

The Software Sustainability Institute

Lessons learnt when contributing with Yihui Xie



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About me



www.software.ac.uk

- Community Officer at the Software Sustainability Institute
- Contributor to different open source projects
- R knowledge is minimal
- Use @rgaiacs as online nickname

About Yihui Xie



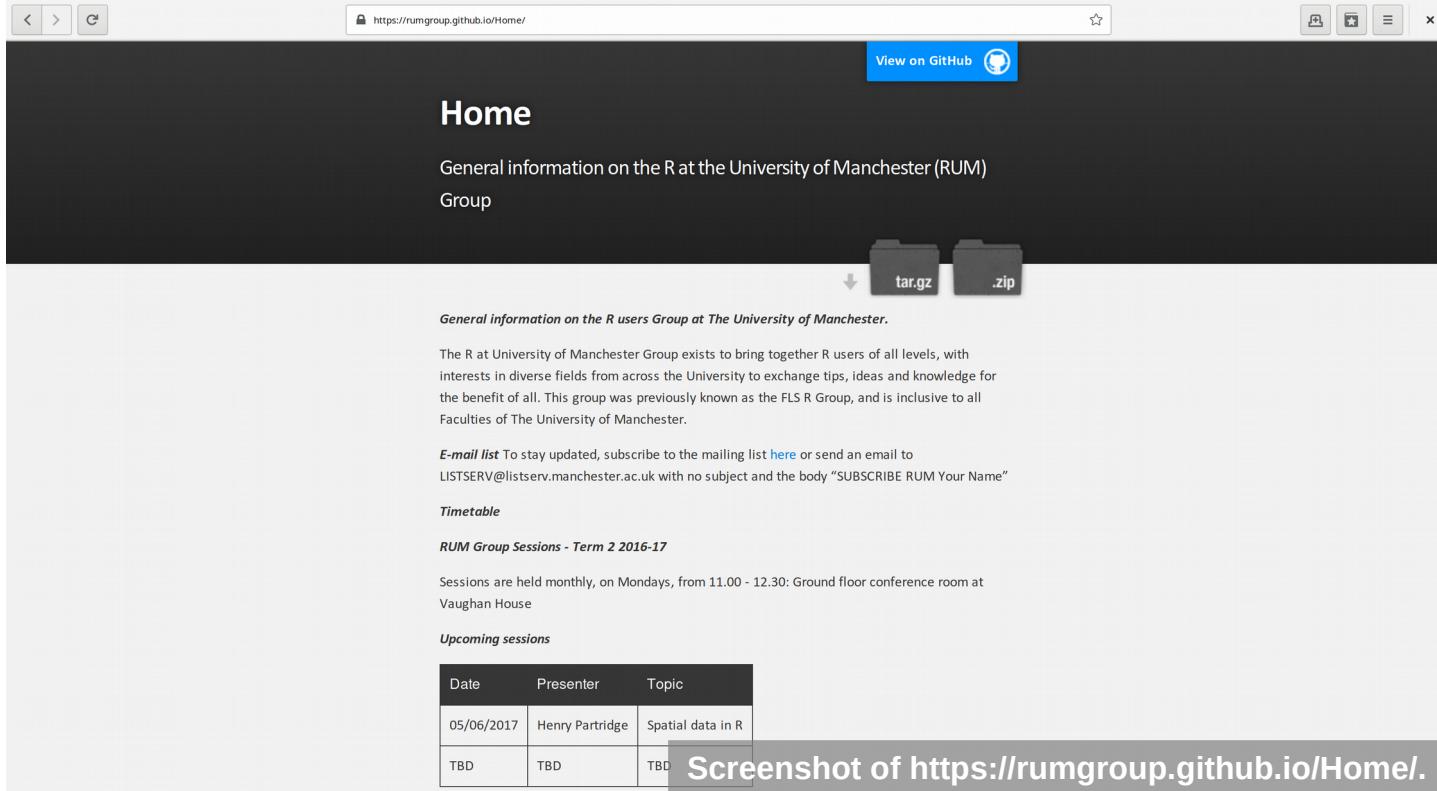
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- Software Engineer at RStudio
- Contributor to open source projects
- Author of several R packages
 - knitr and rmarkdown
 - bookdown and blogdown
 - Shiny
 - leaflet
- Use @xieyihui as online nickname

