

Reproducible papers in the life sciences using R

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CANSSI Statistical Software Conference
November 10, 2022

Introduction

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- However, R is rarely used in the life sciences as a default method to create papers
- Why?

Reasons

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- “R is just for Stats”
- “There is a learning curve”
- **“I can’t create figures for publication”**

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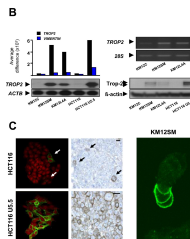
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- Papers in the life sciences usually require figures where the following are combined:
 - Images from cells/tissues
 - Figures that summarize data
 - Figures that present statistical analyses (with “p-values”)

The Problem

Figure 1: A typical figure



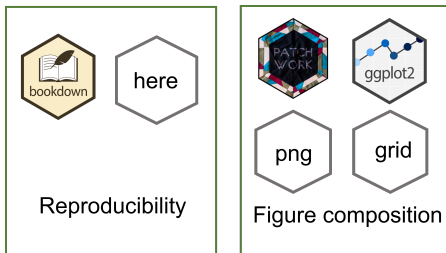
Guerra et al. *Neoplasia*
2021

- Can figures like this be created using 'RMarkdown'?

The Solution

- Yes, we can create figures like this using R!

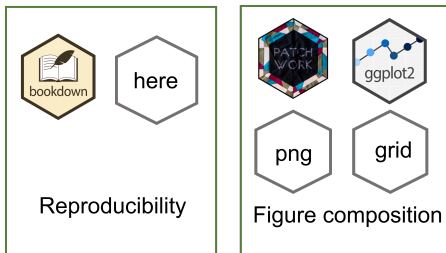
Figure 2: The packages



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- Yes, we can create figures like this using R!
- We will need to use a combination of packages to achieve this

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- `{here}` allows to easily call scripts within the document (we will look at this later)

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 - Have written your paper sections (Methods, Results, etc) each section is in a Rmd file
 - Have some images
 - Have some data that needs to be analyzed
 - Want to create a composite figure of images/data analysis
 - **For the sake of time, I will focus on the image composition/data analysis part**

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 - `ggplot2` creates the plot of our analysis
 - `patchwork` allows us to assemble everything