



R Package Anatomy

R Foundations for Life Scientists

Sebastian DiLorenzo

Overview

- What is an R package?
- Possible package states
- Package structure:
 - Code | `r/`
 - Metadata | `DESCRIPTION`
 - Documentation | `man/`
 - Vignettes
 - Import & Export | `NAMESPACE`
 - Data | `data/`
 - Compiled code | `src/`
- git, Github, Rstudio and you!
- CRAN and `R CMD check`



<http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/>

What is an R package?

```
typicalr
├── DESCRIPTION
├── NAMESPACE
├── R
└── typicalr.Rproj

1 directory, 3 files
```

- A strict and connected folder and file structure

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```

- A strict and connected folder and file structure
- Sharing code
- Improved quality and rigor
 - Documentation
 - Tests
 - Examples
- Efficiency
- Improvability
- Reproducibility

Package naming



- A name that describes your packages function
 - Letters, numbers and periods
 - Must start with letter
 - Cannot end with period
- Make it googleable
- Check that it doesn't already exist!
 - CRAN
 - github
 - Bioconductor

Possible package states



There are five states a package can exist in:

- Source
- Bundled
- Binary
- Installed
- In-memory

Source

The development version of your package. The collection of files on your computer.

Bundled

- A compressed, tar.gz, source package with vignettes built
- .Rbuildignore files are excluded
 - Useful for data for example

Binary

- A bundle that is built for a certain architecture
- Parsed format, skipping the development tools needed to take the package between source and being interpretable by R

Installed



- A binary package decompressed into a package library for R
 - The package library is the directory or directories where `library(packagename)` searches
 - `.libPaths()`

In-memory

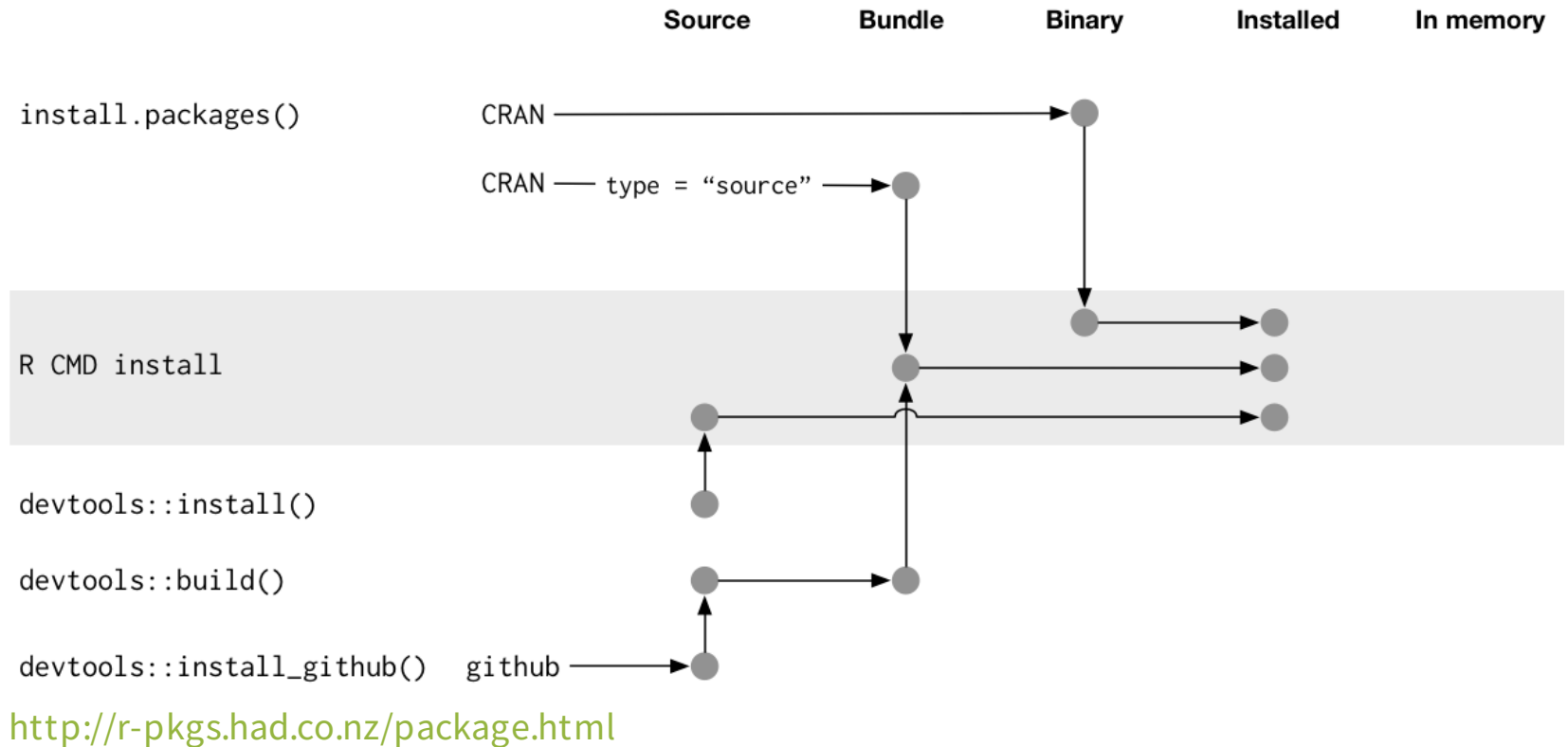
When you use a package, it is in memory. When developing, a package does not have to be installed to be in memory.

