

Dynamic Documents For Your Research Workflow

Fernando Hoces de la Guardia
BITSS

-

Slides at <https://goo.gl/cf3w1Y>

World Bank Workshop, January 2018

Dynamic Documents For Computational Reproducibility

One Type of Dynamic Document: R Markdown

Practical Exercise #1

Practical Exercise #2

Final Remarks & More Resources

Dynamic Documents For Computational Reproducibility

Dynamic Documents For Computational Reproducibility

- ▶ Based on principles of *literate programming* aims at combining code and paper in one single document
- ▶ Best framework to achieve the holy grail of **one-click reproducible workflow**
- ▶ Best two current implementations: RMarkdown (R) & Jupyter (Python). Stata is catching up (more at the end)

Currently code and narrative components live in separate universes



Dynamic Documents: integrate the two universes!

Paper + Code



Dynamic Documents: A Recipe


- ▶ 1 simple language that can combine text and code: Markdown
- ▶ 1 statistical package to do the analysis (R, Python, 3S's?)
- ▶ 1 machinery to combine analysis and text to create a single output: Pandoc
- ▶ [Optional-but-not-really] 1 program to bring all the elements together: RStudio/RMarkdown, Jupyter

Markdown language/syntax in 60 seconds

syntax

Plain text
End a line with two spaces to start a new paragraph.
italics and `_italics_`
****bold**** and `__bold__`
superscript²
~~~~strikethrough~~~~  
[\[link\]\(www.rstudio.com\)](http://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):

## becomes

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](http://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: 



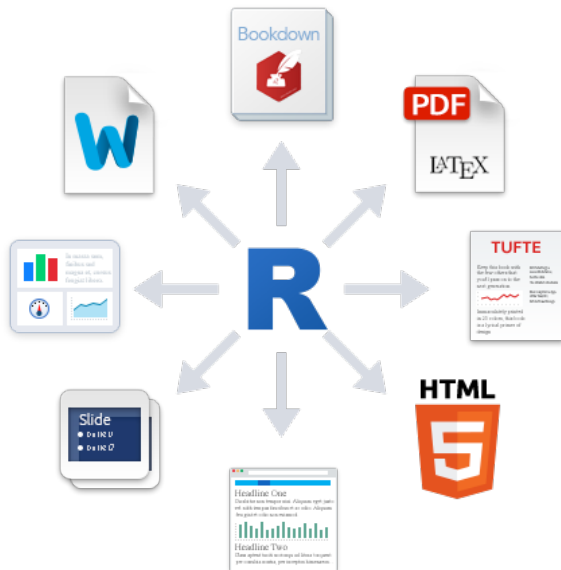
One Type of Dynamic Document: R Markdown

## For our exercise: R Markdown

- ▶ R: **open source** programming language design for statistical analysis.
- ▶ RStudio: free software that provides an Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
- ▶ RStudio combines all together: R + Markdown + Pandoc to produce multiple outputs



# R Markdown



# Basic Structure

- ▶ A header
- ▶ Text
- ▶ Code: inline and chunks

## Basic Structure: Header

```
---  
title: "Sample Paper"  
author: "Fernando Hoces de la Guardia"  
output: html_document  
---
```

# Basic Structure: Body of Text

```
---  
header
```

This is where you write your paper. Nothing much to add. You can check Markdown syntax here. And it can use can type equations using LaTeX syntax!

## Basic Structure: Code Chunks and Inline

```
---  
header  
---
```

Body of text.

To begin a piece of code (“code chunk”). Enclose them in the following expression (Ctrl/Cmd + shift/optn + i)

