

In this session, we will

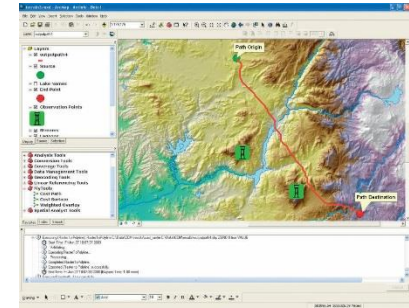
- Go over computer lab logistics and software
- Introduce our practical modeling exercise and the line transect survey data we will use for it
- Discuss strategies for using ArcGIS and R together
- Move our survey sightings from CSV → ArcGIS → R

Software

Our needs

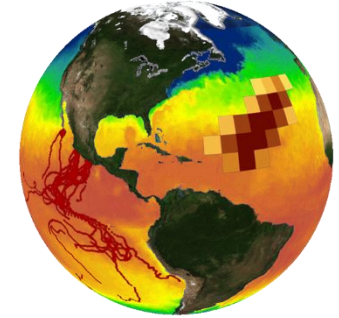
- Explore and manipulate tabular and geospatial data
- Download, visualize, project, and sample gridded environmental data
- Make maps
- Perform general statistical exploration and analysis
- Fit and utilize detection functions
- Fit and utilize generalized additive models (GAMs)

ArcGIS



- First and foremost, a graphical user interface (ArcMap)
- + Excellent for making maps
- + Excellent for manipulating spatial data
 - Without programming, via Model Builder diagrams
 - With programming, via Python and other languages
- Poor for statistical analysis or plots, except for specific scenarios, unless you program it yourself
- Has difficulty with scientific data formats (HDF, netCDF, OPeNDAP) and is not very “time-aware”
 - Both of these have been improving with recent releases
- ArcGIS Desktop runs only on Microsoft Windows (currently)
- Closed source, costs a lot of money

Marine Geospatial Ecology Tools (MGET)



- Collection of 300 geoprocessing tools that plugs into ArcGIS
- Can also be invoked from Python
- Requires Windows + ArcGIS
- Free, open source
- Many tools not marine-specific
- In this workshop, we will mainly use tools related to acquiring and manipulating environmental data for use in our density modeling exercise



<http://mgel.env.duke.edu/mget> (or Google “MGET”)

R



- First and foremost, a programming language
- + Cross platform, open source, free (as in freedom)
- + Excellent for statistical analysis and plots
- + Excellent for manipulating tabular data
 - Once you get the data loaded into R
- ± Excellent for manipulating raster data, less so for vector
- High learning curve, even for seasoned programmers
- Very tedious for making maps, relative to GIS software
 - But can produce excellent results, with programming

Distance R packages



- R packages for distance sampling include:
 - ***mrds*** - fits detection functions to point and line transect distance sampling survey data, for both single and double observer surveys.
 - ***Distance*** - a simpler interface to *mrds* for single observer distance sampling surveys.
 - ***dsm*** - fits density surface models to spatially-referenced distance sampling data. Count data are corrected using detection functions fitted using *mrds* or *Distance*. Spatial models are constructed using generalized additive models.
- We will spend much of our time with these

<http://distancesampling.org>

Other R packages

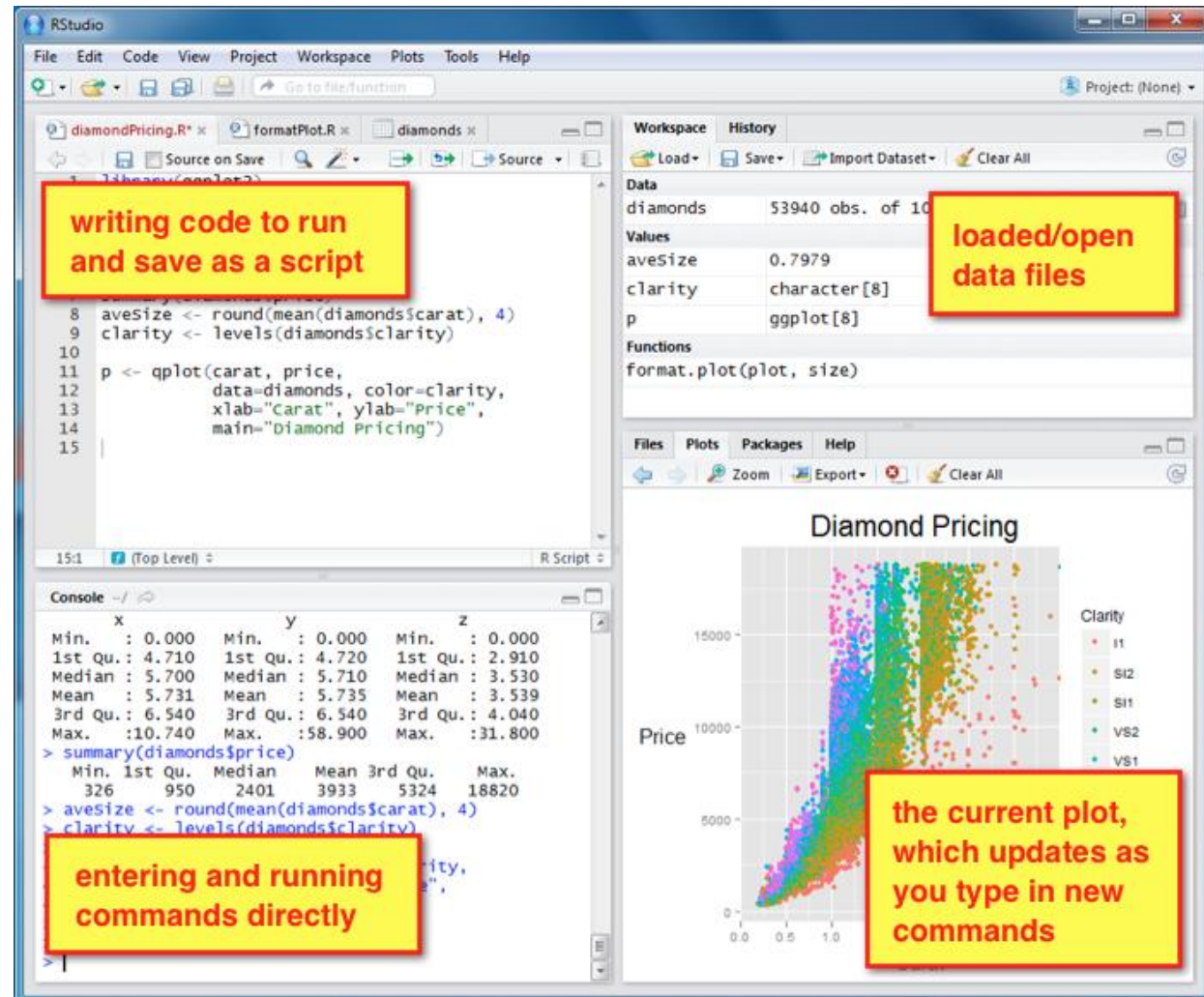


- ***mgcv*** – for fitting generalized additive models (GAMs). We will spend a lot of time with this package, although functions from *Distance* and *dsm* will wrap it for us.
- ***rgdal*, *raster*** – for reading and writing geospatial data
- ***ggplot2*, *viridis*** – for nice plots
- ***plyr*, *reshape2*** – for manipulating tabular data, especially R data.frames

RStudio Desktop



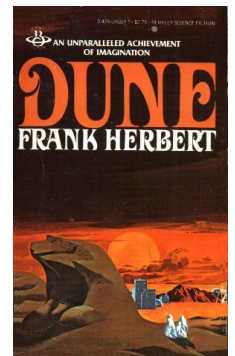
- Powerful integrated development environment for R
- Free, open source





“The people I distrust most are those who want to improve our lives but have only one course of action.”

