

Implementing in a Small IR Office

Gary R. Moser
Institutional Research Analyst
Heald College
garymoser@gmail.com

Goals for this Presentation

1. Introduce R and its uses for Institutional Researchers
2. Demonstrate how I've used R
3. Provide guidance to facilitate your own implementation

My Reasons for Learning R...

1. Extensibility (SPSS DevCentral, VBA, Python...)
2. Expansion of skill set to include more powerful tools
3. Zero cost – Low risk
4. Portability
5. Fun!

What is R?

- R is a **Language** *AND* an **Environment** for statistical computing and graphics
- An open-source version of the S language developed at Bell Laboratories by John Chambers and colleagues.
- R is **free** software under the terms of the Free Software Foundation's GNU General Public License

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

What is R Useful For?

- Data Acquisition
 - Web, Excel, ODBC/SQL, .CSV, SAS, SPSS, Stata, etc...
- Data Manipulation
 - Simple to very complex
- Statistical Analysis
 - Wide array of statistical methods and procedures
- Recurring and Ad-Hoc Reporting and Analysis
- Graphics!

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

Pros:

- Vast number of analytical methods
- Publication-quality graphics
- Very active and supportive user community
- Powerful language - no need for separate macro or scripting languages
- Useful for analyzing aggregated data
- Many add-on packages, easy to install (e.g. googleVis, ggplot2, plyr, wordcloud...)
- **FREE!**



Cons:



- Steep initial learning curve – important to find good learning resources
- Conceptually and functionally different than SAS and SPSS
- Pretty tables (currently) require work
- Limited GUI support
- Memory limited to RAM
(rarely an issue - many ways to handle)
- Not well-suited to brute force solutions
- “R will not hold your hand”

Is R Accurate?



Yes (as accurate as SPSS and SAS)*

*References:

Comparative study of the reliability of nine statistical software packages:
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01679473/51/8>

Software Comparison:
<http://finzi.psych.upenn.edu/R/Rhelp02a/archive/97802.html>

Wikibooks Comparison of Statistical Software:
http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Statistics/Numerical_Methods/Numerical_Comparison_of_Statistical_Software

The UserR Community:

R for SPSS, SAS, and Stata Users (**very good**):

<http://r4stats.com/>

R Listserve

r-help@r-project.org

Subscribe: <https://stat.ethz.ch/mailman/listinfo/r-help>

R Blog Aggregator

<http://www.r-bloggers.com/>

Bay Area (& others!) UseR Meetup Group

<http://www.meetup.com/R-Users/>

WELCOME!

Here you will find daily news and tutorials about R, contributed by over 215 bloggers. You can subscribe for e-mail updates:

Your e-mail here

Subscribe

4655 readers

BY FEEDBURNER

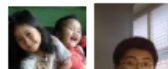
And get updates to your Facebook:



R bloggers on Facebook

Like

2,455 people like R bloggers.



If you are an R blogger yourself you are invited to add your own R content feed to this site (Non-English R bloggers should add themselves here)

Oracle's Big Data Appliance to include R

October 3, 2011

By David Smith

At the Oracle OpenWorld conference in San Francisco today, Oracle announced the new Oracle Big Data Appliance, "a new engineered system that includes an open source distribution of Apache™ Hadoop™, Oracle NoSQL Database, Oracle Data Integrator Application Adapter for Hadoop, Oracle Loader for Hadoop, and an open source distribution of R." Oracle's foray into...

Read more »

Visualizing Climbing Ropes

October 3, 2011

By gastonsanchez



The four steps to publication-grade graphics in R

October 3, 2011

By gerhi

Your options according to Yoda



Bay Area useR Group (R Programming Language)

- Home
- Members ▾
- Sponsors
- Photos
- Pages
- Discussions ▾
- More ▾



San Francisco, CA

Founded Jul 17, 2008

[Read more about us...](#)

Bay Area useRs 1,549

Group reviews 42

Upcoming Meetups 2

Past Meetups 34

Our calendar

Organizers:

Michael E. Driscoll,

Cindy Loman, Dan

Murphy, David

Smith, Eric Legrand,

Jim Porzak, Joseph A. di

Paolantonio, Joseph Rickert,

Nicholas Lewin-Koh, Norm

Matloff and 3 more...



[View The Leadership Team](#)

Members can suggest Meetups

[Contact us](#)

Welcome, Bay Area UseRs!

[+ SUGGEST A NEW MEETUP](#)

UPCOMING 2

SUGGESTED 1

PAST

CALENDAR

Using R in Academic Finance

Facebook Building 1

1050 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA [\(map\)](#)



Our next meetup features Sanjiv Das, Professor of Finance at the Leavey School of Business, who will give a talk on "Using R in Academic Finance". The talk will be a mix... [LEARN MORE](#)

Hosted by: [Sanjiv Das](#), and [Joseph Rickert](#) (Program Director)

Tue Nov 08

6:30 PM

RSVP



10 attending

90 spots left

0 comments

Data Mining and R

Needs a location

Coming soon!



I am new to R and am looking to see if there are R professionals in the Group who are working hands on developing data mining applications or performing exploratory data... [LEARN MORE](#)

Needs a date

Coming soon!

