

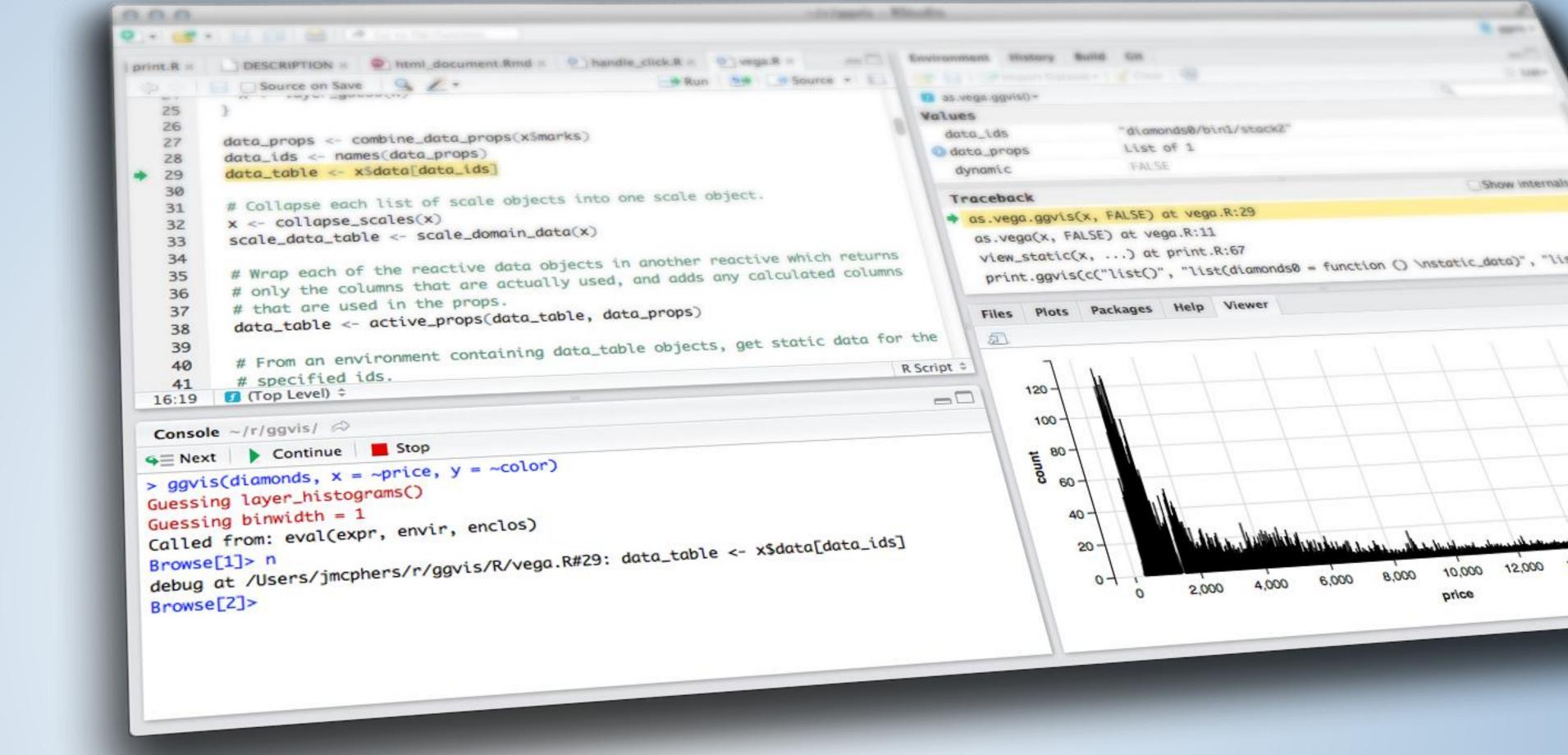
REACTIVE PROGRAMMING

& UNDERSTANDING UI



OUTLINE

- Reactive Programming Part 1
 - Reactivity 101
 - Reactive objects
 - Reactive sources and endpoints
 - Reactive conductors
 - Implementation
 - Observers and side effects
 - Render functions
- Understanding UI
 - Ladder of Progression
 - High Level View
 - Shiny built-ins
 - External packages
 - HTML Tools
 - RAW HTML



REACTIVE PROGRAMMING

PART 1

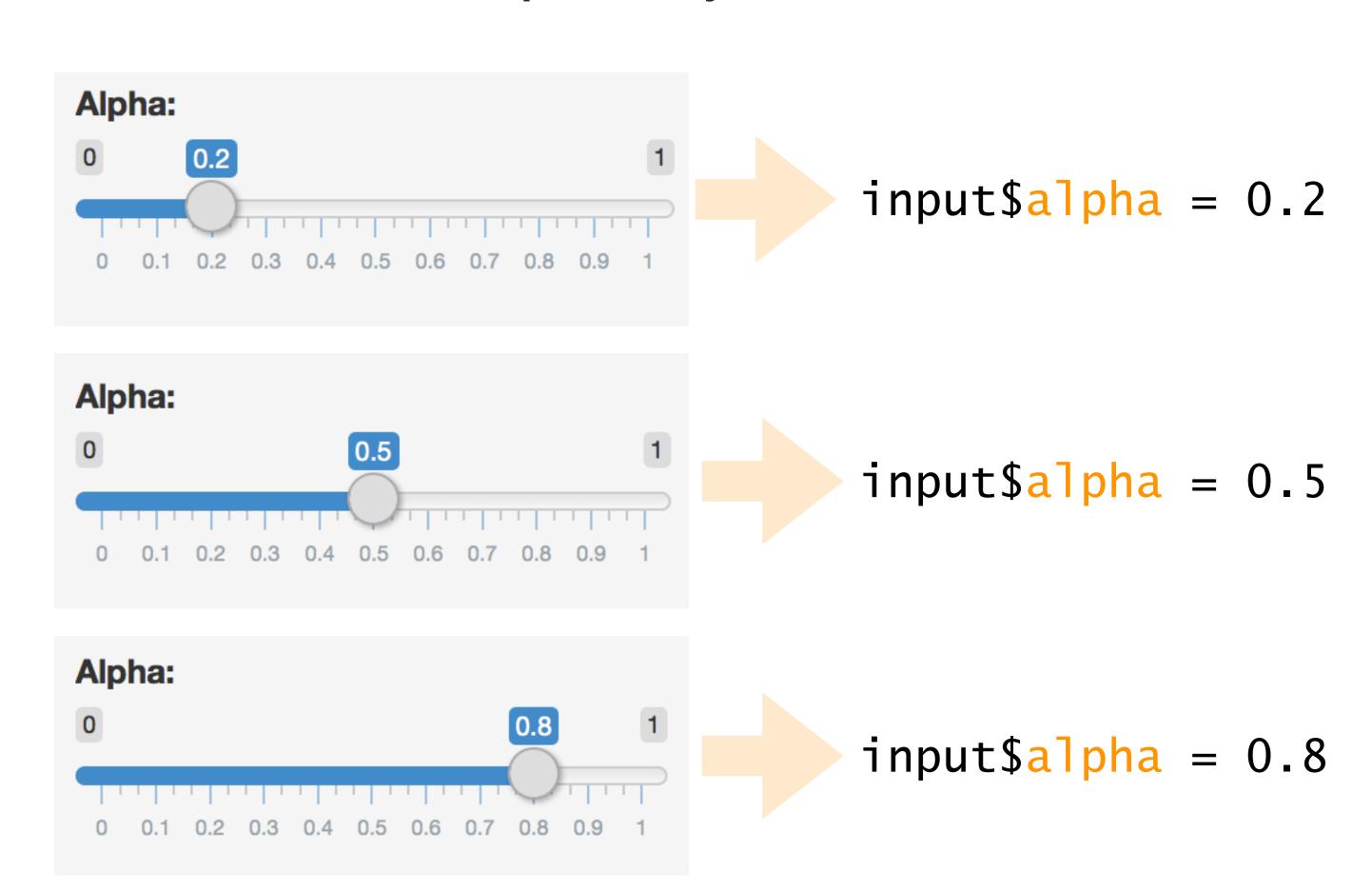


Reactivity

REACTIONS

The input\$ list stores the current value of each input object under its name.

input\$alpha



REACTIVITY 101

Reactivity automatically occurs when an input value is used to render an output object

```
# Define server function required to create the scatterplot
server <- function(input, output) {</pre>
  # Create the scatterplot object the plotOutput function is expecting
   output$scatterplot <- renderPlot(</pre>
    ggplot(data = movies, aes_string(x = inputx, y = inputy,
                                      color = input$z)) +
     geom_point(alpha = input$alpha)
```



EXERCISE

- Go back to the app you built last class
- Add a new sliderInput defining the size of points (ranging from 0 to 5)
- Use this variable in the geom of the ggplot function as the size argument
- Run the app to ensure that point sizes react when you move the slider
- Compare your code / output with the person sitting next to / nearby you

