

# Generating Reports and Web Apps

<http://datascience.tntlab.org>

Module 10





# Today's Agenda

- Installing software to use *Markdown* on your own machine
- Walkthrough of *Markdown* and markup languages more generally
  - A bit of a preview of next week
- In-depth on *shiny*
  - How to create your own *shiny* apps
  - How to enable other people to access your *shiny* apps



# Necessary Installs Beyond R

- R Packages (not actually automatic)
  - *rmarkdown*
  - *shiny*
  - *knitr*
  - *ggvis*
- Software for Exports
  - PDF: LaTeX (<http://latex-project.org/ftp.html>; get MiKTeX [Win] or MacTeX [Mac]) and set it to automatically install packages during installation
  - HTML: pandoc v1.19.2.1 (<https://github.com/jgm/pandoc/releases/>; for now)
  - DOCX: MS Word
- Although you could theoretically use RMarkdown on the command line/directly to generate reports, we will only use R Studio.



# R Markdown utilizes a Markup Language

- Markup languages
  - Plain text document annotation systems intended to provide text meta-data directly on a manuscript
  - The term "markup" comes from traditional marking up by hand of documents
- Examples of markup languages
  - HTML
  - LaTeX
  - Markdown
- Advantages vs. disadvantages (comparing WYSIWYG vs. WYSIWYM)
  - Utilize plain text, so they are universally accessible and will not become obsolete
  - Utilize plain text, so they are hard to read and require computer interpretation



# Example of HTML Markup

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Page Title</title>
</head>

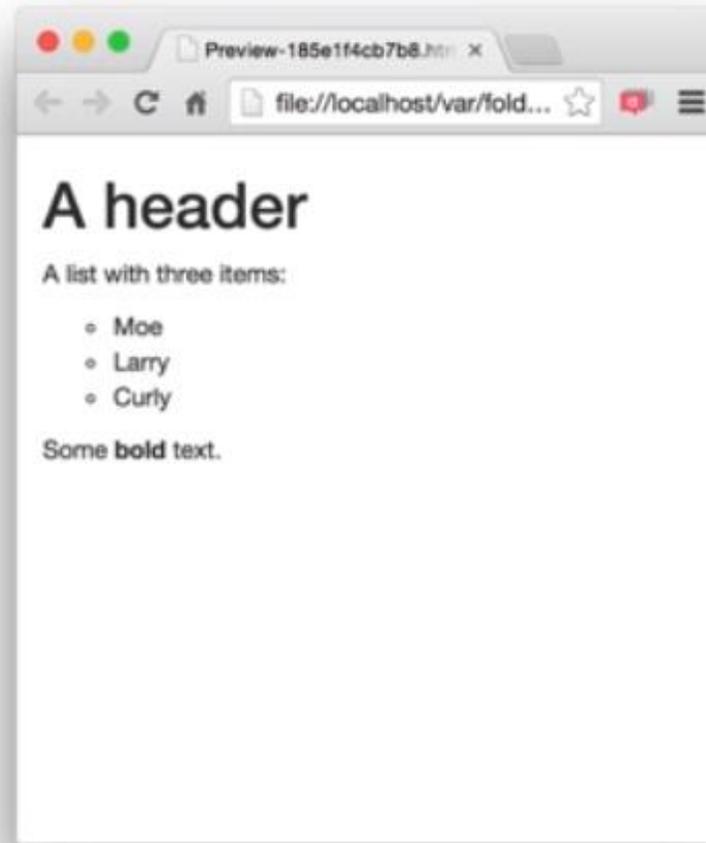
<body>

  <h1>A header</h1>

  <p>A list with three items:</p>
  <ul style="list-style-type:circle">
    <li>Moe</li>
    <li>Larry</li>
    <li>Curly</li>
  </ul>

