Dynamic documents with R and LaTeX as an important part of reproducible research

Bernd Weiss Research Institute for Sociology University of Cologne Germany

02/11/2011







Outline

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

LATEXin 5 minutes

Sweave

Acknowledgment, license and downloads

- This work was supported by a fellowship within the Postdoc-Programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)(Grant D/10/43517).
- My presentation was created using Emacs' org-mode and Babel: active code in Org-mode.
- Licensed under a Creative Commons
 Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Germany license.
- Slides, dataset and R code can be downloaded from my github page: https://github.com/berndweiss/dynamic_documents_with_r (see "Downloads" button on the right-hand side).

Topic

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

LATEX in 5 minutes

Sweave

Outline

- Present some ideas about reproducible research
- My data analysis workflow
- ▶ LaTeXin 5 minutes
- Sweave: Dynamic documents with R and LATEX

Topic

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

LATEXin 5 minutes

Sweave

What is reproducible research?

"By reproducible research, we mean research papers with accompanying software tools that allow the reader to directly reproduce the results and employ the methods that are presented in the research paper" (Gentleman/Lang 2004: 1).

Requirements for the workflow: TREMMP

- Transparency (e.g., by using dynamic documents, "The source code is real")
- Reproducibility (e.g., by using dynamic documents, "The source code is real")
- Efficiency (a good workflow saves you time, by automating as much of the process as possible)
- Maintainability (standardized script names, good commenting practices, README files)
- Modularity (discrete tasks into separate components (e.g. scripts))
- Portability (e.g., by using relative (not absolute) pathnames)

(Source: David Smith on "A workflow for R": http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2010/10/a-workflow-for-r.html)



The source code is real

"The source code is real. The objects are realizations of the source code. Source for EVERY user modified object is placed in a particular directory or directories, for later editing and retrieval" (Rossini et al. 2011:ESS - Emacs Speaks Statistics - Manual)

How my project(s) are organized

Sweave as a tool for creating dynamic documents

"Sweave is a tool that allows the R code used for a complete data analysis to be embedded into LTFX, HTML or OpenOffice documents. The purpose is to create dynamic reports, which can be updated automatically if the data or analysis change. Instead of inserting a prefabricated graph or table into the report, the master document contains the R code necessary to obtain it. When run through R, all data analysis output (tables, graphs, etc.) is created on the fly and inserted into a final document. Data, code and documentation are tightly linked together, which allows for truly reproducible research" (Leisch 2010, http://user2010.org/tutorials/Leisch.html).

Some Sweave examples

- Dissertation thesis
- Medical report with tables and figures

Topic

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

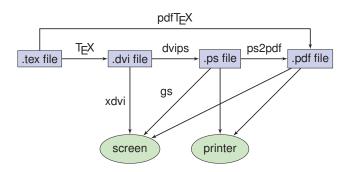
LATEXin 5 minutes

Sweave

What is LATEX

- ► ETEX is a markup language. Another markup language you might know is HTML.
- ► LATEX provides high-quality typesetting features.
- The typical workflow is as follows:
 - 1. Create LaTEX source code file (.tex)
 - 2. Compile it via LaTeX or bdfLaTeX
 - 3. Use a viewer (PDF, DVI or via dvips PS) to view the compiled file
- In order to run LTEX on your computer, you will need to install a LTEX-distribution (e.g., MikTEX for MS-Windows).

The T_FX work flow





Source:

http://media.texample.net/tikz/examples/PDF/texworkflow.pdf

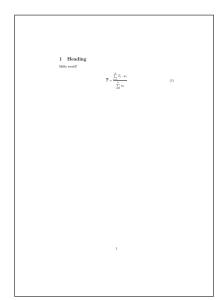


What a LaTEX file looks like

```
%% Part 1: Preamble
   \documentclass{article}
   \usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}
   \usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
   \usepackage[english]{babel}
   %% Part 2: Body
   \begin{document}
10
11
   \section{Heading}
12
   Hello world!
13
14
   \begin{equation}
15
   \operatorname{T} = \frac{\pi}{\sinh x} = 1 \%
16
     T_{i}\cdot dot w_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{k}_{i=1}^{i}}
17
   \end{equation}
18
19
   \end{document}
20
```

