Unit testing

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Motivation

Let's add a column to a data frame

```
# Goal:
# Write a function that allows us to add a
# new column to a data frame at a specified
# position.
add_col(df, "name", value, where = 1)
add_col(df, "name", value, where = 2)
```

Start simple and try out as we go

where = 1 2 3 4 1.2 6.7

10.0 2.7 7.7

3.1

1.9 6.1

Start with insert_into()

Works like cbind() but can insert anywhere

df1
$$\frac{\mathbf{a}}{3}$$
 $\frac{\mathbf{b}}{4}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{5}$ df2 $\frac{\mathbf{X}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{Y}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{m}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{m}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{m}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{3}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{4}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{5}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{3}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{1}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{2}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{3}$ $\frac{\mathbf{c}}{$

Add the columns of df2 to df1 at position where

What goes in ...?

```
insert_into <- function(x, y, where = 1) {
  if (where == 1) { # first col
  } else if (where > ncol(x)) { # last col
  } else {
# Hint: cbind() will be useful
# Add the columns of df2 to df1 at position where
```

My first attempt

```
insert_into <- function(x, y, where = 1) {</pre>
  if (where == 1) {
    cbind(x, y)
  } else if (where > ncol(x)) {
    cbind(y, x)
  } else {
    cbind(x[1:where], y, x[where:ncol(x)])
```

Actually correct

```
insert_into <- function(x, y, where = 1) {
  if (where == 1) {
    cbind(y, x)
  } else if (where > ncol(x)) {
    cbind(x, y)
  } else {
    lhs <- 1:(where - 1)
    cbind(x[lhs], y, x[-lhs])
```

How did I write that code?

```
# Some simple inputs
df1 < - data.frame(a = 3, b = 4, c = 5)
df2 \leftarrow data.frame(X = 1, Y = 2)
# Then each time I tweaked it, I re-ran
# these cases
insert_into(df1, df2, where = 1)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = 2)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = 3)
```

Two challenges

Cmd + Enter is error prone

Looking at the outputs of each run is tedious

We need a new workflow!

Cmd + Enter is error prone

Put code in R/ and use devtools::load_all()

Looking at the outputs of each run is tedious

Write unit tests and use devtools::test_file()

Testing workflow

http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/tests.html

First, create a package

```
usethis::create_package("~/Desktop/hadcol")
usethis::use_r("insert_into")
insert_into <- function(x, y, where = 1) {
  if (where == 1) {
    cbind(y, x)
                                    copy + paste
  } else if (where > ncol(x)) {
                                   this code into
    cbind(x, y)
                                    insert_into.R
  } else {
    lhs <- 1:(where - 1)
    cbind(x[lhs], y, x[-lhs])
```

Then, set up testing infrastructure

```
Key infrastructure
```

```
usethis::use_test()
```

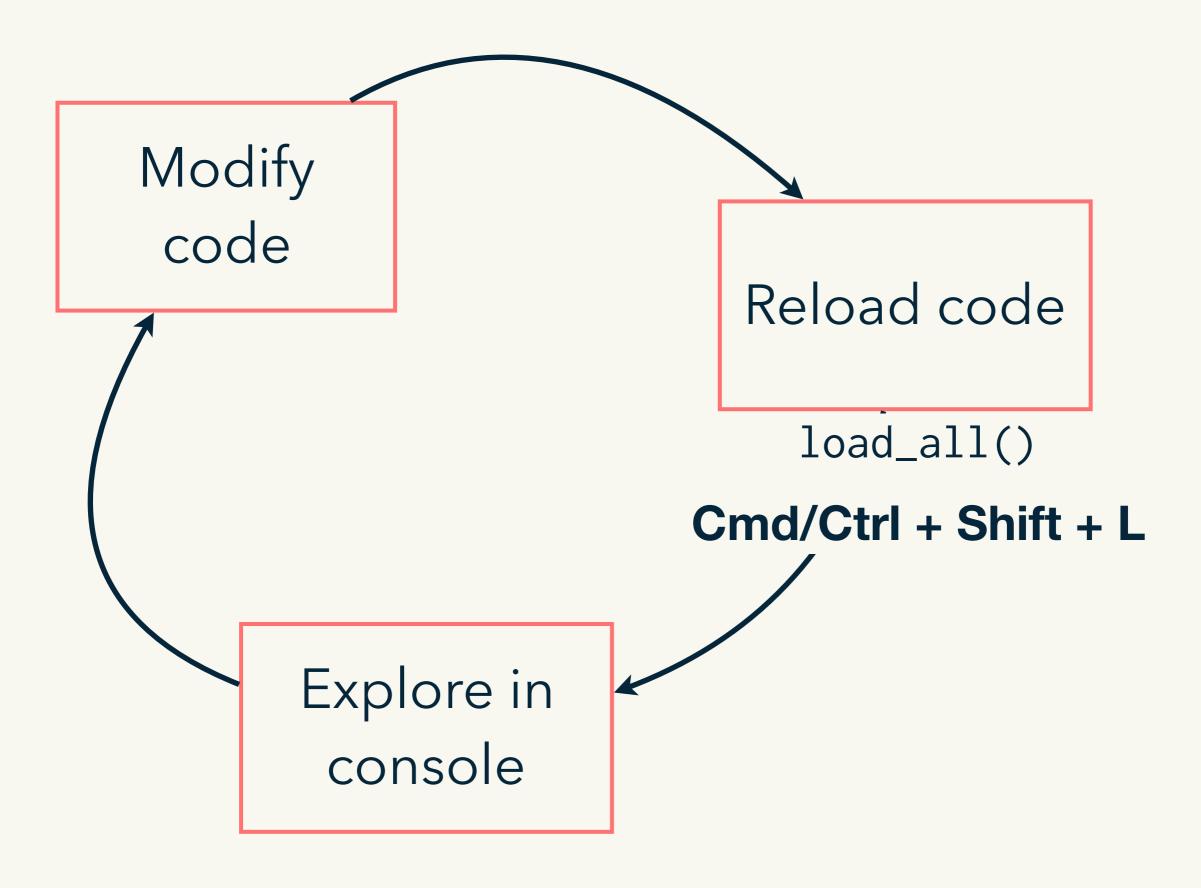
- ✓ Adding 'testthat' to Suggests field
- ✔ Creating 'tests/testthat/'
- ✓ Writing 'tests/testthat.R'
- Writing 'tests/testthat/test-insert_into.R'
- Modify 'tests/testthat/test-insert_into.R'

