Reproducible Science

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About me 👋

- Post-doctoral researcher in Cognitive Psychology, University of Padova.
- Research: Computational modeling of cognitive and learning processes, Bayesian hypothesis testing.
- PhD in Psychological Science, completed March 6, 2025.
- Passionate about reproducible science after struggling with disorganized datasets in my early research!

Our job is hard 0

- Running experiments
- Analyzing data
- Managing trainees
- Writing papers
- Responding to reviewers



Reproducibility helps!



- Organizes your workflow.
- Saves time by documenting steps.
- Builds trust in your findings.
- Enables others to reproduce and extend your work.

What is reproducible science?

At its core, reproducible science means that someone else, or even you, in the future, can **reproduce** your **results** from your **materials**: your data, your code, your documentation.

It means your workflow is transparent.

Keys to reproducible science

- Data: organize, document, and share your datasets in ways that are usable by others and understandable by you (even years later).
- Code: write analysis scripts that are clean, transparent, and reusable...
- Literate programming: combine code and text in the same document, so your reports are dynamic and replicable.
- Version Control and Sharing: track changes, collaborate, and make your work openly available using tools like GitHub and OSF.

So... Is reproducible science even harder?

At first, yes - but then... 5

- Helps you stay organized.
- Makes it easier to remember what you did.
- Allows others to understand, reproduce, and build on your work.

Learning the tools takes effort but once you do, your workflow becomes smoother, clearer, and more reliable.

Outline

Data

Code

R projects

Literate Programming

Version Control

Data

Data types in research

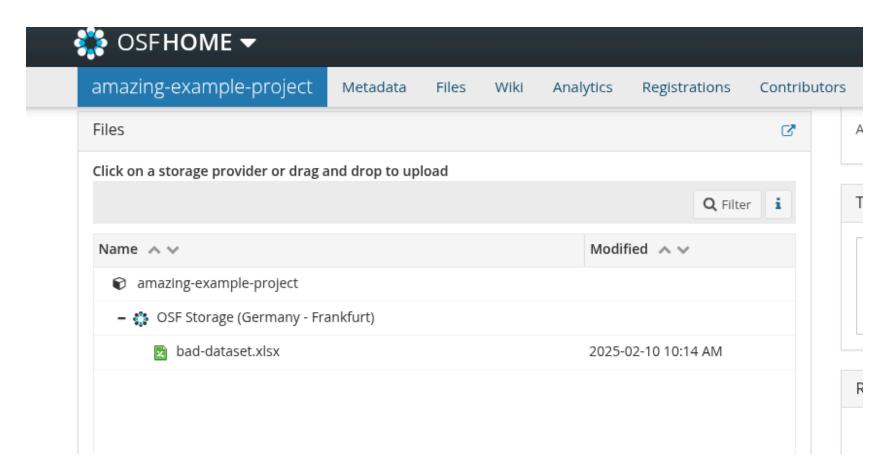


Open Science Framework

- Free platform to organize, document, and share research.
- Supports preregistration, archiving, and collaboration.
- Integrates with GitHub, Dropbox, Google Drive.

Bad data sharing example

Imagine this scenario: you read a paper that seems really relevant to your research. At the end, you're excited to see they've shared their data on OSF. You go to the repository, and there's one file...



Bad data sharing example

You download it, open it, and you see this: . . .

x1	x2	хЗ	x4	x5	x6	x7
0.3981105	13.912435	а	0	-0.6775811	0.8759740	-0.2051604
-0.1434733	1.093743	С	0	0.7055193	0.2521987	1.8816947
-0.2526000	4.898035	С	0	0.4744651	-0.5628840	0.3245589
-1.2272588	14.717053	b	0	-0.5132792	-1.1368242	-0.1355150
-0.4360417	8.547025	С	1	-0.1736804	-0.7120962	-1.2714320

What do these variables mean? What's x3? What do 0 and 1 represent? How are missing values coded? Is x6 a z-score or raw data?

Good data sharing practices

- Use plain-text formats (e.g., .csv, .txt).
- Include a data dictionary with variable descriptions.
- Add a README with key details.
- Follow FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable).

Data dictionary 📂

- A data dictionary defines each variable in your dataset.
- Boosts transparency and collaboration.
- Saves time for **collaborators** and **future-you**.

datadictionary 📦

```
item
                                        label
                                                class
                                                                 summary value
                                                         Rows in dataset
                                                      Columns in dataset
                           Unique identifier
    id
                                                           unique values
                                                                 missing
   anxi Beck Anxiety Inventory, standardized numeric
                                                                    mean
                                                                  median
                                                                     min - 0.11
                                                                     max 1.09
                                                                 missing
10
                        Last degree obtained factor
    edu
                                                                 BSc (1)
11
                                                                 MSc (2)
12
                                                                 PhD (3)
13
                                                                 missing
```

