + TRUE + FALSE
[1] 2

> x <- c(1,2,3,4,5); x < 4
[1] TRUE TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE
sum(x < 4)
[1] 3
```

Logical functions: `any()`, `all()`, `which()`

Missing values

NA (Not Available) represents missing values

```
> x <- c(2, -1, NA, 5, 0); any(is.na(x))
[1] TRUE
```

```
> x[10]
[1] NA
```

Proceses with missing values result in NA unless the answer is clear.

```
> sum(x)
[1] NA
```

```
> NA & TRUE
[1] NA
```

```
> NA | TRUE
[1] TRUE
```

However, some functions can exclude missing values from calculations. Users can extract data without missing values using the function na.omit()

```
> sum(x, na.rm = TRUE)
[1] 6
```

```
> na.omit(x)
[1] 2 -1 5 0
attr(,"na.action")
[1] 3
attr(,"class")
[1] "omit"
```

Matrices

Matrices can be produced using the function `matrix()`

Function Parameters

`nrow`	number of rows
`ncol`	number of columns
`byrow`	logical. If FALSE (the default), the matrix is filled by column

Examples

```
> (M <- matrix(1:6, ncol=3, byrow=FALSE))
     [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    1    3    5
[2,]    2    4    6
> (M <- matrix(c(1,2,3,4,5,6), ncol=3, byrow=TRUE))
     [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    1    2    3
[2,]    4    5    6
```

Matrix arithmetics

```
> (M1 <- matrix(c(2,1,5,-1),ncol=2));(M2 <- matrix(1:4,2))
```

```
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]    2    5
[2,]    1   -1
```

```
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]    1    3
[2,]    2    4
```

```
> 3 * M
```

```
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]    6   15
[2,]    3   -3
```

```
> M1 + M2
```

```
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]    3    8
[2,]    3    3
```

```
> M1 %*% M2
```

```
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]   12   26
[2,]   -1   -1
```

Practical Example

Instead of a matrix multiplication, use an ordinary multiplication `(M1*M2)`. What is the dierence between both operations?

Indexing elements of a matrix

Matrix elements can be indexed using row, column or cell. Reverse indexing is feasible only using rows or columns.

```
> (M <- matrix(1:10, ncol=5, byrow=TRUE))
```

```
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,]    1    2    3    4    5
[2,]    6    7    8    9   10
```

Practical Example

Extract the following sub-matrix from M:

```
     [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    2    3    4
[2,]    7    8    9
```

Indexing Matrix

- Row:

```
> M [2,]
[1] 6 7 8 9 10
```

- Column:

```
> M [,4]
[1] 4 9
```

- Cell:

```
> M [1,5]
[1] 5
```

Break

Objects

The functions `objects()` and `ls()` show a list of assigned objects. Data type of an object can be shown using the function `mode(`ObjectName`)`

```
> objects()
[1] "A" "BMI" "days" "h" "M" "M1" "M2" "w" "x" "y"

> mode(M); mode(days); mode (c(TRUE, FALSE, FALSE))
[1] "numeric"
[1] "character"
[1] "logical"
```

Objects' further attributes (if any) can be shown using `attributes()`. The structure of an object can be shown using `str()`.

```
> attributes(M)
$dim
[1] 2 5
```

```
> str(M)
int [1:2, 1:5] 1 6 2 7 3 8 4 9 5 10
```

Atomic data types

- `numeric`: integer and real (defined as double) numbers.
- `complex`: complex numbers
- `character`: strings
- `logical`: logical values
- `NULL`: An empty object

Data types can be shown using the `typeof()` function. They can be tested using `is.numeric()`, `is.complex()`, ... , `is.null()`.

```
> x <- c(1,2); y <- c(2i, 3); gender <- c("m", "f")
> typeof(x); typeof(x==2)
[1] "double"
[1] "logical"
```

```
> is.numeric(x); is.numeric(y)
[1] TRUE
[1] FALSE
```

Factor class

The `factor` data type is used for categorical data. It can be produced by the function `factor()`.

