

Getting started with R

Back to Basics



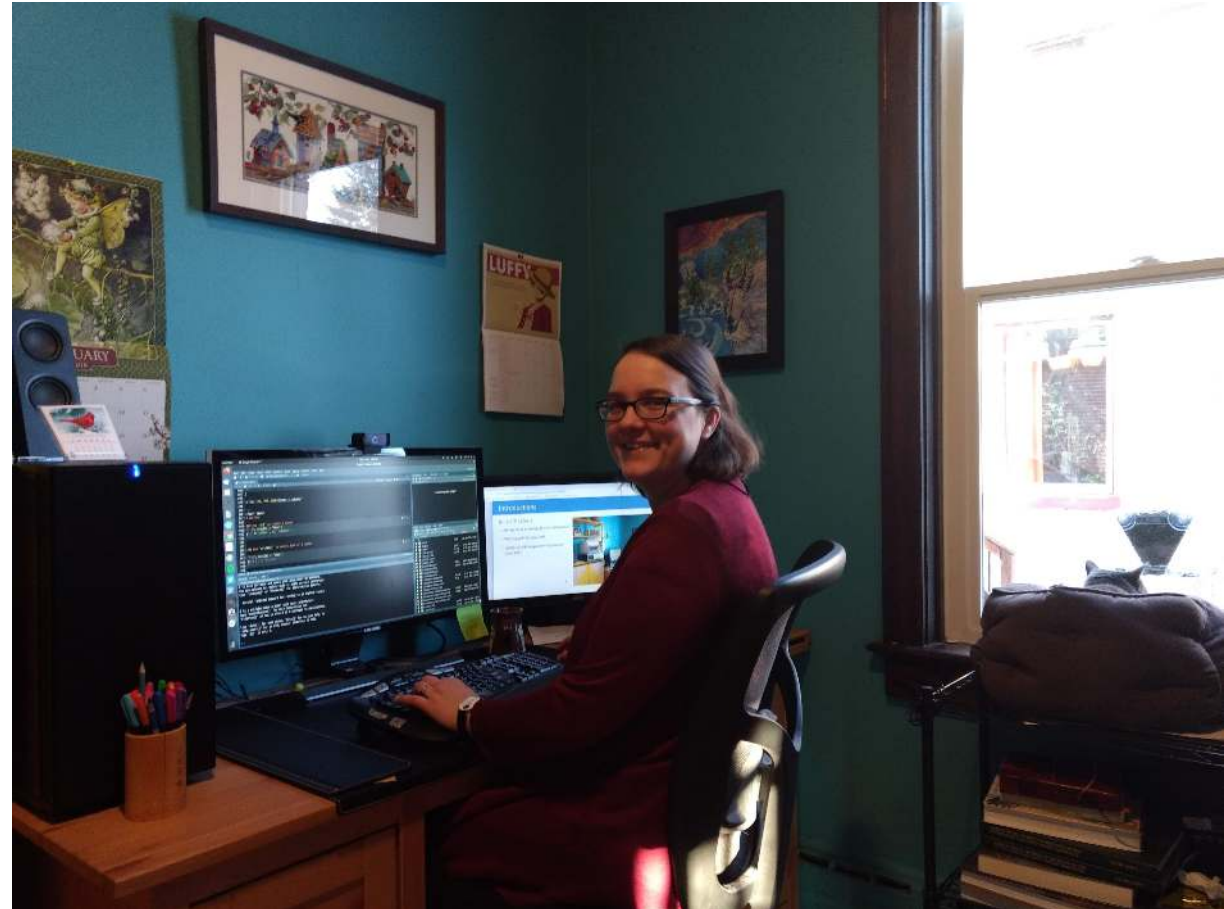
Online workshops can be challenging

- **Keep your video on** (if possible)
 - We're here together!
 - Kids? Pets? Spouses? No problem!
- **Interrupt me!**
 - Generally keep yourself muted but un-mute anytime to ask questions
- **Ask Questions!**
 - Group trouble-shooting is really valuable
 - If you have a problem, others may also (or may have it in the future)
- **Screen-sharing**
 - I may ask you to share your screen with the group
 - For privacy, close your email etc. Or just share your RStudio window

Introductions

Dr. Steffi LaZerte

- Background in Biology (Animal Behaviour)
- Working with R since 2007
- Professional R programmer/consultant since 2017
- Third year giving BU R Workshop!



What about you?

- Name
- Pets? (share on camera!)
- Background (Student/Faculty/Staff, Area of study, etc.)
- Familiarity with Computer Programming (C+, Java, HTML, PHP, python, SAS)
- Familiarity with R
 - I've heard of R
 - I've installed R (before this class)
 - I've used R
 - I've used R a lot
 - I use R all the time

About this Workshop

Format

- I will provide you tools and workflow to get started with R
- We'll have hands-on, lecture, and demonstrations

R is hard: But have no fear!

- Don't expect to remember everything!
- Copy/Paste is your friend (never apologize for using it!)
- Consider this workshop a resource to return to

About this Workshop

Format

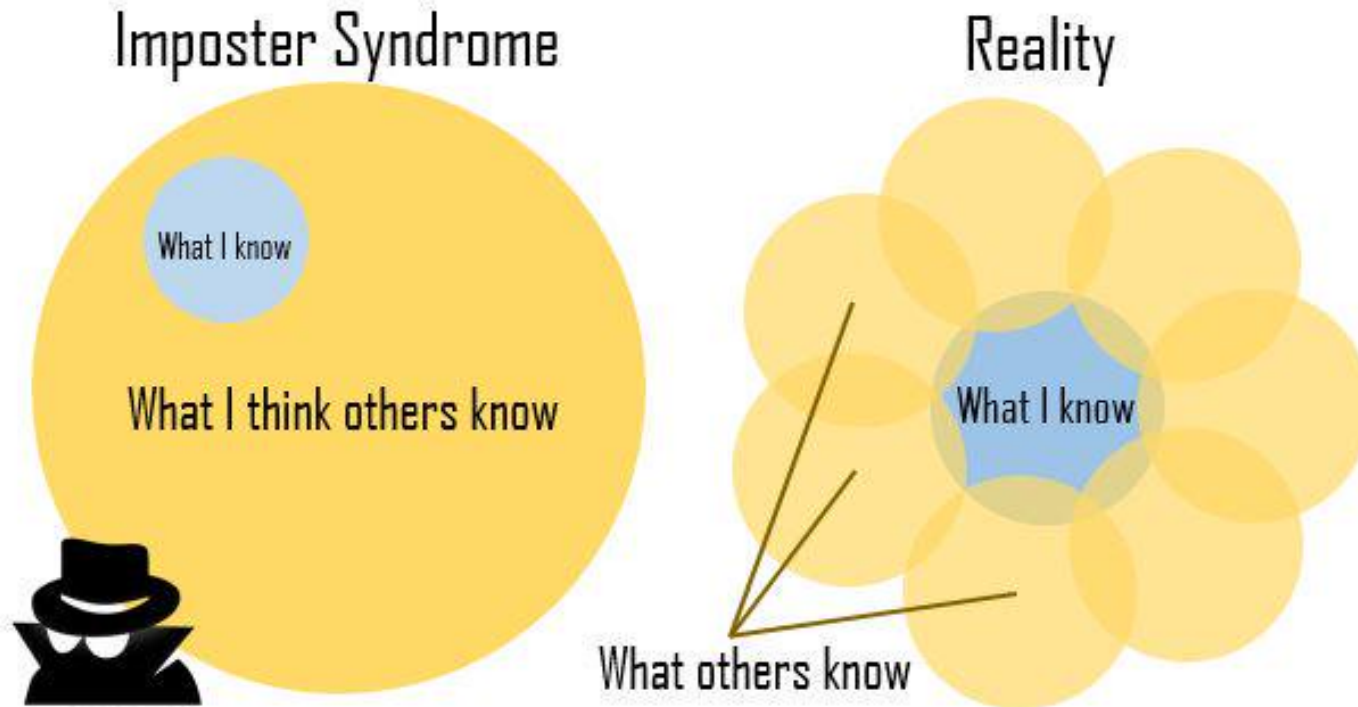
- I will provide you tools and workflow to get started with R
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Impost Syndrome

