

R Workshop

Synopsis

Instructors: Gustavo Robles and Jonathan Mummolo

Day 1

Instructor: Gustavo Robles

Morning Session: Introduction to R

Introduction to R

R Basics: Workspace, working directory, and scripts.

Creating and storing objects.

Vectors, matrices, strings & lists.

Functions.

R-Packages (code, functions, and datasets).

Afternoon Session: Reading and Manipulating Data

Reading data in different formats.

Merging and appending datasets.

Selecting and subsampling data.

Creating and transforming variables.

Day 2

Instructor: Gustavo Robles

Morning Session: Analyzing Data

Frequency and cross tables.

Summary statistics by groups.

Statistical tests.

Regression models.

Regression output, coefficients, and standard errors.

Predictions and marginal effects.

Afternoon Session: Reporting Results and Advanced Topics

Exporting tables.

Reporting regression output from R to different formats.

Basic programming skills: conditionals, loops, and recursion.

User-defined functions.

Running R in BATCH mode.

Day 3

Instructor: Jonathan Mummolo

Data Visualization in R:

The following lessons will be taught using a pre-supplied data set, most likely a random sample of the 2012 Cooperative Congressional Election Study. The goal is to use a real social science data set to explore methods of visual summarization. Particular emphasis will be placed on managing and displaying the results of statistical models after estimation.

Morning Session: Intro to "plot"

Basic inputs to the plot function

Scatter plots

Bar plots

Box Plots

Density Plots / Histograms

Using the par() function

- Combining multiple plots

- Using loops to generate large plot matrices

- Plotting more than one y-axis for a time series

Three-dimensional scatter plots (two predictors and an outcome)

Specifics covered throughout: labeling; custom axes; point types; color options; legends; custom text placement and fonts, including Greek symbols

Saving plots as .pdf, .jpg, etc.

Afternoon Session: Plotting After Estimation (and why you should pretty much never include a regression table in the main text of your paper ever again...)

Saving model parameters and organizing estimates for plotting

- Store output after lm() and predict() functions

- Store output after estimating new var-covar matrix (e.g. HC standard errors)

Plotting predicted values (from OLS, loess); overlaying onto raw data

Residual Plots (with brief statistical explanation)

Plotting coefficients with confidence intervals (tree plots)

Plotting continuous interaction effects (with brief statistical explanation)

*Please come prepared to follow along on your laptop.

R program download links:

R Software

<http://www.r-project.org>

R Studio

<https://www.rstudio.com>

Some useful books:

Maindonald, John, and W. John Braun (2010). "Data Analysis and Graphics Using R".
Cambridge University Press.

Fox, John, and Sanford Weisberg (2011). "An R Companion to Applied Regression".
SAGE Publications, Inc.