Support

Sign in

RStudio's Community has moved!

For help with R code: https://support.rstudio.com/hc/en-us/articles/200552336
For Open Source product questions: community.rstudio.com
For support with RStudio professional products: Priority Email Support
To report a bug in the RStudio IDE: https://github.com/rstudio/rstudio/issues
These posts are archived here for reference for potential solutions; new posts are disabled.

Community

🔍 Search

Topics | Posts

Post   8 followers   Follow
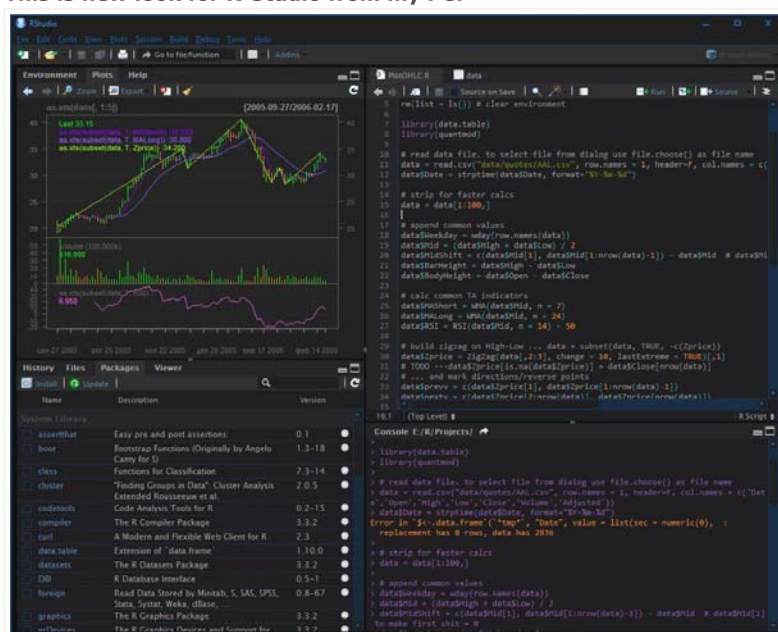
RStudio IDE

3   ∧
     ∨

Dark style for R-Studio IDE

Hi all

This is new look for R-Studio from my PC:

This is the guide how it can be done.

This is a very short guide, how to make R-Studio almost totally dark. I believe you know why it may be done. If not – simply skip this guide, or just make a try to take another look over your favorite tool.

Studio itself in fact it's a regular web site, running inside special browser. You see nothing from regular browser window, but it's really so! That is why we can modify almost everything on its pages by modifying css-files, which defines R-Studio look-and-feel.

Every browser has internal tool to inspect every item on its page. It can be invoked by pressing right mouse button on some page item, and select menu "Inspect". It brings up special window, where you can locate your item inside HTML-text, and modify its properties, like text and background colors, borders, etc. Defining what and how have to be changed is out of this article scope. If you don't know how make proper changes to css-files – please, request advise from your friend, who are familiar with this. I had already done a lot of such work and you can find results in this archive. Let's study contents and what have to be done.

File locations.
You need to replace these files in your R-Studio, which are responsible for those elements look:
\RStudio\www\index.htm – "home page". It has only one additional line – inserting dark style modifications after <body> element, to overwrite original color settings: <link rel="stylesheet" href="custom_styles.css" type="text/css"/>
\RStudio\resources\grid\gridstyles.css – data inspector tables.
\RStudio\resources\R.css – Help content
Also you need to create new file:
\RStudio\www\custom_styles.css – overriding for dark theme

*gridstyles.css and R.css - are original files with my additions, started with css comment line /************************/ at the bottom of each file. If you will get new version for R-Studio, you have to copy-paste them to new files from new version.*

Please, make a copy of originals for these files, just to have ability to revert changes if they will be unacceptable for you. New look-and-feel is good enough for me, but it still can be polished by yourself to level, which will be appropriate for you.

