

4. Don't repeat yourself (or others).

- (a) Every piece of data must have a single authoritative representation in the system.
- (b) Modularize code rather than copying and pasting.
- (c) Re-use code instead of rewriting it.

5. Plan for mistakes.

- (a) Add assertions to programs to check their operation.
- (b) Use an off-the-shelf unit testing library.
- (c) Turn bugs into test cases.
- (d) Use a symbolic debugger.

6. Optimize software only after it works correctly.

- (a) Use a profiler to identify bottlenecks.
- (b) Write code in the highest-level language possible.

7. Document design and purpose, not mechanics.

- (a) Document interfaces and reasons, not implementations.
- (b) Refactor code in preference to explaining how it works.
- (c) Embed the documentation for a piece of software in that software.

Wilson et al., 2014)

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# Testing

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- ❖ Wikipedia reports that in 2002, NIST study found that software budge cost the US economy 59.5 billion annually

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# Testing

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- ❖ Top 12 Reasons to Write Unit Tests - Burke and Coyner (Java programmers)
- ❖ <http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2003/04/02/javaxpckbk.html>
- ❖ Tests reduce bugs in new features
- ❖ Tests reduce bugs in existing features
- ❖ Tests defend against other programmers
- ❖ Testing forces you to slow down and think
- ❖ Testing makes development faster
- ❖ Tests reduce fear

Also notes their excuse list: “my code is too simple for tests”, “writing tests is too hard” , “I don’t have time”



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# Testing

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- ❖ Types of testing

- ❖ **DESIGN**

- ❖ Does the code perform the functions that you want it to
    - ❖ Code specification - write out what you want the code to do - IN DETAIL
    - ❖ Flow charts

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# Testing

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- ❖ Types of testing
  - ❖ **IMPLEMENTATION**
  - ❖ Does the code do what you think it does
  - ❖ Tricky to do this kind of testing, since if you knew the “correct” result of the code, you won’t need the model
  - ❖ Alternative?

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# Testing

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## ❖ IMPLEMENTATION

- ❖ Give functions / code inputs where you know what the answer should be
  - ❖ run your data clean up code on “fake code” where you know what to expect
- ❖ Make sure that outputs conform to known expectations
  - ❖ conservation of mass, money, energy
  - ❖ positive / negative values
  - ❖ relative values



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# Testing

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## ❖ IMPLEMENTATION

- ❖ Developers now often use software to help them automate the testing process
- ❖ Re-uses tests - makes it efficient to repeat many tests as you develop and modify the code
- ❖ Particularly helpful when you have multiple modules (as in our mangrove example)
- ❖ This type of software is available for R, Python, C etc.
- ❖ In R, “testthat” library is my favorite

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# Error Checking

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- ❖ **A close cousin of testing is error checking**
- ❖ **Error checking are built-in features in functions/code that return a message to the user if something goes 'bad' -**
  - ❖ **often used to make sure the input data is in the format that the function requires**
  - ❖ **also used to return a message if something about the data gives an NA (e.g from a divide by zero)**



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# Testing

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- ❖ There are both “formal” (coded) and “informal” just trying things out
- ❖ Automated “formal” testing workflow
  - ❖ Design your tests
  - ❖ Code them
  - ❖ Save in a format that can easily be repeated
  - ❖ Run the same set of tests every time you make a change
- ❖ In “R” there is a library called “*testthat*” which helps you to do this