3_m 00_s



SOLUTION

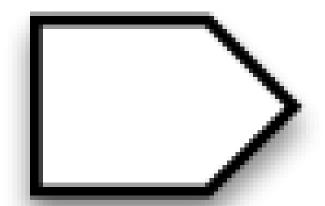
Solution to the previous exercise

movies_06.R

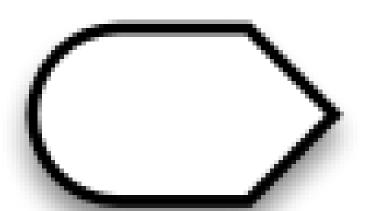
Reactive objects

TYPES OF REACTIVE OBJECTS

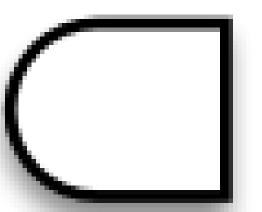
Reactive source



Reactive conductor



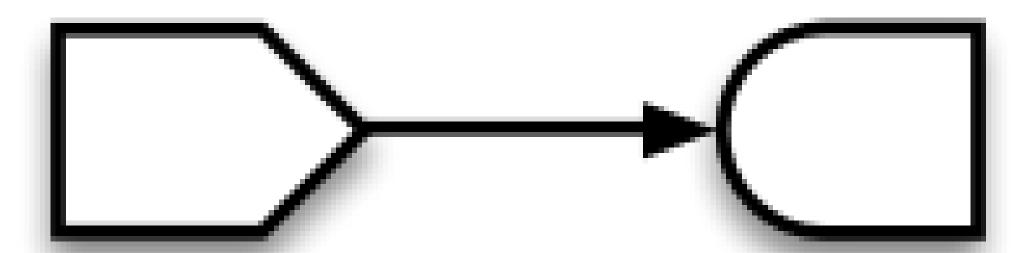
Reactive endpoint



Reactive sources and endpoints

SOURCES AND ENDPOINTS

- Reactive source: Typically, this is user input that comes through a browser interface
- Reactive endpoint: Something that appears in the user's browser window, such as a plot or a table of values

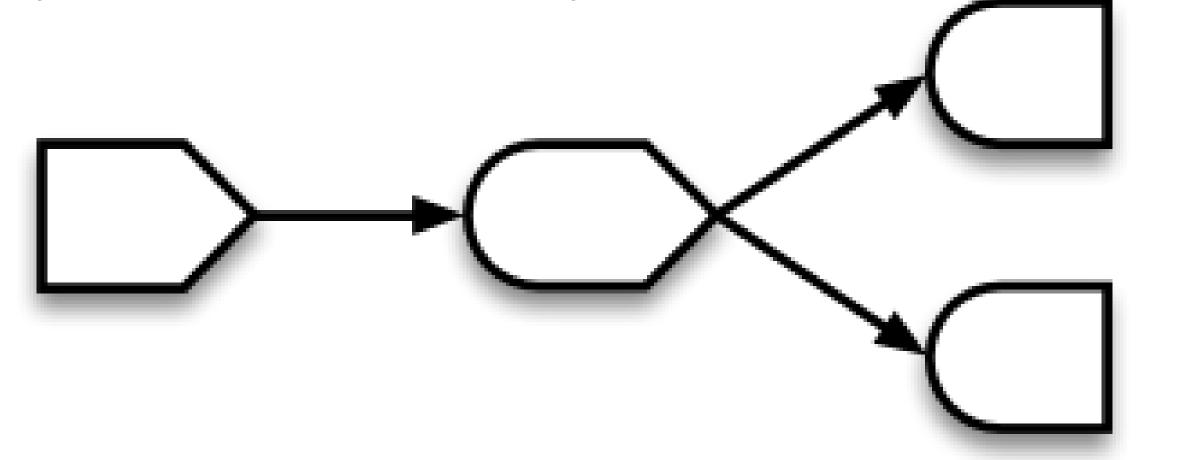


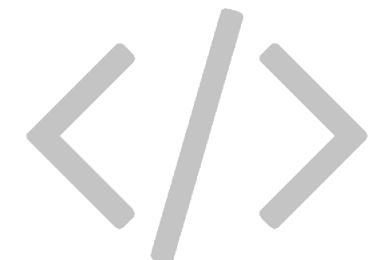
- This is the built-in reactivity discussed in the previous section
- A reactive source can be connected to multiple endpoints, and vice versa

Reactive conductors

CONDUCTORS

- Reactive counductor: Reactive component between a source and an endpoint
- A conductor can both be a dependent (child) and have dependents (parent)
 - Sources can only be parents (they can have dependents)
 - Endpoints can only be children (they can be dependents)



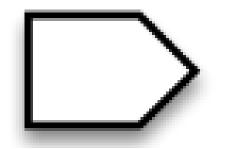


Suppose you want the option to plot only certain types of movies as well as report how many such movies are plotted:

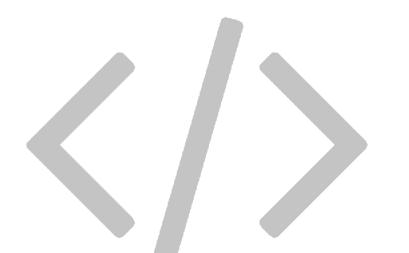
- 1. Add a UI element for the user to select which type(s) of movies they want to plot
- 2. Filter for chosen title type and save as a new (reactive) expression
- 3. Use new data frame (which is reactive) for plotting
- 4. Use new data frame (which is reactive) also for reporting number of observations



1. Add a UI element for the user to select which type(s) of movies they want to plot







2. Filter for chosen title type and save the new data frame as a reactive expression

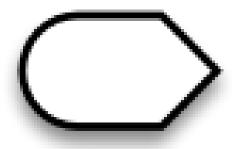
before app:

```
library(dplyr)
```

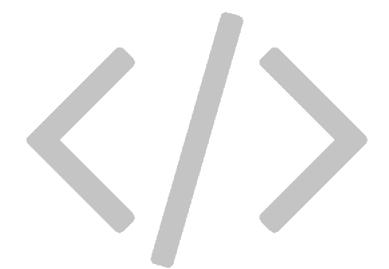
server:

```
# Create a subset of data filtering for chosen tit
movies_subset <- reactive({
   req(input$selected_type)
   filter(movies, title_type %in% input$selected_ty
})</pre>
```

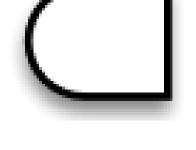
Creates a cached expression that knows it is out of date when input changes

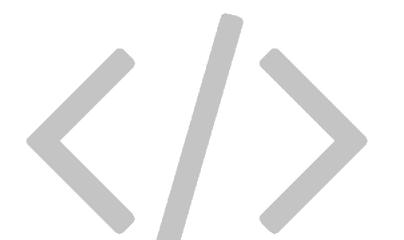






3. Use new data frame (which is reactive) for plotting

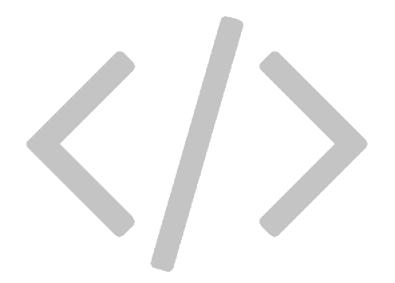




4. Use new data frame (which is reactive) also for printing number of observations

ui:

server:



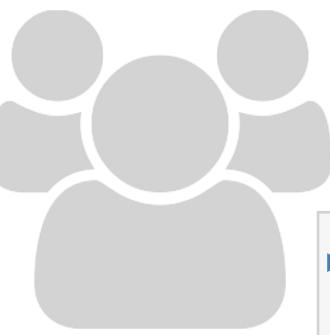
Putting it all together...

movies_07.R

(also notice the HTML tags, added for visual separation, in the mainPanel)

WHEN TO USE REACTIVES

- By using a reactive expression for the subsetted data frame, we were able to get away with subsetting once and then using the result twice
- In general, reactive conductors let you
 - not repeat yourself (i.e. avoid copy-and-paste code) which is a maintenance boon)
 - decompose large, complex (code-wise, not necessarily CPU-wise)
 calculations into smaller pieces to make them more understandable
- These benefits are similar to what happens when you decompose a large complex R script into a series of small functions that build on each other



EXERCISE

- For consistency, in movies_07.R, there should be at least one more spot on the app where the new movies_subset dataset should be used, instead of the full movies dataset
 - Hint: Does the data table match the plotted data?
- Find and fix
- Run the app to confirm your fix is working
- Compare your code / output with the person sitting next to / nearby you

3_m 00_s



SOLUTION

Solution to the previous exercise

movies_08.R



EXERCISE

Suppose we want to plot only a random sample of movies, of size determined by the user. What is wrong with the following?

ui:

```
# Select sample size
numericInput("n_samp", "Sample size:", min = 1, max = nrow(movies), value = nrow(movies))
```

server:

1_m 00_s





SOLUTION

Solution can also be found in movies_09.R. Note that output\$n and output\$datatable are also updated in the script.

ui:

```
# Select sample size
numericInput("n_samp", "Sample size:", min = 1, max = nrow(movies), value = 50)
```

server:

```
# Create a new data frame that is n_samp observations from selected type movies
movies_sample <- reactive({
    req(input$n_samp)  # ensure availablity of value before proceeding
    sample_n(movies_subset(), input$n_samp)
})
# Plot the sampled movies
output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({
    ggplot(data = movies_sample(), aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y, color = input$z)) +
        geom_point(...)
})</pre>
```

Implementation

IMPLEMENTATION OF REACTIVE OBJECTS

- Reactive values reactiveValues():implementation of reactive sources
 - e.g. input object is a reactive value, which looks like a list, and contains many individual reactive values that are set by input from the web browser
- Reactive expressions reactive(): implementation of reactive conductors
 - Can access reactive values or other reactive expressions, and they return a value
 - Useful for caching the results of any procedure that happens in response to user input
 - e.g. reactive data frame subsets we created earlier
- Observers observe(): implementation of reactive endpoints
 - Can access reactive sources and reactive expressions, but they don't return a value; they are used for their side effects
 - e.g. output object is a reactive observer, which also looks like a list, and contains many individual reactive observers that are created by using reactive values and expressions in reactive functions



REACTIVITY ONLY WORKS WITH REACTIVE OBJECTS

Only reactive primitives (like the ones on the previous slide) and things built on top of reactive primitives, will elicit reactivity. In particular, do NOT expect changes to "normal" variables to cause reactivity.

```
x <- 10
y <- reactive({ x })
# Much later...
x <- 20</pre>
```

REACTIVE VALUES

- Like an R environment object (or what other languages call a hash table or dictionary), but reactive
- Like the input object, but not read-only

```
rv <- reactiveValues(x = 10)
rv$x <- 20
rv$y <- mtcars</pre>
```

REACTIVE VALUES

- Reading a value from a reactiveValues object is a reactive operation.
 - The act of reading it means the current reactive conductor or endpoint will be notified the next time the value changes.
- Maybe surprisingly, setting/updating a value on a reactiveValues object is not in itself a reactive operation, meaning no relationship is established between the current reactive conductor or endpoint (if any!) and the reactiveValues object.

