Online publishing

Thomas de Graaff & Daniel Arribas-Bel

September 6, 2014

Introduction

Recap

- Ideally everything is based on text
- Markdown is a very easy markup language
- Pandoc can combines languages and convert to pdf and HTML
- ► This means that your writings (articles & presentation) can be converted simultaneously to:
 - pdf for dead trees
 - ▶ HTML to be published on *your* website

Goal

- ▶ to make your research as reproducable as possible and **open**
 - so that others can actually reproduce it!
- ► This means *publishing* your paper together with the rest of your analysis, including
 - code
 - data (if infeasible—descriptives)
 - figures

Why again?

- ► Actually makes you more visible
- Easier to collaborate
- Enforces your to work 'tidy'
- For the 'greater good'
 - faster dissemination
 - ultimately reduces errors (e.g., Piketty, Reinhart and Rogoff)

Final part of this workshop

- 1. Combining code and text
- 2. Creating presentations
- 3. Online publishing
- 4. Bring it all together

Knit it all together

Combining code and text

- ▶ RStudio uses the package knitr
- Actually knitting in chunks of code within text.
- example

Discussion: code within text or as separate files?

Knitr options:

► Typically:

Or:

```
{```}{r, echo=FALSE}
source("./file.R")
{```}
```

Presentations

Slides

- pdf good for printing (handouts)
- ► HTML
 - enables dynamic presentations
 - enables incorporating slides in websites/blogs, etc.

Markdown, pandoc and a bit of LaTeX

- ▶ In RStudio remarkably easy to incorporate
- ▶ If you have ever made beamer slides this is a huge time saver
- Makes you flexible.
- And incorporates code!
- ▶ So, with one make file presentations are updated as well!

Publishing online

Github's repositories

- git is versioning application, but:
 - research is not backed up
 - and not yet open
- That is why we use Github:
 - requires inlogname + psswrd
 - Creates your own repository space (just like LinkedIn or, worse, Facebook!)
 - For all materials (extends .txt files)
 - Allows for corporation (with known and unknowns)
 - And finally allows to create your own website

How does Github work?

- ► For complete packages (it is not a file server)
- ▶ It is open
 - Everyone can download your stuff/you can download everything (datestamps!)
 - Which also means that everyone can contribute to your code (actually push & pull request)
 - ► Collaboration is a breeze (using the automatic diff commands)
 - Very intuitive gui's

How does Github work? (cnt.)

- So you push to a repository
- And you pull from a repository
- If you like something you can fork a repository (on Github) > Forking a repository allows you to freely experiment with changes without affecting the original project.
- If you would just like a copy of a repository on a computer you should use clone

And finally, websites

- Using Github pages (gh-pages); you get something like: darribas.github.io/WooWii/
- Useful for blogs
- Showcase of projects http://darribas.org/bits/

Other publication channels

- for Git other open repositories such as Bitbucket
- ▶ for R:
 - RPubs
 - create a package from your paper (and publish on CRAN)
 - iPython notebook viewer

Assignment

Assignment 5

- ▶ go to /WooWii/Paper/Assignment5/
- Incorporate source files using knitr
- publish on your own github repository
- if time permits and with OsX, create a makefile structure to create with one command
 - ▶ pdf output
 - doc output
 - ▶ html output