- `packagename::function()`
 - loads packagename

Note:

- `library(packagename)`
 - loads and attaches packagename

Possible package states



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```

```
typicalr/R
├── call_me.R
├── data.R
└── utility.R
```

- Code
 - Large functions in their own R files
 - Utility functions, that your package uses, in one R file
- Bad code
 - `library()`, `require()`, `source()`
 - `options()`, `par()`

DESCRIPTION

```
Package: typicalr
Title: What the Package Does (one line, title case)
Version: 0.0.0.9000
Authors@R: person("First", "Last", email = "first.last@example.com", role = c("aut", "cre"))
Description: What the package does (one paragraph). If you want to write lots of things
             be sure to indent so R knows it belongs to the same post.
Depends: R (>= 3.5.0)
License: What license is it under?
Encoding: UTF-8
LazyData: true
RoxygenNote: 6.0.1
Imports: What packages does it need?
URL: package homepage
BugReports: Where to get help
```

- Title
 - 65 characters, no punctuation
- Version
 - The version of the package
- Description
 - One paragraph
- Authors@R
 - Roles
 - **cre***: Creator or maintainer.
 - **aut***: Author or authors, that have made significant contributions.
 - **ctb**: Contributors, have made smaller contributions.
 - **cph**: Copyright holder. Used if copyright is held by someone other than author, typically company.

*:required

DESCRIPTION

```
Package: typicalr
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Version: 0.0.0.9000
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LazyData: true
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Imports: What packages does it need?
URL: package homepage
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```

- Depends & Imports
 - Packages and versions that your package needs
 - Versions are optional
 - Depends: Attaches!
 - Imports: Loads!
- Suggests
 - Added functionality
- LazyData
 - Datasets occupy no memory until loaded
- License
 - Can be a file; LICENSE
 - Influences permissions of who can distribute and modify in what way
 - Most common; MIT, GPL-3, CC0.
 - <https://tldrlegal.com/>
 - CRAN requires a license

Versioning



0.0.0.9000
major.minor.patch.dev

- Major
 - Large changes, not always backwards compatible
 - Usually 1 upon first release out of dev
- Minor
 - Bug fixes & new features. Most common
- Patch
 - Small bugfixes, no new features.
- Dev
 - Only used while under development
 - Always starts at 9000

