Applied Epidemiology I: Data Management

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Acknowledgements

This course material in data management is based on my learning from Anna Johansson's workshop at KI library[1], teachings in Good Data Management Practice in Epidemiological Research, and MEB Guidelines for Documentation and Archiving Version 6 [2]. I personally want to thank for their effort on education in data management.
I especially want to thank Marlene Stratmann for reviewing the slides and Prof. Paul Dickman for providing me with suggestions to improving the teaching.

[1] This workshop is currently available on KI Play as well.

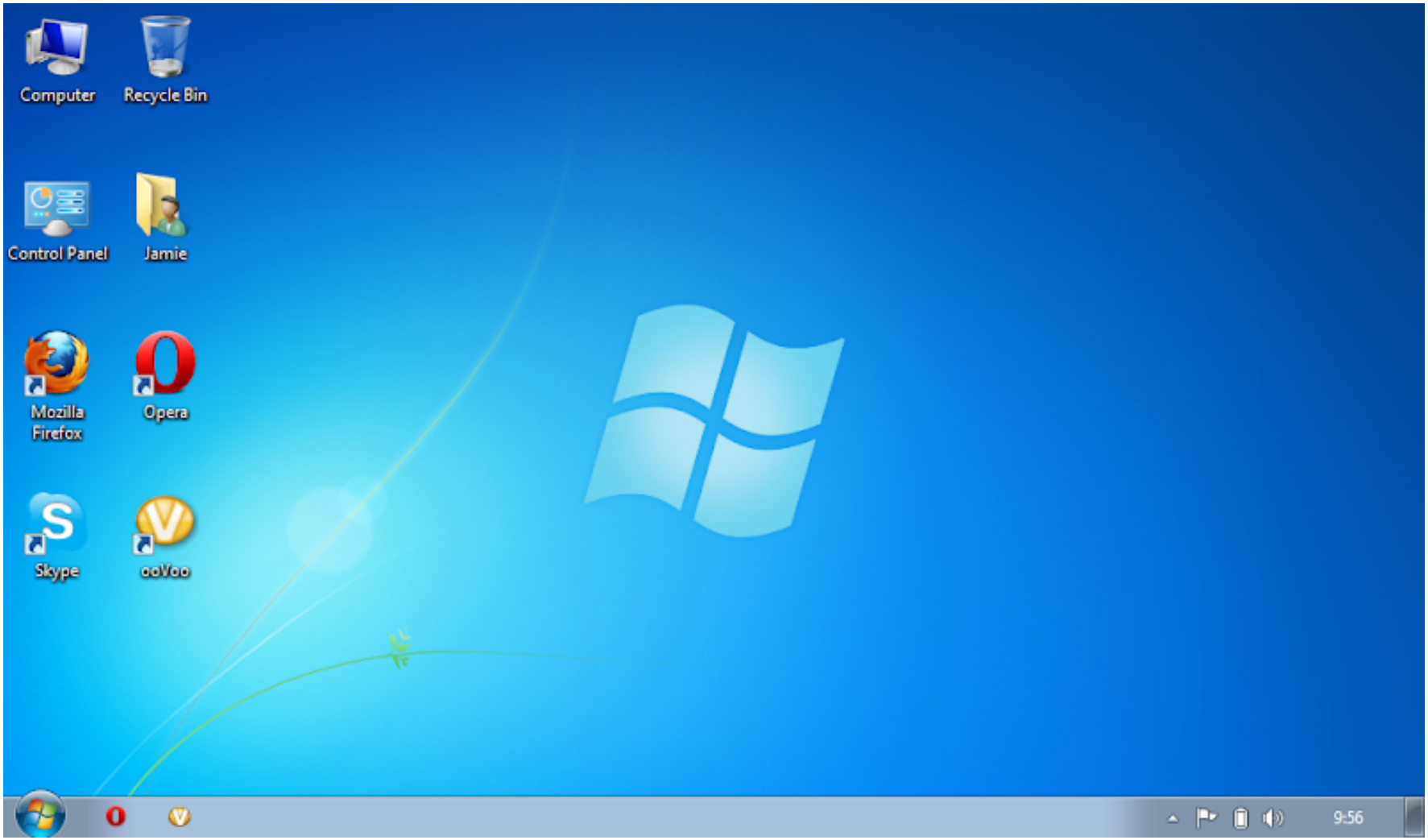
[2] The Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet. MEB Guidelines for Documentation and Archiving Version 6. 2018.