Observers and side effects



EXERCISE

Suppose we want the user to provide a title for the plot. What is wrong with the following, and how would you fix it? See movies_10.R.

ui:

```
textInput(inputId = "plot_title",
    label = "Plot title",
    placeholder = "Enter text to be used as plot title"),
```

server:

```
output\$pretty\_plot\_title <- toTitleCase(input\$plot\_title) \\ output\$scatterplot <- renderPlot(\{ \\ ggplot(data = movies\_sample(), aes\_string(x = input\$x, y = input\$y, color = input\$z)) + \\ geom\_point(alpha = input\$alpha, size = input\$size) + \\ labs(title = output\$pretty\_plot\_title) \\ \}) \\ \hline 3m 00s
```



SOLUTION

Observers do not have dependencies, use reactives instead. Solution can also be found in movies 11.R.

ui:

```
textInput(inputId = "plot_title",
    label = "Plot title",
    placeholder = "Enter text to be used as plot title"),
```

server:

```
pretty_plot_title <- reactive({ toTitleCase(input$plot_title) })

output$scatterplot <- renderPlot({
    ggplot(data = movies_sample(), aes_string(x = input$x, y = input$y, color = input$z)) +
        geom_point(alpha = input$alpha, size = input$size) +
        labs(title = pretty_plot_title())
})</pre>
```

REACTIVE EXPRESSIONS VS. OBSERVERS

- Similarities: Both store expressions that can be executed
- Differences:
 - Reactive expressions return values, but observers don't
 - Observers (and endpoints in general) eagerly respond to reactives, but reactive expressions (and conductors in general) do not
 - Reactive expressions must not have side effects, while observers are only useful for their side effects





We cheated earlier, let's make it right with an observer!

See movies_12.R.

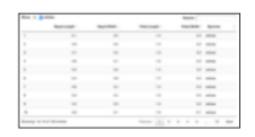
Render

RENDER FUNCTIONS

```
render*({ [code_chunk] })
```

- Provide a code chunk that describes how an output should be populated
- The output will update in response to changes in any reactive values or reactive expressions that are used in the code chunk

LIST OF REACTIVE FUNCTIONS



DT::renderDataTable(expr, options, callback, escape, env, quoted)

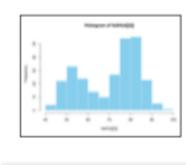


dataTableOutput(outputId, icon, ...)



renderImage(expr, env, quoted, deleteFile)

imageOutput(outputId, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, hoverDelay, hoverDelayType, brush, clickId, hoverId, inline)



renderPlot(expr, width, height, res, ..., env, quoted, func)

plotOutput(outputId, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, hoverDelay, hoverDelayType, brush, clickId, hoverId, inline)



renderPrint(expr, env, quoted, func,
 width)

verbatimTextOutput(outputId)



renderTable(expr,..., env, quoted, func)

tableOutput(outputId)

foo

renderText(expr, env, quoted, func)

textOutput(outputId, container, inline)



renderUI(expr, env, quoted, func)

uiOutput(outputId, inline, container, ...)

thinloutput(outputId, inline, container, ...)

RECAP

```
render*({ [code_chunk] })
```

- These functions make objects to display
- Results should always be saved to output\$
- They make an observer object that has a block of code associated with it
- The object will rerun the entire code block to update itself whenever it is invalidated





EXERCISE

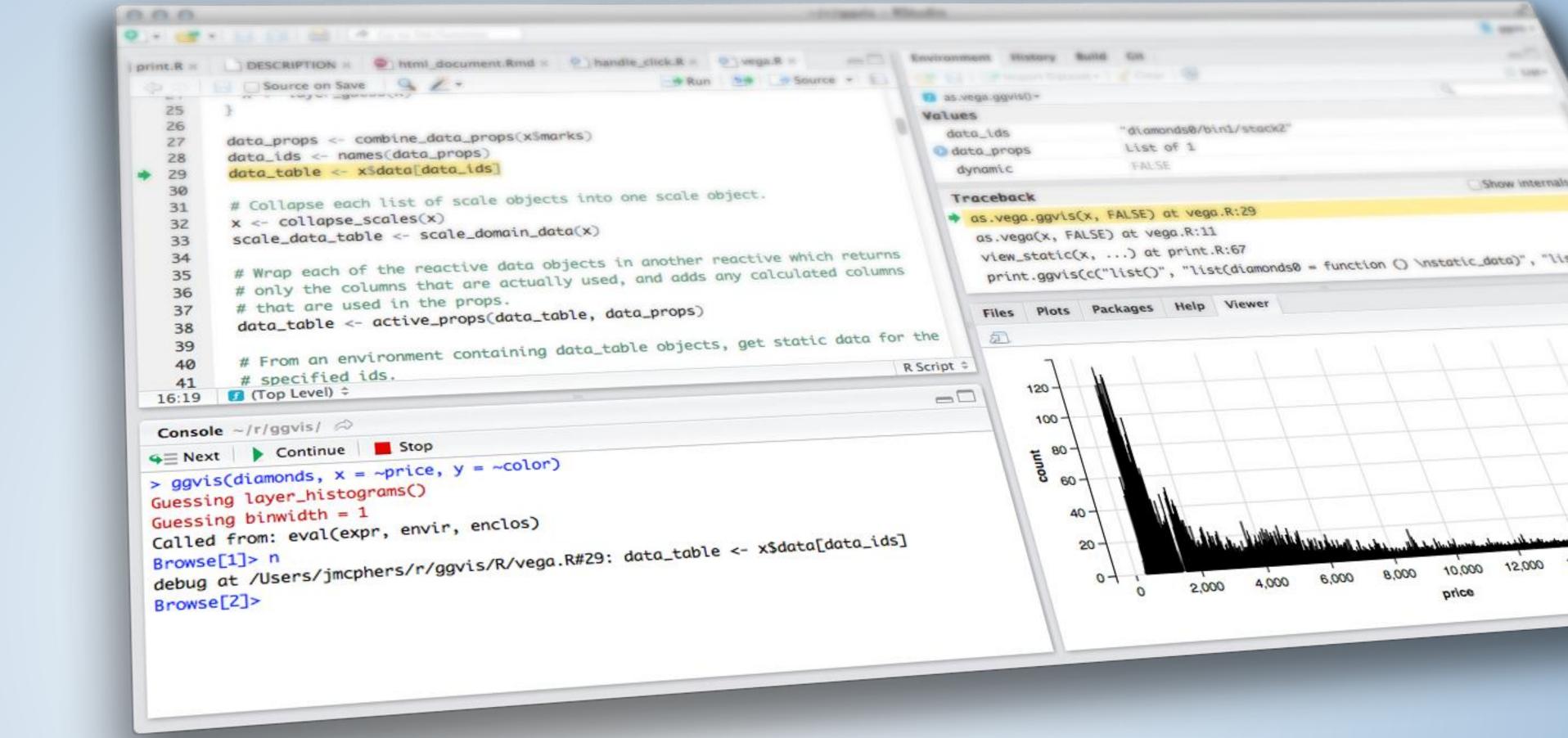
- Run the app in movies_12.R.
- Try entering a few different plot titles and observe that the plot title updates however the sampled data that is being plotted does not.
- Given that the renderPlot() function reruns each time input\$plot_title changes, why does the sample stay the same?

