

# Introduction to R

March, 2022

# A data science workflow

## 1. Retrieve data

- Generate
- Download

## 3. Process data

- Preparation
- Analysis, Visualisation

## 1. Store data

- Files
- Databases

## 4. Publish results

- Reports, Memos, Papers, Books
- Replication Data

# What is programming?

Programming is about writing **programs**

- Sets of instructions (algorithms) to be executed by a computer
- written in a computer language (source code, or just code)
- stored in files (and organized in software projects)

**Integrated Development Environments (IDEs)**

Editor + Console + Tools

# What is programming?

How many computer languages exist?

Why are there so many languages?

- Different needs: computation, visualization, robotisation...
- Different hardware: laptops, robots, fridges...
- Versions: improvements, new needs...
- Programming paradigms/ categorizations

# Programming concepts are mostly language-agnostic

R

```
library(readr)  
mydata <- read_csv("myfile.csv")
```

Python

```
import pandas as pd  
mydata = pd.read_csv("myfile.csv")
```

# Operators

## Arithmetic Operators

- Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division

## Comparison Operators

- Equal, Not equal, Greater than, , Less than, Less or equal than

## Boolean Operators

- and, or, not

## Precedence of Operators

- Parentheses, Exponents and roots, Multiplications and divisions, Additions and subtractions
- Horizontal: left to right
- Vertical: top down

# Data Types

## Numeric

- integer, floating point, complex number

## String

- sequence of characters

## Boolean

- True/False, 1/0

## Structured (combinations of the others)

- Vectors, Lists, Arrays, Dictionaries, Dataframes

## Functions are reusable chunks of code

- Each language has a set of built-in functions or commands

# Control flow

## Conditional statements

- if-then(-else)

