

Automated Testing in R Shiny

Using testthat and shinytest2

What is automated testing?

Automated testing is an approach to verifying code that execute tests automatically and then compare actual test results with expected results. It is essential for making sure that code works the way that you intend it to and keeps working even after you make changes to the code.



Why it is important?

- ✓ Automated testing improves the **coverage** of testing as automated execution of test cases is **faster** than manual execution.
- ✓ Automated testing reduces the **dependability** of testing on the availability of the test engineers.
- ✓ Automated testing takes far **less resources** in execution as compared to manual testing.
- ✓ It helps in testing which is not possible **without automation** such as reliability testing, stress testing, load and performance testing.
- ✓ It acts as test **data generator** and produces maximum test data to cover a large number of input and expected output for **result comparison**.
- ✓ Automated testing has **less chances of error** hence more reliable.



Automated testing in shiny R

There are following type of testing in shiny R:

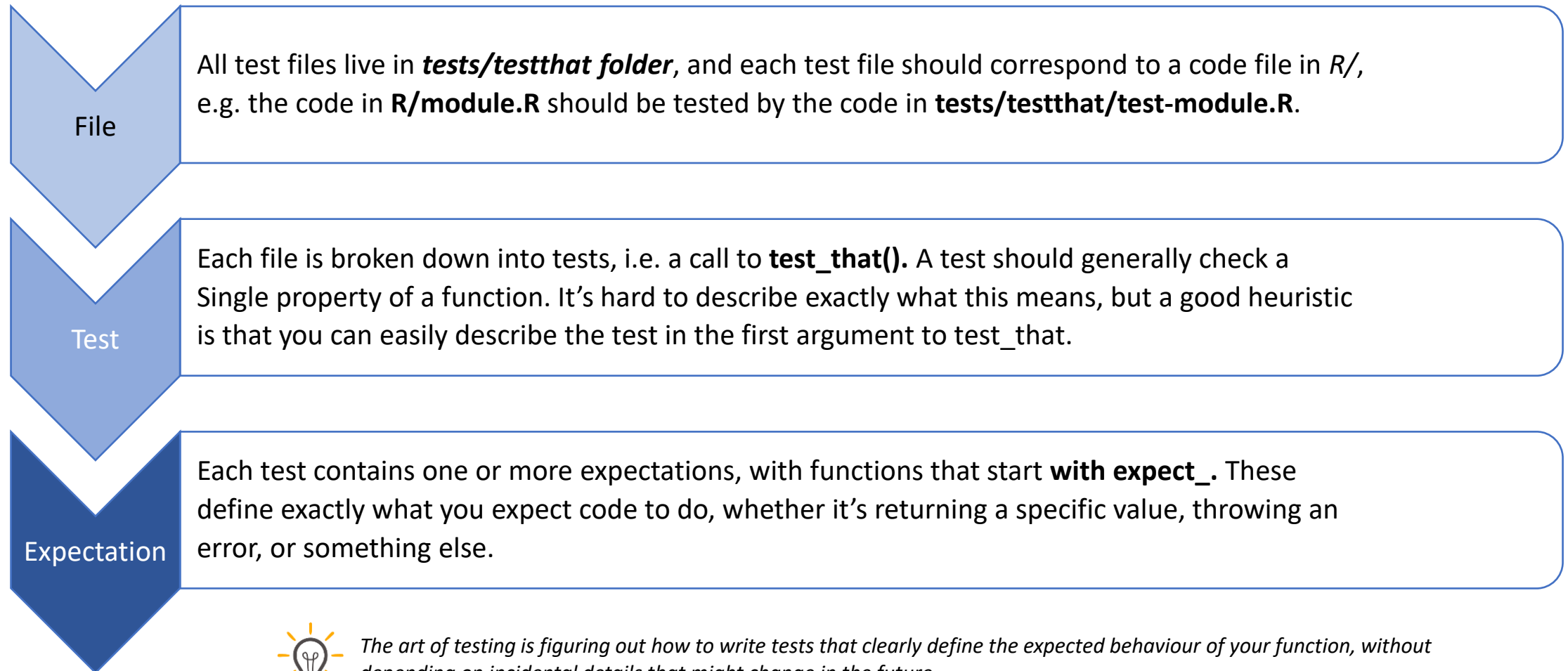
- ✓ **Unit/Function tests (testthat)**
- ✓ **Module/Server function tests (testthat)**
- ✓ **Snapshot-based tests (shinytest2)**

For **unit tests and server function tests**, no web browser is involved, and the tests and test expectations are expressed in R code. This means that the tests run quickly, and that changing code in one part of an application will generally not affect tests of another part of the application. The **snapshot-based tests** require a headless web browser, and, as the name suggests, use snapshots.

testthat package is used to build the **unit and server function tests**, while **shinytest2** package is used to perform the **snapshot-based tests**.



Basic test structure



The art of testing is figuring out how to write tests that clearly define the expected behaviour of your function, without depending on incidental details that might change in the future.

testthat – create test

Step 1 : Before creating the test, **testthat** package need to be installed by using following command:

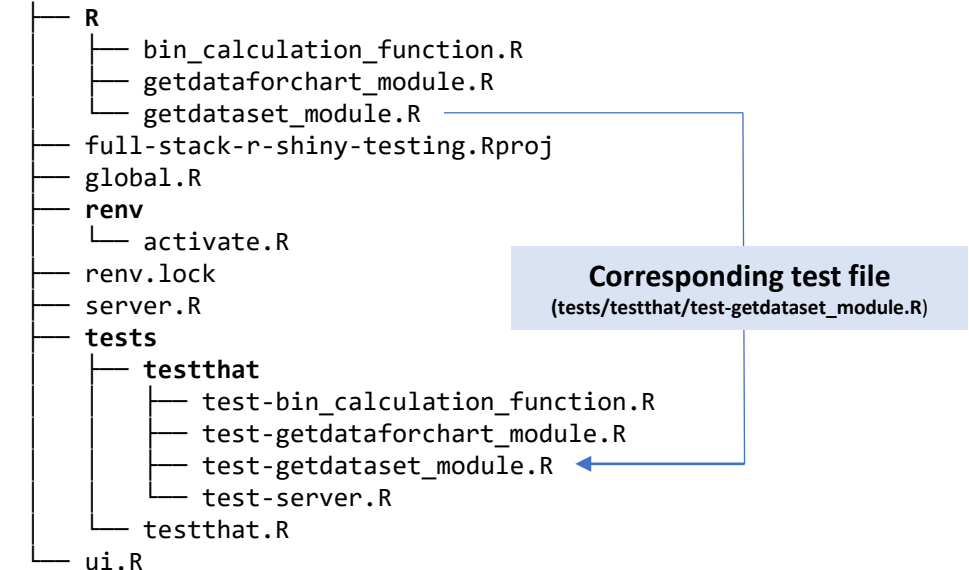
```
# Install the released version from CRAN
install.packages("testthat")
```