Data dictionary - Good data sharing example

Data-dictionary.txt

```
- `ID`: Factor indexing participants identification codes (e.g., "S001", "S002", etc.)
- `day`: Integer indexing the day of participation (from 1 to 10)
- `SBP_aft`, `DBP_aft`: Numeric indexing afternoon measurements (mmHg) of systolic and diastolic blood pressure, respectively. Note: these
variables have been computed by averaging each pair of consecutive recordings
- `WHLSM1` ... `WHLSM6`: Item scores at the state workaholism measure (1-7) administered in the afternoon
- `SBP eve`, `DBP eve`: Numeric indexing evening measurements (mmHq) of systolic and diastolic blood pressure, respectively. Note: these
variables have been computed by averaging each pair of consecutive recordings
- `EE1` ... `EE4`: Item scores at the emotional exhaustion measure (1-7) administered in the evening
- `R.det1` ... `R.det3`: Item scores at the psychological detachment measure (1-7) administered in the evening
- `SQ1` ... `SQ4`: Item scores at the sleep disturbances measure (1-7) administered in the morning. Note: higher values indicate worse
sleep disturbances; these measures are related to the following day
- `gender`: Factor indexing participants' gender ("F" or "M")
- `age`: Integer indexing participants' age (years)
- `BMI`: Numeric indexing participants' body mass index ($kg/m^2$)
- `IN.resp`: Factor indexing whether the participant was included in the main sample based on the response rate inclusion criteria (TRUE)
or not (FALSE)
- `IN.bp`: Factor indexing whether the participant was included in the sample considered for blood pressure analyses (TRUE) or not (FALSE)
```

:

README files

A **README** file is the first thing someone sees when they open your dataset/project folder. It should answer basic questions like:

- What is this dataset?
- How was it collected?
- What are the variables?

README - Good data sharing example

Wearing face masks when no longer mandatory: An exploratory study about a...

README.txt

:

This repository "data" contains a CSV file that serves as the data source for the network analysis and regression analysis discussed in the accompanying article. Each column within the CSV file corresponds to a node in the network analysis.

Run first the Network_analysis.R script and then the "Generalized linear mixed effect modeling.R script.

README - Good data sharing example

README.md

:

Tracking the Unconscious: Neural evidence for the retention of unaware information in visual working memory

This repository contains the code to reproduce the analysis, figures and tables of the paper *Tracking the Unconscious: Neural evidence for the retention of unaware information in visual working memory* by Gambarota et al. The repository contains also the code to run the experiment using Psychopy along with raw EEG and behavioral data.

Structure

• The data folder contains the raw and cleaned EEG and behavioral data:

<!-- -->



• The experiment/ folder contains python scripts to run the experiment.

<!-- -->

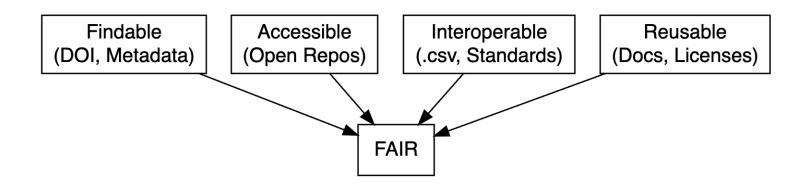
experiment

experiment.py

triggers py

FAIR data principles \triangleleft

- Findable: Use metadata and DOIs to make data easy to locate.
- Accessible: Ensure data is retrievable via open repositories.
- Interoperable: Use standard formats (e.g., .csv, .txt) for compatibility.
- Reusable: Include clear documentation and open licenses.



Data licensing

A license tells others what they can and can't do with your data. If you don't include one, legally speaking, people might not be allowed to use it, even if you meant to share it openly.

- Licenses clarify how others can use your data.
- Common licenses:
 - CC BY: Requires attribution.
 - CC0: No restrictions.
 - ODC-BY: Database-specific attribution.
- Choose based on discipline norms and data sensitivity.

Code

Scripts

Reproducible: You can rerun them.

Documented: You can see what you did and when.

Shareable: Others can inspect and reproduce your analysis.

R and RStudio

- R: Free, open-source, with thousands of packages for analysis.
- RStudio: Intuitive interface for coding, plotting, and debugging.
- Vibrant community for support and resources.
- Scripting ensures transparent, reproducible workflows.

The SPSS Workflow

- Click menu items to run analysis
- "exclude <18"
- Click through everything again
- Forget a step? Round differently?
- Now the results don't match the manuscript...

Stressful, error-prone, and undocumented.

R Workflow

```
1  # Load data
2  data <- read.csv("data.csv")
3
4  # Filter
5  data <- data[data$age >= 18, ]
6
7  # Analyze
8  summary(lm(score ~ condition, data = data))
9
10  # Make plot
11  ggplot(data, aes(x = condition, y = score)) +
12  geom_boxplot()
```

One line change, rerun, and everything updates.

Writing better code

- Organize scripts: Load packages and data upfront.
- Comment clearly: Document your logic for clarity.
- Name descriptively: Use snake_case or camelCase for readability.

Organized scripts

Global operations at the beginning of the script:

- loading packages
- loading datasets
- changing general options (options())

```
1 # packages
2 library(tidyverse)
3 library(lme4)
4
5 # options
6
7 options(scipen = 999)
8
9 # loading data
10 dat <- read.csv(...)</pre>
```

Comments, comments and comments...

Write the code for your future self and for others, not for yourself right now.

Try to open a (not well documented) old coding project after a couple of years and you will understand:)

Invest time in writing more comprehensible and documented code for you and others.

```
# Remove participants with missing anxiety scores
dat <- dat %>% filter(!is.na(anxi))
#vs.
dat <- dat %>% filter(!is.na(anxi)) # <-- What is this doing?</pre>
```

Use descriptive names

Another best practice: name your variables clearly.

```
1 # Bad
2 x1 <- c("Psychology", "Medicine", "Biology")
3 # Better
4 uni_dep <- c("Psychology", "Medicine", "Biology")</pre>
```

Consistency helps too. Use either snake_case or camelCase, but pick one and stick to it.