## Loop constructs

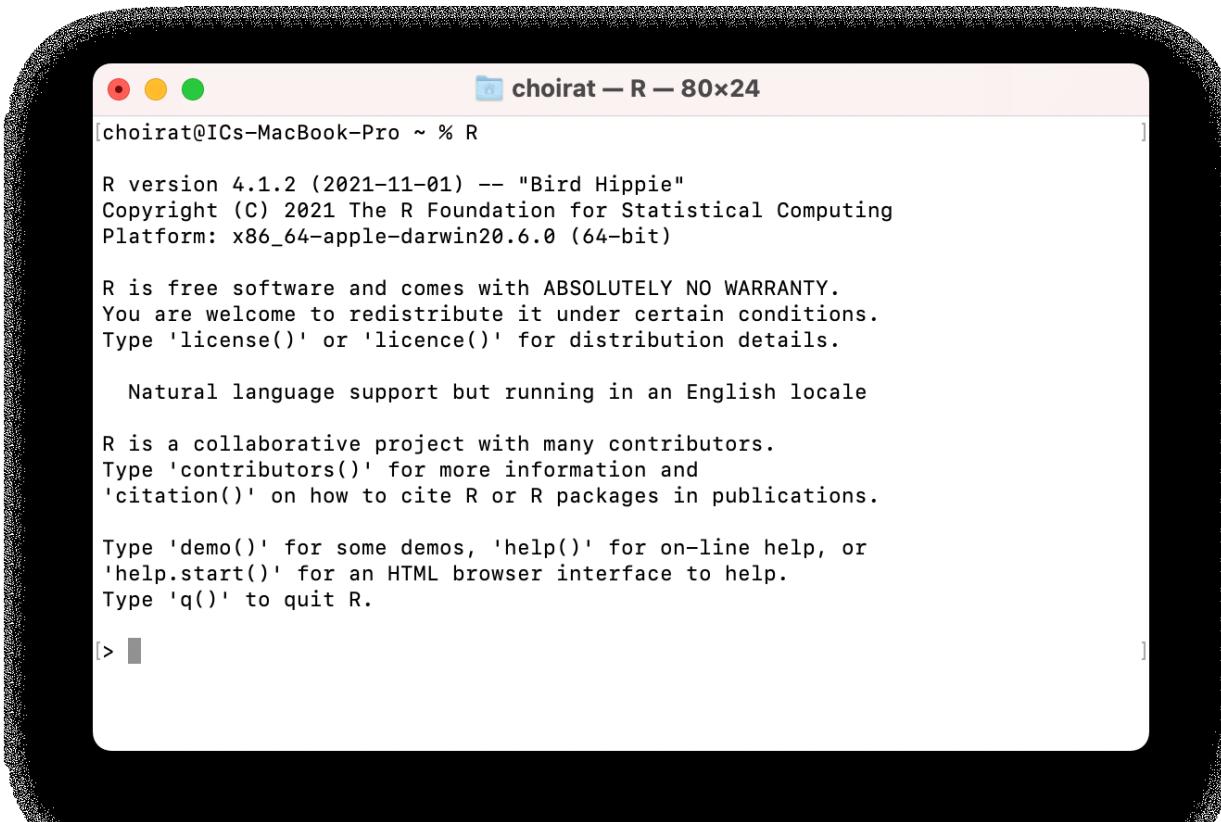
- for
- do while
- while

# S, Splus, R

R is an implementation of the [S programming language](#) [...]. S was created by [John Chambers](#) in 1976 while at [Bell Labs](#). A commercial version of S was offered as [S-PLUS](#) starting in 1988. Many codes written for S-PLUS run unaltered in R. In 1991 [Ross Ihaka](#) and [Robert Gentleman](#) at the [University of Auckland](#), New Zealand, embarked on an S implementation, independent of [S-PLUS](#). They began publicizing it in 1993. It was named partly after the first names of the first two R authors and partly as a play on the name of S. In 1995, Martin Maechler convinced Ihaka and Gentleman to make R [free and open-source software](#) under the [GNU General Public License](#).

(Source: [Wikipedia](#))

# What does R look like?



The image shows a screenshot of an R terminal window titled "choirat - R - 80x24". The window is running on a Mac OS X system, as indicated by the window controls and the title bar. The terminal displays the standard R startup message, which includes the R version, copyright information, platform details, and various usage instructions. The text is white on a black background, typical of a terminal interface.

```
[choirat@ICs-MacBook-Pro ~ % R

R version 4.1.2 (2021-11-01) -- "Bird Hippie"
Copyright (C) 2021 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin20.6.0 (64-bit)

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.

[> ]
```

# RStudio

A software company



 [rstudio.com](https://rstudio.com)

**Founder:** Joseph J. Allaire

**Founded:** 2009

**Headquarters location:** Boston, Massachusetts,  
United States

**Ports**

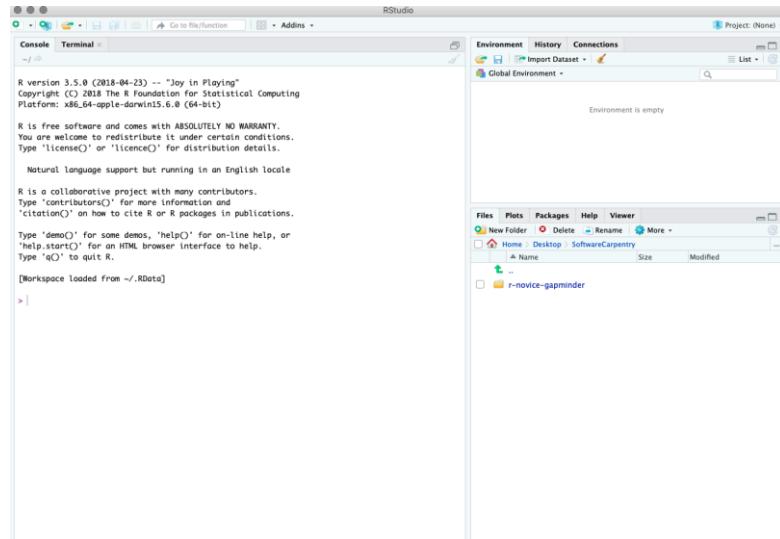
**Revenue**

**Mission**

RStudio's mission is to **create free and open-source software for data science, scientific research, and technical communication**.

