

Is it just me, or is it getting hotter in here?

## Introduction

Global warming is a profoundly important issue for public policy. In this problem set, we begin to explore the *average global temperature in degrees celsius* over time. We are interested in whether there is a predictive relationship between the *year* an observation is collected, and the *temperature* we observe.

Data<sup>1</sup> Source: *Compiled by Worldwatch Institute from James Hansen and Reto Ruedy, Goddard Institute for Space Studies, 14 January 1997.*

## Problems

1. (5 points) [*Loading the data*]

Download the data from the above link, and save it as a .csv file. Load the data into R, and save it as an object called `dat`. Print the first five observations

*Hint: use '='*

```
> dat = read.csv("globtemp.csv", header = TRUE)
> head(dat)
```

```
  Year Temp
1 1866 14.46
2 1867 14.36
3 1868 14.50
4 1869 14.60
5 1870 14.52
6 1871 14.62
```

2. (5 points) [*Browsing the data*]

How many observations are in the dataset?

```
> dim(dat)
```

```
[1] 131  2
```

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<sup>1</sup>Note: this document links to a site maintained by the University of Queensland. Data are used for educational purposes.

3. (5 points) [*Summarizing the data*]

What is the smallest global average temperature? What is the largest?  
What is the mean?

```
> summary(dat$Temp)
```

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
14.33	14.72	14.91	14.89	15.08	15.40

4. (5 points) [*Assessing relationships*]

Calculate a correlation in order to assess whether there is a linear predictive relationship between **Year** and **Temp**.

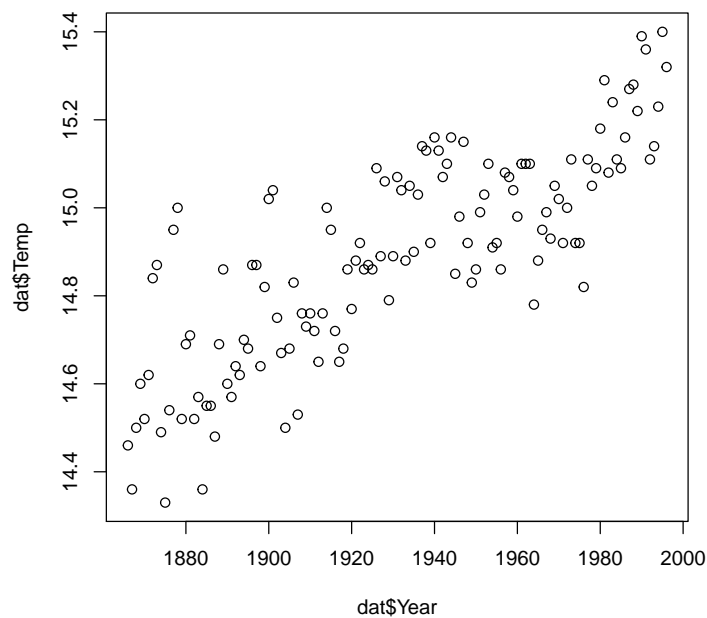
```
> cor(dat$Year, dat$Temp)
```

```
[1] 0.8114984
```

5. (5 points) [*Assessing relationships*]

Create a scatter plot of the data with **Year** on the x-axis, and **Temp** on the y-axis.

```
> plot(dat$Year, dat$Temp)
```



6. (5 points) [*Summarizing results*]

In a sentence or two, use the analyses you've performed to comment on whether there is a predictive relationship between the *year* an observation is collected, and the *temperature* we observe.