CASA dissertation using Bookdown

2021-01-11

Some abstract text

I hereby declare that this dissertation is all my own original work and that all sources have been acknowledged. It is xxx words in length

I would like to thank blah blah

Term

Abbreviation

Digital Elevation Model

DEM

Digital Surface Model

DSM

Digital Terrain Model

DTM

# Bookdown basics

Bookdown enables us to take raw text files (e.g. Rmarkdown files) and output them into a number of different formats with ease. This is more useful than LaTex as you can create a word version for comments from your supervisor, a pdf for final submission and an online book for your own portfolio.

## Structure

A bookdown book simply combines multiple Rmarkdown files into .pdf, html or .epub (but i’ve disabled epub here).

All Rmakdown files must be located in the base (or root) of the project. For example, don’t got putting the .Rmd in a folder called chapters and then wonder why it’s not working. They all must be in the same folder as the project file. You can however put output figure images into a folder (e.g. figures) then call them in.

## Building the book

You will need the packages: bookdown, kabble, knitr

You also need to install tinytex::install\_tinytex() for generating .pdfs from your book.

Once installed you can build the book by clicking the Build Book icon under the build tab in the top right quadrant.

To export the book to word follow the code below from [Edd Berry](https://www.eddjberry.com/post/writing-your-thesis-with-bookdown/):

bookdown::preview\_chapter("01-intro.Rmd",  
 output\_format = "bookdown::word\_document2",  
 output\_file = paste0("thesis-intro-", format(Sys.Date(), ("%d-%m-%y")), ".docx"),  
 output\_dir = "chapter-previews")

You can also setup a reference document if you wish that word will style it on. To do so:

1. export to word using the code above.
2. change the headings styles in word
3. save the document
4. add the output\_options() function to the code above

See [Custom Word Templates](https://bookdown.org/yihui/rmarkdown-cookbook/word-template.html) for more detailed instructions.

bookdown::preview\_chapter("01-intro.Rmd",  
 output\_format = "bookdown::word\_document2",  
 output\_file = paste0("thesis-intro-", format(Sys.Date(), ("%d-%m-%y")), ".docx"),  
 output\_dir = "chapter-previews",  
 output\_options = list(reference\_docx = "word-style-ref.docx"))

You can also export the whole document as word by clicking Build Book and selecting it. However, note that tables built with Kabble don’t work, so you have the following options

* create the html (gitbook) and copy the tables into word
* either exclude them (eval=FALSE) in the code chunk header
* use .pdf.

## YAMLs

You will see some files with a .yml extension. These stand for yet another markup language.

Open the \_output.yml and \_bookdown.yml.

The \_output.yml controls the settings for each outputted format.

The \_bookdown.yml controls the order in which the files are made into chapters - you can also change the Chapter title if you wish here.

I have set these up to create nice outputs, so there is really no need to change anything, unless you want to add a new chapter and include it in the list. To do so, simply create a new Rmarkdown document, delete all the default content, add a first level heading, and the then add it to where you want it to appear in the document in the \_bookdown.yml.

## Formatting

You’ll notice in the \_output.yml that the various formats (html (or gitbook) and pdf) are calling styling codes. The gitbook calls style.css and the pdf\_book calls preamble.tex. These files just style the various outputs.

I have copied in a basic styling with a CASA logo in the table of contents, you can replace this with other variations of the file if you wish or look at the [minimal bookdown example](https://github.com/rstudio/bookdown-demo) or my [CASA0005 .css file](https://github.com/andrewmaclachlan/CASA0005repo/blob/master/assets/style.css).

The best place to learn more about styling is the [RStudio for education bookdown guide](https://rstudio4edu.github.io/rstudio4edu-book/intro-bookdown.html)

For the .pdf version in the preamble.tex we have to use LaTex code. I am by no means an expert in this. If you Google each package it will tell you what it does. There isn’t much here really, but all the header stuff refers to the headings at the top of each page.

## Index file

Open up the index.Rmd this Rmd must be called first in the \_bookdown.yml list. There are a number of options here, but i’ve set them all up to be compliant with the CASA thesis requirements.

You will need to change your title and name etc. Make sure you leave the a space here: | Andrew MacLachlan this won’t work |Andrew MacLachlan

If you were to be printing your work, you’d want to change the classoption to twosides and make sure the geometry margins were correct. linestrech refers to the line spacing and the bibliography stuff we come on to later.

Input your GitHub repo and add a description.

If you ever wanted to just create a report and not a thesis you can change the documentclass to other options such report, article or letter

## Preamble

Open the preable.Rmd and you will see all the sections that are required before the main text (e.g. Abstract, Declaration and so on). At the top of the page i’ve used a code chunk set to LaTex, saying to use Roman numbering as we don’t want page 1 to be the Abstract, we want it to be the first page of the Introduction. There are two conditions for each of the sections that state if output to HTML (gitbook) then do this, if output to LaTex then do this. This is the only place we have this. In our bookdown HTML we want to be able to click these sections, but in our LaTex .pdf we don’t want them to appear in the table of contents. This is what this code is doing.