Outline

1. What if no data management?
2. Aims of data management (also learning outcomes)
3. Good folder structure
4. Good documents
5. Good Readme.txt
6. Good habits on coding
7. Other do's and don'ts
8. Wrap it up

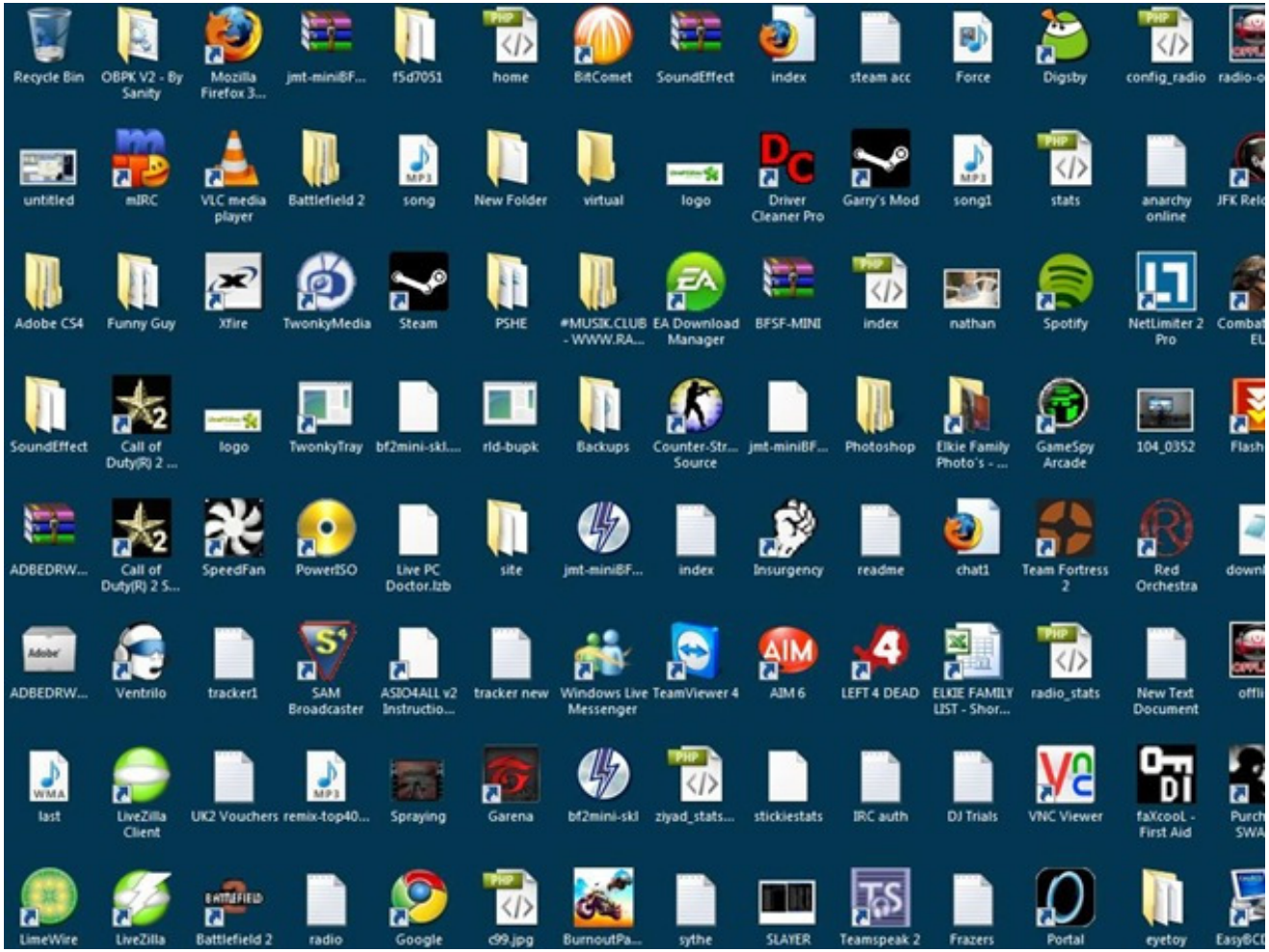
What if no data management?