I'M GOING

250 attending

23 comments

What's new



[SEE ALL PHOTOS](#)

NEW MEMBER

[Lucille](#) joined

2 hours ago



NEW RSVP

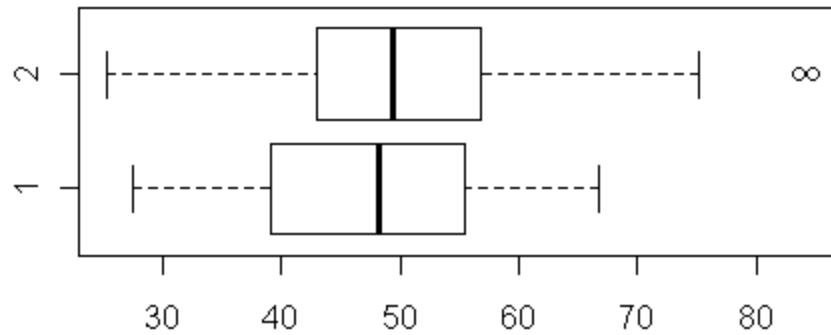
[Randy Kerber](#)

RSVPed **Yes** for Using R in Academic Finance

3 hours ago

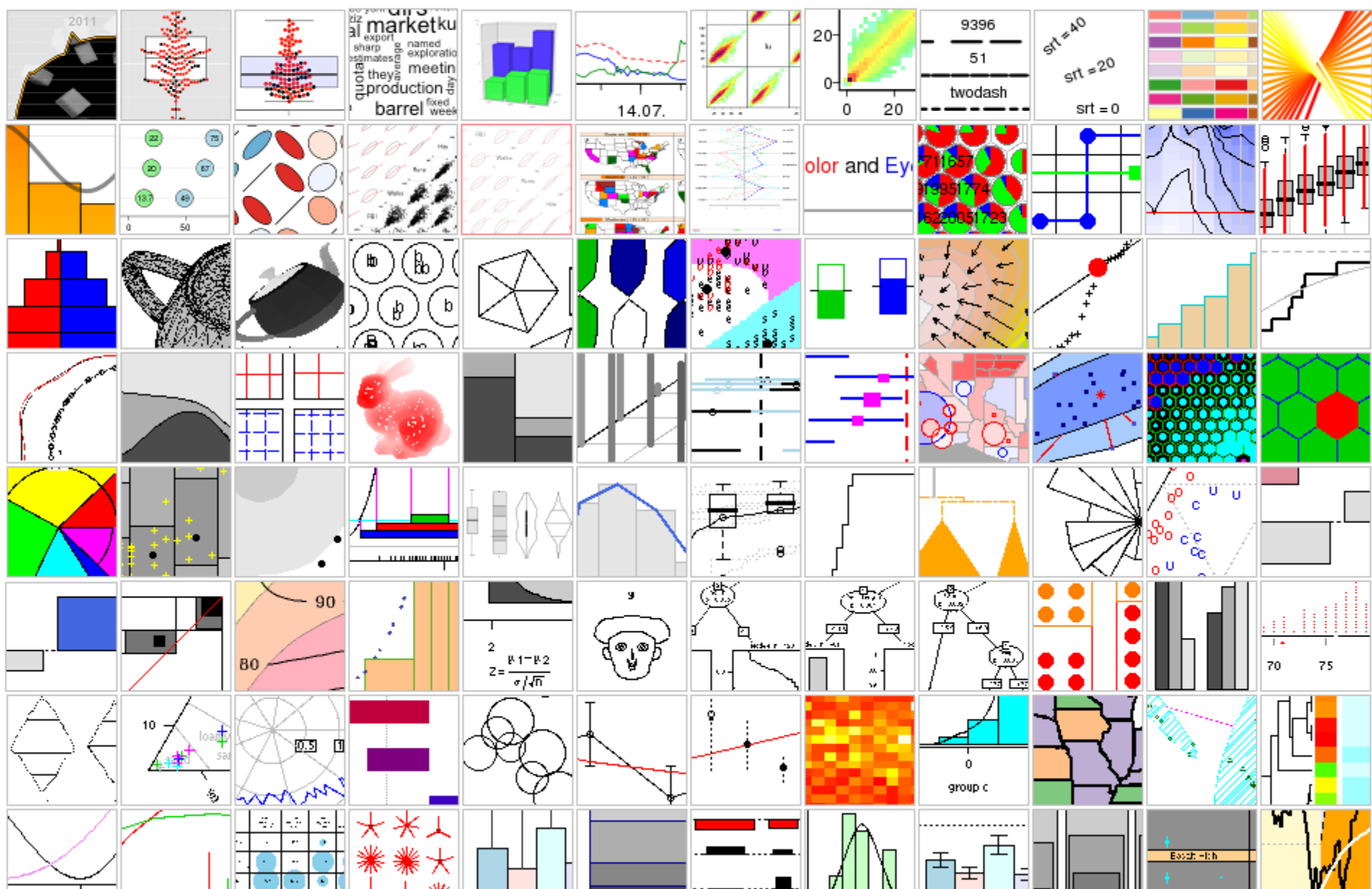


Graphics!





