A previous note discussed how to change the data input for the Weber and Facility Location problems, by assigning new values to elements of the data matrix. But there’s another way: you can use R’s built-in data editor. This is a small spreadsheet-like application that will allow you to make changes in your data without having to worry about indexing. It doesn’t have the sophistication of an application like Excel, but it can help when the dataset is small and the changes you want to make are straightforward.

Here’s a screenshot:

Note that the editor will recognize the column names if you’ve named your columns; if you data has row names, these will appear as an initial (editable) column. Unnamed columns will be named `varn`, as you can see in the picture. Once the editor opens, you can make your changes and then do File → Close to quit.

The most important thing to know about the data editor is that it is a function. It takes your data as an argument, and returns the changed data. This means that in order to be useful, you need to assign the result. That is, if you want to edit, say, `dat`, you will need to assign the changes to a variable (which could be `dat` itself, if you’re confident that nothing will be lost). Thus you’d call the data editor on `dat` via a statement like

```r
newdat <- edit(dat)
```

If you forget to assign the result (ie just call `edit(dat)` ) then, while you will certainly be able to edit your data, you will have no way of capturing and using the result. This makes the whole exercise pointless, so if you see that you started the editor this way, you might as well exit and start over again with the correct function syntax.