Summary

- Scripts beat point-and-click
- Structure matters
- Comment often
- Name things well

Functions to avoid repetition

Functions are the primary building blocks of your program. You write small, reusable, self-contained functions that do one thing well, and then you combine them.

Avoid repeating the same operation multiple times in the script. The rule is, if you are doing the same operation more than two times, write a function.

A function can be re-used, tested and changed just one time affecting the whole project.

Functional Programming, example...

We have a dataset (mtcars) and we want to calculate the mean, median, standard deviation, minimum and maximum of each column and store the result in a table.

```
1 head(mtcars, n = 3)
              mpg cyl disp hp drat
                                      wt qsec vs am gear carb
Mazda RX4
             21.0 6 160 110 3.90 2.620 16.46 0 1
Mazda RX4 Wag 21.0 6 160 110 3.90 2.875 17.02 0 1
             22.8
                    4 108 93 3.85 2.320 18.61 1 1
Datsun 710
 1 str(mtcars)
'data.frame':
               32 obs. of 11 variables:
 $ mpg : num 21 21 22.8 21.4 18.7 18.1 14.3 24.4 22.8 19.2 ...
 $ cyl : num 6 6 4 6 8 6 8 4 4 6 ...
 $ disp: num 160 160 108 258 360 ...
 $ hp : num 110 110 93 110 175 105 245 62 95 123 ...
 $ drat: num 3.9 3.9 3.85 3.08 3.15 2.76 3.21 3.69 3.92 3.92 ...
 $ wt : num 2.62 2.88 2.32 3.21 3.44 ...
 $ gsec: num 16.5 17 18.6 19.4 17 ...
             0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 ...
      : num
  am : num 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...
            4 4 4 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 ...
  gear: num
             4 4 1 1 2 1 4 2 2 4 ...
 $ carb: num
```

Functional Programming

col

mpq

20.09062 19.2 10.4 33.9

3 230.72188

6.18750 6.0 4.0 8.0 cyl

196.3 71.1 472.0 disp

The standard (~imperative) option is using a for loop, iterating through columns, calculate the values and store into another data structure.

```
1 ncols <- ncol(mtcars)</pre>
 2 means <- medians <- mins <- maxs <- rep(0, ncols)</pre>
 3
    for(i in 1:ncols){
      means[i] <- mean(mtcars[[i]])</pre>
      medians[i] <- median(mtcars[[i]])</pre>
      mins[i] <- min(mtcars[[i]])</pre>
      maxs[i] <- max(mtcars[[i]])</pre>
 8
 9 }
10
    results <- data.frame(means, medians, mins, maxs)
    results$col <- names(mtcars)</pre>
13
14 head(results, n = 3)
     means medians mins maxs
```

Functional Programming

The main idea is to decompose the problem writing a function and loop over the columns of the dataframe:

Functional Programming

4.930

4 146.687500 123.000 52.000 335.000

3.217250 3.325 1.513 5.424

3.596563 3.695 2.760

```
1 results <- do.call(rbind, dfs)
2 head(results, n = 6)

means medians mins maxs
1 20.090625 19.200 10.400 33.900
2 6.187500 6.000 4.000 8.000
3 230.721875 196.300 71.100 472.000</pre>
```

Functional Programming, *apply **

- The *apply family is one of the best tool in R. The idea is pretty simple: apply a function to each element of a list.
- The powerful side is that in R everything can be considered as a list. A
 vector is a list of single elements, a dataframe is a list of columns etc.
- Internally, R is still using a for loop but the verbose part (preallocation, choosing the iterator, indexing) is encapsulated into the *apply function.

```
1 means <- rep(0, ncol(mtcars))
2 for(i in 1:length(means)){
3   means[i] <- mean(mtcars[[i]])
4 }
5
6 # the same with sapply
7 means <- sapply(mtcars, mean)</pre>
```

The *apply Family

Apply **your** function...

```
1 results <- lapply(mtcars, summ)
```

Now results is a list of data frames, one per column.

We can stack them into one big data frame:

```
1 results_df <- do.call(rbind, results)</pre>
```

This gives us a clean summary for every variable in just a few lines of code. No loops, no repetition.

Using sapply, vapply, and apply

- lapply() always returns a list.
- sapply() tries to simplify the result into a vector or matrix.
- vapply() is like sapply() but safer (you specify the return type).
- apply() is for applying functions over rows or columns of a matrix or data frame.

for loops are bad?

for loops are the core of each operation in R (and in every programming language). For complex operation thery are more readable and effective compared to *apply. In R we need extra care for writing efficient for loops.