Step 2 : After installing the **testthat** package, test can be created in two ways :

- ✓ **Create test file manually:** All test files live in tests/testthat, and each test file should correspond to a code file in R/, e.g. the code in R/getdataset_module.R should be tested by the code in tests/testthat/test-getdataset_module.R.
- ✓ **Create test file using usethis::use_test function:** Fortunately, you don't have to remember that convention: just use usethis::use_test to automatically create or locate the test file corresponding to the currently open R file. If there is no "tests" directory in the project, then it will first create tests/testthat directory and then the respective test file in it.

Tree structure of **full-stack-r-shiny-testing** project directory:

full-stack-r-shiny-testing



Reference link :
[Testthat package installation](#)

testthat – write test (for function) – step 1

Test for sum calculation function

```
# Test for bin calculation function
test_that("Test for sum calculation", {
  #Test to check the return value of the function if
  #any number out of two is non-numeric
  expect_equal(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = "temp", num2 = 5),
    "sum can't be preformed")

  ...
  ...
})
```

Sum calculation function

```
#function to calculate the sum of two numbers

sum_of_two_numbers <- function(num1,num2){

  if((isFALSE(is.numeric(num1) & is.numeric(num2)))){
    #passing error message if any number is not numeric.
    result <- "sum can't be preformed"
  }else{
    #calculating sum of two numbers
    result <- as.numeric(num1 + num2)
  }
  #return the result after calculating the sum
  return(result)
}
```

1



testthat – write test (for function) – step 2

Test for sum calculation function

```
# Test for bin calculation function
test_that("Test for sum calculation", {

  #Test to check the return value of the function if
  #any number out of two is non-numeric
  expect_equal(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = "temp", num2 = 5),
               "sum can't be preformed")

  #test to check the return value of the function if both
  #the numbers are numeric
  expect_equal(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = 10, num2 = 5),
               as.numeric(15))
  #test to check the type of return value from the function
  #if both the numbers are numeric
  expect_type(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = 10, num2 = 5),
              "double")

})
```

Sum calculation function

```
#function to calculate the sum of two numbers

sum_of_two_numbers <- function(num1, num2){

  if((isFALSE(is.numeric(num1) & is.numeric(num2)))){

    #passing error message if any number is not numeric.
    result <- "sum can't be preformed"

  }else{

    #calculating sum of two numbers
    result <- as.numeric(num1 + num2)

  }

  #return the result after calculating the sum
  return(result)

}
```

2



testthat – write test (for function)

Test for sum calculation function

```
# Test for bin calculation function
test_that("Test for sum calculation", {

  #Test to check the return value of the function if
  #any number out of two is non-numeric
  expect_equal(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = "temp", num2 = 5),
               "sum can't be preformed")

  #test to check the return value of the function if both
  #the numbers are numeric
  expect_equal(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = 10, num2 = 5),
               as.numeric(15))
  #test to check the type of return value from the function
  #if both the numbers are numeric
  expect_type(sum_of_two_numbers(num1 = 10, num2 = 5),
              "double")

})
```

Sum calculation function

```
#function to calculate the sum of two numbers

sum_of_two_numbers <- function(num1, num2){

  if((isFALSE(is.numeric(num1) & is.numeric(num2)))){

    #passing error message if any number is not numeric.
    result <- "sum can't be preformed"

  }else{

    #calculating sum of two numbers
    result <- as.numeric(num1 + num2)

  }

  #return the result after calculating the sum
  return(result)

}
```

1

2

testthat – write test (for module) - step 1

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
  
    ...  
    ...  
    ...  
    ...  
  
  })  
})
```

1

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the slected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```

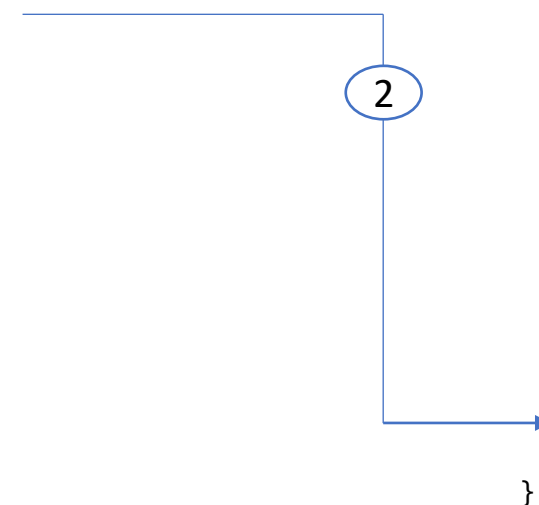
testthat – write test (for module) - step 2

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
    #Storing the return value of module into the object  
    rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()  
  
    ...  
    ...  
    ...  
  
  })  
})
```

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the selected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```

A blue line originates from the line `rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()` in the test code on the left. It extends horizontally to the right, then turns vertically downwards. At the top of this vertical line is a blue circle containing the number '2'. An arrow points from the bottom of this vertical line to the closing curly brace of the `moduleServer` function in the server code on the right.

testthat – write test (for module) - step 3

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
    #Storing the return value of module into the object  
    rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()  
    #Test to check the class of return object  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return(),"list")  
  
    ...  
    ...  
  })  
})
```

3

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the selected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```

testthat – write test (for module) - step 4

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
    #Storing the return value of module into the object  
    rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()  
    #Test to check the class of return object  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return(),"list")  
  
    #Test to check the class of return dataset  
    expect_s3_class(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset,"data.frame")  
    #Test to check that the return dataframe is same  
    #as per the set value of dataset input  
    expect_equal(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset, mtcars)  
  
    ...  
  })  
})
```

4

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the selected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```

testthat – write test (for module) - step 5

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
    #Storing the return value of module into the object  
    rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()  
    #Test to check the class of return object  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return(),"list")  
    #Test to check the class of return dataset  
    expect_s3_class(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset,"data.frame")  
    #Test to check that the return dataframe is same  
    #as per the set value of dataset input  
    expect_equal(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset, mtcars)  
  