Run tests

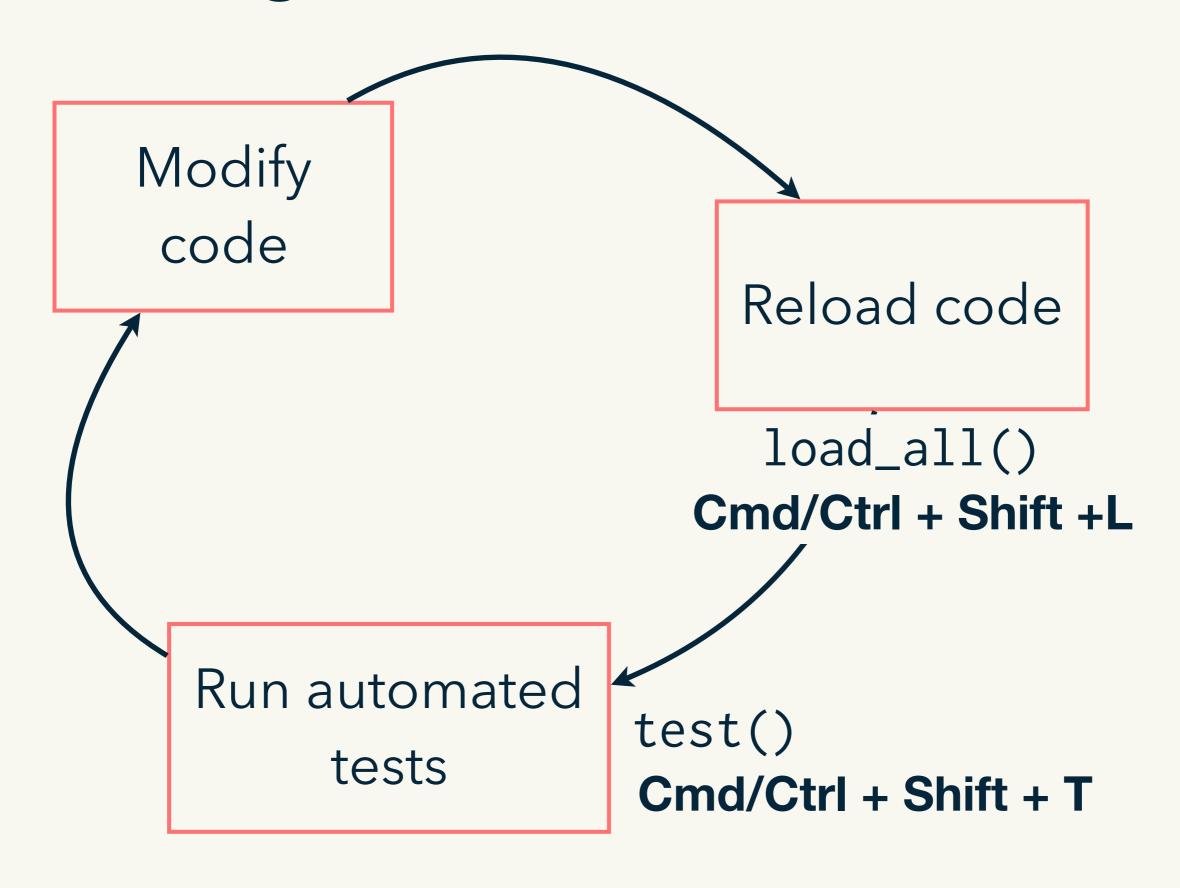
Creates test file matching script file

devtools::test_file()

