

Introduction to Shiny

LondonR Workshop November 21st 2017

**Nick Howlett** 

Data Scientist

Email: nhowlett@mango-solutions.com



### WiFi

The Cloud WiFi



### Workshop Aim

Be able to develop a simple Shiny App with standard inputs and outputs



### Outline

- A Basic Shiny app
- Defining the User Interface
- Displaying Outputs
- Reactivity
- Beyond the Basics



### Workshop resources

- R (version 3.1.2)
- RStudio
- Shiny (version 0.11)



### Workshop structure

- 2 hours
- Presentation format
- Worked examples of creating apps
- Exercises during the workshop



### What is Shiny?

 R Package for Interactive Web Apps developed by RStudio

Gives the power of R in a convenient user interface

Can be written entirely in R



### A Basic Shiny App

- A basic app requires:
  - A user interface script
  - A "Server" script
- Runs using the runApp () function



### The User Interface Script

- Defines the components of the user interface
  - Page titles
  - Input options
  - Outputs

Defines what the user will see and interact with



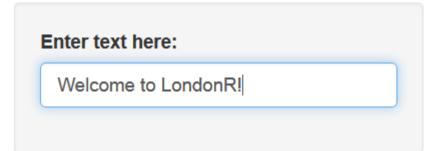
### The Server Script

- Contains the information to build the app
- Requires a call to the function **shinyServer()** 
  - Contains a function with parameter input and output
- Defines what happens in R



### Worked Example 1

### My First Shiny App!



You entered the text: Welcome to LondonR!



### Worked Example 1 - UI

```
fluidPage(
  titlePanel("My First Shiny App!"),
  sidebarLayout(
    sidebarPanel(
       textInput("myText", "Enter text here:")
    ),
    mainPanel(
       textOutput("niceTextOutput")
    )
)
```

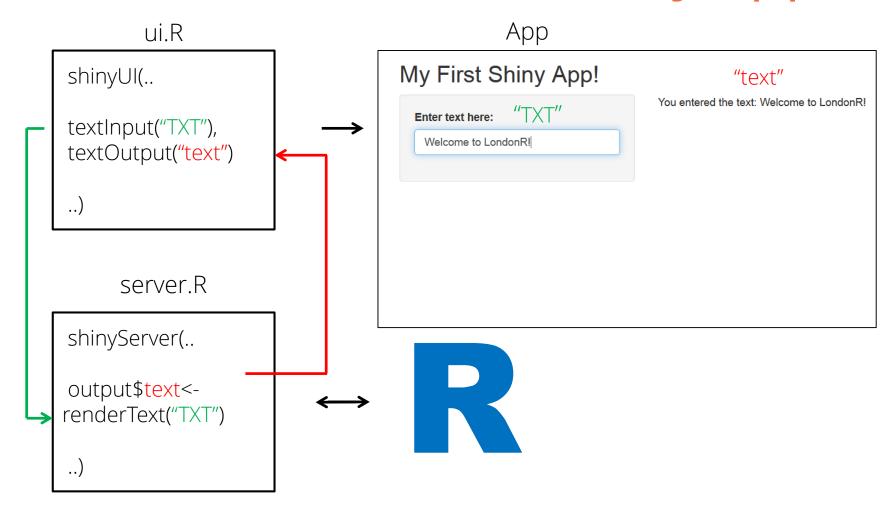


### Worked Example 1 - Server

```
function(input, output){
  output$niceTextOutput <-
renderText(paste("You entered the text:", input$myText))
}</pre>
```



### Schematic of a Basic Shiny app





### Layouts

- Example 1 used **sidebarLayout()**
- There are a number of possible layouts
- In this workshop we will only use
  - sidebarPanel()
    - Useful for ...Input() functions
  - mainPanel()
    - Useful for ..Output() functions