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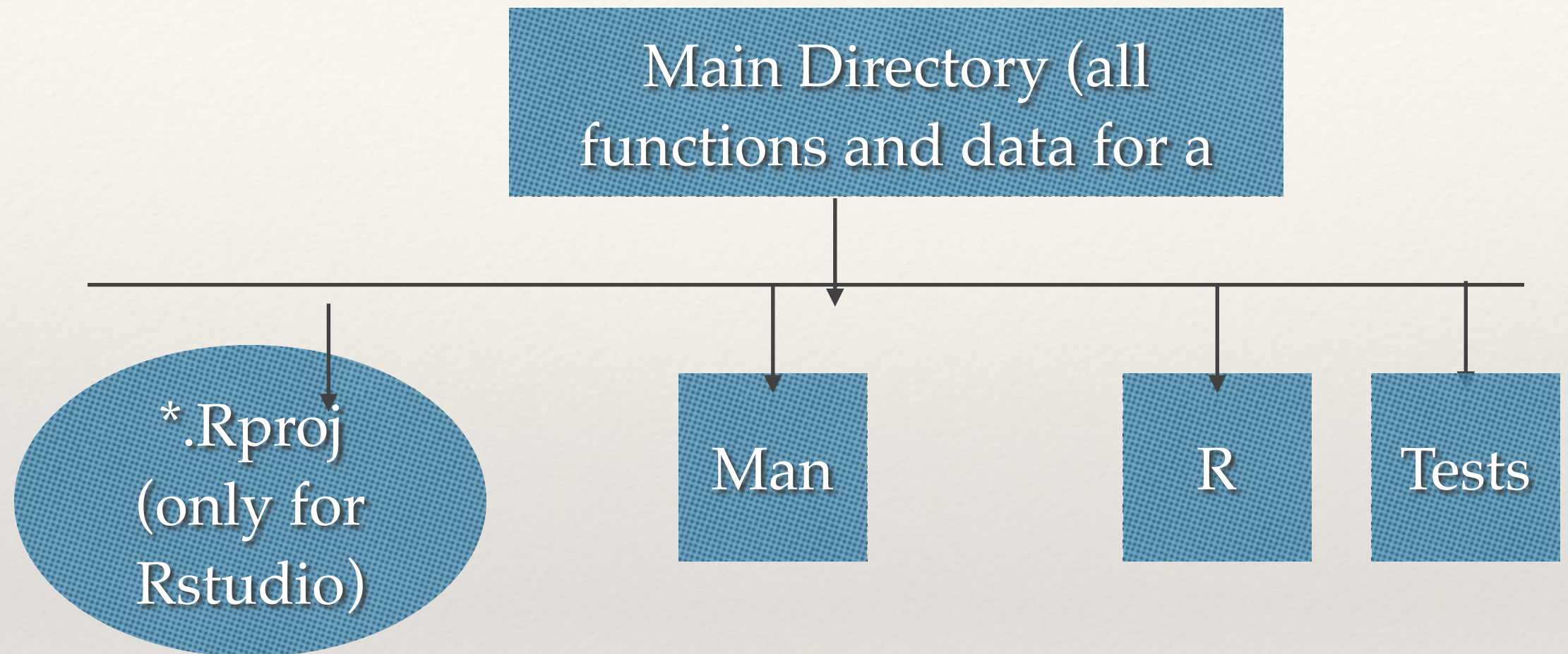
# Testing in R

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- ❖ If you are in the working directory where you've stored the files for your project you can use
  - ❖ need *devtools* and “*testthat*” libraries
- ❖ *load\_all()* :runs everything in “R” subdirectory)
- ❖ *document()* :creates documentation
- ❖ *test\_dir*(“name”) :runs all tests in the “name” subdirectory (all files beginning with the word “test”
- ❖ *test\_file*(“name”) : runs all the tests in a file called “name”



# Building Models: Packages in R





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# Testing in R

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- ❖ In R, create a new project, you will give it a directory name;
- ❖ make sure you check “create a git repository”
- ❖ load the “testthat” and “devtools” libraries
- ❖ load your climate processing function

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# Testing

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## ❖ Expectation

- ❖ tests you can use to make sure your code is working the way you think it should be working
- ❖ basically what you “expect” from your function given certain input parameters
- ❖ often used to test extreme or “bad” values or 0

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# Testing

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## ❖ Test

- ❖ a single file with multiple expectations
- ❖ one per sub-function; or section of a more complicated pieces of code
- ❖ must start with the word “test”,
  - ❖ e.g “test\_myfunction.R”

## ❖ Context

- ❖ a project
- ❖ multiple tests, stored in a directory called “tests”





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# Testing

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## ❖ Expectation

### *Functional*

- ❖ Output years should be within the range of initial years
- ❖ If we give function, climate with all zeros, mean spring P will be zero

### *Physical*

- ❖ Mean spring P should be greater than zero
- ❖ Temperatures should be between -50 and 50

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# Testing

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- ❖ **Expectation (built in)**

- ❖ *expect\_that*(function, *equals*(value))
  - ❖ *expect\_that*(function, *is\_identical\_to*(value))
- ❖ difference between *equals* and *is\_identical\_to* is that *equals* included a tolerance (really really small difference OK)
  - ❖ *expect\_that*(function, *matches*(value))
  - ❖ *expect\_that*(function, *is\_true*())
  - ❖ *expect\_that*(function, *throws\_error*(string))
- ❖ You can also write your own



`expect_that(4+7, equals(11))`

`expect_that(4+7 > 10, is_true())`

`expect_that(4+7 < 10, is_true())`

`expect_that("animal", matches("lion"))`

`expect_that((-4)**2, throws_error())`

`expect_that(sqrt(-4), throws_error())`

`expect_that(sqrt(-4), gives_warning())`

## An example test

```
clim.data = as.data.frame(cbind(month=c(1:4), day=rep(1,
times=4), year=rep(1,times=4),
rain=rep(0, times=4), tmax=c(2,2,1,1), tmin=rep(0, times=4)))
```

```
Expectation      Call to your function
expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=4)$mean.springP, equals(0))
```