Home List View Thumbnails View



<http://paulbutler.org/archives/visualizing-facebook-friends/>

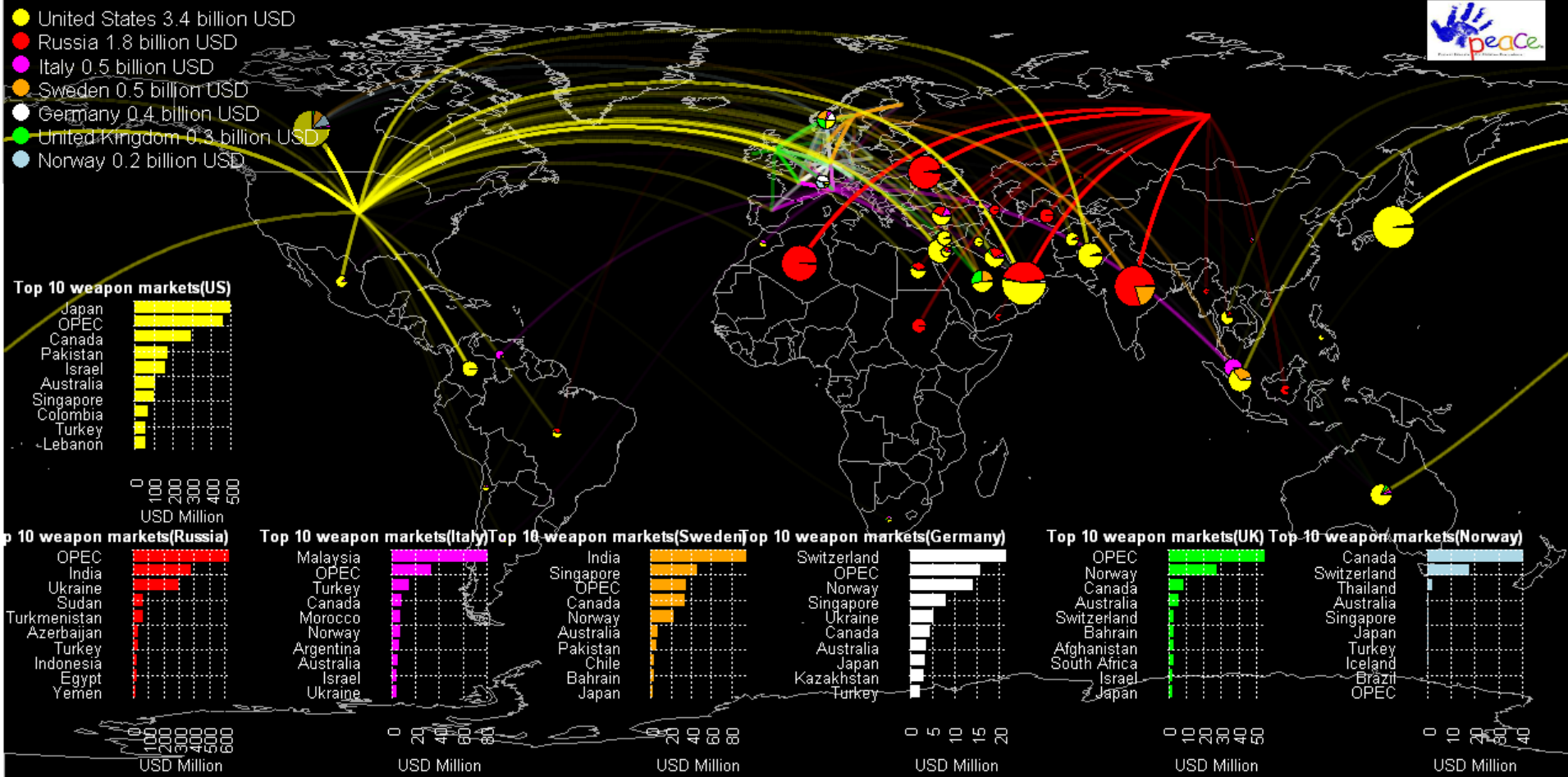


“...aside from the addition of the logo and date text, the image was produced entirely with about 150 lines of R code with no external dependencies.”

