An Adventure in R: Data Basics

Creating variables

Variable types

You can enter your data directly into **R** and it's worth knowing how to do that, although we will later look at importing data from other software. This is a list of some variable types that you are likely to use:

- `int` : variables containing *integers.*
- `dbl` : variables containing *doubles*, or real numbers.
- `chr` : variables containing *characters*, or strings (i.e. text).
- `lgl` : variables that contain only the *logical* values of TRUE or FALSE.
- `fctr` : variables that represent categories with fixed numeric values (so called *factors*, for example a variable where you have coded biological sex as 0 = male, 1 = female)
- `date` : variables that contain dates.

Creating character variables

We already created a character variable when we created the object `enig_dat` that contained the names of Zach's band members.

Creating numeric variables

Integer and double variables are created in the same way as character variables in that we just list the numbers within the function `c()` and separate them by commas. For example, imagine the ages of Zach, Nick, Joel, and Jessika were 27, 26, 23 and 25 respectively, we can collect these ages into an object called `age` using the

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Start Over

code in the box. Note that, unlike text, numbers do not need to be enclosed in straight quotes. Add a line to view the contents of the `age` object.

Exercise | Start Over | Solution | Run Code

```
1 age <- c(27, 26, 23, 25)
2
3
```

Continue

1. Basically you can use this tutorial for teaching and non-profit activities but do not meddle with it or claim it as your own work.↩