

R Bootcamp for E2M2



We R
R User Group
Madagascar

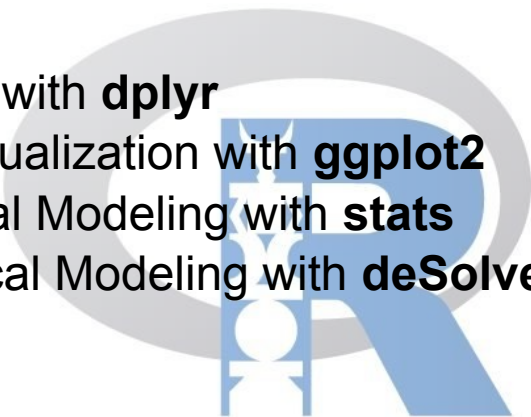
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Overview

- Introduction to R and RStudio
- R basics: Variables, Data Types, Vectors
- Data Frames in R
- Tidy Data Manipulation with **dplyr**
- Introduction to Data Visualization with **ggplot2**
- Introduction to Statistical Modeling with **stats**
- Introduction to Dynamical Modeling with **deSolve**
- Q&A



Introduction to R and RStudio



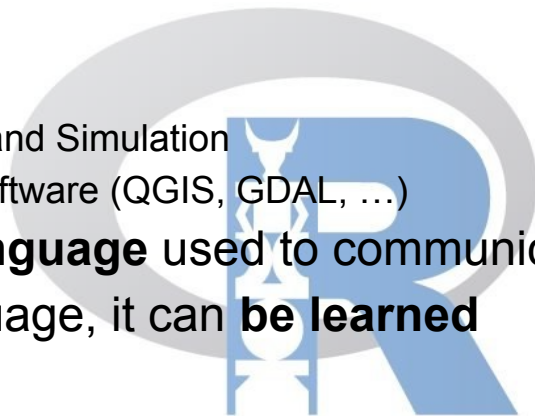
What is R?

What is R?



What is R?

- R is a **free** software environment for **statistical computing** and **graphics**
- Used for:
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Data Manipulation
 - Scientific Computation and Simulation
 - Interfacing with other software (QGIS, GDAL, ...)
- R is a programming **language** used to communicate with your computer
- As with any other language, it can **be learned**



Why R?

- Open-source, free and widely used in academia and research



SPSS

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Base Subscription ⓘ Required	Data Preparation Bootstrapping Statistics Base	USD 99/month	1 - +	USD 99/month
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<https://www.ibm.com/products/spss-statistics/pricing>

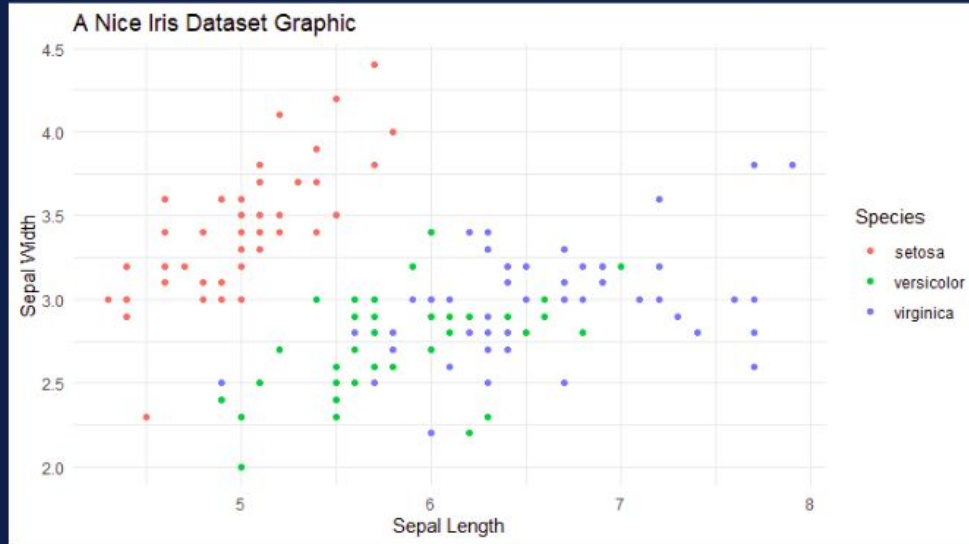
Why R?

- Open-source, free and widely used in academia and research
- Powerful for Statistical Analysis, Visualization and modeling



R: ggplot2

```
ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, y = Sepal.Width, col = Species)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  labs(title = "A Nice Iris Dataset Graphic", x = "Sepal Length", y = "Sepal Width") +  
  theme_minimal()
```

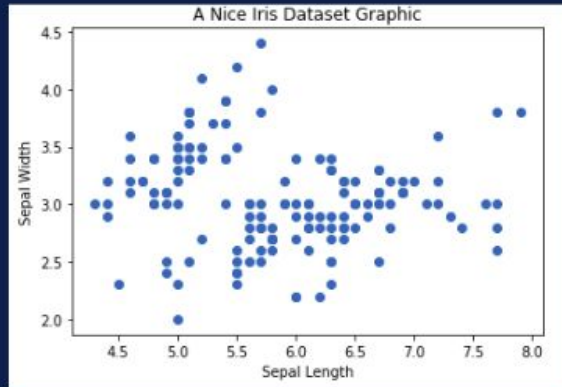


<https://www.inwt-statistics.com/blog/data-visualization-r-versus-python>

Python: Matplotlib

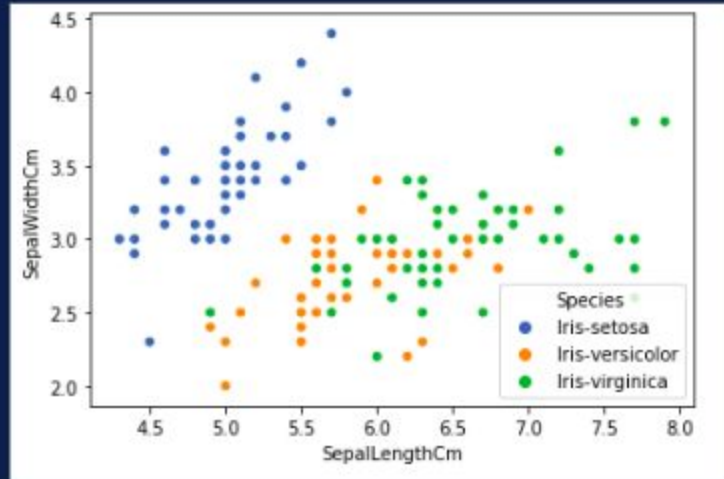
```
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

iris = pd.read_csv('iris.csv')
plt.scatter(x = 'SepalLengthCm', y = 'SepalWidthCm', data = iris)
plt.title('A Nice Iris Dataset Graphic')
plt.xlabel('Sepal Length')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Width')
```



Python: Seaborn

```
import seaborn as sns
sns.scatterplot(x = 'SepalLengthCm', y = 'SepalWidthCm', hue = 'Species', data = iris)
```



<https://www.inwt-statistics.com/blog/data-visualization-r-versus-python>

Why R?

- Open-source, free and widely used in academia and research
- Powerful for Statistical Analysis, Visualization and modeling
- Large community

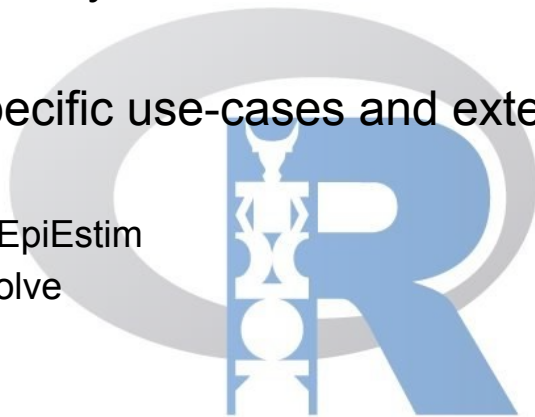


R Communities



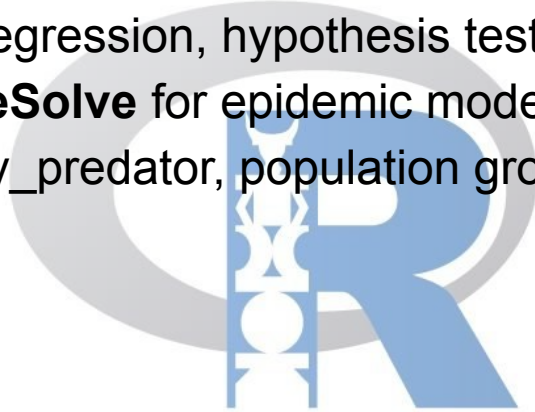
Why R?

