How to create applications using Shiny

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Barcelona, February 13-14th 2018

Part V: Advanced issues

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Outline

Part V: Advanced issues

- `observe` and `observeEvent` functions.[>]
- Updating elements[>]
- Reactive variables[>]
- `hide`, `show`, `toggle` and `disable` functions.[>]
- Exercise. [>]

observe and observeEvent functions

observeEvent

- The **observeEvent** function is meant to execute instructions inside the Server section when **one** element is changed/updated.
- All the code inside `observeEvent` will be exectued only if this element is changed.

```
server <- function(input, output){
  ...
  observeEvent(input$element,{
    ...
    instructions
    ...
  })
  ...
}
```

Example: Add a row in a stored data frame.

```
# initiate with an empty data.frame
# these first two lines must be executed just once!!
data <- data.frame(name = character(), age = numeric())
save(data, file="data.rda")

# the app begins here
ui <- fluidPage(
  textInput("name", "Name", ""),
  numericInput("age", "Age", NA),
  actionButton("add", "Add")
)

server <- function(input, output){
  observeEvent(input$add,{
    load("data.rda")
    newrow <- data.frame(name=input$name, age=input$age)
    data <- rbind(data, newrow)
    save(data, file="data.rda")
  })
}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```

Check how in “data.rda” new rows are being added.

observe

- The first argument of `observeEvent` function is a single element.
- But, what happens if you desire to execute the instructions if one out of **several** elements change?
- Then **observe** function is used instead of `observeEvent`. You can use `isolate`.

```
server <- function(input, output){
  ...
  observe({
    input$element1
    input$element2
    isolate({
      instructions
    })
  })
  ...
}
```

Example

The code is executed when "age" or "chol" inputs elements are udpated.

```
library(shinyFeedback)

ui <- fluidPage(
  useShinyFeedback(),

  numericInput("age", "Age", NA),
  numericInput("chol", "Cholesterol", NA)

)

server <- function(input, output) {

  observe({
   feedback("age", condition=input$age<30,
      text="Age must be > 30", color="red")
   feedback("chol", condition=input$chol>1000,
      text="Cholesterol must be < 1000", color="red")
  })

}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```

Updating elements

Updating elements

- Unlike `uiOUtput / renderUI`, using the **`update***`** functions only those specified arguments are modified and the others remain as they are.
- **`update***`** functions are used inside Server section.
- Specifically, they are called inside `observe` or `observeEvent`.
- Note the argument **`session`** when defining Server function.

Initialization	Update	Modifiable arguments
textInput	updateTextInput	label, value
numericInput	updateNumericInput	label, value
checkboxInput	updateCheckboxInput	label, value
radioButtons	updateRadioButtons	label, choices, selected, inline
selectInput	updateSelectInput	label, choices, selected
sliderInput	updateSliderInput	label, value, min, max, step
actionButton	updateActionButton	label, icon
bsButton {shinyBS}	updateButton	label, icon, style, disabled

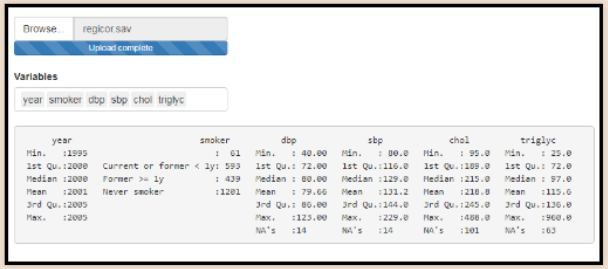
Example: Add a row in a stored data frame

Let's recover a previous example but now input elements are re-seted once “add” button is pressed.

```
data <- data.frame(name = character(), age = numeric())
save(data, file="data.rda")

ui <- fluidPage(
  textInput("name", "Name", ""),
  numericInput("age", "Age", NA),
  actionButton("add", "Add")
)

server <- function(input, output, session){
  observeEvent(input$add,{
    load("data.rda")
    newrow <- data.frame(name=input$name, age=input$age)
    data <- rbind(data, newrow)
    save(data, file="data.rda")
    # re-set input elements to blank
    updateTextInput(session, "name", value="")
    updateNumericInput(session, "age", value=NA)
  })
}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```

Example: variable list