If you look back in the \_output.yml you’ll also see the toc (table of contents) is set to false. By default this appears right after the title, but we want this to come after our preable.Rmd. You’ll see that i’ve called \tableofcontents, \listoffigures and \listoftables in the correct place again using a LaTex code chunk. These aren’t required for the bookdown output.

The last section here is the abbreviations. To make this really easy, i’ve created an excel document to add them into. The code here will load that and then use the kable package to make a table. More on this later.I’ve also done the same for the research log in the appendix — excel sheet called research\_log.

## Change this to a thesis

Easy. Just change all the titles to what you want (e.g. Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Discussion, Conclusion). Some of the latter .Rmds (Discussion etc) are ready to go!

## Adding a pdf to the end of your document

If you wish to add another .pdf as an Appendix (in your .pdf) then again we need a bit of LaTex code

\includepdf[pages={-}]{mypdf.pdf}

If you look in the 08-Appendix.Rmd then you will see another if LaTex section, simply add in the line of code above, replacing mypdf.pdf with your pdf title in the main project folder. It will then be appended to the thesis. Of course, this isn’t required in the online book, but you just link to them on GitHub or embed .pdfs using:

Of course you’d need a condition around this like in the preamble.Rmd but a link is fine. I embedded a .pdf in [the assignment resources of CASA0005](https://andrewmaclachlan.github.io/CASA0005repo/assignment-resources-1.html)

## Writing code

Use one project for your thesis and another for your analysis. Don’t try and do it all in a thesis project. You can set your output folder from your main analysis project to the thesis project and then easily load the figures in.

# Cross referencing

## Chapters or sections

Always give you sections an additional reference…e.g. # Cross referencing {#crossref} This gives us two reference points. The first we can use to reference the section name…

1. We want to say see the Introduction (or other section label)we use …[Cross referencing] giving [Cross referencing](#crossref)

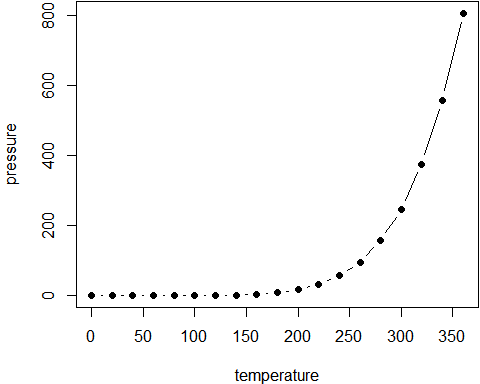
But what if we want to reference the section number (e.g. Chapter 1 or section 4.2)

1. Just reference the label we gave to the section….see Chapter \@ref(crossref) giving see Chapter @ref(crossref)

## Figures, tables, even code chunks

### Figures

When you create a figure, table or code chunk there is an option to name the chunk something. Do it!. Don’t be like me and not! Be warned that these chunk names can’t have any fancy or strange characters in them e.g. \_. I think a - is allowed, but i’d keep it simple. Here is a figure. In the chunk options after r i have specified nice-fig, echo=FALSE, fig.cap='Here is a nice figure!', out.width='80%'

 To cross reference this just include Figure \@ref(fig:nice-fig) which gives…Figure @ref(fig:nice-fig).

### Tables

For tables i’d recommend using the kable package. Here is an example table, same deal as the [Figures](#figures) section with naming the code chunk.

knitr::kable(  
 head(iris, 20), caption = 'Here is a nice table!',  
 booktabs = TRUE  
)

Here is a nice table!

Sepal.Length

Sepal.Width

Petal.Length

Petal.Width

Species

5.1

3.5

1.4

0.2

setosa

4.9

3.0

1.4

0.2

setosa

4.7

3.2

1.3

0.2

setosa

4.6

3.1

1.5

0.2

setosa

5.0

3.6

1.4

0.2

setosa

5.4

3.9

1.7

0.4

setosa

4.6

3.4

1.4

0.3

setosa

5.0

3.4

1.5

0.2

setosa

4.4

2.9

1.4

0.2

setosa

4.9

3.1

1.5

0.1

setosa

5.4

3.7

1.5

0.2

setosa

4.8

3.4

1.6

0.2

setosa

4.8

3.0

1.4

0.1

setosa

4.3

3.0

1.1

0.1

setosa

5.8

4.0

1.2

0.2

setosa

5.7

4.4

1.5

0.4

setosa

5.4

3.9

1.3

0.4

setosa

5.1

3.5

1.4

0.3

setosa

5.7

3.8

1.7

0.3

setosa

5.1

3.8

1.5

0.3

setosa

Now to cite the table it’s just Table \@ref(tab:nice-tab), giving Table @ref(tab:nice-tab)

## Citing documents

To cite documents they need to be in a .bib file, that must be loaded within your index.Rmd. Have a look at my index.Rmd and you will see there are three such files, two that were provided as an example here book.bib, packages.bib and one that i added test.bib. I can simply cite the papers within them using the citation key e.g. [@xie2015] giving ([Xie 2015](#ref-xie2015)). Make sure you remove the ones you don’t need.