```
> Groups <- factor(c("Treatment", "Control", "Treatment",
+ "Control", "Control"))
> Groups
```

```
[1] Treatment Control Treatment Control Control
Levels: Control Treatment
```

Remark

The factor data is coded with numbers. Note, `mode()` leads to `numeric`. Nevertheless, factors can be identified by `class()`

Practical Example

- Check the mode and class of the `Groups` vector.
- Convert the `Groups` vector to a numerical form.

Types of data structures

Structures of R's data can be organised by their dimensionality and whether they're homogeneous or heterogeneous:

dim.	Homogeneous	Heterogeneous
1d	`vector`	`data frame`
2d	`matrix`	`list`
nd	`array`	

```
> ?array
> ?data.frame
```

Concatenating of structures

The functions `rbind()` and `cbind()` concatenate data structures by row and by column respectively.

```
> Patient <- c(102, 105); gender <- factor(c("F", "M"))
> Heart.R <- c(83, 78)
> (Rates <- cbind(Patient, Heart.R))
```

```
     Patient  Heart.R
[1,]     102       83
[2,]     105       78
```

```
> class(Rates)
[1] "matrix"
```

Practical Example

Add the vector `gender` to the matrix `Rates` and to the data frame `HeartData`. What do you observe?

```
> HeartData <- as.data.frame(Rates)
> class(HeartData)
[1] "data.frame"
```

Data frames

Data frames consist of vectors (of equal sizes) which, unlike to matrices, may represent different types of data (heterogeneous). The function `data.frame()` can generate them.

```
> participant <- c(1:4); group <- c("T", "C", "C", "T")
> age <- c(22, 18, 33, 45); BMI <- c(25, 18, 32, 36)
> (MyData <- data.frame(participant, group, age, BMI))
```

```
  participant group age BMI
1           1     T  22  25
2           2     C  18  18
3           3     C  33  32
4           4     T  45  36
```

Practical Example

Show the structure and the attributes of the created object `MyData`.

Data frames

- Edit elements, row and/or column names

```
> MyData$participant <- MyData$participant + 100
> MyData
    participant  group  age  BMI
1           101      T   22   25
2           102      C   18   18
3           103      C   33   32
4           104      T   45   36

> colnames(MyData) <- c("Patient", "Treat.", "Age", "BMI")
# Similarly, use rownames() for row names
> MyData[1:2,]

    Patient  Treat.  Age  BMI
1       101       T   22   25
2       102       C   18   18
```

Merging of data frames

```
> merge(MyData, HeartData)
```

	Patient	Treat.	Age	BMI	Heart.R
1	102	C	18	18	83

```
> merge(MyData, HeartData, all = TRUE)
```

	Patient	Treat.	Age	BMI	Heart.R
1	101	T	22	25	NA
2	102	C	18	18	83
3	103	C	33	32	NA
4	104	T	45	36	NA
5	105	NA	NA	NA	78

Practical Example

Merge the data frames `MyData` and `HeartData` together: (a) with the parameter `all.x=TRUE`; (b) with the parameter `all.y=TRUE`. What do you observe ?

Import data sets

Data sets that internally stored with R do not need to be loaded

```
> data(iris); head(iris)
```

- view specific rows, e.g. rows number 7 and 11

```
> iris[c(7,11),]
```

- view specific columns, e.g. columns number 3, 4 and 5

```
> iris[,3:5]
```

To import and/or export data from/to an external file - on your local drive - you need to specify the path to the folder containing/that will contain the file.

- Show current working directory

```
> getwd()
```

- Change working directory

```
> setwd("C:/R-courses/RIntro")
```

Import and export data sets

- List all files in a given path

```
> list.files(getwd())
```

- export data sets to csv or txt file formats can be done using:

```
> write.csv(iris, "Mydata.csv", row.names = FALSE)
> write.table(iris, "Mydata.txt", row.names = FALSE)
```

- import data from csv or txt files:

```
> Im.data1 = read.csv(file = "Mydata.csv", header = TRUE)
> Im.data2 = read.table("Mydata.txt", header = TRUE)
```

- Get more information on data set