### Shiny Workshop UI Boiler Plate

```
fluidPage(
  titlePanel("Title Here!"),
  sidebarLayout(
    sidebarPanel(
      #INPUTS GO HERE
    mainPanel(
      #OUTPUTS GO HERE
```



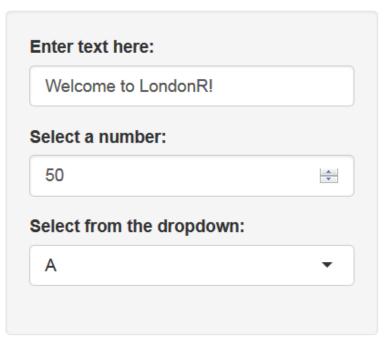
## Input Controls

| Input                     | Description  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| textInput()               | Text string input                                    |  |  |
| <pre>numericInput()</pre> | ) Numeric value input                                |  |  |
| <pre>selectInput()</pre>  | Select single or multiple values from drop down list |  |  |
| <pre>sliderInput()</pre>  | Numeric (single or range) "slider" input             |  |  |
| radioButtons()            | Set of radio button inputs                           |  |  |
| fileInput()               | File upload control                                  |  |  |



## Worked Example 2

### My First Shiny App!





### Worked Example 2 - UI



### HTML Formatting

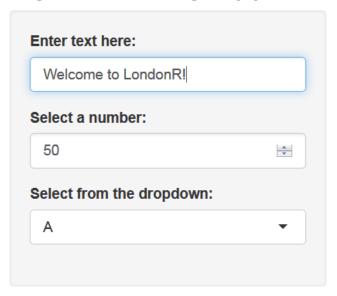
- We don't need to use HTML tags
- Shiny includes a series of equivalent functions

| Function | Usage                       |  |  |
|----------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| p()      | A paragraph of text         |  |  |
| h*()     | A level * (1, 2, 3,) header |  |  |
| code()   | A block of code             |  |  |
| img()    | An image                    |  |  |
| strong() | Bold text                   |  |  |
| em()     | Italic text                 |  |  |



## Worked Example 2

#### My First Shiny App!



#### Using HTML in Shiny

This is a paragraph of text that is included in our main panel. This text will be in bold.

You entered the text: Welcome to LondonR!

You selected the number: 50

You selected option: A



### Worked Example 2 - UI

```
mainPanel(
  h4("Using HTML in Shiny"),
  p("This is a paragraph of text that is included in our
    main panel.", strong("This text will be in bold.")),
  textOutput("niceTextOutput"),
  textOutput("niceNumberOutput"),
  textOutput("niceSelectOutput")
```



### Worked Example 2 - Server



### Exercise 1

Build a simple Shiny application that takes a date input and returns the following text:

- What day of the week is it (e.g. "Wednesday")
- What month it is (e.g. "December")
- What year it is

```
> format(Sys.Date(), "Day: %A Month: %B Year: %Y")
[1] "Day: Thursday Month: November Year: 2017"
>
```



### Exercise 1 - UI

```
require(shiny)
fluidPage(
  titlePanel("Exercise 1"), # Define the header for the page
  sidebarLayout( # Set up the page to have a sidebar
    sidebarPanel(
      # Define the contents of the sidebar
      dateInput("dateInput", label = "Select a date:")
   mainPanel(
      # Define the contents of the main panel
      textOutput("dateOutput")
```



### Exercise 1 - Server



## Defining Outputs

- So far we have just output text
- Shiny also allows us to output graphics, data and images
- We have to define the output in the UI and the Server scripts using different functions



# Rendering Outputs

| Output Type | server.R Function | ui.R Function     |  |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| Text        | renderPrint()     | textOutput()      |  |
| Data        | renderDataTable() | dataTableOutput() |  |
| Plot        | renderPlot()      | plotOutput()      |  |
| Image       | renderImage()     | imageOutput()     |  |



### Worked Example 3 - Render Data

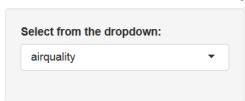
From the user interface select a dataset from a dropdown menu