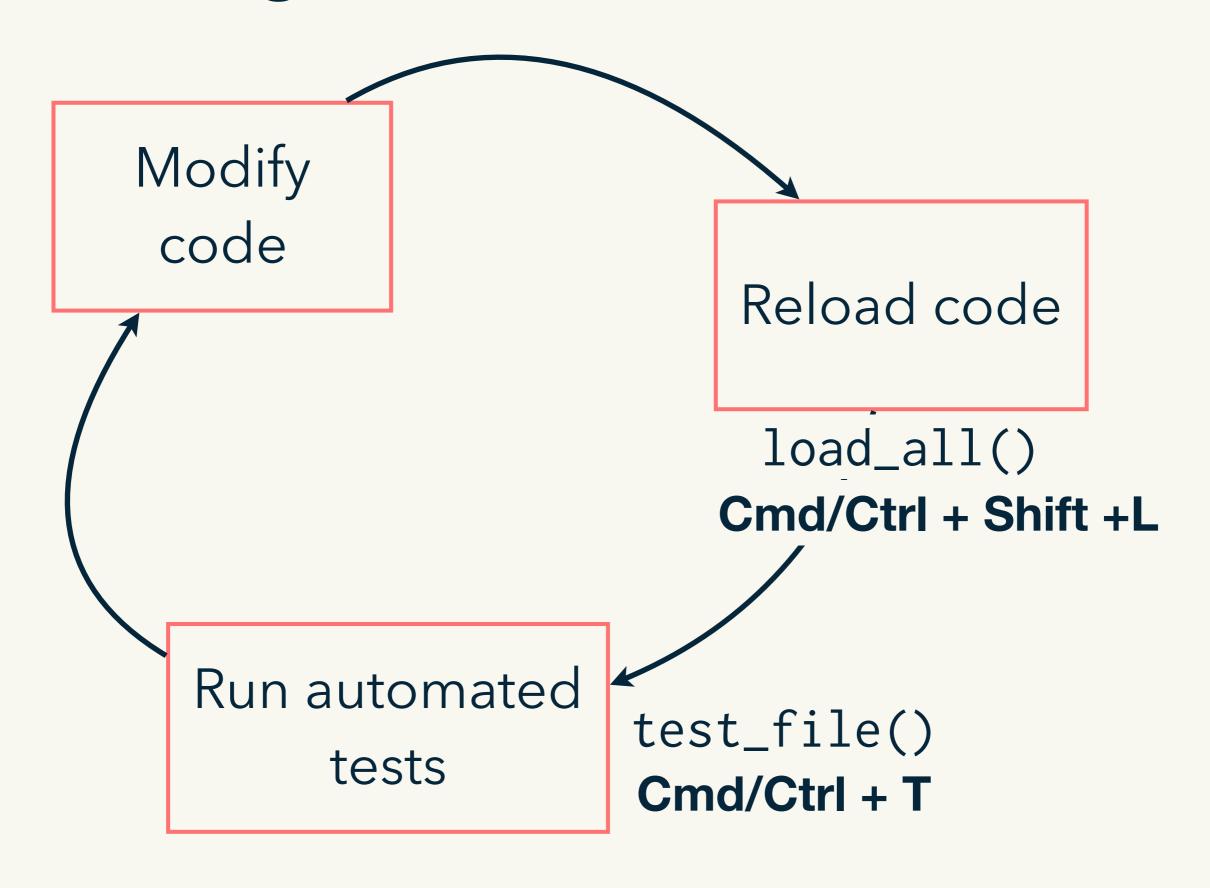
So far we've done this:



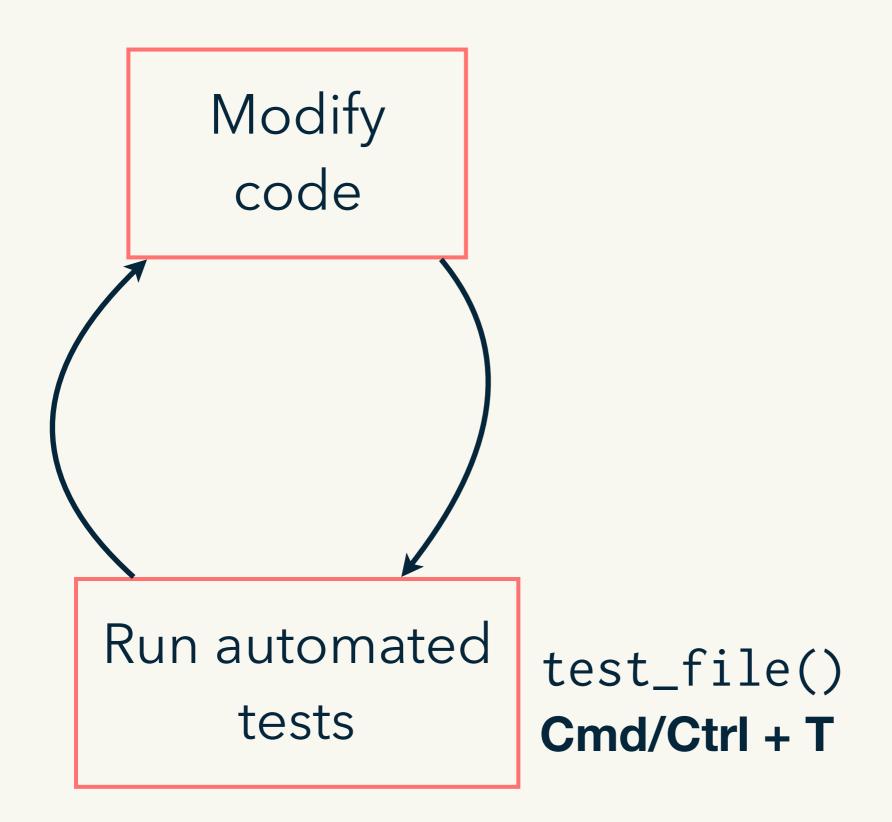
Testthat gives a new workflow



Testthat gives a new workflow



But why reload the code?