```
library(Hmisc)

ui <- fluidPage(
  fileInput("file", ""),

  selectInput("vars", "Variables", choices=NULL,
              multiple=TRUE),

  verbatimTextOutput("summary")
)

server <- function(input, output, session){
  dat <- reactive({
    if (is.null(input$file))
      return(invisible(NULL))
    spss.get(input$file$datapath)
  })
  output$summary <- renderPrint({
    summary(dat()[,input$vars])
  })

  observe({
    updateSelectInput(session, "vars",
                      choices = names(dat()))
  })

}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```



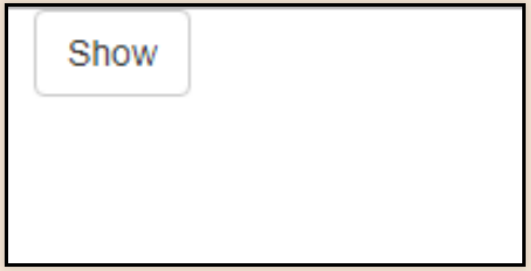
Exercise: use renderUI and uiOutput

Example 2: Button (style)

```
library(shinyBS)

ui <- fluidPage(
  passwordInput("pass", "Password"),
  bsButton("check", "Check", style="info")
)

server <- function(input, output, session){

  observeEvent(input$check, {
    if (input$pass=='')
      updateButton(session, "check", style="warning")
    else {
      if (input$pass=='123')
        updateButton(session, "check", style="success")
      else
        updateButton(session, "check", style="danger")
    }
  })

}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```

Example 2: Button (label)

```
ui <- fluidPage(
  actionButton("help", "Hide", width = "60px"),
  conditionalPanel(
    condition = "input.help%2==0",
    helpText("this is an explanation.")
  )
)

server <- function(input, output, session){

  observeEvent(input$help, {
    if (input$help%%2==0)
      updateActionButton(session, "help", label="Hide")
    else {
      updateActionButton(session, "help", label="Show")
    }
  })