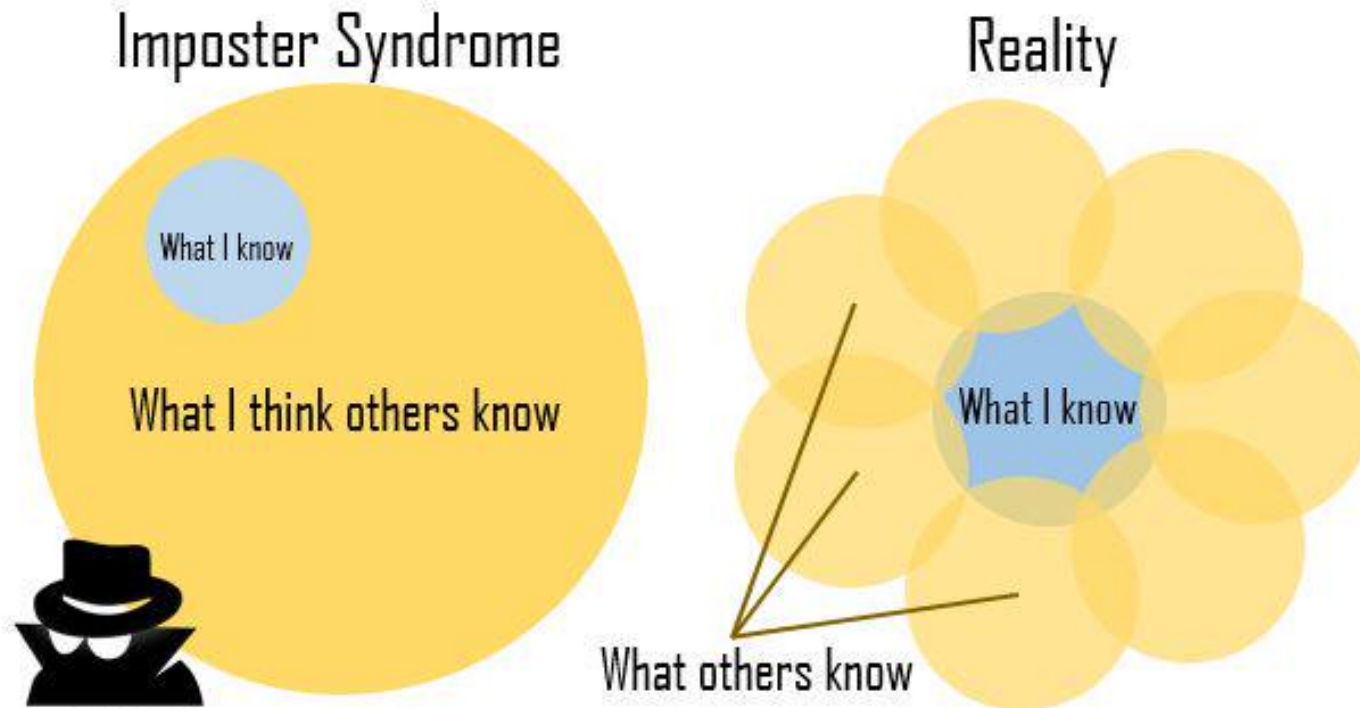
ImpostR Syndrome



David Whittaker

ImpostR
Syndrome

ImpostR Syndrome



David Whittaker

ImpostR Syndrome

Moral of the story?

Make friends, code in groups, learn together and don't beat yourself up

at first I was like...



...but now it's like...



All about R

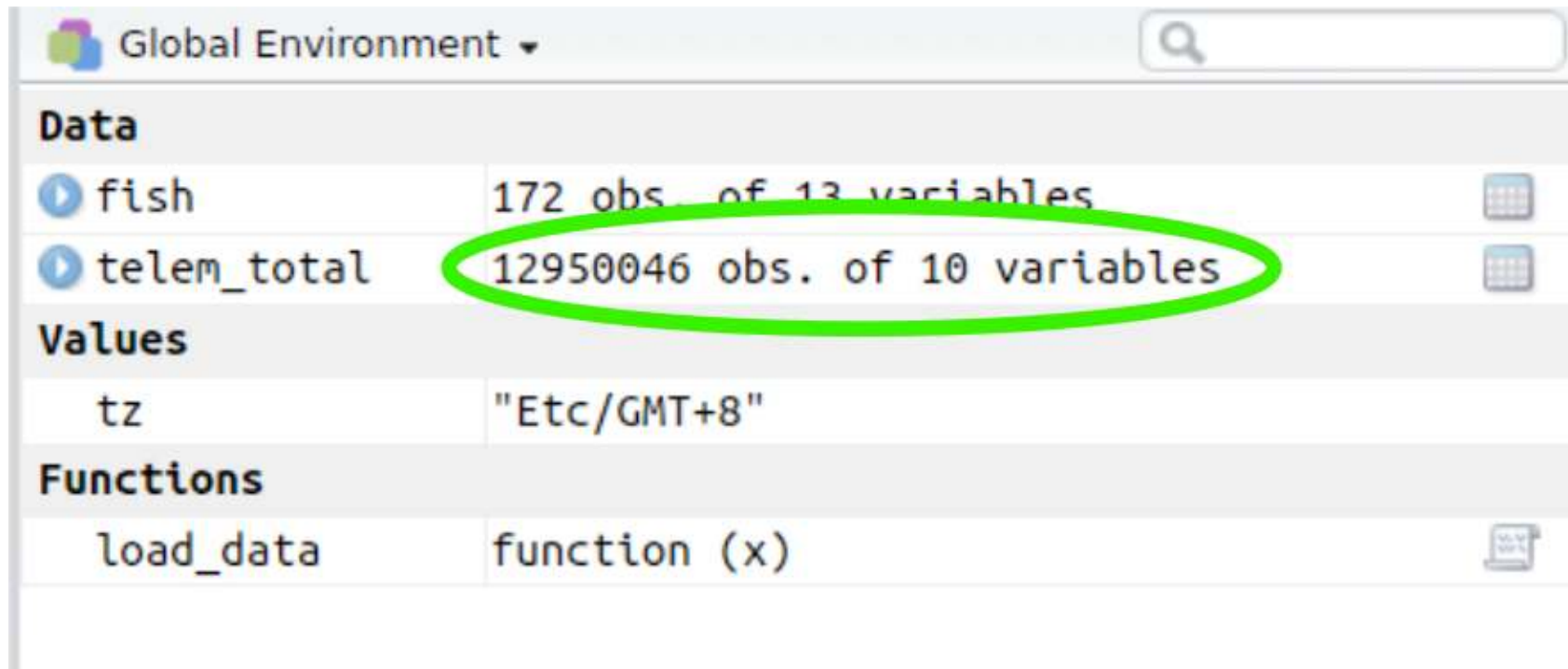
Why R?

