

# Welcome Back!

SES 5394: Travel Behavior and Forecasting  
(Day 5)

File management

# Directory structures



REPORT

## FILE NOT FOUND

*A generation that grew up with Google is forcing professors to rethink their lesson plans*

By **Monica Chin** | **@mcsquared96** | Sep 22, 2021, 8:00am EDT

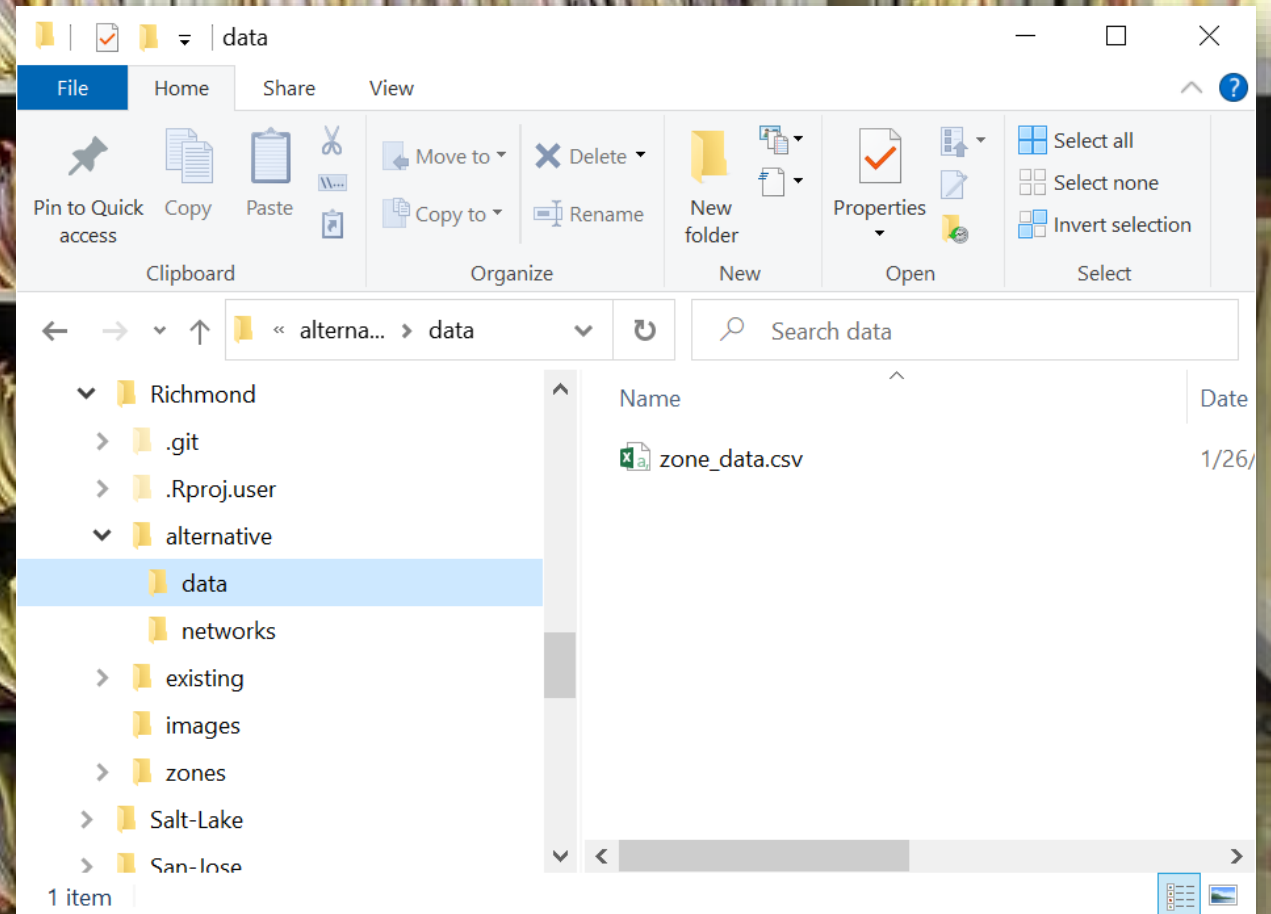
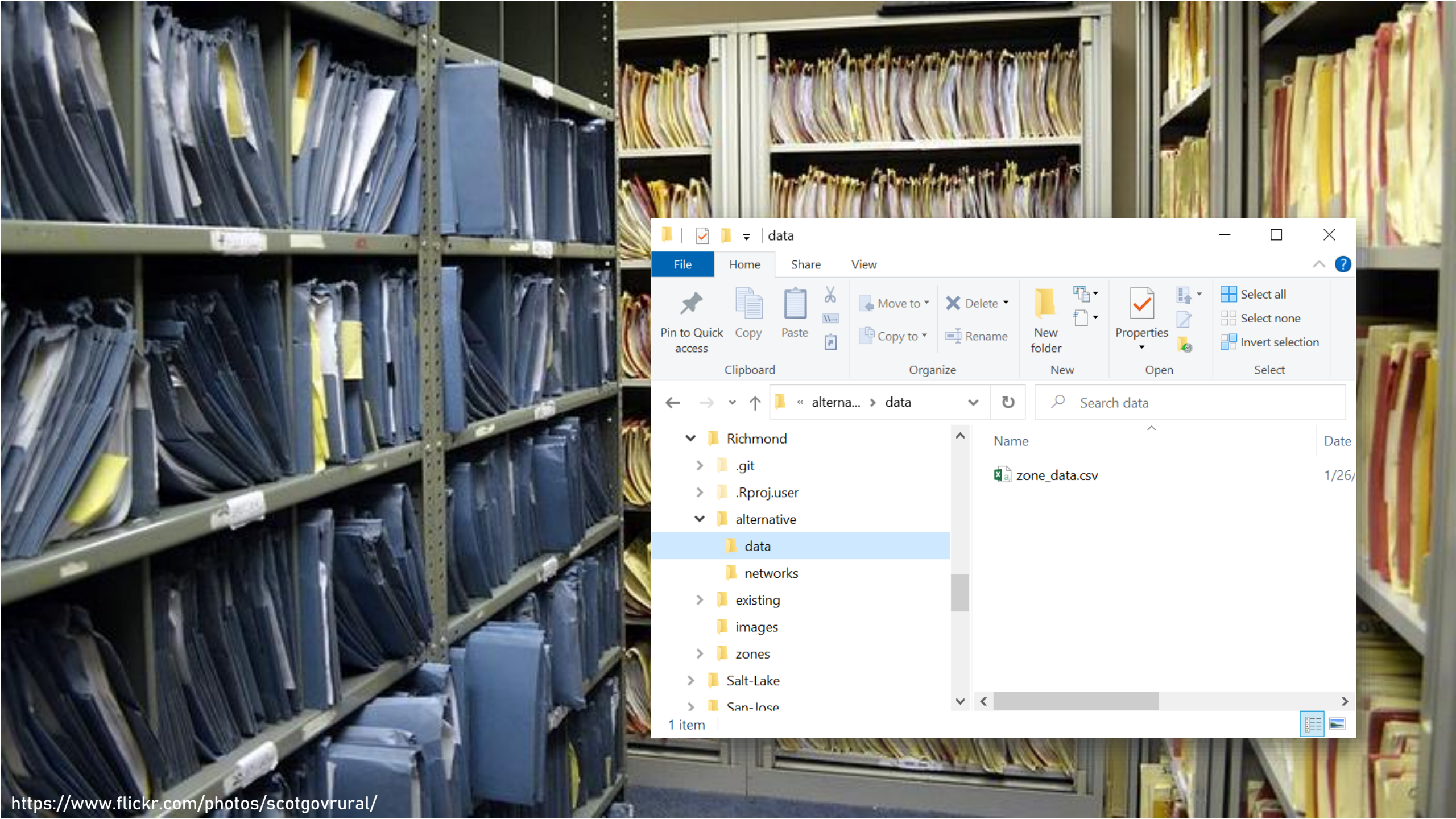
*Illustrations by Micha Huigen*

