

# Collaborative Data Science Practices

*Will Beasley*

*2018-10-17*



# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Architecture Principles</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	Encapsulation . . . . .	9
2.2	Leverage team member's strenghts & avoid weaknesses . . . . .	9
2.3	Scales . . . . .	9
2.4	Consistency . . . . .	9
<b>3</b>	<b>Prototypical File</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1	Clear Memory . . . . .	11
3.2	Load Sources . . . . .	11
3.3	Load Packages . . . . .	11
3.4	Declare Globals . . . . .	11
3.5	Load Data . . . . .	11
3.6	Tweak Data . . . . .	11
3.7	(Unique Content) . . . . .	11
3.8	Verify Values . . . . .	11
3.9	Specify Output Columns . . . . .	11
3.10	Save to Disk or Database . . . . .	11
<b>4</b>	<b>Prototypical Repository</b>	<b>13</b>
4.1	Analysis . . . . .	13
4.2	Data Public . . . . .	13
4.3	Data Unshared . . . . .	13
4.4	Documentation . . . . .	13
4.5	Manipulation . . . . .	13
4.6	Stitched Output . . . . .	13
4.7	Utility . . . . .	13

<b>5</b>	<b>Data at Rest</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1	Data States . . . . .	15
5.2	Data Containers . . . . .	15
<b>6</b>	<b>Patterns</b>	<b>17</b>
6.1	Ellis . . . . .	17
6.2	Arch . . . . .	17
6.3	Ferry . . . . .	17
6.4	Scribe . . . . .	17
6.5	Analysis . . . . .	17
6.6	Presentation -Static . . . . .	17
6.7	Presentation -Interactive . . . . .	17
6.8	Metadata . . . . .	17
<b>7</b>	<b>Security &amp; Private Data</b>	<b>19</b>
7.1	File-level permissions . . . . .	19
7.2	Database permissions . . . . .	19
7.3	Public & Private Repositories . . . . .	19
<b>8</b>	<b>Automation</b>	<b>21</b>
8.1	Flow File in R . . . . .	21
8.2	Makefile . . . . .	21
8.3	SSIS . . . . .	21
8.4	cron Jobs & Task Scheduler . . . . .	21
8.5	Sink Log Files . . . . .	21
<b>9</b>	<b>Scaling Up</b>	<b>23</b>
9.1	Data Storage . . . . .	23
9.2	Data Processing . . . . .	23
<b>10</b>	<b>Parallel Collaboration</b>	<b>25</b>
10.1	Social Contract . . . . .	25
10.2	Code Reviews . . . . .	25
10.3	Remote . . . . .	25

<b>11 Documentation</b>	<b>27</b>
11.1 Team-wide . . . . .	27
11.2 Project-specific . . . . .	27
11.3 Dataset Origin & Structure . . . . .	27
11.4 Issues & Tasks . . . . .	27
11.5 Flow Diagrams . . . . .	27
11.6 Setting up new machine . . . . .	27
<b>12 Publishing Results</b>	<b>29</b>
12.1 To Other Analysts . . . . .	29
12.2 To Researchers & Content Experts . . . . .	29
12.3 To Technical-Phobic Audiences . . . . .	29
<b>13 Testing, Validation, &amp; Defensive Programming</b>	<b>31</b>
13.1 Testing Functions . . . . .	31
13.2 Defensive Programming . . . . .	31
13.3 Validator . . . . .	31
<b>14 Troubleshooting and Debugging</b>	<b>33</b>
14.1 Finding Help . . . . .	33
14.2 Debugging . . . . .	33
<b>15 Considerations when Selecting Tools</b>	<b>35</b>
15.1 Required Installation . . . . .	35
15.2 Recommended Installation . . . . .	35
15.3 Optional Installation . . . . .	35
15.4 Asset Locations . . . . .	35
<b>16 Considerations when Selecting Tools</b>	<b>37</b>
16.1 General . . . . .	37
16.2 Languages . . . . .	37
16.3 R Packages . . . . .	37
16.4 Database . . . . .	37
<b>17 Growing a Team</b>	<b>39</b>
17.1 Recruiting . . . . .	39
17.2 Training to Data Science . . . . .	39
17.3 Bridges Outside the Team . . . . .	39
<b>18 Introduction</b>	<b>41</b>

<b>19 Scratch Pad of Loose Ideas</b>	<b>43</b>
19.1 Chapters & Sections to Form . . . . .	43

# Chapter 1

## Prerequisites

This is a *sample* book written in **Markdown**. You can use anything that Pandoc's Markdown supports, e.g., a math equation  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ .

The **bookdown** package can be installed from CRAN or Github:

```
install.packages("bookdown")  
# or the development version  
# devtools::install_github("rstudio/bookdown")
```

Remember each Rmd file contains one and only one chapter, and a chapter is defined by the first-level heading #.