If you remove the citation from the [] it will give [Xie](#ref-xie2015) ([2015](#ref-xie2015)).

When citing multiple authors use a ; [@xie2015; @maclachlan2017urban] = ([Xie 2015](#ref-xie2015); [MacLachlan et al. 2017](#ref-maclachlan2017urban))

To remove the author add a minus sign -@maclachlan2017urban = ([2017](#ref-maclachlan2017urban))

## Citing using software

Zotero can now continuously update your .bib file.

To do so:

1. Download the latest release — the .xpi file: <https://github.com/retorquere/zotero-better-bibtex/releases/tag/v5.2.108>
2. In Zotero > Tools > Add ons > Extensions
3. Select the cog > Install add on from file
4. Select the .xip > restart Zotero.

On the restart select the default naming convention.

To export the library

1. File > export
2. Select Better BibLaTex
3. Click keep updated
4. Select the file to save into your Thesis project
5. Make sure you have the file listed in your bibliography in the index.Rmd file

You can also manage references using citr which makes finding them to cite much easier. In RStudio go: Addins (top tool bar) > insert citations.

## Footnotes

To add a footnote use ^[This is a footnote] to create.[[1]](#footnote-44)

# Equations and direct quotes

This section will focus on equations and direct quotes

## Equations

You need to include equations with some LaTeX. The easiest way to do this is to use an online tool such as: <https://latex.codecogs.com/eqneditor/editor.php>. It can be a real pain to get these right, but once you’ve worked it out it will be much easier than dealing with word equation editor.

To reference this in the text we use: @ref(eq:test)

You can also test your code in your RMarkdown document using $ e.g.

However, this won’t generate an equation number and you can’t cross reference it. But we can use this logic to define the parameters within the equation e.g. where is Plank’s constant,

$$ puts it on a new line, single $ keeps it on the same line (in the text)

## Block quotes (or direct quotes)

You may wish to quote a large section from a source, to do this use a block quote.

Simply input a > before the text. For example > This is a quote.

“This is a direct quote”

You can also provide an attribution at the footer of the quote using tufte::quote\_footer(), either a name or a reference. You’ll need to install the tufte package to use this. For example, > [include only r here] tufte::quote\_footer('--- Joe Martin') or > [include only r here] tufte::quote\_footer('--- @xie2015')

Giving…

— Joe Martin

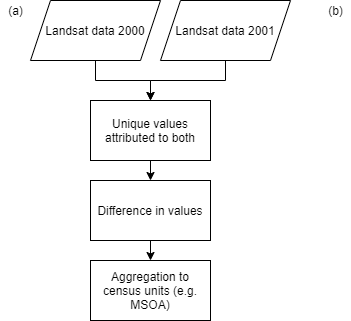
— [Xie](#ref-xie2015) ([2015](#ref-xie2015))

Instead you could just include the reference at the end of the quote, using the same method to reference as we’ve seen before..e.g. > "This is a direct quote" @xie2015, Equation \@ref(eq:test)…giving

“This is a direct quote” [Xie](#ref-xie2015) ([2015](#ref-xie2015)) @ref(eq:test)

# Figures, tables, hosting GitBook

This section is going to focus including figures and creating tables



Summary of methdological procedure for (a)…. and (b)….

1. Lucidchart
2. Draw.io

# Discussion

Short introduction to the chapter, reviewing the previous chapter and detailing what this one aims to achieve and build upon.

## Research significance

### Global development goals

### Local policy

### Academic research

## Limitations

## Transferability

# Conclusion

Short introduction to the chapter, reviewing the previous chapter and detailing what this one aims to achieve and build upon.

## Recommedations

1. Adapt policy x
2. Undertake data informed targeted greening
3. Further work into this area

# Appendix A Research log

## subsection

### sub sub section

Date

Task

31st May 2020

data search, commenced literature review

7th June 2020

revised literature in the direction of x

MacLachlan, Andrew, Eloise Biggs, Gareth Roberts, and Bryan Boruff. 2017. “Urban Growth Dynamics in Perth, Western Australia: Using Applied Remote Sensing for Sustainable Future Planning.” *Land* 6 (1): 9.

Xie, Yihui. 2015. *Dynamic Documents with R and Knitr*. 2nd ed. Boca Raton, Florida: Chapman; Hall/CRC. <http://yihui.name/knitr/>.

1. This is a footnote [↑](#footnote-ref-44)