

Introduction to Shiny

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- ▶ High level view
- ▶ Anatomy of a Shiny app
- ▶ Reactivity 101
- ▶ File structure

Google Trend Index

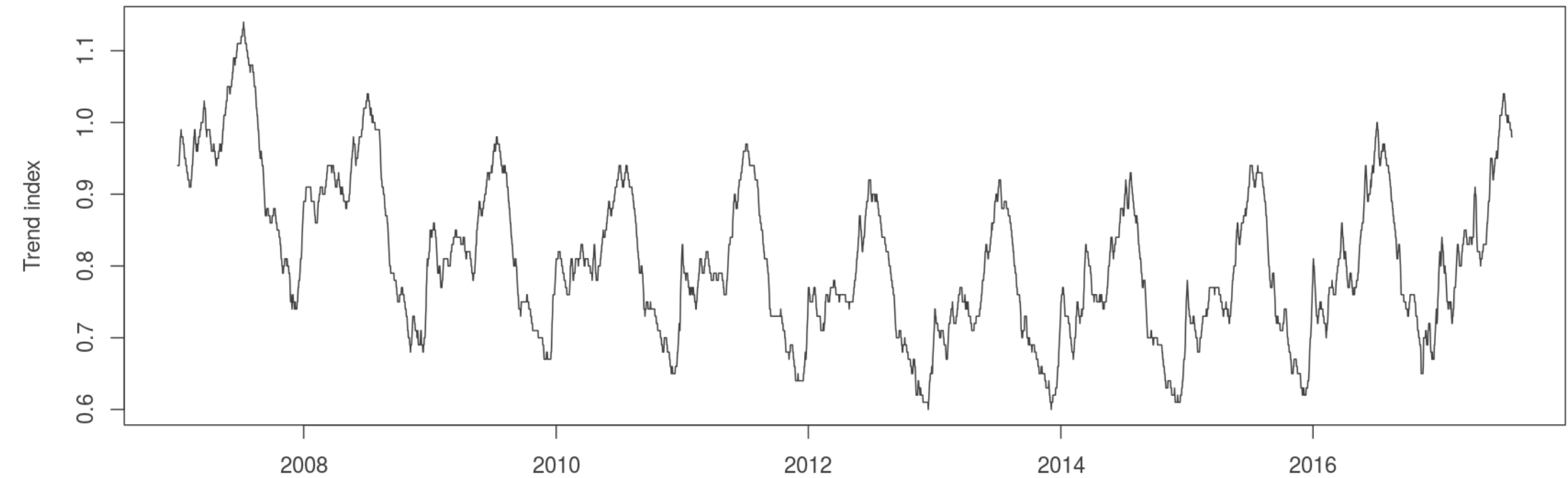
Trend index

Travel ▼

Date range

2007-01-01 to 2017-07-31

☐ **Overlay smooth trend line**



<https://gallery.shinyapps.io/120-goog-index/>

index is set to 1.0 on January 1, 2004

and is calculated only for US search traffic.

[Source: Google Domestic Trends](#)

Google Trend Index

by [Mine Cetinkaya-Rundel](#) <mine@rstudio.com>

A simple Shiny app that displays eruption data for the Google Trend Index app. Featured on the front page of the [Shiny Dev Center](#).

app.R

↑ SHOW WITH APP

```
library(shiny)
library(shinythemes)
library(dplyr)
library(readr)

# Load data
trend_data <- read_csv("data/trend_data.csv")
trend_description <- read_csv("data/trend_description.csv")

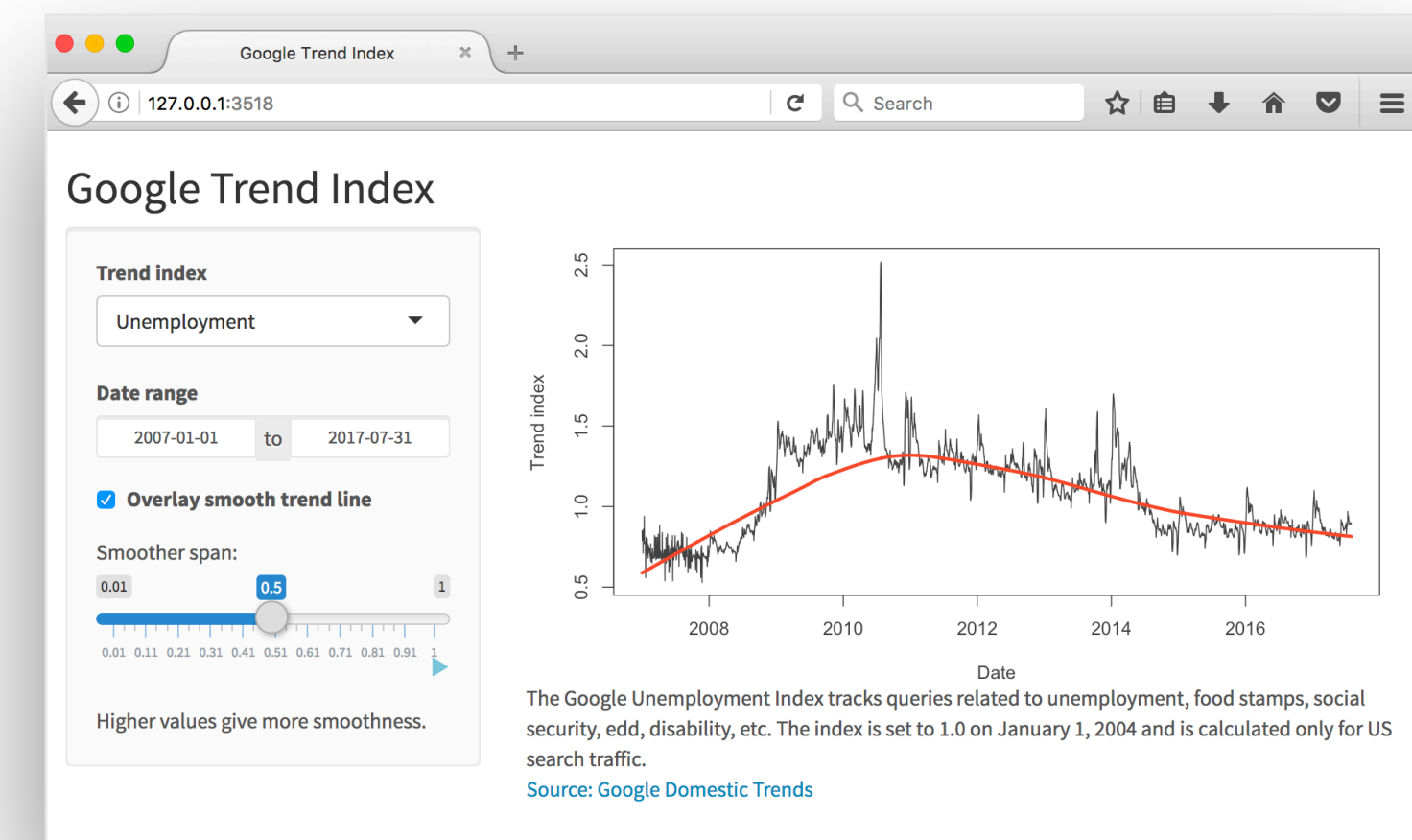
# Define UI
```