```
> attributes(iris); str(iris)
```

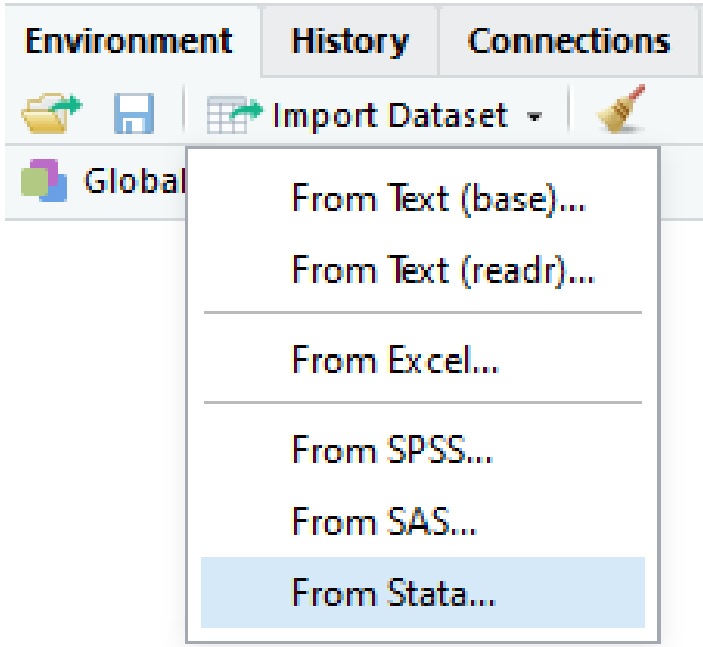
- Show class of each variable

```
> sapply(iris, class); lapply(iris, class)
```

Import and export data sets

- Import from other data formats using `haven` function:
  - `> install.packages("haven")`
  - `> library(haven)`

- SPSS:
  - `> read_sav()`
- Excel sheets:
  - `> read_excel()`
- Stata:
  - `> read_stata()`



Practical Intro-2

What is an R function?

- A pre-defined set of actions\calculations that can be called by function's name:

```
> mean(x = c(2,5,8,11))
[1] 6.5
```

Function arguments

a set of input parameters associated with functions (e.g., `x` in the function `mean`).

- You can find out arguments of a function and their descriptions using R help: `?function-name`

```
> ?mean
```

Creating functions

Your own function is defined using `function()` as follows:

Syntax for creating a function

```
function-name <- function(argument1, argument1, ...){
                 # function body
                 }
```

```
> BMI <- function(h, w){
+ Index <- w/(h^2)
+ return(Index)
+ }
```

```
> BMI(h=1.75, w=100)
[1] 32.65306
```

```
> BMI(h=1.80, w=62)
[1] 19.1358
```

Usage of functions

Functions can be called either with or without explicit argument assignments. Without explicit assignment, parameters should be given such that the order of arguments is crucial.

Examples

```
> # with explicit assignment
> BMI(w=94, h=1.70)
[1] 32.52595

> # without explicit assignment
> BMI(1.70, 94)
[1] 32.52595
```

Conditional execution

General syntax of `if`-statement

```
if(condition){
    statement(s)
}
```

OR

```
if(condition){
    statement(s)
} else {
    statement(s)
  }
```

Example

The created function `BMI` produce sensable results for positive values. What action(s) do you want to take when `h` or `w` parameter has a non-positive value?

Conditional execution

BMI - conditional execution: the if block

```
> BMI <- function(h, w){
+   if (h <= 0 | w <= 0){
+     cat('warning:  non-positive height or weight\n')
+     h <- abs(h); w <- abs(w)
+   }
+   Index <- w/(h^2)
+   return(Index)
+ }

> BMI(-1.7,80)
warning:  non-positive height or weight
[1] 27.68166
```

Conditional execution

BMI - conditional branching: the if-else block

```
> BMI <- function(h, w){
+   if (h > 0 & w > 0){
+     Index <- w/(h^2)
+     return(Index)
+   } else {
+     stop('non-positive height or weight\n')
+     }
+ }

