

An Introduction to Data Visualization

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A comment on *"How should we visualize data"*

There are two aspects of visualizations to think about:

How do you make a visualization?

Is it the right visualization?

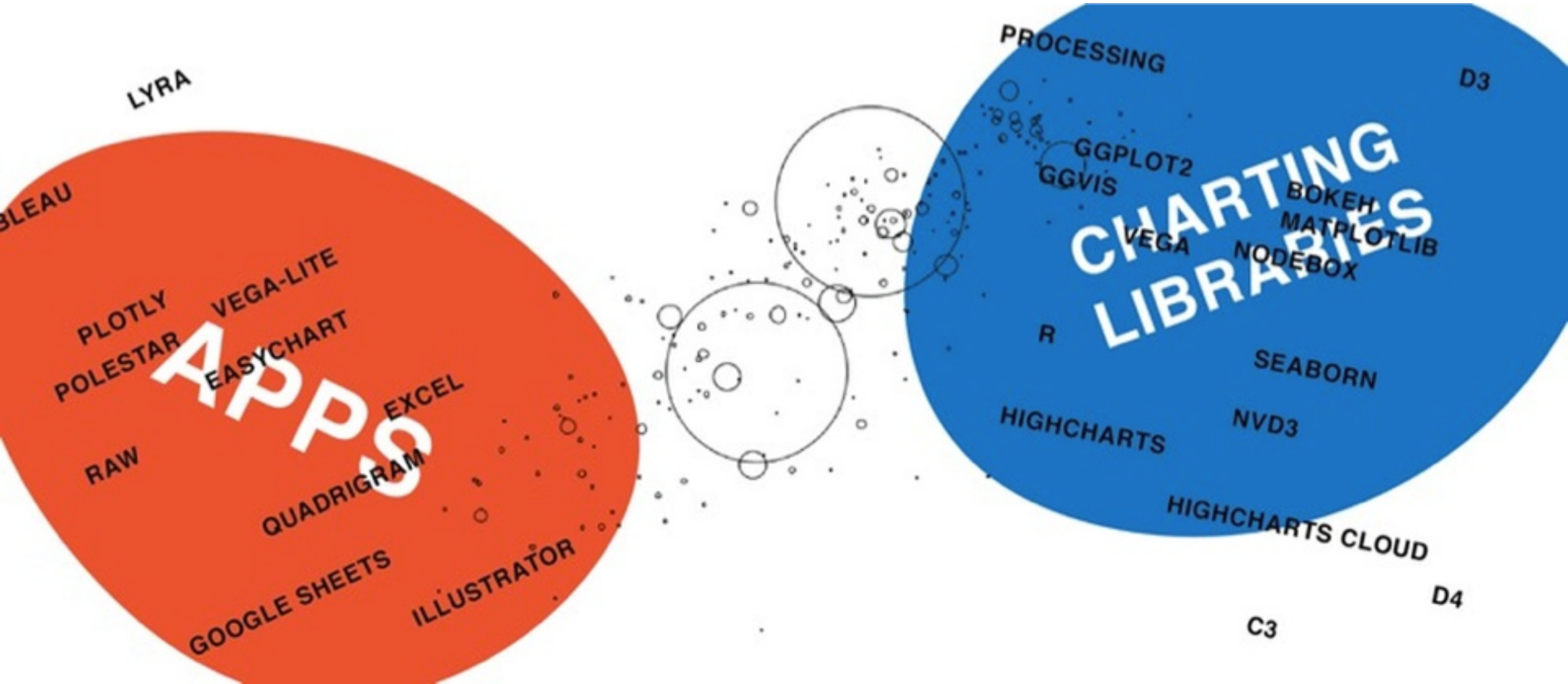


Data Visualization Tools

Tools & Libraries : An Overview

See this excellent post by Lisa Charlotte Rost : <http://bit.ly/2gRGx1J>

(figures taken from her post)

