

11: Crafting Reports

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Spring 2021

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the purpose of using R Markdown as a communication and workflow tool
2. Incorporate Markdown syntax into documents
3. Communicate the process and findings of an analysis session in the style of a report

USE OF R STUDIO & R MARKDOWN SO FAR...

1. Write code
2. Document that code
3. Generate PDFs of code and its outputs
4. Integrate with Git/GitHub for version control

BASIC R MARKDOWN DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

1. **YAML Header** surrounded by `---` on top and bottom
 - YAML templates include options for html, pdf, word, markdown, and interactive
 - More information on formatting the YAML header can be found in the cheat sheet
2. **R Code Chunks** surrounded by `"on top and bottom"` + `Create using Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+I`
 - Can be named `{r name}` to facilitate navigation and autoreferencing
 - Chunk options allow for flexibility when the code runs and when the document is knitted
3. **Text** with formatting options for readability in knitted document

RESOURCES

Handy cheat sheets for R markdown can be found: [here](#), and [here](#).

There's also a quick reference available via the **Help**→**Markdown Quick Reference** menu.

Lastly, this website give a great & thorough overview.

THE KNITTING PROCESS

- The knitting sequence



- Knitting commands in code chunks:
- `include = FALSE` - code is run, but neither code nor results appear in knitted file
- `echo = FALSE` - code not included in knitted file, but results are
- `eval = FALSE` - code is not run in the knitted file
- `message = FALSE` - messages do not appear in knitted file
- `warning = FALSE` - warnings do not appear...
- `fig.cap = "..."` - adds a caption to graphical results

WHAT ELSE CAN R MARKDOWN DO?

See: <https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com> and class recording. * Languages other than R... * Various outputs...

WHY R MARKDOWN?

<Fill in our discussion below with bullet points. Use italics and bold for emphasis (hint: use the cheat sheets or **Help** → **Markdown Quick Reference** to figure out how to make bold and italic text).>

R Markdown is useful because it allows users to:

- Create an *easy to read* document directly from the markdown file
- Create files in *various formats* for easy sharing
- Utilize **version control**
- Easily combine text/code/plots in one document

TEXT EDITING CHALLENGE

Create a table below that details the example datasets we have been using in class. The first column should contain the names of the datasets and the second column should include some relevant information about the datasets. (Hint: use the cheat sheets to figure out how to make a table in Rmd)

Dataset	Description
ECOTOX Neonicotinoids Insects	Neonicotinoid effects on insects
EPA Air O ₃ NC2018 & NC2019	Daily ozone levels at all NC sites (2018-19)
EPA Air PM25	Daily PM2.5 levels at all NC sites (2018-19)
EPA Air O ₃ Garinger NC	Daily O ₃ levels at Garinger, NC site (2010-19)
NEON NIWO Litter	Mass & trap sampling datasets
NTL-LTER chemical & physical	lake depth, temperature, oxygen, and light data
NTL-LTER nutrient	lake nutrient data (phosphorous, nitrogen, etc.)
NWIS Site Info NE	USGS gage site locations in NE
NWIS Site FLow Data NE	USGS gage site flow data for NE

R CHUNK EDITING CHALLENGE

Installing packages

Create an R chunk below that installs the package `knitr`. Instead of commenting out the code, customize the chunk options such that the code is not evaluated (i.e., not run).

```
install.packages(knitr)
```

Setup

Create an R chunk below called “setup” that checks your working directory, loads the packages `tidyverse`, `lubridate`, and `knitr`, and sets a ggplot theme. Remember that you need to disable R throwing a message, which contains a check mark that cannot be knitted.

Load the `NTL-LTER_Lake_Nutrients_Raw` dataset, display the head of the dataset, and set the date column to a date format.

Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but is not displayed in the final document.

```
## [1] "C:/Users/emmaw/Documents/ENV872/Environmental_Data_Analytics_2021"

##   lakeid  lakename year4 daynum sampledate depth_id depth tn_ug tp_ug nh34 no23
## 1      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         1  0.00   538   25   NA   NA
## 2      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         2  0.85   285   14   NA   NA
## 3      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         3  1.75   399   14   NA   NA
## 4      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         4  3.00   453   14   NA   NA
## 5      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         5  4.00   363   13   NA   NA
## 6      L Paul Lake 1991   140    5/20/91         6  6.00   583   37   NA   NA
##   po4 comments
## 1    NA
## 2    NA
## 3    NA
## 4    NA
## 5    NA
## 6    NA
```

Data Exploration, Wrangling, and Visualization

Create an R chunk below to create a processed dataset do the following operations:

- Include all columns except `lakeid`, `depth_id`, and `comments`
- Include only surface samples (`depth = 0 m`)
- Drop rows with missing data

```
NTL.nutrient.processed <- NTL.nutrient.data %>%
  select(lakename:sampledate,depth:po4) %>%
  filter(depth == 0) %>%
  drop_na()
```

Create a second R chunk to create a summary dataset with the mean, minimum, maximum, and standard deviation of total nitrogen concentrations for each lake. Create a second summary dataset that is identical except that it evaluates total phosphorus. Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but not displayed in the final document.

Create a third R chunk that uses the function `kable` in the `knitr` package to display two tables: one for the summary dataframe for total N and one for the summary dataframe of total P. Use the `caption = " "` code within that function to title your tables. Customize the chunk options such that the final table is displayed but not the code used to generate the table.

Table 2: Summary of Total Nitrogen (TN) by Lake (in ug)

Lake Name	Mean TN	Min. TN	Max. TN	SD
Central Long Lake	690.0469	343.020	953.063	209.09341
Crampton Lake	362.6813	353.380	376.304	12.05748
East Long Lake	810.7834	380.620	2608.956	335.41457
Hummingbird Lake	1036.6695	779.053	1221.960	204.36889
Paul Lake	368.7564	45.670	628.625	106.34741
Peter Lake	561.8752	219.720	2048.151	305.64909
Tuesday Lake	423.5605	237.363	554.418	78.84522
West Long Lake	762.6017	303.170	2870.302	402.95992

Table 3: Summary of Total Phosphorous (TP) by Lake (in ug)

Lake Name	Mean TP	Min. TP	Max. TP	SD
Central Long Lake	21.70981	8.190	37.270	7.076388
Crampton Lake	11.16033	5.803	15.555	4.946759
East Long Lake	29.28984	8.000	101.050	17.375710
Hummingbird Lake	36.21925	32.765	42.119	4.146717
Paul Lake	10.45606	1.222	36.070	4.805142
Peter Lake	18.39153	0.000	64.383	10.976205
Tuesday Lake	11.71853	6.325	18.663	3.044289
West Long Lake	19.82981	2.690	63.243	10.541276

Create a fourth and fifth R chunk that generates two plots (one in each chunk): one for total N over time with different colors for each lake, and one with the same setup but for total P. Decide which geom option will be appropriate for your purpose, and select a color palette that is visually pleasing and accessible. Customize the chunk options such that the final figures are displayed but not the code used to generate the figures. In addition, customize the chunk options such that the figures are aligned on the left side of the page. Lastly, add a `fig.cap` chunk option to add a caption (title) to your plot that will display underneath the figure.

Communicating results

Write a paragraph describing your findings from the R coding challenge above. This should be geared toward an educated audience but one that is not necessarily familiar with the dataset. Then insert a horizontal rule below the paragraph. Below the horizontal rule, write another paragraph describing the next steps you might take in analyzing this dataset. What questions might you be able to answer, and what analyses would you conduct to answer those questions

Total Nitrogen and phosphorous levels vary across the eight lakes included in the North Temperate Lakes Long Term Ecological Research studies. While the overall trend for some lakes, such as West Long Lake, appears to be fairly horizontal for both nutrients over time, other lakes, such as East Long Lake, have experienced noticeable increases in nutrient levels over time. When looking at the eight lakes together, there are also apparent spikes in nutrient levels during certain years. For example, there was a spike in both total nitrogen and phosphorous levels affecting several lakes during the summer of 1996. *** To analyze this dataset further, we could perform trend analyses for each of the NTL-LTER lakes to determine whether