R is hard

```
# Get in circle around city
circle <- data.frame()
cutoff <- 10
for(i in unique(gps$region)) {
  n <- nrow(gps[gps$region == i,]) ##number of IDs
  if(i == "wil") tmp <- geocode("Williams Lake, Canada")
  if(i == "kam") tmp <- geocode("Kamloops, Canada")
  if(i == "kel") tmp <- geocode("Kelowna, Canada")
  temp <- data.frame()
  for(a in 1:n){
    if(a <= cutoff) temp <- rbind(temp, gcDestination(lon = tmp$lon,
                                                       lat = tmp$lat,
                                                       bearing = (a*(360/(cutoff))-360/(cutoff)),
                                                       dist = 20,
                                                       dist.units = "km",
                                                       model = "WGS84"))
    if(a > cutoff) temp <- rbind(temp, gcDestination(lon = tmp$lon,
                                                       lat = tmp$lat,
                                                       bearing = ((a-cutoff)*(360/(max(table(gps$region))-10))-360/(max(table(gps$region))-cutoff)),
                                                       dist = 35,
                                                       dist.units = "km",
                                                       model = "WGS84"))
  }
  circle <- rbind(circle, cbind(temp,
                                region = i,
                                hab = gps$hab[gps$region == i],
                                spl = gps$spl.orig[gps$region == i],
```

Why R?

But R is powerful (and reproducible)!

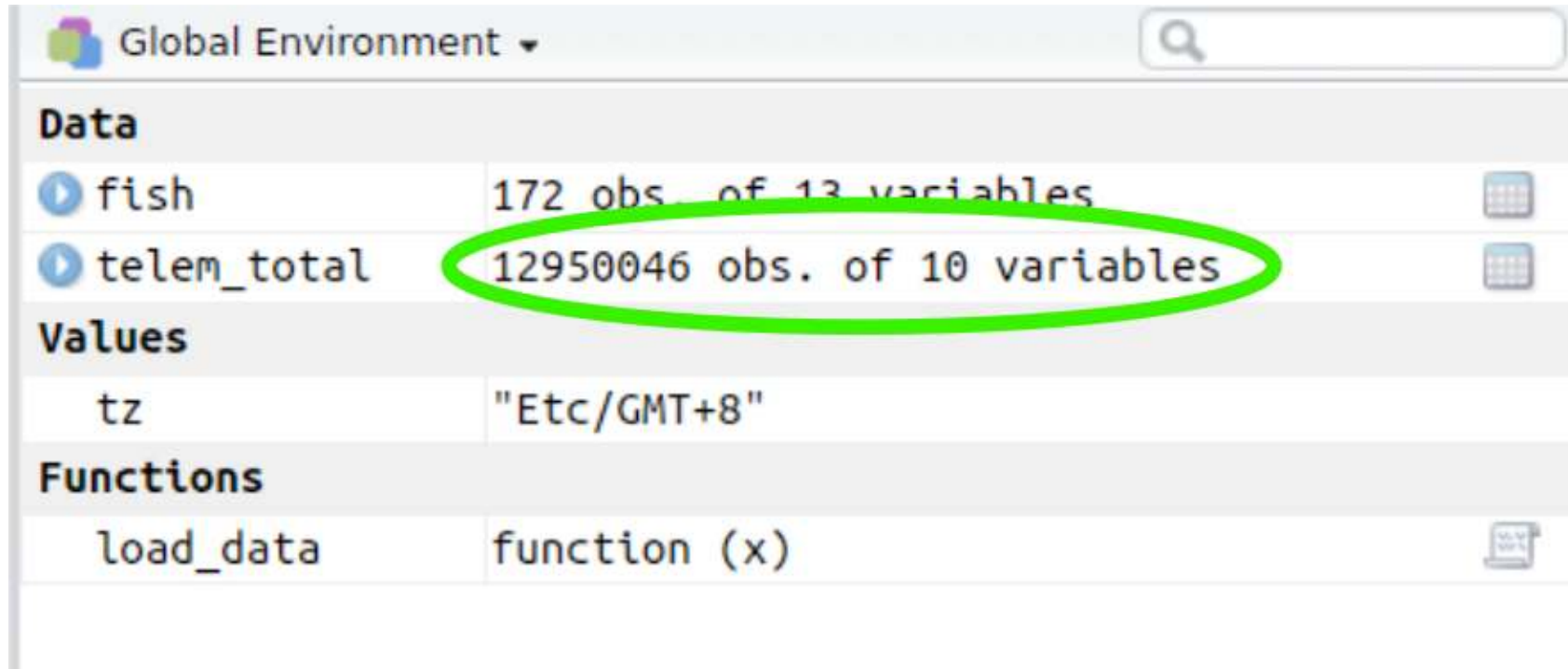


The screenshot shows the 'Global Environment' window in R. It is divided into three sections: 'Data', 'Values', and 'Functions'. In the 'Data' section, two variables are listed: 'fish' with 172 observations and 13 variables, and 'telem_total' with 12950046 observations and 10 variables. The 'telem_total' entry is circled in green. In the 'Values' section, a variable 'tz' is shown with the value 'Etc/GMT+8'. In the 'Functions' section, a function 'load_data' is shown with the signature 'function (x)'.

Global Environment	
Data	
fish	172 obs. of 13 variables
telem_total	12950046 obs. of 10 variables
Values	
tz	"Etc/GMT+8"
Functions	
load_data	function (x)

Why R?

But R is powerful (and reproducible)!