> BMI(-1.7,80)
Error in BMI(-1.7, 80) :  non-positive height or weight
```

Conditional execution

ifelse-function

```
ifelse(condition, statement if TRUE, statement if FALSE)
```

Remark

The condition in the `ifelse` function is allowed to be on a vector, a matrix or a data frame

```
> x <- 1:5

# Is the modulo (remainder of division) of 2 is zero?
> ifelse(x %% 2 == 0, "even", x)

[1] "1" "even" "3" "even" "5"
```

FOR-loop

Loops execute iteratively the programme steps - using a different index for each step.

General syntax of `for`-loop

```
for (i in a:b) {statement(s)}
```

In other language, for each element in a:b execute the statements.

```
> h <- c(1,3,5)
> for (i in h){
+ print(i)
+ }
[1] 1 [1] 3 [1] 5
```

```
> show = c()
> for (i in 1:3){
+ show[i] <- ifelse(i %% 2 == 0,
"E", "O") + }
> show
[1] "O" "E" "O"
```

REPEAT-loop

General syntax of repeat-loop

```
repeat{
    statement(s)
    if (condition){break}
}
```

Statement(s) is (are) repeated, at least once, till the condition is met.

Example

```
> show <- 0
> repeat{
+ show <- show + 1
+ if(show == 4){break}
+ }
> show
[1] 4
```

WHILE-loop

General syntax of `while`-loop