Extremely slow, no preallocation:

```
1 res <- c()
2 for(i in 1:1000){
3  # do something
4 res[i] <- i^2
5 }</pre>
```

Very fast:

```
1 res <- rep(0, 1000)
2 for(i in 1:length(res)){
3  # do something
4 res[i] <- i^2
5 }</pre>
```

microbenchmark 📦

```
1 library(microbenchmark)
 3 microbenchmark(
      grow in loop = {
     res <- c()
      for (i in 1:10000) {
       res[i] <- i^2
 8
 9
      },
      preallocated = {
10
11
     res <- rep(0, 10000)
12
     for (i in 1:length(res)) {
13
       res[i] <- i^2
14
      , times = 100)
15
Unit: microseconds
```

```
expr min lq mean median uq max neval grow_in_loop 1173.174 1256.4245 1398.7949 1300.7660 1356.095 3288.528 100 preallocated 659.403 701.8585 802.2232 714.4045 758.992 6061.563 100 cld a b
```

Going further: custom function lists

Let's define a list of functions:

```
1 funs <- list(mean = mean, sd = sd, min = min, max = max, median = median)
```

Now we can apply all of these to every column:

```
sapply(funs, function(f) apply(mtcars, 2, f))
                                            median
                               min
           mean
                                       max
      20.090625
                  6.0269481 10.400
                                    33.900
                                            19.200
mpg
       6.187500
                  1.7859216 4.000
                                     8.000
                                             6.000
cyl
disp 230.721875 123.9386938 71.100 472.000 196.300
     146.687500
                 68.5628685 52.000 335.000 123.000
hp
       3.596563
                  0.5346787 2.760
                                     4.930
                                             3.695
drat
       3.217250
                 0.9784574 1.513
                                     5.424
                                             3.325
wt
qsec 17.848750
                 1.7869432 14.500
                                    22.900
                                           17.710
       0.437500
                 0.5040161 0.000
                                     1.000
                                             0.000
VS
       0.406250
                  0.4989909 0.000
                                     1.000
                                             0.000
am
       3.687500
                                             4.000
                  0.7378041 3.000
                                     5.000
gear
       2.812500
                  1.6152000
                            1.000
                                     8.000
                                             2.000
carb
```

This gives you a matrix with rows as variables and columns as statistics.

Pure vs. Impure functions

Pure function

Same input, same output, no side effects.

```
1  x = 4
2 add_pure<- function(x) {
3   return(x + 1)
4  }
5 add_pure(2)</pre>
```

```
[1] 3
    1 print(x)
[1] 4
```

Impure function

Modifies external variables.

```
1 add_impure <- function(x) {
2     x <<- x + 1
3  }
4 add_impure(x)
5 print(x)</pre>
```

Test your functions - fuzzr 📦

When you write your own functions, it's smart to test them. In R, we can use fuzzr to do property-based testing.

Define your function...

```
1 my_mean <- function(x, na.rm = TRUE) {
2   if (!is.numeric(x)) stop("`x` must be numeri
3   if (length(x) == 0) return(NA)
4   if (na.rm) x <- x[!is.na(x)]
5   if (length(x) == 0) return(NA)
6   sum(x) / length(x)
7 }</pre>
```

Define properties that should always hold true...

```
property_mean_correct <- function(x) {
    x_no_na <- x[!is.na(x)] #remove NA
    if (length(x_no_na) == 0) return(TRUE)
    abs(my_mean(x) - mean(x, na.rm = TRUE)) < 1e
}</pre>
```

This runs the property on different random numeric vectors and checks whether it holds.

```
1 # Property-based testing with 'fuzzr'
 2 library(fuzzr)
 3 test = fuzz function(fun = property mean correct,
                          arg name = "x",
  4
                          tests = test dbl())
    lapply(test, function(res) res$test result$value)
[[1]]
[1] TRUE
[[2]]
[1] TRUE
[[3]]
[1] TRUE
[[4]]
[1] TRUE
[[5]]
[1] TRUE
[[6]]
[1] TRUE
```

```
1 fuzzr::test dbl()
$dbl empty
numeric(0)
$dbl single
[1] 1.5
$dbl mutliple
[1] 1.5 2.5 3.5
$dbl with na
[1] 1.5 2.5 NA
$dbl single na
[1] NA
$dbl all na
[1] NA NA NA
```

Why functional programming?

- We can write less and reusable code that can be shared and used in multiple projects.
- The scripts are more compact, easy to modify and less error prone (imagine that you want to improve the summ function, you only need to change it once instead of touching the for loop).
- Functions can be easily and consistently documented (see roxygen documentation) improving the reproducibility and readability of your code.

Functional programming in the wild

You can write some R scripts only with functions and source() them into the global environment.

This is reproducible, modular, and maintainable.

More about functional programming in R

- Advanced R by Hadley Wickham, section on Functional Programming (https://adv-r.hadley.nz/fp.html)
- Hands-On Programming with R by Garrett Grolemund https://rstudioeducation.github.io/hopr/
- Hadley Wickham: The Joy of Functional Programming (for Data Science)
 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzUmK0Y07ck)

Wrapping up

- Avoid repetition by using functions.
- Favor pure functions.
- Test your functions.
- The *apply functions are your friends.

Organize your project

R Projects

R Projects are a feature implemented in RStudio to organize a working directory.

- They automatically set the working directory
- They allow the use of relative paths instead of absolute paths
- They provide quick access to a specific project

The Working Directory Problem

How many times have you opened an R script and seen this at the top?

setwd("C:/Users/margherita/Documents/PhD/final_data/mess") #change

Instead of hardcoding paths, we want to use projects with relative paths.

R Projects

An R Project (.Rproj) is a file that defines a self-contained workspace. When you open an R Project, your working directory is automatically set to the project root, no need to use setwd() ever again.