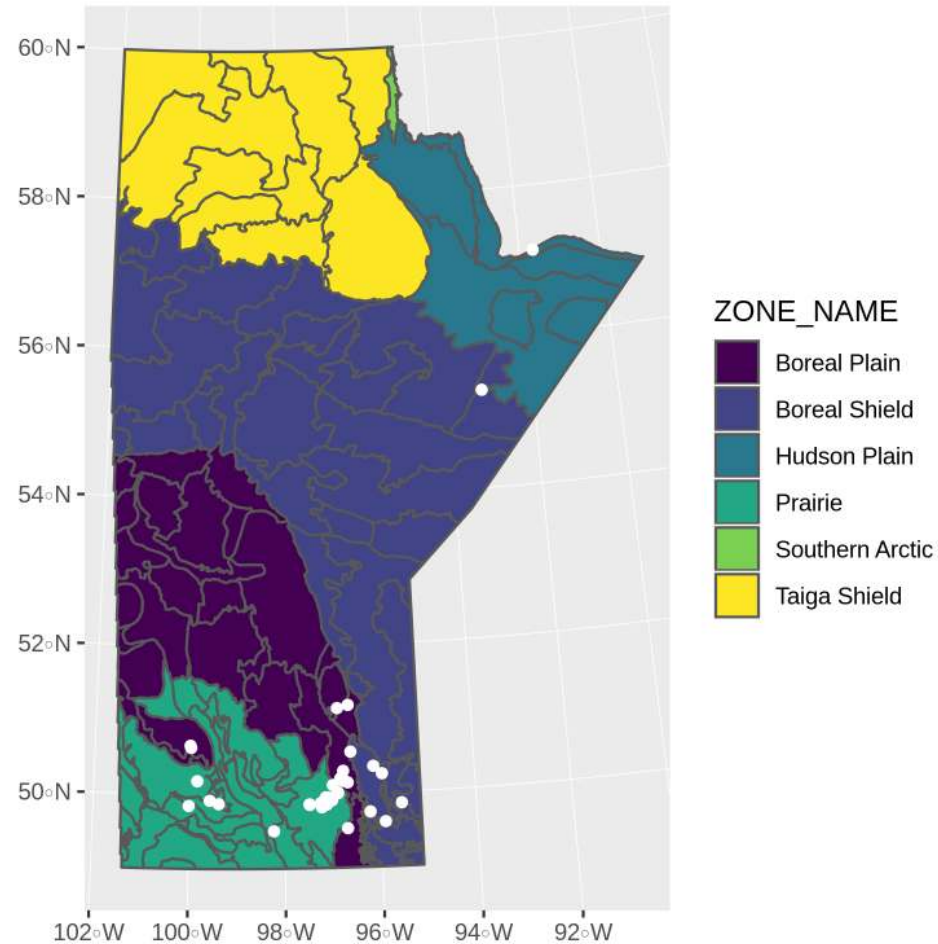


The screenshot shows the 'Global Environment' pane in an R IDE. It is divided into three sections: 'Data', 'Values', and 'Functions'. In the 'Data' section, two objects are listed: 'fish' with 172 observations and 13 variables, and 'telem_total' with 12950046 observations and 10 variables. The 'telem_total' entry is circled in green. The 'Values' section shows a single entry 'tz' with the value 'Etc/GMT+8'. The 'Functions' section shows a single entry 'load_data' which is a function of 'x'.

Global Environment	
Data	
fish	172 obs. of 13 variables
telem_total	12950046 obs. of 10 variables
Values	
tz	"Etc/GMT+8"
Functions	
load_data	function (x)

Why R?

R is also beautiful



Why R?

R is affordable (i.e., free!)

R is available as Free Software under the terms of the [Free Software Foundation's GNU General Public License](#) in source code form. It compiles and runs on a wide variety of UNIX platforms and similar systems (including FreeBSD and Linux), Windows and MacOS.

What is R?

R is Programming language

A programming **language** is a way to give instructions in order to get a computer to do something

- You need to know the language (i.e., the code)
- Computers don't know what you mean, only what you type (unfortunately)
- Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization all matter!

For example

R, what is 56 times 5.8?

```
56 * 5.8
```

```
## [1] 324.8
```

Use code to tell R what to do

R, what is the average of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4?

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

```
## [1] 2.5
```

Use code to tell R what to do

R, what is the average of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4?

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

```
## [1] 2.5
```

R, save this value for later

```
steffis_mean <- mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

Use code to tell R what to do

R, what is the average of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4?

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

```
## [1] 2.5
```

R, save this value for later

```
steffis_mean <- mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

R, multiply this value by 6

```
steffis_mean * 6
```

```
## [1] 15
```

Code, Output, Scripts

Code

- The actual commands

Output

- The result of running code or a script

Script

- A text file full of code that you want to run
- You should always keep your code in a script

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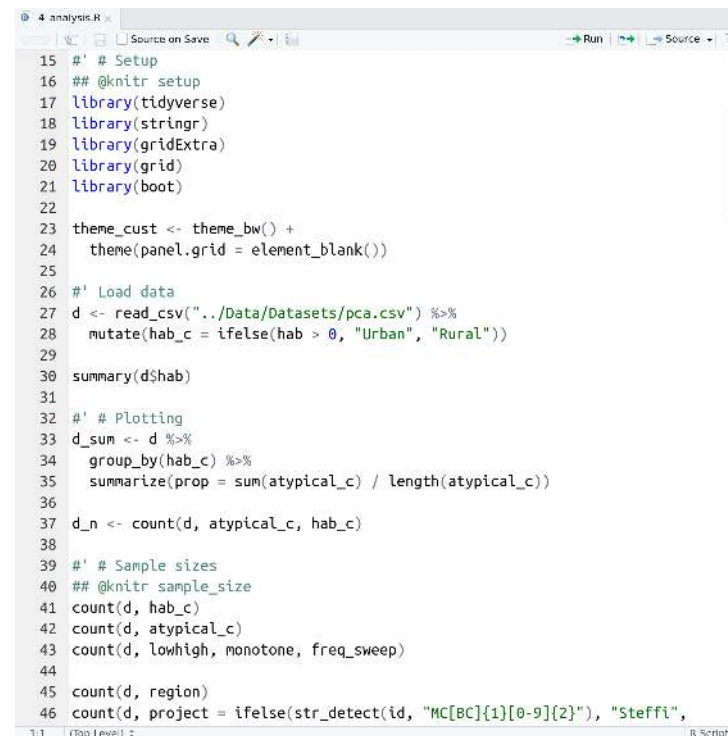
For example:

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

Code

```
## [1] 2.5
```

Output



```
15 #' # Setup
16 ## @knitr setup
17 library(tidyverse)
18 library(stringr)
19 library(gridExtra)
20 library(grid)
21 library(boot)
22
23 theme_cust <- theme_bw() +
24   theme(panel.grid = element_blank())
25
26 #' Load data
27 d <- read_csv("../Data/Datasets/pca.csv") %>%
28   mutate(hab_c = ifelse(hab > 0, "Urban", "Rural"))
29
30 summary(d$hab)
31
32 #' # Plotting
33 d_sum <- d %>%
34   group_by(hab_c) %>%
35   summarize(prop = sum(atypical_c) / length(atypical_c))
36
37 d_n <- count(d, atypical_c, hab_c)
38
39 #' # Sample sizes
40 ## @knitr sample_size
41 count(d, hab_c)
42 count(d, atypical_c)
43 count(d, lowhigh, monotone, freq_sweep)
44
45 count(d, region)
46 count(d, project = ifelse(str_detect(id, "MC[BC]{1}[0-9]{2}"), "Steffi",
```

Script

RStudio vs. R



RStudio



R

- **RStudio** is not **R**
- RStudio is a User Interface or IDE (integrated development environment)
 - (i.e., Makes coding simpler)
- But sometimes tries to be **too** helpful

RStudio Features

Changing Options: Tools > Global Options

- General > Restore RData into workspace at startup (NO!)
- General > Save workspace to on exit (NEVER!)
- Code > Insert matching parens/quotes (Personal preference)

Projects

- Handles working directories
- Organizes your work

Packages

- Can use the package manager to install packages
- Can use the manager to load them as well, but not recommended

Let's take a look at RStudio

Your first *real* code!