To compile this example to PDF, you need XeLaTeX. You are recommended to install TinyTeX (which includes XeLaTeX): <https://yihui.name/tinytex/>.





## Chapter 2

# Architecture Principles

### 2.1 Encapsulation

### 2.2 Leverage team member's strenghts & avoid weaknesses

1. Focused code files
2. Metadata for content experts

### 2.3 Scales

1. Single source & single analysis
2. Multiple sources & multiple analyses

### 2.4 Consistency

1. Across Files
2. Across Languages
3. Across Projects



## Chapter 3

# Prototypical File

3.1 Clear Memory

3.2 Load Sources

3.3 Load Packages

3.4 Declare Globals

3.5 Load Data

3.6 Tweak Data

3.7 (Unique Content)

3.8 Verify Values

3.9 Specify Output Columns

3.10 Save to Disk or Database



## Chapter 4

# Prototypical Repository

<https://github.com/wibeasley/RAnalysisSkeleton>

### 4.1 Analysis

### 4.2 Data Public

1. Raw
2. Derived
3. Metadata
4. Database
5. Original

### 4.3 Data Unshared

### 4.4 Documentation

### 4.5 Manipulation

### 4.6 Stitched Output

### 4.7 Utility



# Chapter 5

## Data at Rest

### 5.1 Data States

1. Raw
2. Derived
  1. Project-wide File on Repo
  2. Project-wide File on Protected File Server
  3. User-specific File on Protected File Server
  4. Project-wide Database
3. Original

### 5.2 Data Containers

1. csv
2. rds
3. SQLite
4. Central Enterprise database
5. Central REDCap database
6. Containers to avoid for raw/input
  1. Proprietary like xlsx, sas7bdat





## Chapter 6

# Patterns

6.1 Ellis

6.2 Arch

6.3 Ferry

6.4 Scribe

6.5 Analysis

6.6 Presentation -Static

6.7 Presentation -Interactive

6.8 Metadata



## Chapter 7

# Security & Private Data

### 7.1 File-level permissions

### 7.2 Database permissions

### 7.3 Public & Private Repositories

1. Scrubbing GitHub history



## Chapter 8

# Automation

### 8.1 Flow File in R

### 8.2 Makefile

### 8.3 SSIS

### 8.4 cron Jobs & Task Scheduler

### 8.5 Sink Log Files



## Chapter 9

# Scaling Up

### 9.1 Data Storage

1. Local File vs Conventional Database vs Redshift
2. Usage Cases

### 9.2 Data Processing

1. R vs SQL
2. R vs Spark





## Chapter 10

# Parallel Collaboration

### 10.1 Social Contract

1. Issues
2. Organized Commits & Coherent Diffs
3. Branch & Merge Strategy

### 10.2 Code Reviews

1. Daily Reviews of PRs
2. Periodic Reviews of Files

### 10.3 Remote

1. Headset & sharing screens



# Chapter 11

## Documentation

11.1 Team-wide

11.2 Project-specific

11.3 Dataset Origin & Structure

11.4 Issues & Tasks

11.5 Flow Diagrams

11.6 Setting up new machine

(example)



## Chapter 12

# Publishing Results

12.1 To Other Analysts

12.2 To Researchers & Content Experts

12.3 To Technical-Phobic Audiences



## Chapter 13

# Testing, Validation, & Defensive Programming

### 13.1 Testing Functions

### 13.2 Defensive Programming

1. Throwing errors

### 13.3 Validator

1. Benefits for Analysts
2. Benefits for Data Collectors





## Chapter 14

# Troubleshooting and Debugging

### 14.1 Finding Help

1. Within your group (eg, Thomas and REDCap questions)
2. Within your university (eg, SCUG)
3. Outside (eg, Stack Overflow; GitHub issues)

### 14.2 Debugging

1. `traceback()`, `browser()`, etc



## Chapter 15

# Considerations when Selecting Tools

<https://github.com/OuhscBbmc/RedcapExamplesAndPatterns/blob/master/DocumentationGlobal/ResourcesInstallation.md>

### 15.1 Required Installation

### 15.2 Recommended Installation

### 15.3 Optional Installation

### 15.4 Asset Locations



## Chapter 16

# Considerations when Selecting Tools

### 16.1 General

1. The Component's Goal
2. Current Skillset of Team
3. Desired Future Skillset of Team
4. Skillset of Audience

### 16.2 Languages

### 16.3 R Packages

### 16.4 Database



## Chapter 17

# Growing a Team

### 17.1 Recruiting

### 17.2 Training to Data Science

1. Starting with a Researcher
2. Starting with a Statistician
3. Starting with a DBA
4. Starting with a Software Developer

### 17.3 Bridges Outside the Team

1. Monthly User Groups
2. Annual Conferences





# Chapter 18

## Introduction

You can label chapter and section titles using `{#label}` after them, e.g., we can reference Chapter 18. If you do not manually label them, there will be automatic labels anyway, e.g., Chapter 2.