How did it start? (1/6)



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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the homepage of the RUM Group GitHub repository. The URL in the address bar is <https://rumgroup.github.io/Home/>. The page has a dark theme with white text. At the top right is a "View on GitHub" button with a GitHub icon. Below the header, the word "Home" is centered. A sub-header reads "General information on the R at the University of Manchester (RUM) Group". At the bottom of the main content area, there are two download links: "tar.gz" and ".zip". A small downward arrow is positioned between them. Below these links is a section titled "General information on the R users Group at The University of Manchester." It contains a paragraph about the group's purpose and history, mentioning its previous name as the FLS R Group. Further down, there are sections for "E-mail list", "Timetable", and "Upcoming sessions". The "Upcoming sessions" section includes a table:

Date	Presenter	Topic
05/06/2017	Henry Partridge	Spatial data in R
TBD	TBD	TBD

Screenshot of <https://rumgroup.github.io/Home/>.

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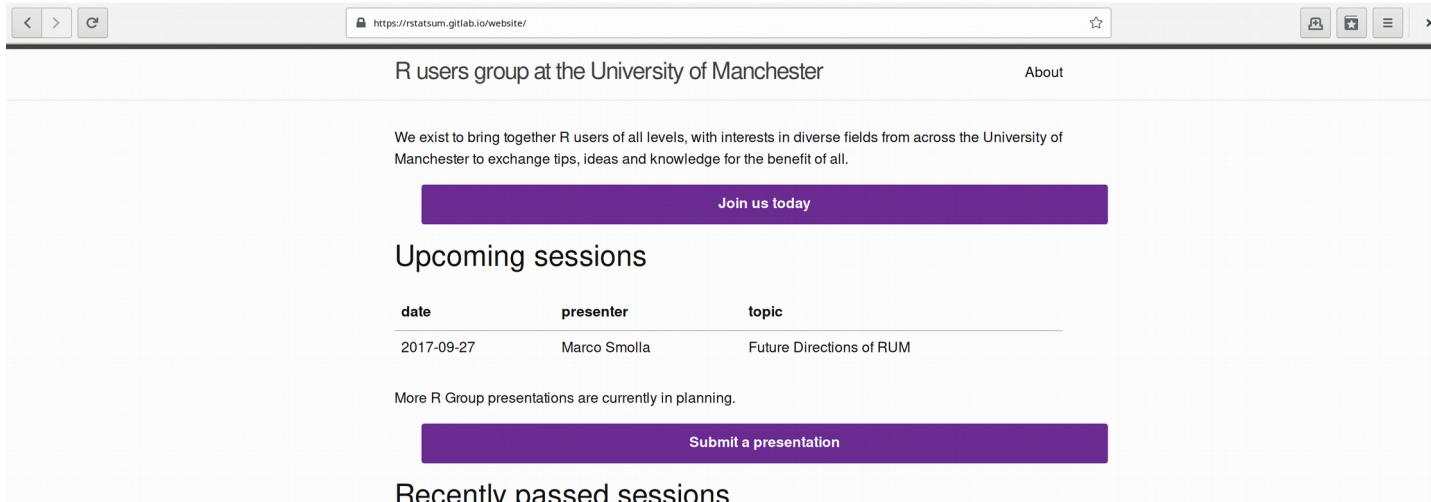
Raniere Silva
@rgaiacs



How did it start? (2/6)



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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the homepage of the R users group at the University of Manchester. The title bar reads "R users group at the University of Manchester". The page content includes a brief description of the group's purpose, a purple "Join us today" button, a section for "Upcoming sessions" with one entry for September 27, 2017, featuring Marco Smolla and the topic "Future Directions of RUM". It also mentions that more presentations are in planning. A purple "Submit a presentation" button is present. Below this is a section for "Recently passed sessions" listing several previous events with their dates, presenters, and topics.

date	presenter	topic
2017-09-27	Marco Smolla	Future Directions of RUM

More R Group presentations are currently in planning.

date	presenter	topic
2017-06-05	Henry Partridge	Spatial date in R
2017-05-08	Glen Martin & William Hulme	Missing date with MICE package
2017-04-03	Miguel Belmonte	Wavethresh package for time series date
2017-02-06	Syed Murtuza Baker	Leaflet for interactive maps
2017-02-06	Reka Solymosi	Discussion about R in teaching clusters
2016-12-05	Paul Johnston	

Screenshot of <https://rstatsum.gitlab.io/website/>.