High level view

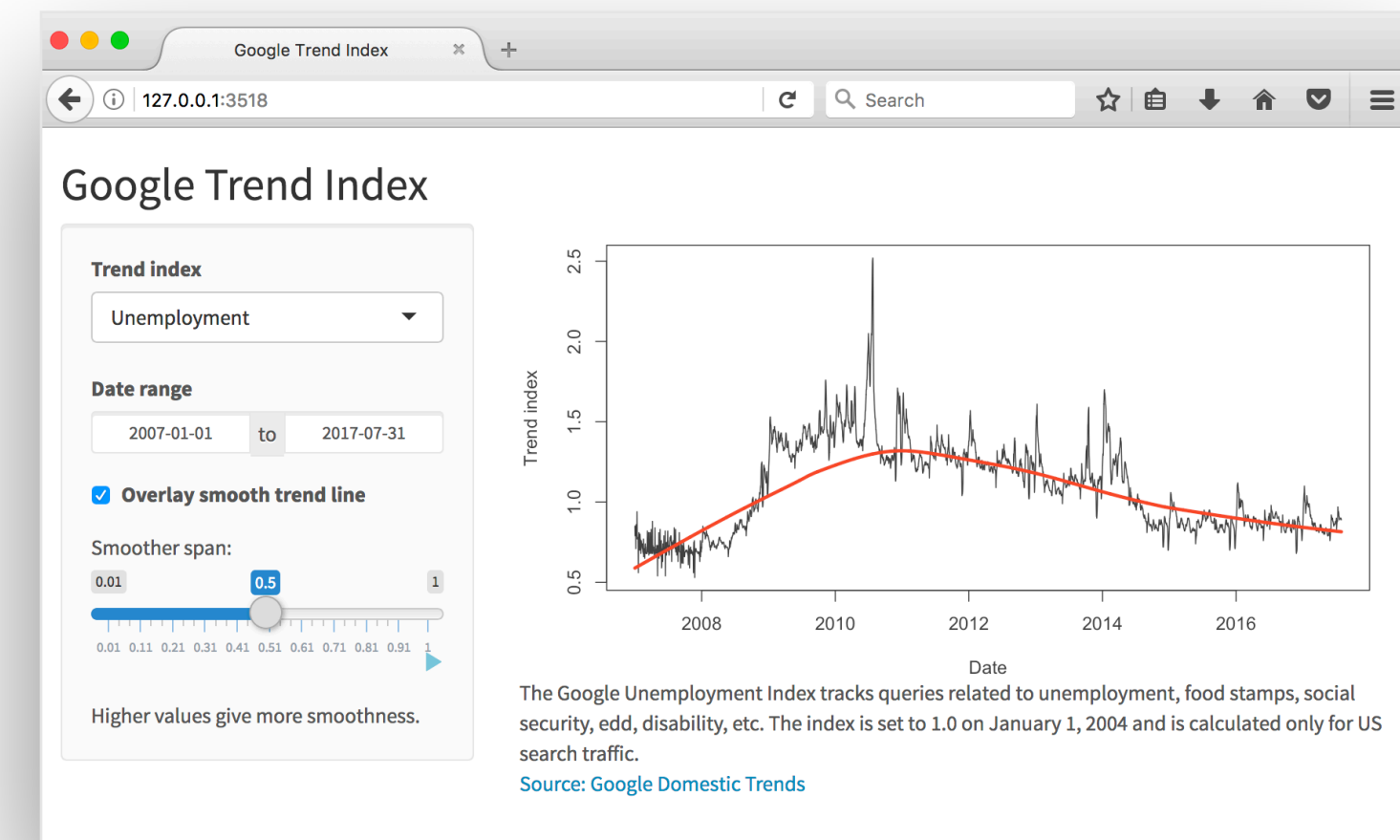
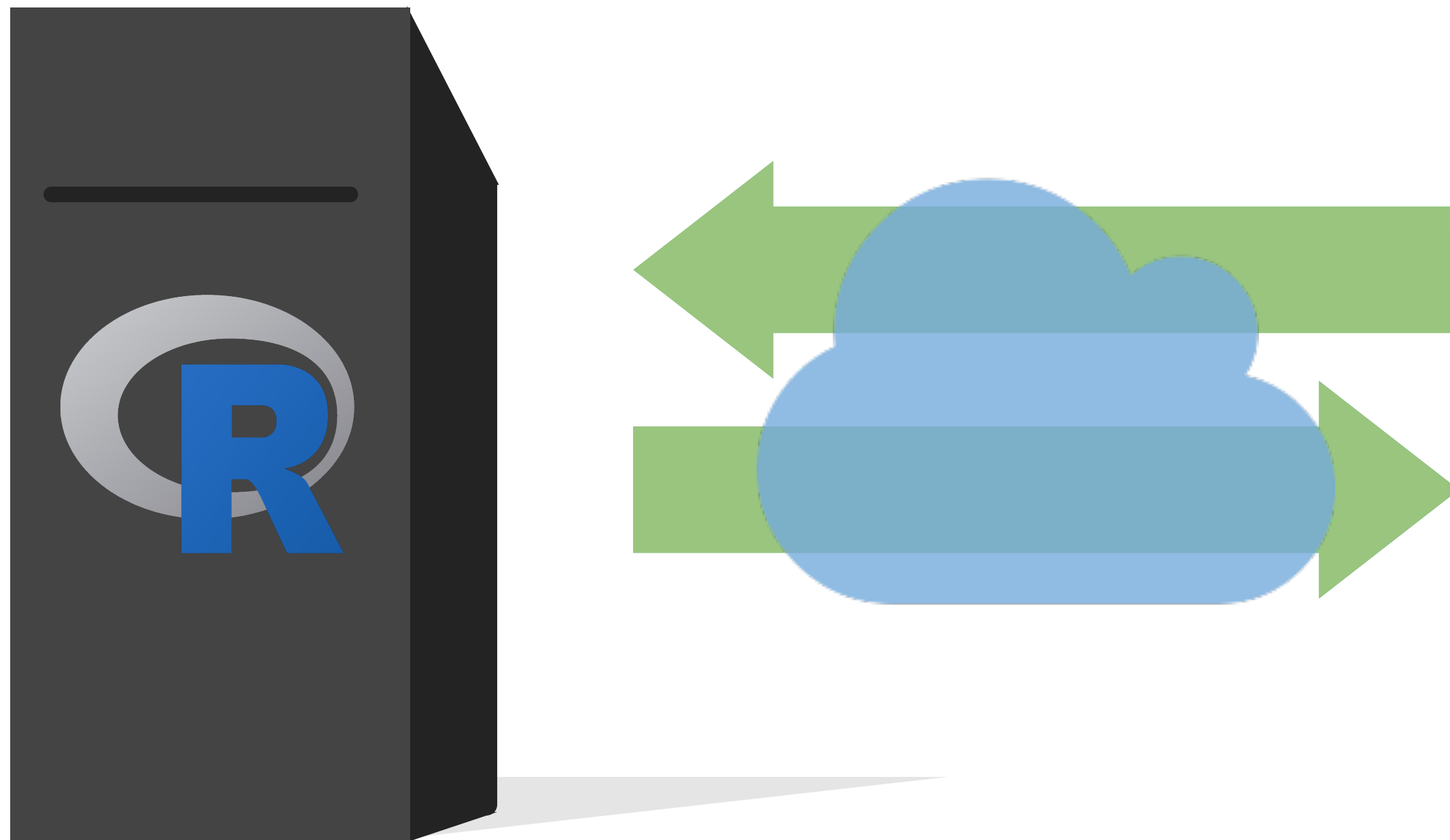
Every Shiny app has a webpage that the user visits,
and behind this webpage there is a computer
that serves this webpage by running R.