}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```



Reactive variables

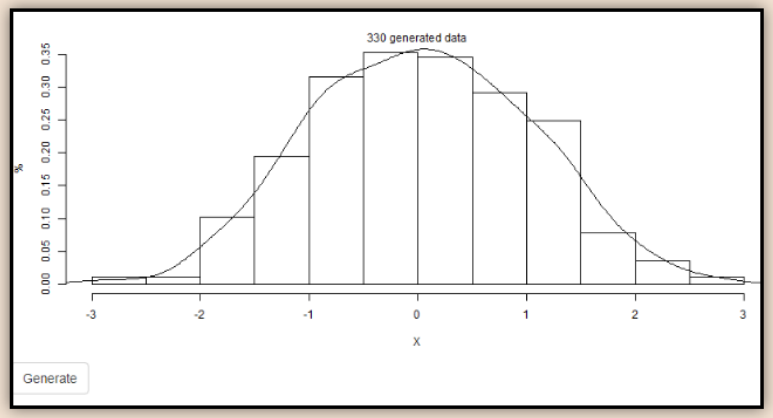
Reactive variables

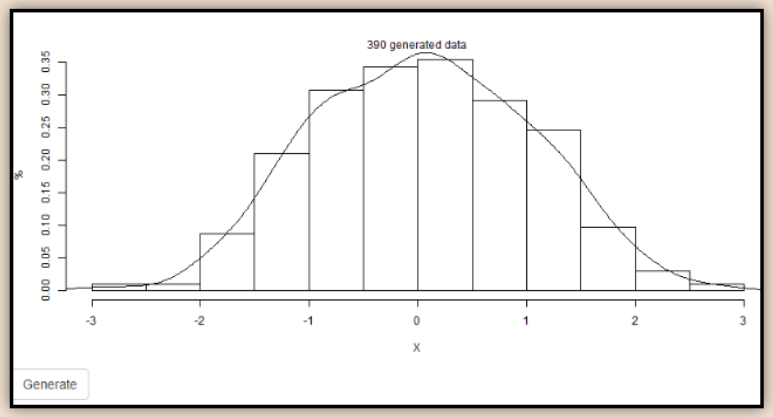
- **Reactive variables** are objects whose values are modified in a "reactive" way
- They exists inside the server section.
- Every *reactive values* type object is an element of a list which is iniciated using **`reactiveValues`** function.

```
server <- function(input, output){

  rv <- reactiveValues()
  rv$element <- 0
  ...

}
```

Example 1: Cumulating data plot

- Generate data from a normal distribution when pressing a button.
- The generated data must be added to already generated ones.
- Plot an histogram with all the cumulated data.



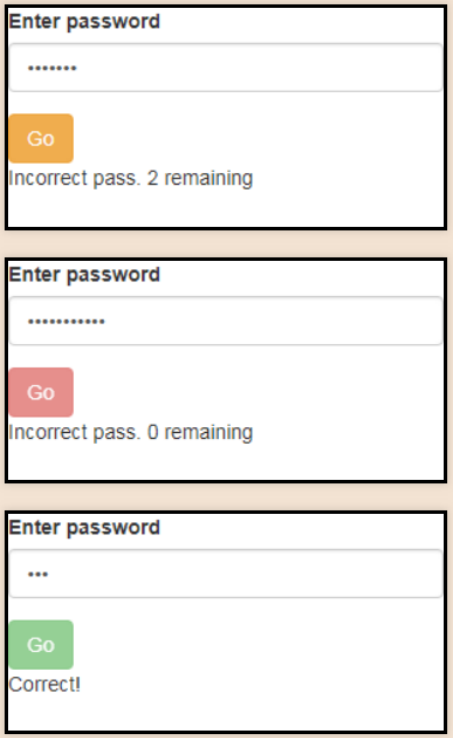


```
ui<-bootstrapPage(
  plotOutput("plot"),
  actionButton("go", "Generate")
)

server<-function(input,output){

  rv <- reactiveValues()
  rv$numbers <- numeric()

  observeEvent(input$go,{
    rv$numbers <- c(rv$numbers,rnorm(10))
  })

  output$plot <- renderPlot({
    if (length(rv$numbers)==0) return(invisible(NULL)) # no data yet
    hist(rv$numbers, freq=FALSE, xlab="X", ylab="%",main="")
    lines(density(rv$numbers))
    mtext(paste(length(rv$numbers), "generated data"))
  })
}

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

Note that `renderPlot` is executed when `rv$numbers` change.

Example 2: Enter a password

- Once the password is typed, check it by pressing a button.
- When 3 attempts are achieved without success, the button must be disabled and coloured in red.
- If the password is correct the button must be disabled and coloured in green.
- The number of attempts will be stored in a reactive element (`reactiveValues`).



```
library(shinyBS)
pass<-"123"

ui<-bootstrapPage(
  passwordInput("idpass","Enter password",""),
  bsButton("idbutton", "Go"),
  uiOutput("result")
)

server<-function(input,output,session){
  # iniciate number of attempts to 3
  rv <- reactiveValues(attempts=3)
  # do something when check buttonis pressed
  observeEvent(input$idbutton,{
    if (input$idpass == "") # no attempts yet
      updateButton(session,"idbutton",style="info")
    if (input$idpass!="" & input$idpass!=pass){ # incorrect password
      rv$attempts<<-rv$attempts-1
      if (rv$attempts == 0){ # no attempts remaining
        updateButton(session,"idbutton",style="danger",disabled=TRUE)
      } else { # only 1 remaining attempt
        updateButton(session,"idbutton",style="warning",disabled=FALSE)
      }
    }
    if (input$idpass==pass){
      updateButton(session,"idbutton",style="success",disabled=TRUE)
    }
  })

  output$result<-renderUI({
    if (input$idbutton==0) return(invisible(NULL))
    isolate({
      if (input$idpass!="" & input$idpass!=pass)
        return(paste("\n\nIncorrect pass. ",rv$attempts,"remaining"))
      if (input$idpass=="")
        return("\n\nEnter pass")
      if (input$idpass==pass){
        return("\n\nCorrect!")
      }
    })
  })
}