Figures and tables with captions will be placed in `figure` and `table` environments, respectively.

```
par(mar = c(4, 4, .1, .1))
plot(pressure, type = 'b', pch = 19)
```

Reference a figure by its code chunk label with the `fig:` prefix, e.g., see Figure 18.1. Similarly, you can reference tables generated from `knitr::kable()`, e.g., see Table 18.1.

```
knitr::kable(
  head(iris, 20), caption = 'Here is a nice table!',
  booktabs = TRUE
)
```

You can write citations, too. For example, we are using the **bookdown** package (Xie, 2018) in this sample book, which was built on top of R Markdown and **knitr** (Xie, 2015).

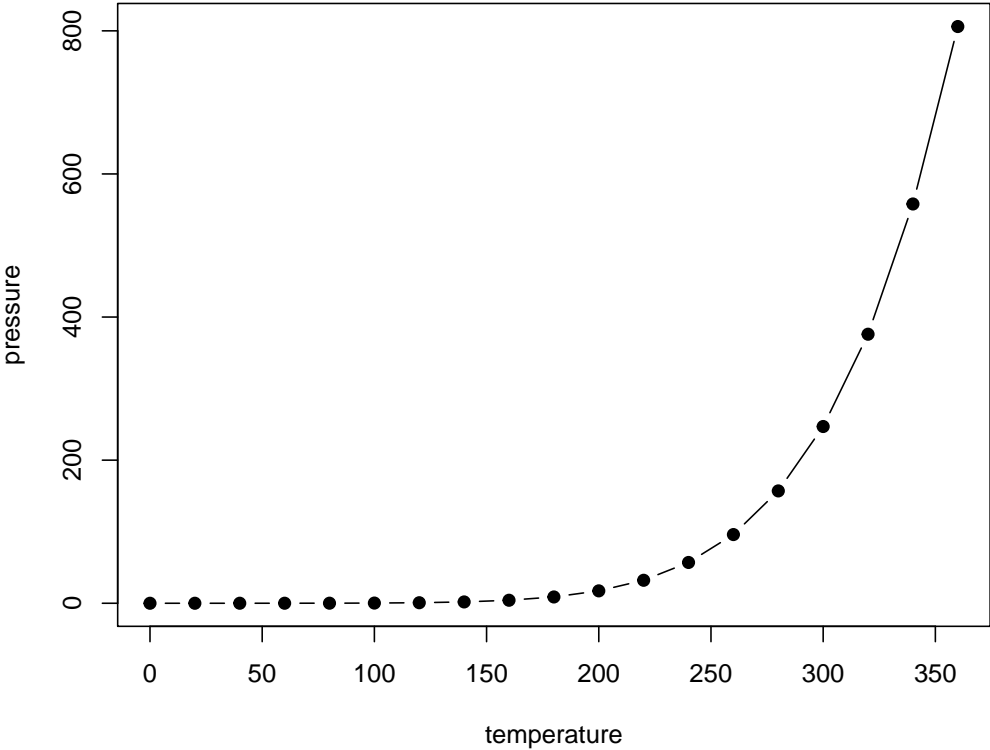


Figure 18.1: Here is a nice figure!

Table 18.1: Here is a nice table!

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
4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	setosa
5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	setosa
5.4	3.9	1.7	0.4	setosa
4.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	setosa
5.0	3.4	1.5	0.2	setosa
4.4	2.9	1.4	0.2	setosa
4.9	3.1	1.5	0.1	setosa
5.4	3.7	1.5	0.2	setosa
4.8	3.4	1.6	0.2	setosa
4.8	3.0	1.4	0.1	setosa
4.3	3.0	1.1	0.1	setosa
5.8	4.0	1.2	0.2	setosa
5.7	4.4	1.5	0.4	setosa
5.4	3.9	1.3	0.4	setosa
5.1	3.5	1.4	0.3	setosa
5.7	3.8	1.7	0.3	setosa
5.1	3.8	1.5	0.3	setosa

## Chapter 19

# Scratch Pad of Loose Ideas

### 19.1 Chapters & Sections to Form

1. Tools to Consider
  1. tidyverse
  2. odbc



# Bibliography

Xie, Y. (2015). *Dynamic Documents with R and knitr*. Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, Florida, 2nd edition. ISBN 978-1498716963.

Xie, Y. (2018). *bookdown: Authoring Books and Technical Documents with R Markdown*. R package version 0.7.