Key idea of unit testing is to automate!

Helper function to reduce duplication

```
at_pos <- function(i) {
   insert_into(df1, df2, where = i)
}

expect_named(at_pos(1), c("X", "Y", "a", "b", "c"))
expect_named(at_pos(2), c("a", "X", "Y", "b", "c"))
expect_named(at_pos(3), c("a", "b", "X", "Y", "c"))</pre>
```

Describes an expected property of the output

Key idea of unit testing is to automate!

```
at_pos <- function(i) {
  insert_into(df1, df2, where = i)
}

expect_named(at_pos(1), c("X", "Y", "a", "b", "c"))
expect_named(at_pos(2), c("a", "X", "Y", "b", "c"))
expect_named(at_pos(3), c("a", "b", "X", "Y", "c"))</pre>
```

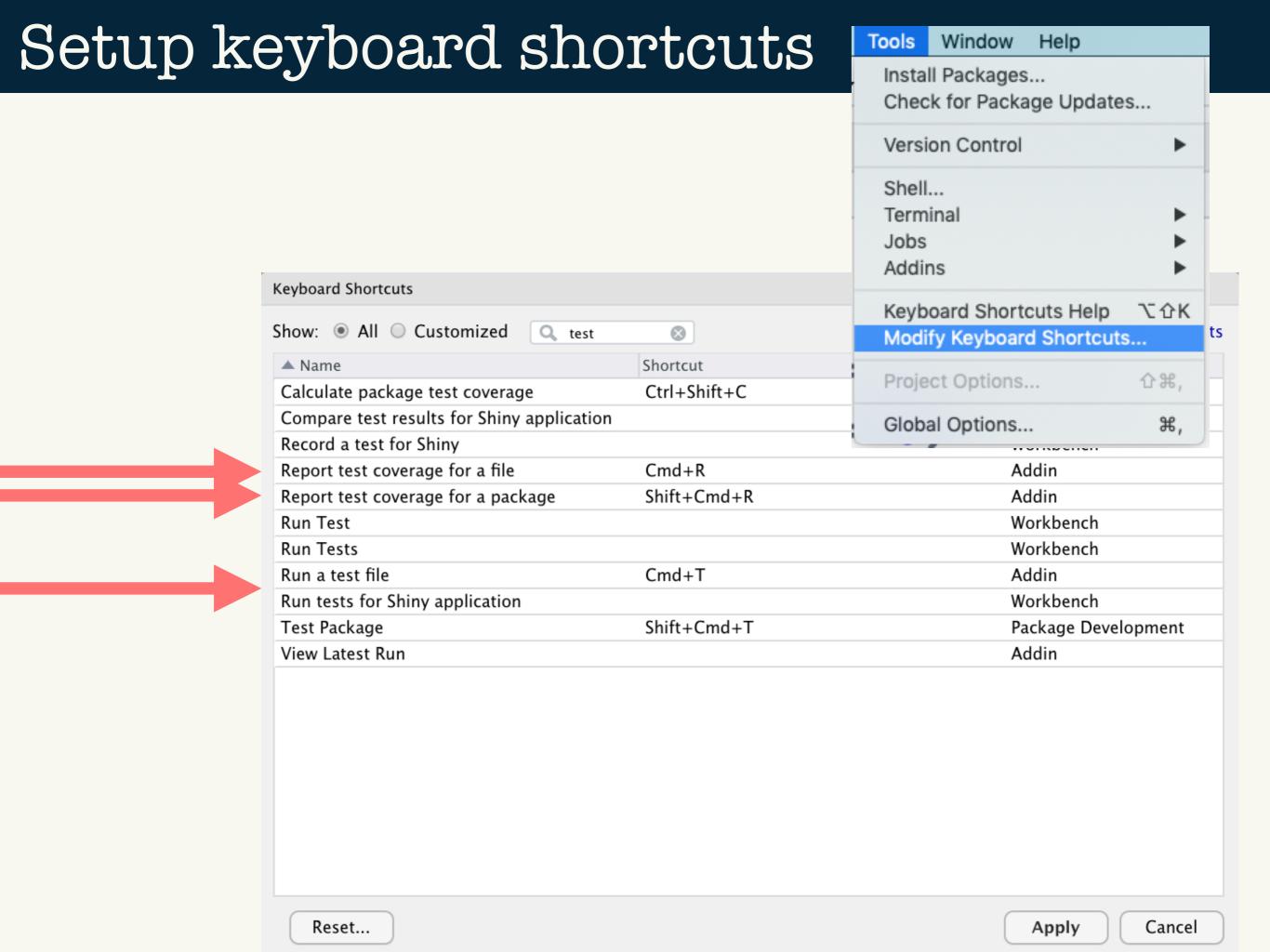
Easy to see the pattern

This automation must follow conventions

```
# In tests/testthat/test-insert into.R
test_that("can add column at any position", {
 df1 < - data.frame(a = 3, b = 4, c = 5)
 df2 \leftarrow data.frame(X = 1, Y = 2)
  at_pos <- function(i) {</pre>
    insert_into(df1, df2, where = i)
  expect_named(at_pos(1), c("X", "Y", "a", "b", "c"))
  expect_named(at_pos(2), c("a", "X", "Y", "b", "c"))
  expect_named(at_pos(3), c("a", "b", "X", "Y", "c"))
```