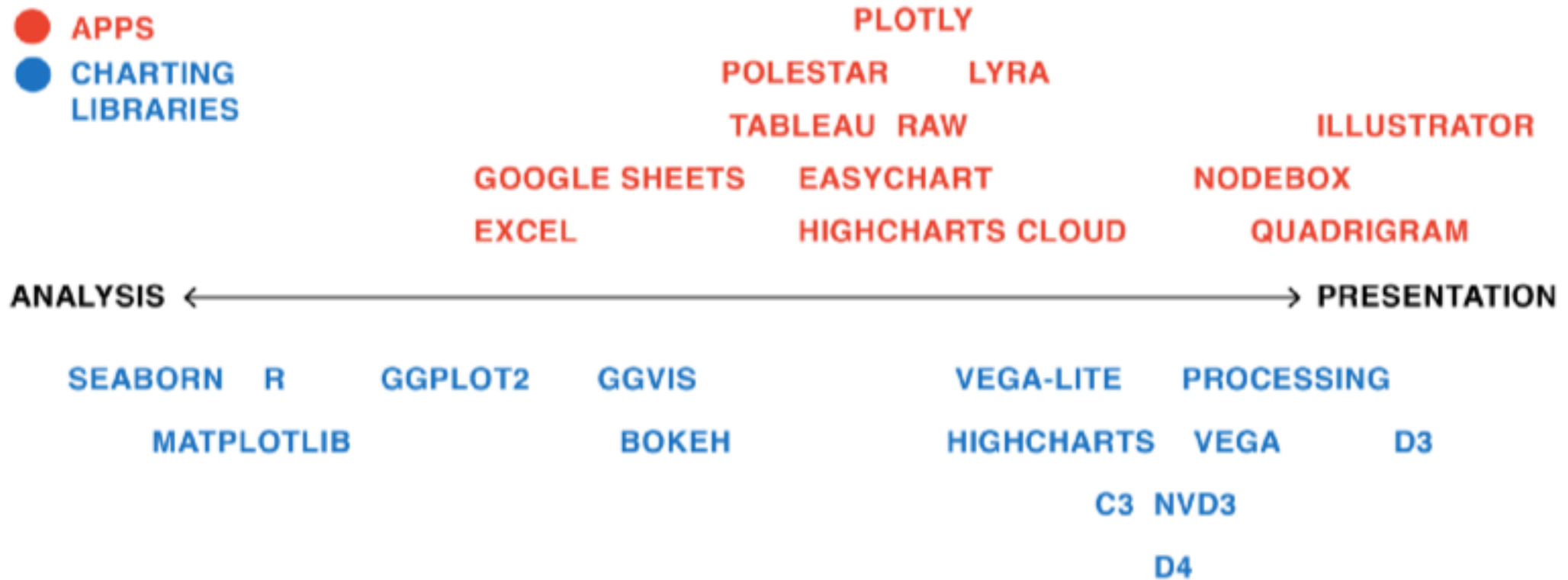


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Analysis vs Presentation



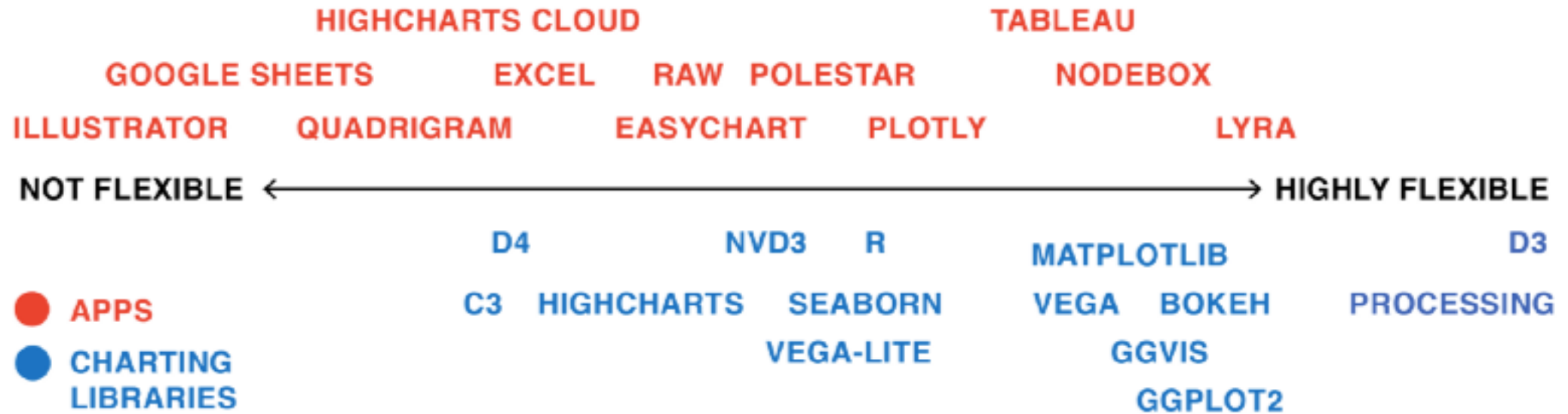
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Extent of Flexibility

How easy/hard it is to make data visualizations (including custom/novel visualizations)