<https://www.rstudio.com/about>

An Integrated Development Environment  
(IDE)



# Alternatives to a local installation



+



- Computing power and storage are provided online by remote servers.
- Offers tools for state of the art research reproducibility and dissemination standards.

# First steps with Renku



# What is Renku?

Renku (連句 “linked verses”), is a Japanese form of popular collaborative linked verse poetry, written by more than one author working together.

The Renku Project is a platform that bundles together various tools for reproducible and collaborative data analysis projects. It is aimed at independent researchers and data scientists as well as labs, collaborations, and courses and workshops. Renku can be used by anyone who deals with data, whether they are a researcher, data analyst, project owner, or data provider.

(Source: [Renku documentation](#))



**ETH** zürich **EPFL**

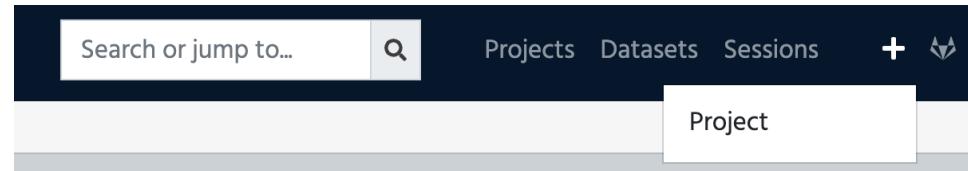
<https://datascience.ch/>

# Demo

We give a quick tour, a demo, and then it's your turn!

<https://renkulab.io/>

1. Create an account
2. Login
3. Create an R project
4. Open RStudio



# New project

Title

ⓘ There are a few [reserved names](#) you cannot use.

Namespace 

ⓘ Group namespaces may restrict the visibility options.

Identifier

ⓘ This is automatically derived from Namespace and Title.

Visibility



Template source

Template



The simplest R-4.0.5-based renku project with a basic directory structure and necessary supporting files.



# myfirstproject

Public

cchoirat/myfirstproject

▶ Start ⋮

Overview Collaboration Files Datasets Sessions Settings

General

(This project has no description. You can provide one on the [settings tab](#).)

fork 0

star 0

[View in GitLab](#) ⋮

Updated 11 seconds ago.

Stats

Commits

Status

README.md

## myfirstproject

### Introduction

This is a Renku project - basically a git repository with some bells and whistles. You'll find we have already created some useful things like `data` and `notebooks` directories and a `Dockerfile`.

## Working with the project

The simplest way to start your project is right from the Renku platform - just click on the `Environments` tab and start a new session. This will start an interactive environment right in your browser.

To work with the project anywhere outside the Renku platform, click the `Settings` tab where you will find the git repo URLs - use `git` to clone the project on whichever machine you want.

# myfirstproject

Public

cchoirat/myfirstproject

▶ Start :

Overview Collaboration Files Datasets Sessions Settings

Back to sessions list

## Starting session

Checking existing sessions...

# myfirstproject

Public



cchoirat/myfirstproject

Overview Collaboration Files Datasets Sessions Settings

Back to sessions list

Branch [master](#)

Commit [8fccde6b](#)

Resources 0.25 cpu | 1G memory | 1G storage

Running since 1 minute ago

[Open](#) :

The screenshot shows the RStudio interface for a session named "myfirstproject". At the top, it displays the branch as "master" and the commit hash as "8fccde6b". It also shows resource usage (0.25 cpu, 1G memory, 1G storage) and that the session has been running for 1 minute. The main area consists of several panes:

- Code pane:** Shows the R command "R version 4.0.5 (2021-03-31) -- "Shake and Throw"" followed by the standard R license notice.
- Console pane:** Displays the command "R version 4.0.5 (2021-03-31) -- "Shake and Throw"" and the standard R license notice.
- Environment pane:** Shows the message "Environment is empty".
- Files pane:** Includes buttons for "New Folder", "Upload", "Delete", "Rename", and "More".