That's all)

Files - here
https://mega.nz/#!gp5AQBCL!luSHQmD7FgEm9JqkWGvKmHR7hR1LCTwCsFTyfC_gSA8

zencoder   •   January 14, 2017 11:32   •   Share

Official comment

Hi,

Thanks for writing up this guide - this is a feature that a lot of users have asked about!

Thanks again and we're glad to you found a way to make it work for you.

Best,
Ian

Ian Pylvainen   •   January 17, 2017 18:33   •   Share

▼

Date Votes

11 comments

0

Thanks for the great guide!

I replaced all the files suggested, and it mostly looks stunning!
However, the panes environment, packages, files and plots are not in dark theme. Any suggestions?

[Screenshot](#)

Im running
ubuntu 16.04
Microsoft R open 3.3.2
R-studio version 1.0.136

Kind regards,
Simon

Simon Mattsson   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

0

>> the panes environment, packages, files and plots are not in dark theme. Any suggestions?

I'm using dark HighContrast theme - so see these panels also dark.
You may try to continue tuning css for the rest of UI elements.

zencoder   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

0

Hi

Thx for the work and time you put into this.

But i got the same problem as Simon.

Is there a new version yet?

If not i will try to solve it on a weekend when i got some time. And share the results with you.

Wouls realy be nice to have a proper solution.

Btw. dark HighContrast theme does not work for me to solve this problem on Win7
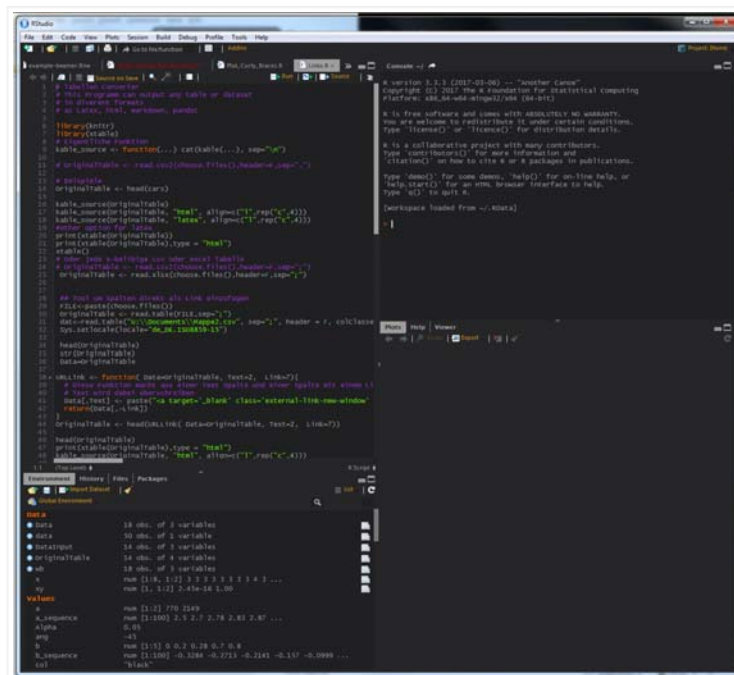
DdS   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

1

Hi

i solved most of the problems i think. It works for me perfectly.

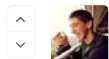I edited the custom_styles.css and the gridstyles.css the other files are original as zencoder wrote them.

https://github.com/SWolf23/rstudio-darkTheme.git

Use his installation guide in this forum. Or in the readme.

Have fun with this hope it helps.

DdS

DdS　•　1 year ago　•　1 vote　•　Share　　　　　　　　　　　　　▼

0

I'm trying to find where to install these files on Ubuntu... Does anyone have any suggestions?

Timothy Adans　•　1 year ago　•　0 votes　•　Share　　　　　　　　　▼

0

Timothy:
On Ubuntu this worked for rstudio-server:
Get the .deb daily build link from the rstudio source directories for your platform version. I run 64bit so this is the link I used:

$ wget https://s3.amazonaws.com/rstudio-dailybuilds/rstudio-server-1.1.264-amd64.deb
$ sudo gdebi rstudio-server-1.1.264-amd64.deb

After running youre IDE should open to the modern theme. If not go to tools>globaloptions>appearance>first option: modern>apply and restart the session.