Tests are organized in three layers

File One per .R file in R/ **Test** Expectation One per **Test** Expectation invariant Expectation Expectation Expectation Expectation Very fine grained **Test** Expectation **Test** Expectation Expectation



Practice the workflow

```
usethis::create_package("~/Desktop/hadcol")
usethis::use_r("insert_into")
# Check all is ok with load_all()
usethis::use_test()
# Copy expectations from next next slide
# Run tests with keyboard shortcut (if you create it).
# Or devtools::test_file()
# Confirm that if you break insert_into() the
# tests fail.
```

Expectations

```
# Create file with use_test()
test_that("can add column at any position", {
  df1 < - data.frame(a = 3, b = 4, c = 5)
  df2 \leftarrow data.frame(X = 1, Y = 2)
  at_pos <- function(i) {</pre>
    insert_into(df1, df2, where = i)
  expect_named(at_pos(1), c("X", "Y", "a", "b", "c"))
  expect_named(at_pos(2), c("a", "X", "Y", "b", "c"))
  expect_named(at_pos(3), c("a", "b", "X", "Y", "c"))
```

Test coverage https://covr.r-lib.org

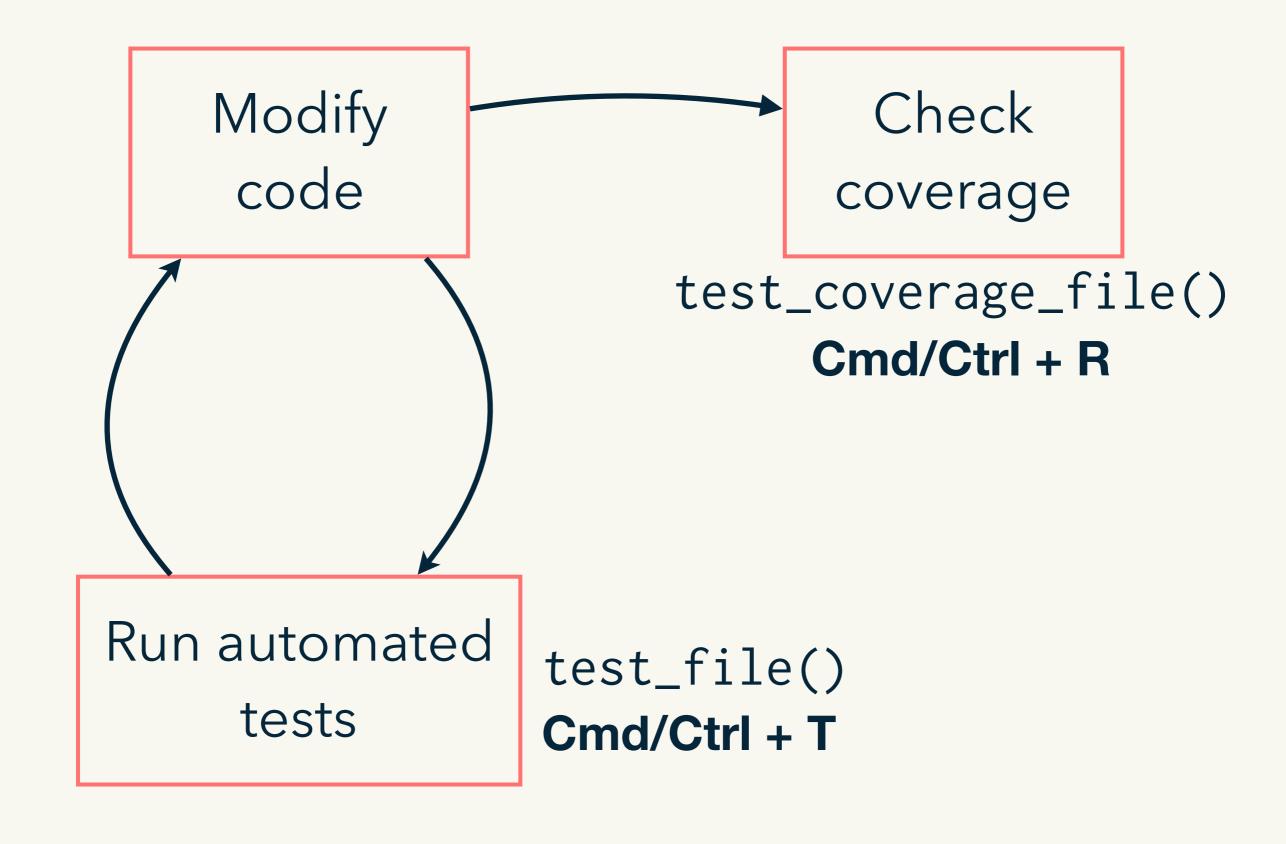
Test coverage shows you what you've tested

```
devtools::test_coverage_file()
```