# git under the hood



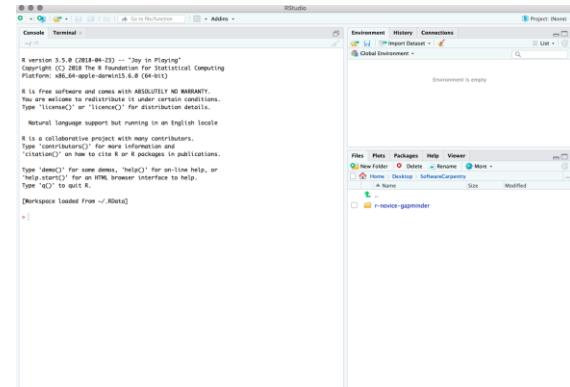
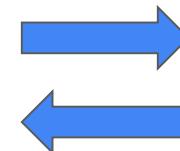
renku save



Cloud storage

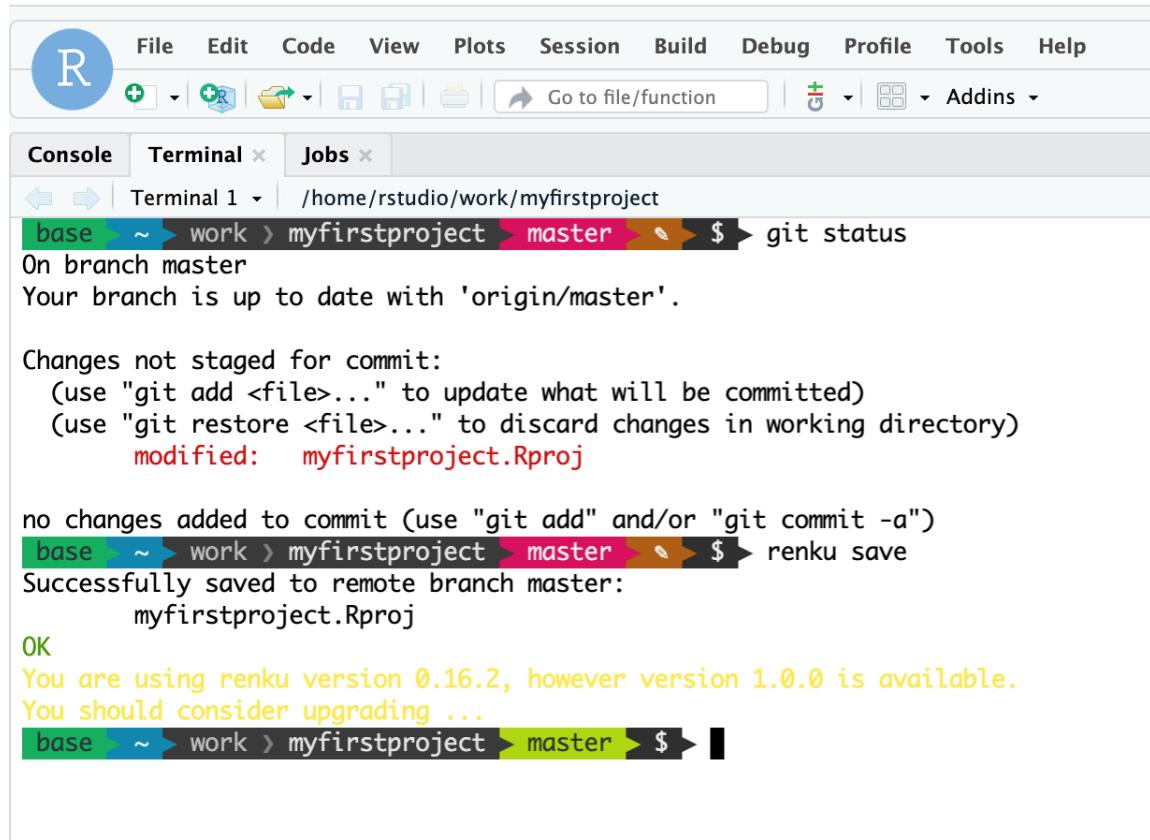


Virtual Machine



Web Browser (e.g., Edge)