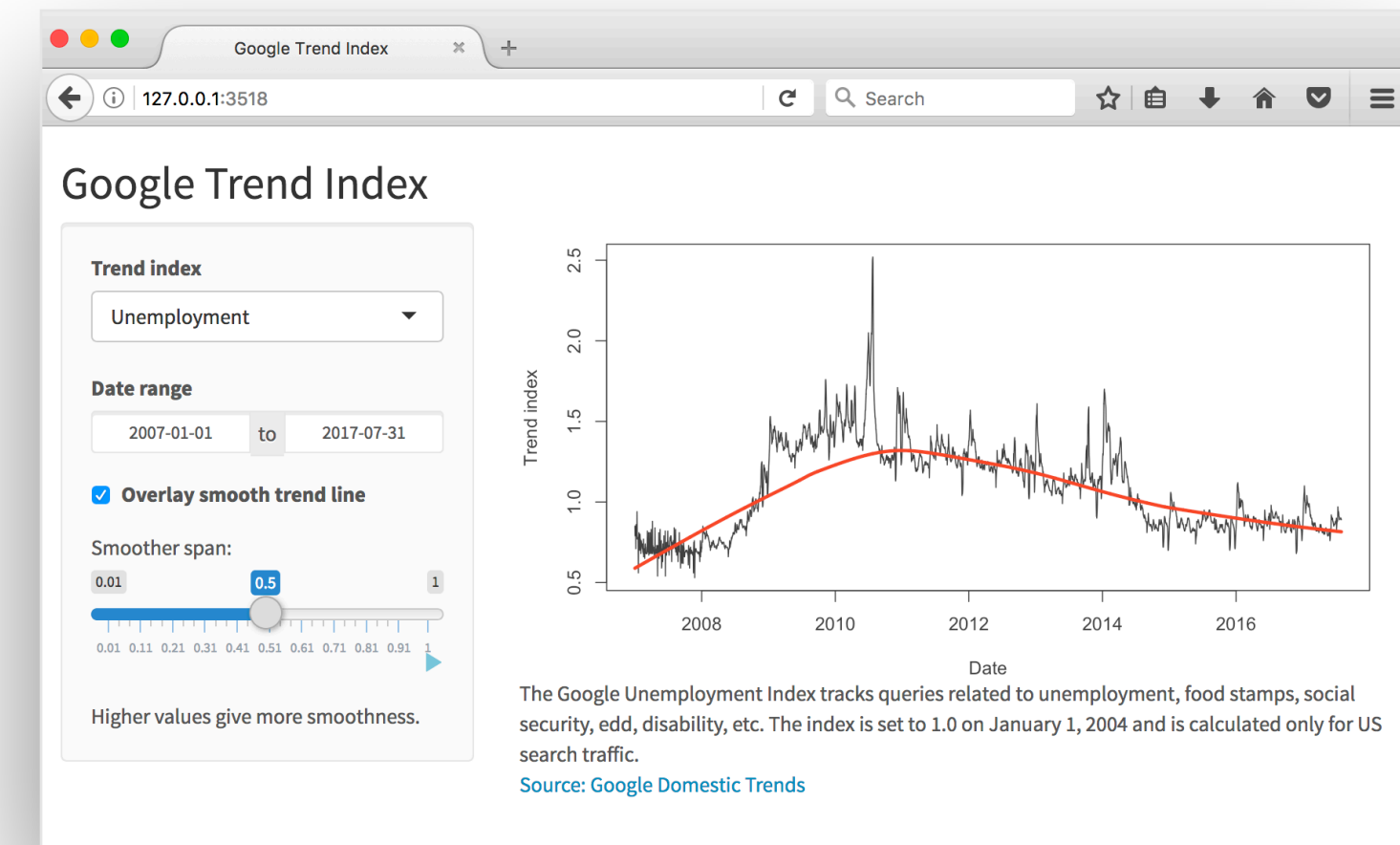
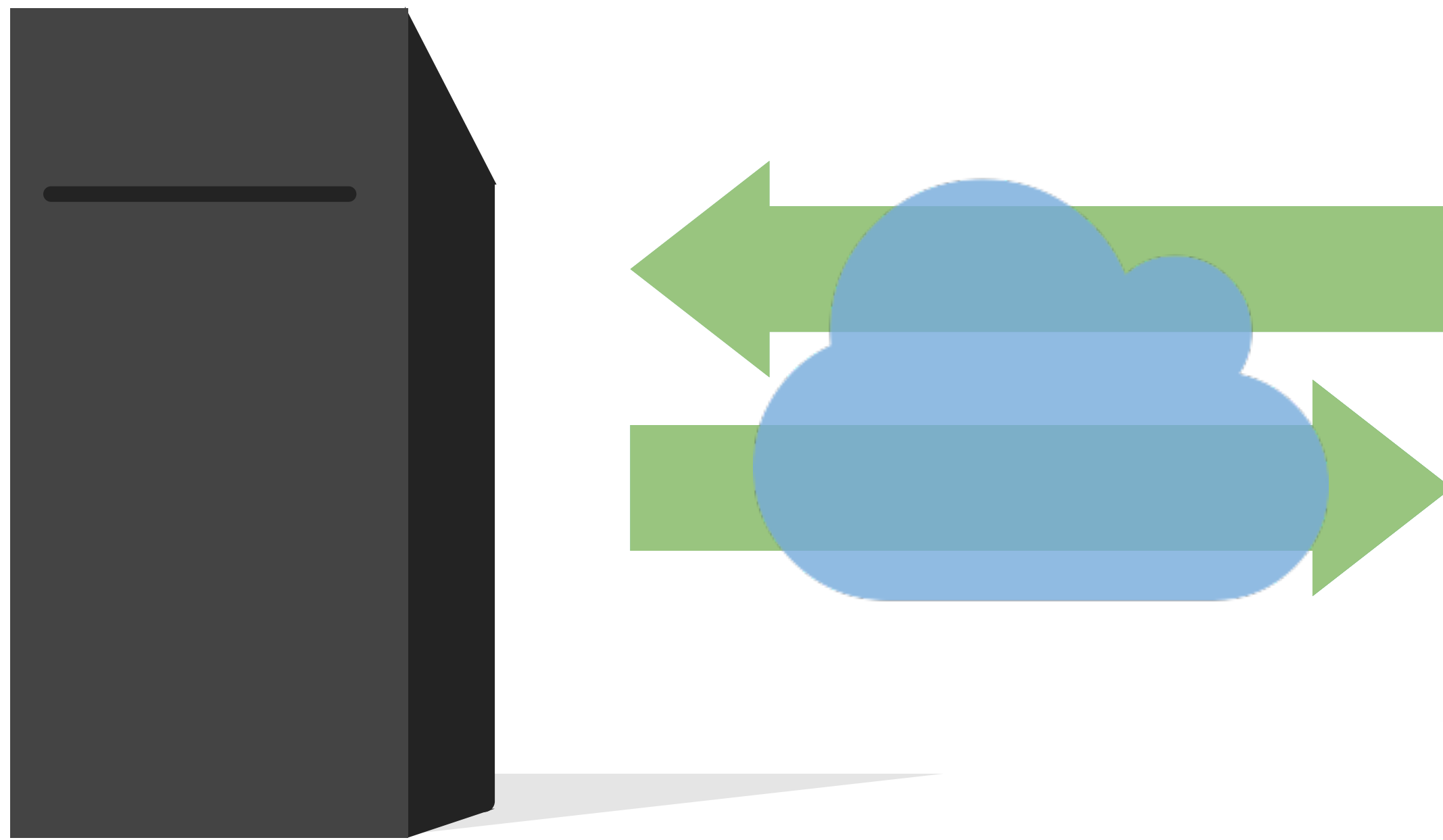