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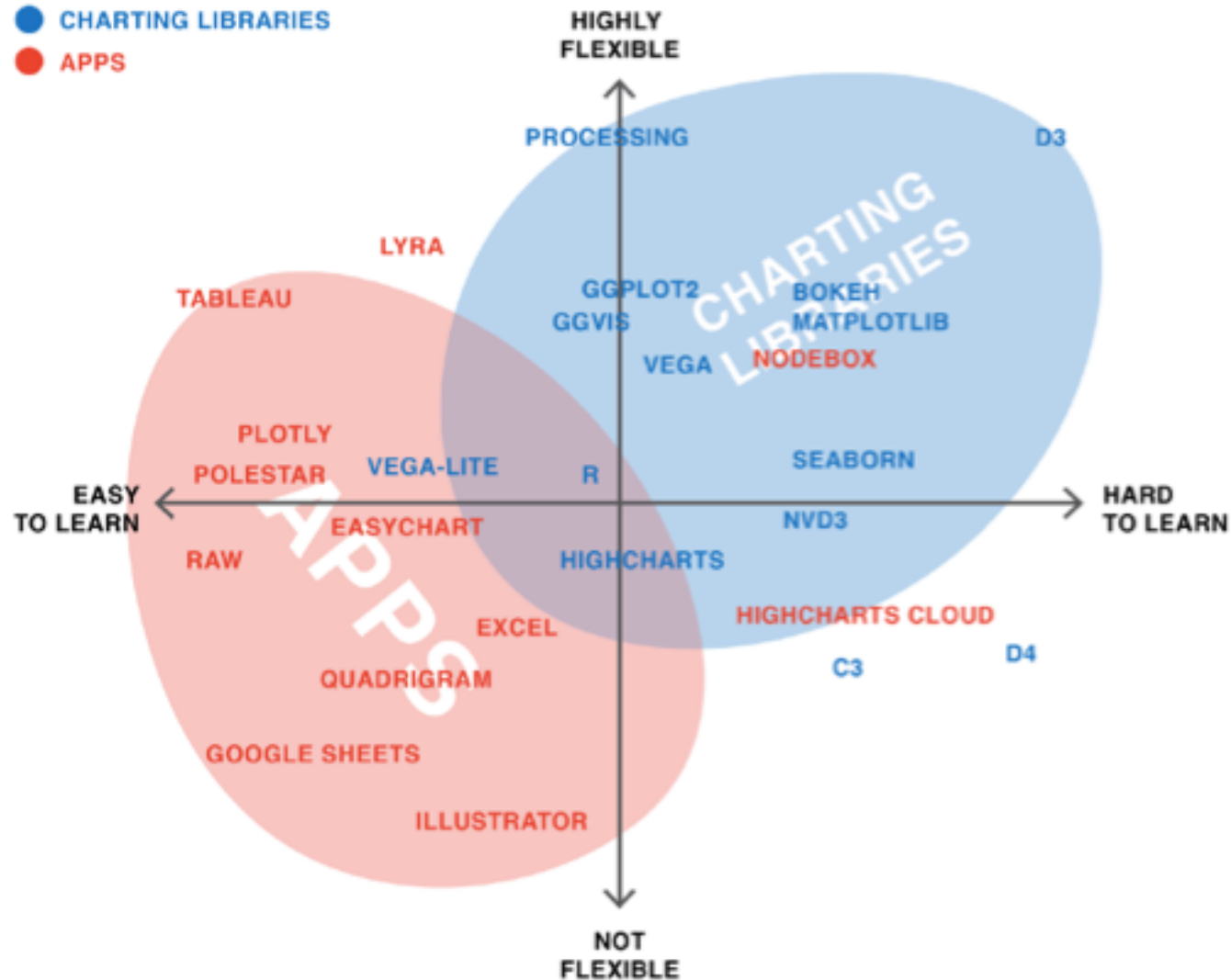
Static vs Interactive

	STATIC	WEB - INTERACTIVE
APPS	ILLUSTRATOR, NODEBOX, EXCEL, POLESTAR, RAW	HIGHCHARTS CLOUD, QUADRIGRAM, EASYCHRT, DATAWRAPPER, TABLEAU, PLOTLY, GOOGLE SHEETS
CHARTING LIBRARIES	GGPLOT2, MATPLOTLIB, R, SEABORN, BOKEH, PROCESSING	D3, D4, C3, NVD3, GGVIS, HIGHCHARTS, SHINY, VEGA, VEGA-LITE

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(figures taken from her post)



*“There are no perfect tools,
just good tools for people
with certain goals”*

See a detailed table here:
<http://bit.ly/2DeWPwV>



Shiny

Important Details on R and Shiny

- To introduce shiny, I am using selected slide content from several presentations developed for the “Shiny quick start guide” available here:
 - **Part 1:** bit.ly/shiny-quickstart-1
 - **Part 2:** bit.ly/shiny-quickstart-2
- These quick start slides are also presented as a video on the Shiny website
 - <https://shiny.rstudio.com/tutorial/>

The Challenges of Briefly Introducing Shiny

How to draw an owl

1.



2.



1. Draw some circles

2. Draw the rest of the owl

- Shiny is powerful and somewhat simpler than web languages - but it still takes some time to learn it
- I want to show you some basic info, and give you a sense of what Shiny can do - but there is a lot of in between I won't cover

What is Shiny?