    #Test to check the class of return dataset name  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return()$name,"character")  
    #Test to check that the name of the return dataset is same as  
    #per the selected "dataset" input  
    expect_equal(rv_getdataset_return()$name, "mtcars")  
  
  })  
})
```

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the selected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```

5

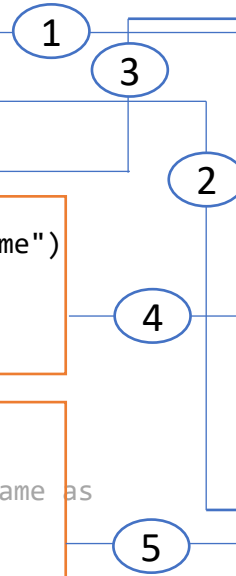
testthat – write test (for module)

Test for get dataset module (server section) (test-getdataset_module.R)

```
test_that("Test for getdataset module",{  
  
  #testing the module server  
  testServer(getdatasetServer,{  
    #Setting the value of dataset input to "mtcars"  
    session$setInputs(dataset = "mtcars")  
    #Storing the return value of module into the object  
    rv_getdataset_return <- session$getReturned()  
    #Test to check the class of return object  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return(),"list")  
    #Test to check the class of return dataset  
    expect_s3_class(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset,"data.frame")  
    #Test to check that the return dataframe is same  
    #as per the set value of dataset input  
    expect_equal(rv_getdataset_return()$dataset, mtcars)  
  
    #Test to check the class of return dataset name  
    expect_type(rv_getdataset_return()$name,"character")  
    #Test to check that the name of the return dataset is same as  
    #per the selected "dataset" input  
    expect_equal(rv_getdataset_return()$name, "mtcars")  
  
  })  
})
```

Server function of get dataset module (getdataset_module.R)

```
getdatasetServer <- function(id) {  
  moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {  
  
    #defining the reactive values object  
    rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()  
    #observe event to capture the change in the  
    #dataset input  
    observeEvent(input$dataset,ignoreNULL = TRUE,{  
      #loading the selected dataset from datasets  
      #package and storing it into rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(  
        input$dataset,  
        "package:datasets"))  
  
      #storing the name of the selected dataset into  
      #rv_getdataset  
      rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)  
    })  
    #returning the name and actual dataset  
    return(reactive(rv_getdataset))  
  })  
}
```



testthat – write test (app server) – step 1

Test for application server function

```
#Below is the test for the server function of the
application
test_that("Test for application server",{
  #testing the module server
  testServer(expr = {
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@abc.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn button
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 1)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be false.
    expect_false(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)

    ...
    ...
    ...
    ...

  })
})
```

1

Server function of application

```
#server part of the application
app_server <- function(input, output, session) {
  #defining the reactive values object
  rv_server <- reactiveValues()
  ...
  ...
  ...

  #observe event to validate the email id and show the git
  #repository link
  observeEvent(input$email_submit_btn, {

    #assigning the value of emailid input to the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid <- input$emailid

    #validating the email id and assigning the logical flag to
    #the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid_valid_flag <- grepl("@sanofi.com",
      as.character(rv_server$emailid),ignore.case = T)

    ...
    ...

  })
}
```


testthat – write test (app server) – step 2

Test for application server function

```
#Below is the test for the server function of the
application
test_that("Test for application server",{
  #testing the module server
  testServer(expr = {
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@abc.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn button
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 1)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be false.
    expect_false(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@sanofi.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 2)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be true.
    expect_true(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)

    ...
    ...
  })
})
```

2

Server function of application

```
#server part of the application
app_server <- function(input, output, session) {
  #defining the reactive values object
  rv_server <- reactiveValues()
  ...
  ...
  ...

  #observe event to validate the email id and show the git
  #repository link
  observeEvent(input$email_submit_btn, {

    #assigning the value of emailid input to the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid <- input$emailid

    #validating the email id and assigning the logical flag to
    #the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid_valid_flag <- grepl("@sanofi.com",
      as.character(rv_server$emailid),ignore.case = T)

    ...
    ...
    ...

  })
}
```

testthat – write test (app server) – step 3

Test for application server function

```
#Below is the test for the server function of the
application
test_that("Test for application server",{
  #testing the module server
  testServer(expr = {
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@abc.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn button
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 1)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be false.
    expect_false(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@sanofi.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 2)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be true.
    expect_true(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)
    #Test to check the type of emailid_valid_flag. it should
    #always return the logical value.
    expect_type(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag,"logical")
  })
})
```

3

Server function of application

```
#server part of the application
app_server <- function(input, output, session) {
  #defining the reactive values object
  rv_server <- reactiveValues()
  ...
  ...
  ...

  #observe event to validate the email id and show the git
  #repository link
  observeEvent(input$email_submit_btn, {

    #assigning the value of emailid input to the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid <- input$emailid

    #validating the email id and assigning the logical flag to
    #the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid_valid_flag <- grepl("@sanofi.com",
      as.character(rv_server$emailid),ignore.case = T)

    ...
    ...

  })
}
```

testthat – write test (app server)

Test for application server function

#Below is the test for the server function of the application

```
test_that("Test for application server",{
  #testing the module server
  testServer(expr = {
    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@abc.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn button
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 1)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be false.
    expect_false(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)

    #Setting the value of emailid input
    session$setInputs(emailid = "temp@sanofi.com")
    #clicked on email_submit_btn
    session$setInputs(email_submit_btn = 2)
    #Test to check the value of emailid_valid_flag. In this
    #case, it should be true.
    expect_true(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag)

    #Test to check the type of emailid_valid_flag.
    #it should always return the logical value.
    expect_type(rv_server$emailid_valid_flag,"logical")
  })
})
```

1

2

3

Server function of application

```
#server part of the application
app_server <- function(input, output, session) {
  #defining the reactive values object
  rv_server <- reactiveValues()
  ...
  ...
  ...