Open RStudio

File → New Project → New Directory → New Project

Relative Path (to the working directory)

Absolute path: read.csv("Users/tita/workinMemo/data/clean_data.csv")

Relative path: read.csv("data/clean_data.csv")

A Minimal Project Structure

```
my-project/
              data/
                  - raw/
                __ processed/
             R/
 6
                - analysis.R
              outputs/
 9
                - figures/
10
               — tables/
11
12
             my-project.Rproj
13
14
15
              README.md
```

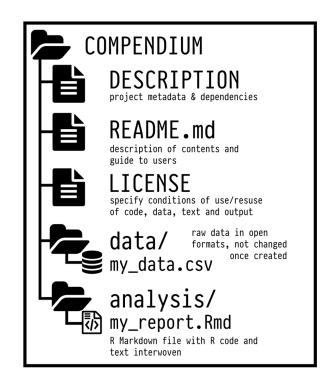
Project organization with rrtools **

To make this even "easier", you can use the rrtools package to create what's called a reproducible research compendium.

```
1 install.packages("rrtools")
2
3 rrtools::create_compendium("my-awesome-project")
```

Reproducible research compendium

... the goal is to provide a standard and easily recognisable way for organising the digital materials of a project to enable others to inspect, reproduce, and extend the research... (Marwick et al., 2018)



Research compendium rrtools **

- Organize its files according to the prevailing conventions.
- Maintain a clear separation of data (original data is untouched!), method, and output.
- Specify the computational environment that was used for the original analysis

> Tutorial

rrtools::create_compendium() builds the basic structure for a research compendium.

- Storage for general metadata (e.g., citation details)
- Dependency management via **DESCRIPTION** file
- Function storage and documentation in R/ folder

> Example

renv : locking your R environment

Another challenge for reproducibility is package versions.

You write some code today using dplyr 1.1.2.

In six months, dplyr gets updated... 🧐

renv helps you create reproducible environments for your R projects!

What does renv do?

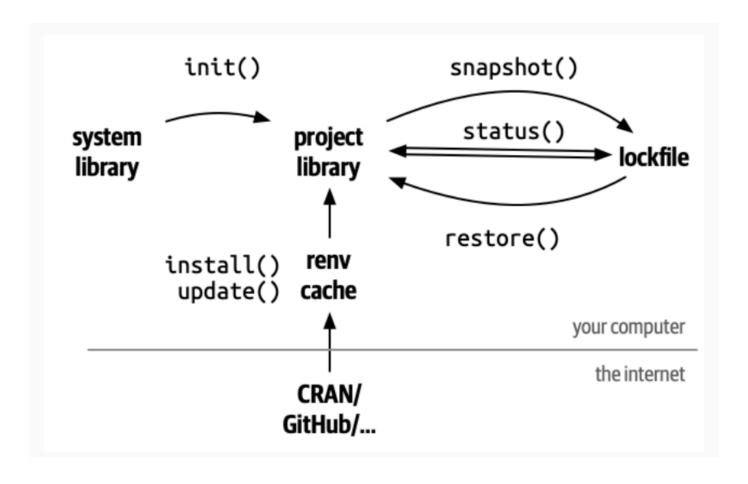
- It records all the packages you use, with versions, in a lockfile
- It installs them in a project-specific library
- It ensures that anyone who runs your code gets exactly the same environment

Project specific library

```
install.packages("renv")
renv::init()
install.packages('bayesplot')
These packages will be installed into "~/repro-pre-school/example-renv/renv/library/macos/R-4.4/aarch64-apple-darwin20".
```

> Example

renv commands



renv::snapshot() # update lockfile

renv::restore() # re-install from lockfile

Research rrtools + renv

- rrtools: Organizes your project into a reproducible compendium with clear folders.
- renv: Locks R package versions for consistent environments.
- Together, they ensure structure and reproducibility across teams and time.
- Run rrtools::create_compendium() to start, then renv::init() to lock dependencies.



Docker

- Packages your project's software, dependencies, and system settings into a container.
- Ensures consistency across different computers or servers.
- Ideal for **sharing** complex analyses with others.

Documenting your environment iii

- sessionInfo(): Captures your R version, packages, and platform in one command.
- Easy way to document and share your environment.

```
1 sessionInfo()
R version 4.4.2 (2024-10-31)
Platform: aarch64-apple-darwin20
Running under: macOS Seguoia 15.5
Matrix products: default
BLAS:
        /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.4-arm64/Resources/lib/libRblas.0.dylib
LAPACK: /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.4-arm64/Resources/lib/libRlapack.dylib;
                                                                                             LAPACK
version 3.12.0
locale:
[1] en_US.UTF-8/en US.UTF-8/en US.UTF-8/C/en US.UTF-8/en US.UTF-8
time zone: Europe/Rome
tzcode source: internal
attached base packages:
              graphics grDevices utils
[1] stats
                                            datasets methods
                                                                base
```

Organizing for reproducibility

- Don't hardcode paths, use R Projects
- Create a logical folder structure for your project
- Use rrtools to scaffold a research compendium
- Use renv to lock your package versions

All of this structure isn't just for you, it makes it easier to work with others.

Literate Programming

What's wrong about Microsoft Word?

MS Word is a WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get editor) that force users to think about formatting, numbering, etc. Markup languages receive the content (plain text) and the rules and creates the final document.

What's wrong about Microsoft Word?

Beyond the pure writing process, there are other aspects related to research data.

- writing math formulas
- reporting statistics in the text
- producing tables
- producing plots

In MS Word (or similar) we need to produce everything outside and then manually put figures and tables.