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

Toggle, show, hide & disable

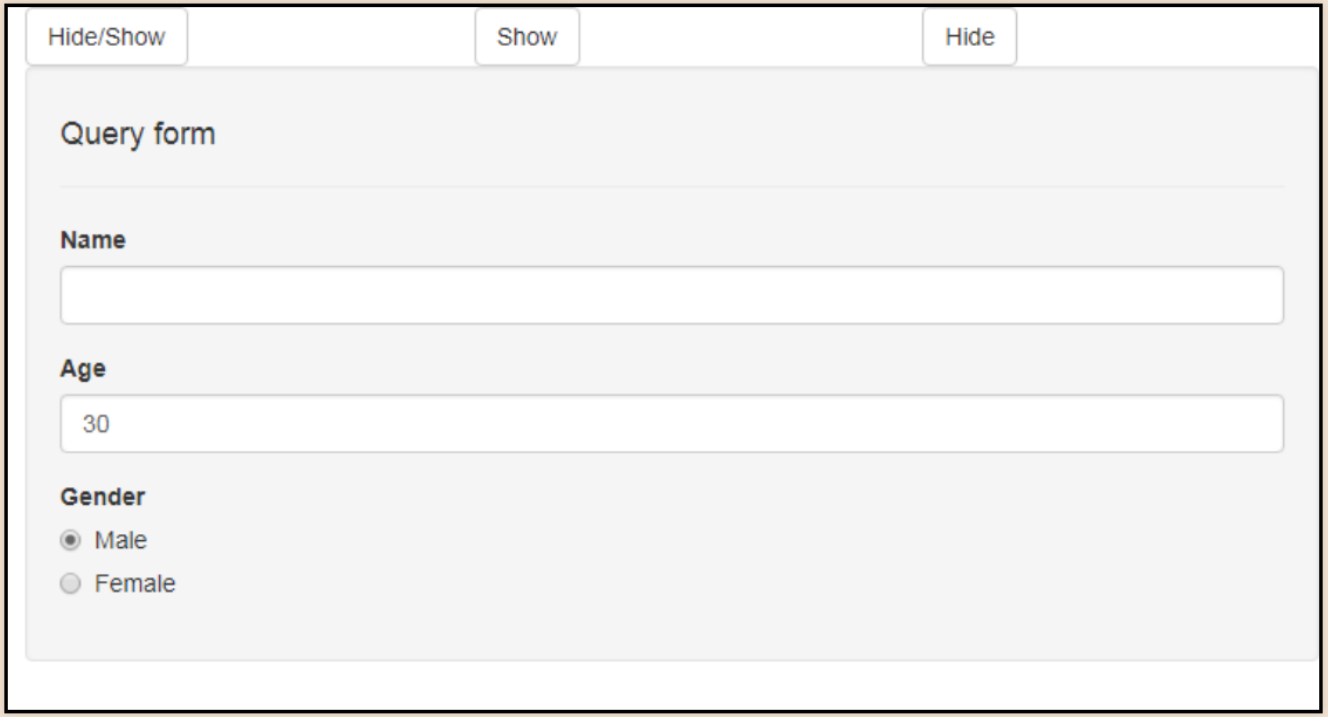
Toggle, show, hide & disable

- The **shinyjs** package, among other features, allows:
  - Hide/Show form widgets (`hide`, `show`, `toggle`)
  - Enable or disable buttons or other input widgets (`disable`)
- It is available on CRAN:

```
install.packages(shinyjs)
```

- For more info, visit its website.