On phone so Please excuse any typos

Carl Boneri　•　1 year ago　•　0 votes　•　Share　　　　　　　　　▼

0

Save the following as .sh file. And edit "-avrf /media/sf_VM_Folder/RStudioDarkStyle/" to your download location. Then it should work. IF you want to do it manually the main folder is /usr/lib/rstudio/RStudioDarkStyle/ the subfolders are the same as under windows.

```
#!/bin/bash
# Dark Theme for rstudio works with the actual stable Version of
RStudio 1.0.143 .
# enter your download folder for Dark Theme
sudo cp -avrf /media/sf_VM_Folder/RStudioDarkStyle/
/usr/lib/rstudio/RStudioDarkStyle/
# First we want to save the Original files to a new folder (vanilla)
cd /usr/lib/rstudio
sudo mkdir vanilla
sudo cp -avrf ./www/index.htm ./vanilla/index.htm
sudo cp -avrf ./resources/R.css ./vanilla/R.css
sudo cp -avrf ./resources/grid/gridstyles.css ./vanilla/gridstyles.css
# If you set own styles before you can also save them
sudo cp -avrf ./www/custom_styles.css ./vanilla/custom_styles.css
# Then we replace the original files with the new ones
sudo cp -avrf ./RStudioDarkStyle/index.htm ./www/index.htm
sudo cp -avrf ./RStudioDarkStyle/custom_styles.css
./www/custom_styles.css
sudo cp -avrf ./RStudioDarkStyle/R.css ./resources/R.css
sudo cp -avrf ./RStudioDarkStyle/gridstyles.css
./resources/grid/gridstyles.css
# And thats all it should work now as far as you use rstudio 1.0.143
```

DdS   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

---

0   ⌃
    ⌄

It seems like this only works for windows OS. I followed the instruction, it
partially worked for Mac OS but the the frame color is still light grey which
looks a bit strange.

Weiye Deng   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

---

0   ⌃
    ⌄

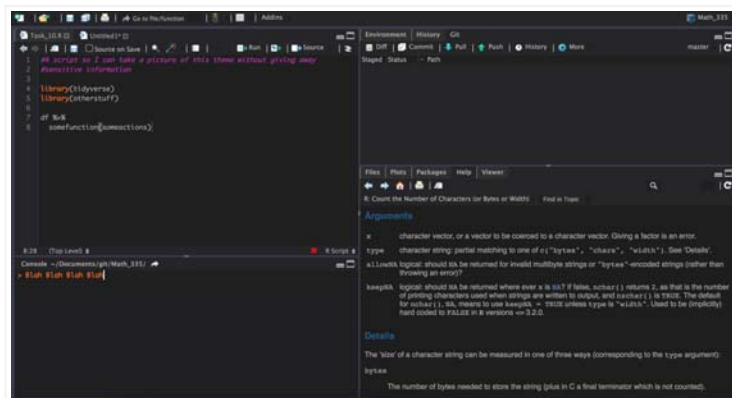Sry i never worked with Mac OS so can't help.

You need to do it yourself. Its relative easy just right click the area you
want to change. Web Inspector pop's up then find the right background
statment. Thats the hard part. You maybe have to try by changing
different statments. When you have the right one copy paste it to the
custom_styles.css file and make the background !important. And maybe
delete the other options in the statment. Then save
the **custom_styles.css** file then in r right click somewhere and choose
reload. Your changes should be in it now.

DdS   •   1 year ago   •   0 votes   •   Share   ▼

---

1   ⌃
    ⌄

There were still a couple issues with Dds's edits. Some white space issues
with data frames, file menu, and no edits for git and git popup menus if
you use git. Other changes are more minor: some coloring changes to
make it more visually appealing, and making "x's" visible on file tabs.

I'm on a mac so I'm guessing these edits will work for any unix based
system.

Here's a link to my github repo containing updated files. Hope this works for everyone.

https://github.com/McKayMDavis/RStudio_Dark_Theme.git

-McKay

McKay Davis • 11 months ago • 1 vote • Share ▼