In the beginning,



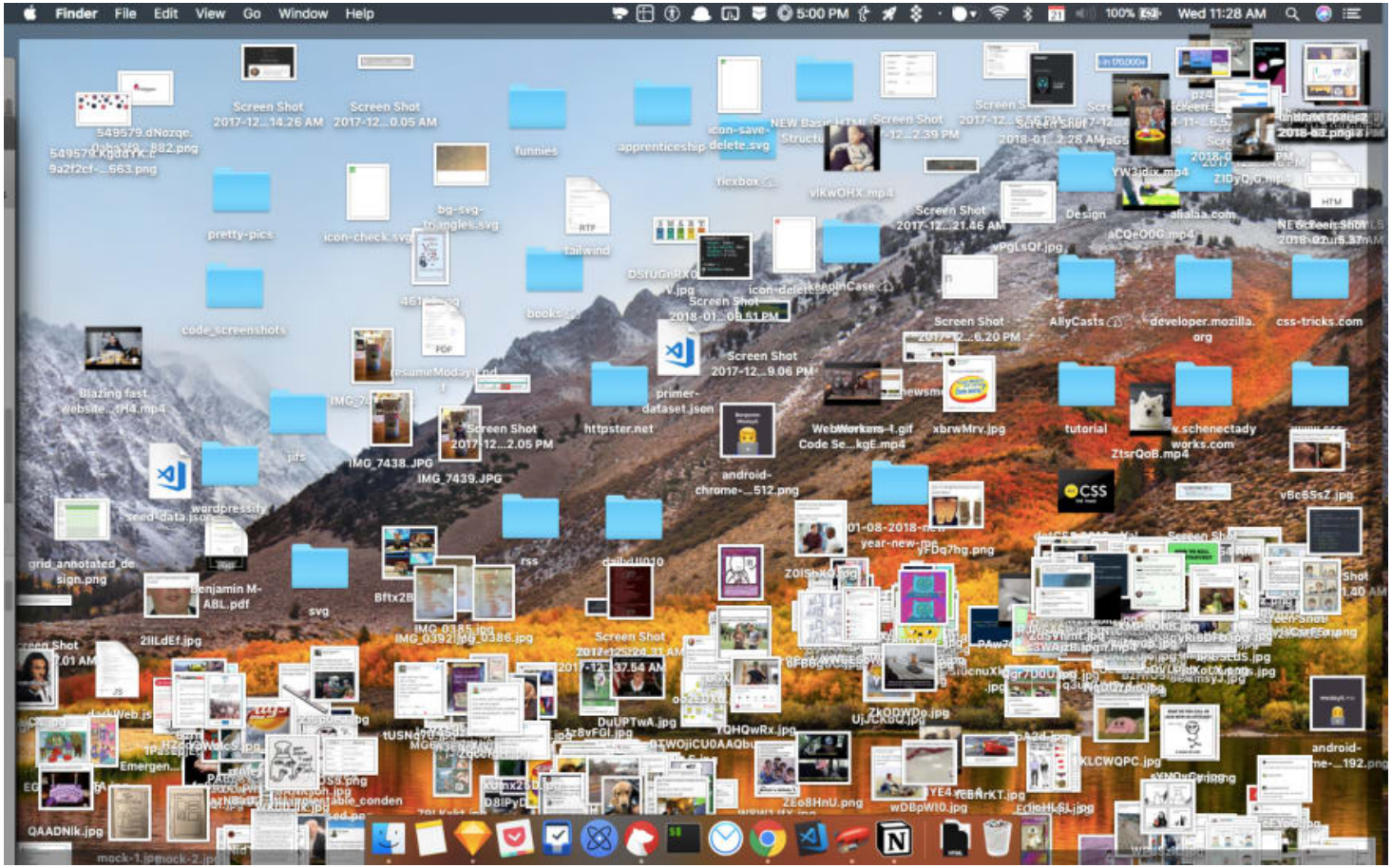
What if no data management?

In the half-way of the research,



What if no data management?

At the end, or saying you cannot even walk till the end?



What if no data management?

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- if your collaborator needs to take over your analysis, can he/she understand what you've completed?