- Open-source, free and widely used in academia and research
- Powerful for Statistical Analysis, Visualization and Modeling
- Large community
- Comes with tools for specific use-cases and extensive package ecosystem (CRAN):
 - Epidemiology: epitools, EpiEstim
 - Dynamical models: deSolve

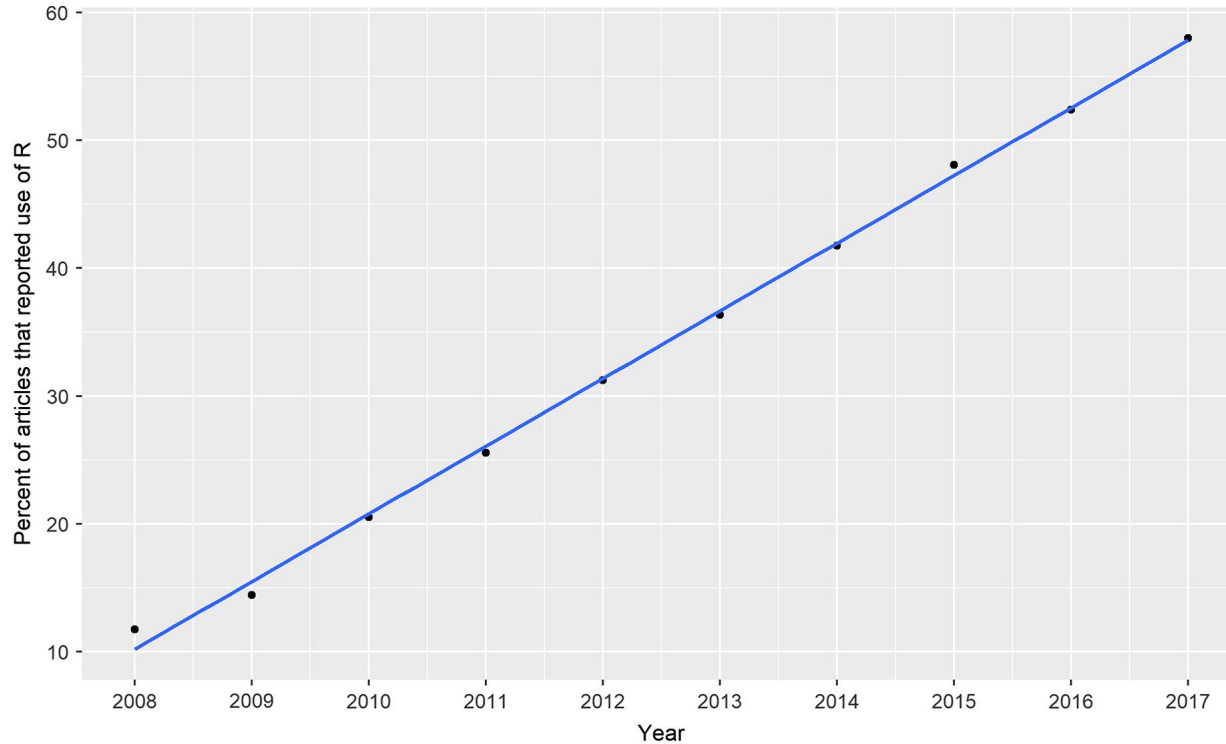


Why R for Epidemiological and Ecological modeling?

- **Data Handling:** works with case-data, time-series, and spatial datasets (tidyverse, dplyr, sf)
- **Statistical Analysis:** regression, hypothesis testing, GLMs with **stats**
- **Dynamical Models:** **deSolve** for epidemic models (SIR, SEIR) and ecological models (prey_predator, population growth)



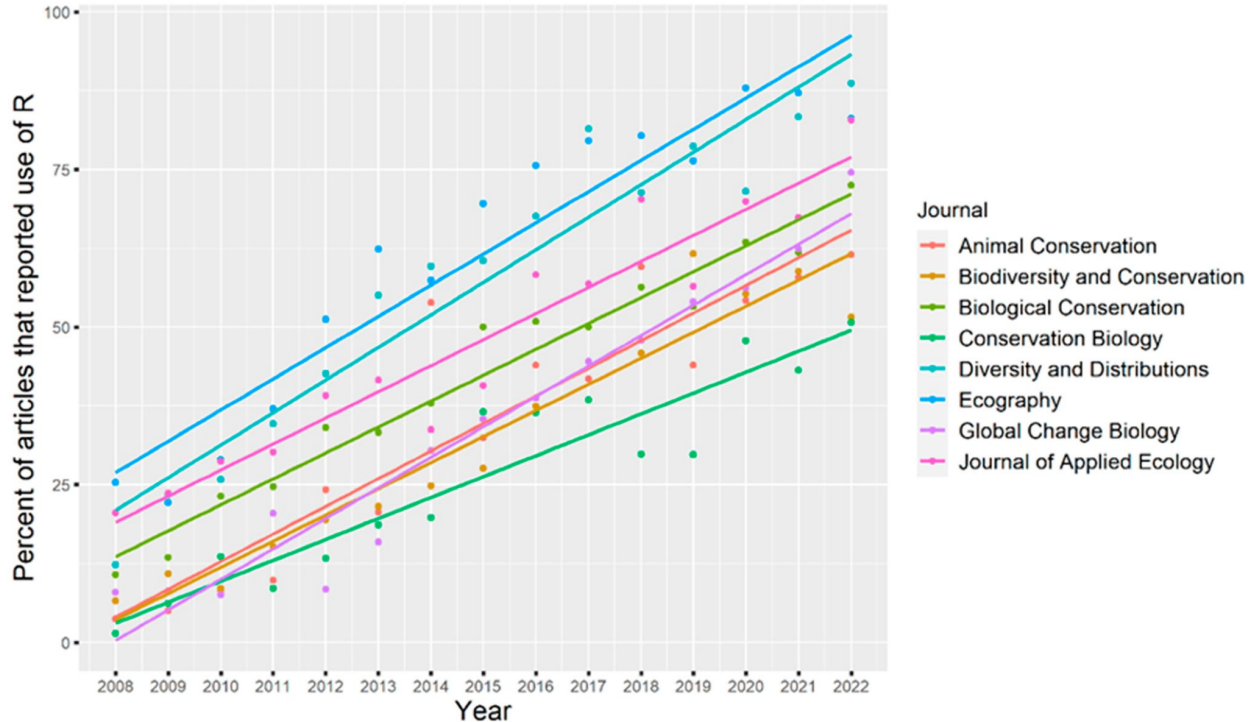
Popularity of R in Ecology



Source: Lai, J., C. J. Lortie, R. A. Muenchen, J. Yang, and K. Ma. 2019. "Evaluating the Popularity of R in Ecology." *Ecosphere* 10: e02567.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.2567>

Popularity of R in Ecology



Source: Lai, J.; Cui, D.; Zhu, W.; Mao, L. The Use of R and R Packages in Biodiversity Conservation Research. *Diversity* **2023**, *15*, 1202. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d15121202>

Overview of R Interface

```
R version 4.4.2 (2024-10-31) -- "Pile of Leaves"  
Copyright (C) 2024 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing  
Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
```

```
R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.  
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.  
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.
```

```
  Natural language support but running in an English locale
```

