

Econometrics

Downloading R and RStudio

This file will walk you through downloading and running R and RStudio from a USB drive. This is a nice option because we will not need to worry about permission to run a new software on the computer lab computers, and you can always run R from any computer then just by having your USB drive with you. If you want to download and run R from a laptop then the process is somewhat easier because you can just go with the automatic download/install options. But follow the below steps to save to a USB drive.

Downloading and Installing R

Go to www.r-project.org

Click “download R”

Choose a “mirror” to download from - scroll down and select one of the Korean “mirrors”

Choose “download R for Windows” (the lab computers run on Windows)

One the first line you should see “install R for the first time” highlighted - click this

Download R 3.2.3 for Windows (unless a newer version has been updated)

Do Not Run! but choose to save to your USB drive

Do not run the installer here! After download is done, minimize the internet

Now open up your USB folder where you saved the program

Click on R-3.2.3-win (this begins the installation)

Select Destination Location - **Make sure to install it on your USB drive!**

Just click yes to start installation and go with the defaults, BUT when it asks about a short cut, select the box in the lower left that says “Don’t create a start menu folder”

On the next dialog box, do not make a desk top icon (you will uncheck the box)

Now it should be installing on your USB, it may take a few minutes (maybe 5 min or so)

After it is done there should be a folder in your USB drive labeled R-3.2.3 - click it. Now open the ‘bin’ folder, now open the ‘i386’ folder, now double click on Rgui. It should open up and look like this:

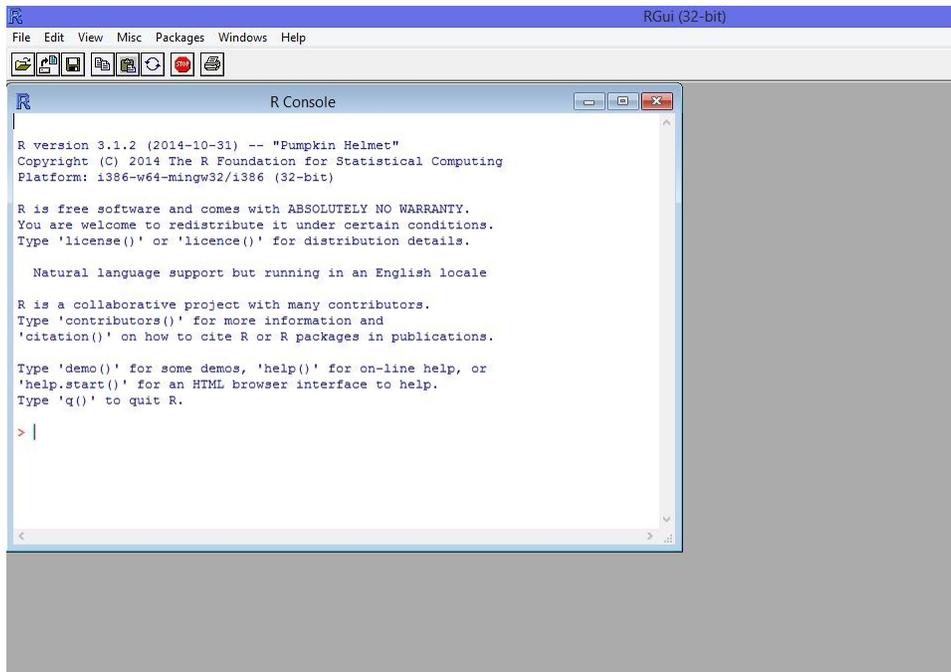


Figure 1: Rgui Screen Shot

Now we could use R directly from here. But we won't. We will actually use R through the RStudio interface. RStudio makes R a bit more user friendly.

So lets install that to your USB now.

So go ahead and close down R.

Downloading and Installing RStudio

Go to www.rstudio.com

Click on “download R-Studio” (it should be in the large left box/panel “Powerful IDE for R” - click the lightning)

Choose the “desktop” version

You want to download the “open source” version - scroll down and click “Download RStudio Desktop open source” - it should be the option on the left.