<https://www.theverge.com/22684730/students-file-folder-directory-structure-education-gen-z>

# Keep your project files where you can find them...



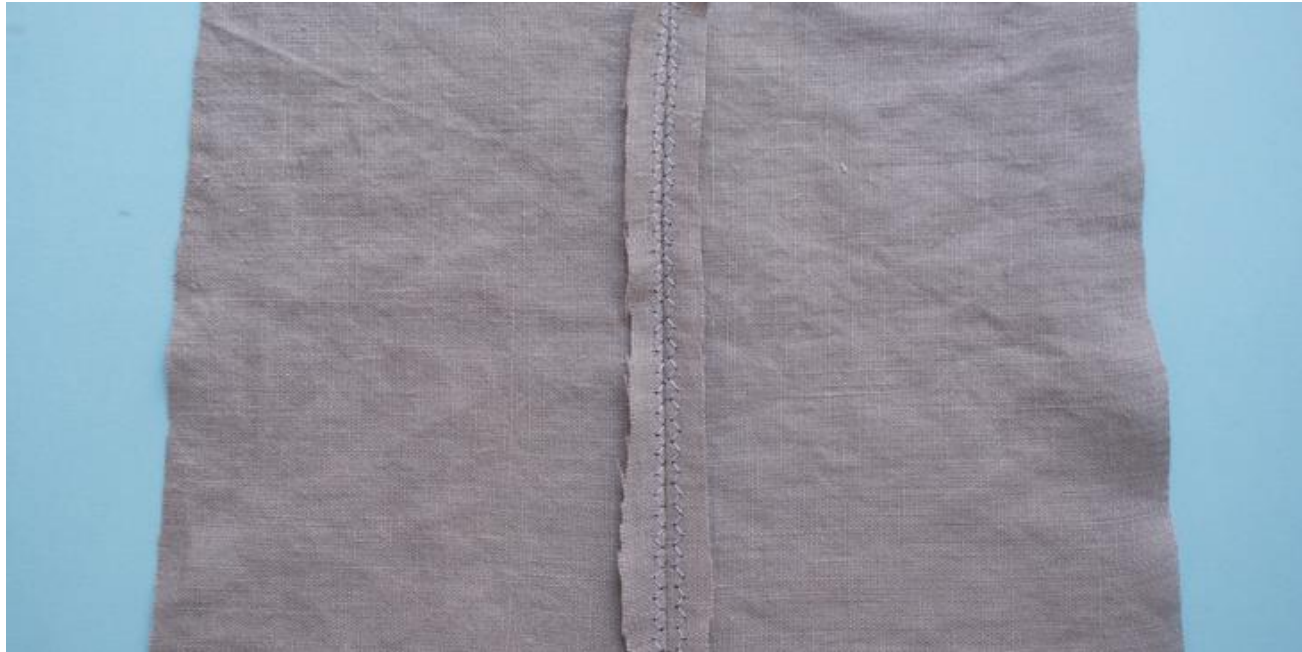




Referring to file locations in your code

# Bad practice: absolute paths

```
zone_data <- read_csv("C:/Users/cav223/Documents/GitHub/Richmond/existing/data/zone_data.csv")
```



This will work on my computer but is more or less guaranteed not to work on anyone else's computer.

Also, long lines like this are hard (for humans) to read.



# Good practice: relative paths

```
zone_data <- read_csv("existing/data/zone_data.csv")|
```



This will probably work on most computers.

It will stop working if you move the file with the code in it to a different subfolder within your project directory.



# Better practice: the here() function

```
zone_data <- read_csv(here("existing/data/zone_data.csv"))
```



This will work regardless of where your code is saved (as long as it's in your project directory).

Nested functions can be hard to read, and they set you up for errors if you can't keep track of the parentheses.

# Best practice: Pipe the here() function

```
zone_data <- here("existing/data/zone_data.csv") %>%  
  read_csv()
```



This is great.

One problem that could come up is that it's not totally platform independent.

Also, you could still end up with long line lengths if you use a lot of subdirectories with long names.

# So beautiful

```
zone_data <- here("existing",  
                  "data",  
                  "zone_data.csv") %>%  
  read_csv()
```



Simple, functional, and  
readable for both humans  
and computers.

# Speaking of readable code

Documentation...








## ge



4 days ago

## Environments

## Richmond - main - RStudio

File Edit Code View Plots Session Build Debug Profile Tools Help



Addins

a3 skills.Rmd x README.md x

- Navigation icons: back, forward, search, and a "Preview on Save" button.

```
1 # Richmond Travel Demand model
2
3 This file contains code and data for a simplified travel demand model of the
  Richmond, Virginia region, completed as a term project for the course SES 5394
  (Travel Behavior and Forecasting) at the Harvard Graduate School of design.
4
5 The purpose of this project is to compare accessibility, transit ridership, and
  regional VMT for two alternatives:
6
7 * Existing: An approximation of the existing condition
8 * Proposed: A potential future in which a segment of the I-95 freeway is removed
  and replaced with affordable housing.
9
10 All code is contained in the following RMarkdown scripts:
11
12 * Zones.Rmd: Loads zone boundaries and demographic data from the United States
```

