simpleR – *Using R for Introductory Statistics*

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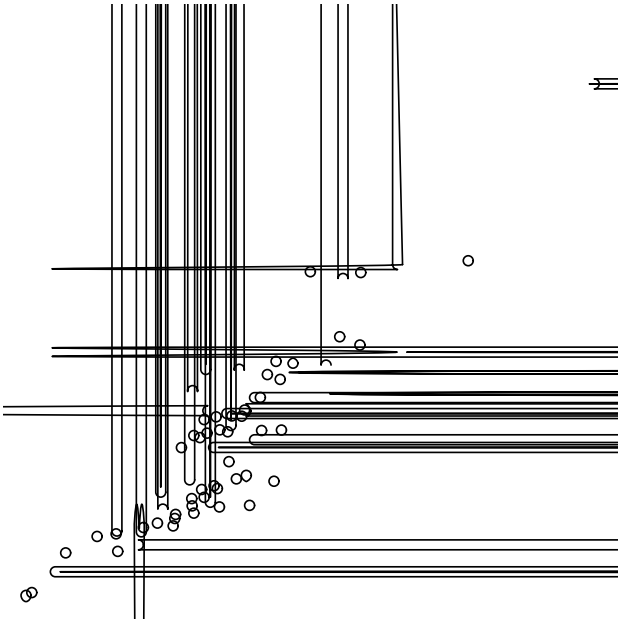

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Section 1: Introduction

What is R

These notes describe how to use R while learning introductory statistics. The purpose is to allow this fine software to be used in "lower-level" courses where often MINITAB, SPSS, Excel, etc. are used. It is expected that the reader has had at least a pre-calculus course. It is the hope, that students shown how to use R at this early level will better understand the statistical issues and will ultimately benefit from the more sophisticated program despite its steeper learning curve".

The benefits of R for an introductory student are

- R is free. R is open-source and runs on UNIX, Windows and Macintosh.
- R has an excellent built-in help system.
- R has excellent graphing capabilities.
- Students can easily migrate to the commercially supported S-Plus program if commercial software is desired.
- R's language has a powerful, easy to learn syntax with many built-in statistical functions.
- The language 8m/fa66 12 335 0 J 33.285 42 Tc 0 Tw (extension)Tj 35.5085 0 Td (statistical)Tj 45.327120790 Td (system.)Tj /R43 9.96264 Tf -