  #observe event to validate the email id and show the git
  #repository link
  observeEvent(input$email_submit_btn, {

    #assigning the value of emailid input to the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid <- input$emailid

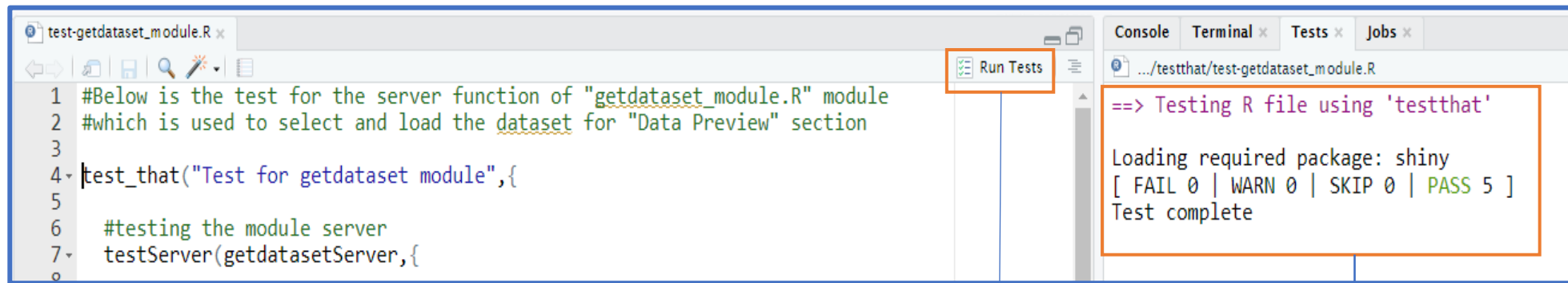
    #validating the email id and assigning the logical flag to
    #the reactive list
    rv_server$emailid_valid_flag <- grepl("@sanofi.com",
      as.character(rv_server$emailid),ignore.case = T)

    ...
    ...

  })
}
```

testthat – run test(individual)

“**Run Tests**” button used to run the test individually. As soon as this button clicked, it run the current open test and show the test result under the Tests tab. This button will only appear for test file.

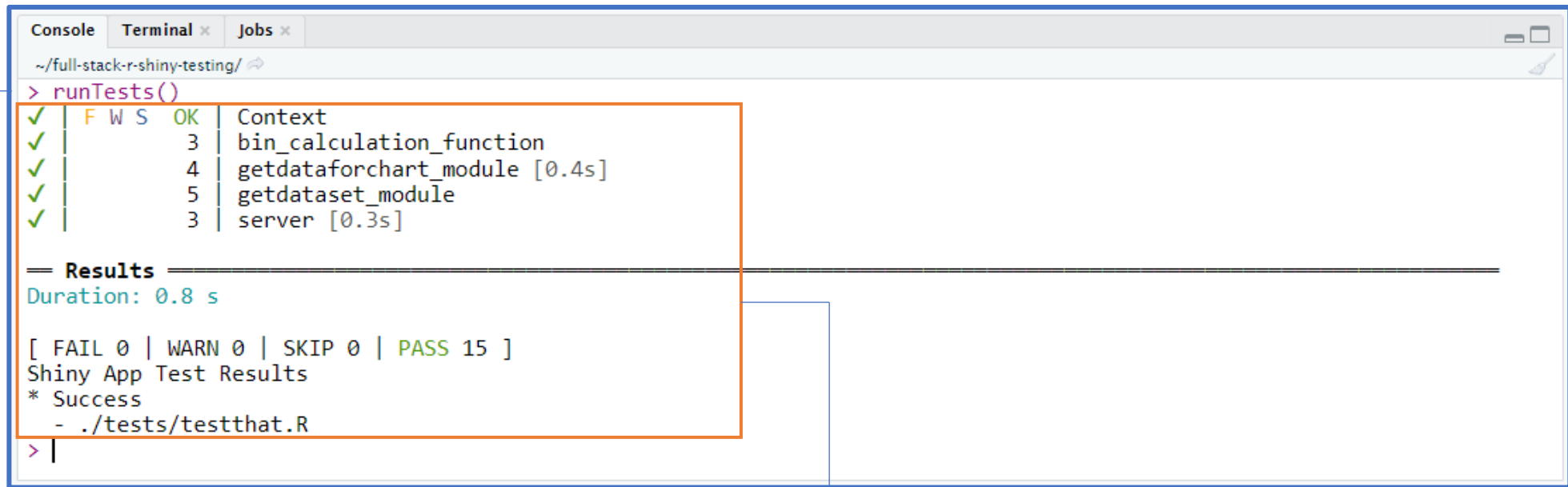


Step 1: Click on “**Run Tests**” button to run the current open test.

Step 2: After clicking on “**Run Tests**” button, Test result will be displayed in “**Tests**” tab.

testthat – run test(all)

runTests() function used to run all the tests which are exist in the tests/testthat directory. All tests run one by one automatically and show the cumulative result in the console.



```
~/full-stack-r-shiny-testing/
> runTests()
✓ | F W S OK | Context
✓ |          3 | bin_calculation_function
✓ |          4 | getdataforchart_module [0.4s]
✓ |          5 | getdataset_module
✓ |          3 | server [0.3s]

— Results —
Duration: 0.8 s

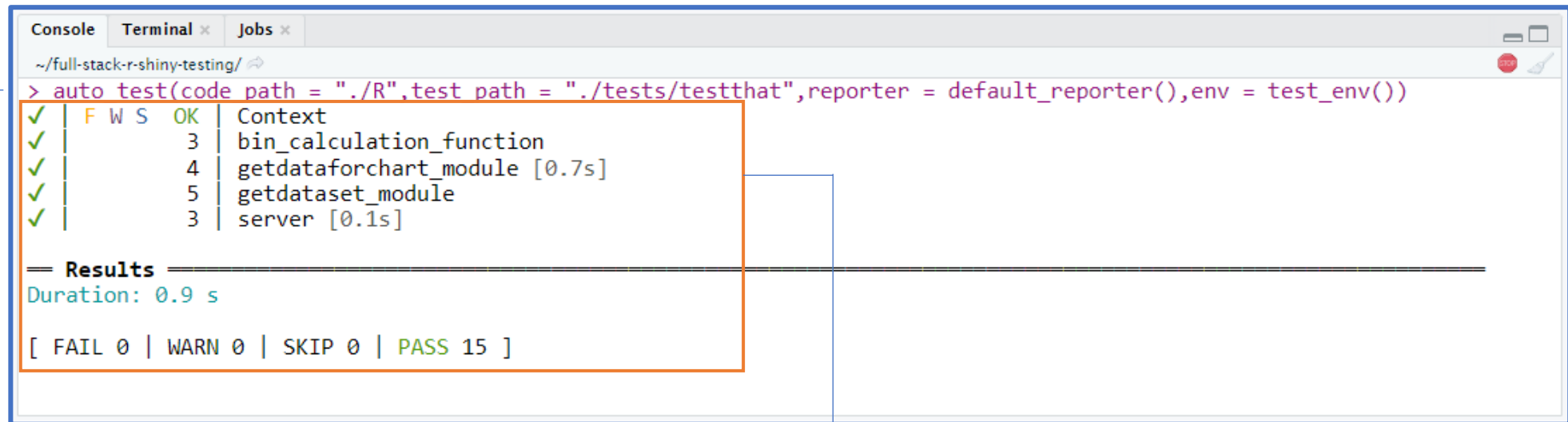
[ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 15 ]
Shiny App Test Results
* Success
- ./tests/testthat.R
> |
```

Step 1: Run the **runTests()** function in the console. It will run all the tests which are exist in the *testthat* folder.

Step 2: After successfully passed all the tests, expected output will look like this.

testthat – run test(auto)

As soon as **auto_test()** function run in the console, it runs all the tests in the background which are exist in the tests/testthat directory and display the test result. It rerun automatically if any change saved in the corresponding code file. Just press “esc” button or click on terminate button in the console to stop the auto test mode.