First Code

```
# First load the packages
library(tidyverse)
library(palmerpenguins)

# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +
  geom_point()
```

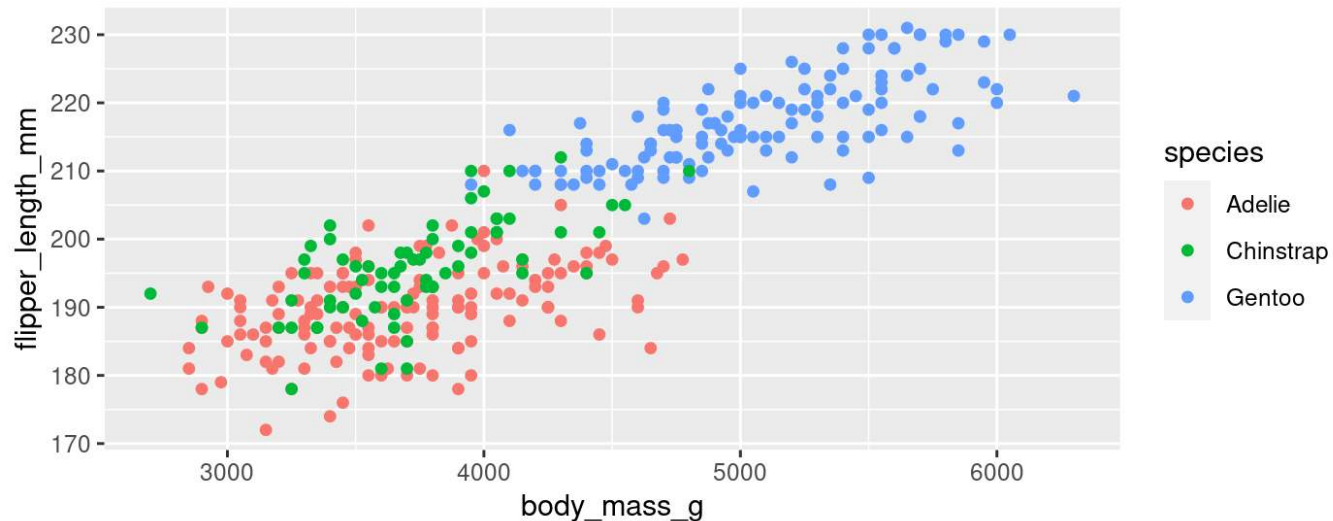
- Copy/paste or type this into the script window in RStudio
 - You may have to go to File > New File > R Script
- Click anywhere on the first line of code
- Use the 'Run' button to run this code, **or** use the short-cut **Ctrl-Enter**
 - Repeat until all the code has run

First Code

```
# First load the packages
library(tidyverse)
library(palmerpenguins)

# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +
  geom_point()
```

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```



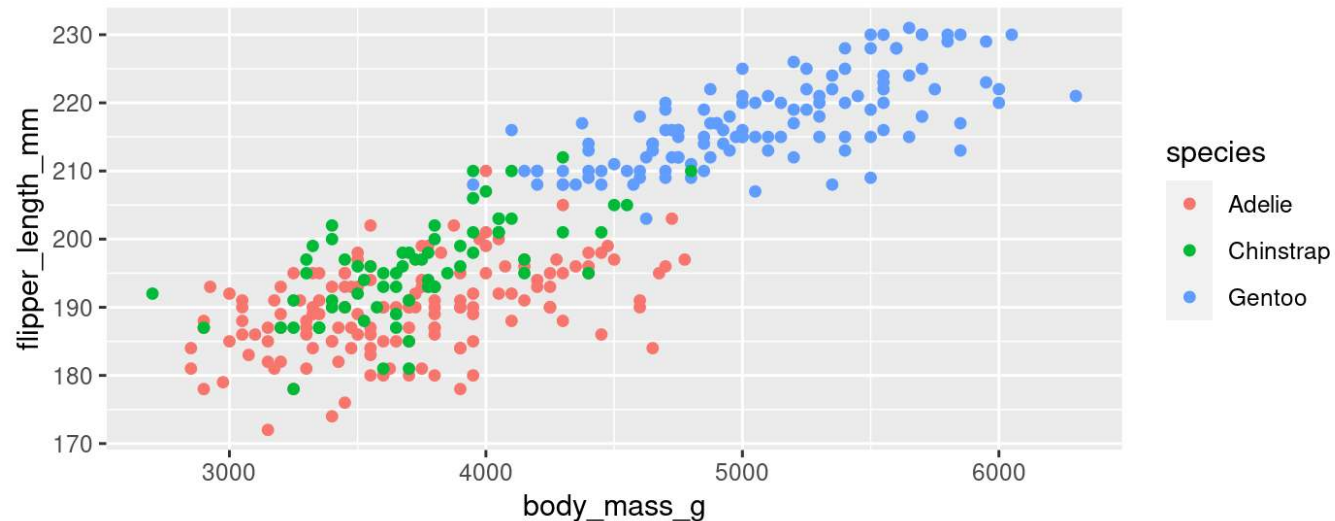
First Code

```
# First load the packages  
library(tidyverse)  
library(palmerpenguins)
```

Packages
tidyverse and **palmerpenguins**

```
# Now create the figure  
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +  
  geom_point()
```

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```



First Code

```
# First load the packages
```

```
library(tidyverse)
```

```
library(palmerpenguins)
```

