Module 4: Things to do before the seminar

Intro

The next module introduces a couple new topics that need some setting up beforehand.

In particular, the module covers how to create compelling R scripts using RMarkdown, which involves installing Knitr and some LaTex relate.

Second, the module also introduces Version Control for managing your programming projects, which involves setting up Git and GitHub.

To get started, please follow the steps in advance of the next session:

Latex software

For creating new documents from R, you will need to ensure that you have LaTex installed on your computer.

I suggest the following LaTex distributions:

- For Windows: MikTex
- For Mac: MacTex

In addition, you should also ensure that you have a PDF reader that automatically renders updates to documents.

Again, I suggest the following:

- For Windows: SumatraPDF
- For Mac: Skim PDF

Install Git

Go to the Git website, then download and install Git for your operating system.

Get a GitHub Education account

Go to this link and create a GitHub account if you haven't already, then continue on to apply for the free GitHub for education account.

When creating a GitHub account consider your username carefully. This should be something your confortable using in a professional setting.

Enable version control in RStudio

Go to **Tools - Global Options - Git/SVN** and click the "Enable version control for RStudio" so that version control is enabled.

Add RStudio SSH Key to GitHub

While you are on the page, click **Create RSA Key**. You don't need to add a passphrase, just create the key. When it is created, copy the key.

Then go to your GitHub account, click on your user icon in the top right of the screen, then click **Settings**.

From there, click **SSH and GPG Keys** and then click on **New SSH key**. Paste the key into the **Key** box — you don't need to add a title. Click on **Add SSH key** to finish adding the RStudio key.