Native R does not provide great tools for working with set. Some functions, like subset and split exist, but these can become tedious, overly verbose and error-prone especially with high-dimensional data. The venn package alleviates the frustration of working sets. The venn package provides: a simple R-like mechanism for defining sets, all the usual set functions (union, intersection, complement, etc.), high-level syntax and semantics, simple partitioning, straightforward segmentation, the ability to work abstractly and apply the results to new data, and the ability to apply functions to regions of data that is very difficult using the \*apply alone. Depending on how you look at it, venn is either a tool to make working with sets possible and easy OR a whole new way of working with data.