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Developing your own R Package

Introduction to R Package
Development

Developing your own R Package – Contents

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Developing your own R Package – Motivation

Why should you create your own R packages?

1. Code reuse and sharing

- By packaging your R code into a well-defined package, it becomes easier to reuse and share your code with others.

2. Saves Time

- others can use and build on your code, rather than reinventing the wheel.

3. Code organization

- Developing a package can help you to organize your own code more effectively, making it easier to maintain and update your code over time.

4. Reproducibility

- By packaging your code and data into a self-contained package, you can ensure that your research and analyses are reproducible by others.

Overall, R packages provide a powerful and flexible framework for developing, sharing, and collaborating on code in R.

Developing your own R Package – Packages

library ("roxygen2")

Version: 7.2.3

Hadley Wickham, Peter Danenberg, Gábor Csárdi and Manuel Eugster (2022). roxygen2: In-Line Documentation for R. R package version 7.2.3. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=roxygen2>

library ("devtools")

Version: 2.4.5

Hadley Wickham, Jim Hester, Winston Chang and Jennifer Bryan (2022). devtools: Tools to Make Developing R Packages Easier. R package version 2.4.5. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=devtools>

library ("usethis")

Version: 2.1.6

Hadley Wickham, Jennifer Bryan and Malcolm Barrett (2022). usethis: Automate Package and Project Setup. R package version 2.1.6. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=usethis>

R

Version: 4.1.3 (2022-03-10)

R Core Team (2022). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL <https://www.R-project.org/>.

RStudio

Version: 2023.03.0+386

Posit team (2023). RStudio: Integrated Development Environment for R. Posit Software, PBC, Boston, MA. URL <http://www.posit.co/>.

Developing your own R Package – general steps

The 7 Steps of Developing your own R Package

1. Set up your package directory

2. Write package code

3. Write the package documentation

4. Set up the package DESCRIPTION file

5. Build the package

6. Test and check the package

7. Share package

Wickham, H. (2015). *R packages: organize, test, document, and share your code*. "O'Reilly Media, Inc.". (Modified)

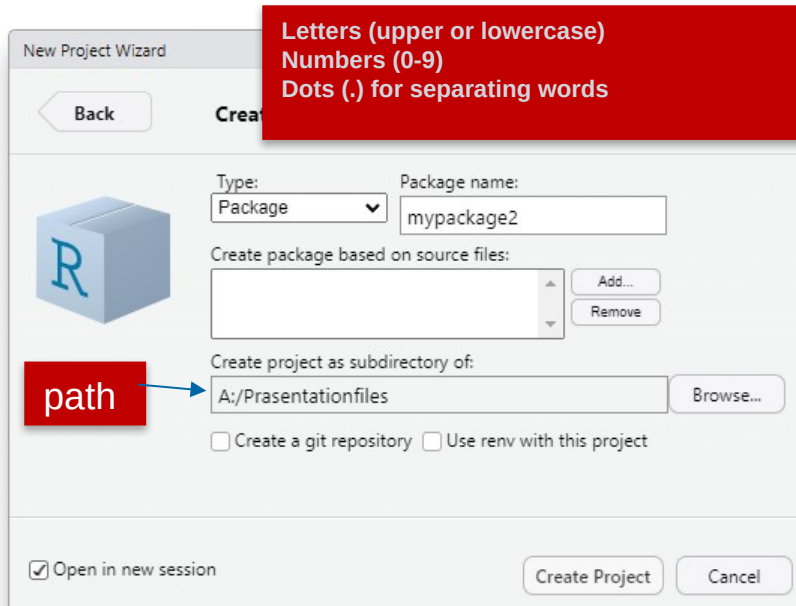
Set up your package directory

Create a new directory for your package

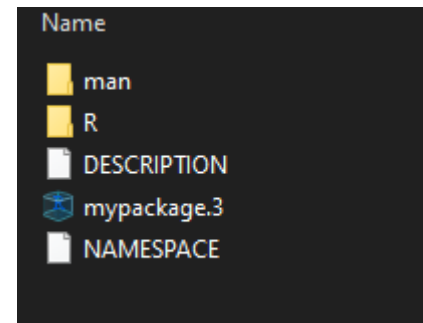
2 Methods to create a new directory for your package