Markdown

- *Zones Pmd*: Loads zone boundaries and demographic data from the United States Census Bureau API and

# Richmond

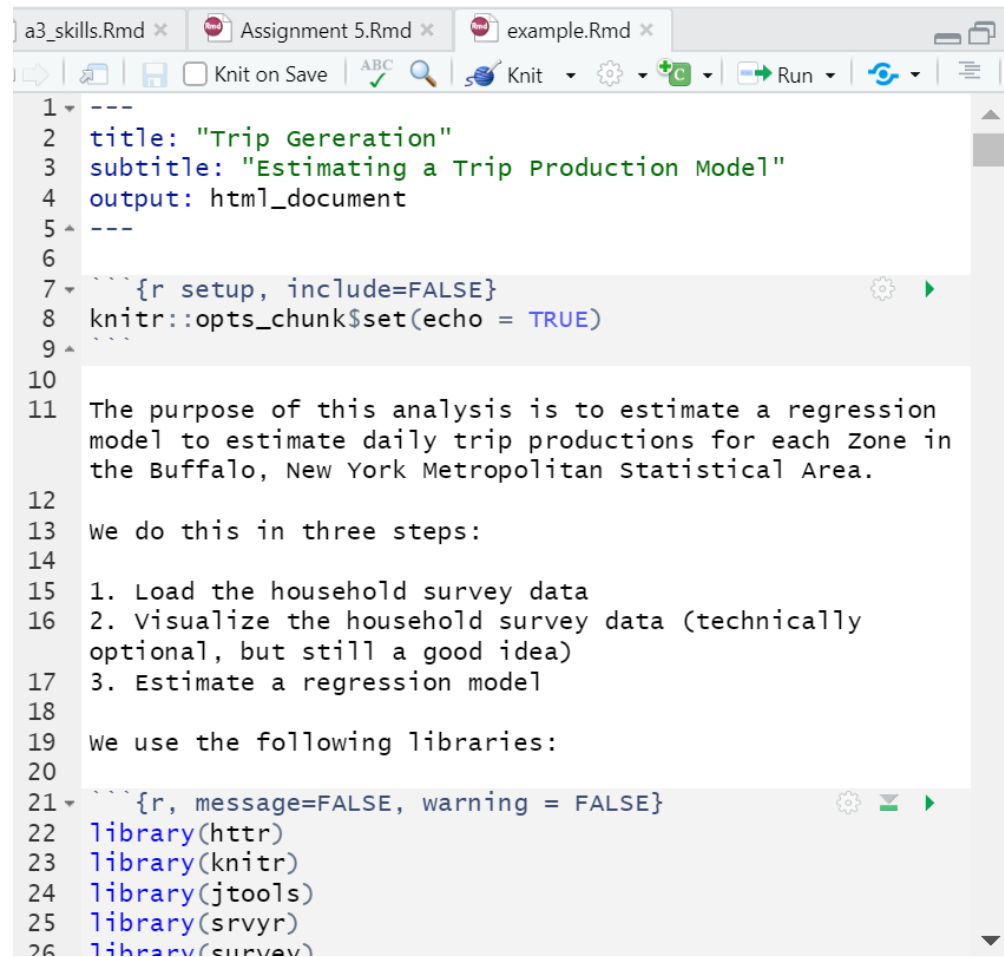
## Richmond Travel Demand model

This file contains code and data for a simplified travel demand model of the Richmond, Virginia region, completed as a term project for the course SES 5394 (Travel Behavior and Forecasting) at the Harvard Graduate School of design.