◆□▶ ◆□▶ ◆□▶ ◆□▶ □ ◆○○○

The compiled 'Hello world'-example



Topic

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

LATEX in 5 minutes

Sweave

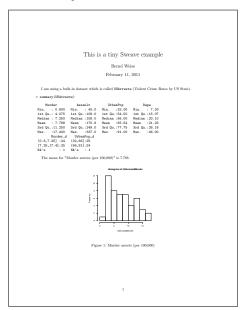
What a Sweave file looks like

```
%% filename: src/tex/examp_sweave-01.Rnw
  \documentclass[noae]{article}
  \usepackage[utf8x]{inputenc}
  \usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
  \usepackage[english]{babel}
  \usepackage[margin = lin]{geometrv}
   \title{This is a tiny Sweave example}
   \author{Bernd Weiss}
   \beain{document}
   \maketitle
  I am using a built-in dataset which is called \texttt{USArrests}
   (Violent Crime Rates by US State).
   <<echo = TRUE>>=
  summary(USArrests)
   a
20
   The mean for "Murder arrests (per 100,000)" is \Sexpr{mean(USArrests$Murder)}.
   \setkeys{Gin}{width=0.4\textwidth}
  \begin{figure}[h!]
  \begin{center}
  <<echo = FALSE, fig = TRUE>>=
  hist(USArrests$Murder)
   a
  \end{center}
   \caption{Murder arrests (per 100.000)}
   \end{figure}
   \end{document}
```

Running Sweave

```
setwd("E:/projects/software/reproducible_research/src/te
Sweave("examp_sweave-01.Rnw")
system("pdflatex -output-directory ../../slides examp_sw
show.output.on.console = TRUE,
minimized = FALSE)
```

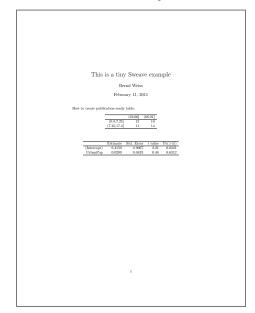
The compiled Sweave-example



A second Sweave example

```
%% filename: src/tex/examp sweave-02.Rnw
  \documentclass[noae]{article}
  \usepackage[utf8x]{inputenc}
  \usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
  \usepackage[english]{babel}
  \title{This is a tiny Sweave example}
  \author{Bernd Weiss}
   \beain{document}
  \maketitle
  How to create publication-ready table:
  <<echo = FALSE, results = tex>>=
  library(xtable)
  USArrests$Murder_d <- cut(USArrests$Murder,
                             quantile(USArrests$Murder.
19
                             probs = seq(0, 1, 0.5))
   USArrests$UrbanPop d <- cut(USArrests$UrbanPop.
                               quantile(USArrests$UrbanPop,
                               probs = seq(0, 1, 0.5))
  xtable(table(USArrests$Murder d, USArrests$UrbanPop d))
   a
   <<echo = FALSE. results = tex>>=
  xtable(lm(Murder ~ UrbanPop, data = USArrests))
  (a
31
  \end{document}
```

The second compiled Sweave-example



Topic

Preliminary remarks

Reproducible research

LATEXin 5 minutes

Sweave

(Some) R packages that generate LaTEX code

- ▶ Hmisc: Harrell Miscellaneous
- memisc: Tools for Management of Survey Data,
 Graphics, Programming, Statistics, and Simulation
- ► reporttools: Generate LateX tables of descriptive statistics
- ► xtable: Export tables to 上TEX or HTML
- **•** . . .
- For a general overview see CRAN Task View: Reproducible Research

R related materials

- ► Friedrich Leisch's The Sweave Homepage
- An Sweave Demo, Literate Programming in R, Reproducible Research
- Jeromy Anglim's talk about "R Workflow: Slides from a Talk at Melbourne R Users (1st Dec 2010)" (Slides + Video)
- ► Tal Galili: Exporting R output to MS-Word with R2wd (an example session)
- ► CRAN Task View: Reproducible Research
- A Sweave Wiki
- ► Customizing Sweave to Produce Better Looking LATEX Output

Reproducible research related materials

- Hothorn/Leisch (2011): Case studies in reproducibility
- ► ReproducibleResearch.net
- stackoverflow: Workflow for statistical analysis and report writing
- Gentleman/Lang (2004): Statistical Analyses and Reproducible Research