— Frank Herbert



Computer lab software setup

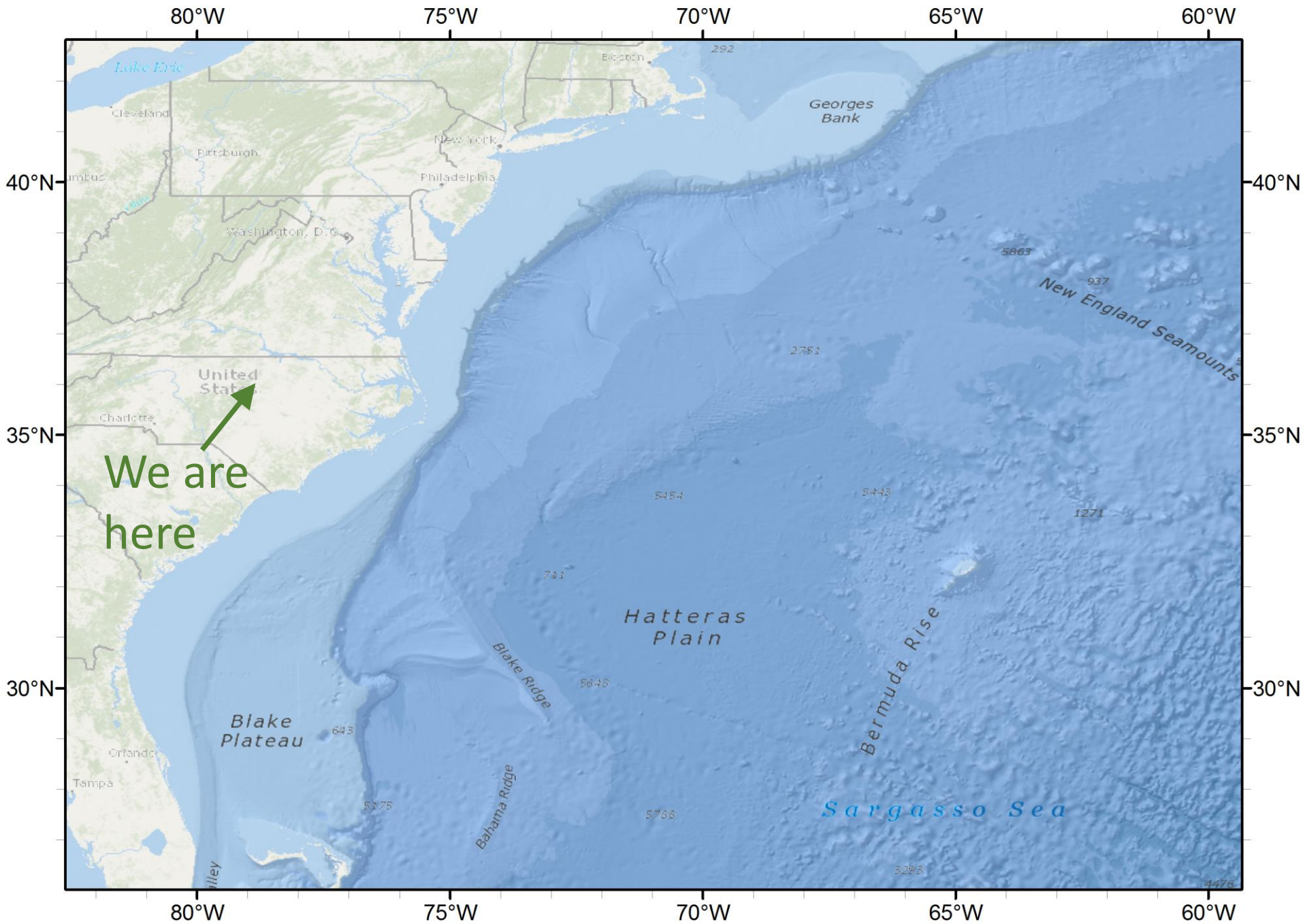
1. In your browser, open

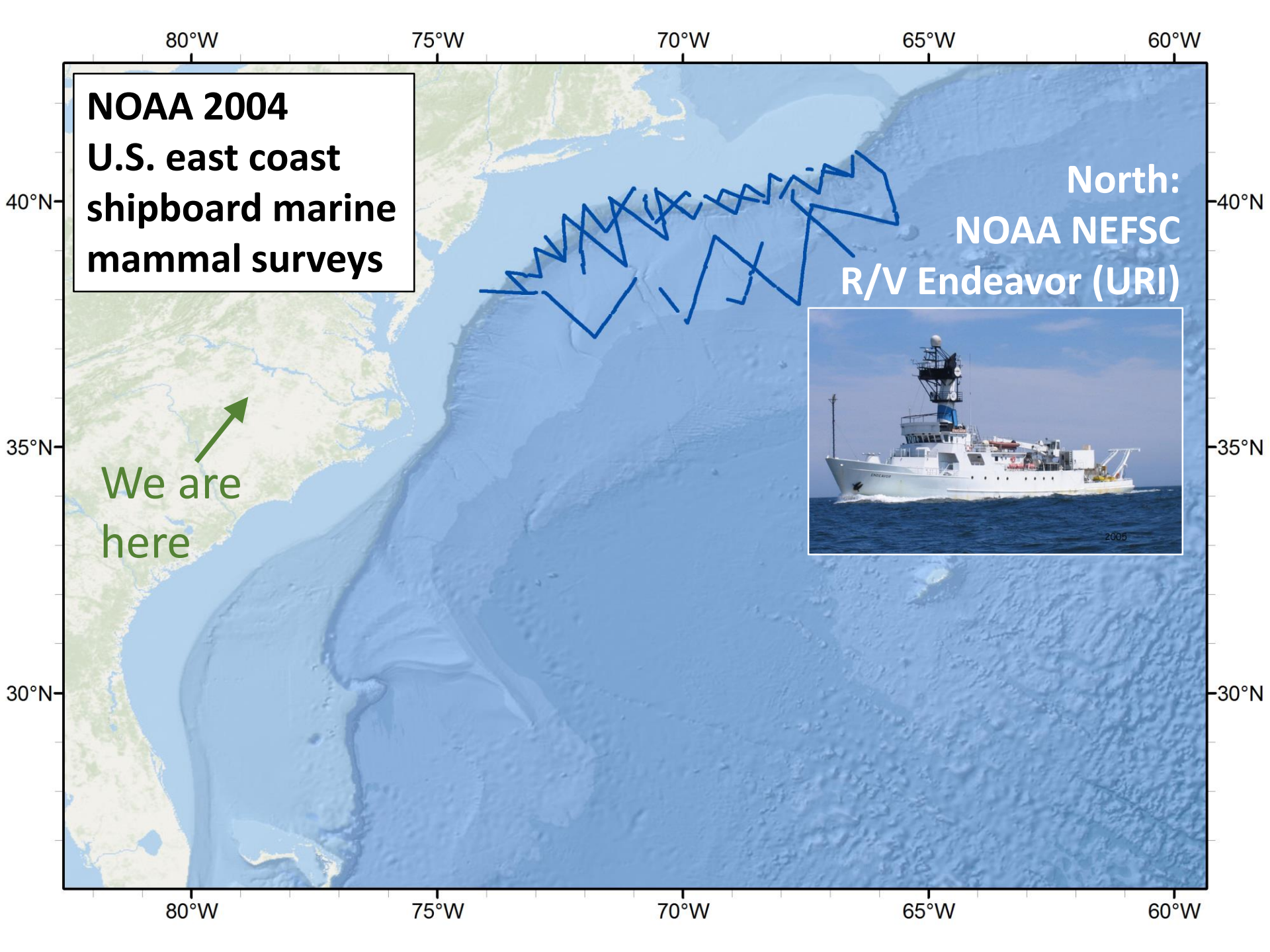
<http://distancesampling.org/workshops/duke-spatial-2015/>