1_m 00_s



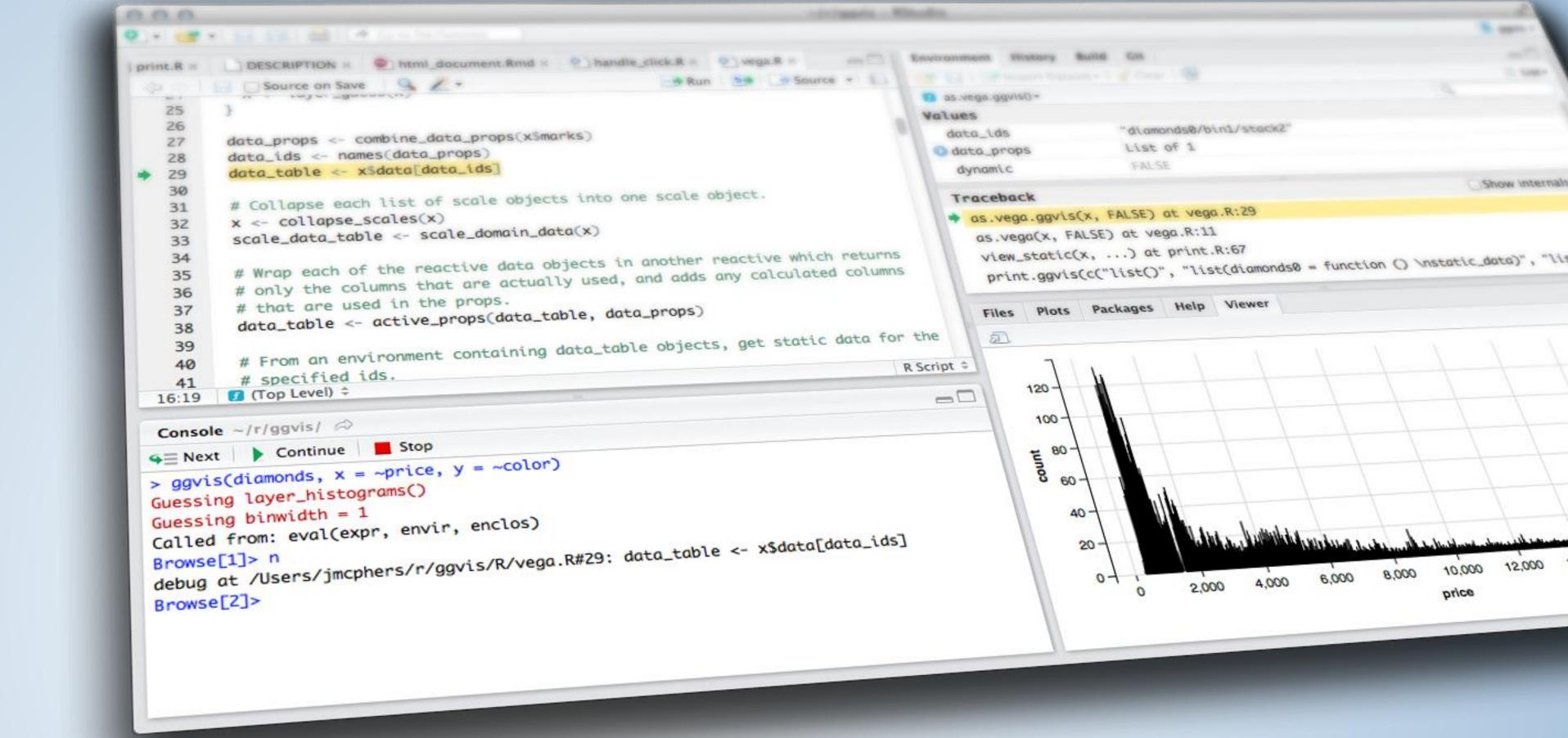
SOLUTION

Because the data frame that is used in the plot is defined as a reactive expression with a code chunk that does not depend on input\$plot_title.



CLASS BREAK





UNDERSTANDING UI



Web application UI is ultimately HTML/CSS/JavaScript

Shiny allows R users write user interfaces using a simple, familiar-looking API...

...but no limits for advanced users

Ladderof

progression

LADDER OF UI PROGRESSION

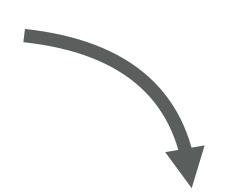
- Step 1. Shiny built-in inputs/outputs and layouts (sidebarLayout, navbarPage, tabsetPanel)
- Step 2. Use functions from external packages (shinythemes, shinydashboard, shinybs)
- Step 3. Use tag objects, write UI functions Our focus today
- Step 4. Author HTML templates
- Step 5. Create custom inputs/outputs, wrap existing CSS/JS libraries and frameworks



High level

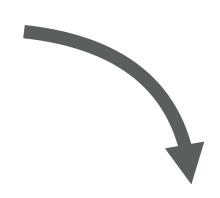
MULTIPLE LEVELS OF ABSTRACTION

High-level funcs fluidRow(...)



htmltools tags

div(class="row", ...)

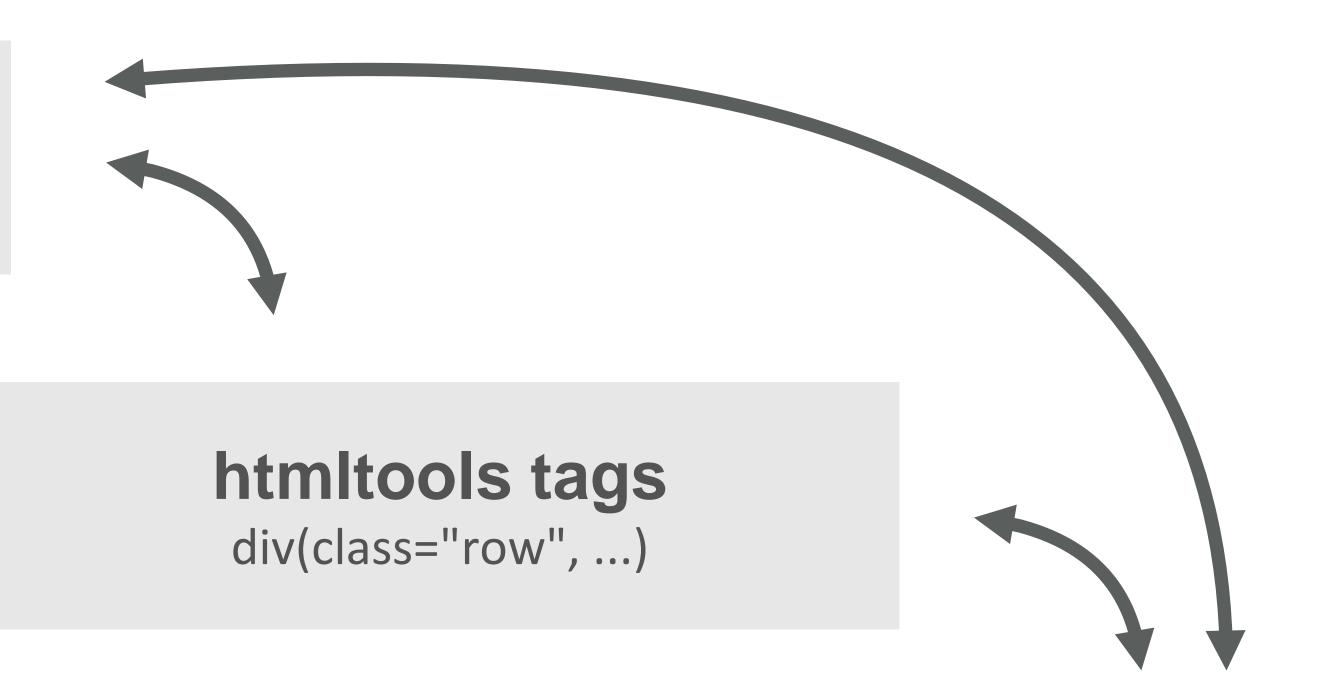


Raw HTML markup

<div class="row">...</div>

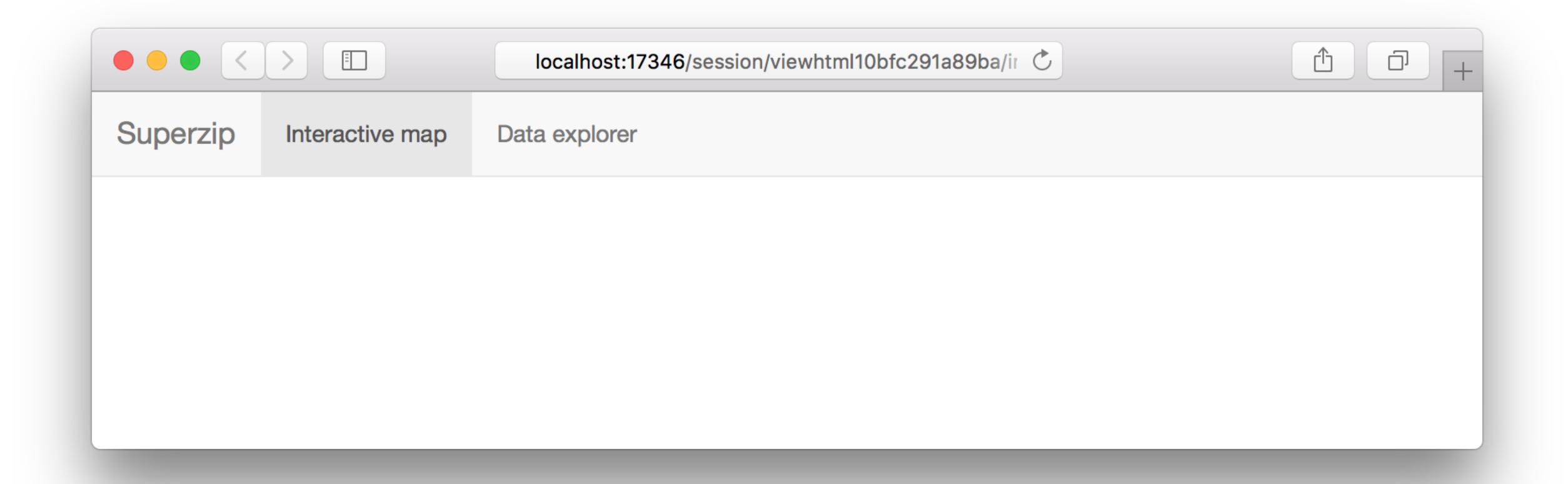
MIX AND MATCH FREELY

High-level funcs fluidRow(...)