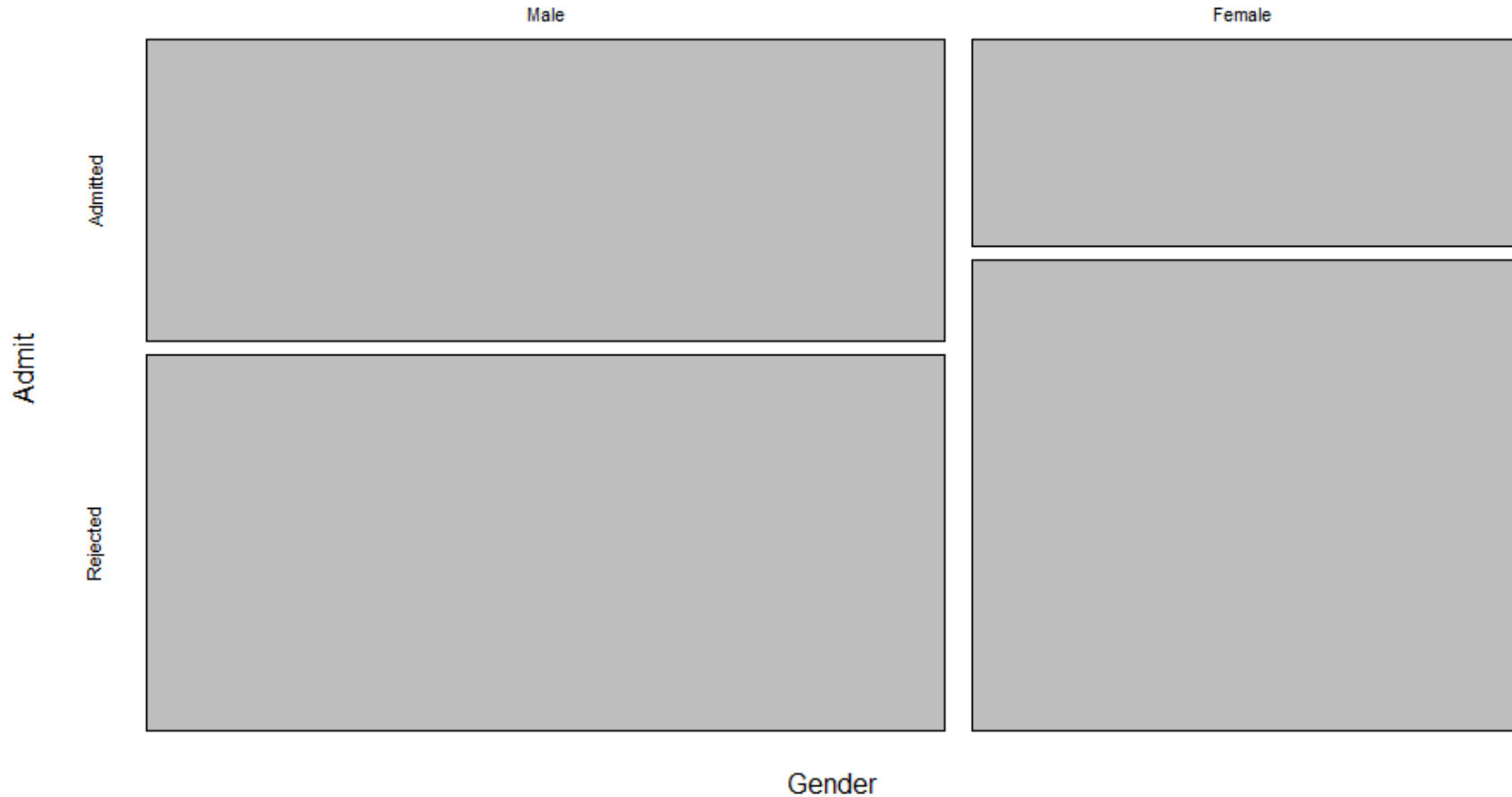


International Weapon Exports in 2010,

from http://www.intracen.org/exporters/Stat_export_country_product/



UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 - Admits by Gender

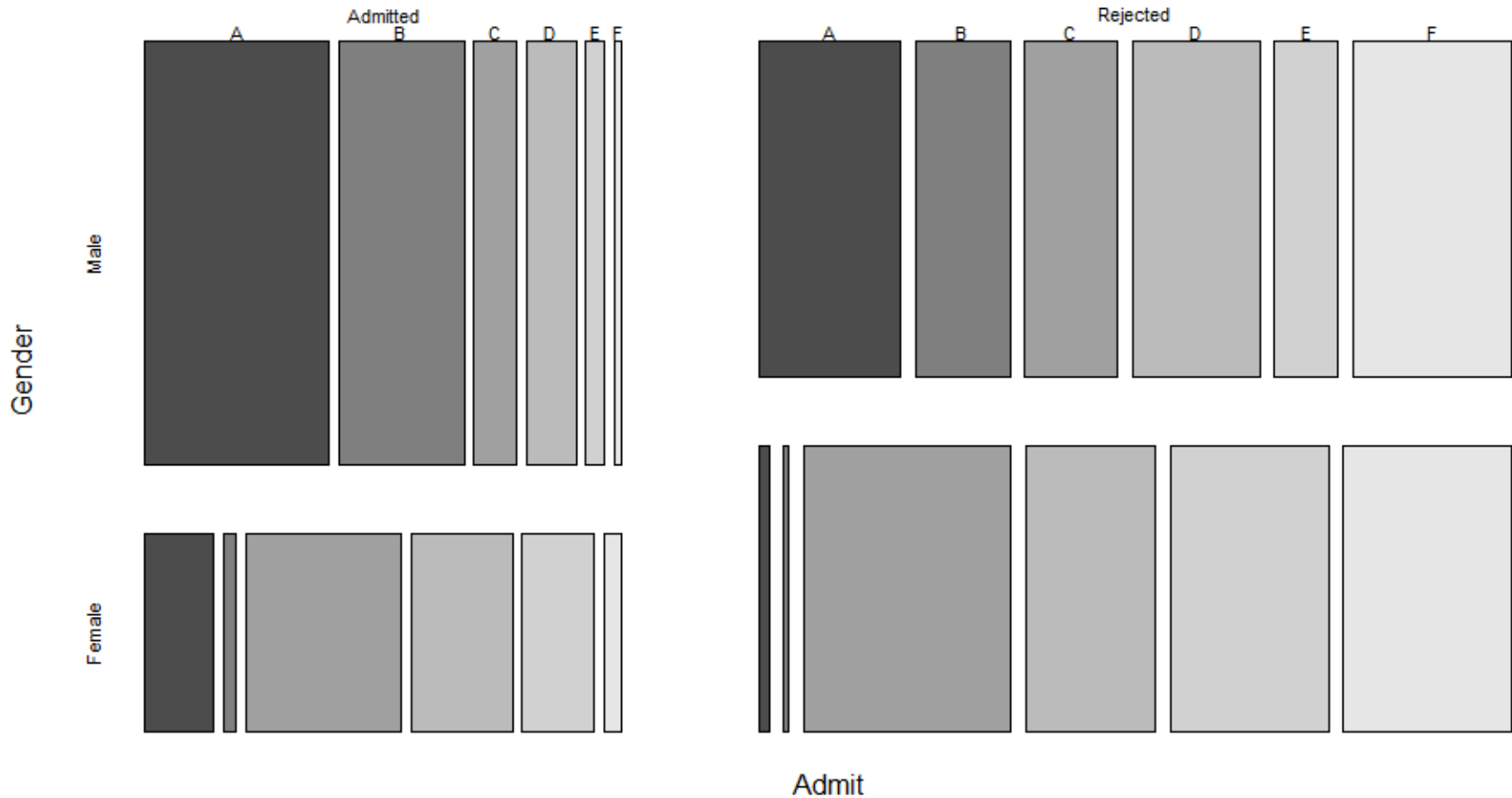


Function call:

```
mosaicplot(~ Gender + Admit, colour=TRUE, data=UCBAdmissions,  
main="UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 - Admits by Gender")
```

P.J. Bickel, E.A. Hammel and J.W. O'Connell (1975). "[Sex Bias in Graduate Admissions: Data From Berkeley](#)". *Science* **187** (4175): 398–404. [doi:10.1126/science.187.4175.398](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.187.4175.398)

UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 for Six Largest Departments