```
while(condition){
    statement(s)
}
```

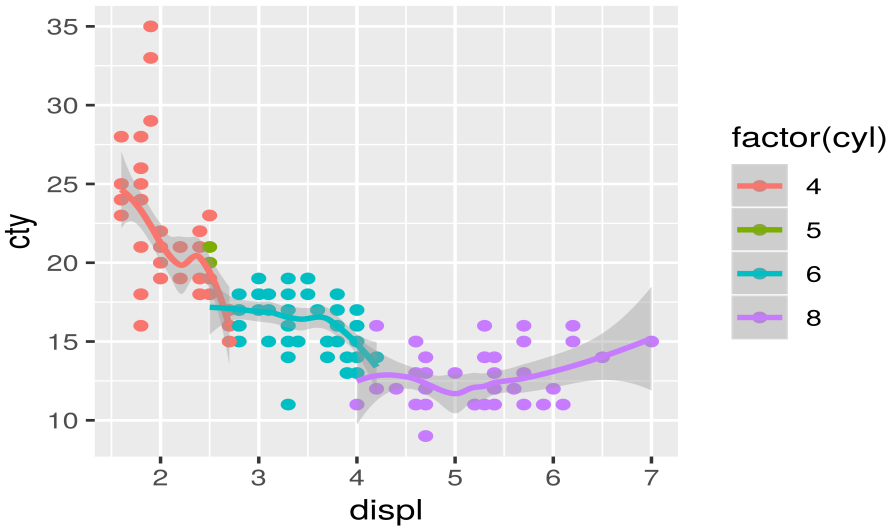
Statement(s) is (are) repeated iteratively as long as the condition is fulfilled.

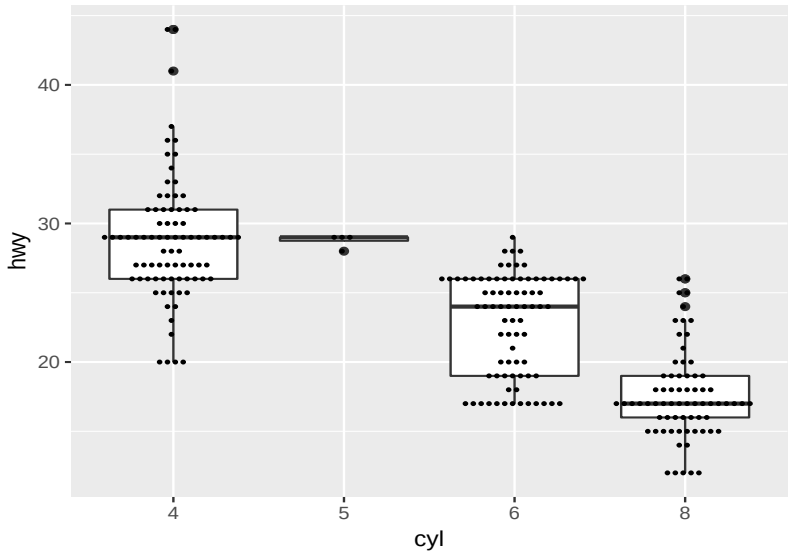
Example

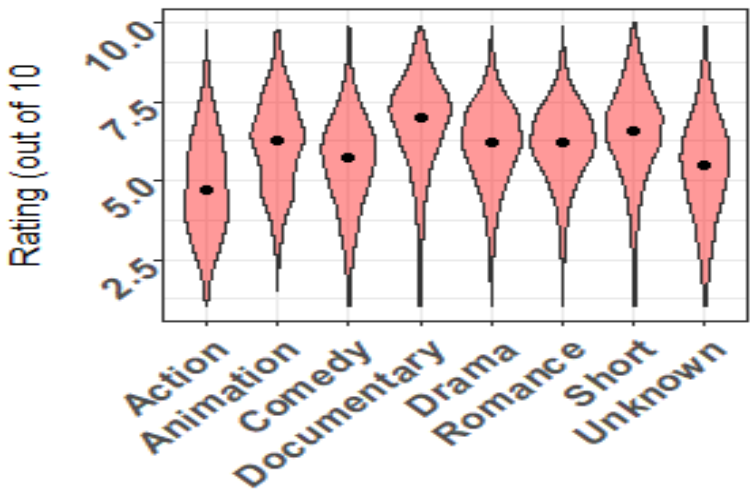
```
> set.seed(1234)    # to get as same outputs as here