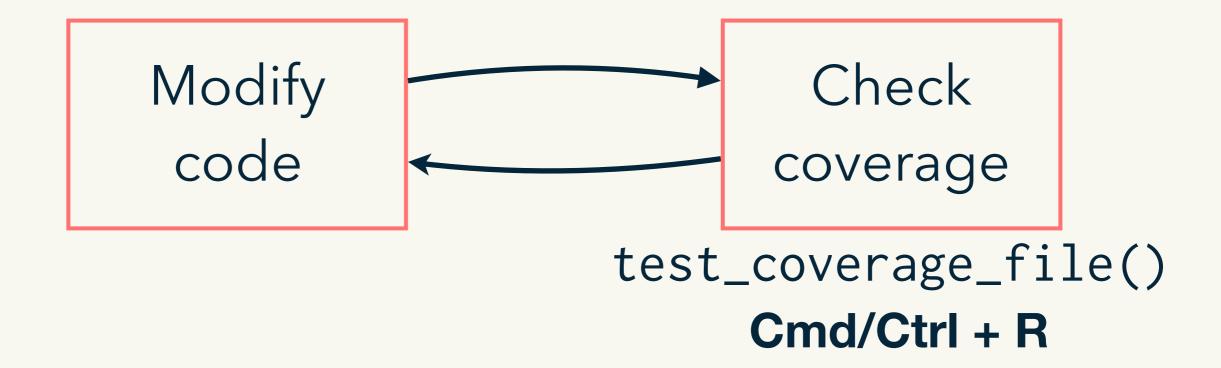
devtools::test_coverage()

usethis::use_coverage()