Tests that function works properly by giving it zero  
rainfall

## An example test

```
test_that("spring.summary.works" ,  
{clim.data = as.data.frame(cbind(month=c(1:4), day=rep(1,  
times=4), year=rep(1,times=4),  
rain=rep(0, times=4), tmax=c(2,2,1,1), tmin=rep(0, times=4)))  
  
expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,  
spring.months=4)$mean.springP, equals(0))  
})
```

Put the expectations and test input data into a single “test” with a name that says what it does (because you may have multiple tests!)



```
test_that("spring.summary.works" ,
{clim.data = as.data.frame(cbind(month=c(1:4), day=rep(1,
times=4), year=seq(from=1,to=4),
rain=rep(0, times=4), tmax=c(2,2,1,1), tmin=rep(0, times=4)))

expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=4)$mean.springP, equals(0))
expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=4)$mean.springT, equals(1))
expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=1)$mean.springT, equals(0.5))
expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=c(1:4)$coldest.spring > 2, is.true())

})
```

put multiple expectations in the test

```
test_that("spring.summary.works" ,
{
  clim.data = as.data.frame(cbind(month=c(1:4), day=rep(1, times=4),
year=rep(1,times=4),
                                rain=rep(0, times=4), tmax=c(2,2,1,1), tmin=rep(0,
times=4)))

  expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=4)$mean.springP, equals(0))
  expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=4)$mean.springT, equals(0.5))
  expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data,
spring.months=1)$mean.springT, equals(1))
  expect_that(spring.summary(clim.data, spring.months=c(1:4))
$coldest.spring > 2, is_true())
})
```

**Error: Test failed: 'spring.summary.works'**

**Not expected: spring.summary(clim.data, spring.months = c(1:4))  
\$coldest.spring > 2 isn't true.**

# Testing

```
test_dir("tests")
...1

1. Failure(@test.climate.processing.R#9): spring.summary.works
-----
spring.summary(clim.data, spring.months = c(1:4))$coldest.spring > 2 isn't
true
test_file("tests/test.climate.processing.R")
...1

1. Failure(@test.climate.processing.R#9): spring.summary.works
-----
spring.summary(clim.data, spring.months = c(1:4))$coldest.spring > 2 isn't
true
```

Multiple test in a file called “tests/test.climate.processing.R

The name of the test file must start with “test”

This way R will know that these are tests, and can run them automatically, “test\_dir” will run all the tests in a directory



Imagine you have multiple functions as part of your analysis

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```
read.clim.data()  
spring.summary()  
pop.growth()  
ecosystem.vulnerability()  
main()
```

## Why Testing

With multiple people working on the R, code making changes...automatic testing each time a change is made is helpful

different tests tied to different functions so you know where the errors are

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# Testing workflow

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- ❖ Develop your tests after you create each module
- ❖ Run them first by sourcing in R studio (to make sure original set up works)
- ❖ Save as a file in the tests subdirectory
- ❖ After you make any changes, run all your test, using *test\_dir*
- ❖ This will also catch problems that arise when you make a change to one subroutine/submodel and it now no longer works with another one (e.g. if you change `compute_climatebased_surge` so that output is in a different format, this routine might not fail, but `adaptation_comparison` will

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# Error Checking

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- ❖ Other things to consider
  - ❖ building error checking into your sub models
    - ❖ check that input values are reasonable, if not return and error message
  - ❖ working in pairs, one person writes the code, the other tries to break it



# Error checking

```
spring.summary = function(clim.data, spring.months = c(4:6)) {  
  
  # check to make sure data is in required format  
  requiredcols = c("tmax","tmin","year","month","rain")  
  tmp = sapply(requiredcols, match, colnames(clim.data), nomatch=0)  
  if (min(tmp)==0) {  
    return("Error: Invalid Climate Input") }  
  if (min(clim.data$rain < 0)) {}  
  return("Error: Invalid Climate Input") }  
  clim.data$tavg = (clim.data$tmin + clim.data$tmax)/2.0  
  spring = subset(clim.data, clim.data$month %in% spring.months)  
  mean.springT = mean(c(spring$tmax, spring$tmin))  
  lowyear = spring$year[which.min(spring$tavg)]....
```

We can also add this to our tests

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# Testing

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- ❖ Testing levels
  - ❖ Unit testing (your individual subroutine)
  - ❖ Integration testing (testing the situations where one submodule call another)
  - ❖ Component interface or data passing testing (test format of outputs)
  - ❖ System testing (testing the whole model )
- ❖ Some of these can be done by “*testthat*” routines, but you can also have informal system testing; or write checks into your code for component interface testing