

**Creativity.r:** Numerical and Graphical summaries of data. Graphics using base graphics.  
Explanation of code

Lines from creativity.r are repeated here so you know what each explanation refers to.

**Do not copy and paste code from a pdf file.** That works 98% of the time but not 100% of the time. The problem are those characters or character combinations that pdf files make “look pretty”. Quotes are one example. They do not copy and paste correctly. There are no problems copying and pasting from the .r files.

Goals of code:

- Identify / Set the working directory
- Read an excel .csv file
- Printing first part of a data set / Viewing an entire data set
- Calculate summary statistics
  - For all observations or for individual groups of observations
- Display the creativity data (dotplot, histogram, boxplot)
  - As one group or for each treatment
- Saving results to copy to Word

Confusing things:

Trying to copy code from the pdf file. Don't. Copy from the associated code file or open that file and execute commands from that file.

Setting the working directory so data files can be found and saved plots go where you can locate them.

Remembering that capitalization matters

**# creativity2.r: numerical and graphical summaries of data**

The # symbol starts a comment. All text from the # to the next end-of-line is ignored.

**getwd()**

Print the default working directory. If your desired working directory is a folder under this, you can use a relative path in the setwd().

**setwd('name of folder')**

Set the working directory. Can use a relative path or an absolute path, i.e., starting at c: or some other drive. R will look for code and data or save files in the specified directory. The Rstart document describes working directories and how to set them.

I strongly recommend creating a folder for all your Stat 587 work. Then create a separate folder for each project you work on.

On a Windows machine, R will start with the working directory in your Documents folder. The full path there is `c:/Users/XX/Documents` where XX is your username on that computer. This may be your netid but it may not. Here's how to change the working directory to a folder in Documents; my example uses Stat587 as that folder name.

```
setwd('Stat587')
```

I do not keep many files in Documents, so my `setwd()` looks different.

```
creativity <- read.csv('creativity.csv', as.is=T)
```

Read the csv format file and create the creativity data frame. Details in the Rstart document.

```
names(creativity)
```

Print names of the variables in creativity. Not essential. Helpful in plain R; the data window in RStudio gives you this information automatically.

```
head(creativity)
```

Print the first 6 lines of a data frame. Useful to check that it's been read correctly.

```
View(creativity)
```

RStudio only. Open an interactive window (like a spreadsheet) to view the contents of a data frame

```
summary(creativity$score)
```

Print a 6 number summary of the values in `creativity$score`. See the Rstart document if you don't recognize `creativity$score` as the score variable in the creativity data frame. You can also summarize all variables in a data frame by omitting the specific variable name, e.g., `summary(creativity)`.

```
mean(creativity$score)
```

```
median(creativity$score)
```

Functions to compute specific summary statistics

```
tapply(creativity$score, creativity$treatment, summary)
```

Apply a function to subgroups of data. Requires three arguments:

- 1) The source of data, here `creativity$score`
- 2) How to define subgroups, here using `creativity$treatment`
- 3) The function to apply to each subgroup, here `summary`.

Output looks slightly different when the function returns a scale (e.g., mean or median). You should be able to figure out what you get by looking at it.

**R graphics:** There are three different sets of graphing functions in R: base graphics, lattice graphics, and ggplot/ggplot2 graphics. I will illustrate base graphics because that's what I use. The ggplot systems are more complicated to learn but they allow an almost infinite amount of plot customization. If you're already familiar with a graphics system, feel free to use it. You don't have to use my code.

```
stripchart(creativity$score)
```

Basic horizontal dot plot. Overplots repeated observations.

Most R function have optional arguments to control / refine what they do. These options are described in the help file for the function. To see that help, type: `?stripchart` or `help(stripchart)`. The help file appears in a new browser window (plain R) or the help window of RStudio. The options are indicated by `option= value`. I will introduce useful options. There are many, many options that I overlook.

```
stripchart(creativity$score, method='stack', offset=0.6)
```

For the stripchart, we probably prefer to separate the overplotted symbols. That is done by adding `method='stack'` to the function. Additionally, `offset=` indicates how much separation to add.

```
stripchart(score~treatment, data=creativity, method='stack', offset=0.6, pch=19)
```

I prefer a filled dot to the open square that is the default plot symbol. That is done by `pch=`. Some options are specific to stripchart, e.g., `method=` and `offset=`. Other options are general to all basic graphics plotting function, e.g., `pch=`. You'll see `pch=` a lot in my code. I will demonstrate other useful plotting options throughout the semester.

```
stripchart(creativity$score, vertical=T, method='stack', offset=0.6, pch=19)
```

More elaboration. `vertical=TRUE` makes the plot vertical. `T` is shorthand for `TRUE`. If you look in the help file, you see that the default value for this option is `FALSE`, i.e., a horizontal plot. In both cases, the capitalization really matters.

```
stripchart(score~treatment, data=creativity, method='stack', offset=0.6, pch=19)
```

Side-by-side dotplots produced using a formula to specify the variable and groups. `~` specifies a formula. The Y variable (values to plot) goes on the left-hand side; the grouping variable (X) goes on the right-hand side. When you have a formula, you can indicate the data frame explicitly, e.g., `creativity$score ~ creativity$treatment`, or use the more convenient `data=` format shown in the code.

```
hist(creativity$score)
```

Draw a histogram. Lots of options to change labels (axis or title) and number of histogram classes.