```
~/full-stack-r-shiny-testing/
> auto_test(code_path = "./R", test_path = "./tests/testthat", reporter = default_reporter(), env = test_env())
```

✓	F	W	S	OK	Context
✓				3	bin_calculation_function
✓				4	getdataforchart_module [0.7s]
✓				5	getdataset_module
✓				3	server [0.1s]

Results

Duration: 0.9 s

[FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 15]

→ **Step 1:** execute **auto_test()** command in the console which will run the tests in the background.

→ **Step 2:** After running the **auto_test()** command, It will show the above result if all the tests run successfully.

testthat – run test(auto)

```
1 #' module to get the dataset
2 #'
3 #' @param input output session shiny attribute
4 #' @export
5
6 #UI function
7 getdatasetUI <- function(id, filter = "is.data.frame") {
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28 #Server function
29 getdatasetServer <- function(id) {
30   moduleServer(id, function(input, output, session) {
31
32     #defining the reactive values object
33     rv_getdataset <- reactiveValues()
34
35     #added temporarily line for auto test changes
36     temp <- as.numeric(0)
37
38     #observe event to capture the change in the dataset input
39     observeEvent(input$dataset, ignoreNULL = TRUE, {
40       #loading the selected dataset from datasets package and storing it into rv_getdataset
41       rv_getdataset$dataset <- as.data.frame(get(input$dataset, "package:datasets"))
42       #storing the name of the selected dataset into rv_getdataset
43       rv_getdataset$name <- as.character(input$dataset)
44     })
45     #returning the name and actual dataset
46     return(reactive(rv_getdataset))
47   })
48 }
49
```

```
> auto_test(code_path = "./R", test_path = "./tests/testthat", reporter = default_reporter(), env = test_e
nv())
✓ | F W S OK | Context
✓ |          3 | bin_calculation_function
✓ |          4 | getdataforchart_module [0.7s]
✓ |          5 | getdataset_module
✓ |          3 | server [0.1s]

— Results —
Duration: 0.9 s

[ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 15 ]
Changed code: getdataset_module.R
Rerunning all tests
✓ | F W S OK | Context
✓ |          3 | bin_calculation_function
✓ |          4 | getdataforchart_module [0.5s]
✓ |          5 | getdataset_module
✓ |          3 | server [0.2s]

— Results —
Duration: 0.7 s

[ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 15 ]
```

→ **Step 3:** Made some changes in the code and save it.

→ **Step 4:** As soon as code is saved with the changes, it **rerun** all the tests and show the above highlighted result.

shinytest2 – create test

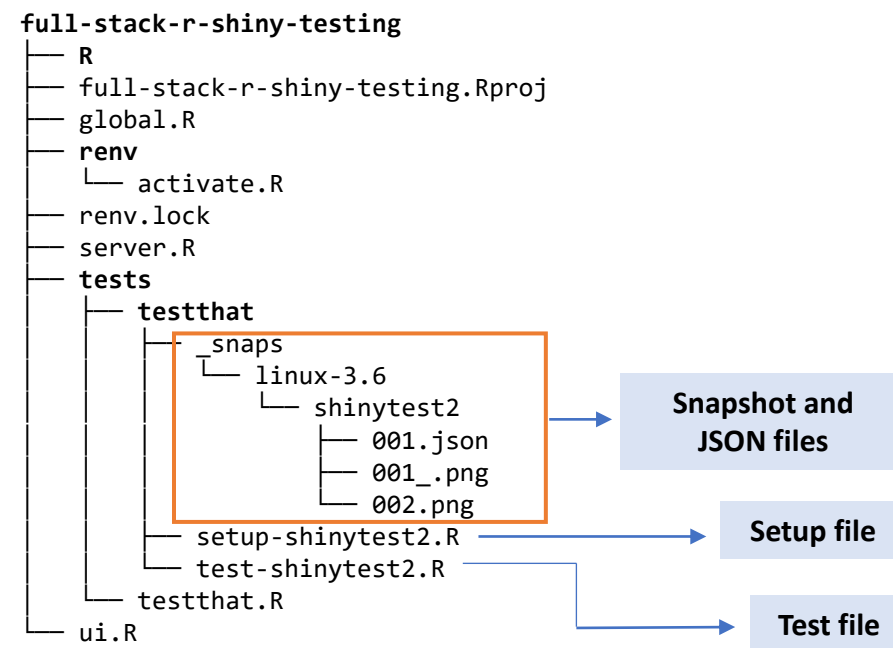
Step 1 : Before creating the test, **shinytest2** package need to be installed by using following command:

```
# Install the released version from CRAN
install.packages("shinytest2")
```

Step 2 : After installing the package, test can be created in two ways:

- ✓ **Create test file using shinytest2::record_test():**
To record the test, run `shinytest2::record_test()` in app directory. `record_test()` will auto-generate a test file which contains all the app interactions as code output. The snapshots are saved as .png file in `.tests/testthat/_snaps` folder.
- ✓ **Create test file using shinytest2::use_shinytest2_test():**
`use_shinytest2_test()` function is used to create tests manually, by setting up initial values/inputs in shinytest2. It creates a test file in `.tests/testthat/test-shinytest2.R`.

Tree structure of **full-stack-r-shiny-testing** project directory:



Reference link :

[shinytest2 package installation](#)

shinytest2— Create test(Multiple Test scripts)

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below are the recorded shinytests
library(shinytest2)

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-  
shiny-testing", {  
  #adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  app <- AppDriver$new(variant  
    = platform_variant(), name = "full-stack-r-shiny-  
    testing", height = 617, width = 1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")  
  ...  
  ...  
})
```