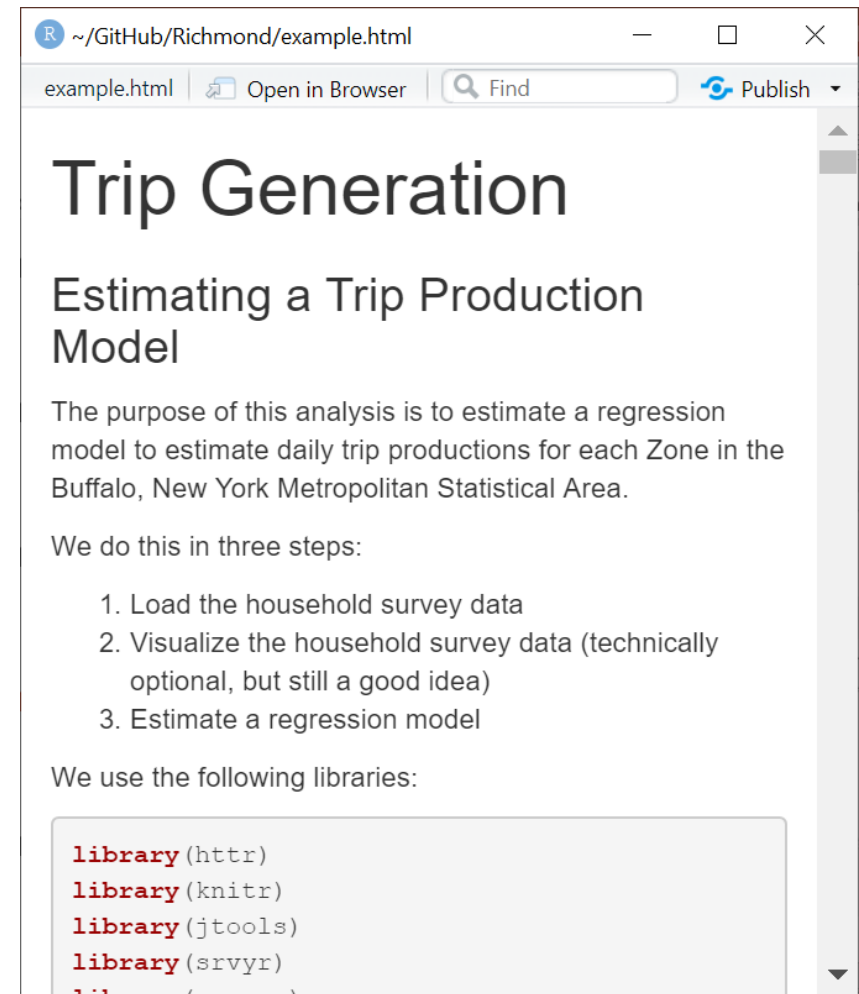
The purpose of this project is to compare accessibility, transit ridership, and regional VMT for two alternatives:

- *Existing*: An approximation of the existing condition
- *Proposed*: A potential future in which a segment of the I-95 freeway is removed and replaced with affordable housing.

# Documenting a file or code chunk: Markdown text



```
1 ---
2 title: "Trip Generation"
3 subtitle: "Estimating a Trip Production Model"
4 output: html_document
5 ---
6
7 {r setup, include=FALSE}
8 knitr::opts_chunk$set(echo = TRUE)
9
10
11 The purpose of this analysis is to estimate a regression
12 model to estimate daily trip productions for each Zone in
13 the Buffalo, New York Metropolitan Statistical Area.
14
15 We do this in three steps:
16
17 1. Load the household survey data
18 2. Visualize the household survey data (technically
19 optional, but still a good idea)
20 3. Estimate a regression model
21
22 We use the following libraries:
23
24 {r, message=FALSE, warning = FALSE}
25 library(httr)
26 library(knitr)
27 library(jtools)
28 library(srvyr)
29 library(survey)
```



```
~/GitHub/Richmond/example.html
example.html Open in Browser Find Publish
Trip Generation
Estimating a Trip Production Model
The purpose of this analysis is to estimate a regression
model to estimate daily trip productions for each Zone in the
Buffalo, New York Metropolitan Statistical Area.
We do this in three steps:
1. Load the household survey data
2. Visualize the household survey data (technically
optional, but still a good idea)
3. Estimate a regression model
We use the following libraries:
library(httr)
library(knitr)
library(jtools)
library(srvyr)
library(survey)
```

# Documenting a line of code: Comments

```
# Load the MSA boundaries
boundary <- core_based_statistical_areas() %>%
  filter(GEOID == "40060")

# Define a bounding box containing the MSA
richmond_bbox <- st_bbox(boundary)

q <- opq(bbox = richmond_bbox) %>% # create a query
  add_osm_feature(key = 'highway') %>% # request only road data
  osmdata_xml(file = 'existing/networks/streets.osm') # download osm file
```



# When to do your documentation



Go back and document your code once it's finished.