HTML



Basic Structure

CSS



Presentation,
Layouts,
formatting

JS



Webpage / Application
Behavior

+



Most glorious of
programming languages

How Does Shiny Work?

Every Shiny app is maintained by a computer running R

Server runs R code



User Interface (UI)



Basic Structure of a Shiny Application



```
library(shiny)
ui <- fluidPage()

server <- function(input, output) {}

shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```

Basic Structure of a Shiny Application

An entire application can be a single file, or broken down into a ui.R & server.R files

```
library(shiny)

ui <- fluidPage(
  sliderInput(inputId = "num",
    label = "Choose a number",
    value = 25, min = 1, max = 100),
  plotOutput("hist")
)

server <- function(input, output) {
  output$hist <- renderPlot({
    hist(rnorm(input$num))
  })
}

shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```



```
# ui.R
library(shiny)
fluidPage(
  sliderInput(inputId = "num",
    label = "Choose a number",
    value = 25, min = 1, max = 100),
  plotOutput("hist")
)
```



```
# server.R
library(shiny)
function(input, output) {
  output$hist <- renderPlot({
    hist(rnorm(input$num))
  })
}
```

You **must** use **app.r** (single file); or **ui.r** and **server.r** names, or your application won't run

The user interface (ui.r) houses **inputs** & **outputs**

Example of inputs

Buttons

Action

Submit

`actionButton()`
`submitButton()`

Single checkbox

☒ Choice A

`checkboxInput()`

Checkbox group

☒ Choice 1

☐ Choice 2

☐ Choice 3

`checkboxGroupInput()`

Date input

2014-01-01

`dateInput()`

Date range

2014-01-24 to 2014-01-24

`dateRangeInput()`

File input

Choose File No file chosen

`fileInput()`

Numeric input

1

`numericInput()`

Password Input

`passwordInput()`

Radio buttons

☒ Choice 1

☐ Choice 2

☐ Choice 3

`radioButtons()`

Select box

Choice 1

`selectInput()`

Sliders



`sliderInput()`

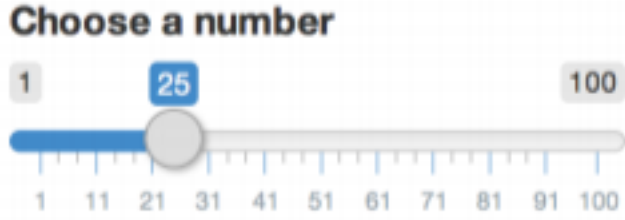
Text input

Enter text...

`textInput()`

The user interface (ui.r) houses **inputs** & **outputs**

Example of inputs



```
sliderInput(inputId = "num", label = "Choose a number", ...)
```

input name
(for internal use)

Notice:
Id not ID

label to
display

input specific
arguments

Changing the slider number (i.e. dragging the circle left to right) causes R to automatically initiate an action to update all outputs that use the slider number.

The user interface (ui.r) houses **inputs** & **outputs**

Example of outputs

	Function	Inserts
	<code>dataTableOutput()</code>	an interactive table
	<code>htmlOutput()</code>	raw HTML
	<code>imageOutput()</code>	image
●	<code>plotOutput()</code>	plot
●	<code>tableOutput()</code>	table
	<code>textOutput()</code>	text
●	<code>uiOutput()</code>	a Shiny UI element
	<code>verbatimTextOutput()</code>	text

Function = command telling R & shiny to do some particular task

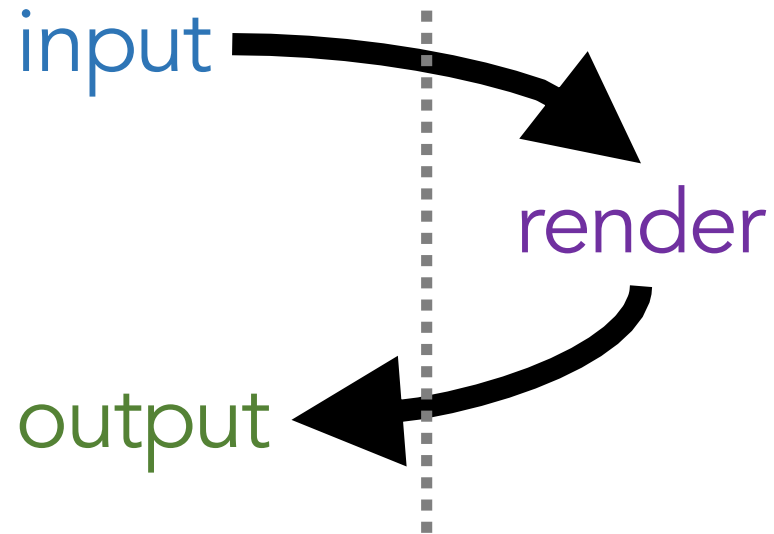
server.r stitches inputs & outputs together

ui.r

Shiny widgets
Interface elements

server.r

ggplot code
dataset manipulation



Output & render functions
are complimentary

output
function

render
function

plotOutput()

renderPlot()

