

R Introduction

STAT 432, Spring 2018, Dalpiaz

Friday, January 19

Questions? Comments?
Concerns?

Note that Homework 00 is “due” next Friday.

What the heck *is* R?

- R is a programming language designed specifically for statistical computing and graphics.
- R is an interactive interface to many different tools.
- R is based on the S language, which was developed by Bell laboratories.
- R is free, specifically open source.
 - “Think free as in free speech, not free beer.”
 - R and RStudio are actually both.
- R is cool.

Learning is HARD!



Help?

The only way to learn R (or anything), is to fail. Then, get help.

- `?name_of_thing`
- Google!!!
- Stack Overflow
- R Resources
- Ask!

The screenshot displays the RStudio environment with the following components:

- Script Editor:** Contains a multi-line comment describing the layout of RStudio:


```

1 # (Top-Left) is the home of the program editor for writing RScripts
2
3 # (Bottom-Left) is where commands are submitted to console.
4
5 # (Top-Right)
6 # Environment listing active objects in memory
7 # History shows a list of executed R commands
8 # Build tools to create packages
9 # Git tab for version control
10
11 # (Bottom-Right)
12 # Mini file manager for project files.
13 # Plots containing rendered graphs
14 # Packages list installed libraries
15 # Help displays command documentation
16 # Viewer is an active HTML/Shiny previewer
      
```
- Console:** Shows the execution of the `?help` command:


```

> ?help
> x = 3
> y = 5
> x + y; x - y; x*y; x/y
[1] 8
[1] -2
[1] 15
[1] 243
[1] 0.6
> |
      
```
- Global Environment:** A table showing active objects:

Name	Type	Length	Size	Value
x	numeric	1	48 B	3
y	numeric	1	48 B	5
- R Documentation:** Displays the help page for the `help` function:

Documentation

Description

help is the primary interface to the help systems.

Usage

```

help(topic, package = NULL, lib.loc = NULL,
      verbose = getOption("verbose"),
      try.all.packages = getOption("help.try.all.packages"),
      help_type = getOption("help_type"))
      
```

Arguments

Know Your RStudio Environment

There are a *lot* of keyboard shortcuts in RStudio. To view all the options, you must engage the keyboard shortcut that rules them all:

- Windows: Alt + Shift + K
- macOS: Option + Shift + K

The image shows a screenshot of the RStudio 'Keyboard Shortcut Quick Reference' window. The window is divided into several sections, each listing keyboard shortcuts and their corresponding actions. The sections include:

- Source Navigation:** Back, Forward, Find Usages, Use Selection for Find, Find Next, Find Previous, Replace and Find, Go To File/Function..., Go To Line..., Jump To..., Collapse All Fields, Expand All Fields, Show Document Outline, Expand Selection, Shift Selection, Go to Next Section, Go to Previous Section, Split Into Lines, Add cursor above current cursor, Add cursor below current cursor, Move active cursor up, Move active cursor down.
- Execute:** Source Active File, Source with Echo, Source a File..., Re-Run Previous, Run Selected Lines(), Run Lines() without moving cursor, Run All, Run From Beginning to Line, Run From Line to End, Run Function Definition, Run Code Section, Run Previous Chunks.
- Source Editor:** Insert Chunk, Insert Section..., Extract Function, Extract Variable, Comment/Uncomment Lines, Retain Lines, Reflow Comment, Reformat Code, Show Diagnostics (Project), Collapse Fold, Expand Fold, Collapse All Fields, Expand All Fields, Delete to Line End, Move Lines Up, Move Lines Down, Delete Line, Yank Line Up to Cursor, Insert Refined Text, Transpose Letters, Insert Assignment Operator, Insert Pipe Operator, Rename in File, Insert Rxygen Skeleton, Insert Snippet.
- Debug:** Toggle Breakpoint, Execute Next Line, Step Into Function, Risk Function/Loop, Continue, Stop Debugging.
- Source Control:** Diff Files, Commit..., Build: Compile PDF, Preview, Knit Document, Build and Reload, Load All, Check Package, Test Package, Document.
- Console:** Clear Console, Pop-up Command History, Convert Statistical Analysis Objects into Tidy Data Frames, Other: Show Function Help of Graphics, Go to Function / File, Complete Code N Parser and Generator for R, Restart R for Dynamic Report Generation in R, Previous Plotbase, Next Plot, Request Log, Log Focused element, Sync Directory..., Sync PDF View to Editor, Check Spelling..., Keyboard Shortcuts Help, Global Options..., Project Options..., A Collection of Small, Fun Corpora of Interesting Data, Integration for the 'armadillo' templated Linear Algebra Library.

The window also includes sections for 'Files', 'Files', and 'Files' (repeated), and a 'See All Shortcuts...' link in the top right corner.

Some Favorites

1. Autocomplete command.
 - Both: `Tab`
2. Run the current line or selection from the editor.
 - Windows: `Ctrl + Enter`
 - macOS: `Cmd + Enter`
3. Comment multiple lines.
 - Windows: `Ctrl + Shift + C`
 - macOS: `Command + Shift + C`
4. "Reformat" Code:
 - Windows: `Ctrl + Shift + A`
 - macOS: `Command + Shift + A`

More to come when we introduce `rmarkdown`...

Objects and Functions

*To understand computations in R, two slogans are helpful:
Everything that exists is an object. Everything that
happens is a function call. — John Chambers*

And when we say everything, we mean **everything**. Even a *function* is an *object*.

`<-` or `=` ?

That is the question.

```
attach(dataset)
```

Do not ever do this.

You might curse me now, but you'll thank me later.

Do. Not. Set. A. Working. Directory.

More on this when we talk about generating documents using RMarkdown.

- There is no scalar.
- Be aware of vectorization!

Use them!

They are what makes R great.

Have one!

- Spaces around binary operators!
- Indent two spaces!
- Pick an assignment operator and stick to it.
- Get some inspiration from Hadley or Google.

Be consistent!

- With yourself!
- With your group!
- With your company!

- Linear Model Refresher
- Importing Data?
 - Lists, Frames, and what the heck is a Tibble?
- `rmarkdown!`

Lab!