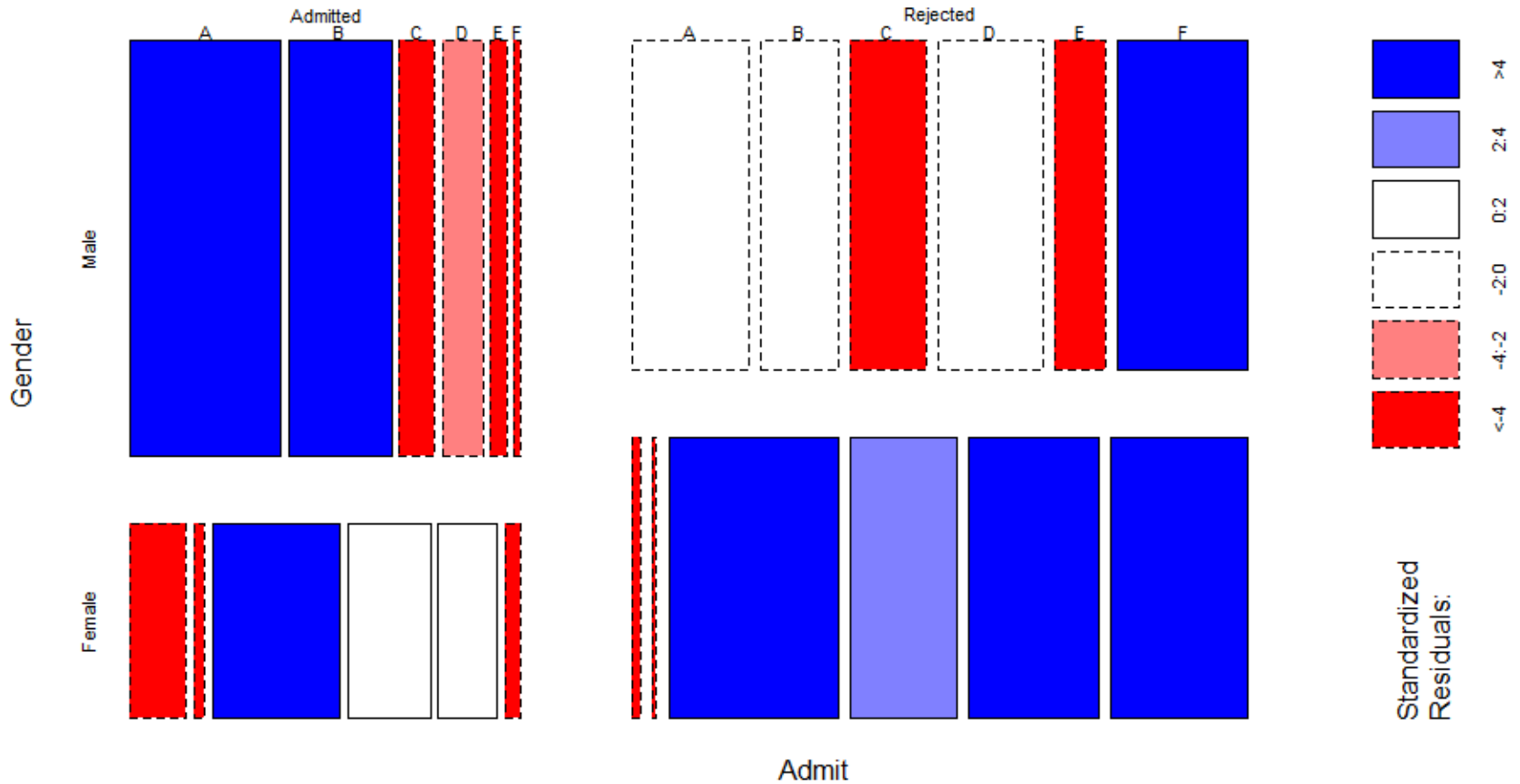


Function call:

`mosaicplot(UCBAdmissions, colour=TRUE, main="UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 for Six Largest Departments")`

P.J. Bickel, E.A. Hammel and J.W. O'Connell (1975). ["Sex Bias in Graduate Admissions: Data From Berkeley"](#). *Science* **187** (4175): 398–404. [doi:10.1126/science.187.4175.398](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.187.4175.398)

UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 for Six Largest Departments



mosaic plot (UCBAdmissions, shade=TRUE, main="UC Berkeley Admissions in 1973 for Six Largest Departments")

P.J. Bickel, E.A. Hammel and J.W. O'Connell (1975). ["Sex Bias in Graduate Admissions: Data From Berkeley"](#). *Science* **187** (4175): 398–404. [doi:10.1126/science.187.4175.398](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.187.4175.398)

R User Interface

Overview of R (via R Studio)

Script Pane

Console [text output, scratch work]

The screenshot displays the RStudio interface with three main panes:

- Script Pane (Left):** Contains R code for a stem and leaf plot and a jittered strip plot. The code includes comments and functions like `stem()`, `ggplot()`, `geom_jitter()`, and `geom_vline()`. It also includes a table creation step: `summary <- ftable(lda$institution, lda$term, lda$lda.range)`.
- Console (Top Right):** Shows the output of the R code, including the text "The decimal point is at the |" and a large number of zeros representing the stem and leaf plot.
- Graphics/Packages/Help Pane (Bottom Right):** Displays a scatter plot titled "Maximum Last Date of Attendance Per Student - [Data Extracted: 2011-10-04; Calculations As Of: 2011-10-04]". The plot shows data points for various institutions, color-coded by "Report Date" (lda.range) and sized by "Future Date". The x-axis represents the "Maximum Last Date of Attendance" from August to October, and the y-axis lists institutions like Roseville, Portland, Honolulu, Modesto, Stockton, Fresno, Rancho Cordova, Salinas, San Jose, Hayward, Concord, and San Francisco.

Graphics/Packages/Help Pane

Applications to IR

From: Lawrence, Megan
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 4:18 PM
To: Moser, Gary
Subject: Decrease in grad rate -- for 2006 v. 2007 cohorts?

Gary,

I am working on the institutional effectiveness update for 2010, and I pulled from the factbook that for our 2006 graduates 39% graduated within 150% of program time to complete, where as in 2007 only 38% graduated within the same time frame. In your opinion, is this a statistically significant difference? Any other comments on the difference?

Megan



...from the Factbook,
number of grads within 150%
of program length for F06
and F07 [2,206, 2088] and
total cohort counts [5681,
5455]

Function Call:

```
prop.test(  
  x=c(2206, 2088),  
  n=c(5681, 5455))
```



From: Moser, Gary
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 4:26 PM
To: Lawrence, Megan
Subject: RE: Decrease in grad rate -- for 2006 v. 2007 cohorts?

Hi Megan,

This difference is not statistically significant:

2-sample test for equality of proportions with continuity
correction

```
data: completions out of tots  
X-squared = 0.338, df = 1, p-value = 0.561  
alternative hypothesis: two.sided  
95 percent confidence interval:  
 -0.012719  0.023806  
sample estimates:  
 prop 1  prop 2  
0.38831 0.38277
```

Example:

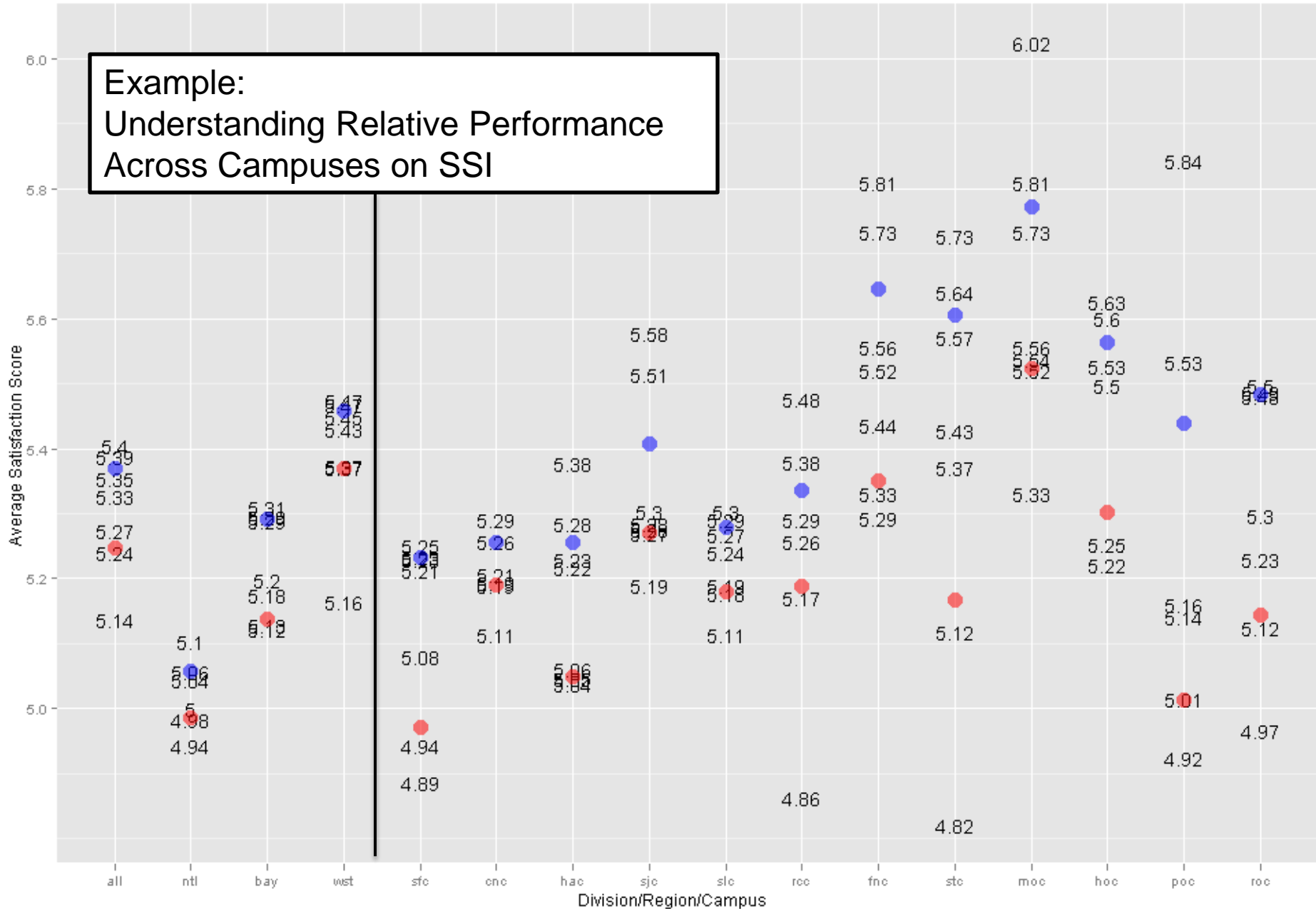
Determining Whether Change
in Graduation Rate is
Statistically Significant

SSI Avg Sat Scores by Campus - 2005 to 2011

Blue Indicator at 75th Percentile

Red Indicator at 20th Percentile

**Example:
Understanding Relative Performance
Across Campuses on SSI**



The image shows a screenshot of the RStudio interface. The main editor window displays an R script titled "PasswordMaker.R" with the following code:

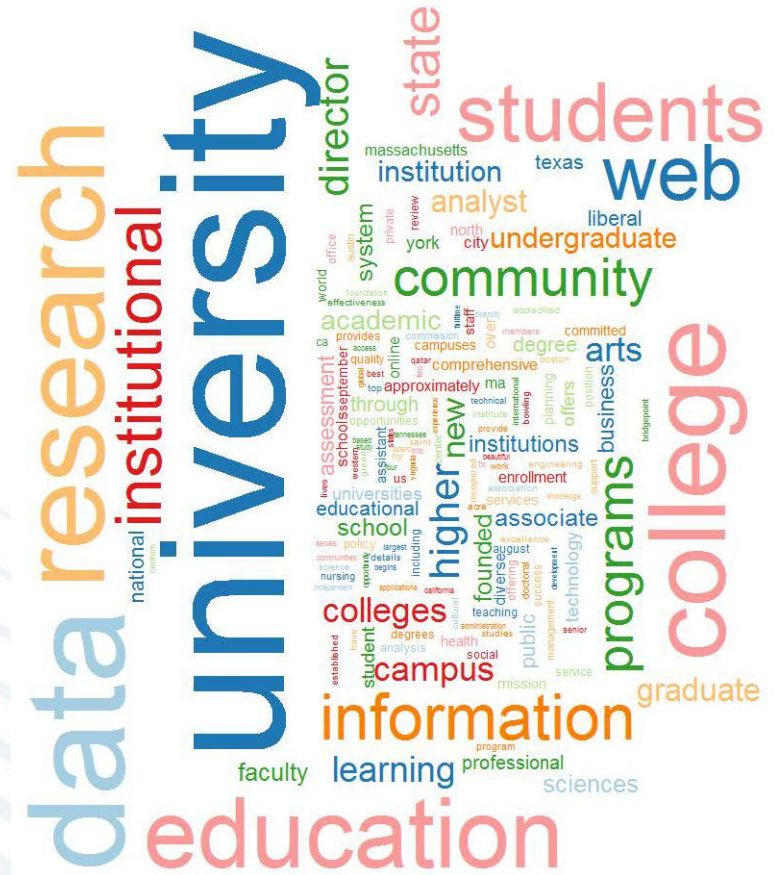
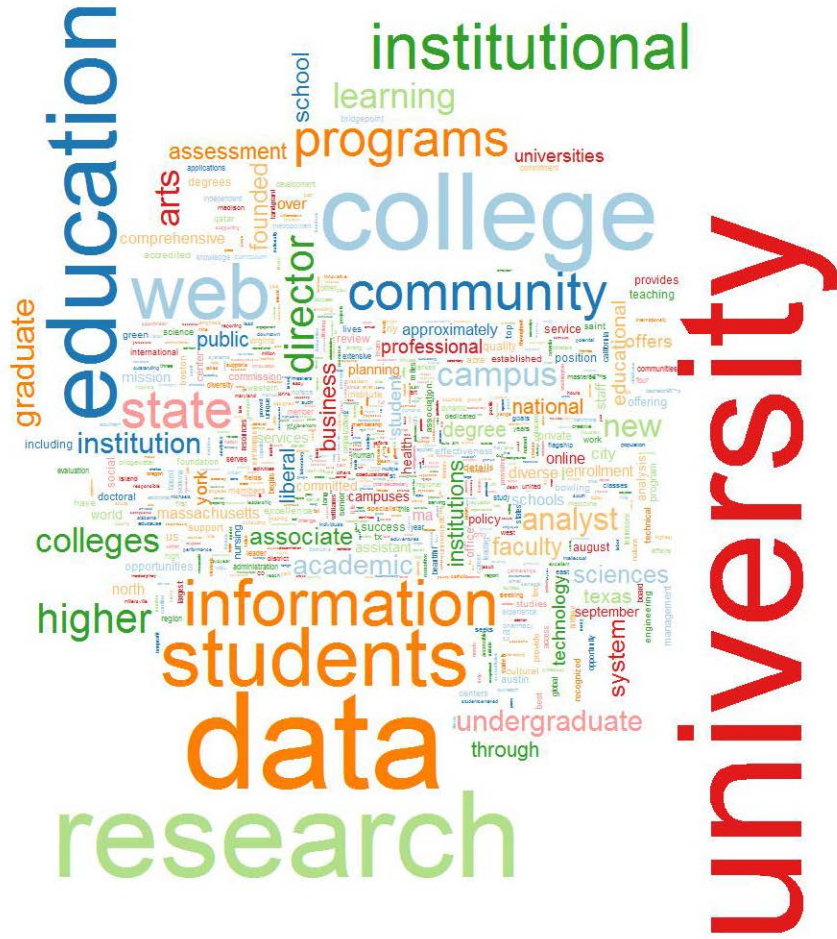
```
69 ### Password/Anonymous ID Maker ###
70
71 LET <- LETTERS
72 let <- letters
73 num <- 0:9
74 sym <- c("~", "@", "#", "$", "%", "^", "&", "*", "(", ")",
75         "%", "\", "&", "*", "_", "+", "-", "=", "|", "[",
76         "]", ".", "?", "<", ">", "|")
77 pw <- vector()
78 for (i in 1:1000){
79   print(i)
80   rand <- sample(x=1:4, size=1, replace=TRUE)
81   print(rand)
82   if (rand == 1){e <- sample(x=LET, size=1, replace=TRUE)}
83   if (rand == 2){e <- sample(x=let, size=1, replace=TRUE)}
84   if (rand == 3){e <- sample(x=num, size=1, replace=TRUE)}
85   if (rand == 4){e <- sample(x=sym, size=1, replace=TRUE)}
86   print(e)
87   pw[i] <- e
88 }
89
90 df.pw <- as.data.frame(matrix(data=pw, nrow=100, ncol=10))
91 df.pw$pass <- apply(X=df.pw, MARGIN=1, FUN=paste, collapse="")
92 matrix(data=df.pw$pass, nrow=25, ncol=4, byrow=TRUE)
93
94
95
96
```

The console window on the right shows the output of the matrix generation command:

```
> matrix(data=df.pw$pass, nrow=25, ncol=4, byrow=TRUE)
      [,1]      [,2]      [,3]      [,4]
[1,] "ES0=3p)161" "FPX6zLX693" "X*)5c3m9o8" "b=c5I519T7"
[2,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[3,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[4,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[5,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[6,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[7,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[8,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[9,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[10,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[11,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[12,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[13,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[14,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[15,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[16,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[17,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[18,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[19,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[20,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[21,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[22,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[23,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[24,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
[25,] "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675" "1675"
>
```

An example box is overlaid on the console output, containing the text: "Example: Generating Passwords or Anonymous IDs (Demo)".

The bottom of the RStudio window shows the "Workspace" and "History" tabs, and the "Files", "Plots", "Packages", and "Help" panels.



Essential Books:

- 1.) R for SAS and SPSS Users (Robert Muenchen)
- 2.) Introductory Statistics with R (Peter Dalgaard)
- 3.) Data Manipulation with R (Phil Spector)
- 4.) ggplot2 (Hadley Wickham)

Questions / Comments