Test-1

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording:  
"Testing_scenario_1", {  
  #adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  app <- AppDriver$new(variant  
    = platform_variant(), name  
    = "Testing_scenario_1", height = 617, width =  
    1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "CO2")  
  ...  
})
```

Test-2

- ✓ By default, all the recorded tests will be saved in test-shinytest2.R file.
- ✓ User can rename the default filename shinytest2.R and run the tests with user given name.
- ✓ Multiple tests will be recorded for a shiny application. Each test should be saved with a unique name.
- ✓ For each test user can create separate test file under "tests/testthat/" folder with a naming convention of "test-" as a prefix before test name.

shinytest2 – record test

- ✓ Run **shinytest2::record_test()**, it launches shiny app with an iframe on left side know as Target app and have some controls on the right side know as Recorder app.
- ✓ When user interacts with target app those actions will be recorded as code output and saved in **tests/testthat/test-shinytest2.R**.
- ✓ It performs some scripted interactions with the app and takes one or more snapshots of the application's state. These snapshots are saved to disk which will used as **reference** images for future runs of the tests to compare with this reference image.
- ✓ When you are done recording the sequence of events, save the test with a unique test name and click on "**Save and Exit**" button.
- ✓ Once you quit the Recorder app, it will automatically run the test scripts in the console and saves the snapshots and json file under **snaps** folder and creates the setup file and updates the shinytest2.R file.

shinytest2 – record test

The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with a Shiny application project named "full-stack-r-shiny-testing". The main editor displays the `server.R` file, which defines the server logic for the application. The code includes comments and function calls for defining reactive values, calling the `getdataset` module, and observing changes in the return value to render a data table.

```
1 #####server part of application#####
2
3 app_server <- function(input, output, session) {
4
5   #defining the reactive values object
6   rv_server <- reactiveValues()
7
8   #calling the server function of getdataset module
9   #and storing the return value into "re_server"
10  rv_server <- getdatasetServer("getdataset")
11
12  #observe event to capture the changes in the return value of getdataset module
13  observeEvent(rv_server()$dataset,{
14    #rendering datatable to show the preview of selected dataset
15
16  })
17 }
```

The right-hand pane shows the "Environment" tab, which lists the objects in the global environment. The "Files" tab shows the project structure, including a `server.R` file.

Name	Size
..	
.gitignore	117 B
.Rhistory	3.2 KB
components	
full-stack-r-shiny-testing.Rproj	205 B
global.R	894 B
R	
README.md	127 B
renv	
renv.lock	18.7 KB
resources	
server.R	1.4 KB

shinytest2— write test (step1)

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

Automated Testing Demo

Powered by ART Sanofi

Application Information

Data Preview

Select Dataset

cars

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Chart

Variable: dist Chart Type: Box-Plot

Box-Plot - dist

Range

Code

```
# Update output value
1 app$set_window_size(width = 1065, height = 768)
# Update output value
2 app$set_inputs("getdataset-dataset" = "cars")
# Update output value
3 app$set_inputs("chart-var" = "dist")
# Update output value
4 app$set_inputs("chart-chart_type" = "Box-Plot")
# Update output value
5 app$expect_values()
```

Save

Test name: full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Please use a unique name. Known names:

- full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Random seed: (None)

Exit Save test and exit

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

library(shinytest2)

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {  
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically
```

```
  app <- AppDriver$new(variant  
    = platform_variant(), name = "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617, width = 1065)
```

```
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"
```

```
  app$set_inputs("getdataset-dataset" = "cars")
```

```
  ...  
  ...  
  ...  
  ...
```

```
})
```

shinytest2— write test (step2)

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

The screenshot shows the 'Automated Testing Demo' interface. It includes a 'Data Preview' section with a table of 'cars' data, a 'Chart' section with a box plot for 'dist', and a 'Test Recorder' section on the right. The 'Test Recorder' section has tabs for 'Expectations' and 'Code'. The 'Code' tab is active, showing R code for setting up the test. A blue box highlights the 'Variable' dropdown in the 'Chart' section, and a blue circle with the number '2' highlights the 'app\$set_inputs()' line in the 'Code' tab. An arrow points from the circle to the code line.

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Box-Plot - dist

Variable: dist

Chart Type: Box-Plot

Code:

```
# Update output value
1 app$set_window_size(width = 1065, height = 768)
# Update output value
2 app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")
# Update output value
3 app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")
# Update output value
4 app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_type` = "Box-Plot")
# Update output value
5 app$expect_values()
```

Save

Test name: full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Please use a unique name. Known names:

- full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Random seed: (None)

Exit Save test and exit

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

```
library(shinytest2)
```

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {  
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  AppDriver$new(variant = platform_variant(), name =  
    "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617,  
    width = 1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")  
  #Sets input variable to "dist"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")  
  
  ...  
  ...  
  ...  
})
```

shinytest2— write test (step3)

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

The screenshot shows the 'Automated Testing Demo' interface. It includes a 'Data Preview' section with a table of 'cars' data, a 'Chart' section with a 'Box-Plot' for the 'dist' variable, and a 'Test Recorder' section on the right. The 'Test Recorder' section has tabs for 'Expect Shiny values' and 'Expect screenshot', and a 'Code' section showing the recorded shinytest2 code. A blue circle with the number '3' is placed over the 'Code' section, and a blue arrow points from it to the corresponding code in the adjacent block.

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Box-Plot - dist

Range

3

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

```
library(shinytest2)
```

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {  
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  AppDriver$new(variant = platform_variant(), name =  
    "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617,  
    width = 1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")  
  #Sets input variable to "dist"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")  
  #Sets chart type to "Box-Plot"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_tpe` = "Box-Plot")  
  
  ...  
  
  ...  
  
})
```

shinytest2– write test (step4)

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

The screenshot shows the 'Automated Testing Demo' interface. It includes a 'Data Preview' section with a table of 'cars' data, a 'Chart' section with a box plot for 'dist', and a 'Test recorder' section on the right. The 'Test recorder' section has two options: 'Expect Shiny values' (highlighted with a red box and a blue arrow pointing to the code) and 'Expect screenshot'. The 'Code' section shows the recorded shinytest2 code. A blue circle with the number '4' is placed next to the 'Expect Shiny values' option, with a blue arrow pointing to the 'app\$expect_values()' line in the code.