Think about the typical MW workflow

- You run your analysis in R
- You copy the results into a Word document
- You tweak the formatting
- You insert a figure generate with R manually
- You change your analysis, but forget to update the results in the text...

Literate Programming

A document where:

- The code is part of the text
- The results are generated *dynamically*
- The figures are rendered automatically
- Everything is in *sync*

For example jupyter notebooks, R Markdown and now Quarto are literate programming frameworks to integrate code and text.

Literate Programming, the markup language

Beyond the coding part, the markup language is the core element of a literate programming framework.

The idea of a markup language is separating the result from what you actually write. Some examples are:

- LaTeX
- HTML
- Markdown
- XML
- ...

LaTeX

```
1 % This is a simple sample document. For more complicated documents take a look
     in the exercise tab. Note that everything that comes after a % symbol is treated
     as comment and ignored when the code is compiled.
2
3 \documentclass{article} % \documentclass{} is the first command in any LaTeX
     code. It is used to define what kind of document you are creating such as an
    article or a book, and begins the document preamble
 4
 5 \usepackage{amsmath} % \usepackage is a command that allows you to add
     functionality to your LaTeX code
 6
 7 \title{Simple Sample} % Sets article title
 8 \author{My Name} % Sets authors name
9 \date{\today} % Sets date for date compiled
10
11 % The preamble ends with the command \begin{document}
12 \ begin{document} % All begin commands must be paired with an end command
13
         \maketitle % creates title using information in preamble (title, author,
         date)
14
15 ₹
        \section{Hello World!} % creates a section
16
17
        \textbf{Hello World!} Today I am learning \LaTeX. %notice how the command
         will end at the first non-alphabet charecter such as the . after \LaTeX
18
         \LaTeX{} is a great program for writing math. I can write in line math such
         as $a^2+b^2=c^2$ %$ tells LaTexX to compile as math
19
         . I can also give equations their own space:
20 ₹
         \begin{equation} % Creates an equation environment and is compiled as math
21
        \gamma^2+\theta^2=\omega^2
22
        \end{equation}
23
        If I do not leave any blank lines \LaTeX{} will continue this text without
         making it into a new paragraph. Notice how there was no indentation in the
         text after equation (1).
         Also notice how even though I hit enter after that sentence and here
24
        $\downarrow$
25
         \LaTeX{} formats the sentence without any break. Also look how
                                                                                it
          doesn't matter
                                            many spaces
                                                             I put
                                                                       between
                words.
26
```

Simple Sample

My Name

July 4, 2024

1 Hello World!

Hello World! Today I am learning L^MT_EX. L^MT_EX is a great program for writing math. I can write in line math such as $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$. I can also give equations their own space:

$$\gamma^2 + \theta^2 = \omega^2 \qquad (1)$$

If I do not leave any blank lines LaTeX will continue this text without making it into a new paragraph. Notice how there was no indentation in the text after equation (1). Also notice how even though I hit enter after that sentence and here \downarrow LaTeX formats the sentence without any break. Also look how it doesn't matter how many spaces I put between my words.

For a new paragraph I can leave a blank space in my code.

Markdown

```
Markdown Live Preview Reset Copy Sync scroll
  1 # Markdown syntax guide
  3 ## Headers
  5 # This is a Heading h1
  6 ## This is a Heading h2
  7 ##### This is a Heading h6
  9 ## Emphasis
 11 *This text will be italic*
 12 _This will also be italic_
 13
 14 **This text will be bold**
 15 __This will also be bold__
 16
 17 _You **can** combine them_
 18
 19 ## Lists
 20
 21 ### Unordered
```

Markdown syntax guide

Headers

This is a Heading h1

This is a Heading h2

This is a Heading h6

Emphasis

This text will be italic This will also be italic

Markdown

Markdown is one of the most popular markup languages for several reasons:

- easy to write and read compared to Latex and HTML
- easy to convert from Markdown to basically every other format using pandoc
- easy to implement new features

Markdown (source code)

Also the source code can be used to take notes and read.

```
1 ## My Section
2 - Write **bold** text.
3 - Include a [link](https://quarto.org)
4 - Run code: `r mean(mtcars$mpg)`.
```

Latex and HTML need to be compiled otherwise they are very hard to read.

Quarto

Quarto (https://quarto.org/) is the evolution of R Markdown that integrate a programming language with the Markdown markup language. It is very simple but quite powerful.





Basic Markdown

Markdown can be learned in minutes. You can go to the following link https://quarto.org/docs/authoring/markdown-basics.html and try to understand the syntax.





Guide > Authoring > Markdown Basics

Markdown Basics

Overview

Quarto is based on Pandoc and uses its variation of markdown as its underlying document syntax. Pandoc markdown is an extended and slightly revised version of John Gruber's Markdown syntax.

Markdown is a plain text format that is designed to be easy to write, and, even more importantly, easy to read:

A Markdown-formatted document should be publishable as-is, as plain text, without looking like it's been marked up with tags or formatting instructions. – John Gruber

Quarto

You write your documents in **Markdown**, and **Quarto** turns them into:

- HTML reports
- PDF articles
- Word documents
- Slides
- Website
- Academic manuscripts
- ...

Quarto

- If your data changes, your summary table updates.
- If you update your model, your coefficients update.
- If you change a plot's colors, the new version appear, without having to reexport and re-insert anything.

This eliminates a huge source of human error: manual updates.

[add example!!]