Raw HTML markup

<div class="row">...</div>



RAWHIML

Pros

Can do anything that's possible in a web page

Camfortable for decignors, web

Comfortable for designers, web developers

Cons

Unfamiliar for many R users
Potentially lots of HTML needed for
conceptually simple tasks
CSS/JavaScript dependencies must
be handled manually

```
<nav class="navbar navbar-default navbar-static-top" role="</pre>
 <div class="container">
   <div class="navbar-header">
     <span class="navbar-brand">Superzip</span>
   </div>
   <a href="#tab-5158-1" data-toggle="tab" data-value=
     <1i>>
       <a href="#tab-5158-2" data-toggle="tab" data-value=
     <
       <a href="#tab-5158-3" data-toggle="tab"></a>
     </div>
</nav>
<div class="container-fluid">
 <div class="tab-content">
   <div class="tab-pane active" data-value="Interactive ma
     <div class="outer">
       <div id="map" style="width:100%; height:100%; " cla
       <div class="panel panel-default draggable" id="cont</pre>
```

HTMLTOOLS OBJECTS

HTML-generating R functions

Pros

All the power of HTML, but looks like R Automated CSS/JS dependency handling More composable, programmable than

Cons

HTML

Easy to misplace commas Almost as verbose as raw HTML

```
nav(class="navbar navbar-default navbar-static-top", role
  div(class="container",
    div(class="navbar-header",
      span(class="navbar-brand", "Superzip")
   ul(class="nav navbar-nav shiny-tab-input", id="nav",
     li(class="active",
        a(href="#tab-5158-1", `data-toggle`="tab", `data-v
      ),
      li(
        a(href="#tab-5158-2", `data-toggle`="tab", `data-v
      li(
        a(href="#tab-5158-3", `data-toggle`="tab")
```

HIGH LEVEL FUNCTIONS

Functions that return htmltools objects

Pros

Less code, clearer intent Anyone can make their own

Cons

Still have to watch out for commas
Less flexible

```
navbarPage("Superzip", id = "nav",
  tabPanel("Interactive map", ...),
  tabPanel("Data explorer", ...)
)
```

Using Shiny built-ins

SHINY UI BUILT-INS

Bootstrap grid framework – fluidPage, fixedPage, fluidRow, column

Containers — wellPanel, absolutePanel, fixedPanel

Navigation panels — tabsetPanel, navlistPanel, navbarPage

Fill layouts (Shiny 0.13+) — fillPage, fillRow, fillCol

Modals and notifications (Shiny 0.14+) — showModal, modalDialog

BOOTSTRAP GRID FRAMEWORK

Every page has 12 invisible columns

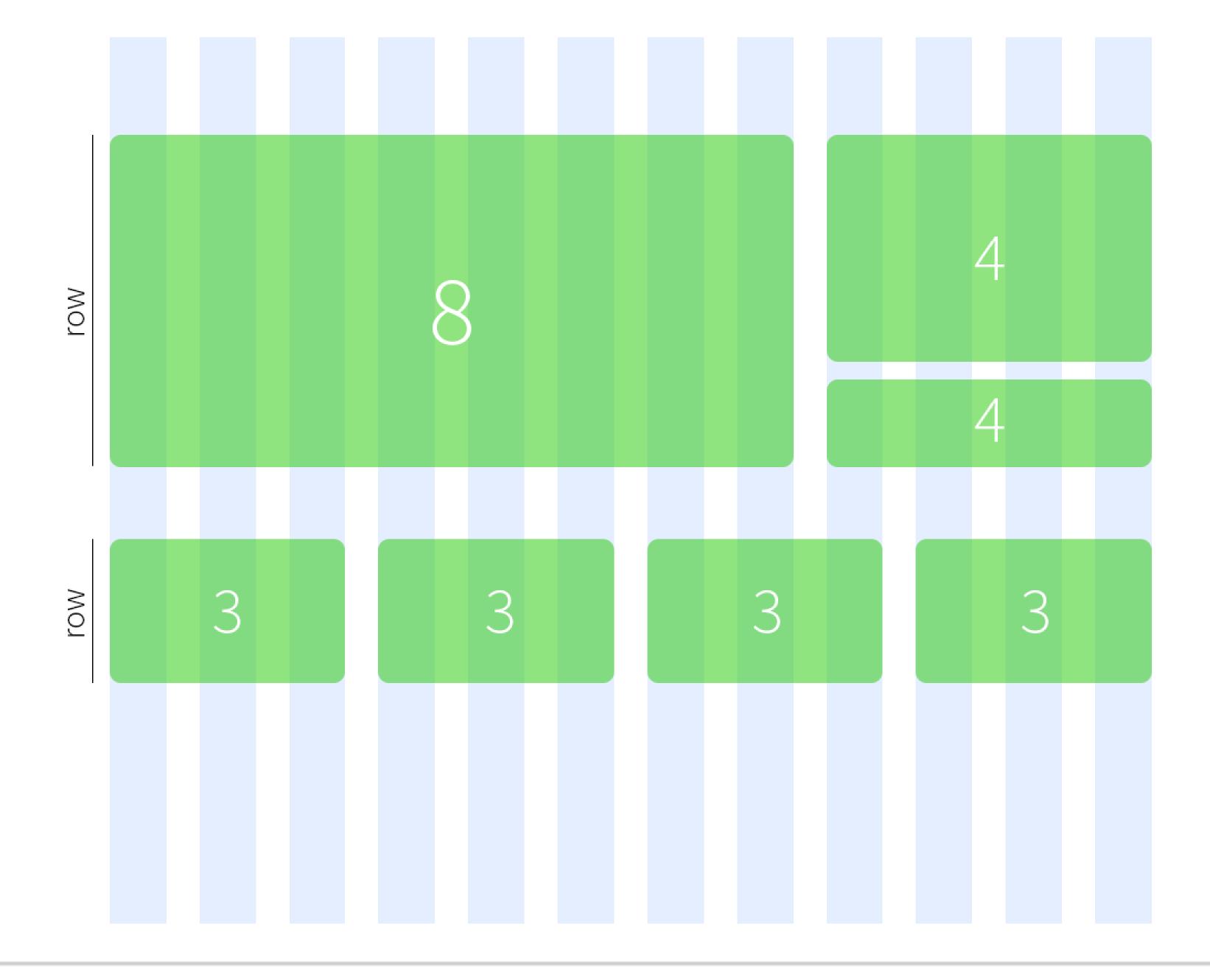
Each column of content must span an integral number of columns

Simple R API for implementing Bootstrap grid

fluidPage(...) wraps the entire page

fluidRow(...) wraps each row's column

column(width, ...) wraps each column's content





FLUID PAGE

```
ui <- fluidPage(
  fluidRow(
    column(8, item1),
    column(4, item2, item3),
  fluidRow(
    column(3, item4),
    column(3, item5),
    column(3, item6),
    column(3, item7)
```



EXERCISE

- Modify ui_01.R to display the two outputs next to each other (instead of above and below)
- Assign the left output to be 5 columns wide, and the right output to be 7 columns wide
- See what happens as you change the width of the browser window