```

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```

- Roxygen2
 - ?function
 - Comment block, `#'`, preceding a function
 - Tags, `@tags`, map values
 - No tag for introduction
 - title*
 - description
 - details
 - Special characters `@\%`, escape with `\`

call_me.R

```

#' Output "Call me " followed by input.
#'
#' @param x A character or characters.
#' @return The string "Call me " and \code{x}. I'll write this
#'         to display how to section with tags.
#' @examples
#' call_me("Maeby")
call_me <- function(x) {
  paste("Call me ", x, sep="")
}

```



```
##' Output "Call me " followed by input.
##'
##' @param x A character or characters.
##' @return The string "Call me " and {x}. I'll write
##' to display how to section with tags.
##' @examples
##' call_me("Maeby")
call_me <- function(x) {
  paste("Call me ", x, sep="")
}
```

```
% Generated by roxygen2: do not edit by hand
% Please edit documentation in R/call_me.R
\name{call_me}
\alias{call_me}
\title{Output "Call me " followed by input.}
\usage{
call_me(x)
}
\arguments{
\item{x}{A character or characters.}
}
\value{
The string "Call me " and \code{x}. I'll write this
```

```
call_me( "Maebby" )
```

man/ for datasets

```
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```

```
head(ToothGrowth)
```

##	len	supp	dose
## 1	4.2	VC	0.5
## 2	11.5	VC	0.5
## 3	7.3	VC	0.5
## 4	5.8	VC	0.5
## 5	6.4	VC	0.5
## 6	10.0	VC	0.5

data.R:

```
#' The Effect of Vitamin C on Tooth Growth in Guinea Pigs
#'
#' The response is the length of odontoblasts (cells responsible for tooth growth)
#' in 60 guinea pigs. Each animal received one of three dose levels of vitamin C
#' (0.5, 1, and 2 mg/day) by one of two delivery methods, orange juice or ascorbic
#' acid (a form of vitamin C and coded as VC).
#'
#' @usage ToothGrowth
#'
#' @format A data frame with 60 observations on 3 variables.
#' |describe{
#' |item{len}{Tooth length}
#' |item{supp}{Supplement type (VC or OJ).}
#' |item{dose}{Dose in milligrams/day}
```

vignettes/

- A more complete guide to your package
 - For user/you
 - Examples and use cases
- `knitr` & `rmarkdown`
 - `knitr`: add r code to markdown
- `vignettes/package-vignette.Rmd`

```
usethis::use_vignette("typicalr-vignette")
```

typicalr-vignette.Rmd

```
---  
title: "Vignette Title"  
author: "Vignette Author"  
date: "2023-08-09"  
output: rmarkdown::html_vignette  
vignette: >  
  %\VignetteIndexEntry{Vignette Title}  
  %\VignetteEngine{knitr::rmarkdown}  
  %\VignetteEncoding{UTF-8}  
---
```

vignettes/

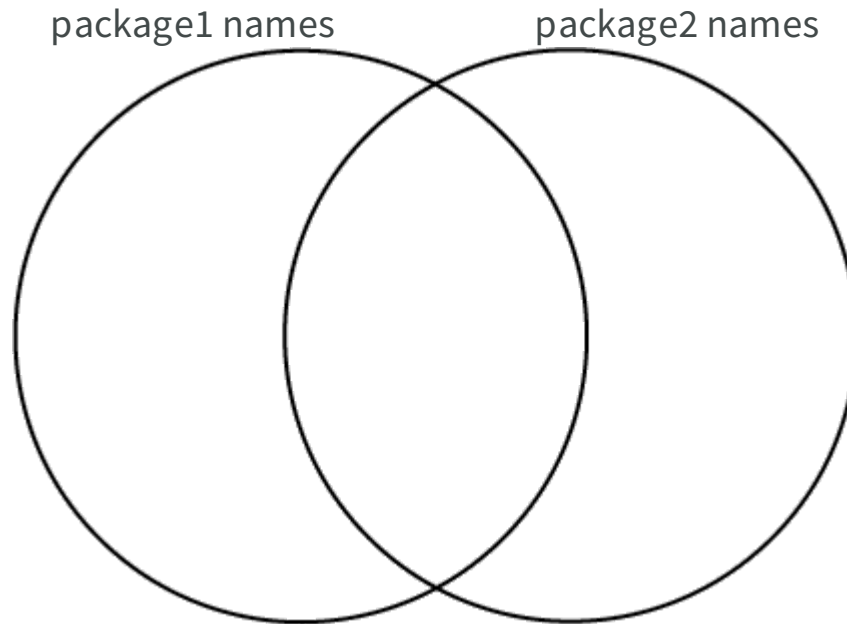
- A more complete guide to your package
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- `knitr` & `rmarkdown`
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- `vignettes/package-vignette.Rmd`