```
`r`{r, eval=TRUE}  
here goes the code  
`r`
```

To write inline use only one Backtick to open followed by an “r” and one to close ``r 1+1`` in the output.

## Practical Exercise #1



## Hands-on exercise: the birthday problem!

As an illustration let's write a report using the participants in this workshop to illustrate the famous birthday problem.

*What is the probability that at least two people in this room share the same birthday?*

*Is it something like  $\frac{1}{365} \times N = 0.11$ ?*

# Create a new RMarkdown File

- 1 - In RStudio: File-> New File -> RMarkdown...
- 2 - Name it, and save it.
- 3 - Review/edit the header, and delete all the default body of text except for one code chunk.
- 4 - Define a seed (`set.seed = 1234` and number of people in the room (`n.pers = ?`))

## The birthday problem: the math

Actually the math says otherwise:

$$\begin{aligned}1 - \bar{p}(n) &= 1 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \times \left(1 - \frac{2}{365}\right) \times \cdots \times \left(1 - \frac{n-1}{365}\right) \\&= \frac{365 \times 364 \times \cdots \times (365 - n + 1)}{365^n} \\&= \frac{365!}{365^n(365 - n)!} = \frac{n! \cdot \binom{365}{n}}{365^n}\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

$$p(n = 40) = 0.891$$

## Code for the math (<https://goo.gl/cf3w1Y>)

Don't look at this: just copy and paste into your report

```
\begin{align}
1 - \bar{p}(n) &= 1 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \\
&\times \left(1 - \frac{2}{365}\right) \times \cdots \\
&\times \left(1 - \frac{n-1}{365}\right) \quad \text{\nonumber} \\
&= \frac{365 \times 364 \times \cdots \times (365-n+1)}{365^n} \quad \text{\nonumber} \\
&= \frac{365!}{365^n (365-n)!} = \\
&\quad \frac{n! \cdot \binom{365}{n}}{365^n} \\
p(n = \text{\texttt{r n.pers}}) &= \text{\texttt{r}} \\
&\text{round}(1 - \text{factorial}(n.\text{pers}) * \\
&\quad \text{choose}(365, n.\text{pers}) / 365^{n.\text{pers}}, 3) \\
&\text{\nonumber} \\
\end{align}
```

## Don't like math? Let's run a simple simulation!

- 1 - Simulate 10,000 rooms with  $n = 40$  random birthdays, and store the results in matrix where each row represents a room.
- 2 - For each room (row) compute the number of unique birthdays.
- 3 - Compute the average number of times a room has 40 unique birthdays, across 10,000 simulations, and report the complement.

## Code for the simulation (<https://goo.gl/cf3w1Y>)

```
birthday.prob = function(n.pers, n.sims) {  
  # simulate birthdays  
  birthdays = matrix(round(runif(n.pers * n.sims,  
                                1, 365)),  
                      nrow = n.sims, ncol = n.pers)  
  # for each room (row) get unique birthdays  
  unique.birthdays = apply(birthdays, 1, unique)  
  # Indicator with 1 if all are unique birthdays  
  all.different = (lapply(unique.birthdays,  
                           length) == n.pers)  
  # Compute average time all have different birthdays  
  result = 1 - mean(all.different)  
  return(result)  
}  
n.pers.param = 40  
n.sims.param = 1e4  
birthday.prob(n.pers.param,n.sims.param)
```

## Practical Exercise #2

## Hands-on exercise #2: DD (Diff in Diff) with DD (dynamic docs)

As an illustration lets write a report using the participants in this workshop to illustrate the famous birthday problem.

*What is the probability that at least two people this room share the same birthday?*

*Is it something like  $\frac{1}{365} \times N = 0.11$ ?*



# Results

- ▶ Many people originally think of a prob  $\sim \frac{1}{365} \times N = 0.11$
- ▶ However the true probability is of  $p(n = 40) = 0.891$
- ▶ And the simulated probability is of 0.8923

Final Remarks & More Resources

## Final Remarks & More Resources

- ▶ With DD with can achieve a one-click reproducible workflow.
- ▶ This is particularly helpful to understand/present results that are hard to digest.
- ▶ Stata just develop an internal version of DD for v15. Review [Here](#)
- ▶ More great examples [here](#)
- ▶ Want to learn more: great free books (can you guess how they were written?)