3_m 00_s

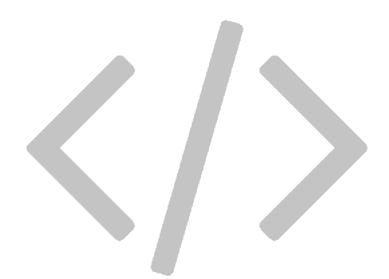


SOLUTION

Solution to the previous exercise

ui_02.R





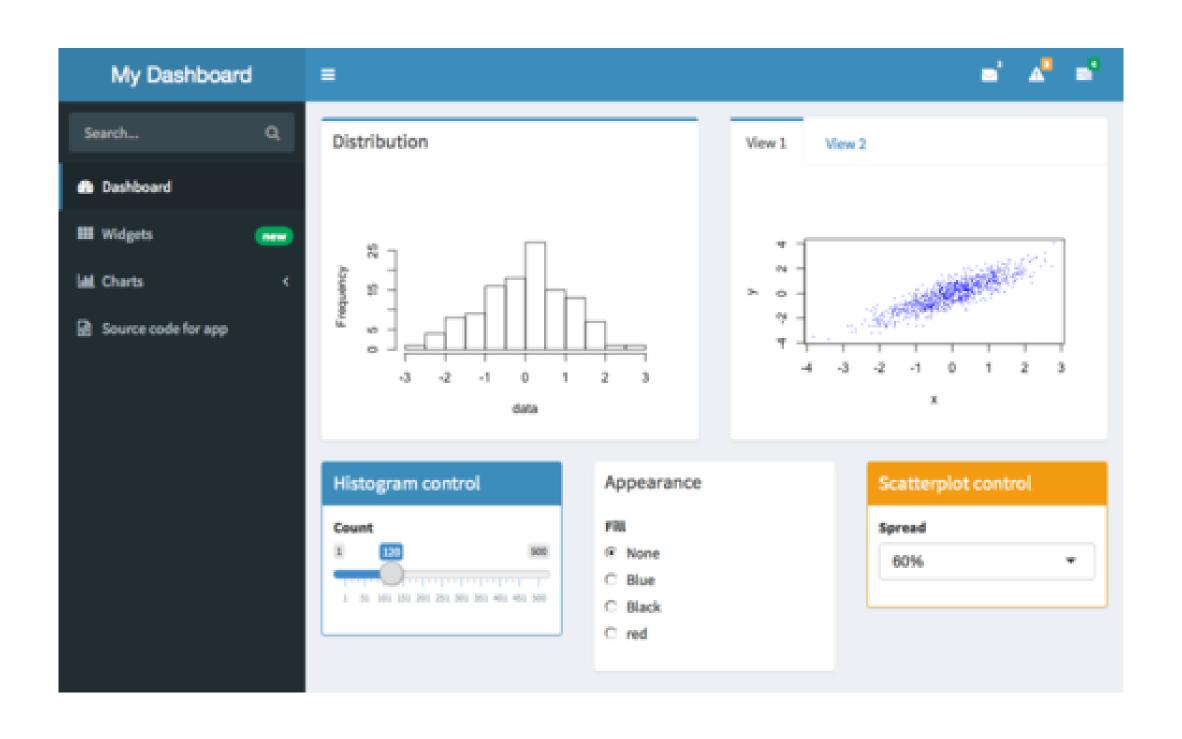
DEMO

Layouts
https://shiny.rstudio.com/gallery/

Using external

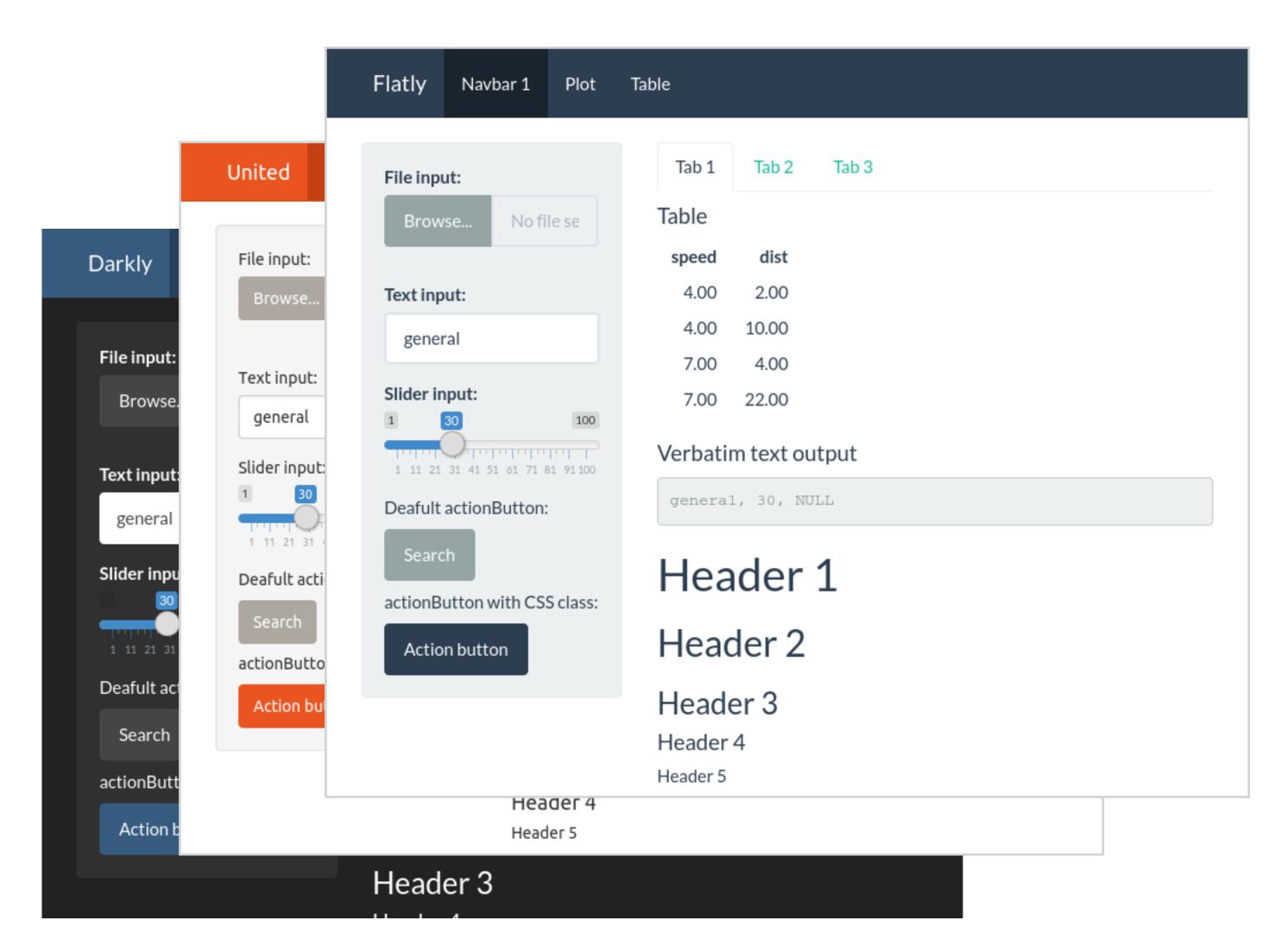
packages

shinydashboard



shinydashboard

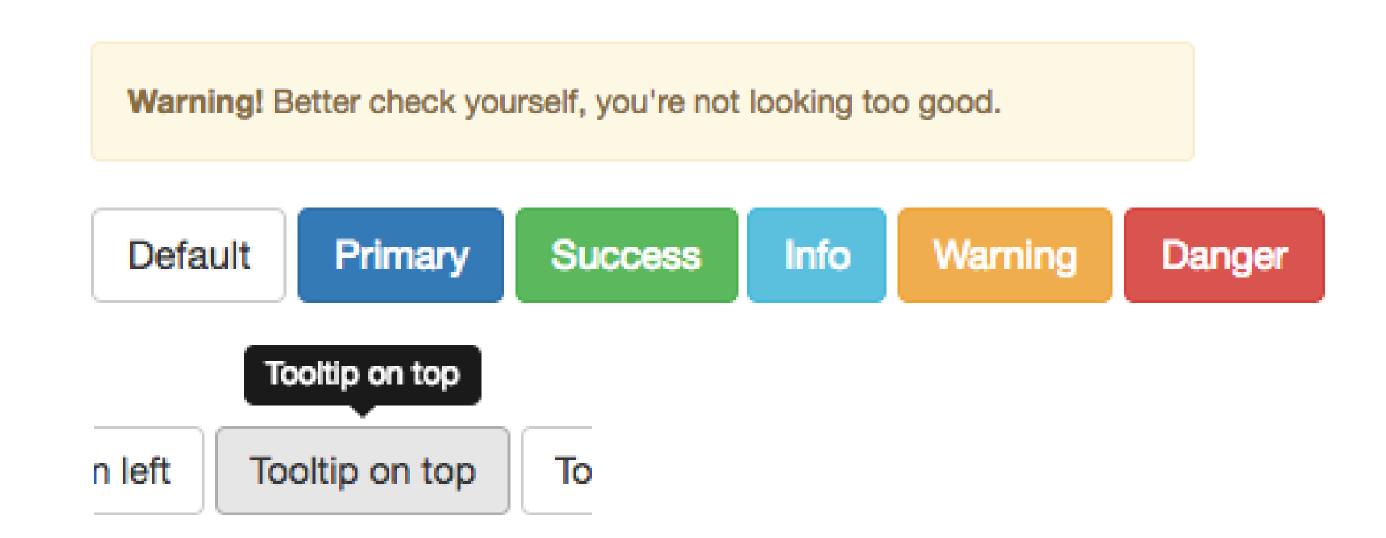
shinythemes



shinydashboard

shinythemes

shinyBS (@ebailey78)

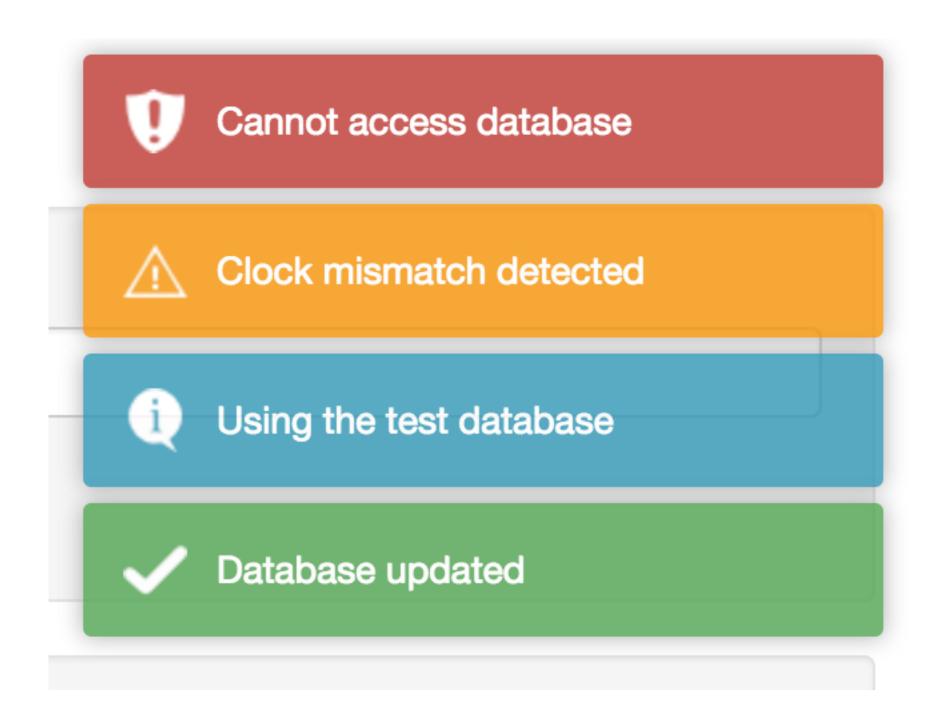


shinydashboard

shinythemes

shinyBS (@ebailey78)

shinytoastr (@gaborcsardi)