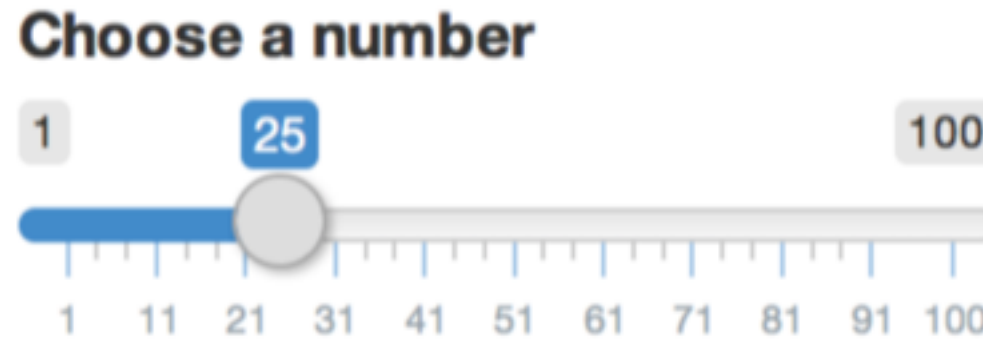
tableOutput()

renderTable()

uiOutput()

renderUI()

A simple worked example

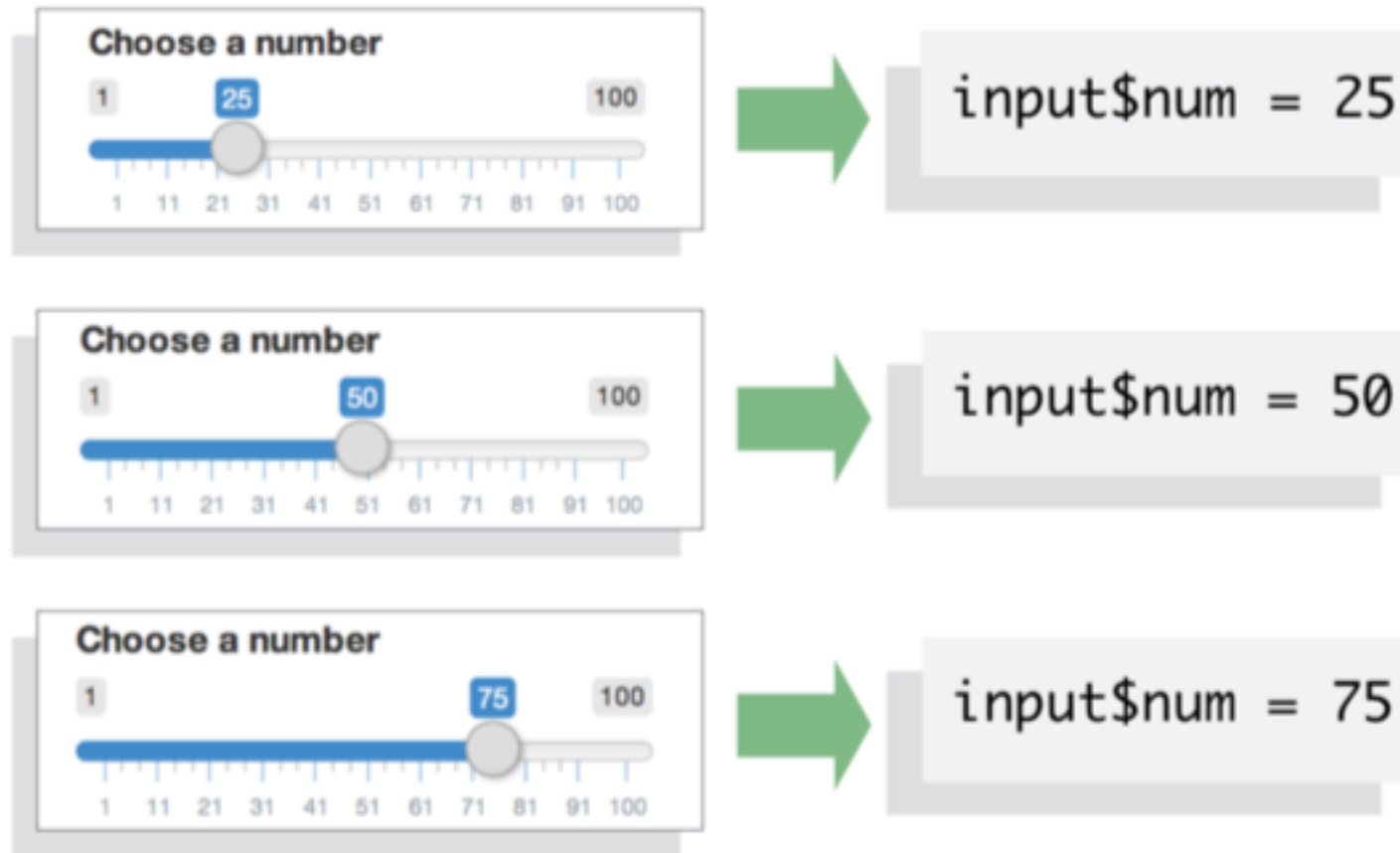


```
sliderInput(inputId = "num", label = "Choose a number", ...)
```

this input will provide a value
saved as **input\$num**

A simple worked example

The input value changes whenever a user changes the input.