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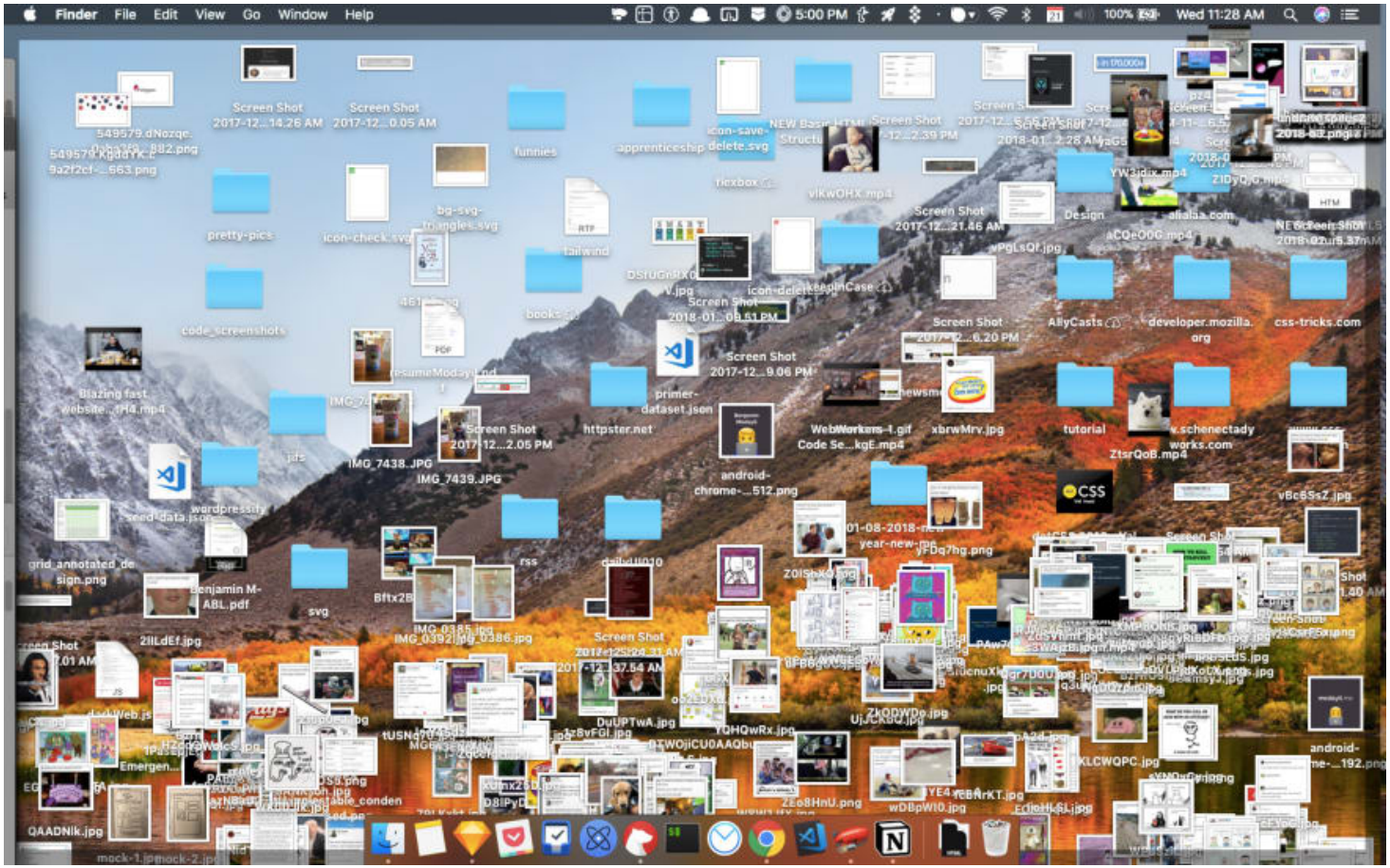

What if no data management?

So I would say you need to have a friend called

Data Management

Aims of data management (also learning outcomes)

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- To ensure the project can be understood by others (supervisors, collaborators, and future readers)
- To create a good work flow and enhance accuracy of work

Good folder structure

The core elements of folders are listed below:

- Data
- Documents
- Log
- Output
- Program

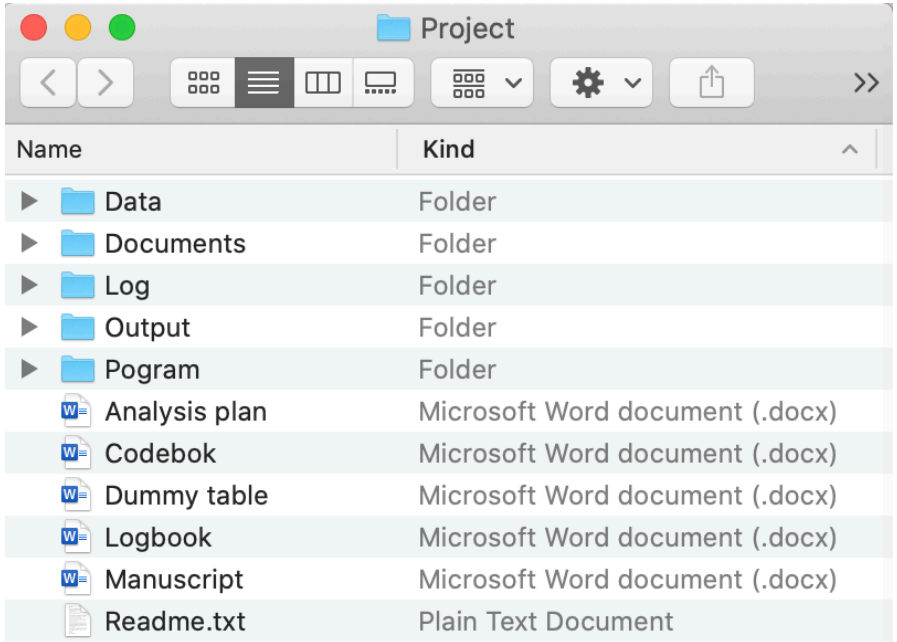


Figure: Good project folder structure. (Please bear with me that I am Mac user!)

Good documents

Besides good folder structure, you should also consider keeping good documents

- Analysis plan
- Codebook[3]
- Dummy table
- Logbook[3]
- Manuscript

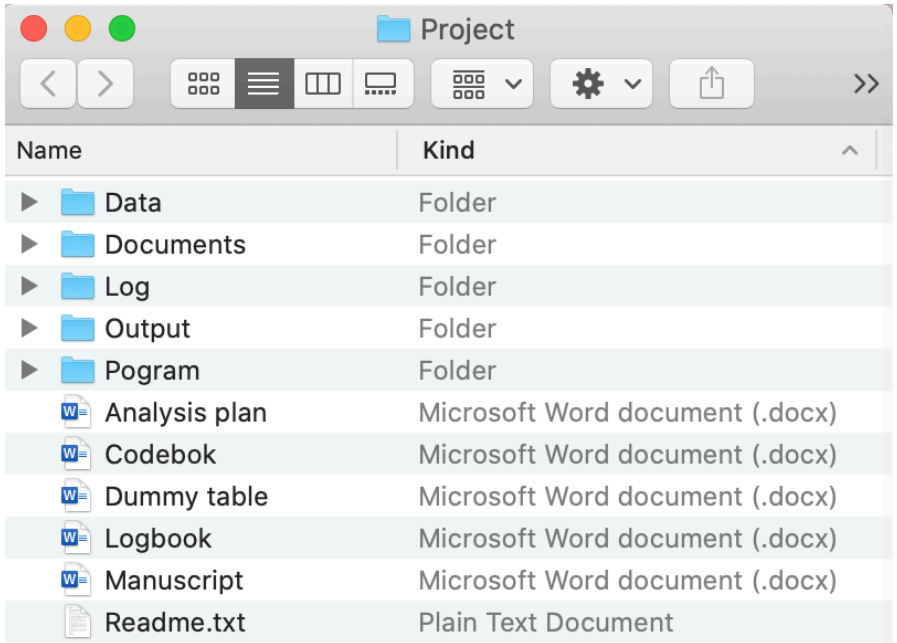


Figure: Good project folder structure.

[3] can be included in analysis plan as well

Good Readme.txt

- You should illustrate how to use these documents/folders in the Readme.txt.
- A good Readme.txt is a good tourist guide in this project folder.