2. Go to **Course Materials** and click on **Slides**

3. Open the **Software Setup** PDF and follow the instructions

Practical modeling exercise





80°W

75°W

70°W

65°W

60°W

**NOAA 2004
U.S. east coast
shipboard marine
mammal surveys**

40°N

40°N

**North:
NOAA NEFSC
R/V Endeavor (URI)**

35°N

35°N

**We are
here**



30°N

30°N

**South:
NOAA SEFSC
R/V Gordon Gunter**



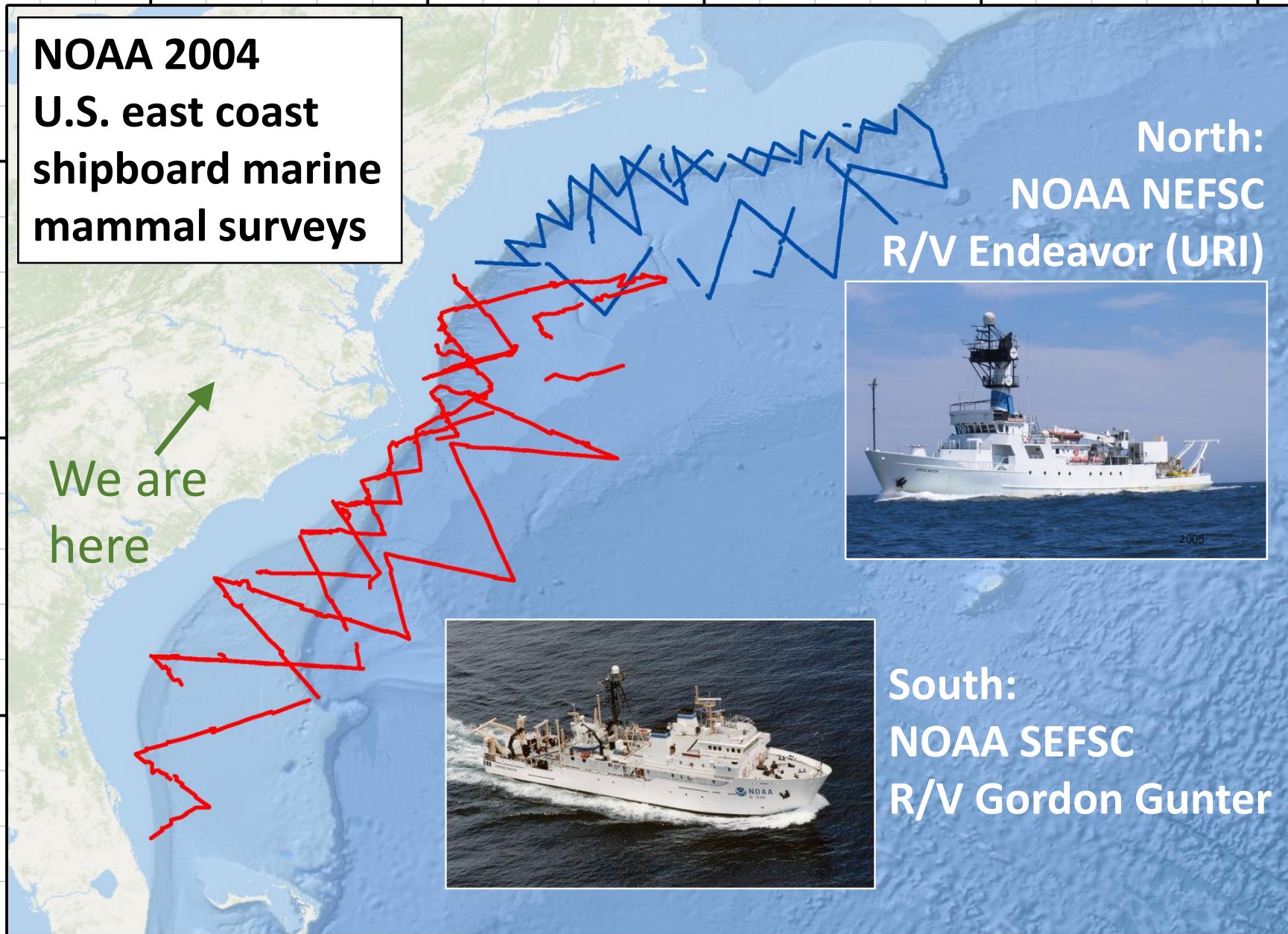
80°W

75°W

70°W

65°W

60°W



Observers on the R/V Gordon Gunter

Observer
team



Observers on the R/V Gordon Gunter

25 x 150
"bigeye"
binoculars

Left
observer

Right
observer

Data
recorder



Photo:
Kimberly Gogan

MARINE MAMMAL SIGHTING FORM

* DO NOT FILL IN BOXES PRECEDED BY AN ASTERISK

1. OBSERVER NAME LEW CONSIGLIERI RECORD ID * 186070
 VESSEL NAME MILLER FREEMAN

2. DATE (Yr./Mo./Day) & TIME (local) OF SIGHTING 860314 1040
 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

3. LATITUDE (degrees/minutes/10ths)-N/S 57544 N
 18 19 20 21 22 23

4. LONGITUDE (degrees/minutes/10ths)-E/W 154141 W
 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

5. SPECIES Sperm Whale Physeter macrocephalus pm TENTATIVE *
 Common name Scientific name

6. NUMBER SIGHTED 3 ± 0 * C.I. 0 0003
 36 37 38 39 40

7. INITIAL SIGHTING CUE Blows through binoculars 01
 45 46

8. ANGLE FROM BOW 030 9. INITIAL SIGHTING DISTANCE 1000 m
 47 48 49 50's of meters 100
 51 52 53

10. VISIBILITY 15 nm 11. SEA STATE (Beaufort) 1 12* VIS CODE 2
 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

13. WEATHER Ptly. Cloudy 14. SURFACE WATER TEMP. (°C) ± + 05
 61 62 63 64 65 66

15. PLATFORM CODE * 1006 16. TIME ZONE ± + 10
 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

17. How did you identify animal(s)? Sketch and describe animal; associated organisms; behavior (include closest approach); comments.

Animals came within 1/2 km of vessel. Clearly able to see square head + wrinkled skin. Blows were oblique. Two animals were around 35' long; the other larger (~50'?).




Figure 1.--Marine mammal sighting form (front).

65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

To aid in your identification of whales and porpoises, circle the characteristics corresponding to the features you observed.

Body length (estimation): < 10 feet 10-25 feet 25-50 feet 50-80 feet
 Dorsal fin? Yes No

Shape of dorsal fin:

Porpoises/dolphins 0 2 feet

Whales 0 5 feet

Prominent blow? Yes NoNumber of blows before a long dive: 1-3 4-7 8-15Length of dive: ≤ 2 minutes 5-7 minutes 10-20 minutes

Shape of blow:

Showed flukes upon dive? Yes No

Other behavior characteristics:

No specific behavior

Following vessel

Breaching

Stern riding

Bow riding

Slow rolling

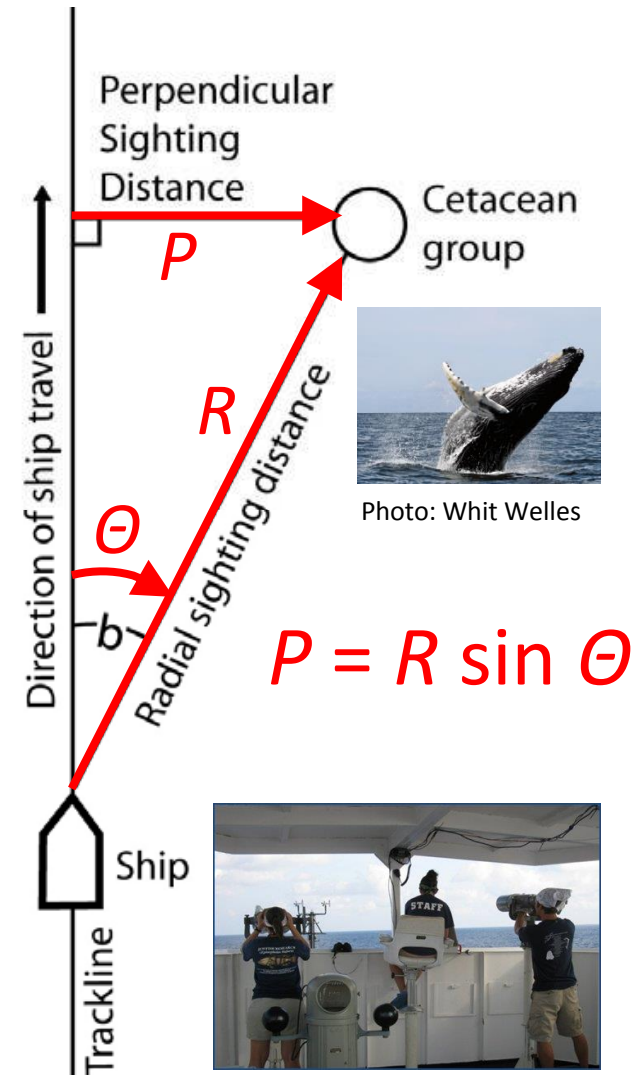
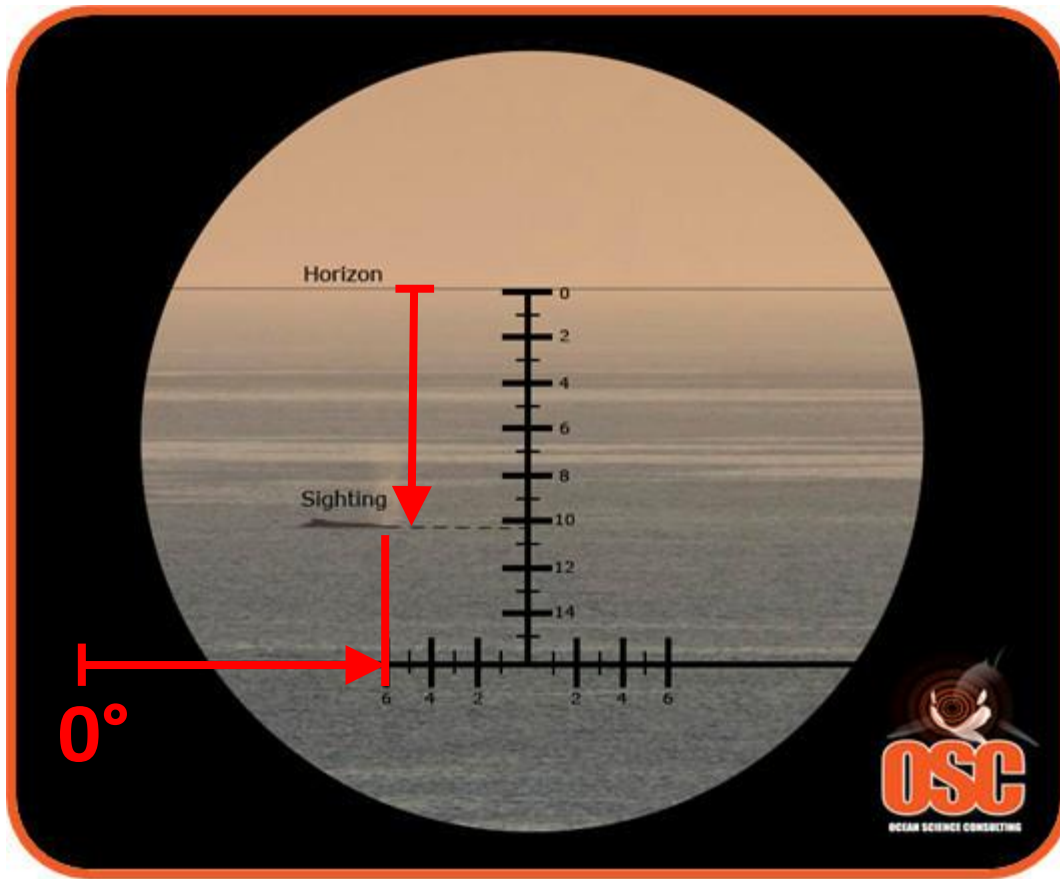
Porpoising

Other _____

Distinctive markings (scarring, white patches, etc.):

Figure 2.--Marine mammal sighting form (back).

Perpendicular distances to sightings using binocular reticles





Our species of interest:
Sperm whale
Physeter macrocephalus

Photo: Franco Banfi

80°W

75°W

70°W

65°W

60°W

**NOAA 2004
U.S. east coast
shipboard marine
mammal surveys**

40°N

40°N

**North:
NOAA NEFSC
R/V Endeavor (URI)**

35°N

35°N



30°N

30°N

**South:
NOAA SEFSC
R/V Gordon Gunter**



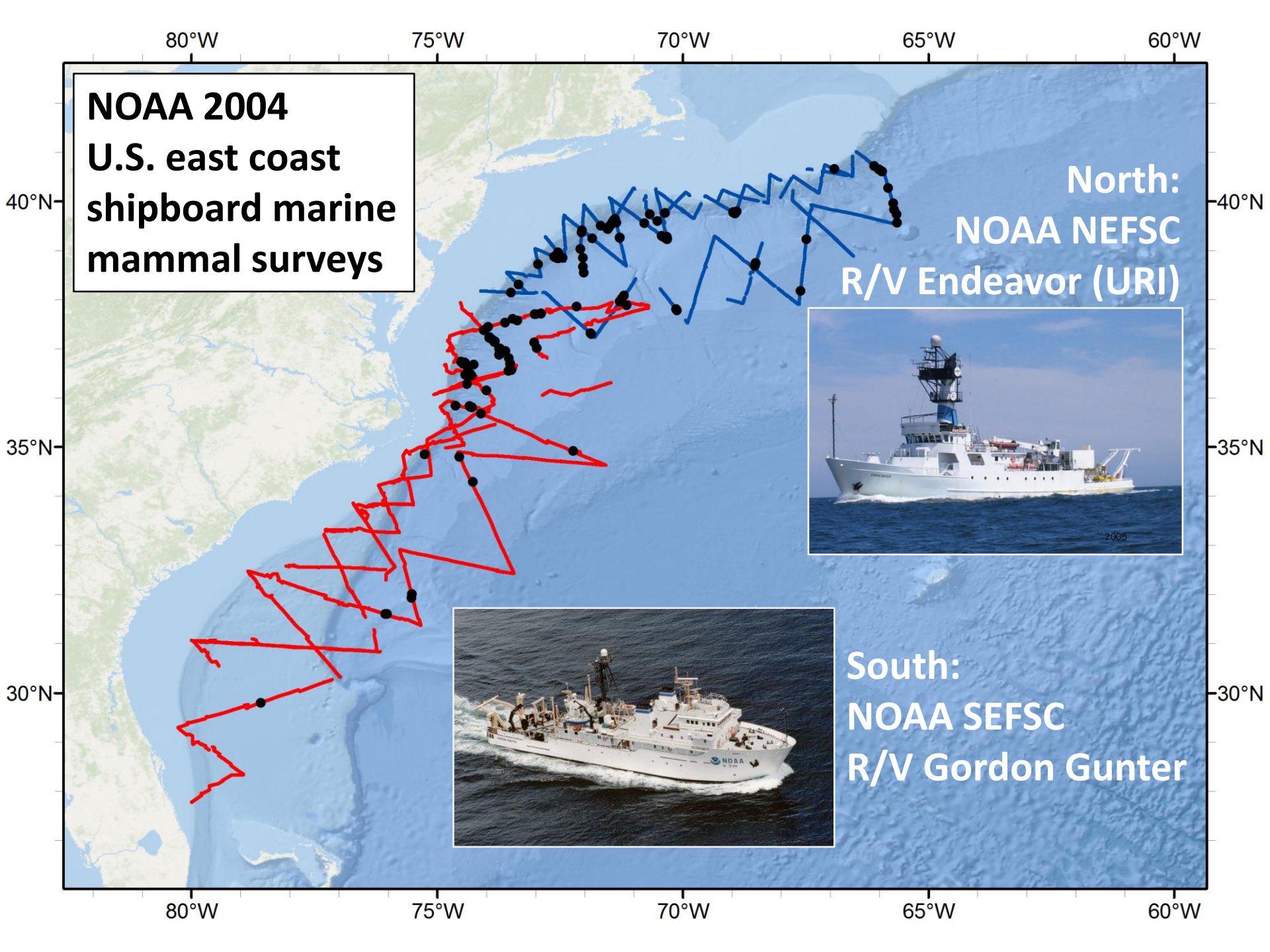
80°W

75°W

70°W

65°W

60°W



NOAA's abundance estimates (Waring et al. 2007):

Table 1. Summary of abundance estimates for the western North Atlantic sperm whale. Month, year, and area covered during each abundance survey, and resulting abundance estimate (N_{best}) and coefficient of variation (CV).

