

Installing R step by step.

Google R, go to the first return (<http://www.r-project.org/>)

On the left is a heading called 'Download' and underneath CRAN<sup>1</sup>. Click on that.

The City/State you select doesn't matter, they should all be housing everything. Typically it's best to pick one close to your area.

The next page has some info and you may select which platform to work on<sup>2</sup>. Most of you will likely pick Windows.

Now the choices are base vs. contrib. Select base.

Download the executable (.exe). That is the installer so running that will install the base package in no time at all (you do not have to change any default installation settings just keep clicking Next until you get to Finish). Now you have a fully functioning and powerful statistical package on your computer.

However...

There's a lot more. When you have the time, start up R and go to the menu Packages/Select Repositories. Select both Cran options, Omegahat, and Bioc software<sup>3</sup>. Click ok. Now go back to Packages/Install packages. Again select a site near us (I usually do Iowa or Mizzurah, but some days I go 'International' for giggles). Highlight all those packages. Yes, all of them. Why? Why not have functionality other comprehensive stat packages could only dream about. However you could install 'as you go', I've done that before but I use it too much and I just end up having installing something every other time I use it.

Installing the packages will take a long time (depends on your connection speed), some are very small, some are a couple meg. For slower computers/connections this might be a good thing to do overnight.

In any case, that's it. Unlike other stat programs like SAS and SPSS, there is no license to worry about and R, also unlike them, doesn't infect your machine. You can delete the folder and it's gone, you can install a new version with no worries etc.

At some point you should go to the manuals (e.g. <http://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/R-intro.html>) and FAQ on the main R page.

---

1 Comprehensive R Archive Network

2 For those that are going to put it on a Mac, come see any of us at RSS if you run into a snag.

3 The other Bioconductor stuff contains data regarding such things as the human genome in case you feel like downloading gigs of that