Display the data in a dataTable



### Worked Example 3 - Render Data

#### Render Data in a Shiny App



| Show 25 | Show 25 entries Search: |               |               |                |    |  |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----|--|
| Ozone   |                         | <b>♦ Wind</b> | <b>♦ Temp</b> | <b>♦</b> Month |    |  |
| 41      | 190                     | 7.4           | 67            | 5              | 1  |  |
| 36      | 118                     | 8             | 72            | 5              | 2  |  |
| 12      | 149                     | 12.6          | 74            | 5              | 3  |  |
| 18      | 313                     | 11.5          | 62            | 5              | 4  |  |
|         |                         | 14.3          | 56            | 5              | 5  |  |
| 28      |                         | 14.9          | 66            | 5              | 6  |  |
| 23      | 299                     | 8.6           | 65            | 5              | 7  |  |
| 19      | 99                      | 13.8          | 59            | 5              | 8  |  |
| 8       | 19                      | 20.1          | 61            | 5              | 9  |  |
|         | 194                     | 8.6           | 69            | 5              | 10 |  |
| 7       |                         | 6.9           | 74            | 5              | 11 |  |
| 16      | 256                     | 9.7           | 69            | 5              | 12 |  |
| 11      | 290                     | 9.2           | 66            | 5              | 13 |  |
| 14      | 274                     | 10.9          | 68            | 5              | 14 |  |



## Worked Example 3 - UI

```
sidebarLayout(
  sidebarPanel(
    selectInput("selectInput", "Select from the dropdown:",
                choices = c("airquality", "iris", "mtcars"))
 mainPanel(
     dataTableOutput("dataOutput")
```



## Worked Example 3 - Server



### Worked Example 4 - Render Plots

Select a column of the mtcars data from a drop down menu

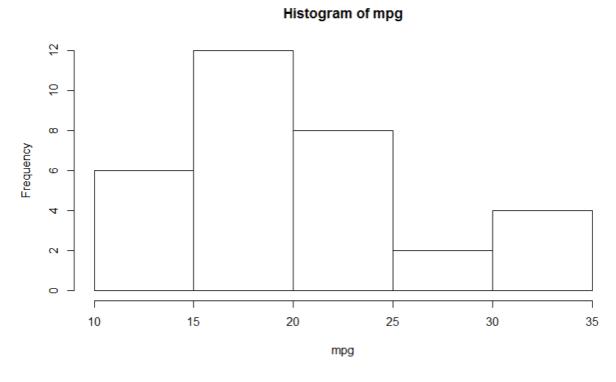
Plot a histogram of the data



### Worked Example 4 - Render Plots

#### Render Plot in a Shiny App







### Worked Example 4 - UI

```
fluidPage(
  titlePanel("My First Shiny App!"),
  sidebarLayout(
    sidebarPanel(
      selectInput("selectInput", "Select column:",
                  choices = colnames(mtcars))
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput("plotOutput")
```



### Worked Example 4 - Server



#### Exercise 2

Create a Shiny application that takes:

- A numeric value between 1 and 500
- A colour
- A main title

Use these inputs to create an output histogram of random data from any distribution where n is the numeric input



#### Exercise 2 - UI

```
fluidPage(
  titlePanel("Exercise 2 - Render Plot in a Shiny App"),
  sidebarLayout(
    sidebarPanel(
      numericInput("numberInput", "Select size of data:",
                   min = 1, max = 500, value = 100),
      selectInput("colInput", "Select a colour:",
                  choices = c("red", "yellow", "blue", "green"))
      mainPanel(
        plotOutput("plotOutput")
```



#### Exercise 2 - Server

```
shinyServer(function(input, output){
  output$plotOutput <- renderPlot(
    hist(rnorm(input$numberInput), col = input$colInput)
  )
})</pre>
```



## Reactivity

- Consider the last exercise...
  - Suppose we want to change the colour of the plot, what happens to the data?