Month/Year	Area	N_{best}	CV
Jun-Aug 2004	Maryland to the Bay of Fundy	2,607	0.57
Jun-Aug 2004	Florida to Maryland	2,197	0.47
Jun-Aug 2004	Bay of Fundy to Florida (COMBINED)	4,804	0.38

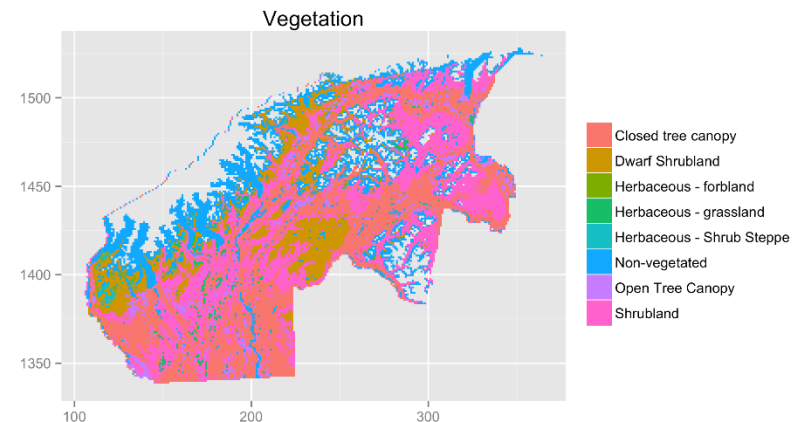
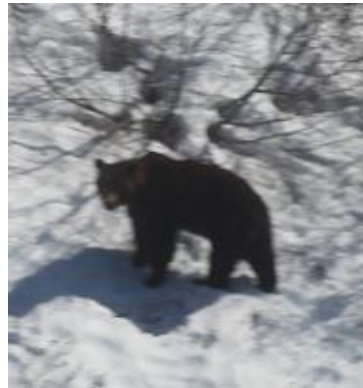
Waring GT, Josephson E, Fairfield-Walsh CP, Maze-Foley K (2007) U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments -- 2007. NOAA Tech Memo NMFS NE 205. 415 p.

Our goals:

- Produce our own abundance estimates from NOAA's data
- Go beyond this: produce a density surface (animals km^{-2})

This methodology is generic!

- We're teaching a marine example because one of us works mainly on marine species
- The methodology and most of the tools are generic
- If you are a terrestrial ecologist, please feel free to speak up, raise terrestrial questions and examples, and represent land-dwellers with pride!



Photos and figure: David L Miller and colleagues

Let's explore the data...

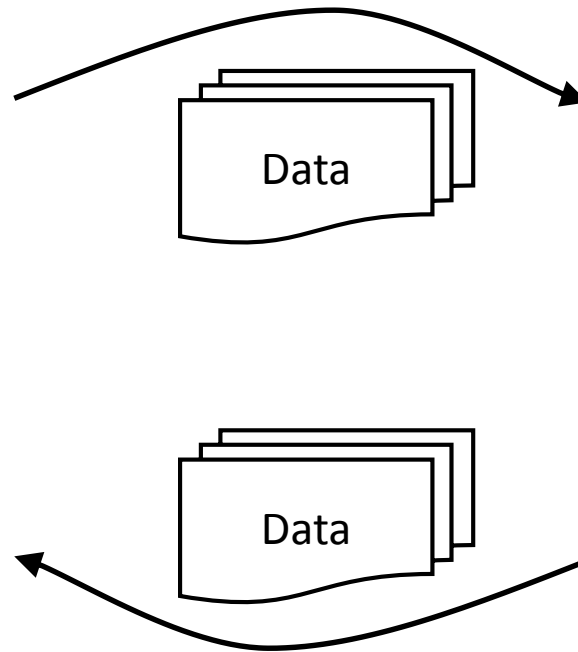
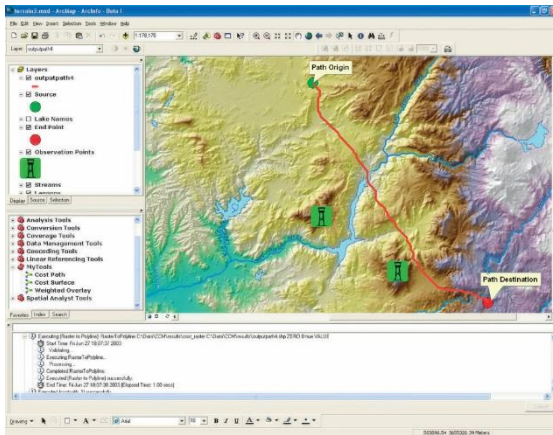
Using ArcGIS and R together

Two main approaches

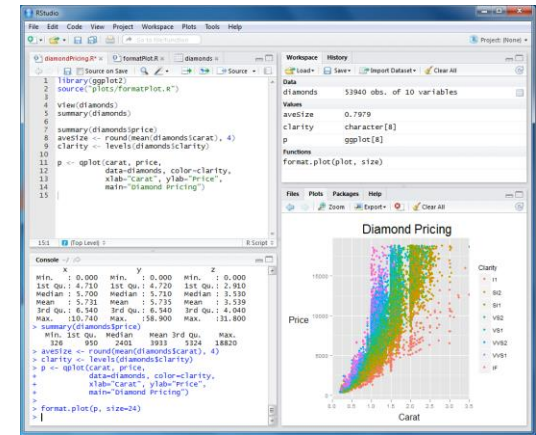
- ***Exchange data*** - run both programs interactively and manually move data back and forth between them
 - We will do this in our workshop
- ***Automation*** - execute one program from within the other, or both from a third program, to coordinate their execution from an automated workflow
 - We will not do this, but I can discuss it at the end of the session, if there is time and interest

Exchanging data by writing files

ArcGIS writes, R reads



R writes, ArcGIS reads



Formats for exchanging data

For tabular data—tables and feature classes in ArcGIS—there are several common alternatives:

- Comma-separated values (CSV) files
- DBF files and shapefiles
- Personal and file geodatabases

For rasters, you can leave them in the formats you already use in ArcGIS (GeoTIFF, IMG, etc.)

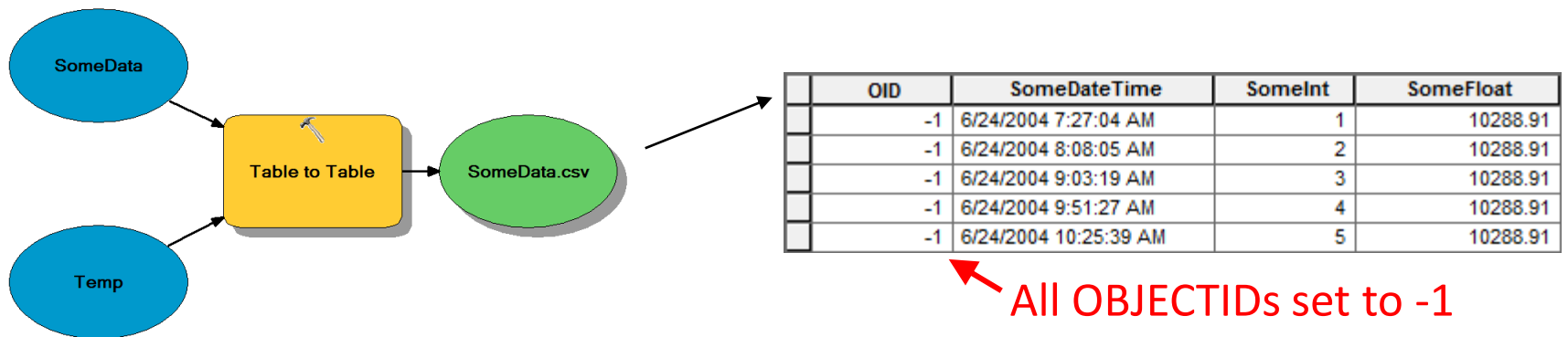
Comma-separated values (CSV) files

```
*D:\Workshops\2015_10_DSM\Slides\DataExchangeExamples\Points.csv - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run Plugins Window ?
Points.csv
1 XCoord,YCoord,OBJECTID,SOMEDATETIME,SOMEINT,SOMEFLOAT
2 214544.04920000,689074.29460000,1,2004-06-24 07:27:04.166531,1,10288.905273
3 222654.26370000,682780.99250000,2,2004-06-24 09:03:18.641159,3,10288.905273
4 230279.86430000,675473.33230000,3,2004-06-24 09:03:18.641159,3,10288.905273
5 239328.91790000,666646.30570000,4,2004-06-24 09:51:27.121335,4,10288.905273
6 246686.54250000,659459.16270000,5,2004-06-24 10:25:39.060701,5,10288.905273
7 254306.96100000,652547.24960000,6,2004-06-24 11:00:22.425303,6,10288.905273
8 258088.51610000,648735.19790000,7,2004-06-24 12:11:30.890615,7,10288.905273
9 255660.45380000,652567.78050000,8,2004-06-24 13:30:41.023928,8,10288.905273
10 262240.65170000,646114.50670000,9,2004-06-24 14:14:19.055592,9,10288.905273
11 269673.73540000,639001.45260000,10,2004-06-24 14:51:21.964176,10,10288.905273
12 276839.28940000,634501.11210000,11,2004-06-24 15:28:31.163228,11,10288.905273
13 280756.74210000,642407.56960000,12,2004-06-24 16:03:25.595323,12,10288.905273
14 284283.31080000,652072.65900000,13,2004-06-24 16:37:16.346278,13,10288.905273
15 287752.92650000,661758.83370000,14,2004-06-24 17:12:16.648150,14,10288.905273
16 298387.87900000,682462.63450000,15,2004-06-25 06:28:26.577917,15,9861.579102
17 306293.19900000,677058.04320000,16,2004-06-25 07:04:30.079041,16,9861.579102
18 314363.06330000,671394.22290000,17,2004-06-25 07:37:46.773628,17,9861.579102
19 322326.53170000,665583.28890000,18,2004-06-25 08:11:13.562277,18,9861.579102
Normal text file length : 76690 lines : 951 Ln : 1 Col : 1 Sel : 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS
```