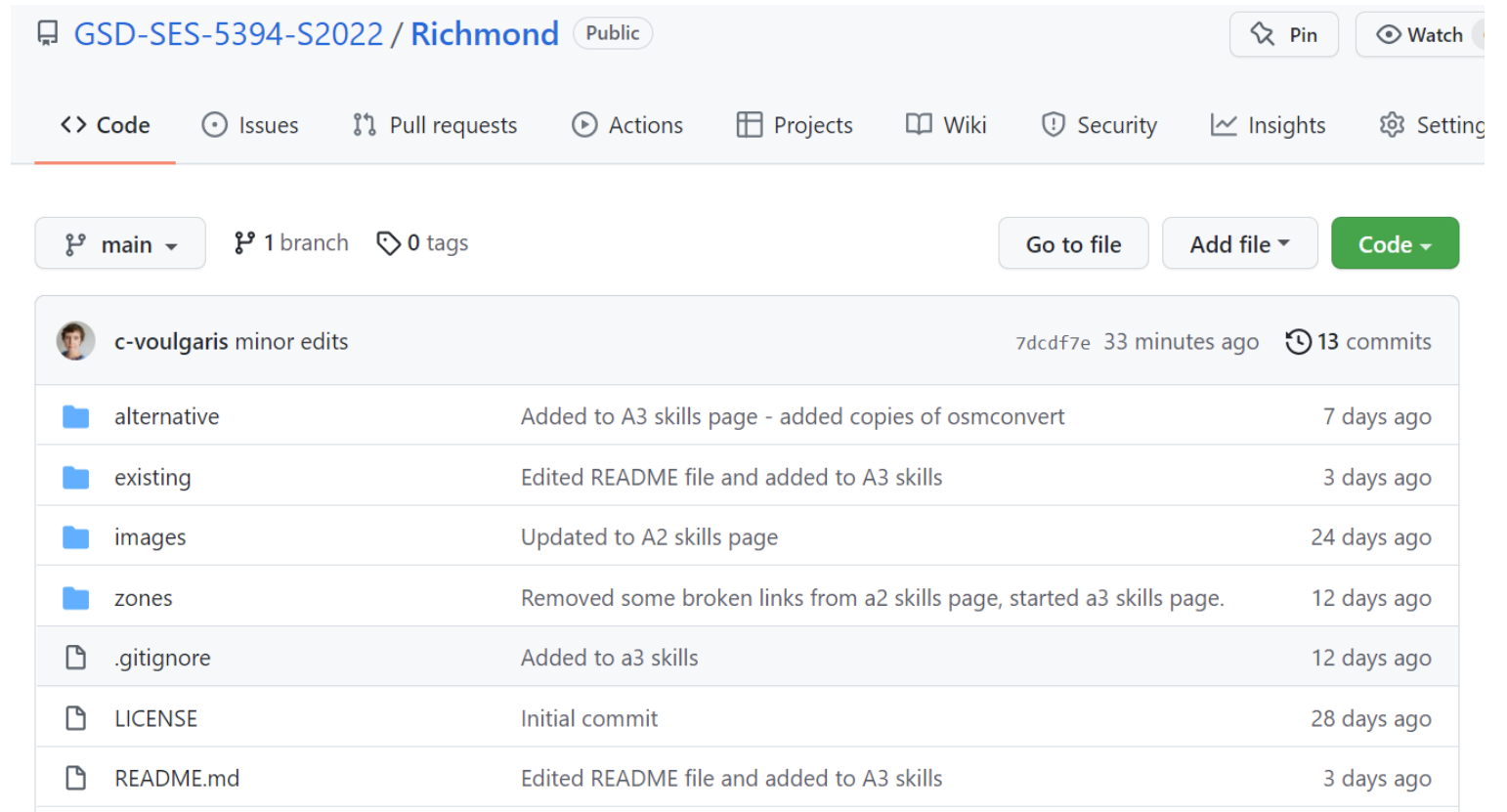
Document your code as you go along.



Document your code before you write it.

# Documenting a GitHub commit


Commit often enough that you can easily describe the changes you made in a few words.



GSD-SES-5394-S2022 / Richmond Public

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

main 1 branch 0 tags Go to file Add file Code

 c-voulgaris minor edits	7dcd7e 33 minutes ago	🕒 13 commits
alternative	Added to A3 skills page - added copies of osmconvert	7 days ago
existing	Edited README file and added to A3 skills	3 days ago
images	Updated to A2 skills page	24 days ago
zones	Removed some broken links from a2 skills page, started a3 skills page.	12 days ago
.gitignore	Added to a3 skills	12 days ago
LICENSE	Initial commit	28 days ago
README.md	Edited README file and added to A3 skills	3 days ago

Speaking of GitHub...

