

Programming with R for Reproducible Research

Martin Mächler, Seminar für Statistik, ETH Zurich

Before first lecture, Feb.18, 2014

1 Course *Programming with R for Reproducible Research*

- Prerequisites:
 - Both parts of “Using R for Data Analysis”
 - Laptop with R ($\geq 3.0.1$) and RStudio / StatET / ESS, or similar “R IDE” installed
 - One semester of statistics
- Duration: 2 hours \times 7 weeks ($= \frac{1}{2}$ semester), corresponds to “1 G” of a full semester
- Credits: 1 ECTS
- Exam: “Written”, respectively at computer, at the end of the teaching block, April 8 or 15.
- Lecture Notes: Written in “Reproducible Research” (Sweave) Style;
- Textbook: Used very loosely: *The Art of R Programming* by Norman Matloff
 - Polybuchhandlung, CHF 45.-
- **Many** online resources. A very sophisticated (and hence not 100% correct) one: Advanced R by Hadley Wickham

2 Outline - Topics

- Programming with R
 - R Data Types, notably list()_s, lapply, etc
 - * quick review (of prerequisites)
 - * Slides from “Using R part 2”
 - John Chambers: To understand computations in R, note that
 - * Everything that exists is an object.
 - * Everything that happens is a function call.
 - *10.0 times 0.1 is hardly ever 1.0*
 (“The elements of Programming Style”, Kernighan and Plauger, 1974): – computer numerics and R FAQ 7.31
 - First steps with parallel execution: package parallel, even on your notebook
 - Object Orientation in R: S3, S4, Reference classes

- Better understanding of packages and their namespaces (see below)
- R Functions as “Closures”: Example splinefun
- Environments
- Expressions (substitute(), quote(), eval() etc)
- Reproducible Research and Data Analysis
 - This document is written in Emacs “*Org Mode*”
 - * show source, options
 - * one can do R and C and more with “/Org Babel/”, but that is Emacs only.
 - * We will use and learn a bit: *Sweave* and *knitr*.
 - Why reproducibility is very important
 - * CRAN task view “Reproducible reasearch”
 - Reproducible Data Analysis: R code and Report
 - Reproducible Research: Theory, Illustrations, Simulation
 - Sweave and knitr – implementation and examples
- Towards Writing your own R Package
 - Understanding Namespaces
 - Design, Testing, Documentation