### An Introduction to R

Workshop at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

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### About me

- BS Applied Mathematics: Cryptography and Data Science, Minor in Computer Science JJAY '23
- Pursuing MA in Statistics At Columbia
   University
- Conducting research in the field of Differential Privacy.

### Preliminaries

- This 3 series workshop builds on my personal knowledge and other workshops or resources, below the sources for inspiration, graphics, examples:
  - https://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/r-release/R-intro.html
  - https://katrienantonio.github.io/intro-R-book/
  - https://unl-statistics.github.io/R-workshops/
  - https://intro2r.com/
  - https://bookdown.org/rdpeng/rprogdatascience/
  - https://r4ds.had.co.nz/
- Workshop materials on:
  - https://dilancaro.github.io/R-workshop-John-Jay/

### Overview

### Workshop 1:

- Data analysis
- What is R?
- Fundamentals
- Data Structures
- Data Manipulation

### Workshop 2:

- Control Sequences
- Data Wrangling
- Transformations

### Workshop 3:

- working with dates and times
- advanced visualization
- statistical analysis

## Data analysis

- Imagine you are a detective , but instead of solving crimes , you are uncovering the story hidden within numbers and facts.
- This is what data analysis is about- finding patterns, answering questions, and making informed decisions based on data.
- R is often used to perform data analysis



## What is Data?

- Data are pieces of information that can be collected and analyzed
- Forms of data:
  - Numbers, words, images, sounds
  - anything that can be measured

When you check the weather, read reviews to decide on a movie, or compare prices before making a purchase, you're using data.

## Types of Data

#### Two main types of data:

- Qualitative: Describe qualities or characteristics
  - color of a car
  - the flavor of a cake
- **Quantitative :** Data is numerical.
  - Number of students in a class
  - Number of participants in a study
    - temperature on a summer day

## What is a population?

- Population isn't just a group of people. It is the entire set of subjects or items we are interested in studying. This could be :
  - all the trees in a forest
  - every book in a library
  - all residents in a city

# What is a sample?

- Most times, it is impractical, or impossible to study an entire population.
- So, we take a sample, a smaller group selected from the population, which is manageable yet representative enough to draw conclusion about the whole



### **Empiricism**

• Empiricism is the principle that knowledge comes from experience and evidence.

 In data analysis, it means making conclusions based on what we can observe and measure rather than just theories or beliefs.





## Empiricism

- Example
  - $\mu = PARAMETER$
  - $\bar{x} = \text{STATISTIC}$

1. Population of N = 10 people of different height (inches).

• Heights: 60, 71, 76, 56, 52, 65, 49, 53, 67, 64 2. Calculate  $\mu = \frac{\sum x_i}{N} = \frac{60+71+76+56+52+65+49+53+67+64}{10} = \frac{613}{10} = 61.3$ 3. Sample of n = 3 (71, 56, 64), Sample of n = 6 (76, 65, 53, 56, 60, 52) 4. Calculate  $\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \frac{71+56+64}{3} = \frac{191}{3} = 63.67$ 5. Calculate  $\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \frac{76+65+53+56+60+52}{6} = \frac{362}{6} = 60.33$ 



## Operationalism

### Making concepts measurable:

- Operationalism is turning a concept into a quantifiable term.
- For example, how do we measure 'health'? We operationalize it by looking at indicators like blood pressure, heart rate, and cholesterol levels.
- It's how we define concepts so we can measure them.

### Variables

 Variables are any characteristics, numbers, or quantities that can be measured or controlled.

• In the question of 'health', variables could be age, weight, diet, or exercise frequency.

Variables are the basic units of data we analyze.

### **Descriptive vs. Inferential Statistics**

### **Descriptive** statistics :

summarize and organize data so it's easier to understand. They
provide a quick glance at the data through averages, percentages, and
patterns without drawing conclusions about what the data means.

### **Inferential Statistics:**

 While descriptive statistics give us the 'what' of the data, inferential statistics tell us the 'why'. They allow us to make predictions and inferences about a population based on the sample data we've collected.

## Descriptive example

Imagine a teacher has the final grades for a class of 30 students. The teacher could use descriptive statistics to:

- Calculate the average grade (mean).
- Determine the grade smack in the middle (median).
- Identify the most frequently occurring grade (mode).
- Calculate the standard deviation to see how much grades vary.
- Create a histogram to visually represent the distribution of grades.
- Find the highest and lowest grade (range).

### Inference example

Let's say a health researcher wants to estimate the average blood pressure of all adults in a city. It would be impractical to measure the blood pressure of every adult, so the researcher collects data from a sample of 200 adults.

#### Using inferential statistics, the researcher could:

- Use the sample mean blood pressure as an estimate of the population mean blood pressure.
- Create a 95% confidence interval to express the uncertainty of the estimate.
- Test a hypothesis, such as whether the mean blood pressure differs between males and females.
- Use regression analysis to predict blood pressure based on factors like age, weight, and exercise habits.

### What is R?

- R is a programming language
- Open-source software via the GNU General Public License
- Widely used for statistical computing, data analysis, and graphics.
- It was created by Ross Ihaka and Robert Gentleman at the University of Auckland, New Zealand.
- R is particularly popular among statisticians, data scientists, and researchers for its extensive statistical and graphical capabilities.

### Where is R used?







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## R & R packages

- R is mostly used in academia
- Interpreted language (Python is also interpreted)
- Different than excel , STATA, SAS.
- You interact with R via code (text instructions)
- R packages are pre-made instructions ready for you to use



### **Rvs RStudio**

- R is like a car's engine
- RStudio is like a car's dashboard, an integrated development environment (IDE) for R.



https://github.com/katrienantonio/workshop-R/

### **R** universe





https://github.com/katrienantonio/workshop-R/

### Data Science workflow

The **tidyverse** is an opinionated collection of R packages designed for data science. All packages share an underlying design philosophy, grammar, and data structures.

https://docs.posit.co/resources/tidyverse/





### **RStudio Layout**



https://sahirbhatnagar.com/EPIB607/basics.html

### Website

### tinyurl.com/R-WORKSHOP-JJAY





### **Questions?**

- To Access more materials and resources please visit the website on the QR code, or at https://dilancaro.github.io/Rworkshop-John-Jay/
- Thank you