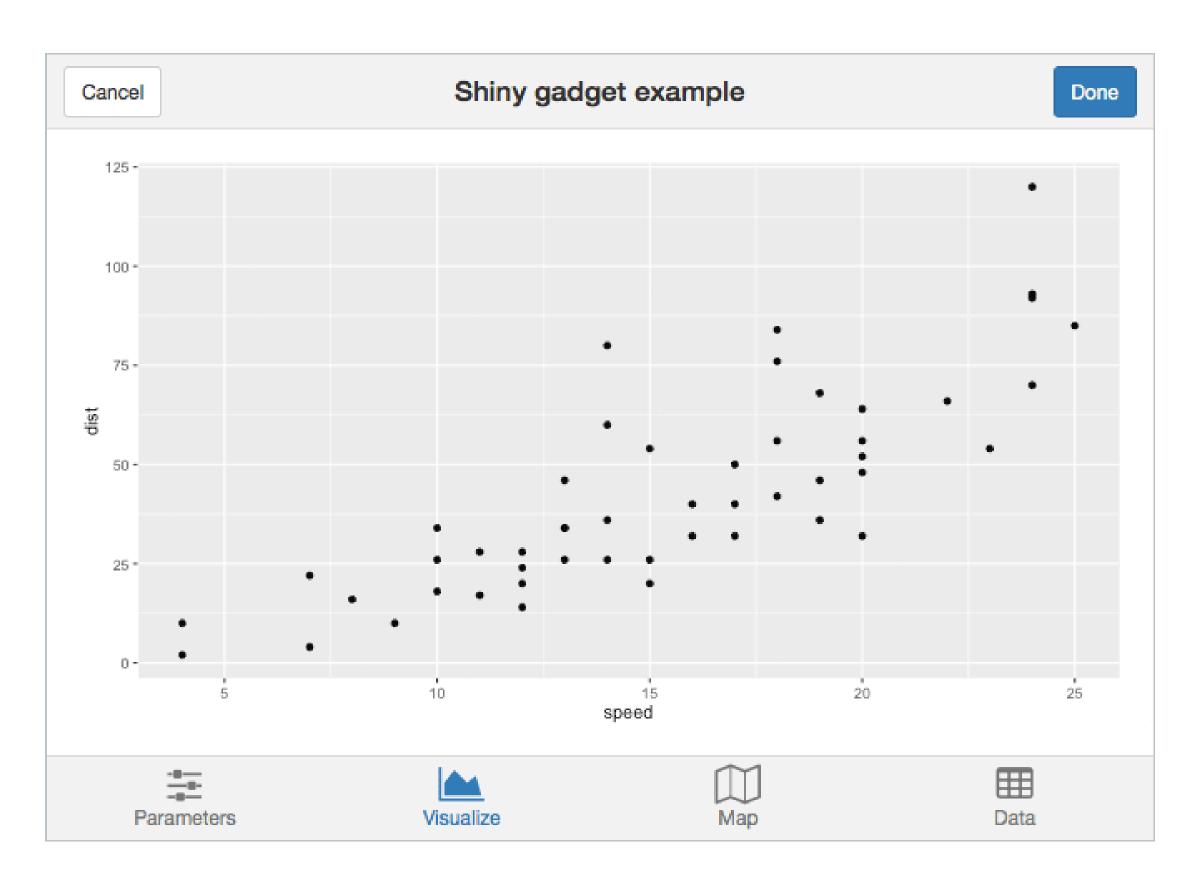
shinydashboard

shinythemes

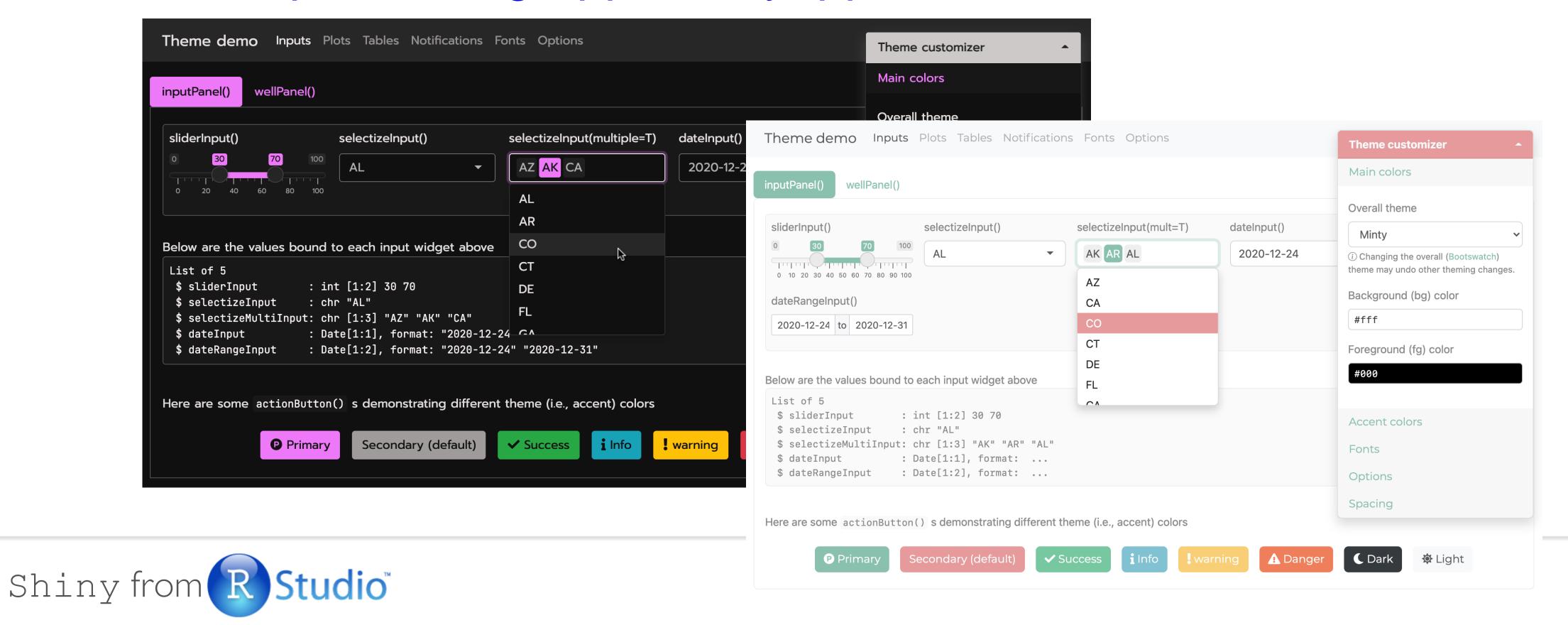
shinyBS (@ebailey78)

shinytoastr (@gaborcsardi)

miniUI (for mobile devices or Shiny Gadgets)



- bslib: https://github.com/rstudio/bslib
- Demo: https://testing-apps.shinyapps.io/themer-demo/



shinyjs (@daattali)

Perform many
UI-related
JavaScript
operations
from R

Function	Description
show / hide / toggle	Display or hide an element (optionally with an animation).
hidden	Initialize a Shiny tag as invisible (can be shown later with a call to show).
enable / disable / toggleState	Enable or disable an input element, such as a button or a text input.
disabled	Initialize a Shiny input as disabled.
reset	Reset a Shiny input widget back to its original value.
delay	Execute R code (including any shinyjs functions) after a specified amount of time.
alert	Show a message to the
html	Change the text/HTML of an element.
onclick	Run R code when a specific element is clicked. Was originally developed with the sole purpose of running a shinyjs function when an element is clicked, though any R code can be used.
onevent	Similar to onclick, but can be used with many other events instead of click (for example, listen for a key press, mouse hover, etc).
addClass / removeClass / toggleClass	add or remove a CSS class from an element.
runjs	Run arbitrary JavaScript code.
extendShinyjs	Allows you to write your own JavaScript functions and use shinyjs to call them as if they were regular R code. More information is available in the

section "Calling your own JavaScript functions from R" below.