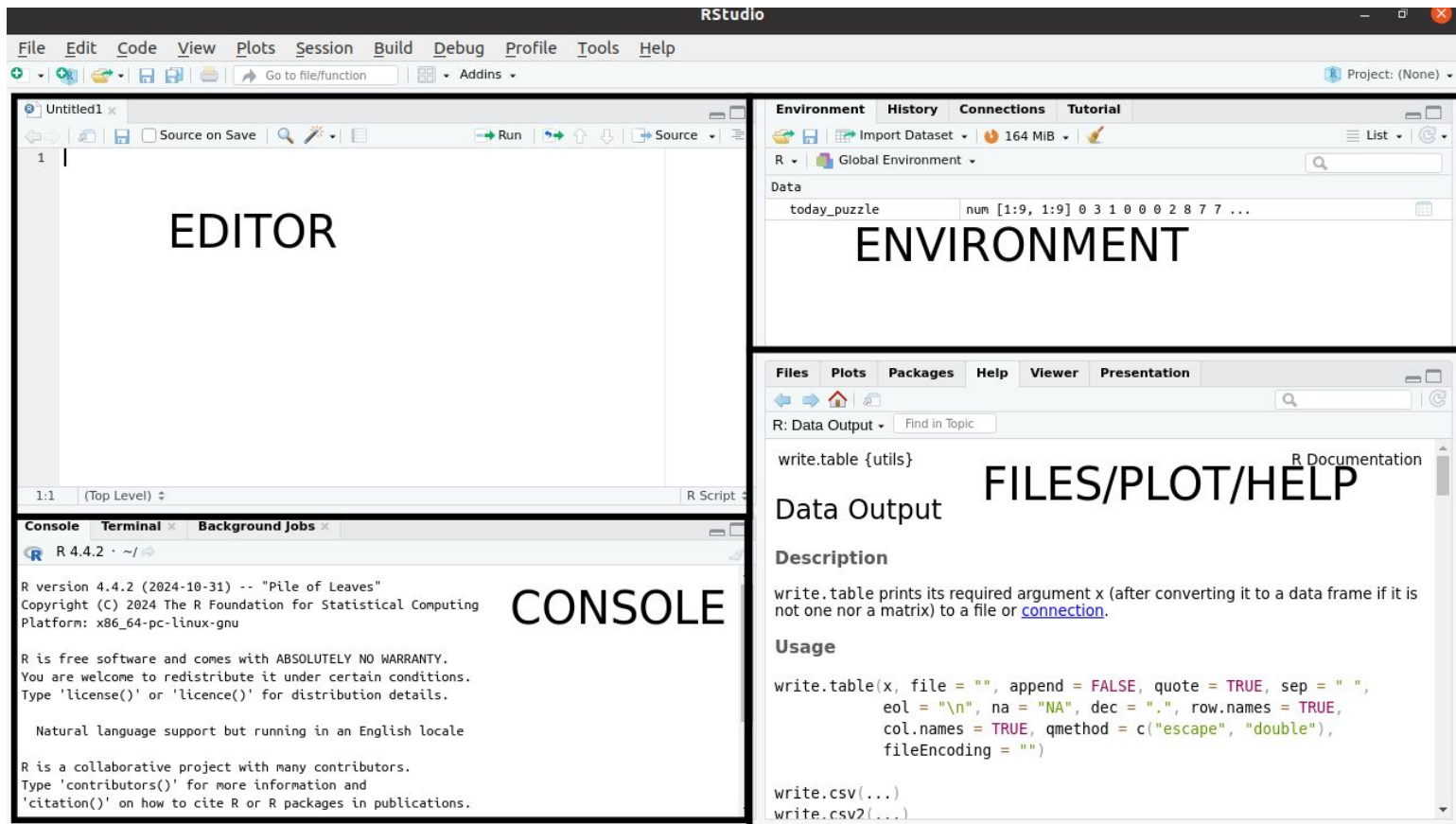
```
R is a collaborative project with many contributors.  
Type 'contributors()' for more information and  
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.
```

```
Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or  
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.  
Type 'q()' to quit R.
```

```
[Previously saved workspace restored]
```

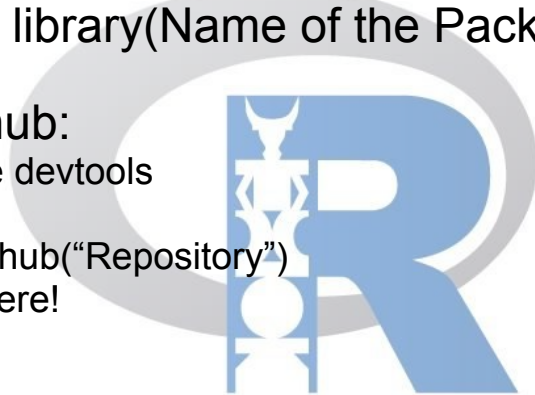
```
> █
```

Overview of RStudio Interface

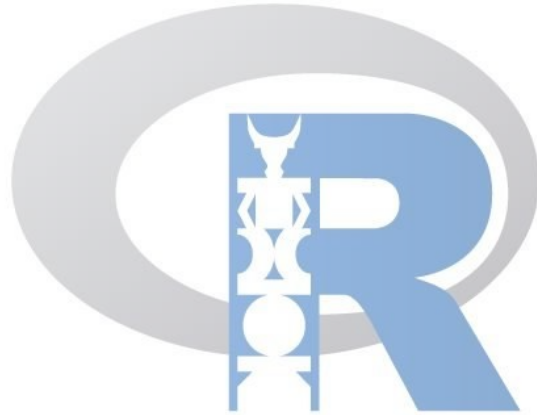


Installing and Loading Packages

- From CRAN: `install.packages("Name Of the Package")` e.g:
 - `install.packages("stats")`
 - exercise: install the following packages: **tidyverse**, **stats**, **deSolve**
- Load the package with: `library(Name of the Package)` e.g:
 - `library(tidyverse)`
- Using devtools and github:
 - First, install the package devtools
 - load devtools
 - type `devtools::install_github("Repository")`
 - This won't be covered here!



R basics: Variables, Data Types and Vectors



R Syntax and Basic Operations

- Assigning values:
 - `<-` is the common way to assign values to variables in R, `=` is also a valid way, though it is more used for arguments in functions

```
PA_population_size <- 123486  
PA_mean_population_age <- 13  
read.csv(file = "path/to/csv", header = TRUE, sep = ";")|
```

- Variables' name should be **descriptive** and **cannot start with a number**
- `rm(variable_name)` to remove a variable from memory

Data Types in R

Type	Example	Description
Numeric	<code>pi <- 3.1415</code>	Numbers (integer or decimal)
Integer	<code>age <- 42L</code>	Whole numbers (L specifies integer)
Character	<code>name <- "John"</code>	Text data (strings)
Logical	<code>Infected <- TRUE</code>	Boolean (TRUE or FALSE)
Factor	<code>factor(c("low", "medium", "high"))</code>	Categorical data

Arithmetic Operations in R

Operator	Description	Example
+	Addition	$2 + 3 \# 5$
-	Subtraction	$2 - 3 \# -1$
*	Multiplication	$2 * 3 \# 6$
/	Division	$4 / 2 \# 2$
^ or **	Exponentiation	2^3 or $2^{**}3 \# 8$

Logical Operations in R

Operator	Description	Example
<code>==</code>	Equal to	<code>3 == 3 # TRUE</code>
<code>!=</code>	Not equal to	<code>2 != 3 # TRUE</code>
<code>></code>	Greater than	<code>3 > 2 # TRUE</code>
<code>>=</code>	Greater than or equal to	<code>2 >= 3 # FALSE</code>
<code><</code>	Less than	<code>2 < 3 # TRUE</code>
<code><=</code>	Less than or equal to	<code>3 <= 2 # FALSE</code>
<code>&</code>	AND	<code>TRUE & FALSE # FALSE</code>
<code> </code>	OR	<code>TRUE FALSE # TRUE</code>
<code>!</code>	NOT	<code>!TRUE # FALSE</code>

Live Coding: Practice R basics

- Assign Variables
 - Create a variable `my_age` and assign it your age.
 - Create a variable `height_cm` for your height in centimeters.
- Work with Data Types
 - Create a character variable `my_name` with your first name.
 - Create a logical variable `is_student` (TRUE/FALSE).
- Perform Basic Calculations
 - Compute your age in **10 years** (`my_age + 10`).
 - Convert height from cm to meters (`height_cm / 100`).
- Test Logical Comparisons
 - Check if your age is greater than 18.
 - Compare two numbers and check if they are equal.



Vectors

- What is a Vector?
 - A **basic data structure** in R, used to store multiple values of the **same data type**.
 - Examples: Numeric, Character, Logical.
- Why use Vectors?
 - Efficient way to store and manipulate data.
 - Foundation for **data frames and matrices**.
 - Supports **vectorized operations** (faster than loops).

```
ages <- c(25, 30, 35, 40) # Numeric vector
first_names <- c("Alice", "Bob", "Charlie") # Character vector
students <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE) # Logical vector
```

Vectors

- How to create Vectors?

- `c()` function (c stands for combine value)
- Sequences using `:` or `seq()`.
- Repeating elements using `rep()`.

```
x <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5) # Basic vector  
y <- 1:10 # Sequence from 1 to 10  
z <- seq(1, 10, by=2) # Sequence with step size 2  
w <- rep(5, times=3) # Repeat 5 three times
```

- Accessing Vector Elements

- Use **indexing** with `[]` (R is **1-based**).
- Negative indexing removes elements.

```
ages[2] # Second element  
ages[-1] # All elements except the first  
ages[1:3] # First three elements
```

Vector Operations in R

Operator	Description	Example
+	Addition	$x+2$ # adds 2 to all element
-	Subtraction	$x-2$ # subtract 2 to all element
*	Multiplication	$x*2$ # multiplies each element by 2
/	Division	$x/3$ # divides each element by 3

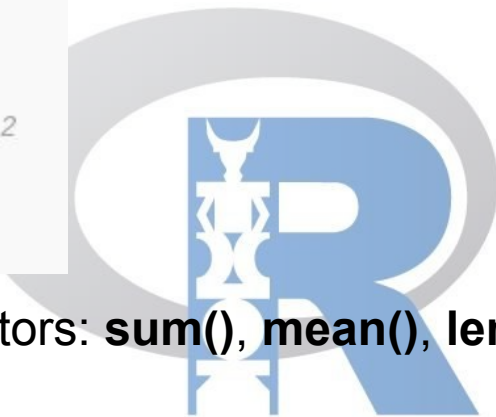
Vector Operations in R

- R applies operations **directly to all elements** (vectorized).

```
x <- c(10, 20, 30)
x + 5  # Adds 5 to each element
x * 2  # Multiplies each element by 2
y <- c(2, 4, 6)
x + y  # Element-wise addition
```