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Box-Plot - dist

Variable: dist, Chart Type: Box-Plot

Test recorder options: Expect Shiny values (selected), Expect screenshot

Code:

```
# Update output value
1 app$set_window_size(width = 1065, height = 768)
# Update output value
2 app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")
# Update output value
3 app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")
# Update output value
4 app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_tpe` = "Box-Plot")
# Update output value
5 app$expect_values()
```

Save

Test name: full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Please use a unique name. Known names:

- full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Random seed: (None)

Buttons: Exit, Save test and exit

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

```
library(shinytest2)
```

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically
  AppDriver$new(variant = platform_variant(), name = "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617, width = 1065)
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")
  #Sets input variable to "dist"
  app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")
  #Sets chart type to "Box-Plot"
  app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_tpe` = "Box-Plot")
  #Captures shiny input and output values
  app$expect_values()
  ...
})
```


shinytest2— write test (step5)

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

The screenshot shows the 'Automated Testing Demo' interface. It includes a 'Data Preview' section with a table of 'cars' data, a 'Chart' section with a box plot of 'dist', and a 'Test recorder' section on the right. The 'Test recorder' section has two tabs: 'Expect Shiny values' and 'Expect screenshot'. The 'Expect screenshot' tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. A blue arrow points from this tab to the '5' in a circle, which is part of the test code on the right.

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

```
library(shinytest2)
```

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {  
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  AppDriver$new(variant = platform_variant(), name =  
    "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617,  
    width = 1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")  
  #Sets input variable to "dist"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")  
  #Sets chart type to "Box-Plot"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_tpe` = "Box-Plot")  
  #Captures shiny input and output values  
  app$expect_values()  
  #Captures screenshot with all the assigned inputs  
  app$expect_screenshot()  
})
```


shinytest2— write test

Below is the test recorder screen where inputs and outputs are interactive for recording the user interface activities:

The screenshot shows the 'Automated Testing Demo' interface. It includes a 'Data Preview' panel with a table of 'cars' data, a 'Chart' panel showing a box plot of 'dist', and a 'Test recorder' panel on the right. The test recorder panel has a 'Code' section with a list of actions and a 'Save' section with a 'Test name' field. Five numbered circles (1-5) are placed over the interface elements, with arrows pointing to the corresponding lines in the test code on the right.

speed	dist
4	2
4	10
7	4
7	22
8	16
9	10
10	18
10	26
10	34
11	17

Box-Plot - dist

Variable: dist, Chart Type: Box-Plot

Test name: full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Please use a unique name. Known names: full-stack-r-shiny-testing

Random seed: (None)

Exit, Save test and exit

Test code(test-shinytest2.R)

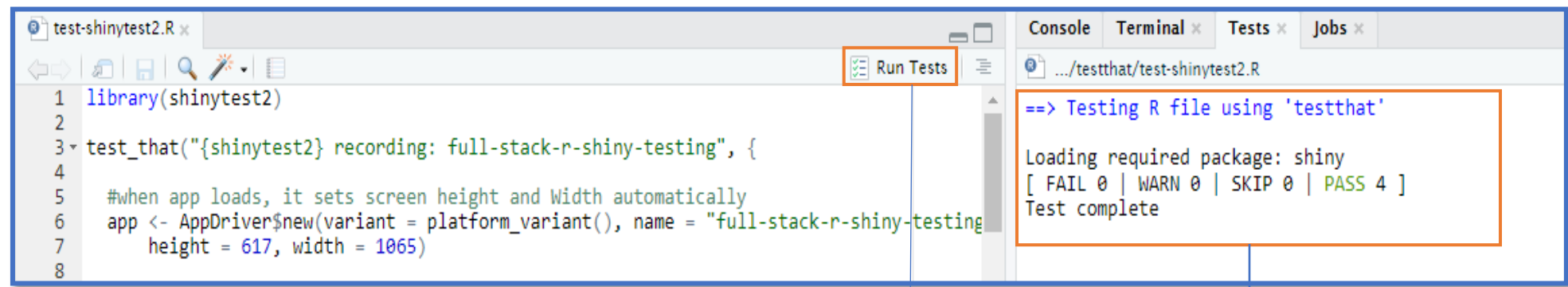
#Below is the recorded shinytest2 code which sets the input and captures the output values according to the interactions with the app

```
library(shinytest2)
```

```
test_that("{shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing", {  
  #when app loads, it adjusts screen height and Width automatically  
  AppDriver$new(variant = platform_variant(), name = "full-stack-r-shiny-testing", height = 617, width = 1065)  
  #Sets dataset input id to "cars"  
  app$set_inputs(`getdataset-dataset` = "cars")  
  #Sets input variable to "dist"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-var` = "dist")  
  #Sets chart type to "Box-Plot"  
  app$set_inputs(`chart-chart_tpe` = "Box-Plot")  
  #Captures shiny input and output values  
  app$expect_values()  
  #Captures screenshot with all the assigned inputs  
  app$expect_screenshot()  
})
```

shinytest2— run test (method 1)

“**Run Tests**” button will run the all the tests which are written in the shinytest2 test file (*test-shinytest2.R*). As soon as this button clicked, it runs the tests of current open test file and show the test result under the Tests tab.

