

Getting Help in R

What packages do I have?

Run the following at the RGui prompt:

```
.packages(all.available=T)
```

To get a feeling for the number and types of available functions look in: base, stats, graphics, grdevices. Use for example:

```
help(package='base')
```

To see what global options are available:

```
?options
```

To see what graphics options are available:

```
?par
```

Syntax

For the language itself look at the R reference card which automatically downloads:

```
cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Baggott-refcard-v2.pdf
```

Mathematical operators:

```
?Arithmetic
```

Logical operators:

```
?Logic
```

Bitwise logical operators:

```
?bitwise
```

Matrix operators are found by a more laborious process:

```
??matrix then search down the list of "hits"
```

Help with Functions

As an example, you need help with `lm()`:

```
help(lm)
```

```
?lm
```

You would like to see an example of using `lm()`:

```
example(lm)
```

You have forgotten the arguments for the function:

```
args(lm)
```

You forget all the information (STRucture) returned by lm():

```
fit <- lm(y ~ x)
str(fit)
```

You would like to see the body of the function lm():

```
body(lm)
```

You would like to see everything in R that relates to lm():

```
apropos('lm')
```

Advanced Help

You want to see what you have in loaded packages that uses the term 'regression':

```
??regression
```

You want to see what anybody has said about the use of R with non-linear regression:

```
RSiteSearch('non-linear regression')
```

You want to see if someone has already written functions for dynamic time warping:

Go to <http://cran.r-project.org/>

In the left margin click on Packages.

Select the alphabetical listing.

User your browser find and search for the string, "dynamic time warping". I found two.

Last but certainly not least:

Use Google.