Using RStudio

File -> New Project... -> New Directory -> R Package



The Structure of your package directory is the same



- **R:** This directory will contain all of your R code files.
- **man:** This directory will contain the documentation for your package functions.
- **DESCRIPTION:** contains metadata about your package
- **NAMESPACE:** controls visibility and scope of objects

Write the package documentation

Write the documentation for your package functions and save them in the "man" subdirectory

R uses **roxygen** Tags and **#'** for documentation of a function

```
#' @title Compute the mean of a numeric vector
#'
#' @description This function computes the mean of a numeric vector.
#'
#' @param x A numeric vector
#'
#' @return The mean of x
#'
#' @author Sergej Ruff
#'
#' @references
#' Wikipedia article on the mean: \url{https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mean}
#'
#' @examples
#' my_mean(1:10)
#'
#' @export
my_mean <- function(x) {
  mean(x)
}
```

! Each argument needs a new @param and you need to provide Information about the argument

Compute the mean of a numeric vector

Description

This function computes the mean of a numeric vector.

Usage

```
my_mean(x)
```

Arguments

x A numeric vector

Value

The mean of x

Author(s)

Sergej Ruff

References

Wikipedia article on the mean: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mean>

Examples

```
my_mean(1:10)
```

The **#'** symbol in Roxygen is used to indicate documentation lines for a function

Creating the documentation for your function

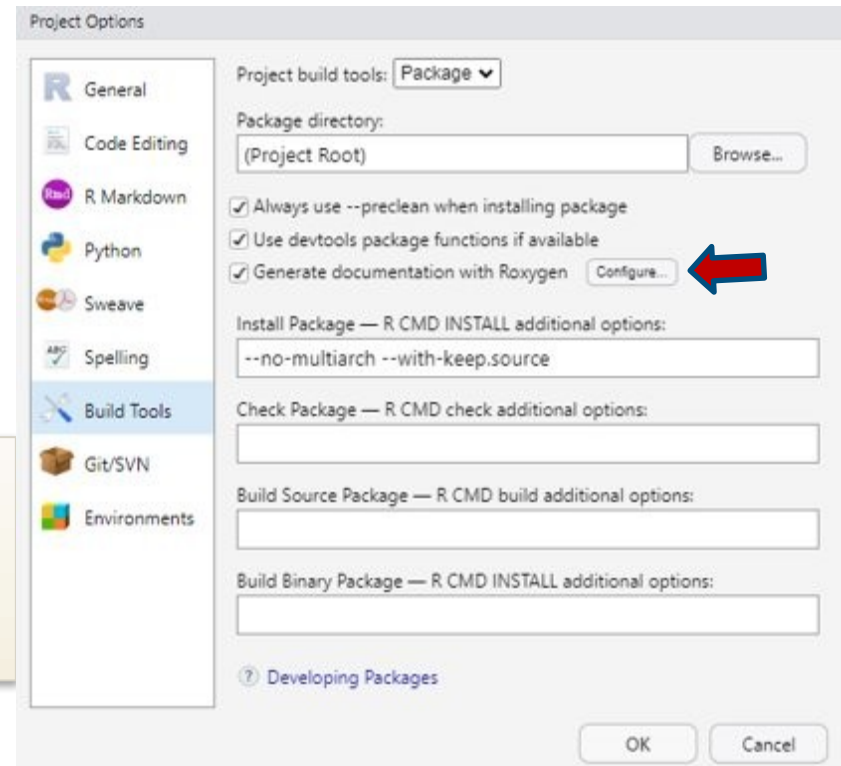
You need devtools to create a documentation file for your function in the 'man'-subdirectory

There are 2 Methods:

Using RStudio

Build -> More -> Configure Build Tools...
-> Generate documentation with Roxygen

- Generates **Help-Files** for each function
- Updates the **NAMESPACE** file to reflect any changes in exported functions or imported packages



Dependencies and the NAMESPACE-File

Dependency – refers to a package that your package relies on to function properly

Dependencies are specified in NAMESPACE and DESCRIPTION-File

```
#' @title A function that creates a scatter plot of two variables
#'
#' @description This function takes two arguments, a numeric vector x and a numeric vector y,
#' and creates a scatter plot of x and y using the ggplot2 package.
#' The function requires the `ggplot2` and `dplyr` packages to be installed, which are imported
#' using the `@import` tag in the DESCRIPTION file.
#'
#' @param x A numeric vector.
#' @param y A numeric vector.
#'
#' @return A scatter plot of x and y.
#'
#' @import ggplot2
#' @importFrom dplyr mutate
#'
#' @examples
#' x <- c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
#' y <- c(6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
#' plot_xy(x, y)
#'
#' @export
plot_xy <- function(x, y) {
  data <- data.frame(x = x, y = y)
  data <- mutate(data, x_square = x^2, y_square = y^2)
  plot <- ggplot(data, aes(x = x, y = y)) + geom_point()
  return(plot)
}
```

Solution:
Declare Dependencies and
`document()`

Reason:
Did not declare the
dependency in the
NAMESPACE-File !

