Example workflow: Getting organized using GitHub and RStudio

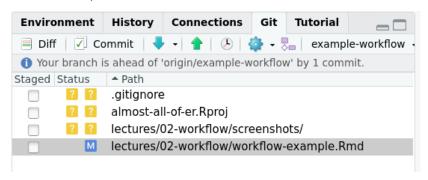
Olivier Binette

Agenda

- ► Getting set-up in RStudio
- Organizing your projects
- ► Using GitHub for project management

Why use RStudio?

 Convenient git pane to manage a git project (commit, push, pull, etc)



First step: identify yourself using a SSH key

- 1. In RStudio, go to Tools -> Global Options... -> Git/SVN
- 2. Click the "Enable version control" box if it's not there already.



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3. Create a SSH RSA key



4. Copy the key to your clipboard

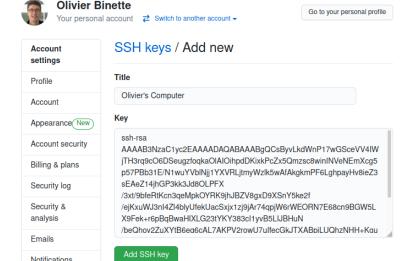
Public Key

Press Ctrl+c to copy the key to the clipboard

ssh-rsa

AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAABgQDnffhQiP+cW+CRLVlGFG5n580rTEkH
ZOBI4SWnh+wnSubAWJSEIUx09vlsIdhUYFQe9rmS0+0iB8ob+1riH4kTy+xm
7kQNoCcNBkSzd7AZ9rKca4KZdLzWxP/8T93cBYCEfBs9WSBuxRX2HV6e4F1E
ZZ1NoTq6IHNVlqu0iZFfRr054wTeKrIDc5dHv44yN/PZAawNQVrKgjt/HNS2
3RqMEswypehnylA23AaxSyJejpi920MBsf8z2EY9mIVzAQ6HrZ/2s4nFSV5H
vJfB/LEBvBoXo9u7iaT1J5SJcdFbTtd1DduRZiLQW8Go+LST6My/98RL09bi
RCAuN/iWe3B59MnK3z8oB24i+y6poHuNmWT1jEFk9J2U6fNvRcOd4rK1Cpwo
JrL6db2uA1n0KJsDpRFD16t3AwowzDpNodhVYgAvb/BJpYHKmbZ7UMN3sSiA
d9gNZLDrWMUXc86DXX5ea5/TikIoTLmf9qosqkFdPXMT6FvHrKAHmET6A7Rc
vwc= olivier@home

- 4. Register the key on GitHub:
 - Under your account tab, got to Settings -> SSh and GPG keys-> New SSH key



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5. GitHub can know recognize RStudio as being associated to your account!

Using RStudio's git pane, you can now:

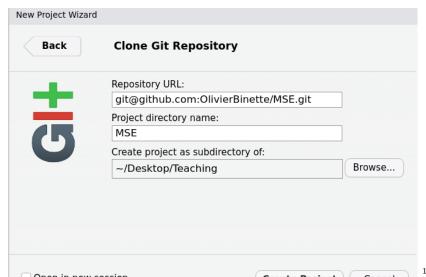
- pull from the repo, commit your changes, and push your changes,
- create new branches.

Note: make sure to clone repos using SSH:

1. Download ssh address



- 2. Create a new project in RStudio using this ssh address
 - ► File -> New Project... -> Version Control -> Git
 - Add the ssh address as the repository URL.



Tip 1: Create a **R**/ folder where you put re-usable functions.

- Document these functions using Roxygen2 and devtools::document()
- Load all of these functions using devtools::load_all()
- Show examples of the use of these functions in Rmd files under a vignettes folder.

Tip 2: Have a single place where your put your reproducible analyses.

- Create an "analyses" folder where all reproducible analyses are contained.
- Each analysis is in its own subfolder.
- Each analysis contains the folders **input**, **src**, and **output**.
 - input is never changed
 - running the the code in src together with what you need in input always creates the same result in output.

Tip 3: It's ok to mess up!

Create an experiments folder where you can put... well, your failable experiments.

Tip 4: You'll need to write that up.

► Create a writeup folder where you put your TeX writeups.

Tip 5: Avoid file path issues using the "here" package.

- Place an empty file named ".here" at the project root.
- Using there "here" package, you can obtain the path to the project root by calling the function here().
- Refer to project files using e.g. here("R/my_code.R")

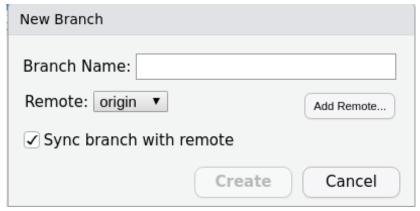
This avoids common issues related to file paths using R/RStudio.

Overall, you project could be structured like this:

- .here
- ► R/
- vignettes/
- experiments/
 - olivier's-buggy-code.Rmd
- analyses/
 - PCA/
 - ▶ input/: data.rds
 - src/: 1-parse-data.R, 2-PCA.R, 3-make-plots.R
 - output/: pca-results.rds, plot.pdf
- writeup/
 - main.tex
 - biblio.bib

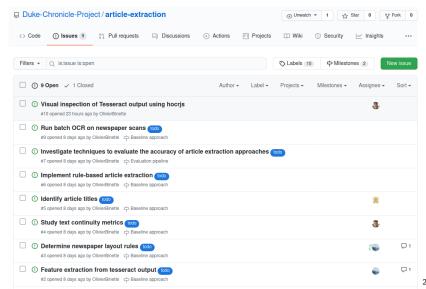
Tip 6: Want to avoid merge conflicts?

- ▶ Branch off!
- ► Tweak that analysis in a new branch. Once you and your team is happy with the changes, you can make a pull request to merge back the changes.

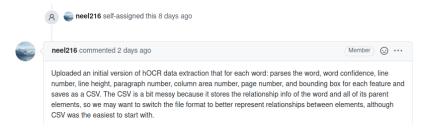


- 1. Break up your project into a set of milestones
- 2. Break up the milestones into tasks/todos.

List each task as an "Issue" on GitHub (the name "Issue" refers to tasks, todos, bugs, etc)

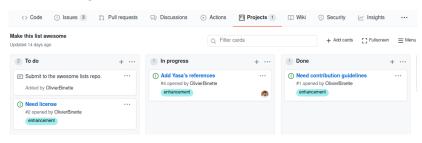


4. Assign the issues to team members, document progress, and close the issue when you're done.



5. Want more?

- Use the "Projects" pane on GitHub to create one project Kanban board for each milestone.
- Track which tasks are being worked on by using the "In Progress" list.



Summary

- ▶ RStudio's git pane is convenient. Make sure to set up SSH.
- Agree on a clear folder structure for your repo.
- Use GitHub Issues to define tasks and to document progress.