Outputs

Quarto can generate multiple output formats from the same source file. With one command, you get three outputs:

- A PDF to send to your colleagues
- A Word document for your co-author who hates PDFs
- An HTML report for your own website

Everything from the same source. No duplication. **Synchronization**. [add example!!]

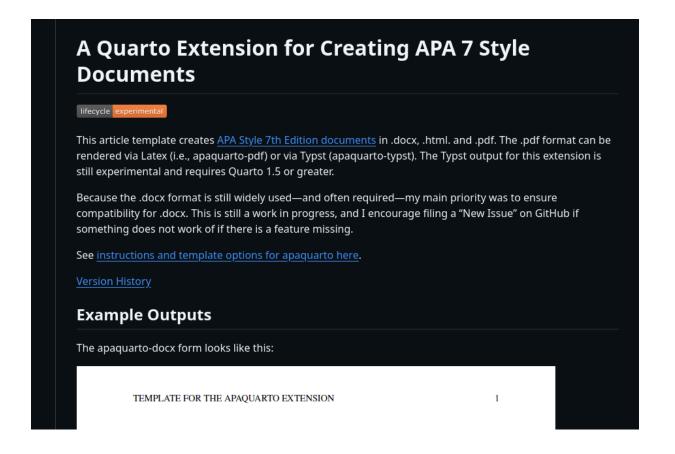
Extra Tools: citations and cross-referencing

- Citations with BibTeX or Zotero
- Cross-references for figures and tables
- Numbered equations with LaTeX syntax
- Footnotes, tables of contents, and more

You can write scientific documents that look and behave just like journal articles, without ever opening Word.

Writing Papers - APA quarto

APA Quarto is a Quarto extension that makes it easy to write documents in APA 7th edition style, with automatic formatting for title pages, headings, citations, references, tables, and figures.



Let's see an example...

.qmd source

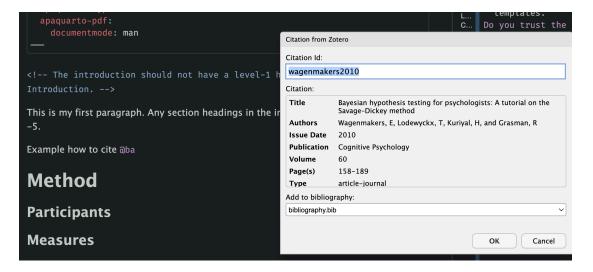
docx output

Quarto + Zotero Z





Choose your reference:



```
manuscript.qmd
                          bibliography.bib
      publisher = {Author}.
      address = {Washington},
      doi = \{10.1037/0000173-000\},\
      url = {http://content.apa.org/books/16157-000},
      urldate = {2024-03-02}.
      isbn = \{978-1-4338-3273-4\ 978-1-4338-3276-5\},
      langid = {english}
87
88
    @book{americanpsychologicalassociationMasteringAPAStyle2021,
      title = {Mastering {APA Style} student workbook.},
      year = {2021},
      author = {{American Psychological Association}},
      publisher = {Author},
      address = {Washington},
      doi = \{10.1037/0000271-000\},\
      isbn = \{978-1-4338-3854-5\},
      langid = {english}
 98
 99
    @article{wagenmakers2010,
      title = {Bayesian hypothesis testing for psychologists: A tutorial on the
      author = {Wagenmakers, Eric-Jan and Lodewyckx, Tom and Kuriyal, Himanshu
102
103
      year = {2010},
104
      month = \{05\},
      date = \{2010-05\},
      journal = {Cognitive Psychology},
      pages = \{158 - 189\},
      volume = \{60\},
      number = \{3\},
      doi = {10.1016/j.cogpsych.2009.12.001},
      url = {https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0010028509000826},
      langid = {en}
112
113 }
```

More about Quarto and R Markdown

The topic is extremely vast. You can do everything in Quarto, a website, thesis, your CV, etc.

- Yihui Xie R Markdown Cookbook https://bookdown.org/yihui/rmarkdowncookbook/
- Yihui Xie R Markdown: The Definitive Guide https://bookdown.org/yihui/rmarkdown/
- Quarto documentation https://quarto.org/docs/guide/

Version Control

Why Version Control?

You're working on a project. You save your script as:

- analysis.R
- analysis2.R
- analysis_final_R
- analysis_final_revised.R
- analysis_final_revised_0K_for_real_R

What Is Git?

Git is a version control system. It works like a time machine for your project.

```
1 git init
```

Then, save changes with commits:

```
1 git add analysis.R
2 git commit -m "Added initial analysis"
```

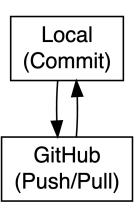
GitHub

Git works **locally**. GitHub is the **online platform** for:

- Backing up your project
- Sharing it publicly or privately
- Collaborating with others
- Tracking issues and progress

https://github.com

GitHub in Practice



```
1 # 1. Initialize a Git repository in your current project folder
   git init
  # 2. Stage a file to be tracked (e.g., your script)
   git add analysis.R
   # 3. Save a snapshot of your work with a message
   git commit -m "Initial commit"
   # 4. Rename the default branch to 'main' (recommended)
   git branch -M main
12
   # 5. Connect your local project to a GitHub repo (change the URL)
   git remote add origin https://github.com/yourname/repo.git
15
16 # 6. Upload your commits to GitHub
17 git push -u origin main
```

Commit message 🚣

- Write meaningful messages:
- "Fix bug in anxiety scoring function"
- X"stuff"
- Use the imperative mood: "Add README", "Update plots"
- Keep lines to 50–72 characters

Branching & merging ~

- Try out new features
- Fix bugs safely
- Work on different versions in parallel

```
# Create and switch to a new branch called 'new-feature'
git checkout -b new-feature

# (Make your changes in code, then stage and commit them)
# Save those changes with a descriptive message
git commit -m "Add new plot"

# Switch back to the main branch
git checkout main

# Merge the changes from 'new-feature' into 'main'
git merge new-feature
```

Use branches to keep your main branch clean.