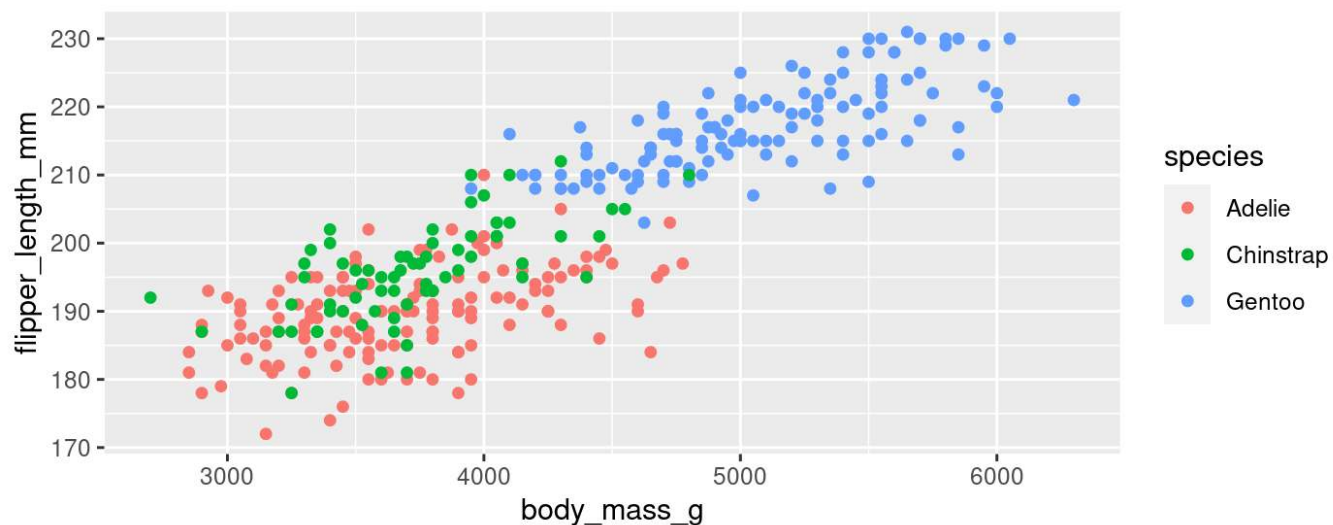
```
# Now create the figure
```

```
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +  
  geom_point()
```

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## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```

Functions:

library(), **ggplot()**
aes(), and **geom_point()**



First Code

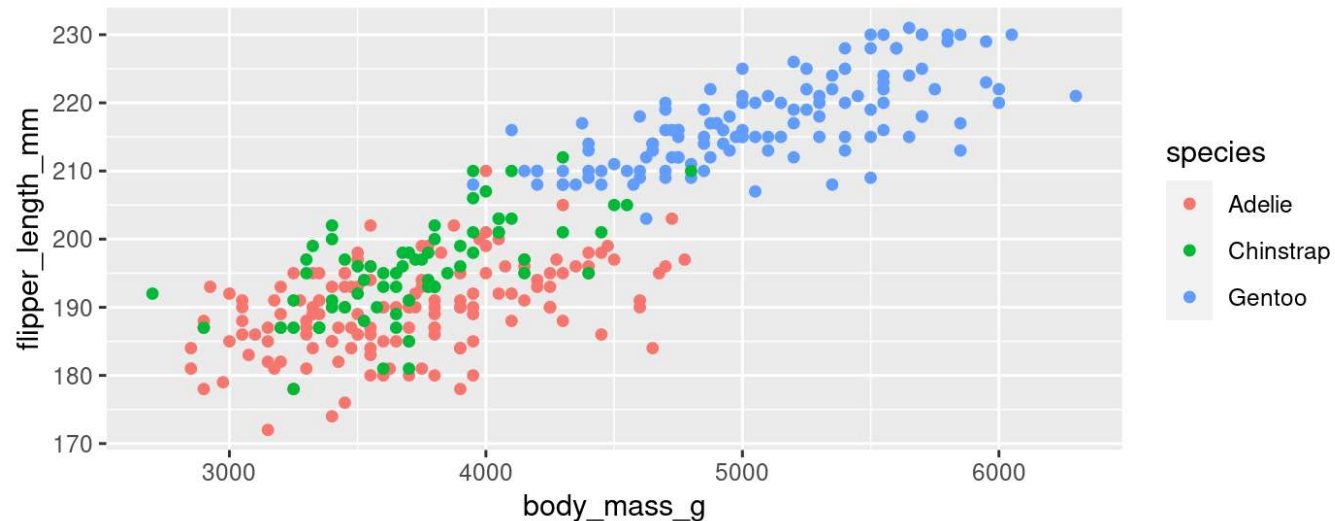
```
# First load the packages  
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library(palmerpenguins)
```

```
# Now create the figure
```

```
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +  
  geom_point()
```

+
(Specific to **ggplot**)