> show <- c()
> while(length(show) < 3){
+ show[length(show)+1] <- rnorm(1)
+ }
> show
[1] -1.2070657 0.2774292 1.0844412
```

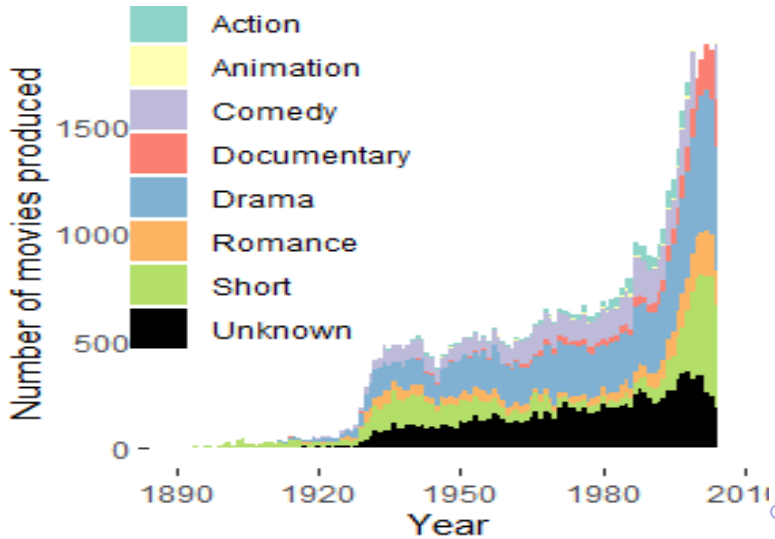
Getting More - High quality plots

`ggplot2` allows you to create plots with publication quality