## Reactivity

 Each time we change an option the data is simulated again

 Suppose this was reading in a large dataset, connecting to a database etc.



### The reactive () Function

This lets us create a reactive function

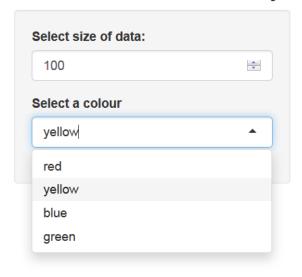
The function is only called when the relevant inputs are updated

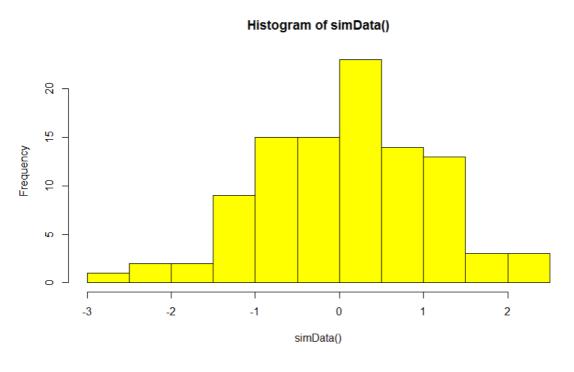
 Our data is only updated when the number of simulations is changed



# Worked Example 5

#### Render Plot in a Shiny App







# Worked Example 5 - Server

```
simData <- reactive({
    rnorm(input$numberInput)
})

output$plotOutput <-
    renderPlot(hist(simData(), col = input$colInput))</pre>
```



## Beyond the basics

- Changes to layouts
- Including tabbed pages
- Include CSS to style the page
- Incorporate Shiny and Markdown
- Share your app
- ...

All covered on our 1 day Getting Started with Shiny course



# Shiny Themes

 A new package that allows us to change the bootstrap theme

Requires Shiny v0.11

Available on CRAN

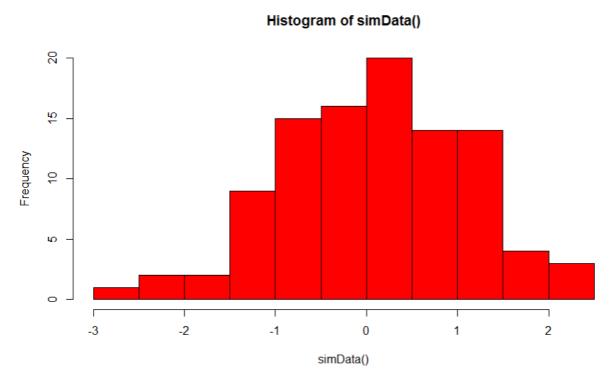
http://rstudio.github.io/shinythemes/



# Worked Example 6

#### Render Plot in a Shiny App







## Worked Example 6 - UI

```
require(shinythemes)

fluidPage(
          theme = shinytheme("cerulean"),
....
)
```



# Shiny Dashboard

 Package developed by RStudio for producing Dashboards with Shiny

• Available on github + CRAN



#### What Next?

- This evenings LondonR meeting!
- EARL 2018 keep an eye out for abstracts opening at the end of the month

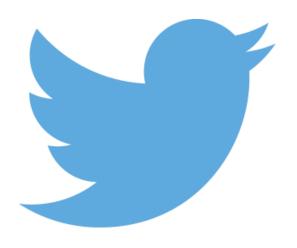


# LondonR tonight

- Dependency Elicitation using Expert
   Judgement Victory Idowu, London School of
   Economics and Political Science
- Development of Shiny app tools to simplify and standardize the analysis of hemostasis assay data Colin Longstaff, NIBSC
- Generalised linear models in R Markus Gesmann, Vario Partners



## Follow Mango!



- @mangothecat
- @earlconf