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How did it start? (3/6)



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The screenshot shows the homepage of the RSE UK Conference 2017 website. The header features a large banner with a photo of many attendees and the text "Second conference of Research Software Engineers". Below the banner are navigation links for "RSE UK Home", "RSE Conference 2017", "Programme", "Feedback", "Code of Conduct", "Venue", and "Contacts". A search bar is also present. On the left, a sidebar displays "Quick Action Links" and "Quick Information Links" with various conference-related links. The main content area includes sections for "Thank you!", "Talks Downloads", "Conference Photos", and a "Code of Conduct" section.

7-8 September

Second conference of
Research Software Engineers

RSE UK Home RSE Conference 2017 Programme Feedback Code of Conduct Venue Contacts

Take Screenshot

Effects

Quick Action Links

- Feedback
- Information for Attendees
- View Talk abstracts
- View Workshop and Tutorial Abstracts
- AGM

Quick Information Links

- Feedback
- Diversity
- Code of Conduct

How to Report Harassment

<http://rse.ac.uk/conf2017/codeofconduct/>

Screenshot of <http://rse.ac.uk/conf2017/>.

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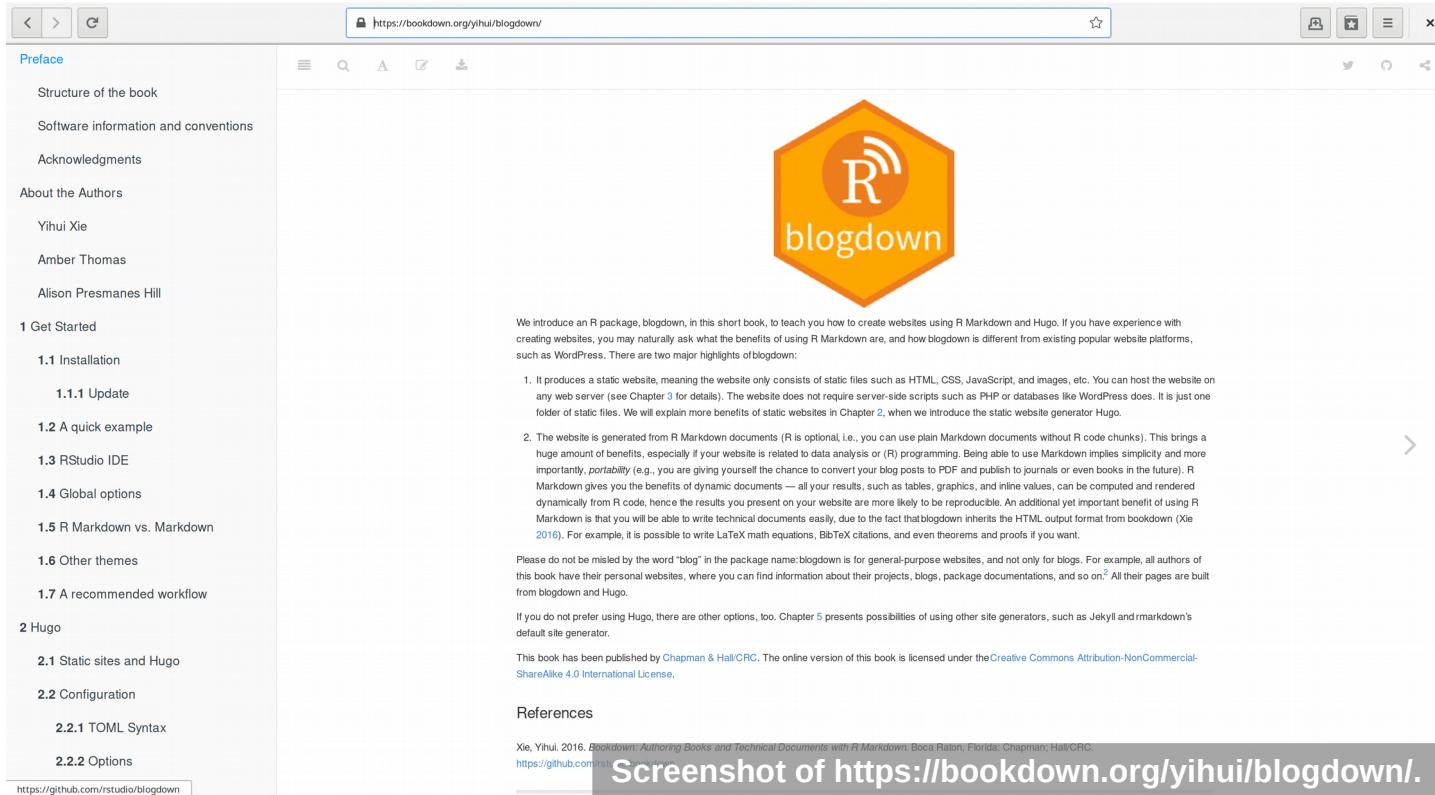
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@rgaiacs



