

Assignment 0
Assigned Wednesday Jan. 8, 2014
No report necessary

Installation of RStudio, creation of directories, file archiving and use of the editor. There is no report for this first lab. However, you are expected to understand directories, file archiving, and using the editor by next week's lab.

Task 1

Install RStudio on your laptop computer (Mac or Windows). Use the link provided in the class notes, or use Google. Install version 0.97 or beyond. You are installing "RStudio Desktop". (You are NOT installing "RStudio Server".)

You can find documentation on RStudio through its help menu. Choose "RStudio Docs" to get an idea of the topics you can get help on.

Task 2

Creating directories. In the console, type `getwd()`. Note what is listed. This is the directory/folder you are currently "in". Typing `tdir()` will list files and folders that reside in this directory. To move to another directory, use the command `tsetwd()`. Read the help file on this command by typing `help(setwd)` or `?setwd`.

We will now create a directory for the course, and within that directory, folders for the first two labs.

Go to the **Session** menu, and select **Set Working Directory**. From there, create a directory, "psych" or "comp_psych", or another descriptive name of your choice. Under this directory, create a directory for each of the next few labs, perhaps labs 1 through 5. The names of the directories might be "lab0", "lab1", etc. Later, these could be made into more descriptive names that include the lab number and the lab topic.

Next, go to the "lab0" directory (replace "lab0" by whatever name you chose). Use the `setwd()` function to do this. You have just set the working directory to "lab0". When you use `dir()` to list the files in this directory, you should get nothing.

Another way to create a directory is by typing. Simply type: `dir.create("labs/lab0")`. What happens? If folder "labs" does not exist, "lab0" will not be created. So type instead: `dir.create("labs/lab0", recursive=T)`, which tells RStudio to create directory "labs". and then directory "labs1". This is often much faster than going through the menu system.

How did I find out about the function `dir.create()`? I typed `??directory` which gave me all the functions that relate to directories. You'll see `dir.create` listed. This is one way to learn the names of functions that you did not know about.

Task 3

We will now create a few files. Use an editor of your choice (Notepad, word, edit, anything else) and type a few sentences. Name this file and store it in

the directory "lab0". Create a second file with the same name. Alternatively, and probably better, use RStudio itself. Just below the menu bar, you'll see a sheet of paper with a green plus sign. Click and choose "Text File". Add some sentences. Now save the file (click on the icon of the disk.) The file is now saved to the directory "lab0". To check, type "getwd()", which should return the "path" to "lab0". If you do not understand the word "path", use google to look it up. Check again by using Window Explorer of Mac Finder to confirm that the file is in the directory you think it is in. Repeat this with a second file.

Your assignment will generally produce several files (code, graphs, your report) that you will need to email to Danial Smith (your TA). Never delete these files from your computer, and make sure you backup your work somewhere (a flash drive, another hard drive, etc.) to protect against loss.

Task 4

Outside of R, learn to "zip", or "tar" your two files so that they are both contained in a single file. A zip file has extention `.zip`, while a "tar" file has extention `.tar`. So you could create a file called "lab1.zip", that would contain both files you created in the task 3. Use Google or get help from the TA to learn how to do this. Many window machines have a utility called "WinZip", which can be downloaded for free (I believe). For the mac, you can simply use Google to find the information.