CSV files for tables

- Just text; no way to specify data types of columns
- Due to that and other limitations of ArcGIS, CSV is not an appropriate default format when using ArcGIS
- Export from ArcGIS messes up certain columns

Send a table from ArcGIS to R with a CSV:



```
> somedata <- read.csv("C:/Temp/SomeData.csv", stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
```

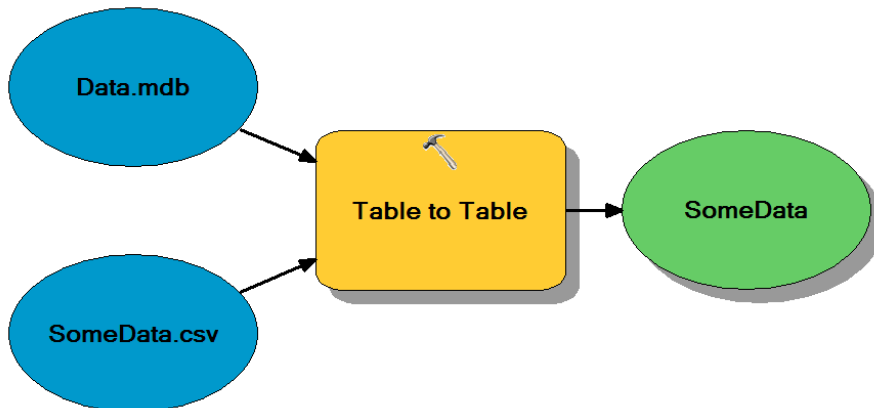
For date columns, use `colClasses` parameter to specify data type

CSV files for tables

Send a table from R to ArcGIS with a CSV:

```
> write.csv(somedata, "C:/Temp/SomeData.csv", row.names=FALSE, na="")
```

CSVs may be used directly in ArcGIS for certain tasks. But often it is necessary to convert them to more structured format, such as a geodatabase table or DBF file:



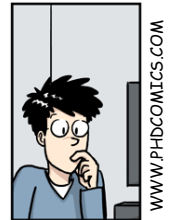
CSV files for feature classes

- Same limitations as with tables
- Cannot easily handle geometries other than points

Send points from ArcGIS to R with a CSV:



From the Spatial Stats toolbox!?



	XCoord	YCoord	OBJECTID	SOMEDATETIME	SOMEINT	SOMEFLOAT
1	214544.04920000	689074.29460000	1	2004-06-24 07:27:04.166531	1	10288.905273
2	222654.26370000	682780.99250000	2	NULL	NULL	NULL
3	230279.86430000	675473.33230000	3	2004-06-24 09:03:18.641159	3	10288.905273
4	239328.91790000	666646.30570000	4	2004-06-24 09:51:27.121335	4	10288.905273

NULL values written as "NULL"; R converts column to character data type!

```
> points <- read.csv("C:/Temp/Points.csv", stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
```

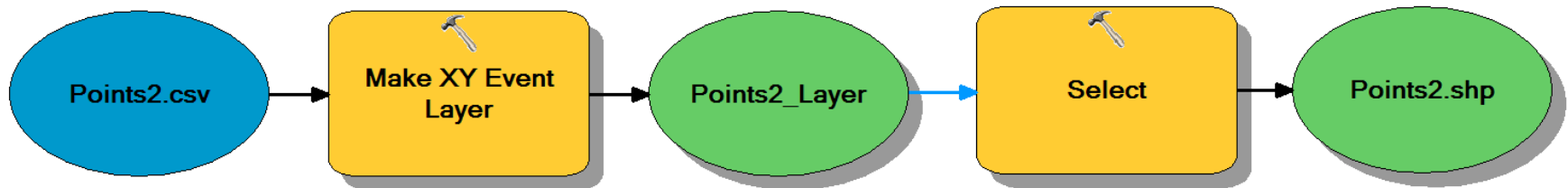
For date columns, use `colClasses` parameter to specify data type

CSV files for feature classes

Send points from R to ArcGIS with a CSV:

```
> write.csv(points, "D:/Temp/Points2.csv", row.names=FALSE, na="")
```

Make sure points has columns for x and y coordinates



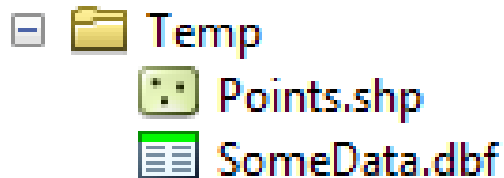
Makes an in-memory
feature layer

Only needed if you wish
to save the layer

DBF files for tables

- + Suitable as default format in ArcGIS, but:
- Significant limitations: 10 char column names; date fields do not have times; little support for NULL values

Read a DBF file into R:



```
> library(foreign)
> somedata <- read.dbf("C:/Temp/SomeData.dbf", as.is=TRUE)
```

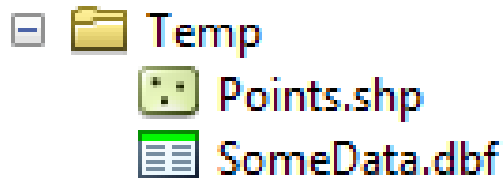
Write a DBF file from R:

```
> write.dbf(somedata, "C:/Temp/SomeData2.dbf", factor2char=TRUE)
```

Shapefiles for vector data

- + Suitable as default format in ArcGIS
- Same limitations as DBF: 10 char column names; date fields do not have times; little support for NULL values

Read a shapefile into R:



For DATE columns, readOGR creates a character column in the returned data.frame. We must parse it, e.g. using as.POSIXct().

```
> library(rgdal)
> points <- readOGR("D:/Temp", "Points", stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
> points$SomeDateTime <- as.POSIXct(points$SomeDateTime)
```

Write a shapefile from R:

```
> writeOGR(points, "D:/Temp", "Points", driver="ESRI Shapefile")
```

For POSIXct (etc.) columns, writeOGR creates a TEXT column in the shapefile.

Personal and file geodatabases

- + Multiple tables and feature classes in single file or dir.
- + Avoids archaic limitations of CSV, DBF, and shapefile
- Different R packages needed depending on scenario

Personal geodatabase (.mdb file)

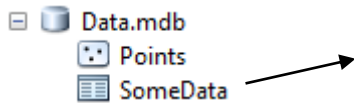
- ± MS Access format; can open in many tools; can be hard on Linux
- Total file size limited to 2 GB
- ESRI is depreciating this format

File geodatabase (.gdb directory)

- + No size limitation
- Proprietary ESRI format; limited interoperability

With the RODBC package:

Read a table from a personal GDB (or other Access DB):



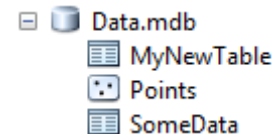
	OBJECTID *	SomeDateTime	SomeInt	SomeFloat
	1	6/24/2004 7:27:04	1	10288.91
	2	6/24/2004 8:08:05	2	10288.91

```
> library(RODBC) # May not be available on all Linux distros
> conn <- odbcConnectAccess("D:/Temp/Data.mdb") # odbcConnect on Linux
> data <- sqlQuery(conn, "SELECT * FROM SomeData", stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
> close(conn)
```

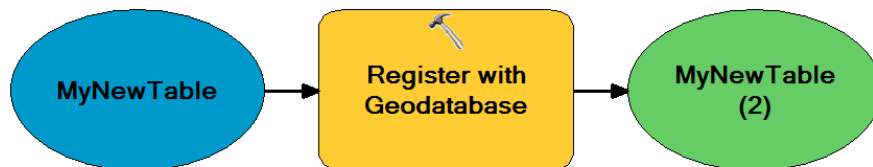
Neither works with file GDBs!