A simple worked example

Let's say, when you change the number, you also want to change a histogram

```
library(shiny)

ui <- fluidPage(
  sliderInput(inputId = "num",
    label = "Choose a number",
    value = 25, min = 1, max = 100),
  plotOutput("hist")
)

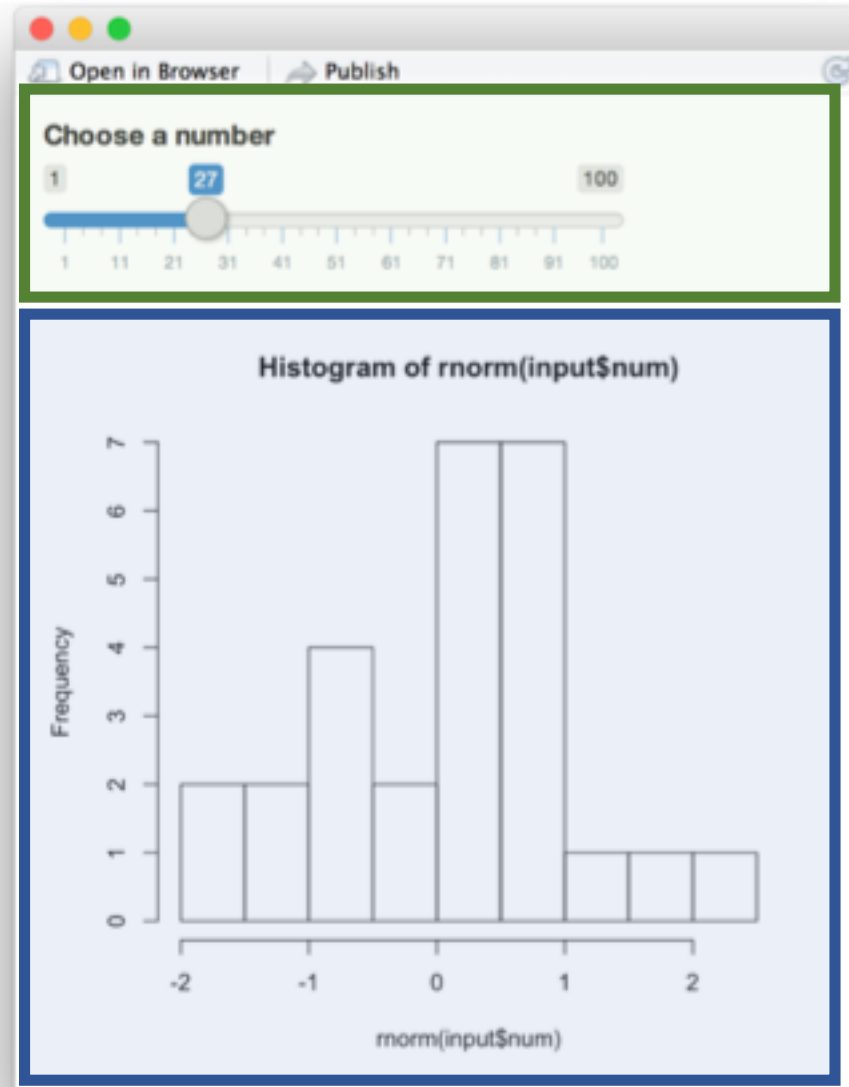
server <- function(input, output) {
  output$hist <- renderPlot({
    hist(rnorm(input$num))
  })
}

shinyApp(ui = ui, server = server)
```

input

output

render



A simple worked example

Reactive values work together with reactive functions.
You cannot call a reactive value from outside of one.