  <p>Some <strong>bold</strong> text.</p>

</body>
```





# Example of Markdown Markup

- (from Wikipedia)

Text using Markdown syntax	Corresponding HTML produced by a Markdown processor	Text viewed in a browser
<pre># Heading  ## Sub-heading  ### Another deeper heading  Paragraphs are separated by a blank line.  Two spaces at the end of a line leave a line break.  Text attributes <i>_italic_</i>, <i>*italic*</i>, <b>__bold__</b>, <b>**bold**</b>, `monospace`.  Horizontal rule:  ---  Bullet list:  * apples * oranges * pears  Numbered list:  1. apples 2. oranges 3. pears  A [link](http://example.com).</pre>	<pre>&lt;h1&gt;Heading&lt;/h1&gt;  &lt;h2&gt;Sub-heading&lt;/h2&gt;  &lt;h3&gt;Another deeper heading&lt;/h3&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Paragraphs are separated by a blank line.&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Two spaces at the end of a line leave a&lt;br /&gt; line break.&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Text attributes &lt;em&gt;italic&lt;/em&gt;, &lt;em&gt;italic&lt;/em&gt;, &lt;strong&gt;bold&lt;/strong&gt;, &lt;strong&gt;bold&lt;/strong&gt;, &lt;code&gt;monospace&lt;/code&gt;.&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Horizontal rule:&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;hr /&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Bullet list:&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;ul&gt; &lt;li&gt;apples&lt;/li&gt; &lt;li&gt;oranges&lt;/li&gt; &lt;li&gt;pears&lt;/li&gt; &lt;/ul&gt;  &lt;p&gt;Numbered list:&lt;/p&gt;  &lt;ol&gt; &lt;li&gt;apples&lt;/li&gt; &lt;li&gt;oranges&lt;/li&gt; &lt;li&gt;pears&lt;/li&gt; &lt;/ol&gt;  &lt;p&gt;A &lt;a href="http://example.com"&gt;link&lt;/a&gt;.&lt;/p&gt;</pre>	<p>Heading</p> <hr/> <p><b>Sub-heading</b></p> <p><b>Another deeper heading</b></p> <p>Paragraphs are separated by a blank line.</p> <p>Two spaces at the end of a line leave a line break.</p> <p>Text attributes <i>italic</i>, <i>italic</i>, <b>bold</b>, <b>bold</b>, monospace .</p> <p>Horizontal rule:</p> <hr/> <p>Bullet list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• apples</li><li>• oranges</li><li>• pears</li></ul> <p>Numbered list:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. apples</li><li>2. oranges</li><li>3. pears</li></ol> <p>A <a href="http://example.com">link</a>.</p>



# Markdown Signals

- See **Help/Markdown Quick Reference** in R Studio
- Or use this cheat sheet: <https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/rmarkdown-cheatsheet-2.0.pdf>
- Or use this official guide: <http://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf>

Plain text  
 End a line with two spaces to start a new paragraph.  
 \*italics\* and *italics*  
 \*\*bold\*\* and **bold**  
 superscript<sup>2</sup>  
 ~~strikethrough~~  
 [link](www.rstudio.com)

# Header 1  
 ## Header 2  
 ### Header 3  
 #### Header 4  
 ##### Header 5  
 ##### Header 6

endash: --  
 emdash: ---  
 ellipsis: ...  
 inline equation:  $A = \pi * r^2$   
 image: 

horizontal rule (or slide break):  
 \*\*\*

> block quote  
 \* unordered list  
 \* item 2  
 + sub-item 1  
 + sub-item 2  
 1. ordered list  
 2. item 2  
 + sub-item 1  
 + sub-item 2

Table Header	Second Header
Table Cell	Cell 2
Cell 3	Cell 4

Plain text  
 End a line with two spaces to start a new paragraph.  
*italics* and *italics*  
**bold** and **bold**  
 superscript<sup>2</sup>  
 strikethrough  
 link

**Header 1**  
**Header 2**  
 Header 3

Header 4  
 Header 5  
 Header 6  
 endash: –  
 emdash: —  
 ellipsis: ...  
 inline equation:  $A = \pi * r^2$

image:   
 horizontal rule (or slide break):

block quote  
 • unordered list  
 • item 2  
 ◦ sub-item 1  
 ◦ sub-item 2  
 1. ordered list  
 2. item 2  
 ◦ sub-item 1  
 ◦ sub-item 2

Table Header	Second Header
Table Cell	Cell 2
Cell 3	Cell 4



# Embedding Code

- ``r codehere`` to execute that code wherever you want to execute it.
- To execute code as a block (and display it as such):  
`{r  
codehere`
- Options for the `{r}` call, separated by commas (also see cheat sheet):
  - **name**: name the code
  - **echo=TRUE**: display the code (does not affect results or messages)
  - **message=TRUE, warning=TRUE, error=TRUE**: display messages, warnings, and errors
  - **eval=TRUE**: run the code
  - **results='markup'**: other options: "asis", "hold", "hide"
  - Full list here: <https://yihui.name/knitr/options/>
- Example
  - ```{r mycode, echo=F}  
myvar <- 1`



# Basic YAML Headers

- Same format every time

```
---  
title: "My Title"  
author: "My Name"  
date: "Today"  
output: output_type  
---
```

- *output\_type* specifies what you're going to generate
  - `html_document`
  - `pdf_document`
  - `word_document`
  - `beamer_presentation` # PDF slideshow
  - `slidy_presentation` # HTML slideshow using slidy template
  - `ioslides_presentation` # HTML slideshow using ioslides template
  - `md_document` # a .rmd markdown file – so when is this useful?