How did it start? (4/6)



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The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the bookdown.org/yihui/blogdown/ website. The page features a large orange hexagonal logo in the center with the text "R blogdown". To the left is a sidebar with navigation links for Preface, 1 Get Started, and 2 Hugo. The main content area contains an introduction to the R package blogdown, followed by two columns of text detailing its benefits and how it compares to other static site generators like Jekyll and rmarkdown. At the bottom, there are links to the book's publication information and a GitHub repository.

Preface

- Structure of the book
- Software information and conventions
- Acknowledgments
- About the Authors
 - Yihui Xie
 - Amber Thomas
 - Alison Presmanes Hill

1 Get Started

- 1.1 Installation
 - 1.1.1 Update
- 1.2 A quick example
- 1.3 RStudio IDE
- 1.4 Global options
- 1.5 R Markdown vs. Markdown
- 1.6 Other themes
- 1.7 A recommended workflow

2 Hugo

- 2.1 Static sites and Hugo
- 2.2 Configuration
 - 2.2.1 TOML Syntax
 - 2.2.2 Options

<https://github.com/rstudio/bookdown>

Screenshot of <https://bookdown.org/yihui/blogdown/>.

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How did it start? (5/6)



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A screenshot of a web browser showing the Hacktoberfest landing page. The page has a dark blue background. At the top left is the DigitalOcean logo. At the top right are links for "Hacktoberfest Projects", "Details", and "Resources". The center features a large, stylized, orange-to-pink gradient "Hacktoberfest" title. Below it is the text "Support open source and earn a limited edition T-shirt.". A smaller text below that says "Check back next October for details on how to participate!". At the bottom, a grey footer bar contains the text "Hacktoberfest is a month-long celebration of open source software in partnership with GitHub" and the URL "Screenshot of <https://hacktoberfest.digitalocean.com/>".

https://hacktoberfest.digitalocean.com/

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How did it start? (6/6)



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The screenshot shows a GitHub commit page for a RStudio repository. The URL in the address bar is <https://github.com/rstudio/blogdown/commit/11e69054264bb5b3fcb469e7655854e819a3ce2b>. The page displays the commit message and its history. The commit message includes a thank you note to the RStudio team and mentions contributions from various users, including a special mention of Jerry Han as the youngest "blogdown" user. It also credits co-authors Amber and Alison for their explanations and Sharon Machlis for search engine optimization advice. The commit message ends with a link to a GitLab page and a GitHub pull request. The commit was made by "Raniere Silva" and has 0 comments.

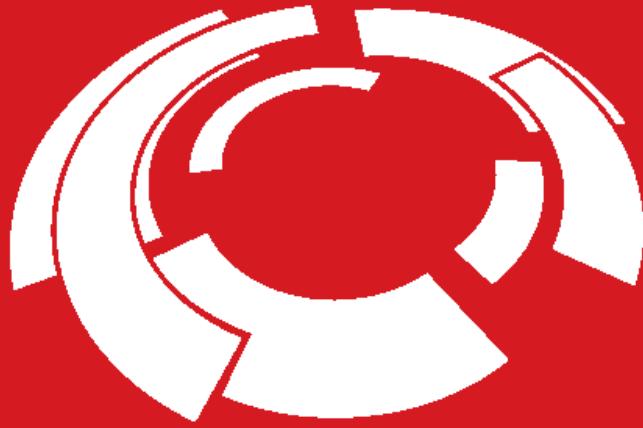
Screenshot of
<https://github.com/rstudio/blogdown/commit/11e69054264bb5b3fcb469e7655854e819a3ce2b>.

