

Errata and Notes for “Software for Data Analysis: Programming with R”

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The following are the known errors and significant changes, as of the date above. (Glitches that just involve layout, like too much or too little white space, are omitted.) The column “Fixed” asserts that this error was (or will be) fixed in the corresponding printing. Since printings are not supposed to change the pagination of the book, errors requiring more extensive changes have sometimes not been fixed.

Many thanks to all the contributors of corrections, with special thanks to Dirk Eddelbuettel and Spencer Graves.

Chapter 1

Location		Fixed
page 1, section 1.1, line 3	“able”, not “ale”.	3?
pages 6 and 29	In describing licenses, it is “GNU General Public License”, since the <i>G</i> in <i>GPL</i> stands for <i>General</i> .	3?

Chapter 2

Location		Fixed
page 26	The <code>fit <- mgcv::gam()</code> example is trickier than suggested. One needs to copy <code>mgcv::s</code> to the global environment, and then call it as <code>s(Age, k=4)</code> .	

Chapter 3

Location		Fixed
page 72	Replace the non-existent class name "gpsPath" with "GPSTrack"	3?
page 75	In the <code>recoverHandler()</code> listing, the call to <code>deparse()</code> should be <code>deparse(call)</code> .	3?

Chapter 4

Location		Fixed
page 79	In the last sentence of the first paragraph of section 4.1, "channel for their work ..."	3?
page 92	Second paragraph, third sentence, "your installed package".	3?
page 96	In the first bullet point, "the <code>DESCRIPTION()</code> file" should be "the "DESCRIPTION" file" .	3?
page 99	In the last alias: <code>\alias{Matrix-package}</code>	3?
page 106	First sentence of the <code>NAMESPACE</code> section: "... of your package's source".	3?

Chapter 5

Location		Fixed
page 113	Should always be <code>lmFit</code> , not <code>lmfit</code>	3?
page 114	After the <code>wRead</code> listing, “The function <code>wRead()</code> ...”	3?
page 126	While it’s true that the two local assignment operators are equivalent, the grammar does limit the use of <code>`=`</code> , not allowing things like <code>if(x = 1) ...</code> .	
pages 127-130	To be consistent, all instances of <code>getQ</code> should capitalize <code>Q</code> . Also, the definition in both cases should call <code>doQuantile()</code> , not <code>recompute()</code> when the <code>dataBuf</code> is not empty, and on page 129, <code>probs</code> should be <code>IQ\$probs</code> . See the files “ <code>IQclosure.R</code> ” and “ <code>IQreplace.R</code> ” in the <code>Examples</code> directory of the <code>SoDA</code> package.	3?
page 133	Second paragraph, first sentence ends with an unwanted “.”.	3?
page 133	The <code>swivel.com</code> web site changed its setup, invalidating our example. The example has been changed to use my own web site.	3?

Chapter 6

Location		Fixed
page 173	Before the first <code>evalq()</code> example, “The strict way to evaluate <code>diff(Time)</code> ...”	3?
page 180	The SQL <code>WHERE</code> clause should use <code>=</code> , not <code>==</code> .	3?
page 209	Second paragraph, “... but only <code>ncol-1</code> otherwise.”	3?
page 232	In the example, <code>seqn2 <- seq(along = g21)</code>	3?
page 234	Last paragraph, “(pseudo-)random”, with the parentheses on the upper line.	3?

Chapter 7

Location		Fixed
page 239	After the bullet item: “the <code>lattice</code> package both ...”	3?
page 247	The example should subtract a small amount from the first element of the quantiles to avoid NA corresponding to <code>min(resids)</code> .	3?
page 249	In the example, <code>xy\$X</code> and <code>xy\$Y</code> should be <code>xy[, "X"]</code> and <code>xy[, "Y"]</code> .	3?
page 252	<code>plotGPSTrack()</code> should call <code>arrowColors()</code> to agree with the definition above.	3?
Pages 259-260	To be consistent with <code>ColorBrewer</code> , change all occurrences of <i>divergent scale</i> to <i>diverging scale</i> .	3?
page 273	Positioning ... section, second paragraph: “But within a particular graphics object, ...”	3?
page 276	The plot is slightly incorrect, in not maintaining the aspect ratio of 1 for x and y distances (should be about 20% higher). The <code>gridSegments.R</code> example in version 1.0-4 and later of the <code>SoDA</code> package gets it nearly right.	3?

Chapter 8

Location		Fixed
page 291, top	“objects provide one mechanism.”	3?
page 294, second line	“only used 7 of the bits”	3?
page 297, top	The function is <code>readLines()</code> , not <code>readLines()</code> .	3?
page 302	The definition of <code>nameRegexp</code> is not bullet-proof if the text in question could be a number starting with ".", such as .1. This doesn't affect the example on the next page, but where relevant, computations should first check that the text does <i>not</i> match the pattern for a number.	
page 318, top	Should say “... idiom of <code>\$\$tref{<i>\$chunk</i>}</code> ”.	3?
page 320	Should always be <code>scanText()</code> , not <code>scantext()</code>	3?

Chapter 9

Location		Fixed
page 339	Second line: “transforms x”	3?
section 9.6 and page 353	Various comments in this section deprecate S4 classes that extend (contain) S3 classes, in particular asserting that S3 methods won't work. Starting with version 2.8.0 of R, support is provided for such extensions. The section will be rewritten to reflect this and give more encouragement for extending S3 classes. See ?Classes, ?S3Class and ?setOldClass.	3?
page 362	The definition of validTrackObject is missing braces and the first line, <pre>x <- object@x; y <- object@y</pre>	3?
page 365	After the paragraph “If you want to convert ...”, add the sentence: “Note that the function is used here as a function, not an S3 method; therefore, S3 mechanisms such as nextMethod() must be eliminated or changed to S4 mechanisms.”	

Chapter 10

Location		Fixed
pages 385-386 and 399	From version 2.8.0 on, the "... " argument can be used in some generic function signatures.	3?
page 392	Middle of the page, it's “more reliable”, not “more more”	3?
page 399	Section on nonstandard generic functions: a more precise statement of the requirement is “a successful call eventually calls standardGeneric()”	3?
page 402, bottom	Note that the output of this example has been edited to remove printing. It will be more verbose if you run it.	
page 405	End of first paragraph: “in the SoDA package”.	3?

Chapter 11

Location		Fixed
page 416, bottom (and 482)	The author's correct name is "Dirk Eddelbuettel".	3?
page 423	After the sentence "To turn character <code>...</code> <code>mkChar()</code> ", add a footnote: "Readers who have followed the <code>.C()</code> version of this example in the previous section may now ask why that version works, since it casually assigns an arbitrary string in the output. Fortunately, the interface code for <code>.C()</code> arranges to call <code>mkchar()</code> on all strings before returning."	

Chapter 12

Location		Fixed
page 441	The code for the <code>gbm</code> package, including the C++ code, was all written by Greg Ridgeway.	3?

Chapter 13

Location		Fixed
page 456	For the regular expression see the correction for page 302	
page 469	Table 13.1, in the "Function" line, <i>expr</i> , not <code>expr</code> .	3?
page 470	Under <i>sublist</i> , last sentence: "because the interpretation ..."	3?