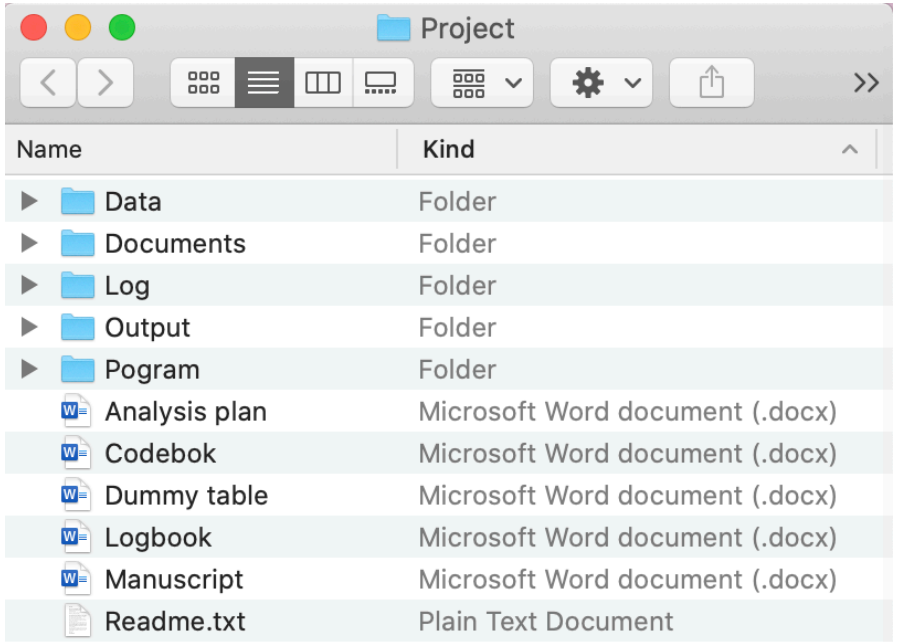


Figure: Good project folder structure.

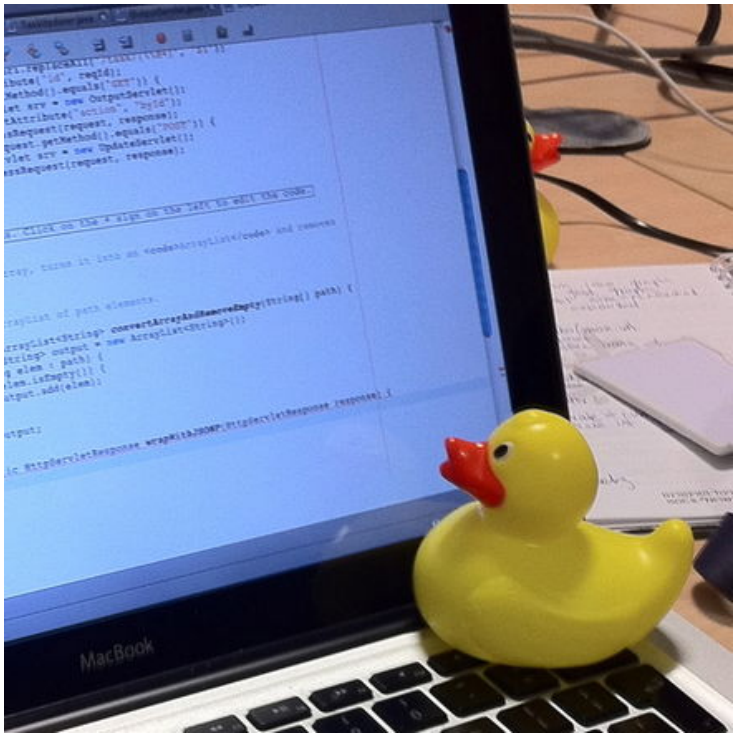
Good habit on coding

- log on
- Filename
- Study
- Created
- Updated
- Purpose
- Note
- **Start your code**
- log close

```
local todaydate: di %tdCYND date(c(current_date),"DMY")
capture log close
log using "your log folder route\do file name_`todaydate'.log",

/*============================================================
Filename: make_analysis_data.do
Study:    Colon cancer patient survival, Sweden, 2010-2015

Created:  20201015 Enoch Yi-Tung Chen
Updated:  20201017 Enoch Yi-Tung Chen

Purpose:  Conduct data clearance for the project
Note:     Well, this is just an example.
============================================================*/
// Start of Stata code



// End of Stata code

log close
```

Good habit on coding

- Talk to yourself what you are doing.
- You've got a friend in me! (Parallel analysis)
- Rubber duck debugging



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3. Same names for linking files (.do .r .sas $\rightarrow$ .log $\rightarrow$ .doc)
4. Don't replace the original files or variables. (Well if you accidentally do this, you still get a chance to revert if using shared drive.)

Wrap it up

- In summary, a good data management contains GOOD
  1. folder structure
  2. documents
  3. readme
  4. habits

Wrap it up

- In summary, a good data management contains GOOD
  1. folder structure
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- How can this lecture help you?
- I attached the resources you can use for DM your current and future projects.