# renku save



The screenshot shows an RStudio interface with a terminal window open. The terminal tab is selected, showing a session in a directory named 'myfirstproject' on the 'master' branch. The user has run 'git status' and then 'renku save'. The output indicates that the project has been successfully saved to the remote branch 'master'.

```
File Edit Code View Plots Session Build Debug Profile Tools Help
R Go to file/function Addins

Console Terminal x Jobs x
Terminal 1 ~ /home/rstudio/work/myfirstproject
base ~ work > myfirstproject > master > $ git status
On branch master
Your branch is up to date with 'origin/master'.

Changes not staged for commit:
  (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
  (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
    modified:   myfirstproject.Rproj

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
base ~ work > myfirstproject > master > $ renku save
Successfully saved to remote branch master:
  myfirstproject.Rproj
OK
You are using renku version 0.16.2, however version 1.0.0 is available.
You should consider upgrading ...
base ~ work > myfirstproject > master > $
```

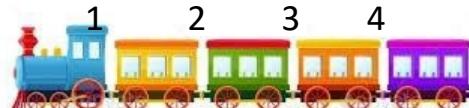
# Demo



# Vectors

- Are a collection of multiple pieces of information. You can think of them as carriages linked together in a train.
- They can be made of numeric, character or factor data
- But each vector can only contain one type of data
- Creating a vector is easy – use the `c` function with brackets and separate the pieces of data using commas: `x <- c(9,19,200,30,45)`

numeric



character

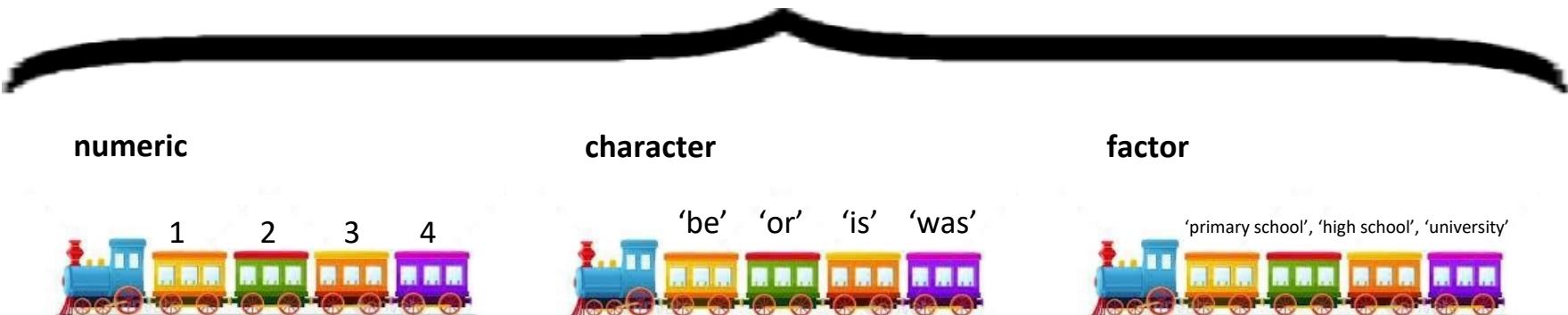


factor



# Lists

- Like vectors are a collection of multiple pieces of information.
- They can be made up of individual pieces of data or collections of data: vectors, data frames, matrices, other lists
- Unlike vectors, lists can contain many types of data
- Example: one list made up of 3 vectors:



# Matrices & Data Frames

Store data in **rows** and **columns**:

therefore are **2** dimensional (like tables – this means I need both the row and column number to find one piece of info!)

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Row 1					
Row 2					
Row 3					
Row 4					