Guide tests with coverage

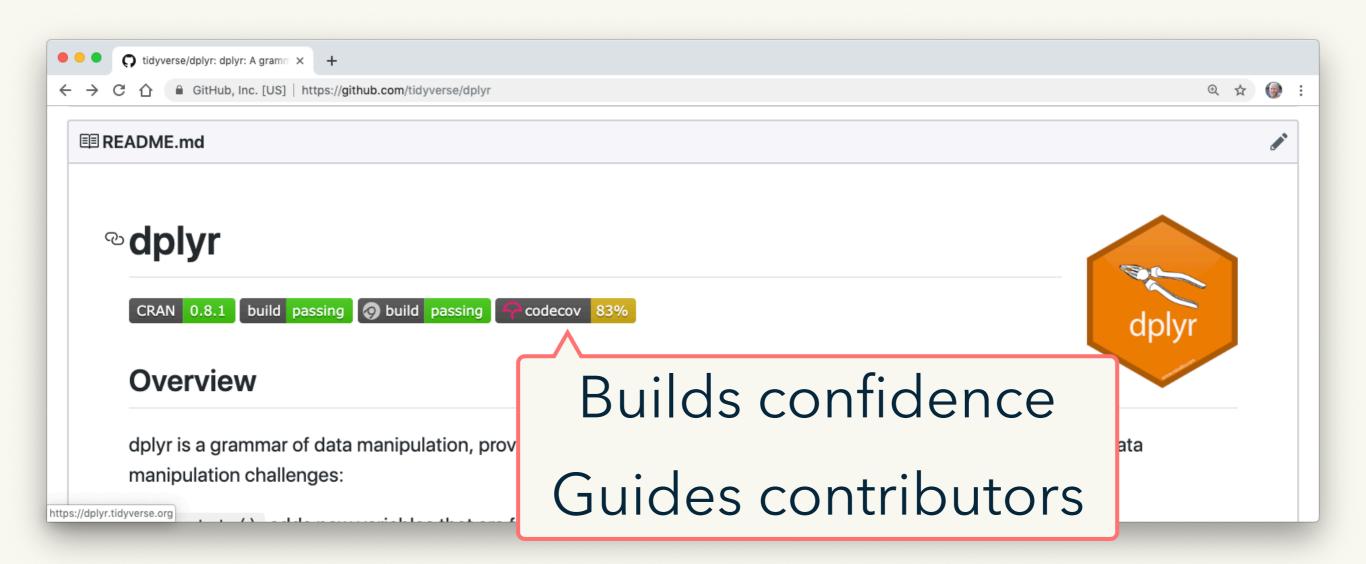


Guide tests with coverage

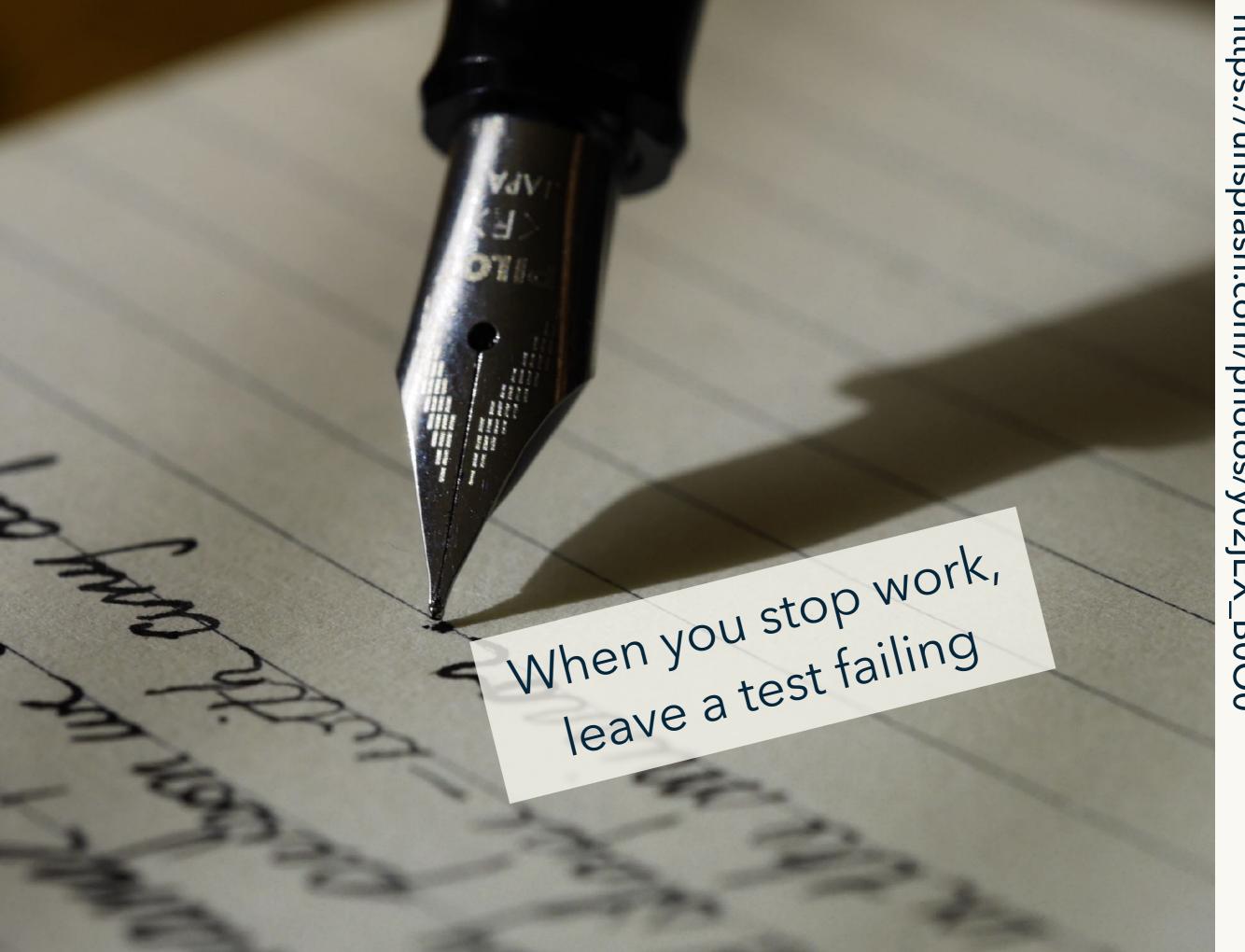


Practice the (new) workflow

```
devtools::test_coverage_file()
# Are all the lines covered (green)?
# If not add a test for the missing case
# Check you now cover all cases
```



Other advantages



add_col

Or you might start with the tests

test_file() Run automated Cmd/Ctrl + T tests Modify code

This is called test driven development (TDD)

Next challenge is to implement add_col()

```
df <- data.frame(x = 1)
add_col(df, "y", 2, where = 1)
add_col(df, "y", 2, where = 2)
add_col(df, "x", 2)</pre>
```

Most important expectation

```
expect_equal(obj, exp)
```

```
expect_equal(my_function(x, y), 1)
```

More at http://testthat.r-lib.org

```
expect_equal(my_function(x, y), 1)
out <- my_function(x, y)
# Test basic shape
expect_equal(is.list(out), TRUE)
expect_equal(length(out), 3)
# Test specific values
expect_equal(out[[1]], 10)
expect_equal(out[[2]], data.frame(x = 1))
```

More specialised expectations save typing

```
expect_equal(is.list(out), TRUE)
expect_true(is.list(out))
expect_type(out, "list")

expect_equal(length(out), 3)
expect_length(out, 3)
```

Make these tests pass

```
usethis::use_test("add_col")
# Copy this test:
test_that("where controls position", {
 df < - data.frame(x = 1)
  expect_equal(
    add_col(df, "y", 2, where = 1),
    data.frame(y = 2, x = 1)
  expect_equal(
    add_col(df, "y", 2, where = 2),
    data.frame(x = 1, y = 2)
# Run tests with keyboard shortcut
# Some hints on next slide
```

Hint: getting started

```
usethis::use_r("add_col")
# In R/add_col.R
# Start by establishing basic form of the
# function and setting up the test case.
add_col <- function(x, name, value, where) {
# Make sure that you can Cmd + T
# and get two test failures before you
# continue
# More hints on the next slide
```