- Applying functions to vectors: **sum()**, **mean()**, **length()**, **min()**, **max()**

```
sum(x)  # Total sum
mean(x) # Average value
length(x) # Number of elements
```



Logical Indexing & Filtering of Vectors

- Filtering with Logical Conditions
 - Use logical comparisons to **select elements**.
 - Can be combined with `which()` or `subset()`.

```
ages <- c(20, 25, 30, 35, 40)
ages > 30 # Returns TRUE/FALSE
ages[ages > 30] # Select values greater than 30
which(ages > 30) # Returns indices where condition is TRUE
```

- Handling Missing Values (NA)
 - Use `is.na()` to check for missing values.
 - Remove NA values using `na.omit()`.

```
x <- c(10, NA, 30, 40)
is.na(x) # Checks for missing values
x[!is.na(x)] # Keeps only non-missing values
```


Live Coding – Practice with Vectors

1. Create Vectors

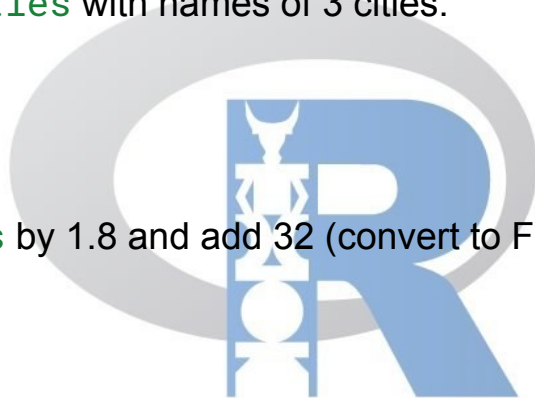
- Create a numeric vector `temps` with values: 30, 32, 28, 25, 29.
- Create a character vector `cities` with names of 3 cities.

2. Perform Operations

- Find the mean of `temps`.
- Multiply all elements of `temps` by 1.8 and add 32 (convert to Fahrenheit).

3. Filtering Data

- Select temperatures greater than 28.
- Use `which()` to find the index of the **coldest** temperature.



Data Frames in R



What is a Data Frame?

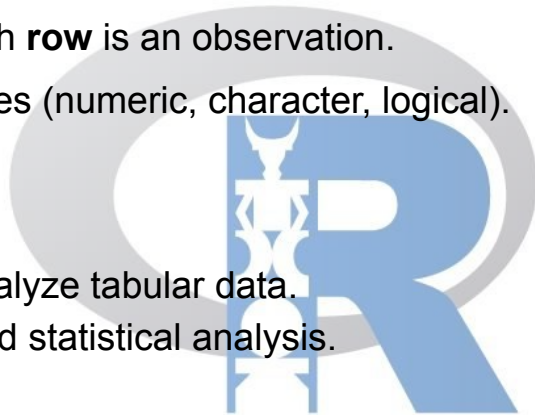
1. Definition

- A data frame is a **table-like structure** in R.
- Each **column** is a vector; each **row** is an observation.
- Can contain different data types (numeric, character, logical).

2. Why is it important?

- Standard way to store and analyze tabular data.
- Used in modeling, plotting, and statistical analysis.

```
data.frame(  
  name = c("Alice", "Bob"),  
  age = c(25, 30),  
  infected = c(TRUE, FALSE)  
)
```



Creating Data Frames from Vectors

From Scratch

- Use `data.frame()` to combine vectors into a table.
- Vectors must be **equal length**.

```
names <- c("Alice", "Bob", "Charlie")
ages <- c(22, 30, 28)
infected <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)

df <- data.frame(name = names, age = ages, infected = infected)
```

Importing Data (CSV & Excel)

From CSV Files

- Use `read.csv("filename.csv")`

```
data <- read.csv("cases.csv")
```

From Excel Files

- Use `readxl` package
- First: `install.packages("readxl")`, then load it `library(readxl)`
- Then: `read_excel("file.xlsx")`

```
library(readxl)  
data <- read_excel("cases.xlsx")
```



Basic Data Frame Manipulation

Accessing elements

- Use `$`, column name, or `df[row, column]` syntax.

```
df$age  
df[1, "name"]
```

Filtering Rows

```
df[df$age > 25, ] # Select rows where age > 25
```

Selecting Columns

```
df[, c("name", "age")]  
df$name
```



Basic Data Frame Manipulation

Adding/Modifying Columns

```
df$risk_group <- df$age > 60
```

Sorting Data

```
df[order(df$age), ]
```



Exploring and Summarizing Data Frames

Understand the Data

- `head(df)` : First rows
- `str(df)`: Structure
- `summary(df)`: Summary stats
- `dim(df)`: dimension or `nrow(df)`: number of rows, `ncol(df)`: number of columns

Renaming columns

```
names(df) <- c("Name", "Age", "InfectionStatus")
```


Best Practices for Entering Field Data in Excel/Notebooks

Column Naming

- Use **short, meaningful, lowercase names**:
 - ✓ `date, location, species, count, temp_c`
 - ✗ `Date of Observation, # of Birds, Temp.`
- Avoid spaces or special characters → use `_` or camelCase

Data Consistency

- Use the **same format** in each column:
 - Dates: `YYYY-MM-DD` (e.g., `2024-02-28`)
 - Text: consistent spelling and case (`Forest`, not `forest`, `F0Rest`)
 - Numbers: no commas or text (e.g., `1000`, not `1,000` or `"1000 cases"`)

Best Practices for Entering Field Data in Excel/Notebooks

One Observation per Row

- Each row = one observation or measurement
- Don't merge cells or use multiple headers

File Format

- Save as **CSV** or **XLSX**
- Example filename: `species_observations_2024.csv`
- Avoid non-English characters in filenames and column names



	A	B	C	D
1	date	site	species	count
2	2024-02-01	Andasibe	lemur	3
3	2024-02-01	Ranomafana	chameleon	1
4	2024-02-01	Isalo	chameleon	2
5				

Live Coding – Practice with Data Frames

1. Create a data frame

- Use vectors for `country`, `cases`, `deaths`, and `recovered`.

2. Explore and filter the data

- Find rows where `cases > 1000`
- Add a column `fatality_rate <- deaths / cases`

3. Filtering Data

- Select temperatures greater than 28.
- Use `which()` to find the index of the **coldest** temperature.



Tidy Data Manipulation with dplyr



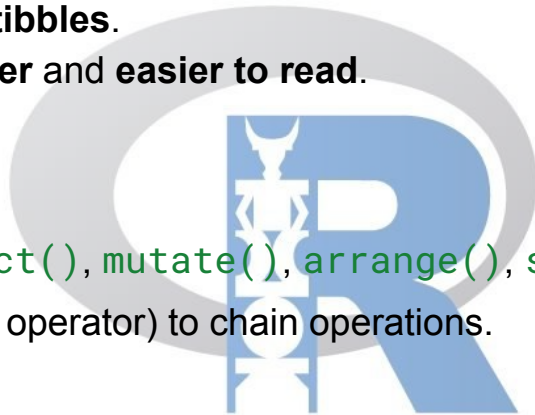
What is dplyr ?

1. Definition

- Part of the **tidyverse**: tools for clean data analysis.
- Works with **data frames** and **tibbles**.
- Makes data manipulation **faster** and **easier to read**.

2. Core idea

- Use **verbs**: `filter()`, `select()`, `mutate()`, `arrange()`, `summarize()`, `group_by()`.
- Combine them with `%>%` (pipe operator) to chain operations.



filter() – Keep Rows That Match a Condition

1. Syntax

```
filter(data, condition)
```

2. Examples

```
4 filter(df, ages >= 30)
5 # Equivalent to
6 df %>% filter(ages >= 30)
```



select() – Pick Specific Columns

1. Syntax

```
select(data, column1, column2)
```

2. Examples

```
select(df, first_names, ages)
# Equivalent to
df %>% select(first_names, ages)
# To select every column except one:
select(df, -column)
```



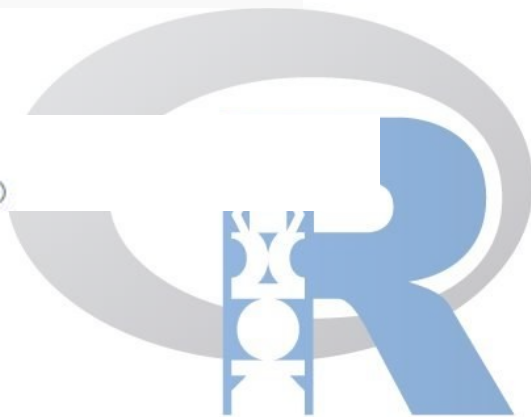
mutate() – Add or Modify Columns

1. Syntax

```
mutate(data, new_column = calculation)
```

2. Examples

```
mutate(df, age_in_months = age * 12)  
# Equivalent to  
df %>% mutate(age_in_months = age * 12)
```



arrange() – Sort Rows

1. Syntax

```
arrange(data, column)  
arrange(data, desc(column))
```

2. Examples

```
arrange(df, age)  
arrange(df, desc(age))
```



summarize() and group_by() – Summary Statistics

1. Group then summarize

```
group_by(data, column) %>% summarize(mean_age = mean(age))
```

2. Example

```
df %>%  
  group_by(Infected) %>%  
  summarize(avg_age = mean(age))
```



Live Coding – Practice with dplyr

1. **Filter:** Extract all patients who are still in the hospital (i.e., those with `NA` in `date_of_removal`).
2. **Select:** Extract the columns `patient_id`, `unit`, and `status` for patients in the `ICU`.
3. **Create:** Add a new column `clinical_risk`, where:
 - “High” if the patient is in `Reanimation` or has `ECMO` in the `machines`.
 - “Moderate” if the patient is in `ICU` or `General` and does **not** have `ECMO`
 - “Unknown” otherwise.
4. **Arrange:** Sort by `age` in ascending order to see younger patients first.
5. **Group by:** Group by `unit` and summarize the number of `Critical` patients in each unit.
6. **Count:** Count the number of patients in each `unit`.