# Git workflow

- **Pull:** Get the most current version of everything from GitHub
- **Edit:** Do an amount of work you can describe in a few words
- **Save:** Save changes to your local computer
- **Commit:** Commit those changes to your local repo
- **Push:** Update GitHub with the changes you just made



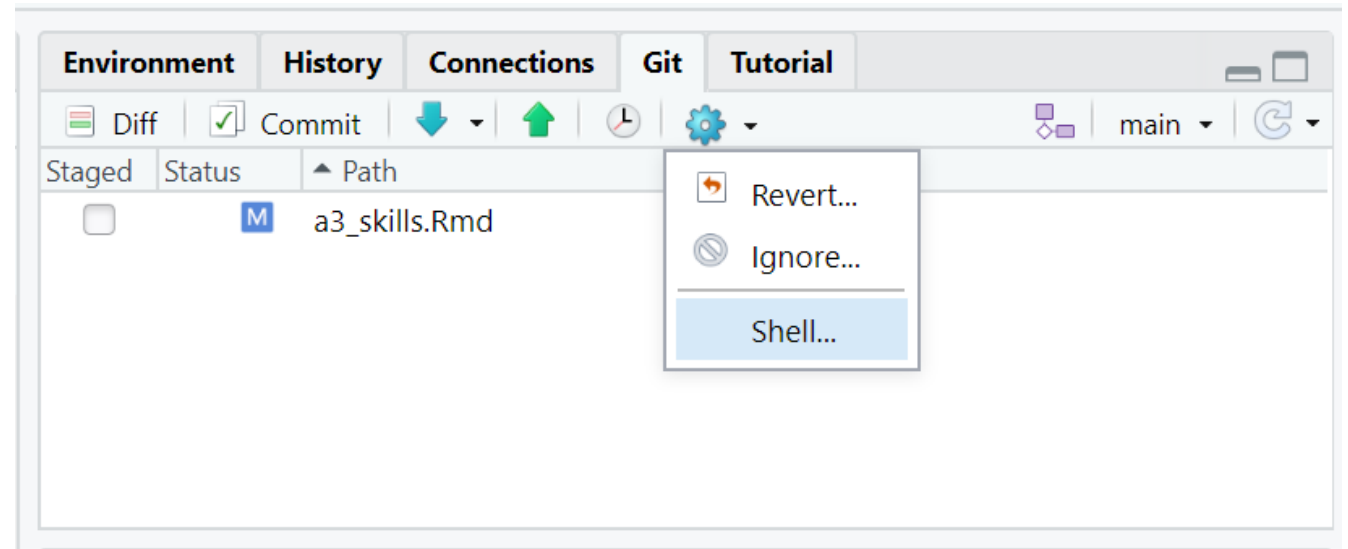
# Some Git shell commands (unusual cases)

Un-commit your most recent commit:  
`git reset head~`

Un-commit your most recent 3  
commits:  
`git reset head~3`

Un-commit everything back to a  
commit called “squiggles”:  
`git reset squiggles`

Force the remote (GitHub repo) to  
update to match your local repo (even  
if your local is missing commits that  
are in the remote):  
`git push --force`