```
usethis::use_vignette("typicalr-vignette")
```

typicalr-vignette.Rmd

```
---  
title: "typicalr"  
author: "Sebastian DiLorenzo"  
date: "2023-08-09"  
output: rmarkdown::html_vignette  
vignette: >  
  %\VignetteIndexEntry{typicalr}  
  %\VignetteEngine{knitr::rmarkdown}  
  %\VignetteEncoding{UTF-8}  
---
```

NAMESPACE



- `@imports` and `@importsFrom`
 - Defines how/where a function in one package finds a function in another
 - `@imports` *pkg*
 - `@importsFrom` *pkg function*
- `@export`
 - Defines which functions are available to user
 - Do not export data

NAMESPACE



call_me.R:

```
#' Output "Call me " followed by input.
#'
#' @param x A character or characters.
#' @return The string "Call me " and \code{x}. I'll write this
#' to display how to section with tags.
#' @examples
#' call_me("Maeby")
#' @export
call_me <- function(x) {
  paste("Call me ",x,sep="")
}
```

utility.R:

```
#' @import knitr
NULL
```

NAMESPACE:

```
# Generated by roxygen2: do not edit by hand

export(call_me)
import(knitr)
```

NAMESPACE



Import in **DESCRIPTION** and in **NAMESPACE**!?

- DESCRIPTION `Imports:`
 - "My package needs this package to work"
- NAMESPACE `@import`
 - "When my package uses this function, use the one from the package in the NAMESPACE"
- Additional effects:
 - NAMESPACE removes need for `::`
 - `package::function()` or `function()`

Package types:

- Functional
 - Performs a or several functions
 - Contains no or small datasets, <1 MB
- Dataset
 - Contains an interesting dataset
 - Easy to import
 - Few or no functions

```
#Create data in package automatically  
usethis::use_data(object, package)
```

```
#Manually  
save(object, file="path/to/package/data/object")
```

```
#Access raw data  
system.file("extdata", "filename.csv", package = "package")
```

Data types:

- Binary data, `.Rdata` or `.rda`
 - `data/` folder
 - A single object with the same name as the data file
- Function data
 - `R/sysdata.rda`
 - Data that your functions need
- Raw data, `.xlsx`, `.csv` etc
 - `inst/extdata` folder

- Compiled code

- Rcpp
- rJava

- Scripts

- inst/
- Dependencies

1. `usethis::use_rcpp()`

- Edit DESCRIPTION
- `#' @useDynLib packagename`
- `#' @importFrom Rcpp sourceCpp`

2. `.cpp` file in `src/`

src/filename.cpp:

```
#include <Rcpp.h>
using namespace Rcpp;

// This is a simple example of exporting a C++ function to R. You can
// source this function into an R session using the Rcpp::sourceCpp
// function (or via the Source button on the editor toolbar). Learn
// more about Rcpp at:
//
// http://www.rcpp.org/
// http://adv-r.had.co.nz/Rcpp.html
// http://gallery.rcpp.org/
//