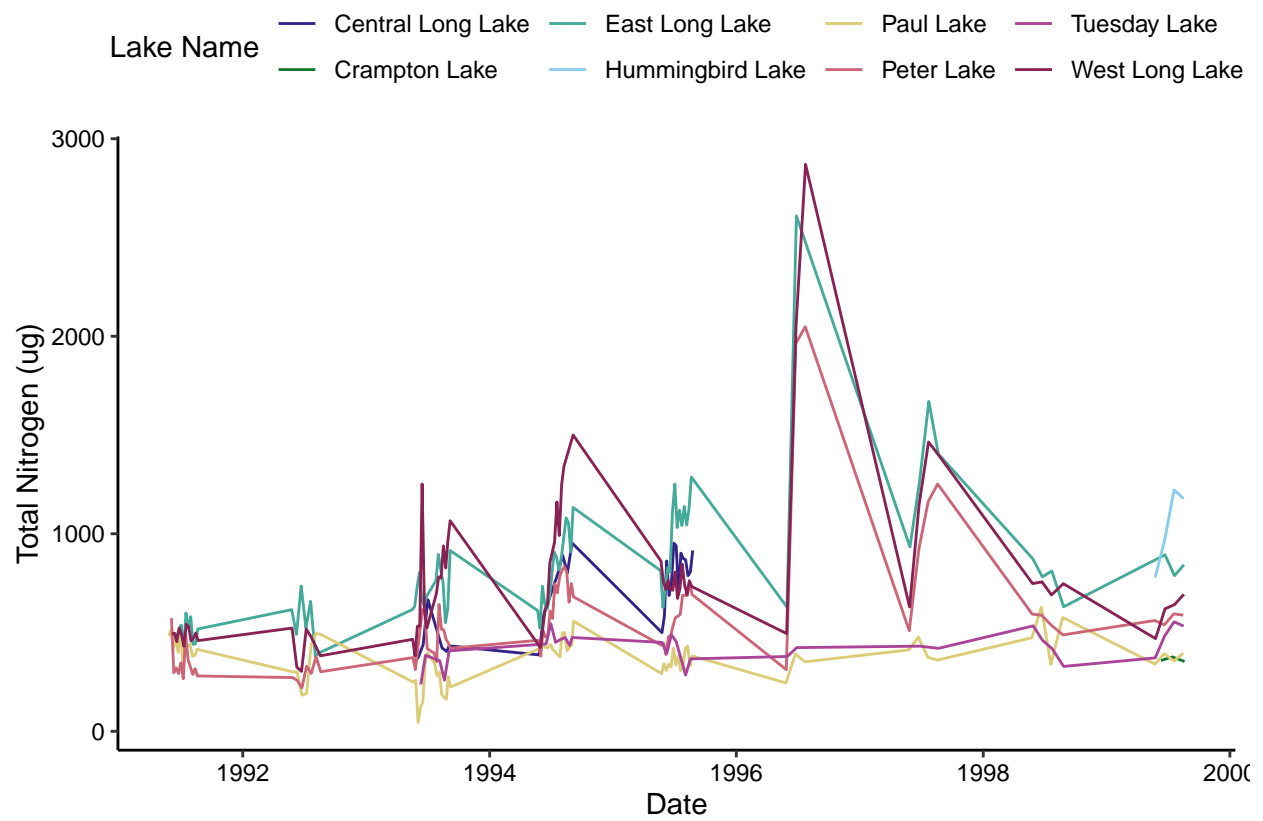


Figure 1: Total Nitrogen Over Time

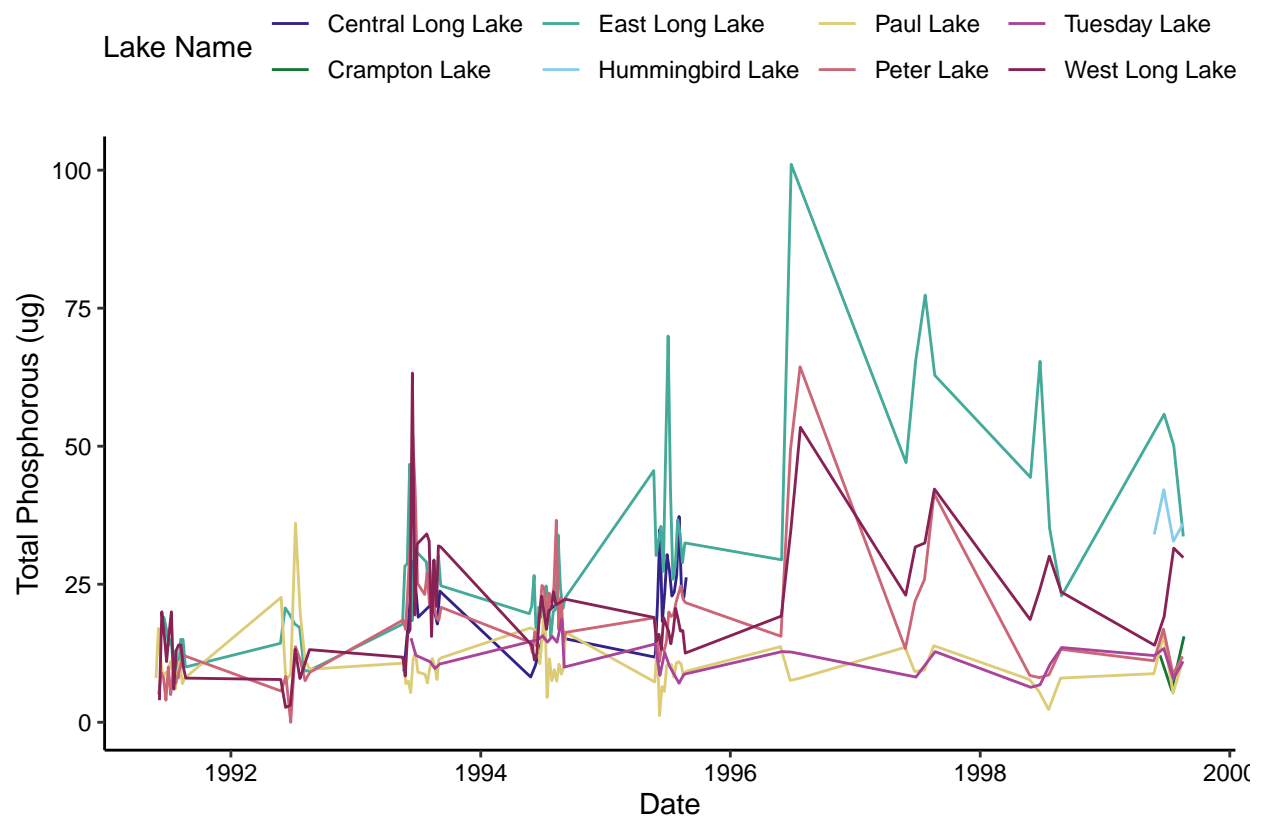


Figure 2: Total Phosphorous Over Time

there have been any significant changes in lake nutrient levels over time. In doing so, it will be necessary to evaluate whether lake nutrient levels are seasonal. This trend analysis would also allow us to compare the lakes to each other and ultimately evaluate the lake health throughout the NTL-LTER.

KNIT YOUR PDF

When you have completed the above steps, try knitting your PDF to see if all of the formatting options you specified turned out as planned. This may take some troubleshooting.

OTHER R MARKDOWN CUSTOMIZATION OPTIONS

We have covered the basics in class today, but R Markdown offers many customization options. A word of caution: customizing templates will often require more interaction with LaTeX and installations on your computer, so be ready to troubleshoot issues.

Customization options for pdf output include:

- Table of contents
- Number sections
- Control default size of figures
- Citations
- Template (more info here)

```
pdf_document:  
toc: true  
number_sections: true  
fig_height: 3  
fig_width: 4  
citation_package: natbib  
template:
```