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```

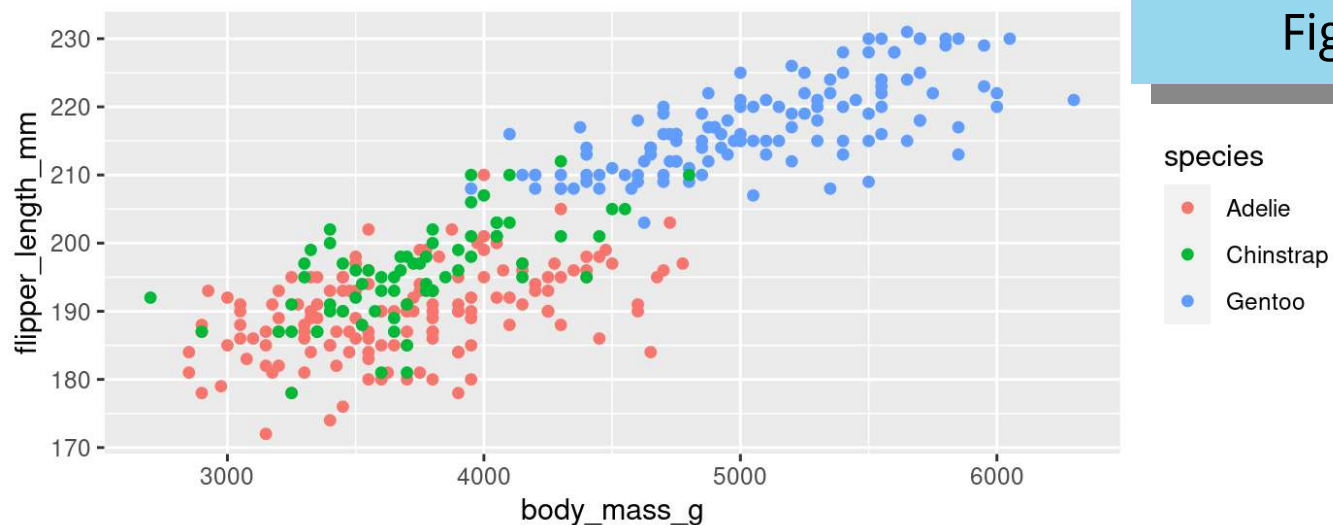


First Code

```
# First load the packages
library(tidyverse)
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# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +
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```

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## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
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Figure!

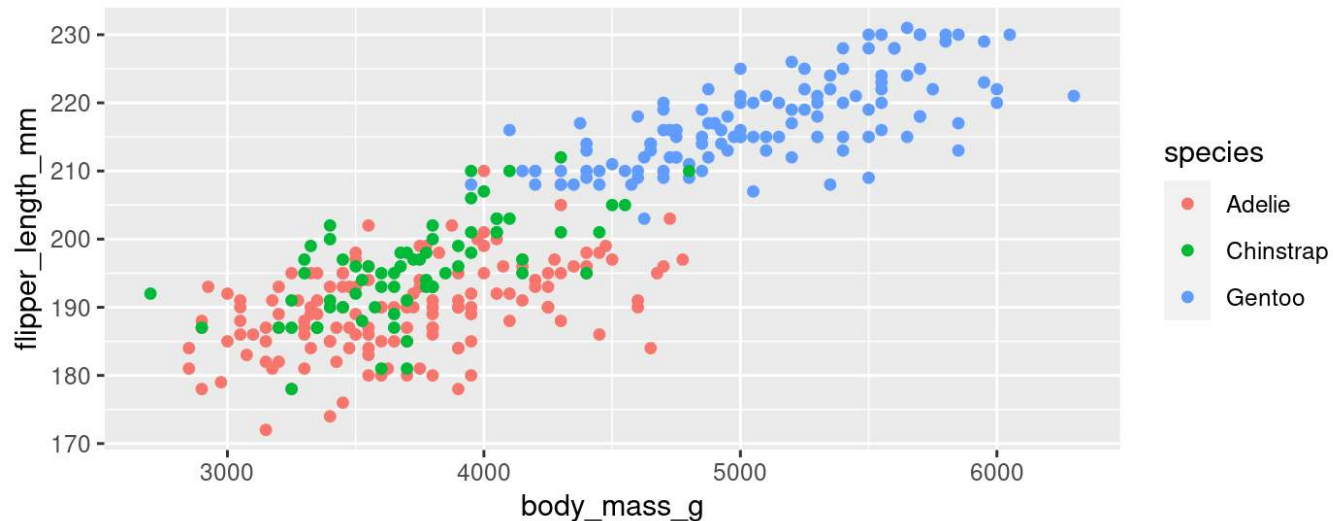
First Code

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# First load the packages
library(tidyverse)
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# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +
  geom_point()
```

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```

Warning



First Code

```
# First load the packages
```

```
library(tidyverse)
```

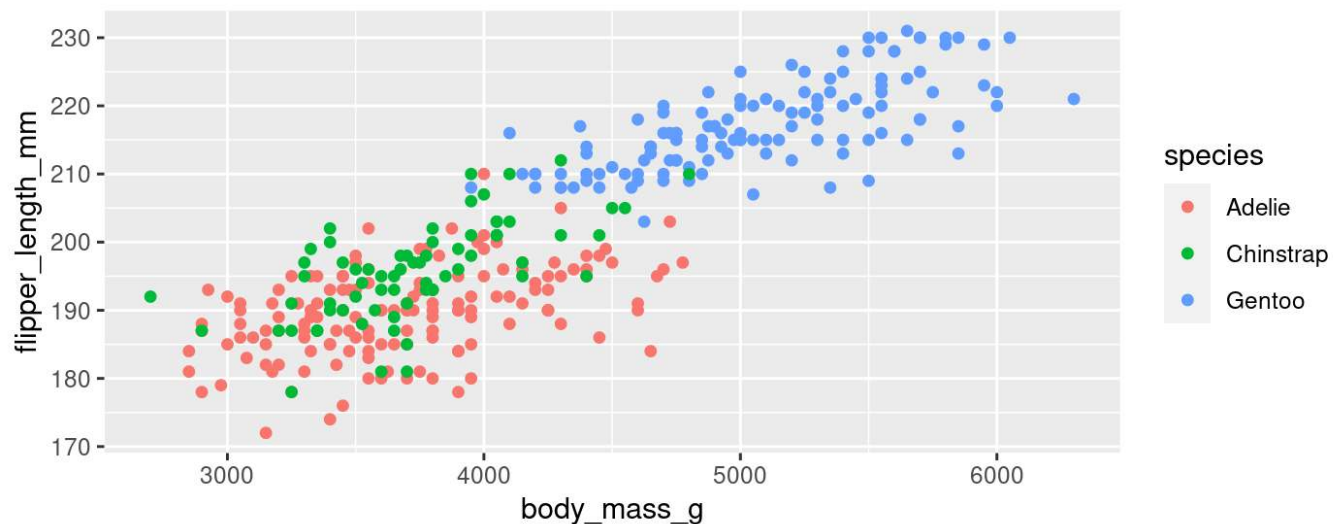
```
library(palmerpenguins)
```

Comments
(Start with #)

```
# Now create the figure
```

```
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = flipper_length_mm, colour = species)) +  
  geom_point()
```

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
```



R Basics: Objects

Objects are *things* in the environment
(Check out the **Environment** pane in RStudio)

functions()

Do things, Return things

Does something but returns nothing

e.g., `write_csv()` - Saves the `mtcars` data frame as a csv file

```
write_csv(mtcars, path = "mtcars.csv")
```

Does something and returns something

e.g., `sd()` - returns the standard deviation of a vector

```
sd(c(4, 10, 21, 55))
```

```
## [1] 22.78157
```

functions()

- Functions can take **arguments** (think 'options')
- **data, x, y, colour**

```
ggplot(data = msleep, aes(x = sleep_total, y = sleep_rem, colour = vore)) +  
  geom_point()
```

functions()

- Functions can take **arguments** (think 'options')
- **data, x, y, colour**

```
ggplot(data = msleep, aes(x = sleep_total, y = sleep_rem, colour = vore)) +  
  geom_point()
```

- Arguments defined by **name** or by **position**
- With correct position, do not need to specify by name

By name:

```
mean(x = c(1, 5, 10))
```

```
## [1] 5.333333
```

By order:

```
mean(c(1, 5, 10))
```

```
## [1] 5.333333
```

functions()

Watch out for 'hidden' arguments

By name:

```
mean(x = c(1, 5, 10, NA),  
      na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
## [1] 5.333333
```


functions()

Watch out for 'hidden' arguments

By name:

```
mean(x = c(1, 5, 10, NA),  
      na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
## [1] 5.333333
```

By order:

```
mean(c(1, 5, 10, NA),  
      TRUE)
```

```
## Error in mean.default(c(1, 5, 10, NA), TRUE): 'trim' must  
be numeric of length one
```

functions()

Watch out for 'hidden' arguments

By name:

```
mean(x = c(1, 5, 10, NA),  
      na.rm = TRUE)
```

```
## [1] 5.333333
```

By order:

```
mean(c(1, 5, 10, NA),  
      TRUE)
```

```
## Error in mean.default(c(1, 5, 10, NA), TRUE): 'trim' must  
be numeric of length one
```

This error states that we've assigned the argument **trim** to a non-valid argument

Where did **trim** come from?

R documentation

?mean

?mean

mean {base}

R Documentation

Arithmetic Mean

Description

Generic function for the (trimmed) arithmetic mean.

Usage