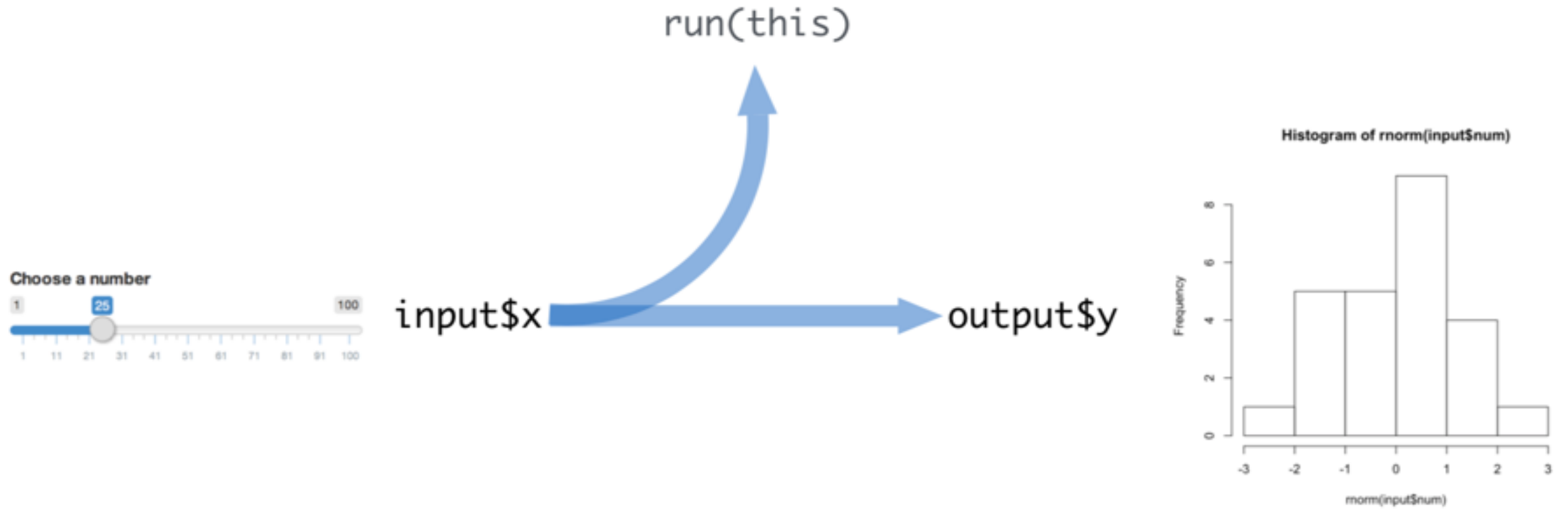
```
renderPlot({ hist(rnorm(100, input$num)) })
```



```
hist(rnorm(100, input$num))
```