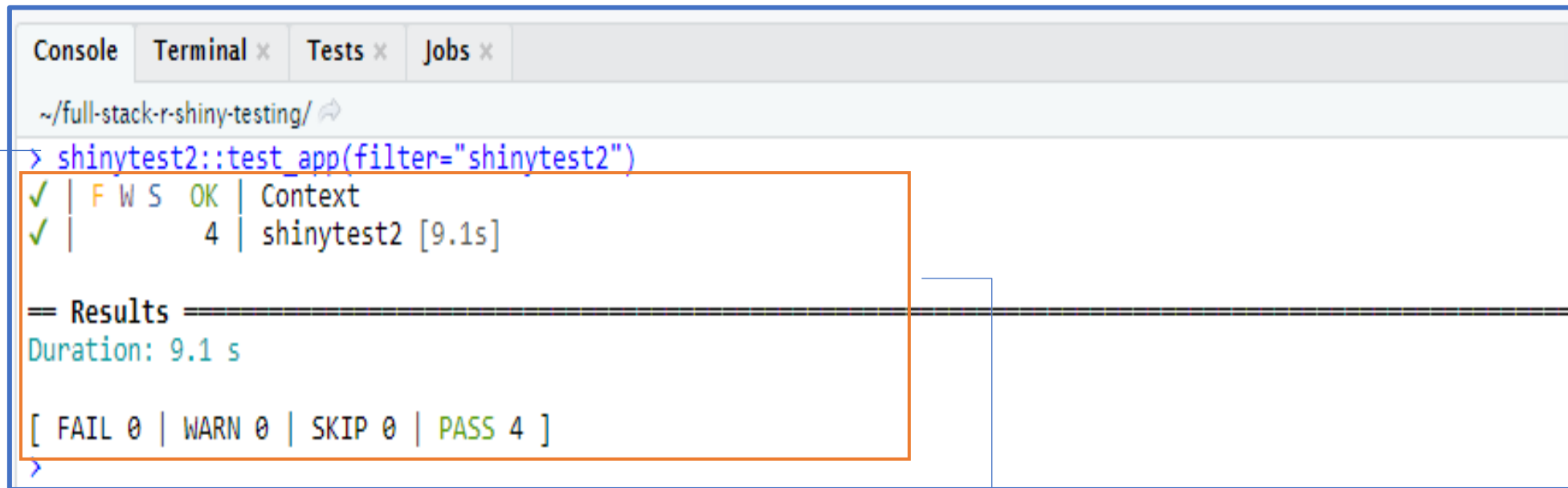


Step 1: Click on “**Run Tests**” button to run all the recorded shinytest2 tests.

Step 2: After clicking on “**Run Tests**” button, Test results will be displayed in “**Tests**” tab.

shinytest2— run test (method 2)

test_app() function used to run all the tests which are exist in the *tests/testthat* directory. All tests run one by one automatically and show the cumulative result in the console. It can also run the test of specific file by using **filter** parameter as shown in the below snap shot.



```
Console Terminal x Tests x Jobs x
~/full-stack-r-shiny-testing/
> shinytest2::test_app(filter="shinytest2")
✓ | F W S OK | Context
✓ |         4 | shinytest2 [9.1s]

== Results ==
Duration: 9.1 s

[ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 4 ]
```

Step 1: Run **test_app(filter="shinytest2")** function in the console. It will only run shinytest2 file in the *testthat* folder.

Step 2: After test is successfully executed, results will be displayed with tests run duration.

shinytest2— Review failed Tests

The screenshot displays the RStudio environment with two main panels. The left panel is the Console, showing the execution of `shinytest2::test_app(filter="shinytest2")`. It reports a failure at line 29 of `test-shinytest2.R`, indicating that the snapshot of the 'file' variable has changed. The console output includes a traceback, test results (1 failure, 3 passes), and the command `testthat::snapshot_review('shinytest2/')` to review the changes. The right panel is the Viewer tab, showing the 'shinytest2/full-stack-r-shiny-testing-004_.png' file. It displays a comparison of the old and new snapshots, with a 'CHANGED' status. The interface includes a 'Difference' view, a 'Toggle' button, and a 'Slider' for zooming. The 'Data Preview' section shows a table of earthquake data, and the 'Chart' section shows a histogram of the 'lat' variable. The 'Accept' button is highlighted in green.

Console Output:

```
~/full-stack-r-shiny-testing/
> shinytest2::test_app(filter="shinytest2")
✓ | F W S OK | Context
✗ | 1      3 | shinytest2 [8.2s]

Failure (test-shinytest2.R:29): {shinytest2} recording: full-stack-r-shiny-testing
Snapshot of `file` to 'shinytest2/full-stack-r-shiny-testing-004.json' has changed
Run `testthat::snapshot_review('shinytest2/')` to review changes
Backtrace:
1. app$expect_values()
   at test-shinytest2.R:29:2
2. shinytest2::app_expect_values(...)
3. shinytest2::app_expect_snapshot_file(...)
5. testthat::expect_snapshot_file(...)

== Results ==
Duration: 8.2 s

[ FAIL 1 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 3 ]
Error: Test failures
> testthat::snapshot_review('shinytest2/')
Starting Shiny app for snapshot review
i Use Ctrl + C to quit
```

Viewer Tab: shinytest2/full-stack-r-shiny-testing-004_.png

full-stack-r-shiny-testing-004_.png CHANGED

1:4 1:2 1:1 2:1 Difference Toggle Slider

Automated Testing Demo

Application

Data Preview

Select Dataset: quakes

lat	long	depth	mag	stations
-20.42	181.62	562	4.8	41
-20.62	181.03	650	4.2	15
-26	184.1	42	5.4	43
-17.97	181.06	626	4.1	19
-20.42	181.96	649	4	11
-19.68	184.31	195	4	12
-11.7	166.1	82	4.8	43
-28.11	181.93	194	4.4	15
-28.74	181.74	211	4.7	35
-17.47	179.59	622	4.3	19

Chart

Variable: lat Chart Type: Histogram

Histogram - lat

No. of Observations

Information

Powered by Newifi

Run `testthat::snapshot_review("shinytest2/")` in the console to view the difference in the snapshots.

In the **viewer** tab, compare old and new changes in the screenshot/json file and update the results by clicking on **Accept** button else skip it.

Reference links

testthat

- ✓ [testthat](#): **Overview** and **installation** of testthat package.
- ✓ [Git repository](#): **Git repository** for testthat package.
- ✓ [Function reference](#): List of **expect** and **run** test functions with description and example.
- ✓ [Mastering Shiny book - testing](#): **Step by step** explanation of automated testing using testthat package.

shinytest2

- ✓ [shinytest2](#): **Overview** and **installation** of Shinytest2 package.
- ✓ [Get started](#): **Step by step** explanation of automated testing using shinytest2 package.
- ✓ [Git repository](#): **Git repository** for shinytest2 package.
- ✓ [Function reference](#): List of **making**, **running**, **setting up** and **migrating** test functions with description and example.

full-stack-r-shiny-testing

- ✓ [Git repository](#): **Git repository** for **full-stack-r-shiny-testing** demo application. This application will help to build the end to end automated testing in shiny R.

Acknowledgement



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Mukul Mittal



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R Shiny Developer
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Questions & Answers



Thank you