// [[Rcpp::export]]
NumericVector timesTwo(NumericVector x) {
  return x * 2;
}
```

- Compiled code

- Rcpp
- rJava

- Scripts

- inst/
- Dependencies

R/RcppExports.R:

```
# Generated by using Rcpp::compileAttributes(  
# Generator token: 10BE3573-1514-4C36-9D1C-5A
```

```
timesTwo <- function(x) {  
  .Call('_typicalr_timesTwo', PACKAGE = 'ty  
}
```

1. `usethis::use_rcpp()`

- Edit DESCRIPTION
- `#' @useDynLib packagename`
- `#' @importFrom Rcpp sourceCpp`

2. `.cpp` file in `src/`

3. `pkgbuild::compile_dll()`

4. `devtools::document()`

5. Build & Reload

6. Add documentation to `.cpp`

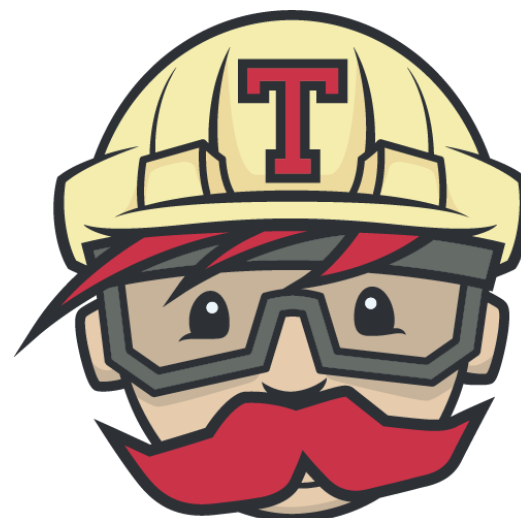
git, Github, Rstudio and you!

- `git`
 - Version control
 - Working in groups
 - Rstudio integration
- Github
 - Unofficial repository
 - `devtools::install_github()`
 - R Package development environment
 - Issues



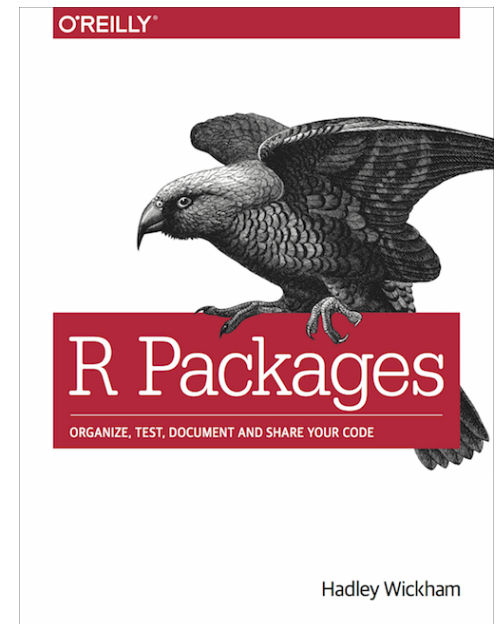
CRAN and R CMD check

- Comprehensive R Archive Network
 - R package repository
 - Sign of quality
- R CMD check
 - More than 50 individual checks
 - Three messages:
 - **ERROR:** Always fix.
 - **WARNING:** Should probably fix. Definitely for CRAN submit.
 - **NOTE:** Try to solve to CRAN submit, else do not bother.
 - `devtools::check()`
- Travis-CI
 - Integrated with your github repository
 - Automates R CMD check
 - Multiple operating systems



Summary

- What is an R package?
- Possible package states
- Package structure:
 - Code | `r/`
 - Metadata | `DESCRIPTION`
 - Documentation | `man/`
 - Vignettes
 - Import & Export | `NAMESPACE`
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Thank you. Questions?

Graphics from  freepik.com

Created: 09-Aug-2023 • Roy Francis • SciLifeLab • NBIS

