

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>

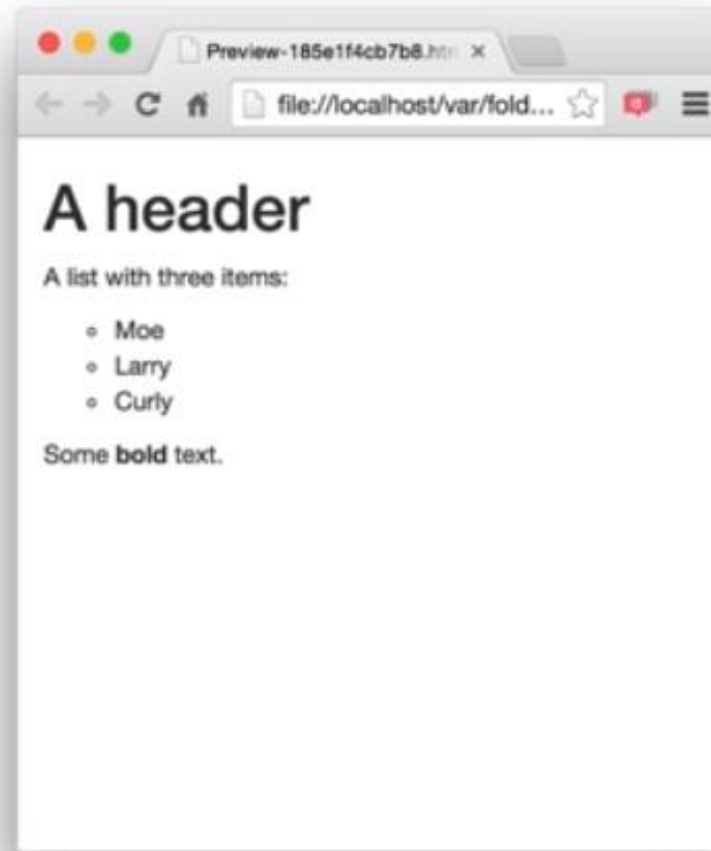
<body>

  <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>, bold, **bold**, `monospace`. Horizontal rule: --- Bullet list: * apples * oranges * pears Numbered list: 1. apples 2. oranges 3. pears A [link](http://example.com).</pre>	<pre><h1>Heading</h1> <h2>Sub-heading</h2> <h3>Another deeper heading</h3> <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 italic, italic, bold, bold, <code>monospace</code>.</p> <p>Horizontal rule:</p> <hr /> <p>Bullet list:</p> apples oranges pears <p>Numbered list:</p> apples oranges pears <p>A link.</p></pre>	<p>Heading</p> <hr/> <p>Sub-heading</p> <p>Another deeper heading</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>, bold, bold, monospace .</p> <p>Horizontal rule:</p> <hr/> <p>Bullet list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• apples• oranges• pears <p>Numbered list:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. apples2. oranges3. pears <p>A link.</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^2^
 ~~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**
 superscript²
 strikethrough
[link](#)

Header 1
Header 2
 Header 3

Header 4
 Header 5
 Header 6

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



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()**