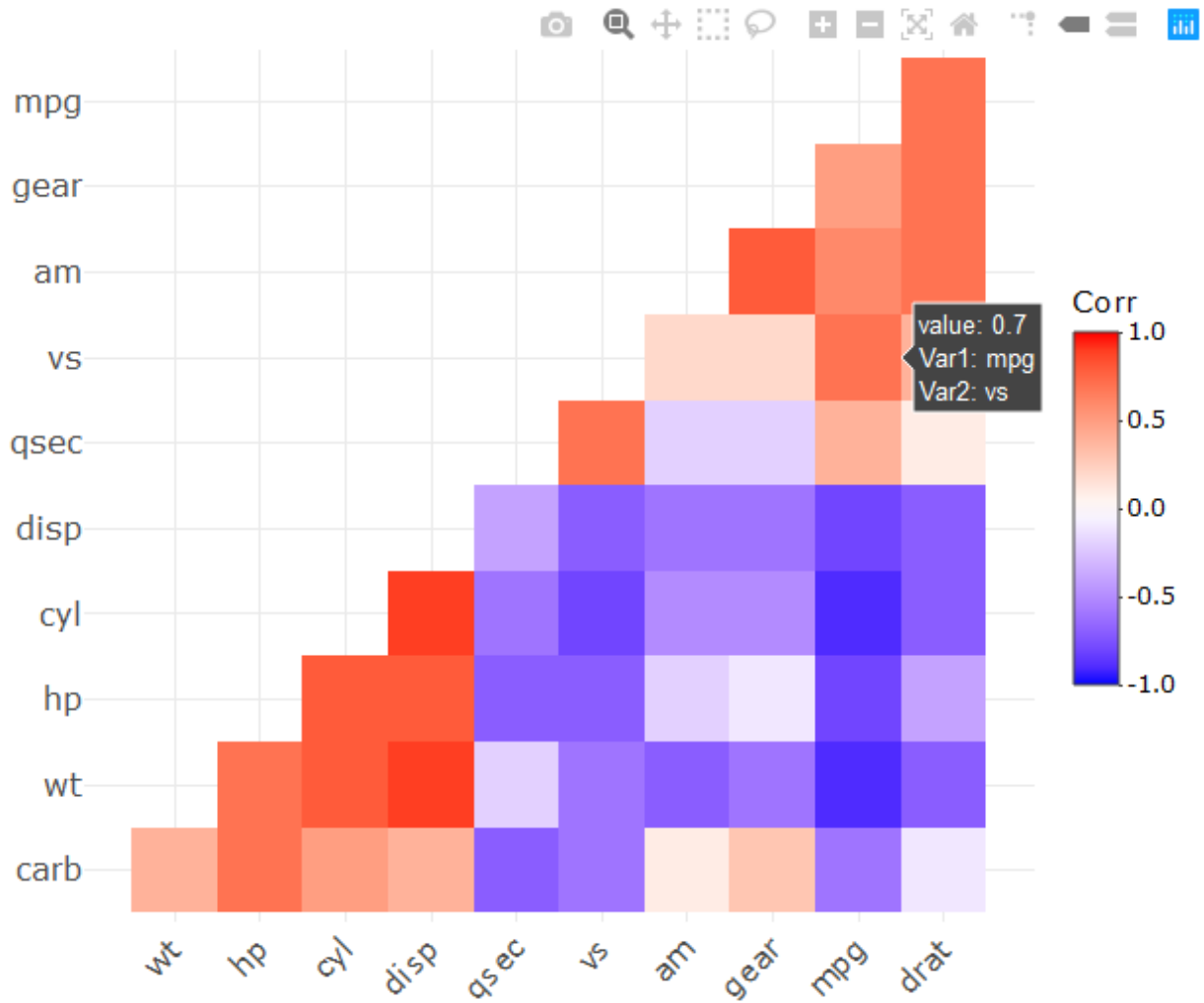






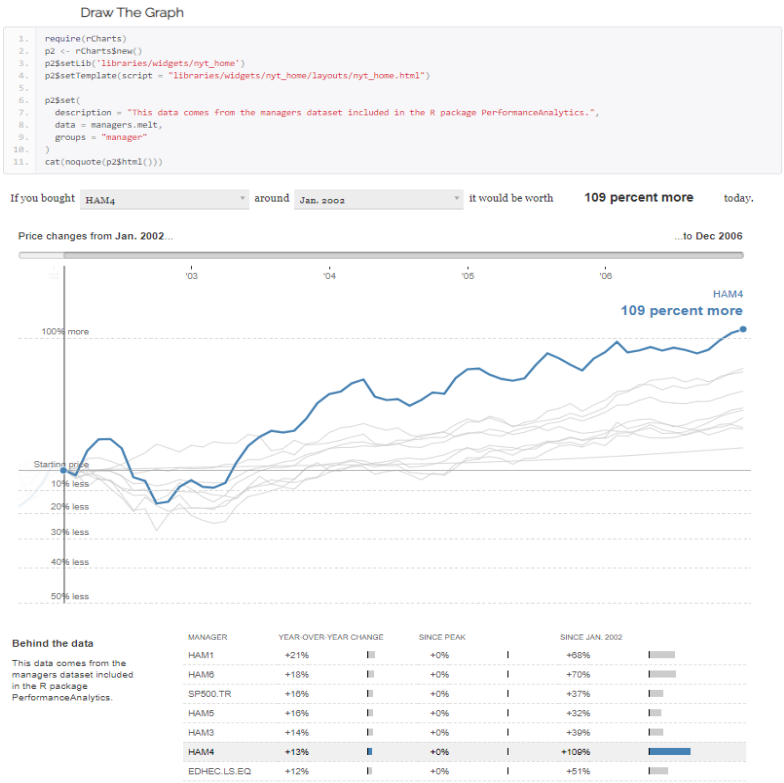
Getting More - Interactive plots

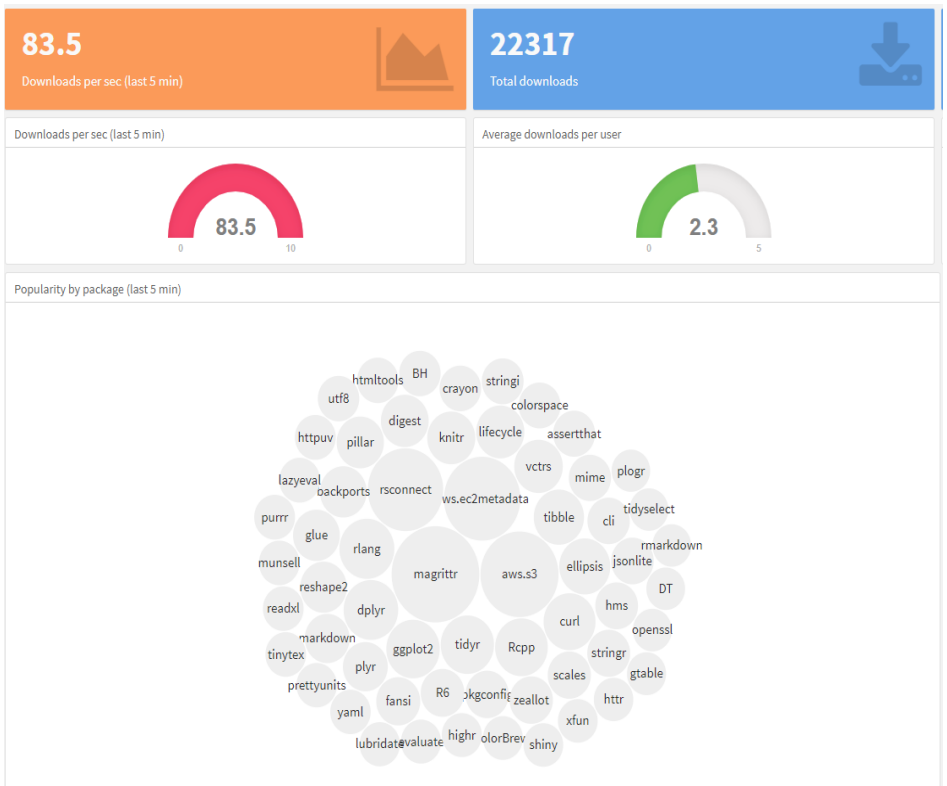
`plotly` allows you to create interactive plots



Getting More - Dynamic reports

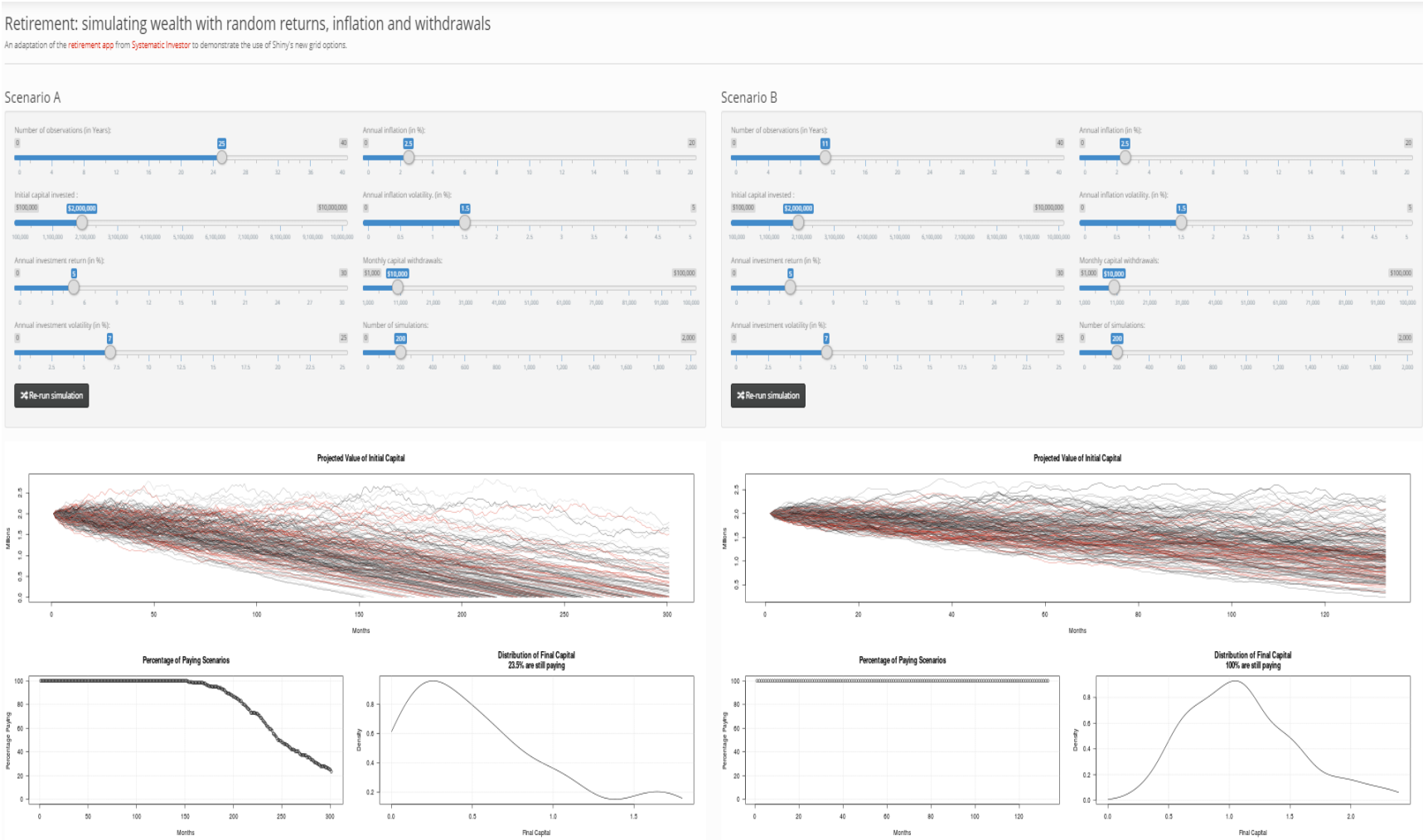
R Markdown allows you to create: dynamic/interactive reports including narrative text, script, and output; dash, handout tutorials; presentations; dashboards; and more.





Getting More - Web apps

Shiny allows you to create: interactive apps without any knowledge of HTML or Javascript!



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