Example 1. Buttons (hide, show, toggle)



UI

```
ui <- fluidPage(

  useShinyjs(), # Set up shinyjs

  fluidRow(
    column(4, actionButton("btntoggle",
                           "Hide/Show")),
    column(4, actionButton("btnshow", "Show")),
    column(4, actionButton("btnhide", "Hide"))
  ),

  hidden(
    wellPanel(id="elem",
      h4("Query form"),
      hr(),
      textInput("name", "Name", ""),
      numericInput("age", "Age", 30),
      radioButtons("gender", "Gender",
                   c("Male", "Female"))
    )
  )
)
```

Server

```
server <- function(input, output) {

  observeEvent(input$btntoggle, {
    shinyjs::toggle("elem", TRUE, "fade")
  })

  observeEvent(input$btnshow, {
    shinyjs::show("elem", TRUE, "slide")
  })

  observeEvent(input$btnhide, {
    shinyjs::hide("elem", FALSE)
  })

}
```

Example 2. Password

1. Make the app visible only if the password is correct.
2. Once the correct password is introduced the password input widget and the check button must disapear

```
ui <- fluidPage(

  useShinyjs(),

  div(id="passScreen",
    passwordInput("pass","Password",""),
    actionButton("check","Check")
  ),

  shinyjs::hidden(
    div(id="myapp",
      titlePanel("Hello Shiny!"),
      sidebarLayout(
        sidebarPanel(
          sliderInput("obs","Number obs.",
              min=1,max=1000,value=500)
        ),
        mainPanel(
          plotOutput("distPlot")
        )
      )
    )
  )
)
```

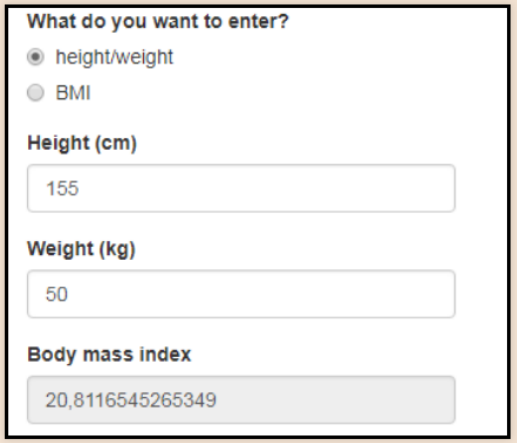
```
server <- function(input, output) {

  observeEvent(input$check, {
    if (input$pass=='123'){
      shinyjs::show("myapp", FALSE)
      shinyjs::hide("passScreen", FALSE)
    } else {
      shinyjs::hide("myapp", FALSE)
      shinyjs::show("passScreen", FALSE)
    }
  })

  output$distPlot <- renderPlot({
    hist(rnorm(input$obs))
  })

}
```

Try it here

Example 3. Body mass index

- You can enter either weight and height or body mass index (bmi).
- If user enter height and weight, bmi input widgets must be disabled but visible and updated according to bmi formula (weight/height^2)
- If user enter bmi, height and weight input widgets must be hidden.

```
library(shinyjs)

ui <- fluidPage(
  useShinyjs(),
  radioButtons("what","What do you want to enter?",
               c("height/weight"=1, "BMI"=2)),
  numericInput("height","Height (cm)",NA),
  numericInput("weight","Weight (kg)",NA),
  numericInput("bmi","Body mass index",NA)
)

server <- function(input, output, session) {
  observe({
    if (input$what==1){
      shinyjs::disable("bmi", FALSE)
      updateNumericInput(session, "bmi",
          value=input$weight/(input$height/100)^2)
      shinyjs::show("height", FALSE)
      shinyjs::show("weight", FALSE)
    } else {
      shinyjs::enable("bmi", FALSE)
      shinyjs::hide("height", FALSE)
      shinyjs::hide("weight", FALSE)
    }
  })
}

shinyApp(ui, server)
```



Exercise

Exercise

From the app created in part IV:

- Add a password that be hidden once the pass is correct (123)

Try it here