Introduction to Data Visualization with ggplot2




Why Data Visualization ?

1. `install.packages("datasauRus")`

2. Run the following commands

- `library(ggplot2)`
- `library(datasauRus)`



```
# Load the data
data("datasaurus_dozen")

# Summary statistics
summaries <- datasaurus_dozen %>%
  group_by(dataset) %>%
  summarize(
    n_points = n(),
    mean_x = mean(x), sd_x = sd(x), min_x = min(x), max_x = max(x), IQR_x = IQR(x),
    mean_y = mean(y), sd_y = sd(y), min_y = min(y), max_y = max(y), IQR_y = IQR(y)
  )

# View all results
print(summaries, n = Inf)
```

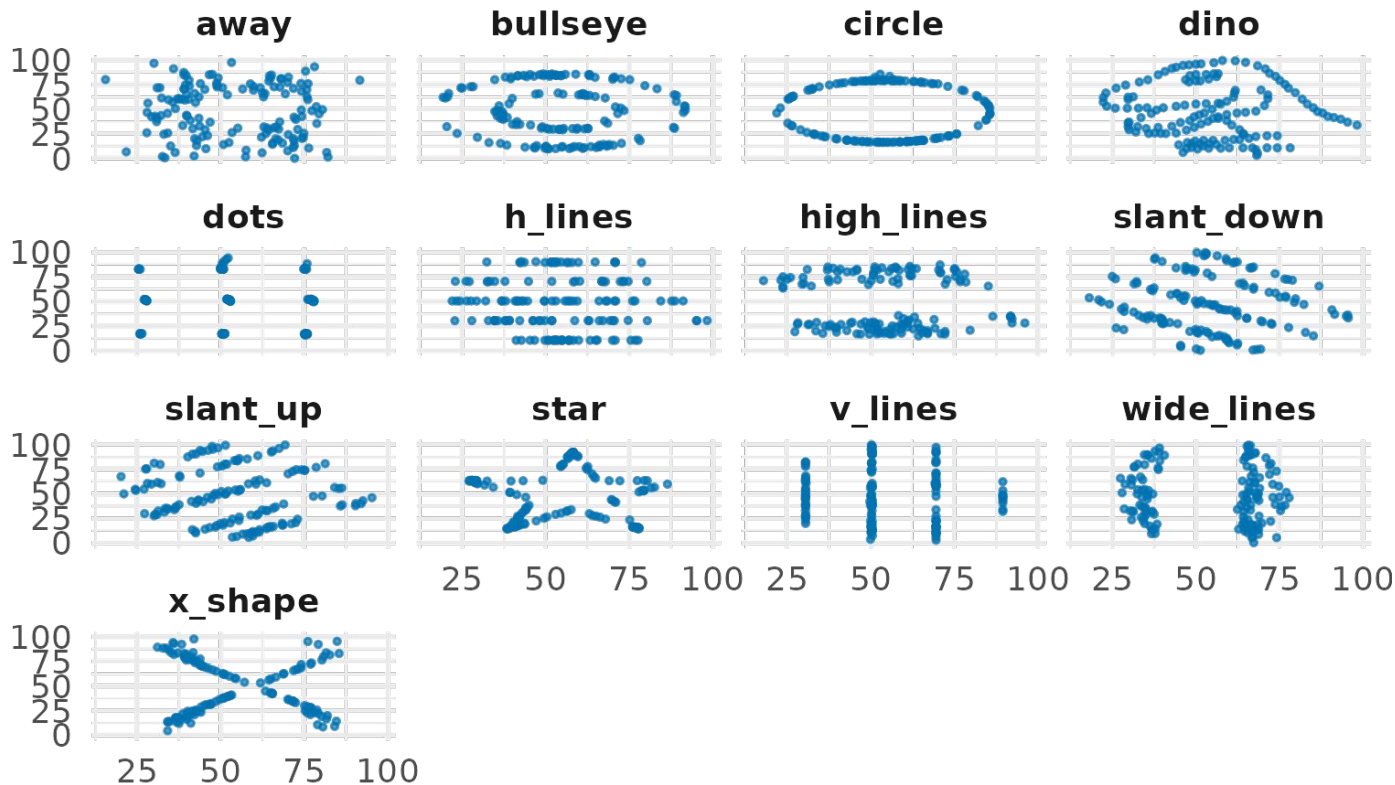
Why Data Visualization ?

1. Run the following commands

```
# Plot all datasets
datasaurus_plot <- ggplot(datasaurus_dozen, aes(x = x, y = y)) +
  geom_point(color = "#0072B2", size = 0.5, alpha = 0.7) +
  theme_minimal() +
  facet_wrap(~ dataset, ncol = 4) +
  labs(
    title = "Same Stats, Different Stories",
    subtitle = "Each dataset has nearly identical means, SDs\n, and correlations",
    caption = "Source: Datasaurus Dozen by Alberto Cairo & Justin Matejka"
  ) +
  theme(
    plot.title = element_text(size = 16, face = "bold"),
    plot.subtitle = element_text(size = 12),
    strip.text = element_text(face = "bold"),
    axis.title = element_blank()
  )
datasaurus_plot
```

Same Stats, Different Stories

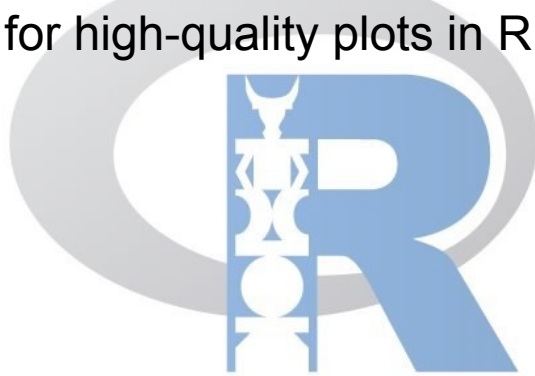
Each dataset has nearly identical means, SDs, and correlations



Source: Datasaurus Dozen by Alberto Cairo & Justin Matejka

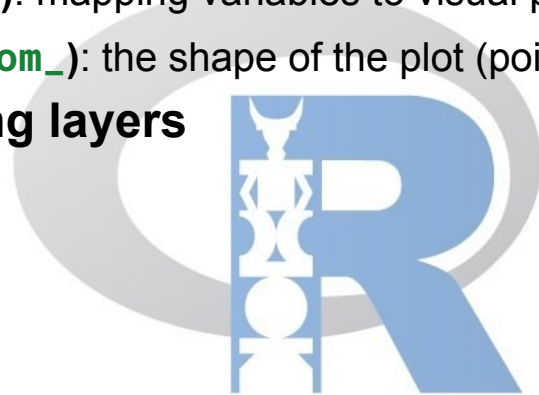
Why Data Visualization ?

- Summary statistics alone can be misleading
- Visual exploration helps detect trends, outliers, and patterns.
- Essential for hypothesis generation and communicating findings.
- ggplot2 is the standard for high-quality plots in R.



The Grammar of Graphics

- **ggplot2: grammar of graphics (layered grammar)**
 - **Data:** the dataset
 - **Aesthetics (aes):** mapping variables to visual properties
 - **Geometries (geom_):** the shape of the plot (points, bars, lines, etc.)
- Plots are built by **adding layers**
- with **+**.