When running your app locally,
the computer serving your app is your computer.



When your app is deployed,
the computer serving your app is a web server.





Server instructions



User interface



apps/goog-index/app.R

Anatomy of a Shiny app

What's in a Shiny app?

```
library(shiny)
```

```
ui <- fluidPage()
```

User interface

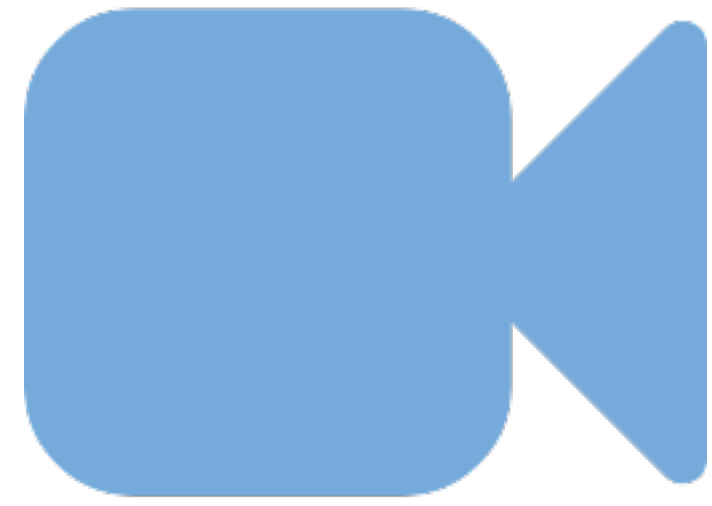
controls the layout and appearance of app

```
server <- function(input, output) {}
```

Server function

contains instructions needed to build app

```
shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```

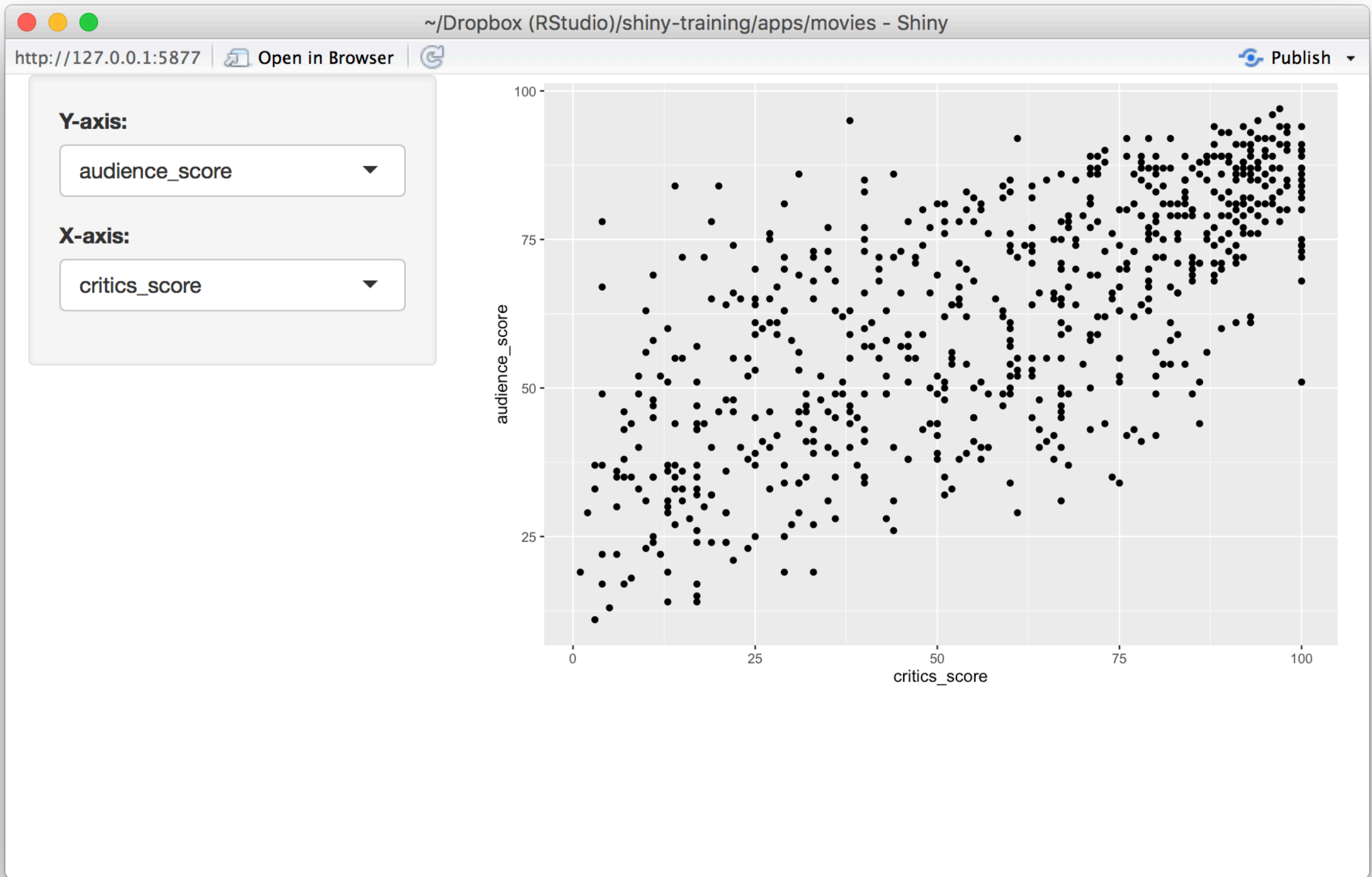


Let's build a simple movie browser app!



`data/movies.Rdata`

Data from IMDB and Rotten Tomatoes on random sample of 651 movies released in the US between 1970 and 2014



```
library(shiny)
library(ggplot2)
load("data/movies.Rdata")
ui <- fluidPage()

server <- function(input, output) {}

shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```



Dataset used for this app


```
# Define UI
ui <- fluidPage(

  # Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
  sidebarLayout(
    # Inputs: Select variables to plot
    sidebarPanel(
      # Select variable for y-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "audience_score"),
      # Select variable for x-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "critics_score")
    ),

    # Output: Show scatterplot
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
    )
  )
)
```


