

# DATA IMPORT AND FILE MANIPULATION NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the handout to accompany the second section of the workshop on data import to the R system. The script file to follow the commands is: **W02\_DataImport.R** – please see that for **much** more detail.

Important commands:

1. Finding out where you are, what the working directory is: **getwd()**
2. Set the working directory if you're not there already:

```
setwd('path')
```

where 'path' is the path to the directory you need.

3. Get the list of files in the working directory: **list.files()** or:

```
list.files(path=".")
```

4. Loading datafiles:

```
mydata <- read.csv('filename.csv')  
mydata <- read.table('datafile.txt', header = T)
```

5. Clearing variables:

```
Clear ALL variables: rm(list=ls())  
Clear variable 'V': rm(V)
```

6. Examining data

```
a. summary(mydata)  
b. str(mydata)
```

7. Manipulating data

```
a. Indexing: Use $label to get the part of the data called by that label, e.g.  
mydata$age
```

- b. Selecting (the final comma is VERY important!):

```
mydata[mydata$Gender=="F" & mydata$StressReduction > 3),]
```

8. Writing datafiles (basic form; there are many options):

```
write.table(dataframe, file="path/filename", sep="," , row.names=FALSE)
```

9. Data format:

In **tidy data**:

1. Each variable forms a column.
2. Each observation forms a row (if you have multiple observations per subject, you'll have multiple rows per subject, one per observation).
3. Each type of observational unit forms a table.

10. More information available at:

<http://cran.r-project.org/pub/R/web/packages/tidyr/vignettes/tidy-data.html>

and at:

[http://www.cookbook-r.com/Manipulating\\_data/Converting\\_data\\_between\\_wide\\_and\\_long\\_format/](http://www.cookbook-r.com/Manipulating_data/Converting_data_between_wide_and_long_format/)

11. Changing the organization of data in R is facilitated by the **reshape2** or **tidyr** libraries. See <https://blog.rstudio.org/2016/09/15/tidyverse-1-0-0/> for an article describing the related tidy packages, and <http://tidyverse.org/> which is the home for the related packages that work together.

12. Paired t-test and basic ANOVA examples

a. **t.test(y, x, paired = TRUE)**

b. **aov( DV ~ IV, data= mydata)**

c. Note that **summary()** works on statistical analysis objects, too!

13. Introduction to plotting:

a. Histogram: **hist(y, x)**

b. **plot(y, x)** – this does a box plot or scatter plot depending on the variables type. To specifically force a boxplot, use **boxplot()**.

14. Libraries used:

“**foreign**” for importing SPSS

“**xlsx**” for importing Excel

15. Where to get more information:

a. <http://www.statmethods.net/>

b. <https://www.r-bloggers.com/how-to-learn-r-2/>

- c. <https://www.datacamp.com/community/tutorials/r-data-import-tutorial#gs.yiipYDA>
- d. <http://stats.idre.ucla.edu/r/faq/how-to-input-data-into-r/>
- e. And web searches for specific commands, with the addition of “R” to the search often work, e.g. “summary in r” or “aov r”.



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If you adapt this work, the original authors would like a copy. Thanks!