```
mean(x, ...)
```

```
## Default S3 method:
```

```
mean(x, trim = 0, na.rm = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|-------|--|
| x | An R object. Currently there are methods for numeric/logical vectors and date , date-time and time interval objects. Complex vectors are allowed for <code>trim = 0</code> , only. |
| trim | the fraction (0 to 0.5) of observations to be trimmed from each end of x before the mean is computed. Values of trim outside that range are taken as the nearest endpoint. |
| na.rm | a logical value indicating whether NA values should be stripped before the computation proceeds. |
| ... | further arguments passed to or from other methods. |

Data

Generally kept in **vectors** or **data.frames**

- These are objects with names (like functions)
- We can use **<-** to assign values to objects (assignment)

Vector (1 dimension)

```
my_letters <- c("a", "b", "c")  
my_letters
```

```
## [1] "a" "b" "c"
```

Data frame (2 dimensions)

rows x columns

```
my_data <- data.frame(x = c("s1", "s2", "s3", "s4"),  
                      y = c(101, 102, 103, 104),  
                      z = c("a", "b", "c", "d"))
```

```
my_data
```

```
##      x    y z  
## 1 s1 101 a  
## 2 s2 102 b  
## 3 s3 103 c  
## 4 s4 104 d
```

Vectors

Use `c()` to create a vector

```
a <- c("apples", 12, "bananas")
```

Use `x[index]` to access part of a vector

```
a[3] # [1] "bananas"
```

Vectors contain one type of variable

(Even if you try to make it with more)

```
class(a) # [1] "character"
```

Data frames (also tibbles)

```
my_data
```

```
##      x    y z  
## 1 s1 101 a  
## 2 s2 102 b  
## 3 s3 103 c  
## 4 s4 104 d
```

- Columns have different types of variables
- **`x$colname`** to pull columns out as vector
- **`x[row, col]`** to access rows and columns of a data frame

Your Turn: Vectors and Data frames

Try out the following code...

1. What is the output in your console?
2. How does your **environment** change (upper right panel)?

Vectors

```
a <- c("apples", 12, "bananas")  
a
```

Data frames

```
my_data <- data.frame(x = c("s1", "s2", "s3", "s4"),  
                      y = c(101, 102, 103, 104),  
                      z = c("a", "b", "c", "d"))  
  
my_data
```


Your Turn: Vectors and Data frames

Try out the following code...

Vectors

```
a[2]  
a[c(1, 3)]  
a[3:5]
```

Data frames

```
my_data[3, ]  
my_data[3, 1]  
my_data[, 1:2]
```

Miscellaneous

R has spelling and punctuation

- R cares about spelling
- R is also case sensitive! (**Apple** is not the same as **apple**)
- Comma's are used to separate arguments in functions

For example

This is correct:

```
mean(c(5, 7, 10)) # [1] 7.333333
```

This is **not** correct:

```
mean(c(5 7 10))
```

```
## Error: <text>:1:10: unexpected numeric constant
## 1: mean(c(5 7
##                ^
```

R has spelling and punctuation

- R cares about spelling
- R is also case sensitive! (**Apple** is not the same as **apple**)
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For example

This is correct:

```
mean(c(5, 7, 10)) # [1] 7.333333
```

>80% of learning R is learning to
troubleshoot

This is **not** correct:

```
mean(c(5 7 10))
```

```
## Error: <text>:1:10: unexpected numeric constant
## 1: mean(c(5 7
##                ^
```

R has spelling and punctuation

Spaces usually don't matter unless they change meanings

```
5>=6      # [1] FALSE
5 >=6     # [1] FALSE
5 >= 6    # [1] FALSE
5 > = 6   # Error: unexpected '=' in "5 > ="
```

Periods don't matter either, but can be used in the same way as letters

(But don't)

```
apple.oranges <- "fruit"
```

Assignments and Equal signs

Use `<-` to assign values to objects

```
a <- "hello"
```

Use `=` to set function arguments

```
mean(x = c(4, 9, 10))
```

Use `==` to determine equivalence (logical)

```
10 == 10 # [1] TRUE  
10 == 9  # [1] FALSE
```

Braces/Brackets

Round brackets: ()

- Identify functions (even if there are no arguments)

```
Sys.Date() # Get the Current Date
```

```
## [1] "2021-01-15"
```

Braces/Brackets

Round brackets: ()

- Identify functions (even if there are no arguments)

```
Sys.Date() # Get the Current Date
```

```
## [1] "2021-01-15"
```

- Without the (), R spits out information on the function:

```
Sys.Date
```

```
## function ()  
## as.Date(as.POSIXlt(Sys.time()))  
## <bytecode: 0x5575267bcbd0>  
## <environment: namespace:base>
```


Braces/Brackets

Round brackets: ()

- Identify functions (even if there are no arguments)

```
Sys.Date() # Get the Current Date
```

```
## [1] "2021-01-15"
```

- Without the (), R spits out information on the function:

```
Sys.Date
```

```
## function ()  
## as.Date(as.POSIXlt(Sys.time()))  
## <bytecode: 0x5575267bcbd0>  
## <environment: namespace:base>
```

() must be associated with a **function**

(Well, *almost* always)

Braces/Brackets

Square brackets: []

- Extract parts of objects

```
LETTERS
```

```
## [1] "A" "B" "C" "D" "E" "F" "G" "H" "I" "J" "K" "L" "M" "N" "O" "P" "Q" "R" "S"
```

```
## [20] "T" "U" "V" "W" "X" "Y" "Z"
```

```
LETTERS[1]
```

```
## [1] "A"
```

```
LETTERS[26]
```

```
## [1] "Z"
```

Braces/Brackets

Square brackets: []

- Extract parts of objects

```
LETTERS
```

```
## [1] "A" "B" "C" "D" "E" "F" "G" "H" "I" "J" "K" "L" "M" "N" "O" "P" "Q" "R" "S"
```

```
## [20] "T" "U" "V" "W" "X" "Y" "Z"
```

```
LETTERS[1]
```

```
## [1] "A"
```

```
LETTERS[26]
```

```
## [1] "Z"
```

[] have to be associated with an **object**
that has dimensions

(Always)

Improving code readability

Use spaces like you would in sentences:

```
a <- mean(c(4, 10, 13))
```

is easier to read than

```
a<-mean(c(4,10,13))
```

(But the same, coding-wise)

Improving code readability

Don't be afraid to use line breaks ('Enters') to make the code more readable

Hard to read

```
a <- data.frame(exp = c("A", "B", "A", "B", "A", "B"), sub = c("A1", "A1", "A2", "A2", "A3", "A3"),  
res = c(10, 12, 45, 12, 12, 13))
```

Easier to read

```
a <- data.frame(exp = c("A", "B", "A", "B", "A", "B"),  
                sub = c("A1", "A1", "A2", "A2", "A3", "A3"),  
                res = c(10, 12, 45, 12, 12, 13))
```

(But the same, coding-wise)