`Devtools::document()` scans
packages and updates the
NAMESPACE-File based
on `@Import` or `@ImportFrom`

**! Do not edit the
NAMESPACE-File
Manually!**

Dependencies and the DESCRIPTION-File

Dependencies are specified in NAMESPACE and DESCRIPTION-File

```
Package: mypackage
Title: What the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
Version: 0.0.0.9000
Authors@R:
  person("First", "Last", , "first.last@example.com", role = c("aut", "cre"),
    comment = c(ORCID = "YOUR-ORCID-ID"))
Description: What the package does (one paragraph).
License: GPL (>= 3)
Encoding: UTF-8
Roxygen: list(markdown = TRUE)
RoxygenNote: 7.2.3
Imports:
  dplyr,
  ggplot2 (>= 3.4.1)
```

Imports

packages that are required for your package to function properly.

- Only loads the packages

Depends

This field is used to list packages that are required for your package to function properly

- Loads and **attaches** to search path

Suggests -

This field is used to list packages that are not required for your package to function properly, but may be useful for the user.

- Packages required for **Examples**

Set up the package DESCRIPTION File

CRAN requires a complete and informative DESCRIPTION file

```
Package: mypackage
Title: My Package: A useful demonstration of r package development
Version: 1.0.0
Author: Sergej Ruff <Sergej.Ruff@tiho-hannover.de>
Maintainer: Sergej Ruff <Sergej.Ruff@tiho-hannover.de>
Description: Provides a good example on how to develop a r package.
License: GPL (>= 3)
Encoding: UTF-8
Roxygen: list(markdown = TRUE)
RoxygenNote: 7.2.3
Imports:
  dplyr,
  ggplot2 (>= 3.4.1)
```

usethis::use_version()

usethis::use_lgpl_license()

Description field:

One paragraph description of what the package does and why it may be useful

- details about the package functionality and implemented methods
- package names, software names and API names = single quotes

Please do not start the description with

"This package",
"Functions for",
package name,
title or similar.

check and build the package

2 Methods to check your package

1. `devtools::check()`
2. Using RStudio

Build -> Check

```
-- R CMD check results ----- mypackage 1.0.0 ----  
Duration: 27s  
  
0 errors v | 0 warnings v | 0 notes v  
  
R CMD check succeeded
```

GOAL !

CRAN requires a **R CMD build**

2 Methods to build your package

1. `devtools::build()`
2. Using RStudio

Build -> Build Source Package

This will generate a **.tar.gz** file which can be submitted to CRAN.

Common Mistake #1 – character limits

Simple Solution – make sure the code doesn't exceed 100 characters.

```
#' @title Compute the mean of a numeric vector
#'
#' @description This function computes the mean of a numeric vector.
#'
#' @param x A numeric vector
#'
#' @return The mean of x
#'
#' @author Sergej Ruff
#'
#' @references
#' wikipedia article on the mean: \url{https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mean}
#'
#' @examples
#' my_mean(1:10)
#'
#' print("Good morning. In less than an hour,
#' aircraft from here will join others from around the world.
#' And you will be launching the largest aerial battle
#' in this history of mankind.Mankind
#' -- that word should have new meaning for all of us today.
#' We can't be consumed by our petty differences anymore.
#' We will be united in our common interests.")
#'
#' @export
my_mean <- function(x) {
  mean(x)
}
```