Write a table to a personal GDB (or other Access DB):

```
> library(RODBC)
> conn <- odbcConnectAccess("D:/Temp/Data.mdb")
> sqlwrite(conn, data, "MyNewTable", rownames=FALSE,
           varTypes=c(SomeDateTime="datetime"))
> close(conn)
```



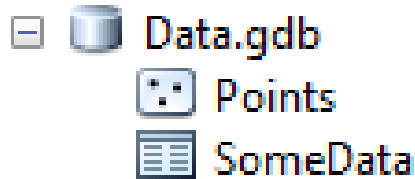
	MyNewTable	Points	SomeData
--	------------	--------	----------



Necessary for ArcGIS to add or recognize the table's OBJECTID

With the rgdal package:

Read a feature class from a personal or file GDB:



As with shapefiles, for DATE columns, readOGR creates a character column in the returned data.frame. Must parse, e.g. using as.POSIXct().

```
> library(rgdal)
> points <- readOGR("D:/Temp/Data.gdb", "Points", stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
> points$SomeDateTime <- as.POSIXct(points$SomeDateTime)
```

- You cannot write to geodatabases with rgdal at this time
- In the future, it may be possible to write to file geodatabaseses if some technical and licensing issues are worked out on CRAN (but this looks pretty unlikely)

ESRI's new initiative



The image shows a browser window with the URL <https://r-arcgis.github.io>. The page features a topographic map background. The main heading is "Welcome to the R – ArcGIS Community" in white text. Below it is a sub-heading in orange: "Combine the power of ArcGIS and R to solve your spatial problems". A paragraph of text follows: "The R – ArcGIS Community is a community driven collection of free, open source projects making it easier and faster for R users to work with ArcGIS data, and ArcGIS users to leverage the analysis capabilities of R." In the center, there is a diagram with two dark grey boxes labeled "R" and "ArcGIS". Between them are two sets of orange double-headed arrows. The top set of arrows is positioned above a white icon of a building with a network of lines, and the bottom set is positioned above a white icon of a database cylinder. At the bottom of the page, there is a link: "Need the R Statistical Software? Download it now."

<https://r-arcgis.github.io/>

R-bridge for ArcGIS

- Enables R to read and write any tables or feature classes that are accessible through ArcGIS
- Brand new: July 2015
- Requires ArcGIS 10.3.1+, R 3.1.0+, MS Windows
- Requires administrator rights to install
 - Instructions: <https://github.com/R-ArcGIS/r-bridge-install>
- Installs the arcgisbinding R library
 - Cannot be installed from CRAN (at least right now)
 - Only works if ArcGIS is installed; checks your license
 - Core implemented with C++, COM, ATL, ArcObjects
 - Open source (!) Apache License 2.0

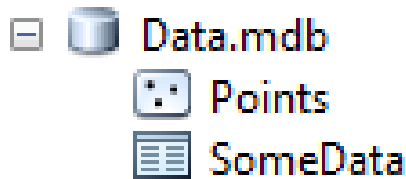
With the arcgisbinding package:

Initialize the ArcGIS license:

```
> library(arcgisbinding)
*** Please call arc.check_product() to define a desktop license.
>
> arc.check_product()
product: ArcGIS Desktop
license: Advanced
build number: 10.3.1.4959
binding dll: rarcproxy
>
```

With the arcgisbinding package:

Read a table into R:



OBJECTID *	SomeDateTime	SomeInt	SomeFloat	SomeString
1	6/24/2004 7:27:04 AM	1	10288.91	aaa
2	<Null>	<Null>	<Null>	<Null>
3	6/24/2004 9:03:19 AM	3	10288.91	bbb
4	6/24/2004 9:51:27 AM	4	10288.91	ccc

```
> dataset <- arc.open("D:/Temp/Data.mdb/SomeData") # Open the dataset
> arcdf <- arc.select(dataset) # Get an arc.data instance of data.frame
> summary(arcdf)
```

```
OBJECTID    SomeDateTime    SomeInt    SomeFloat    SomeString
Min.   : 1      Min.   :38162    Min.   :-2.147e+09    Min.   : 8395    Length:949
1st Qu.:238    1st Qu.:38171    1st Qu.: 2.380e+02    1st Qu.: 9862    Class :character
Median :475    Median :38180    Median : 4.750e+02    Median :10011    Mode  :character
Mean   :475    Mean   :38184    Mean   :-2.262e+06    Mean   :10009
3rd Qu.:712    3rd Qu.:38194    3rd Qu.: 7.120e+02    3rd Qu.:10155
Max.   :949    Max.   :38211    Max.   : 9.490e+02    Max.   :11274
NA's   :1      NA's   :1      NA's   :1
```

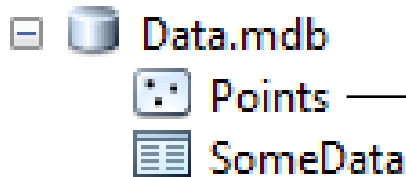
Strings not automatically converted to factors (good, in my opinion)

NULL integers converted to -2147483647

Datetime values converted to floating point (number of days since 1899-12-30?)

With the arcgisbinding package:

Read a feature class into R:



	OBJECTID *	Shape *	SomeDateTime	SomeInt	SomeFloat
	1	Point	6/24/2004 7:27:04	1	10288.91
	2	Point	<Null>	<Null>	<Null>
	3	Point	6/24/2004 9:03:19	3	10288.91
	4	Point	6/24/2004 9:51:27	4	10288.91

```
> dataset <- arc.open("D:/Temp/Data.mdb/Points") # Open the dataset
> arcdf <- arc.select(dataset) # Get an arc.data instance of data.frame
> points <- arc.data2sp(arcdf) # Convert to SpatialPointsDataFrame object
> library(sp) # Necessary to access sp functions
> summary(points)
```

Object of class SpatialPointsDataFrame

Coordinates:

```
          min      max
coords.x1 -703555.8 633107.0
coords.x2 -663940.9 793006.7
```

Is projected: TRUE

proj4string :

```
[+proj=aea +lat_1=38 +lat_2=30 +lat_0=34 +lon_0=-73 +x_0=0 +y_0=0 +datum=WGS84 +units=m +no_defs +ellps=WGS84 +towgs84=0,0,0]
```

Number of points: 949

Data attributes:

```
  OBJECTID  SomeDateTime  SomeInt  SomeFloat  SomeString
Min.   : 1  Min.   :38162  Min.   :-2.147e+09  Min.   : 8395  Length:949
1st Qu.:238 1st Qu.:38171  1st Qu.: 2.380e+02  1st Qu.: 9862  Class :character
Median :475  Median :38180  Median : 4.750e+02  Median :10011  Mode  :character
Mean   :475  Mean   :38184  Mean   :-2.262e+06  Mean   :10009
3rd Qu.:712 3rd Qu.:38194  3rd Qu.: 7.120e+02  3rd Qu.:10155
Max.   :949  Max.   :38211  Max.   : 9.490e+02  Max.   :11274
      NA's :1                NA's :1
```

With the arcgisbinding package:

Write a table or feature class from R:

```
> summary(df)
```

```
  OBJECTID      SomeDateTime          SomeInt      SomeFloat      SomeString
Min.   : 1      Min.   :2004-06-24 07:27:04  Min.   : 1.0      Min.   : 8395      Length:949
1st Qu.:238     1st Qu.:2004-07-03 11:28:26  1st Qu.:238.8    1st Qu.: 9862      Class :character
Median :475     Median :2004-07-11 13:18:43  Median :475.5    Median :10011     Mode  :character
Mean   :475     Mean   :2004-07-15 14:40:21  Mean   :475.5    Mean   :10009
3rd Qu.:712     3rd Qu.:2004-07-26 11:06:12  3rd Qu.:712.2    3rd Qu.:10155
Max.   :949     Max.   :2004-08-11 18:58:50  Max.   :949.0    Max.   :11274
NA's   :1       NA's   :1              NA's   :1              NA's   :1
```

```
> arc.write("D:/Temp/Data.mdb/SomeData2", df)
```