Create fluid page layout

```
# Define UI
ui <- fluidPage(

# Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
sidebarLayout(
  # Inputs: Select variables to plot
  sidebarPanel(
    # Select variable for y-axis
    selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",
               choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
               selected = "audience_score"),
    # Select variable for x-axis
    selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",
               choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
               selected = "critics_score")
  ),

# Output: Show scatterplot
  mainPanel(
    plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
  )
)
```

```
# Define UI
```

```
ui <- fluidPage(
```

```
# Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
```

```
  sidebarLayout(
```

```
    # Inputs: Select variables to plot
```

```
    sidebarPanel(
```

```
      # Select variable for y-axis
```

```
      selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",
```

```
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
```

```
                  selected = "audience_score"),
```

```
      # Select variable for x-axis
```

```
      selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",
```

```
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
```

```
                  selected = "critics_score")
```

```
    ),
```

```
    # Output: Show scatterplot
```

```
    mainPanel(
```

```
      plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
```

```
    )
```

```
  )
```

Create a layout with a sidebar and main area

```
# Define UI
```

```
ui <- fluidPage(
```

```
# Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
```

```
  sidebarLayout(
```

```
    # Inputs: Select variables to plot
```

```
    sidebarPanel(
```

```
      # Select variable for y-axis
```

```
      selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",  
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),  
                  selected = "audience_score"),
```

```
      # Select variable for x-axis
```

```
      selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",  
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),  
                  selected = "critics_score")
```

```
    ),
```

```
    # Output: Show scatterplot
```

```
    mainPanel(
```

```
      plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
```

```
    )
```

```
  )
```

Create a sidebar panel containing **input** controls that can in turn be passed to **sidebarLayout**

```

# Define UI
ui <- fluidPage(

  # Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
  sidebarLayout(
    # Inputs: Select variables to plot
    sidebarPanel(
      # Select variable for y-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "audience_score"),
      # Select variable for x-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "critics_score"),
    ),

    # Output: Show scatterplot
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
    )
  )

```

Y-axis:

audience_score ▼

X-axis:

critics_score ▲

imdb_rating

imdb_num_votes

critics_score

audience_score

runtime

```

# Define UI
ui <- fluidPage(

  # Sidebar layout with a input and output definitions
  sidebarLayout(
    # Inputs: Select variables to plot
    sidebarPanel(
      # Select variable for y-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "y", label = "Y-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "audience_score"),
      # Select variable for x-axis
      selectInput(inputId = "x", label = "X-axis:",
                  choices = c("imdb_rating", "imdb_num_votes", "critics_score", "audience_score", "runtime"),
                  selected = "critics_score")
    ),

    # Output: Show scatterplot
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput(outputId = "scatterplot")
    )
  )
)

```

Create a main panel containing **output** elements that get created in the server function can in turn be passed to **sidebarLayout**


```
# Define server function
server <- function(input, output) {

  # Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput function is expecting
  output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({
    ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y)) +
      geom_point()
  })
}
```

```
# Define server function
```

```
server <- function(input, output) {
```

```
# Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput function is expecting
```

```
output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({
```

```
  ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y)) +
```

```
    geom_point()
```

```
  })
```

```
}
```

Contains instructions
needed to build app


```
# Define server function
```

```
server <- function(input, output) {
```

```
  # Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput
```

```
  output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({  
    ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = input$x,  
    geom_point()  
  })
```

```
}
```

Renders a **reactive** plot that is suitable for assigning to an output slot

```
# Define server function
```

```
server <- function(input, output) {
```

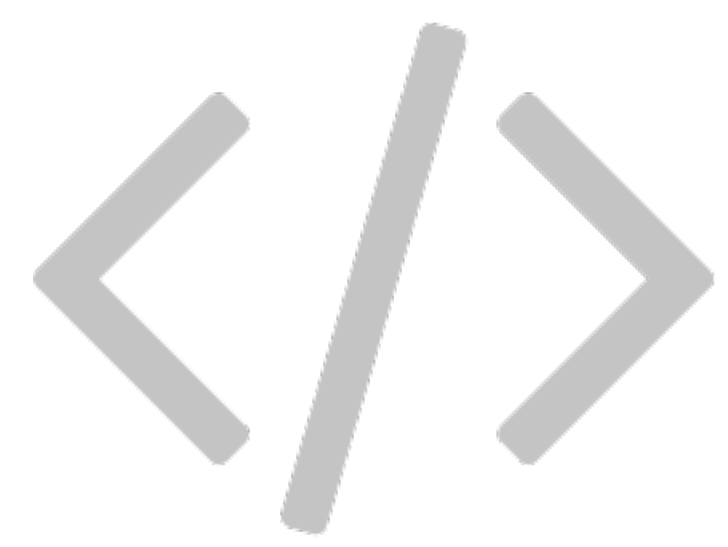
```
# Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput function is expecting
```

```
  output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({  
    ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y)) +  
      geom_point()  
  })
```

```
}
```

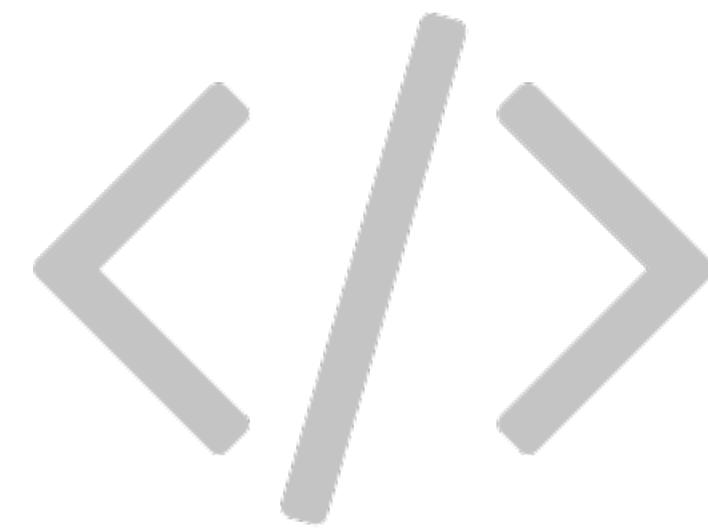
Good ol' ggplot2 code,
with **inputs** from UI


```
# Create the Shiny app object  
shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```



Putting it all together...