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7 top tips to contribute back to the R/open source community



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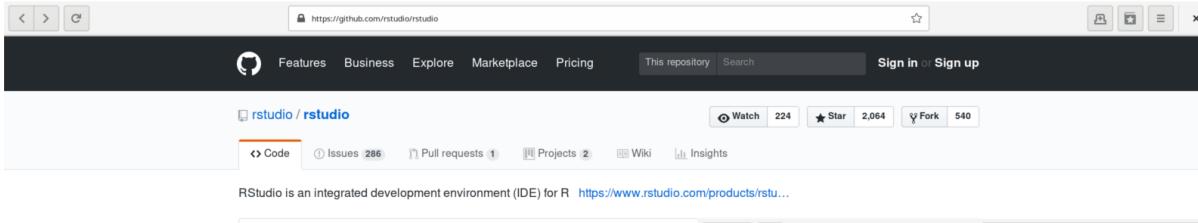
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It is not limited to code



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RStudio is an integrated development environment (IDE) for R [https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstu...](https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/)

Branch: master ▾ New pull request

jncphers update NEWS

- .github add edition to issue template
- cmake/modules use standalone script for installing Qt components
- dependencies detect online installer Qt path
- docker use qt 5.10.0 component IDs in noninteractive install script
- package factor out LimeLM libraries from open source code signing
- src also tag with system-reported mimetype for edit
- vagrant change folder before executing overlay script
- .dockignore add Jenkins pipeline (with platform containers) for linux des
- .gitattributes use union merge for NEWS files (avoid conflicts in PRs)
- .gitignore add gnu global GSyms to gitignore
- .gitmodules Remove dead git submodule
- CMakeCompiler.txt use CMake to specify position independent code
- CMakeGlobals.txt add CMake utilities module
- CMakeInstallDocs.txt add top-level cmake script for docs



For more, ask Martin: maechler@R-project.org

Top left: Screenshot of <https://github.com/rstudio/rstudio>.
Bottom right: Screenshot of <https://svn.r-project.org/>.

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Share your problems



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A screenshot of a GitHub repository page for 'yihui / knitr'. The URL is https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1022. The title of the issue is '[Feature Request] Add support for code block inside blockquote #1022'. The issue is marked as 'Closed' by rgaiacs on 19 Apr 2015. A comment from rgaiacs provides an example of inline code within a blockquote:

```
knitr supports inline code inside blockquote. For example  
```{r}  
x <- 1
...
Test `r x`
> Test `r x`
```

The issue has 127 watchers, 1,509 stars, and 680 forks.

A screenshot of a GitHub repository page for 'yihui / knitr'. The URL is https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1446. The title of the issue is 'R chunk inside blockquotes has extra > #1446'. The issue is marked as 'Closed' by rgaiacs on 17 Oct 2017. A comment from rgaiacs provides a minimal reproducible example:

```
<pre class="r"><x><- 1</code></pre>
<pre test="r"></pre>
<blockquote>
<pre test="r"></pre>
</blockquote>
```

The issue has 127 watchers, 1,509 stars, and 680 forks.

Top left: Screenshot of <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1022>.  
Bottom right: Screenshot of <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1446>.

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# But wait a reply before cross-post



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The image displays three vertically stacked screenshots of GitHub issue pages, illustrating a sequence of posts:

- Top screenshot:** A screenshot of the [rstudio/markdown issue #86](https://github.com/rstudio/markdown/issues/86). The title is "renderPlot in a rmarkdown: does not recognize mydata (loaded data.table) #86". It shows a comment from user `MelissaLe44` opened on 18 Oct 2017 with 3 comments.
- Middle screenshot:** A screenshot of the [rstudio/rmarkdown issue #1160](https://github.com/rstudio/rmarkdown/issues/1160). The title is "renderPlot in a rmarkdown using load dataset: does not recognize my data! #1160". It shows a comment from user `MelissaLe44` opened on 19 Oct 2017 with 2 comments.
- Bottom screenshot:** A screenshot of the [rstudio/shiny issue #1872](https://github.com/rstudio/shiny/issues/1872). The title is "Based on <https://yihui.name/en/2017/10/501st-reminder/>". It shows a comment from user `yihui` with 1,335 replies.

A large gray box at the bottom right contains the following text:

Top left: Screenshot of <https://github.com/rstudio/markdown/issues/86>.  
Center: Screenshot of <https://github.com/rstudio/rmarkdown/issues/1160>.  
Bottom right: <https://github.com/rstudio/shiny/issues/1872>.

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# And “make sure your report is correct formatted”



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The screenshot shows a GitHub issue page for a Knitr issue. The URL in the address bar is <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1446>. The issue itself contains R code:

```
> Foo bar ...
>
> `...` { .r}
> x <- 2
>
> x <- x + 1
>
> x <- x + 1
>
> `...`
```

Below the code, there's a section titled "Acknowledges" which states: "This was first reported by @mfoos at [swcarpentry/r-novice-gapminder#314](#) (comment)."

A comment from user [rgaiacs](#) is shown, referencing issue #314 and closing it as "ep11 (writing data) - format & content issue in challenge 1 #314" with the status "Closed".

User [yihui](#) commented on 17 Oct 2017, saying: "Please read the issue template carefully before you file an issue to make sure your issue is correct formatted (in particular, please check out [the four-backtick rule](#))."

User [rgaiacs](#) responded: "@yihui Sorry for the bad format. :-| It is fixed now."

yihui added a "Bug" label and assigned the issue to the "v0.18" milestone on 17 Oct 2017. Finally, yihui closed the issue on 17 Oct 2017.

**Screenshot of <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1446>.**

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# Also, include a “Minimal Reproducible Example”



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The screenshot shows a GitHub issue page for issue #1446. The URL at the top is <https://github.com/yihui/knitr/issues/1446>. The issue is titled "rgaiacs commented on 17 Oct 2017 • edited". The description notes that users want to use R chunk inside blockquotes. With knitr 1.17, when users try to do it the Markdown blockquotes has some extra >, used as the markup for blockquotes. A "Minimal Reproducible Example" is provided:

```

title: Foo
output:
 md_document:
 variant: markdown

> x <- x + 1
...

> Foo bar ...
>
> ```{r, eval = FALSE}
> x <- 2
>
> x <- x + 1
>
> x <- x + 1
> ...
```

The issue also includes an "Expected behaviour" section with the following code:

```

output:
 md_document:
 variant: markdown
title: Foo

```

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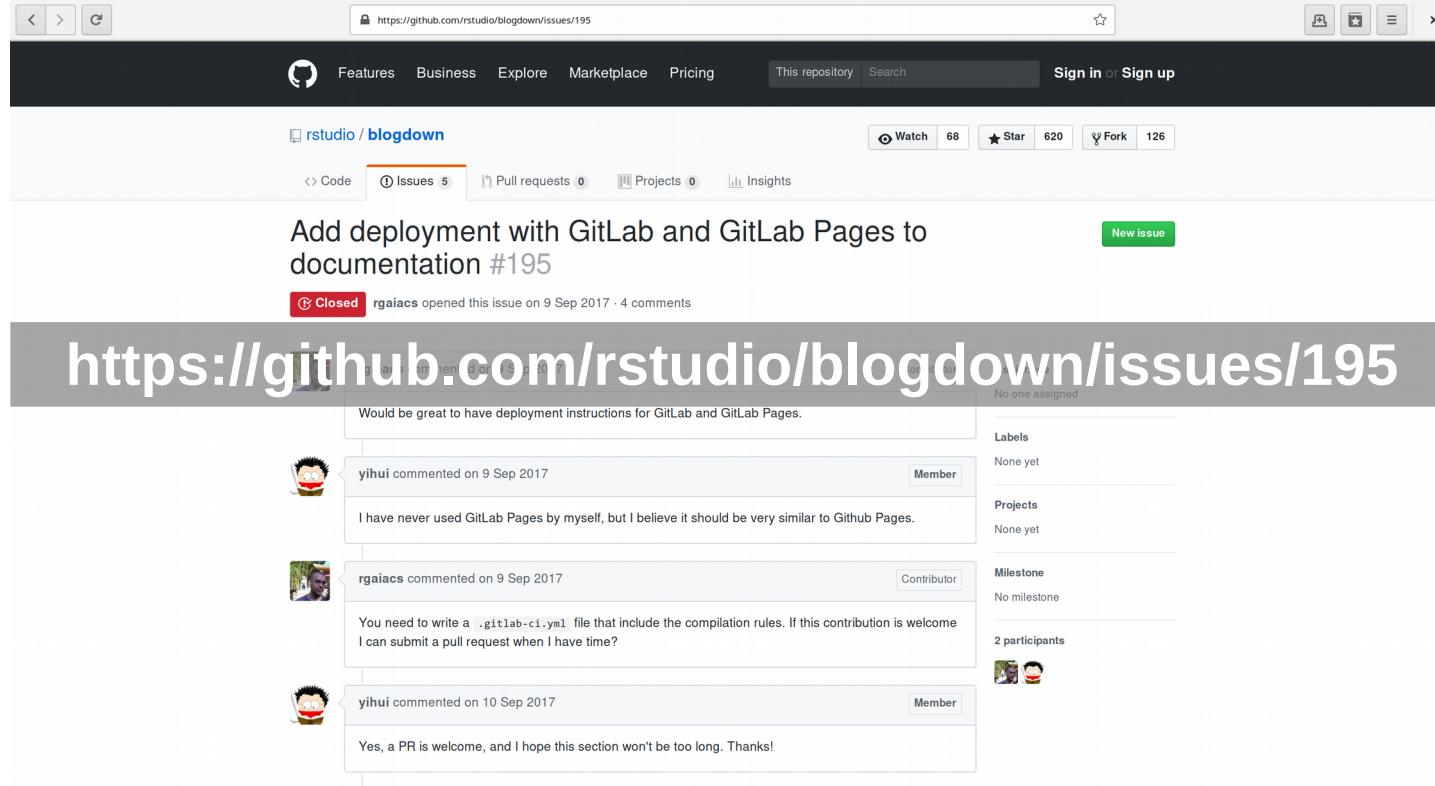
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# Always discuss your ideas before start implementing



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The screenshot shows a GitHub issue page for the repository `rstudio/blogdown`. The issue, titled "Add deployment with GitLab and GitLab Pages to documentation #195", is closed. It was opened by `rgaiacs` on 9 Sep 2017 and has 4 comments. The comments are as follows:

- `yihui` commented on 9 Sep 2017: "Would be great to have deployment instructions for GitLab and GitLab Pages."
- `rgaiacs` commented on 9 Sep 2017: "I have never used GitLab Pages by myself, but I believe it should be very similar to Github Pages."
- `rgaiacs` commented on 9 Sep 2017: "You need to write a `.gitlab-ci.yml` file that include the compilation rules. If this contribution is welcome I can submit a pull request when I have time?"
- `yihui` commented on 10 Sep 2017: "Yes, a PR is welcome, and I hope this section won't be too long. Thanks!"

The right side of the page displays the issue details: No one assigned, Labels (None yet), Projects (None yet), Milestone (No milestone), and 2 participants (`yihui`, `rgaiacs`).

**https://github.com/rstudio/blogdown/issues/195**

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# Don't let the comments put you off



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The screenshot shows a GitHub pull request page for issue #225. The title is "Add deployment with GitLab and GitLab Pages to documentation". A purple "Merged" button indicates the commit has been merged into the `rstudio:master` branch from `rgaiacs:195` on Nov 5, 2017. The commit message is "This is my pull request to resolve #195." The pull request has 17 conversations, 5 commits, and 1 file changed. The status bar shows +27 -0. The review section shows "yihui" as the reviewer with a green checkmark. The notes section contains a comment from "yihui" requesting changes on Nov 1, 2017, with a note: "To confirm that you are okay with giving me your copyright, please reply with the phrase: 'I assign the copyright of this contribution to Yihui Xie'." The pull request has 2 participants: rgaiacs and yihui. The code review section shows five files named `docs/03-deploy.Rmd` with "Show outdated" links.

<https://github.com/rstudio/blogdown/pull/225>

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# Celebrate



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Image by BenGrantham.  
Available at <https://flic.kr/p/9gfmp9>.

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# Next steps



Image by Jared Tarbell.  
Available at <https://flic.kr/p/2LW2BH>.

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# Collaborations Workshop 2018



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**26-28 March 2018 at The School of Mathematics, Cardiff University  
Details at <https://www.software.ac.uk/cw18>**

Image by Pete Birkinshaw.  
Available at <https://flic.kr/p/8MoVHK>.

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# Thanks



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- Thanks for listening.
- Thanks to Yihui Xie for share some ideas at [https://yihui.name/en/.](https://yihui.name/en/)



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