EXERCISE

- Modify movies_12.R to use a Bootstrap theme
 - Use the "Live theme selector" feature in shinythemes in your own app
 - Once you've decided on a theme, remove the theme selector and apply your chosen theme permanently
- See shinythemes instructions at: https://rstudio.github.io/shinythemes/

5_m 00_s



SOLUTION

Solution to the previous exercise

movies_13.R



Using htmltools tag objects

AN API FOR COMPOSING HTML

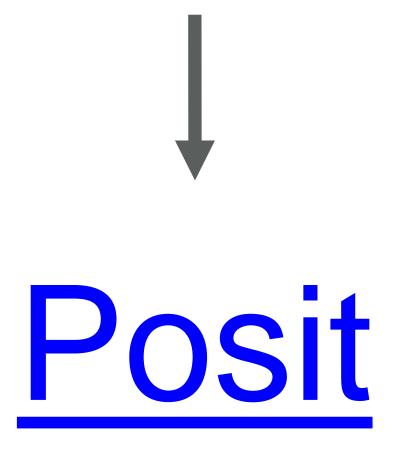
When Shiny was born, it came with a sub-package for composing HTML

These functions were so useful, we extracted them out into a separate package: htmltools

Now used by R Markdown and htmlwidgets as well

HTML BASICS

Posit



HTML BASICS

Posit End tag

Start tag

Child content

Attribute name ANATOMY OF A TAG

Posit

Tag name

Attribute value

Creates an anchor whose hyperlink reference is the URL https://www.posit.co

ANATOMY OF A TAG

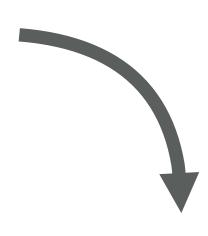
Text can contain tags

Tags can optionally contain text and/or other tags

Each start tag can have zero or more attributes

HTML TO BROWSER UI

```
<div class="panel panel-default">
    <div class="panel-heading">
        <h3 class="panel-title">Panel title</h3>
        </div>
        <div class="panel-body">
            Panel content
        </div>
    </div></div>
```



Panel title

Panel content

LOOKS LIKE R, MEANS HTML

```
<div class="panel panel-default">
                                        div(class="panel panel-default",
 <div class="panel-heading">
                                          div(class="panel-heading",
   <h3 class="panel-title">
                                            h3(class="panel-title",
                                              "Panel title",
      Panel title
   </h3>
 </div>
                                          div(class="panel-body",
 <div class="panel-body">
                                            "Panel content"
    Panel content
 </div>
</div>
```

USING TAG FUNCTIONS

Many common tags are exported as functions by htmltools and shiny (p, h1-h6, a, br, div, span, img)

```
All other tags can be accessed via the tags object. E.g., Item 1tags $1i ("Item 1")
```

If you have lots of HTML to write, you can use the withTags function—it makes the tags\$ prefix optional.

```
withTags(
   ul(
     li("Item 1"), li("Item 2")
   )
)
```

USING TAG FUNCTIONS

All tag functions behave the same way

Call the function to create a tag object

Named arguments become attributes

Unnamed arguments become children

TAGATTRIBUTES

Any valid HTML attribute name can be used (use quotes if the name has dashes, e.g. "data-toggle"="dropdown")

Valid tag <u>attribute values</u> are:

```
NULL (omit the attribute)
```

NA (the attribute should be included with no value)

Single-element character vector (or something to be coerced to character)

```
tags$input(type = "checkbox",
  disabled = if (disabled) NA # else NULL
)
```

TAG CHILDREN

Valid tag <u>children</u> are:

Tag objects

Single-element character vectors (treated as text)

NULL (silently ignored)

Raw HTML (see ?htmltools::HTML)

Lists of valid tag children (recursive!)

USING TAGS

Tags are made using normal R functions that take normal parameters and return normal values! You can do R-like things to them: tags\$ul(lapply(1:10, tags\$li))

Print tag objects at the console to see their HTML source

Call print(x, browse = TRUE) to see their rendered view instead

Use htmltools::browsable() to make an object show its rendered view when printed, by default

If your top-level object is a list, you'll need to wrap in tagList(...) to get the right behavior at the console (or in an R Markdown doc)



EXERCISE

- Open ui_03.R.
- Replace includeHTML("youtube_thumbnail.html") with the equivalent htmltools tag objects.
 - Hint: Take a look inside youtube_thumbnail.html.
- If you get that working, take the next step and define an R function that takes a YouTube URL, a title, and a description, and returns a thumbnail frame like the one you created.

5_m 00_s



SOLUTION

Solutions to the previous exercise

ui_04.R

ui_05.R

Using raw HTML

USING RAW HTML

Incorporate tiny amounts of HTML using inline string literals wrapped in HTML()

```
div(HTML("This is <strong>HTML</strong>"))
```

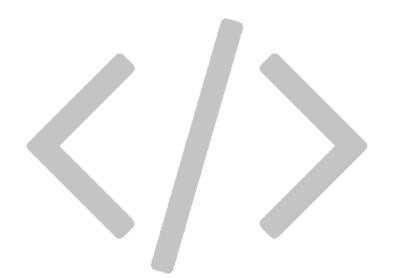
For chunks of (static) HTML, use includeHTML (or similar includeCSS, includeScript)

```
div(includeHTML("file.html"))
```

Or go the other way, with the <u>HTML Templates</u> feature: start with HTML, and embed R expressions that yield tag objects

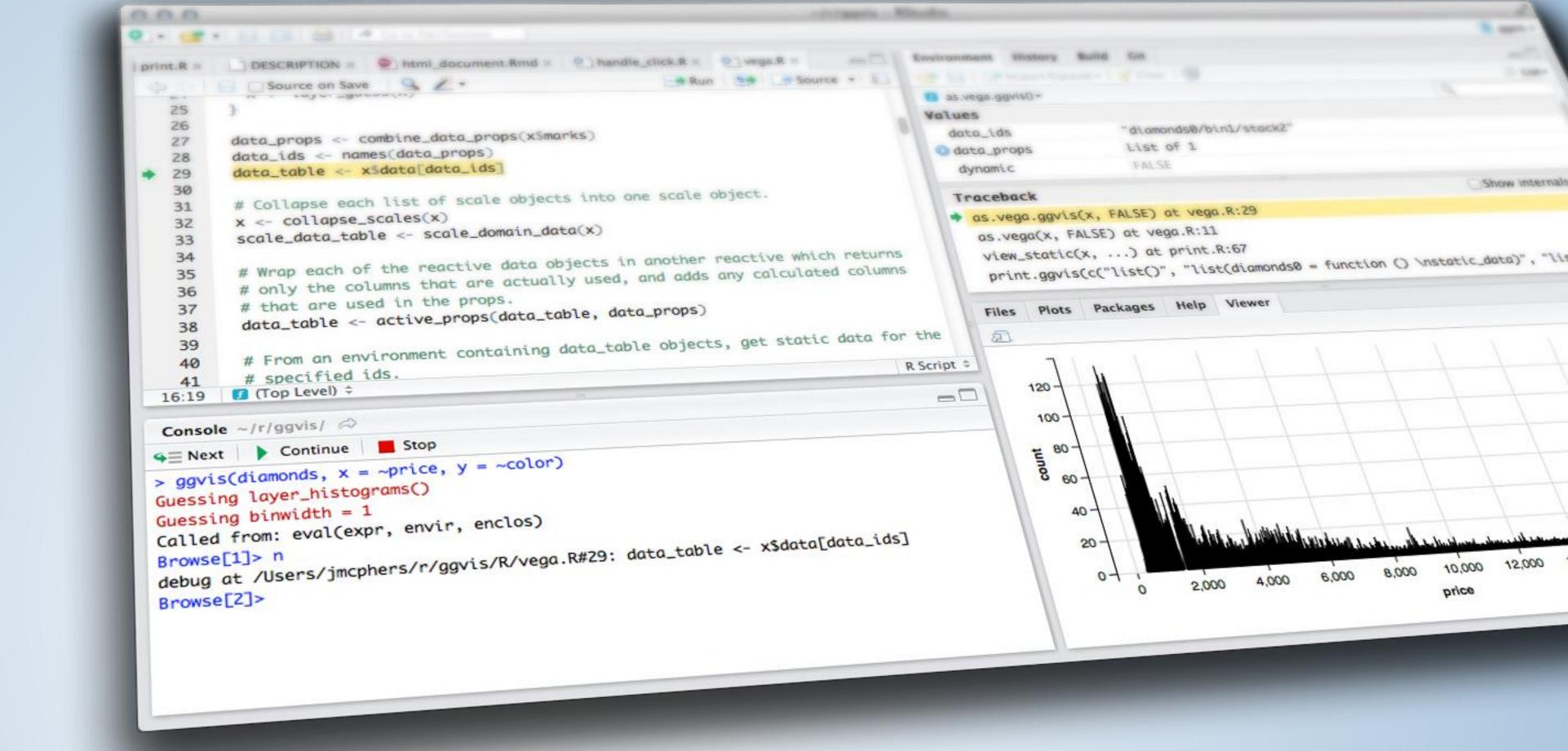
USING

Shiny UI Editor



DEMO

Shiny UI Live Demo



REACTIVE PROGRAMMING

& UNDERSTANDING UI





EXERCISE

- Create the Repo for your homework assignment
 - Click "New" on the course GitHub page
 - Name the repository your hw1 + your Andrew ID
 - ie: hw1-gla
 - Click "Create repository"
 - Do not create a .gitignore file
 - Clone the repo to your computer
- In RStudio create a new project in an existing directory
 - Select the cloned repository
 - If you've already started your homework simply move all your work into this repository



FXFR()ISE

- Publishing a Shiny App
 - Sign up on https://www.shinyapps.io/
 - Go to the tokens page
 - Copy your tokens with secret to clip board
 - In Rstudio in any of the movies apps, go to the publish button



- Follow the steps to add your shiny apps io token.
- Publish the app



HOMEWORK

Homework 1