Basic Syntax

- General syntax

```
ggplot(data = <DATA>, aes(x = <X>, y = <Y>)) +  
  geom_<TYPE>()
```

- Example:



```
admission_plot <- ggplot(number_of_admission_by_day, aes(x = date_of_admission, y = count)) +  
  geom_point(color = "#0072B2", size = 1.2, alpha = 0.7) +  
  labs(  
    title = "Daily Hospital Admissions During Outbreak",  
    x = "Date of Admission",  
    y = "Number of Admissions"  
  ) +  
  theme_minimal() +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, hjust = 1))
```

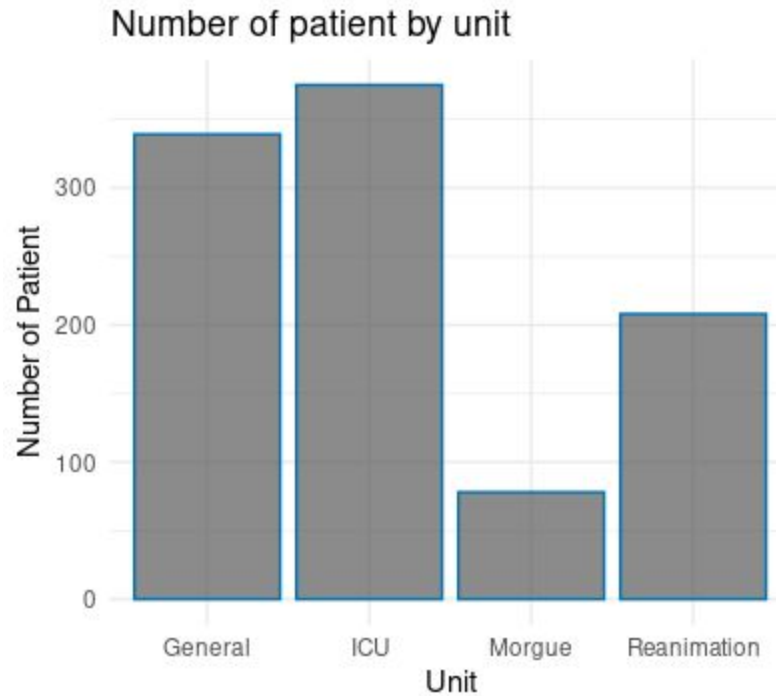
Plot Types

- Bar Plot:

```
unit_plot <- ggplot(hospital_data, aes(x = unit)) +  
  geom_bar(color = "#0072B2", width = 0.9, alpha = 0.7, stat= "count") +  
  labs(  
    title = "Number of patient by unit",  
    x = "Unit",  
    y = "Number of Patient"  
  ) +  
  theme_minimal()  
  
unit_plot
```

Plot Types

- Bar Plot:



Plot Types

- Histogram:

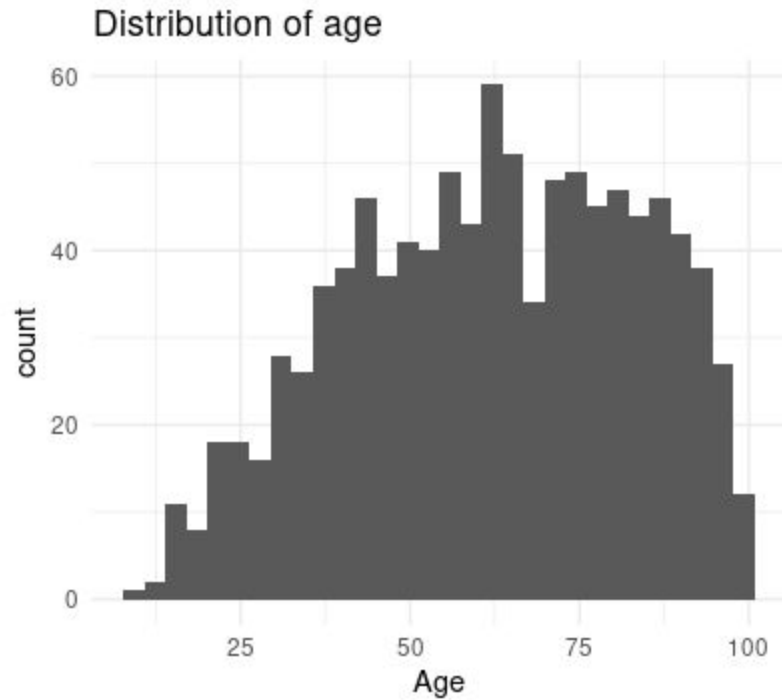
```
# Histogram
age_plot <- ggplot(hospital_data, aes(x = age)) +
  geom_histogram() +
  labs(
    title = "Distribution of age",
    x = "Age"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()

age_plot
```



Plot Types

- Histogram:



Plot Types

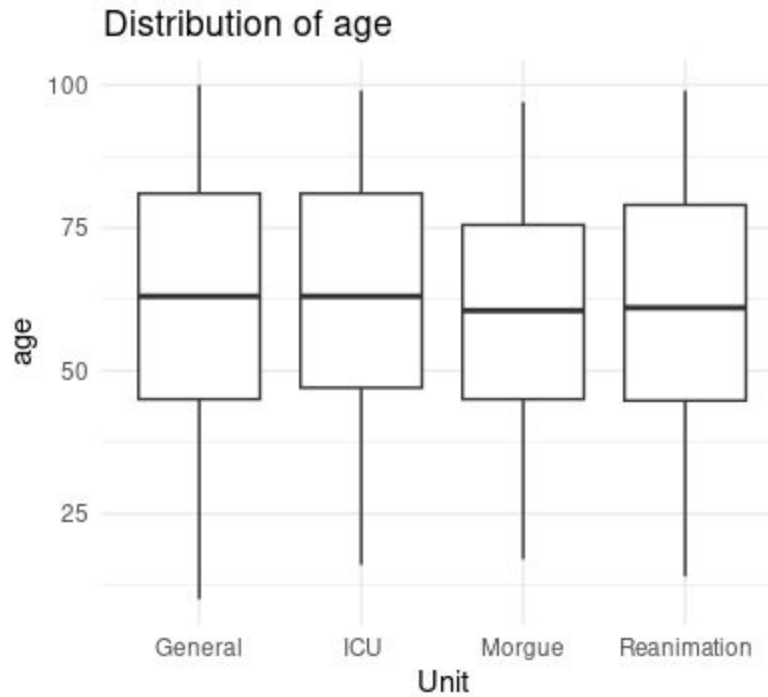
- Boxplot:

```
# Boxplot
ageBox_plot <- ggplot(hospital_data, aes(x = unit, y=age)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  labs(
    title = "Distribution of age",
    x = "Unit"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()

ageBox_plot
```

Plot Types

- Boxplot:



Plot Types

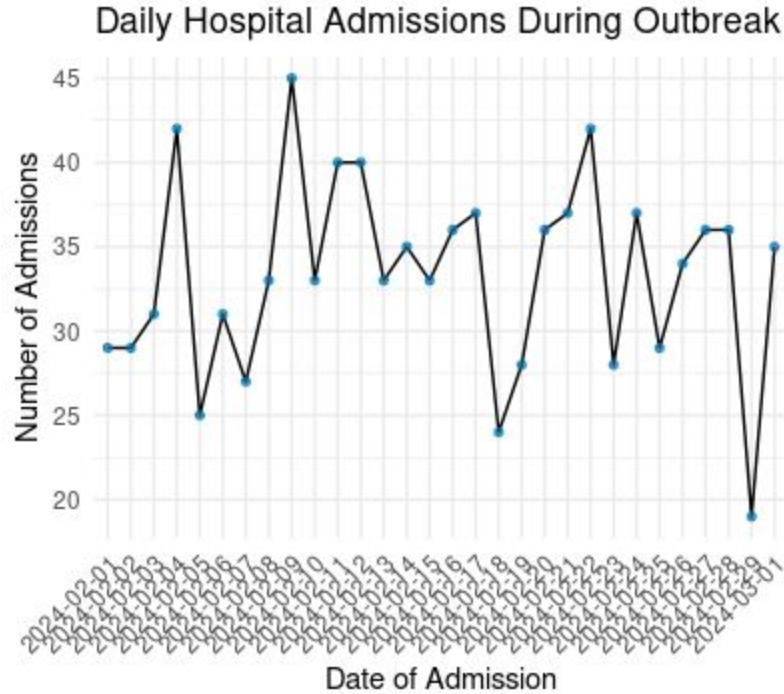
- Line Plot:

```
#Line plot
admission_plot_line <- ggplot(number_of_admission_by_day, aes(x = date_of_admission, y = count)) +
  geom_line(aes(group = 1)) +
  geom_point(color = "#0072B2", size = 1.2, alpha = 0.7) +
  labs(
    title = "Daily Hospital Admissions During Outbreak",
    x = "Date of Admission",
    y = "Number of Admissions"
  ) +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, hjust = 1))

admission_plot_line
```

Plot Types

- Line Plot:



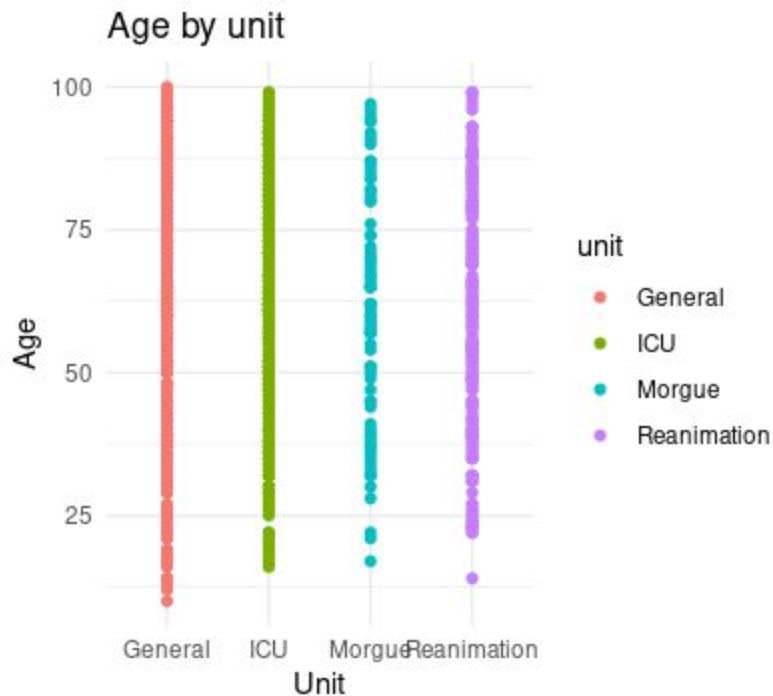
Aesthetics and Customization

- Mapping color/shape/size to variables

```
# Color mapping
ggplot(hospital_data, aes(x = unit, y = age, color = unit)) +
  geom_point()
```

- Titles, labels, and themes:

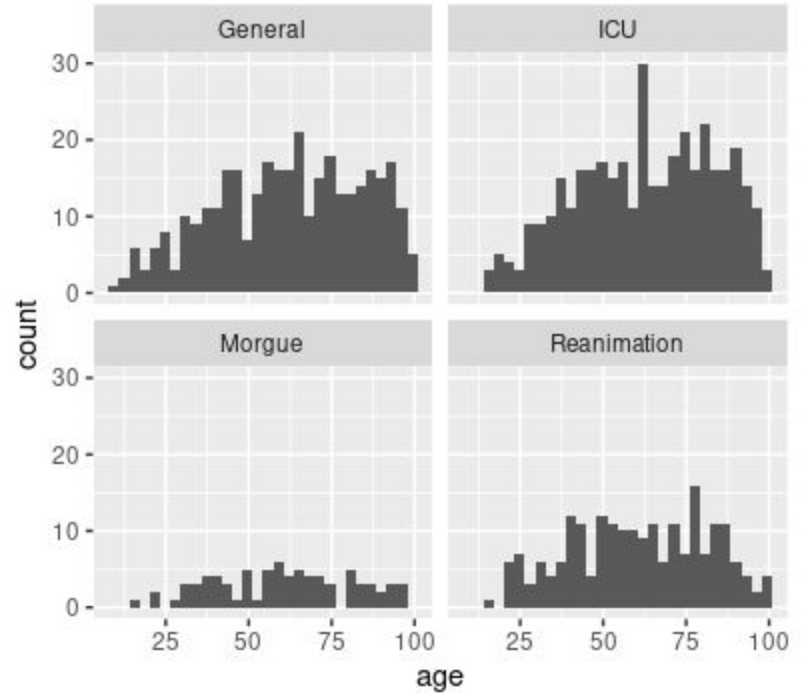
```
labs(
  title = "Age by unit",
  x = "Unit",
  y = "Age"
) +
theme_minimal()
```



Faceting (for subgroup plots)

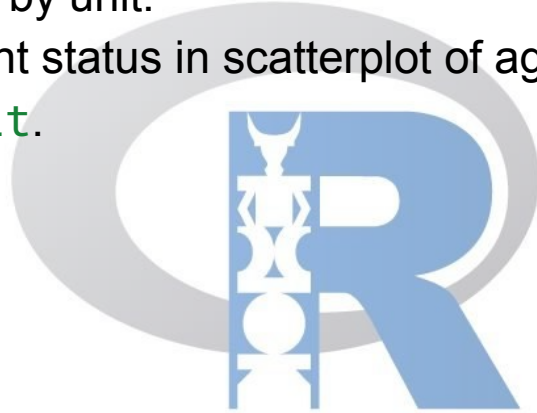
- code:

```
# Faceting  
ggplot(hospital_data, aes(x = age)) +  
  geom_histogram() +  
  facet_wrap(~ unit)
```

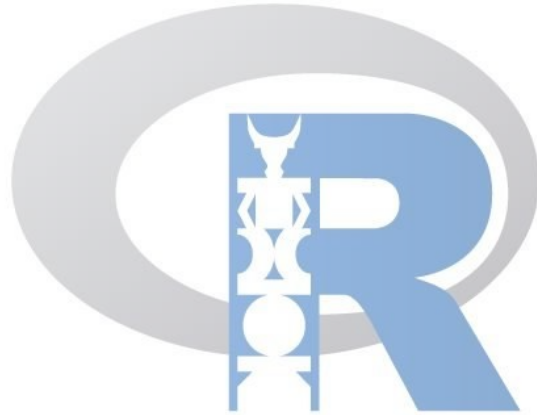


Live Coding – Data Visualization with ggplot2

- Create a **bar plot** of patient count by unit.
- Show a **histogram** of age distribution.
- Create a **boxplot** of age by unit.
- Use **color** to show patient status in scatterplot of age vs patient_id.
- Facet by **status** or **unit**.



Introduction to Statistical Modeling with stats



What is statistical modeling ?

1. Definition

- Formally: the mathematical relationship between random and non-random variables.
- the different mathematical methodologies data analysts and data scientists use to interpret data
- Helps make predictions, test hypotheses, or understand patterns.
- There are a variety of statistical models, and the one you apply to a data set will depend on the question you're attempting to answer.

2. Core idea

- **Model = Equation + Assumptions:** We describe how a response variable depends on one or more predictors.
- **Fit to Data:** Use observed data to estimate model parameters (e.g., slope, intercept).
- **Assess Validity:** Evaluate how well the model explains the data (e.g., using p-values, R^2 , residuals).

Types of models

Linear Models (LM)

Use when the response variable is continuous and there is a linear relationship

→ `lm(y ~ x1 + x2, data = ...)`

Generalized Linear Models (GLM)

Extend linear models for other types of outcomes

→ `glm(y ~ x, family = binomial, data = ...)`

- *Binomial*: for binary outcomes (e.g., ICU or not)
- *Poisson*: for counts (e.g., number of cases)

Nonlinear Models (NLS)

For explicitly nonlinear relationships

→ `nls(y ~ a * exp(b * x), data = ...)`

Linear Regression

```
# Loading data
hospital_data <- read.csv(file = "simulated_hospital_dataset.csv", sep = ",")
head(hospital_data)

# Count the number of symptoms
hospital_data$number_symptoms <- sapply(strsplit(hospital_data$symptoms, ";"), length)

# Compute the stay period
hospital_data$stay_length <- as.numeric(as.Date(hospital_data$date_of_removal) - as.Date(hospital_data$date_of_admission))

# Linear Regression model using age and number of symptoms as predictors
lm_model <- lm(stay_length ~ age + number_symptoms, data = hospital_data)
summary(lm_model)
```



Logistic Regression

```
# Binary classification on ICU admission
hospital_data$in_icu <- ifelse(hospital_data$unit == "ICU", 1, 0)
# Step 1: Split each symptom string into a list
symptom_lists <- strsplit(hospital_data$symptoms, ";\\s*")
# Step 2: Flatten the list and get unique symptom names
all_symptoms <- unique(unlist(symptom_lists))
# Step 3: Create dummy variables for each symptom dynamically
for (symptom in all_symptoms) {
  hospital_data[[paste0("has_", symptom)]] <- sapply(symptom_lists, function(sym_list) symptom %in% sym_list)
}
glm_model <- glm(in_icu ~ age + number_symptoms + has_cough + has_fever + has_diarrhea, data = hospital_data, family = "binomial")
summary(glm_model)
exp(coef(glm_model))
install.packages("margins")
library(margins)
margins(glm_model)
```

Live Coding – Statistical Modeling

- Fit a linear model to explore how stay length depends on age or ICU status.
- Fit a logistic model predicting ICU admission from age and the fever symptom.
- Interpret coefficients: What increases the chance of ICU admission?