Handling conflicts

Sometimes, Git can't automatically merge changes. This happens when two branches modify the same line in a file.

```
1 <<<<<< HEAD
2 plot(data)
3 ======
4 plot(data, col = "blue")
5 >>>>> new-feature
```

Git will insert conflict markers directly into the file:

The code between <<<<< HEAD and ====== is from the current branch (e.g., main)

The code between ====== and >>>>> new-feature is from the other branch you're merging (e.g., new-feature)

Handling conflicts

To resolve the conflict, choose the correct version (or combine them), delete the markers, and save the file.

For example:

```
1 plot(data, col = "blue") # resolved version
```

Then:

```
1 git add file.R
2 git commit -m "Resolve merge conflict in file.R"
```

GitHub + RStudio Integration

- Clone repos with File → New Project → Version Control
- Commit and push from the Git tab in RStudio
- View commit history in History pane

Practice & resources

- Happy Git and GitHub for the useR
- GitHub Education: https://education.github.com
- Try GitHub Desktop (GUI client)

Start small. Use Git for one script. Then grow your skills from there.

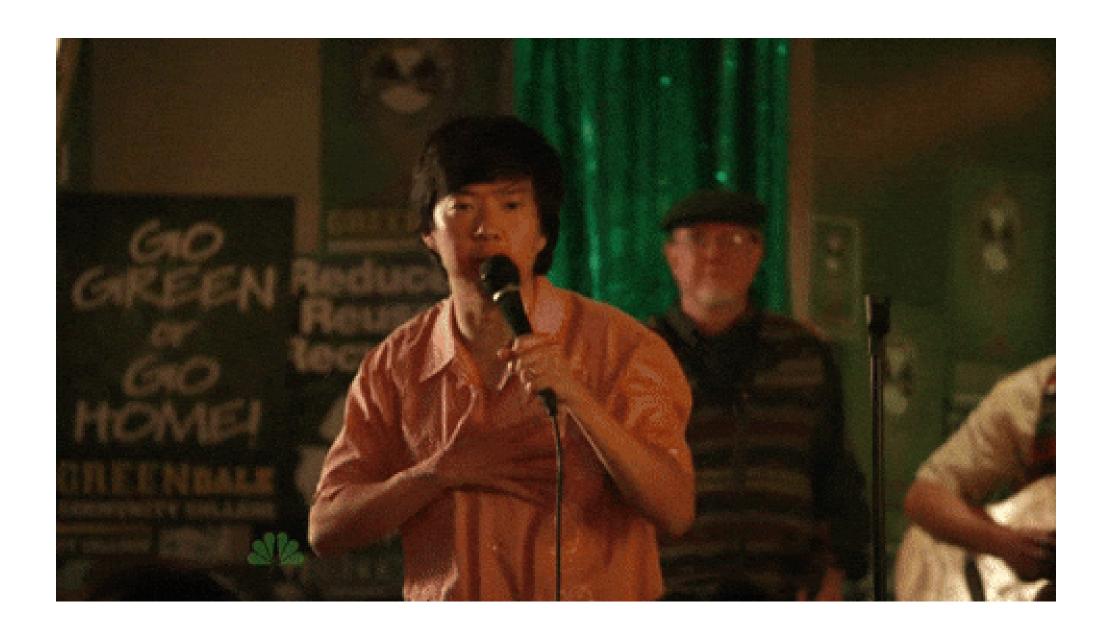
If Git and GitHub feel too technical, or if your collaborators are less technical, the OSF is a fantastic alternative or complement.

- Upload data, code, and documents
- Create public or private projects
- Add collaborators
- Create preregistrations
- Generate DOIs for citation
- Track changes

You can also connect OSF to GitHub.

Integrated workflow X

- 1. Develop your analysis using R and Quarto.
- 2. Track code and scripts using Git.
- 3. Host your code on **GitHub** (public or private).
- 4. Upload your data and materials to **OSF**, including a data dictionary.
- 5. Link your GitHub repository to your OSF project.
- 6. Use renv for reproducible R environments.
- 7. Share the OSF project and cite it in your paper.



Reproducibility

It's about **credibility** and **transparency**.

Reproducible science is **not** about being **perfect**.

It's about showing your work so that others can **follow**, **understand**, and **build upon** it.

Start simple **

"... anything you do — providing the raw data, posting any small scripts, detailing the versions of programs you used together with their parameters — will be tremendously welcome to anyone trying to validate or build off your paper..."

C. Titus Brown

Start simple, don't wait until you're "ready", and teach what you learn!

References

Marwick, B., Boettiger, C., & Mullen, L. (2018). Packaging data analytical work reproducibly using r (and friends). *The American Statistician*, 72(1), 80–88. https://doi.org/10.1080/00031305.2017.1375986