OBJECTID *	OBJECTID_1	SomeDateTime	SomeInt	SomeFloat	SomeString
1	1	1088062024.166531	1	10288.905273	aaa
2	2	<Null>	<Null>	<Null>	<Null>
3	3	1088067798.641159	3	10288.905273	bbb
4	4	1088070687.121335	4	10288.905273	ccc

Assigned new OBJECTID,
renamed our column

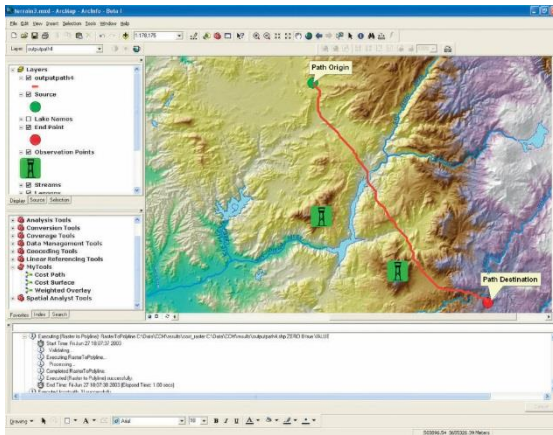
Converted POSIXct values to floating point
(number of seconds since 1970-01-01?)

Recommended approach

Read:

- For tables in personal GDB, use RODBC
- Otherwise use rgdal or arcgisbinding

Write

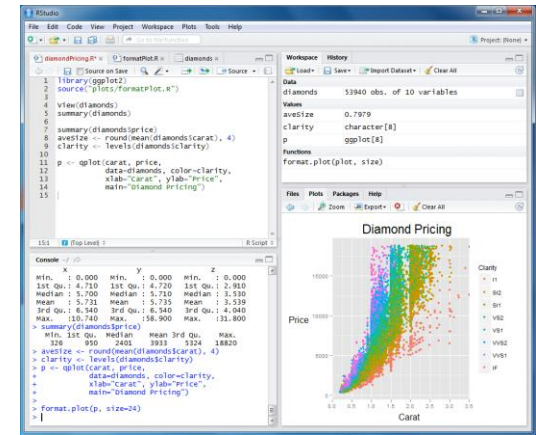


Tables, vectors
in geodatabase

Read

Write:

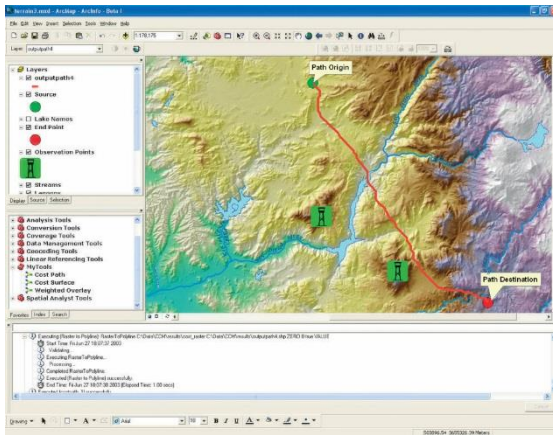
- For tables in personal GDB, use RODBC
- Otherwise use arcgisbinding



Alternative approach:

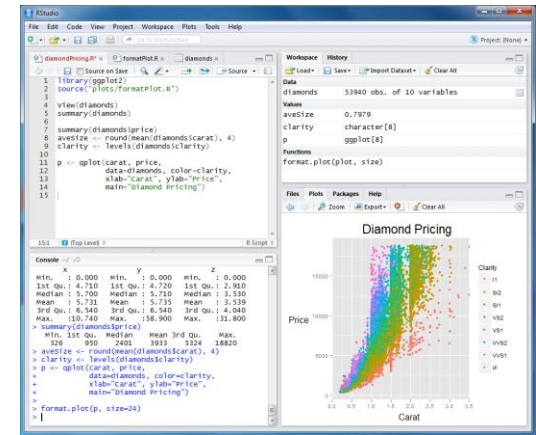
If you can tolerate the limitations of shapefile and DBF

Use readOGR (from rgdal)
and read.dbf (from foreign)



Shapefiles,
DBFs

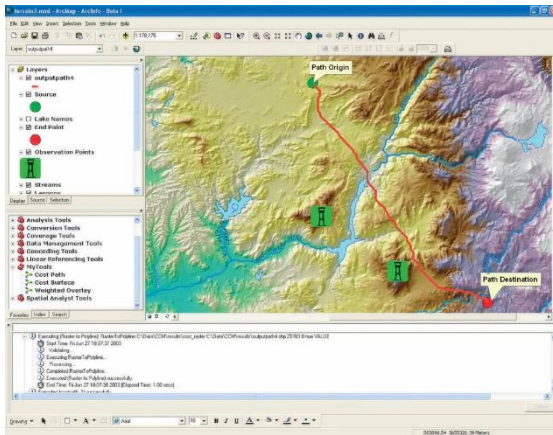
Shapefiles,
DBFs



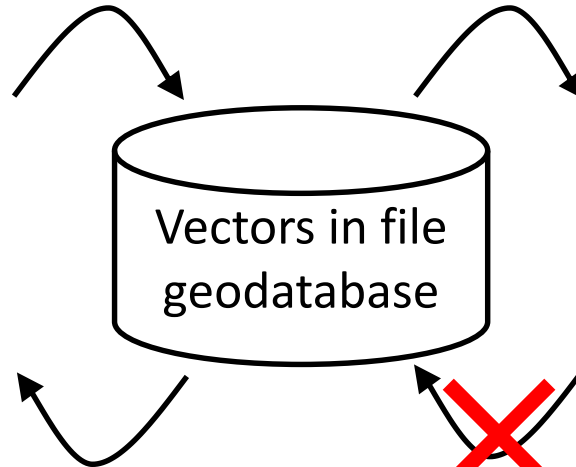
Use writeOGR (from rgdal)
and write.dbf (from foreign)

In this workshop

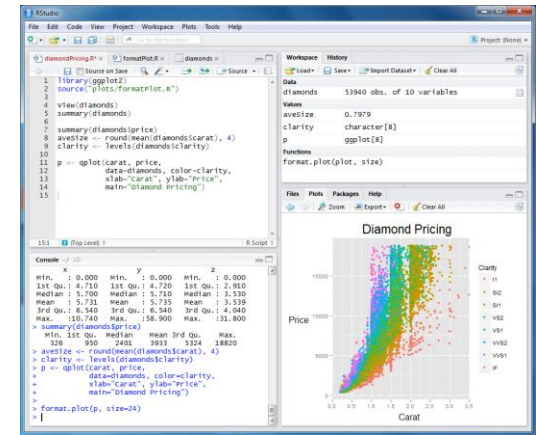
We only need to send vector data from ArcGIS to R. We will use a file GDB to facilitate cross-platform use and read from it with rgdal.



Write



Read



In our exercise, we do not need to send tables or vector data from R back to ArcGIS.

Rasters

Reading a raster into R:

```
> library(raster)
> r <- raster("D:/Temp/Depth.img")
> r
class           : RasterLayer
dimensions      : 1260, 1200, 1512000 (nrow, ncol, ncell)
resolution      : 0.01666667, 0.01666667 (x, y)
extent          : -82, -62, 24, 45 (xmin, xmax, ymin, ymax)
coord. ref.     : +proj=longlat +datum=WGS84 +no_defs +ellps=WGS84 +towgs84=0,0,0
data source     : D:\Temp\Depth.img
names           : Depth
values          : 0, 6282 (min, max)
```

Writing a raster from R:

```
> writeRaster(r, "D:/Temp/Depth2.img") # options for data type, compression, etc.
```

For raster data, I recommend .IMG format

- Supports all pixel types, raster attribute tables, statistics, compression, and very large dimensions
- GeoTIFF is an acceptable alternative, but less flexible, in my experience

Let's read our sightings
into R...