Common Mistake #2 - ? + packagename doesn't work

```
#' My Package: A useful demonstration of r package development
#'
#' This package provides a good example on how to develop a R package.
#'
#' @name mypackage
#' @docType package
#' @keywords package
#' @author Sergej Ruff
#'
#'|
#' @description
#' This package provides a good example on how to develop a R package.
#'
#'
#' @details
#' This package provides functions that are useful for demonstration
#' purposes when developing R packages. It includes a range of examples that cover
#' topics such as documentation, dependencies, common mistakes and the basics of dev
#'
#' @section Functions:
#'
#' This package includes the following functions:
#' \itemize{
#'   \item \code{\link{my_mean}}: Calculates the mean.
#'   \item \code{\link{plot_xy}}: Demonstrates dependencies.
#' }
#'
#' @references
#' For more information on R package development, see \url{https://r-pkgs.org}.
#'
#' @seealso
#' Other packages related to your package can be linked here.
NULL
```

mypackage {mypackage}

R Documentation

My Package: A useful demonstration of r package development

Description

This package provides a good example on how to develop a R package.

Details

This package provides a good example on how to develop a R package.

This package provides functions that are useful for demonstration purposes when developing R packages. It includes a range of examples that cover topics such as documentation, dependencies, common mistakes and the basics of development

Functions

This package includes the following functions:

- [my_mean](#): Calculates the mean.
- [plot_xy](#): Demonstrates dependencies.

Author(s)

Sergej Ruff

References

For more information on R package development, see <https://r-pkgs.org>.

See Also

Other packages related to your package can be linked here.

How to use Bioconductor Dependencies and Suggested Dependencies

It's recommended to make the dependencies conditional via if

```
#' Check for package dependency
#
#' @title Check for 'limma' availability
#' @description checks if the 'limma' package is installed
#' limma will be installed automatically.
#' @author Sergej Ruff
#' @importFrom utils install.packages menu
#' @export
#' @keywords internal
check_limma <- function() # Returns TRUE if available, FALSE otherwise
{
  if(requireNamespace("limma", quietly=TRUE)) return(TRUE)
  if(!interactive()) return(FALSE)
  inst <- menu(c("Yes", "No"), title="Package {limma} required?",
    if(inst != 1)
    {
      message("To run this example, first install {limma} first")
      return(FALSE)
    }
  # the following could be wrapped in try and conditional
  if(!requireNamespace("BiocManager", quietly=TRUE)) inst
  BiocManager::install("limma", update=FALSE, ask=FALSE,
    return(TRUE)
  }
}
```

Examples

```
### Artificial microarray data
d = 1000 ### Number of genes
n = 10 ### Sample per group
fc = rlnorm(d, 0, 0.1)
mu1 = rlnorm(d, 0, 1) ### Mean vector group 1
mu2 = mu1 * fc ### Mean vector group 2
sd1 = rnorm(d, 1, 0.2)
sd2 = rnorm(d, 1, 0.2)
X1 = matrix(NA, d, n) ### Expression levels group 1
X2 = matrix(NA, d, n) ### Expression levels group 2
for (i in 1:n) {
  X1[,i] = rnorm(d, mu1, sd=sd1)
  X2[,i] = rnorm(d, mu2, sd=sd2)
}
X = cbind(X1, X2)
heatmap(X)

### Differential expression analysis with limma
if(check_limma()){
  group = gl(2, n)
  design = model.matrix(~ group)
  fit1 = limma::lmFit(X, design)
  fit = limma::eBayes(fit1)

  ### Calculation of confidence intervals
  CI = fc_ci(fit=fit, alpha=0.05, method="raw")
  head(CI)
  CI = fc_ci(fit=fit, alpha=0.05, method="BH")
  head(CI)
  CI = fc_ci(fit=fit, alpha=0.05, method="BY")
  head(CI)

  fc_plot(CI, xlim=c(-0.5, 3), ylim=-log10(c(1, 0.0001)), updown="up")
  fc_plot(CI, xlim=c(-3, 0.5), ylim=-log10(c(1, 0.0001)), updown="down")
  fc_plot(CI, xlim=c(-3, 3), ylim=-log10(c(1, 0.0001)), updown="all")
}
```


Sources

- <https://blog.thatbuthow.com/how-r-searches-and-finds-stuff/> 01.05.2023 17:19
- Hadley Wickham, Peter Danenberg, Gábor Csárdi and Manuel Eugster (2022). roxygen2: In-Line Documentation for R. R package version 7.2.3. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=roxygen2>
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- R Core Team. (2021). Writing R extensions. *R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria*. URL <https://CRAN.R-project.org/doc/manuals/R-exts.html>.
- Wickham, H. (2015). *R packages: organize, test, document, and share your code*. "O'Reilly Media, Inc."