Now got to the second set of links and choose the “Zip-Tarballs” for Windows - again save it on your USB

Now you need to extract the files from the zip file - make sure to save the extraction to your USB

Once it is done you should see the extracted folder “RStudio.0.99.879” - open it (the exact numbers may be different). Now open ‘bin’. Scroll down and you should see “RStudio”:

rsession	11/6/2014 5:08 AM	Application	28,311 KB
rsinverse	11/6/2014 4:54 AM	Application	9,687 KB
rstudio	11/6/2014 4:53 AM	Application	10,493 KB
urlopener	11/6/2014 4:53 AM	Application	8,436 KB

Click and open RStudio. It will likely ask what version of R to use (remember RStudio is just the interface for R). Go to “Choose a specific version” and browse and link to that i386 folder that has your original R files.

Once it opens it should look like this:

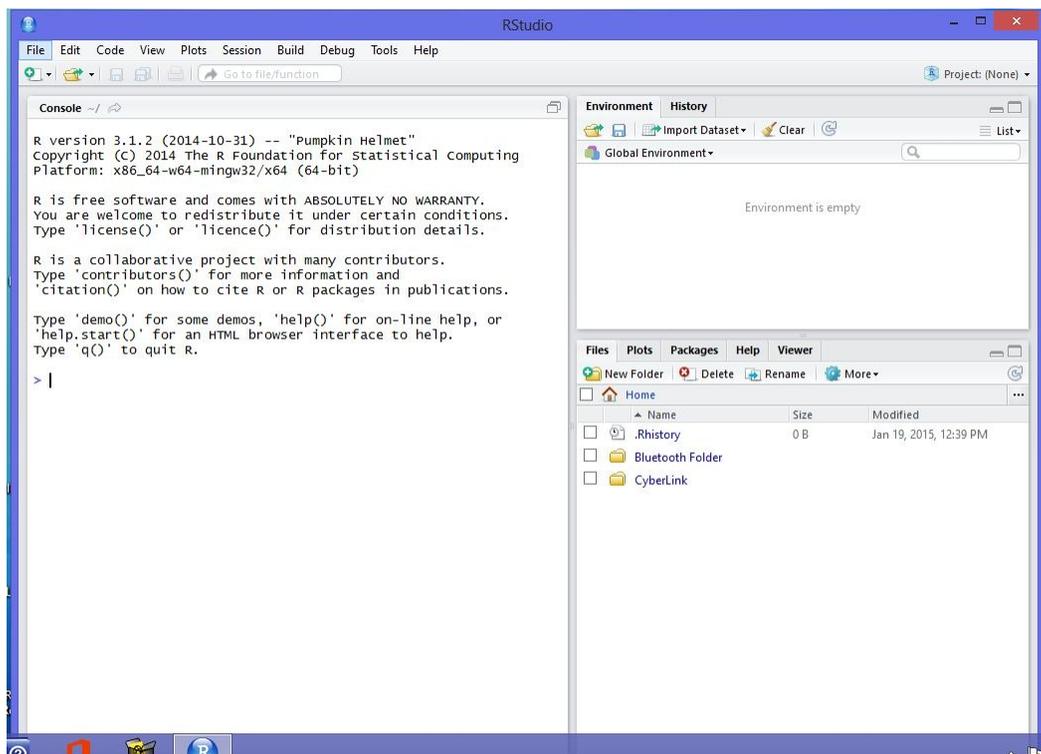


Figure 2: RStudio Screen Shot

This is what we will be working with.

OK, now lets first set up your “working directory” - that is where you will save all files.

Go to your USB folder and create a new folder, call it “myfiles”

Now at the top of RStudio go to Tools → Global Options

The second row down is where you can select your “Default Working Directory” - browse and choose the folder you just created

OK, now close RStudio, and now open it back up.

In the “console” (the window on the left) type “`getwd()`” and hit enter

It should print out the name of the file you created.

OK, now you have R and RStudio saved and installed in your USB drive to use on any computer and you have created a folder to save all needed files and have set that as your working directory. So we are now good to go!