```
apps/movies/movies-01.R
```



Add a `sliderInput` for
alpha level of points on plot

`apps/movies/movies-02.R`

www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets/

Inputs

collect values from the user

Access the current value of an input object with **input\$<inputId>**. Input values are **reactive**.



actionButton(inputId, label, icon, ...)

Link

actionLink(inputId, label, icon, ...)

- ☒ Choice 1
- ☒ Choice 2
- ☐ Choice 3
- ☒ Check me

checkboxGroupInput(inputId, label, choices, selected, inline)

checkboxInput(inputId, label, value)

dateInput(inputId, label, value, min, max, format, startview, weekstart, language)

dateRangeInput(inputId, label, start, end, min, max, format, startview, weekstart, language, separator)

fileInput(inputId, label, multiple, accept)

numericInput(inputId, label, value, min, max, step)

passwordInput(inputId, label, value)

☒ Choice A
☐ Choice B
☐ Choice C

radioButtons(inputId, label, choices, selected, inline)

Choice 1 | ▲
Choice 1
Choice 2

selectInput(inputId, label, choices, selected, multiple, selectize, width, size) (also **selectizeInput()**)

0 5 10
0 2 4 6 8 10

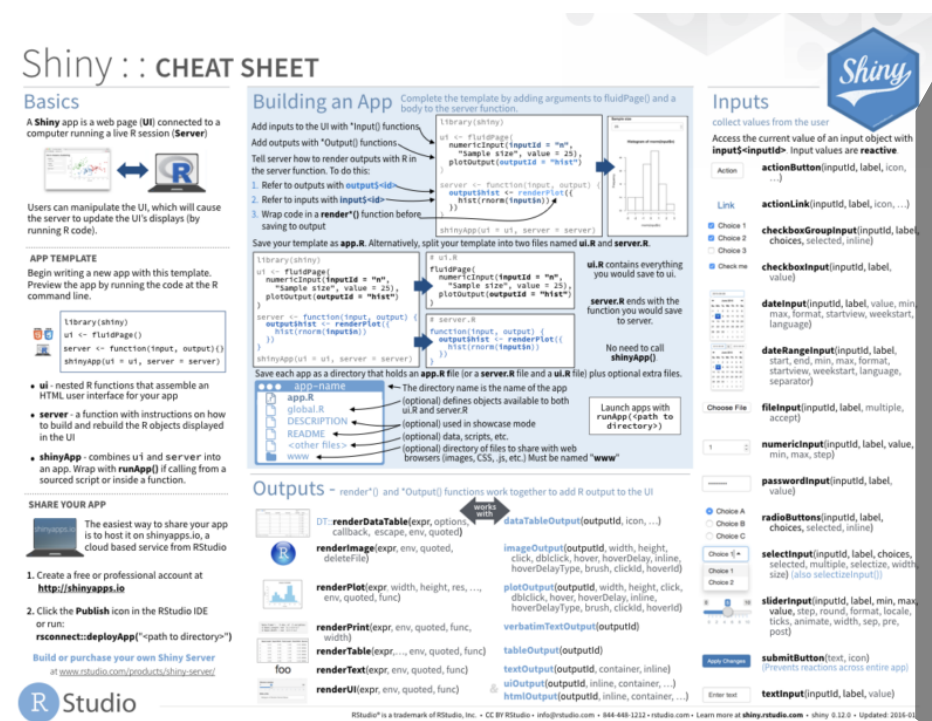
sliderInput(inputId, label, min, max, value, step, round, format, locale, ticks, animate, width, sep, pre, post)

Apply Changes

submitButton(text, icon)
(Prevents reactions across entire app)

Enter text

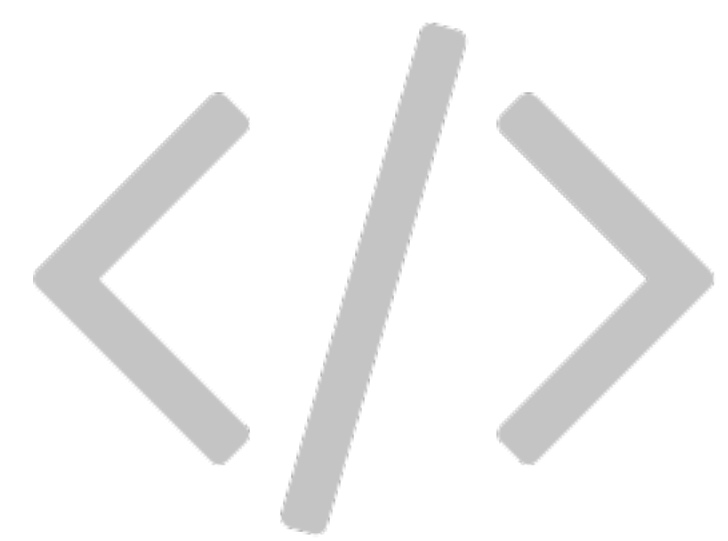
textInput(inputId, label, value)





Add a new widget
to color the points by another variable

`apps/movies/movies-03.R`

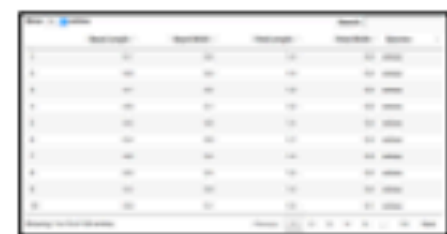


Display data frame
if box is checked

apps/movies/movies-04.R

Outputs

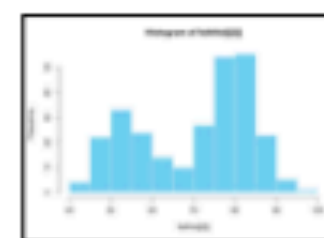
Outputs – `render*()` and `*Output()` functions work together to add R output to the UI



DT::renderDataTable(expr, options, callback, escape, env, quoted)



renderImage(expr, env, quoted, deleteFile)



renderPlot(expr, width, height, res, ..., env, quoted, func)