# Extended YAML Options

- Indention and tabs matter, which do not follow clear patterns except re:output options
- Output options vary by output format, but HTML is by far the most flexible
- Again, see <http://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf>

```
---
title: "My Title"
author: "My Name"
date: "Today"
output:
  html_document:
    theme: cosmo
    number_sections: true
    toc: true
    toc_float: true
---
```

- Most flexibility with display comes from creating CSS files



# CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

- HTML is a markup language intended to provide webpage content
- CSS is a style language intended to provide stylistic/formatting data for markup
- HTML+CSS is the backbone of the web
  - We will talk about CSS more later when we get into web scraping but will focus more on how-to-read than how-to-write
- If you want to learn to write CSS, I suggest Codecademy
  - <https://www.codecademy.com/learn/learn-css>



# HTML + CSS

```
<html>
<head>
<title>My Webpage</title>
<link href="mycss.css"
type="text/css" rel="stylesheet">
</head>
<body>
<h1>My Wepage</h1>
<p>This is my webpage.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

```
body {
    background-color: #EBEBEB;
}
h1 {
    font-weight: bold;
    font-size: 24pt;
}
p {
    font-style: italic;
}
```



# Creating PDFs

- Just like you saw in Data Camp
- Things that are different from what we normally do:
  - All files should be in a *markdown* directory together
  - Don't run *rstudioapi* code



# Easiest Way to Create a Shiny App

- The simplest way to write a *shiny* app using Markdown:
  1. Use **write\_csv()** on your final ready-for-figure dataset in *markdown* folder
  2. Have your original figure generation code ready
  3. Create a new *shiny* markdown document using R Studio (**not** a new *shiny* app)
  4. Delete everything below the YAML (unless you want an example)
  5. Within a code block (```) add *shiny* functions for anything to be changeable
    - Examples: **numericInput()**, **radioButtons()**, **selectInput()**, **sliderInput()**
  6. Test your *shiny* input code by copying each function's results into a .html file and viewing that file in a web browser to verify it looks right
  7. Use **read\_csv()** to import your final ready-for-analysis dataset
  8. Copy existing figure generation code and modify to use *shiny* variables (remember to use **input\$** to refer to those variables)
  9. Surround entire figure generation code with **renderPlot({ })**



# ggplot2 vs ggvis

- A summary is available here: <http://ggvis.rstudio.com/ggplot2.html>
- *ggvis* is a more advanced tidyverse plotting system that differs from *ggplot2* in that *ggvis*:
  - Is more experimental
  - Combines elements using %>% instead of +
  - Does not support faceting
  - Distinguishes between static **geoms** (which are now **emit\_**) and dynamic **geoms** (layers)
  - Creates an HTML object when exported (vs. *ggplot2*'s static image file)
  - Enables animation using *shiny* and unique *ggvis* functions
  - Is much faster
  - Has less graphical complexity by default
  - Has fewer emits than *ggplot2* has **geoms**
- You generally want to use *ggvis* to render animations on webpages and either of the two (but probably *ggplot2*) for everything else



# Easiest Way to Put a *Shiny* App Online

- Easiest: <https://shinyapps.io>
- First time setup only
  - Sign up for a free account (something.shinyapps.io)
  - Follow the instructions on the webpage, shorthanded here
    1. **install.packages("rsconnect")**
    2. **library(rsconnect)**
    3. On the website, click "Show Secret" then "Copy to Clipboard" – paste that into R and run it
    4. **deployApp("nameofappfile.Rmd")**
- After initial setup
  - **library(rsconnect)**
  - **deployApp("nameofappfile.Rmd")**



# Common Problems with Shiny and shinyapps.io

- Forgot to set up access tokens in R Studio
- Forgot **runtime:shiny**
- Didn't put skinny datafile in *markdown* directory
- Didn't define *shiny* input functions correctly, especially related to named vectors
- Put too much re-processing within **renderPlot()**