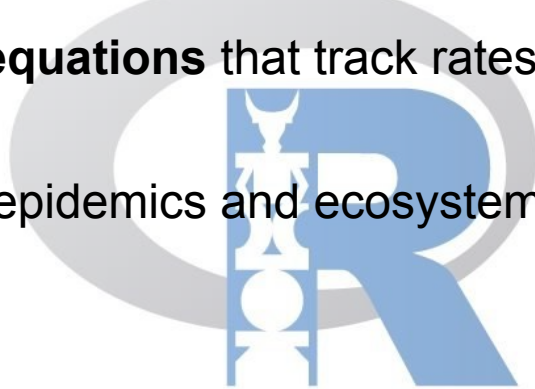


Introduction to Dynamical Modeling with deSolve



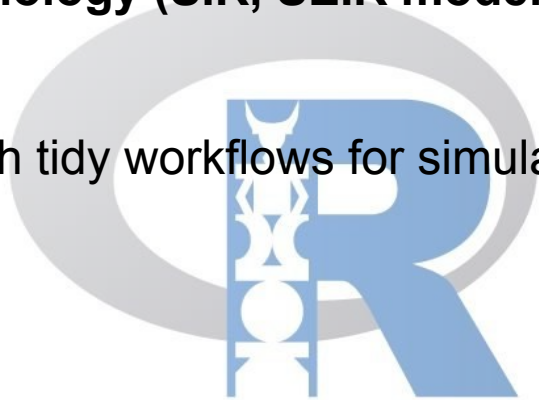
What is dynamical modeling ?

- Describes how a system evolves **over time**.
- Based on **differential equations** that track rates of change (e.g., infections, recoveries).
- Essential for modeling epidemics and ecosystems with **time-varying behavior**.



Why deSolve in R?

- deSolve lets you **solve differential equations numerically** in R.
- Widely used in **epidemiology (SIR, SEIR models)** and **ecological systems (population models)**.
- Integrates smoothly with tidy workflows for simulation and plotting.



Why `deSolve` in R?

- **Initial values:** state of the system at time = 0
e.g., `S = 999, I = 1, R = 0`
- **Parameters:** fixed model inputs (e.g., infection rate β)
- **Time sequence:** when to solve (e.g., `times = seq(0, 100, by = 1)`)
- **ODE function:** returns derivatives `dS/dt, dI/dt, dR/dt`

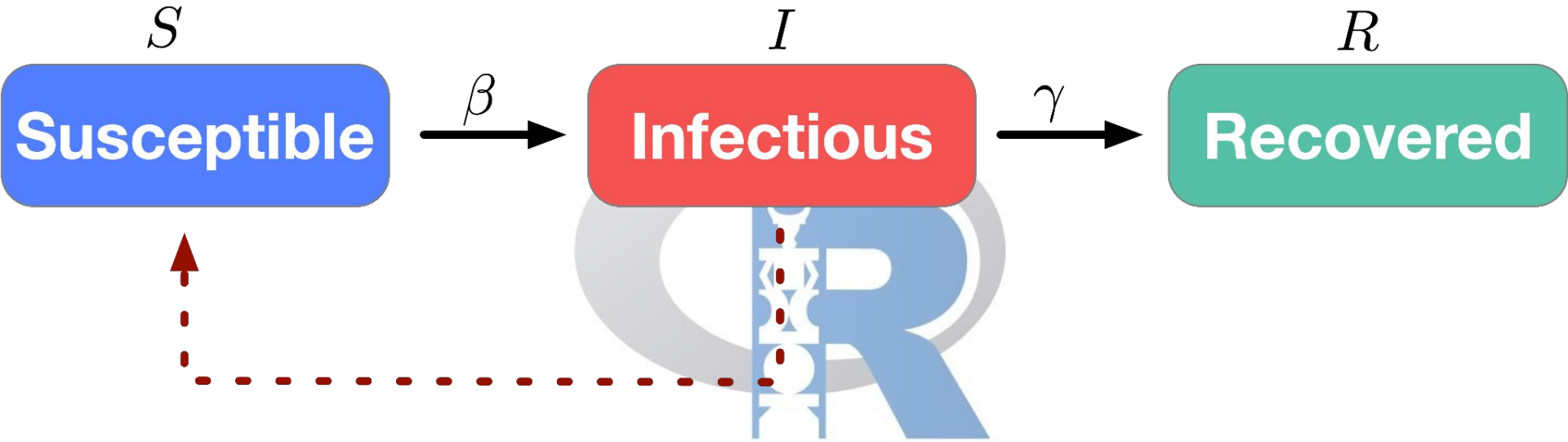
Example - SIR model

- **S**: Susceptible, i.e., people who can be infected.
- **I**: Infected , i.e., currently infected people.
- **R**: Recovered, i.e., people who recovered or died and no longer spread disease.
- ————— time.

Equations:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\beta \frac{SI}{N}, \quad \frac{dI}{dt} = \beta \frac{SI}{N} - \gamma I, \quad \frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

Example - SIR model



Source: <https://covid19.uclaml.org/model.html>

Example - SIR model

```
# SIR model definition
sir_model <- function(time, state, parameters) {
  with(as.list(c(state, parameters)), {
    N <- S + I + R
    dS <- -beta * S * I / N
    dI <- beta * S * I / N - gamma * I
    dR <- gamma * I
    return(list(c(dS, dI, dR)))
  })
}

# Parameters and initial state definition
params <- c(beta = 0.3, gamma = 0.1)
state <- c(S = 999, I = 1, R = 0)

# Time span for simulation:
times <- seq(0, 100, by = 1)

# Solving the model
output <- ode(y = state, times = times, func = sir_model, parms = params)
```



Example - SIR model

Explanation:

- You define a function that returns the *rate of change* for S, I, and R.
- `with(as.list(...))`: unpacks the values inside `state` and `parameters`.
- Calculates each derivative using the model equations.
- `beta`: infection rate (**how fast people get infected**)
- `gamma`: recovery rate (**how fast people recover**)
- `state`: initial number of Susceptible, Infected, and Recovered

Example - SIR model

Explanation:

`ode()` is the core function from `deSolve`.

It takes:

- `y`: initial state,
- `times`: time sequence,
- `func`: the model you defined,
- `parms`: parameters like `beta` and `gamma`.

It returns a time series of `S`, `I`, and `R`.



Plotting - SIR model

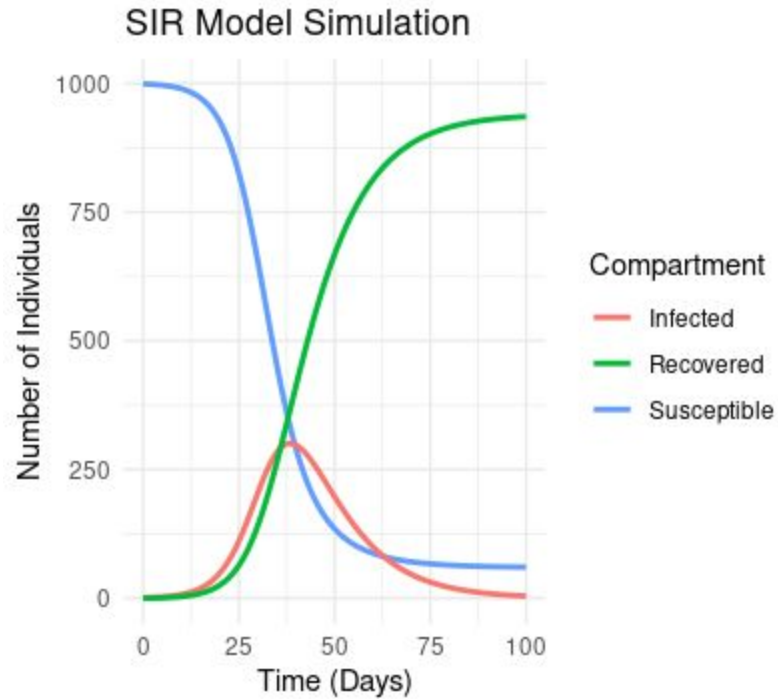
```
# Converting output to a Dataframe
output_df <- as.data.frame(output)

#Plotting
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(output_df, aes(x = time)) +
  geom_line(aes(y = S, color = "Susceptible"), size = 1) +
  geom_line(aes(y = I, color = "Infected"), size = 1) +
  geom_line(aes(y = R, color = "Recovered"), size = 1) +
  labs(title = "SIR Model Simulation",
       x = "Time (Days)",
       y = "Number of Individuals",
       color = "Compartment") +
  theme_minimal()
```



Plotting - SIR model



What You Should Understand

- How to define a system with **initial values** and **parameters**.
- How to implement the **ODEs** in R using **deSolve**.
- How to **run the simulation** and **plot the results**.



R Bootcamp: Key Takeaways

✅ **R Foundations:** Navigated RStudio, mastered R syntax, and explored vectors, data frames, and tidy data principles.

📊 **Data Manipulation:** Used `dplyr` to clean, transform, and summarize data.

📈 **Visualization with ggplot2:** Learned how to tell compelling stories with data through layered, customizable plots.

📊 **Statistical Modeling:** Built and interpreted basic models (linear, logistic) using the `stats` package.

🔄 **Dynamical Modeling:** Simulated epidemic processes using compartmental models with `deSolve`.

🧠 **Hands-On Practice:** Worked with realistic hospital datasets and outbreak scenarios to reinforce each concept.

🚀 **Workshop Ready:** Equipped with all essentials to engage in statistical and mechanistic modeling in R.

**Thank you, all! You should now be ready for
E2M2!**