```
'data.frame': 3 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ Sepal.Length: num  5.1 4.9 4.7
 $ Sepal.Width : num  3.5 3 3.2
```

renderPrint(expr, env, quoted, func, width)

| 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 |
| 5.0 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 0.2 | setosa |
| 5.4 | 3.7 | 1.6 | 0.4 | setosa |
| 5.2 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 0.3 | setosa |

foo

renderTable(expr,..., env, quoted, func)

renderText(expr, env, quoted, func)

renderUI(expr, env, quoted, func)



dataTableOutput(outputId, icon, ...)

imageOutput(outputId, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, hoverDelay, inline, hoverDelayType, brush, clickId, hoverId)

plotOutput(outputId, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, hoverDelay, inline, hoverDelayType, brush, clickId, hoverId)

verbatimTextOutput(outputId)

tableOutput(outputId)

textOutput(outputId, container, inline)

uiOutput(outputId, inline, container, ...)

htmlOutput(outputId, inline, container, ...)

&

Shiny :: CHEAT SHEET

Basics

- **Shiny app** is a web page (UI) connected to a computer running a live R session (**Server**)
- **UI** - user interface for your app
- **Server** - a function with instructions on how to build and rebuild the R objects displayed in the UI
- **shinyApp** - combines UI and server into an app. Wrap with **runApp()** if calling from a source script or inside a function.

APP TEMPLATE

Begin writing a new app with this template. Preview the app by running the code at the R command line.

Building an App

Complete the template by adding arguments to **runApp()** and a body to the server function.

Inputs

Access the current value of an input object with **input\$<inputId>**. Input values are reactive.

Outputs

render* and ***Output** functions work together to add R output to the UI.

SHARE YOUR APP

The easiest way to share your app is to host it on **Shinyapps.io**, a cloud-based service from RStudio.

1. Create a free or professional account at <https://shinyapps.io>.

2. Click the **Publish** icon in the RStudio IDE or run: **renderToShinyapps()** (path to directory)

3. Build or purchase your own Shiny Server

4. Run: **renderToShinyServer()** (path to directory)

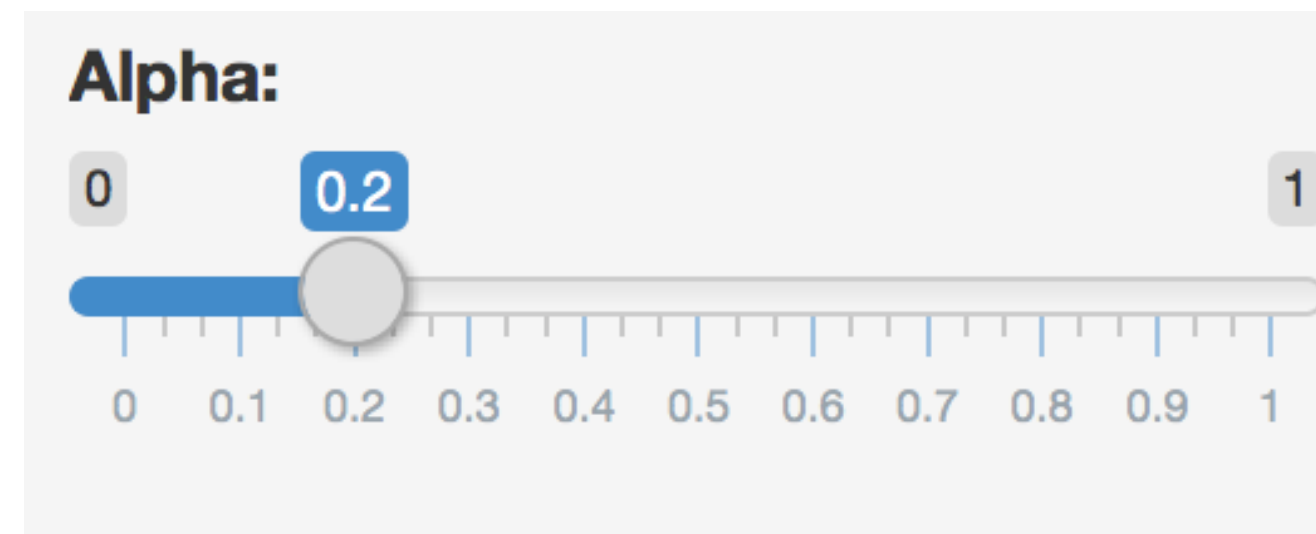
RStudio is a trademark of RStudio, Inc. © 2018 RStudio - info@rstudio.com • 484-448-1222 • rstudio.com • Learn more at shiny.rstudio.com • shiny 1.2.2 • updated 2018-05

Reactivity 101

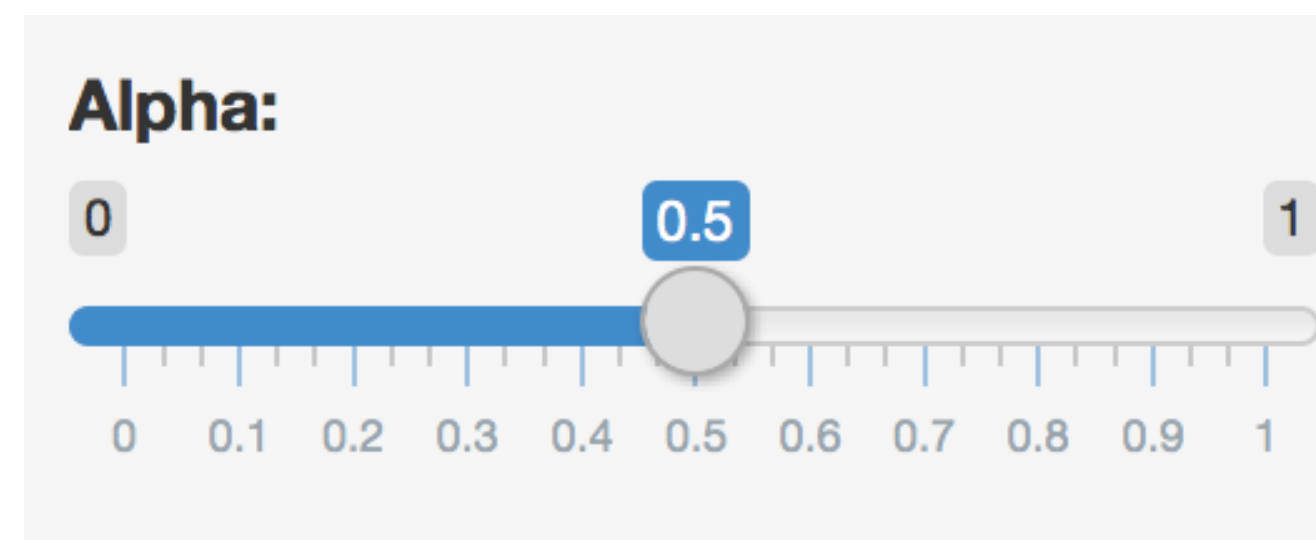
The **input\$** list stores the current value of each input object under its name.

```
# Set alpha level  
sliderInput(inputId = "alpha",  
            label = "Alpha:",  
            min = 0, max = 1,  
            value = 0.5)
```

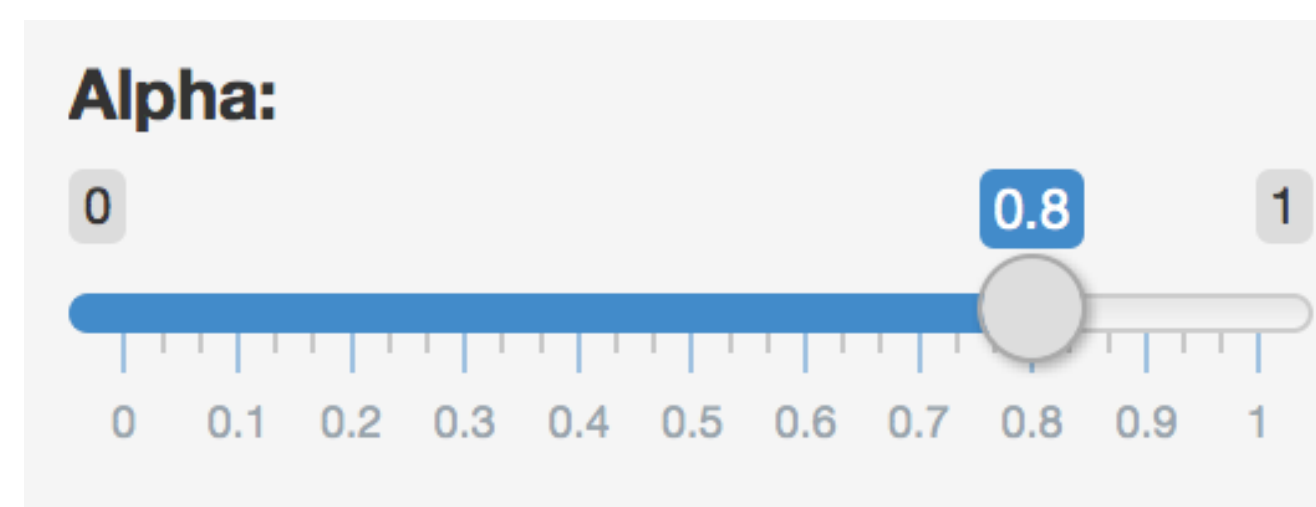
`input$alpha`



`input$alpha = 0.2`



`input$alpha = 0.5`



`input$alpha = 0.8`

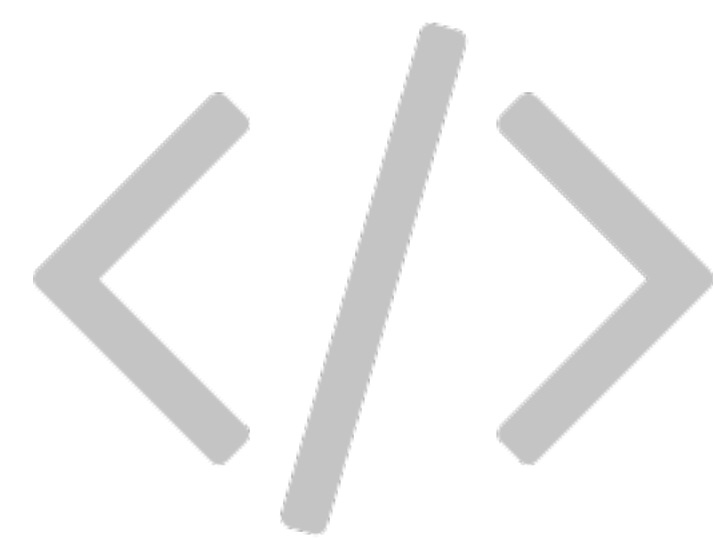
Reactivity automatically occurs
when an **input** value is used to render an **output** object.