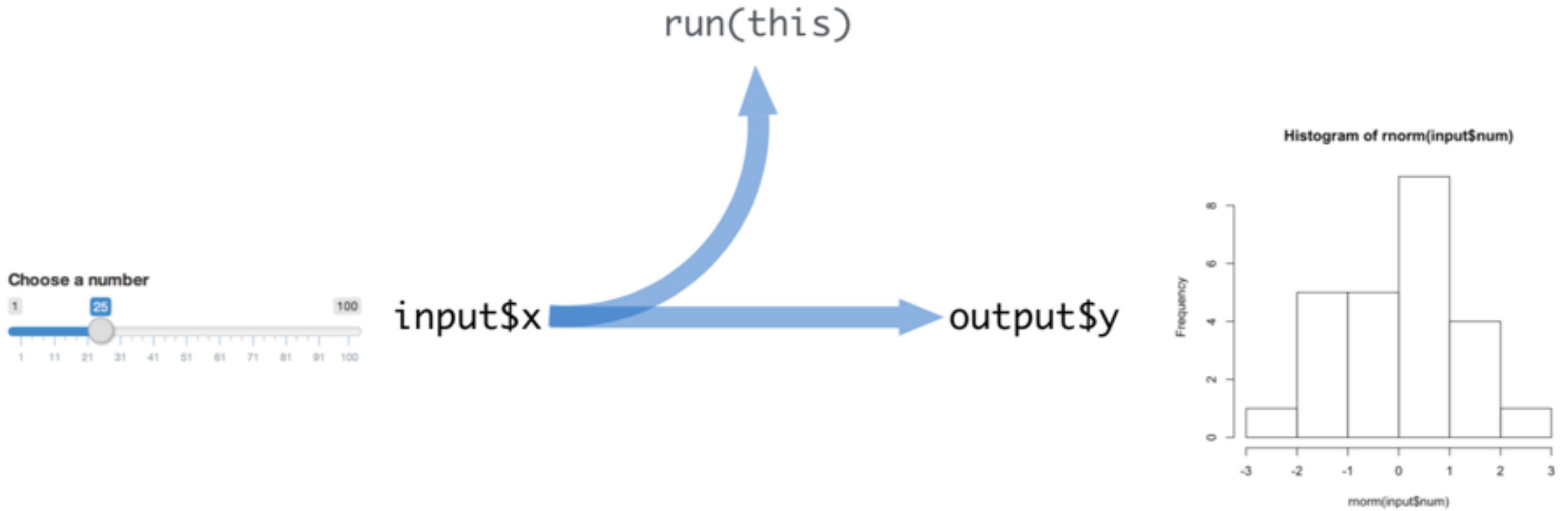
A simple worked example

Just one example of reactivity in Shiny



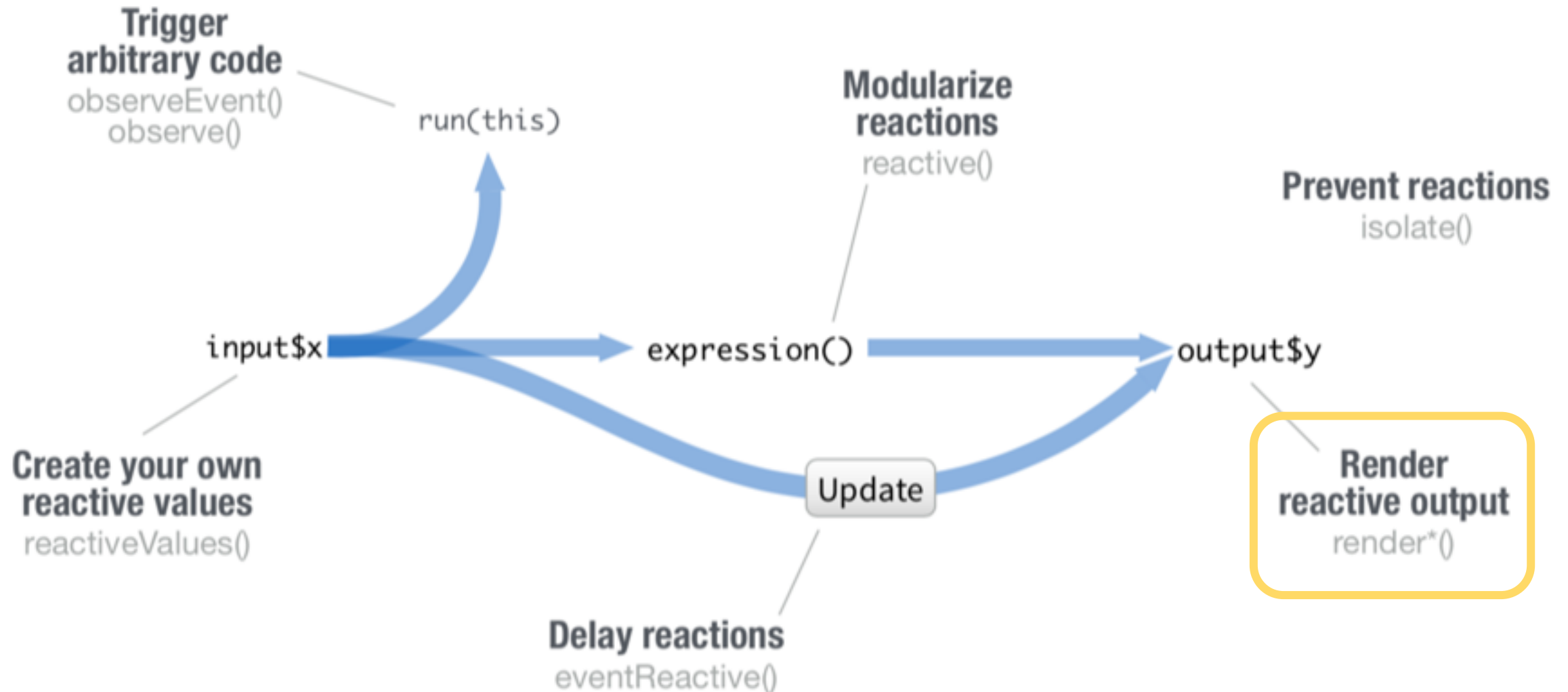
Reactivity in Shiny – a Very Brief Introduction

Just one example of reactivity in Shiny



Reactivity in Shiny – a Very Brief Introduction

In fact it can be much more complex



Shiny Apps for the Enterprise



Shiny Dashboard Demo

A dashboard built with Shiny.



Location tracker

Track locations over time with streaming data.



Download monitor

Streaming download rates visualized as a bubble chart.



Supply and Demand

Forecast demand to plan resource allocation.

Industry Specific Shiny Apps



Economic Dashboard

Economic forecasting with macroeconomic indicators.



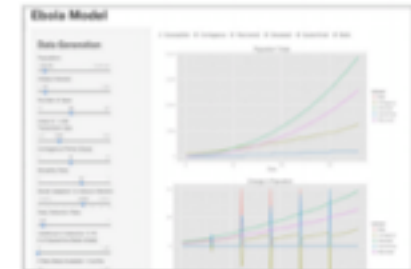
ER Optimization

An app that models patient flow.



CDC Disease Monitor

Alert thresholds and automatic weekly updates.



Ebola Model

An epidemiological simulation.

See more online
at the Shiny
Gallery!

<https://www.rstudio.com/products/shiny/shiny-user-showcase/>

bit.ly/shiny-quickstart-1

Now Let's
for
Ourselves!