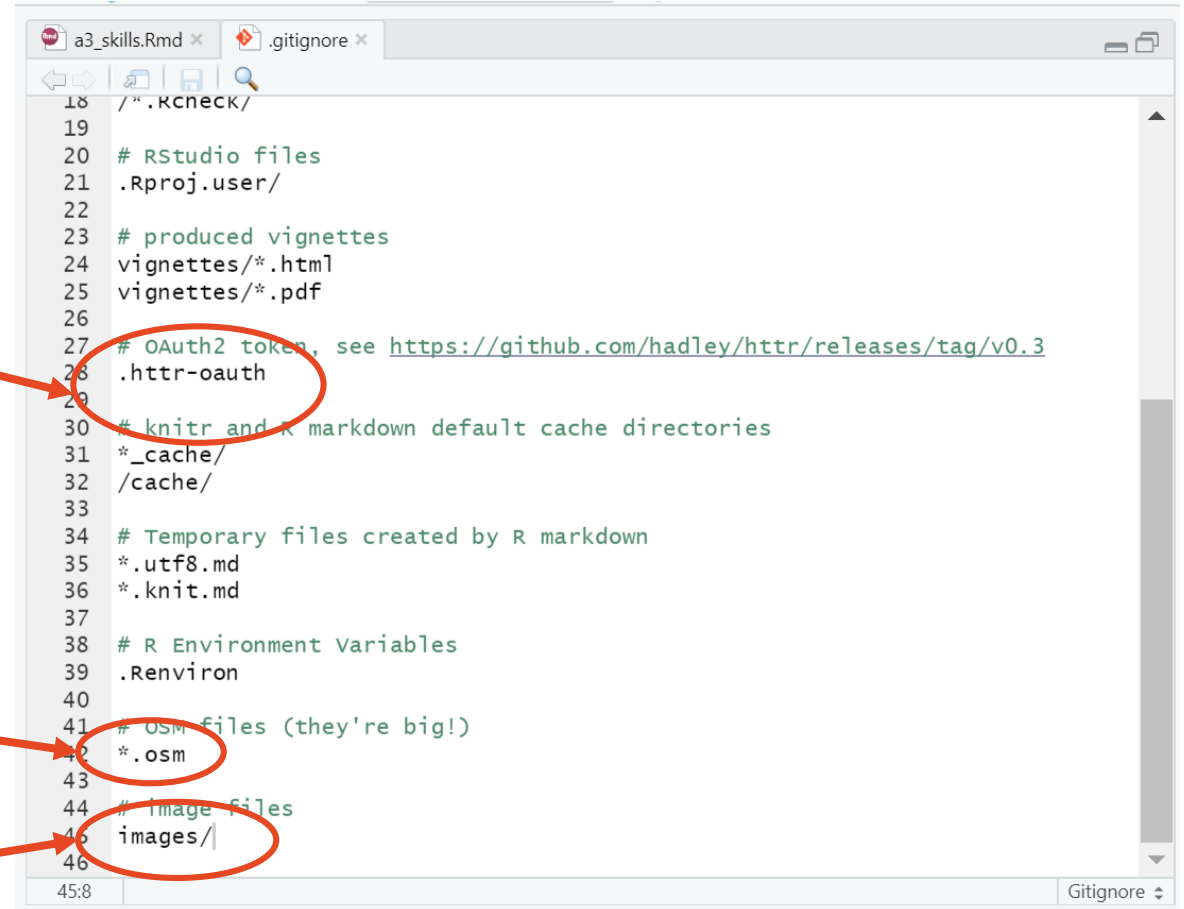
# .gitignore

Lists files that Git should ignore

Ignore a file  
called ".httr-oauth"

Ignore files with an  
osm extension

Ignore files in a  
folder called images



The screenshot shows an RStudio editor window with two tabs: 'a3\_skills.Rmd' and '.gitignore'. The '.gitignore' file is open, displaying the following content:

```
18 /*.Rcheck/
19
20 # RStudio files
21 .Rproj.user/
22
23 # produced vignettes
24 vignettes/*.html
25 vignettes/*.pdf
26
27 # OAuth2 token, see https://github.com/hadley/httr/releases/tag/v0.3
28 .httr-oauth
29
30 # knitr and R markdown default cache directories
31 *_cache/
32 /cache/
33
34 # Temporary files created by R markdown
35 *.utf8.md
36 *.knit.md
37
38 # R Environment Variables
39 .Renviron
40
41 # OSM files (they're big!)
42 *.osm
43
44 # image files
45 images/
46
```

Three red annotations with arrows point to specific lines in the file:

- An arrow points from the text "Ignore a file called '.httr-oauth'" to line 28, which contains `.httr-oauth`.
- An arrow points from the text "Ignore files with an osm extension" to line 42, which contains `*.osm`.
- An arrow points from the text "Ignore files in a folder called images" to line 45, which contains `images/`.

The status bar at the bottom right of the editor window shows "Gitignore".

# Analysis Assignment 3

- Create a document template (InDesign or Word) that looks attractive, distinctive, and readable.
  - Include headings/chapter titles for the full report and set up a table of contents (refer to the syllabus for chapter titles)
- Write an introduction chapter (it might repurpose most of what you wrote for the project definition, and might not go much further).
- Fill in the README file for your GitHub repo
- The end goal of this project is to determine how your proposal would change
  - Regional VMT
  - Route-level transit ridership
  - Accessibility

# Speaking of file management...

If I told you lecture slides were posted on Canvas, where would you look for them?