```
# Define server function required to create the scatterplot
server <- function(input, output) {
  # Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput function is expecting
  output$scatterplot <- renderPlot(
    ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y,
                                     color = input$z)) +
    geom_point(alpha = input$alpha)
  )
}
```



Suppose you want the option to plot only certain types of movies as well as report how many such movies are plotted:

1. Add a UI element for the user to select which type(s) of movies they want to plot
2. Filter for chosen title type and save as a new (reactive) expression
3. Use new data frame (which is reactive) for plotting
4. Use new data frame (which is reactive) also for reporting number of observations



1. Add a UI element for the user to select which type(s) of movies they want to plot

```
# Select which types of movies to plot
checkboxGroupInput(inputId = "selected_type",
               label = "Select movie type(s):",
               choices = c("Documentary", "Feature Film",
                           "TV Movie"),
               selected = "Feature Film")
```



2. Filter for chosen title type and save the new data frame as a reactive expression

before app:

```
library(dplyr)
```

server:

```
# Create a subset of data filtering for  
movies_subset <- reactive({  
  req(input$selected_type)  
  filter(movies, title_type %in% input$selected_type)  
})
```

Creates a **cached expression** that knows it is out of date when input changes



3. Use new data frame (which is reactive) for plotting

```
# Create scatterplot object plotOutput function is expecting
output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({
  ggplot(data = movies_subset(),
    aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y,
    geom_point(...) +
    ...
  })
```

Cached - only re-run
when inputs change



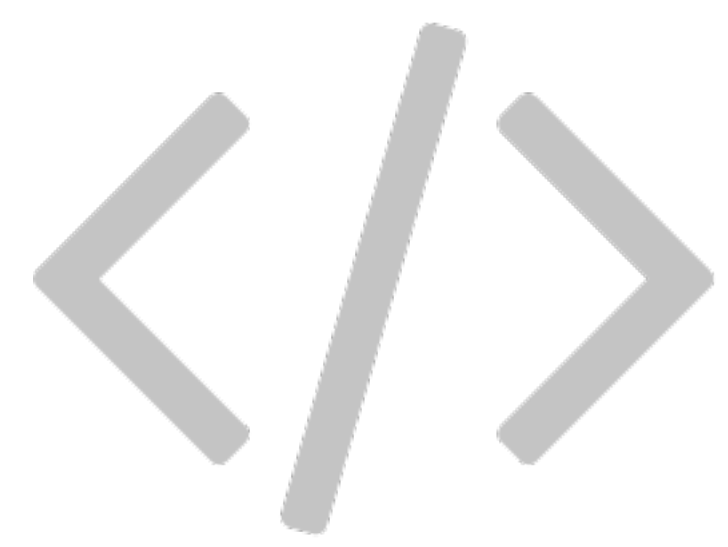
4. Use new data frame (which is reactive) also for printing number of observations

ui:

```
mainPanel(  
  ...  
  # Print number of obs plotted  
  uiOutput(outputId = "n"),  
  ...  
)
```

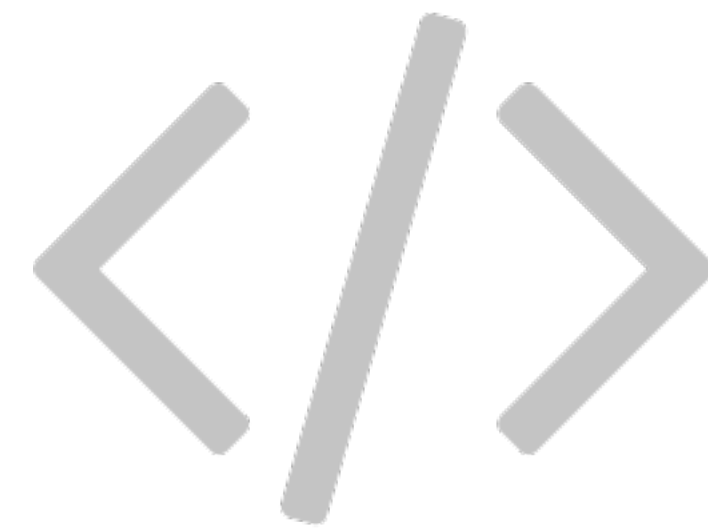
server:

```
# Print number of movies plotted  
output$n <- renderUI({  
  types <- movies_subset()$title_type %>%  
    factor(levels = input$selected_type)  
  counts <- table(types)  
  
  HTML(paste("There are",  
             counts,  
             input$selected_type,  
             "movies in this dataset.  
             <br>"))  
})
```



Putting it all together...

```
apps/movies/movies-05.R
```



5. `req()`
 6. App title
 7. `selectInput()` choice labels
 8. Formatting of x and y axis labels
 9. Visual separation with horizontal lines and breaks
-

When to use reactive

- ▶ By using a reactive expression for the subsetted data frame, we were able to get away with subsetting once and then using the result twice.
- ▶ In general, reactive conductors let you
 - ▶ not repeat yourself (i.e. avoid copy-and-paste code, which is a maintenance boon), and
 - ▶ decompose large, complex (code-wise, not necessarily CPU-wise) calculations into smaller pieces to make them more understandable.
- ▶ These benefits are similar to what happens when you decompose a large complex R script into a series of small functions that build on each other.



File structure

Single file app

- ▶ One directory with every file the app needs:
- ▶ **app.R** (your script which ends with a call to **shinyApp()**)
- ▶ datasets, images, css, helper scripts, etc.