I do not know an easy base graphics way to draw side-by-side histograms. I use side-by-side boxplots instead (as do most folks).

```
boxplot(creativity$score)
```

Draw a vertical boxplot of all the values in `creativity@score`.

```
boxplot(score~treatment, data=creativity)
```

Side-by-side boxplots using the formula specification.

## Moving plots into a Word document

There are three (at least) ways to do this. Some of the details depend on your operating system (Windows, MacOS, Linux) and whether you are using plain R or RStudio.

Windows only: `savePlot('boxplot.emf', type='emf')`

(either R or RStudio). Saves the current plot in the specified file. File goes in your working directory unless you add a path to the name. You must provide the file extension (e.g., `.emf`), which is what

Windows uses to identify the contents. `Type=` specifies the type of file. `'emf'` is an enhanced metafile. I believe that is a Windows-only file format. TIFF files (`type='tiff'`, with a `.tiff` extension) should work on any operating system. `.emf` and `.tiff` are the two that I find go into Word most easily. In Word, `Include / picture` will load the picture.

Other operating systems:

You need to redirect graphics output to a file. Then draw the plot, then close the new graphics device. Closing the graphics devices redirects graphics output back to the original R or RStudio plot window.

`tiff('filename.tiff')` redirects graphics output to the named file. This must have the `.tiff` extension so that the operating system knows how to deal with the file. There is nothing to stop you from `tiff('filename.png')`, but will save a tiff format in a file that the system thinks is a `.png` format file. Confusion ensues.

Then draw the plot you want. `boxplot`, `stripchart`, `plot`, whatever. My practice is to draw the plot into the R or RStudio plot window first to make sure I'm getting what I want. Then start the `tiff()` device and redraw the plot.

`dev.off()` closes the graphics device and restores output to the R or RStudio device.

Details (only if you want to know how graphics devices are handled): R maintains the list of graphics devices as a stack. Graphics output goes to the device on the top of the stack. When you start R or RStudio, that stack has one device: the plot window. When you run the `tiff()` or other graphics device function, that device goes on the top of the stack. Closing a device, i.e. using `dev.off()`, shuts down the device on the top of the stack, writes out the contents of the file (if that graphics devices produces a file), and pops that device off the stack.

If you run multiple graphics device commands, e.g., `tiff(something)`, `png(something else)`, `pdf(a third something)`, without `dev.off()`'s in between to close any of the devices, the stack, starting at the top is: `pdf`, `png`, `tiff`, plot window. Output goes to the `pdf` file. To get back to the default plot window, you would have to run `dev.off()` three times to close `pdf`, then close `png`, then close `tiff`.

If you run `dev.off()` when the plot window is the only device on the stack, the plot window gets closed. In RStudio, running a command that draws a graph automatically restarts the plot window.

RStudio alternatives:

After plotting something, the lower right window should be a Plots window and show the graph. Look for the Export button in the 2nd menu bar. If not there, click Plots and you should see the Export button.

- 1) Click Export / Copy to Clipboard. You can then paste the picture into Word.
- 2) Click Export / Save as image. The dialog box allows you to specify the format, the directory, and the filename. The metafile format is very useful for moving to Word. The directory is your working directory, but you change this by clicking the Directory button. The file name is `Rplot` by default. You should provide a more descriptive name. You can also change the plot size. You can resize plots in Word, but resizing before saving usually looks better.

plain R alternatives:

- 1) Click on the graph to make it active, then select File/Save As. The menu will include various file types. Metafile and TIFF are the two that I use to move pictures to Word.
- 2) Click on the graph to make it active, then select File / Copy to the clipboard, as a Metafile. `ctrl-W` is the shortcut to copy the active graph to the clipboard. Then you can go to Word and paste the graph into a document, using either the Paste button or `ctrl-V`.

In plain R, the plot size depends on the size of the plot window. If your plot is too small or too big, resize the plot window before saving it. You can resize plots in Word, but resizing before saving usually looks better.

Good R programming practice:

Is to create a graphics file using code (`savePlot()` or a graphics device). That way you have a record of the code that produced a specific plot file. If you use the export button, you don't have that record, even if you have record of the code to draw the graph. Using the export button is not reproducible code; attaching a specific file name to the code that produced that file is reproducible. Not an issue for class work. Is definitely an issue when you have to look back at work you did a year (or even 3 months) prior and figure out exactly what was done to produce the file with a nice looking graph.