Hint: add_col()

```
# You'll need to use insert_into()

# insert_into() takes two data frames and
# you have a data frame and a vector

# setNames() lets you change the names of
# data frame
```

My solution

```
# Lives in R/add_col.R
add_col <- function(x, name, value, where) {
   df <- setNames(data.frame(value), name)
   insert_into(x, df, where = where)
}</pre>
```

Make this test pass

```
# add me to test-add col.R
test_that("can replace columns", {
 df < - data.frame(x = 1)
  expect_equal(
    add_col(df, "x", 2, where = 2),
    data.frame(x = 2)
```

My solution

```
add_col <- function(x, name, value, where) {
  if (name %in% names(x)) {
    x[[name]] <- value
    x
  } else {
    df <- setNames(data.frame(value), name)
    insert_into(x, df, where = where)
  }
}</pre>
```

Make this test pass

```
# add me to test-add col.R
test_that("default where is far right", {
 df < - data.frame(x = 1)
  expect_equal(
    add_col(df, "y", 2),
    data.frame(x = 1, y = 2)
```

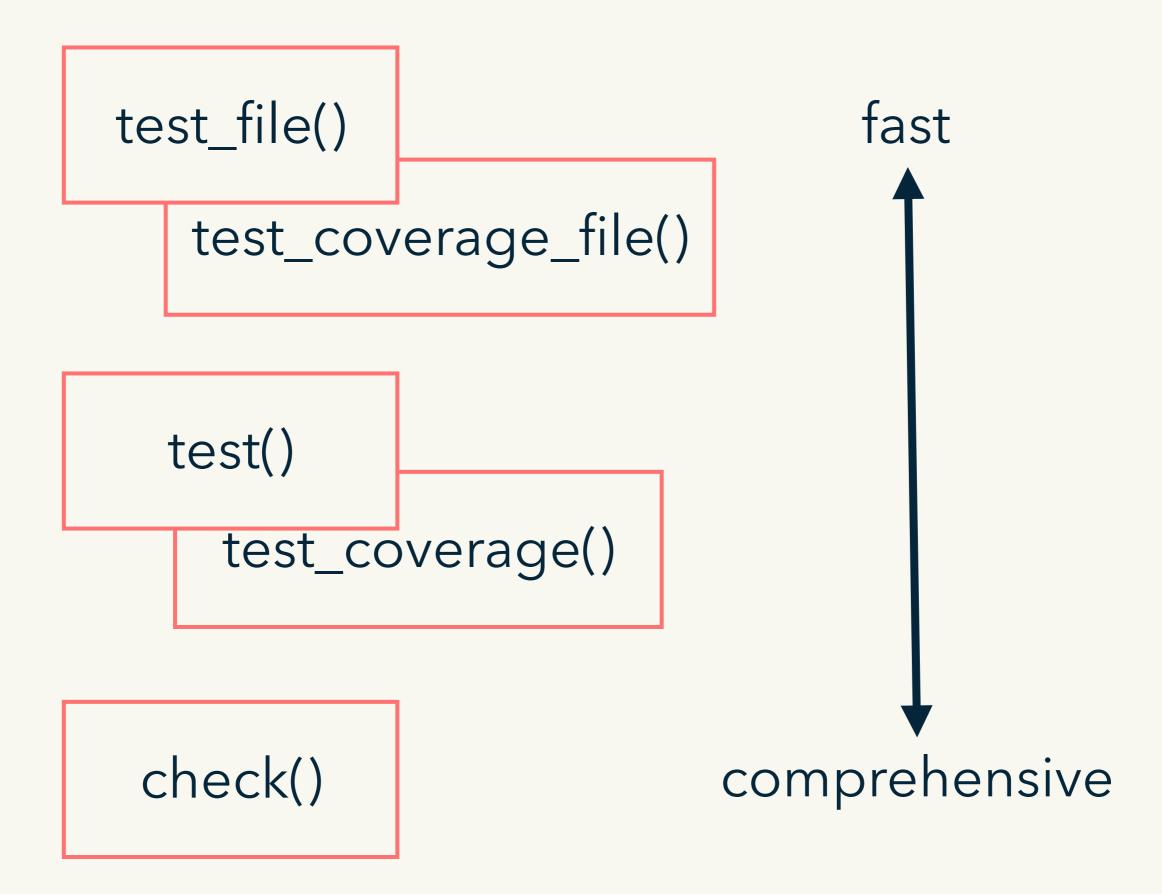
1 2		3	4
X	y	Z	
3.4	1.2	6.7	
1.9	6.1	3.1	
10.0	2.7	7.7	

My solution

```
add_col <- function(x, name, value,</pre>
                     where = ncol(x) + 1) {
  if (name %in% names(x)) {
    x[[name]] <- value
    X
  } else {
    df <- setNames(data.frame(value), name)</pre>
    insert_into(x, df, where = where)
```

What about bad inputs?

```
# We need to test for errors too
df1 < - data.frame(a = 3, b = 4, c = 5)
df2 \leftarrow data.frame(X = 1, Y = 2)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = 0)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = NA)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = 1:10)
insert_into(df1, df2, where = "a")
```



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