

11: Crafting Reports

Environmental Data Analytics | John Fay & Luana Lima | Developed by Kateri Salk

Spring 2022

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 *highly* flexible with multiple output formats
- R markdown works with **multiple languages**
- R markdown allows for *customization* of code and outputs
- Relatively shallow learning curve - even I could do it!

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)

Table: Datasets used in this class.

Dataset Name	Content of dataset
NIWO Litter	Data of litter weight and location from a Rocky Mountain forest
NTL-LTER Lake Data	Physical or chemical data for a series of lakes in the Upper Midwest
EPA Ozone Data	Air quality data for 2018 and '19 at multiple sites in NC

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.

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

```
Lake_nutrients_processed <- Lake_nutrients_raw %>%
  select(-c(lakeid, depth_id, comments)) %>% #choose our columns
  filter(depth == 0) %>%
  drop_na() #remove NAs
```

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: Nitrogen Summary by Lake

lakename	Mean_N	Min_N	Max_N	StDev_N
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: Phosphorus Summary by Lake

lakename	Mean_P	Min_P	Max_P	StDev_P
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.

```
## `geom_smooth()` using method = 'loess' and formula 'y ~ x'

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : span too small. fewer data values than degrees of freedom.

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : pseudoinverse used at 10753

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : neighborhood radius 34.35

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : reciprocal condition number 0

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : There are other near singularities as well. 1321.3

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : span too small. fewer data values than degrees of freedom.

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : pseudoinverse used at 10736

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : neighborhood radius 56.42

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : reciprocal condition number 0

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : There are other near singularities as well. 3183.2

## `geom_smooth()` using method = 'loess' and formula 'y ~ x'

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : span too small. fewer data values than degrees of freedom.

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : pseudoinverse used at 10753

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : neighborhood radius 34.35

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : reciprocal condition number 0

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : There are other near singularities as well. 1321.3

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : span too small. fewer data values than degrees of freedom.

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : pseudoinverse used at 10736

## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : neighborhood radius 56.42
```

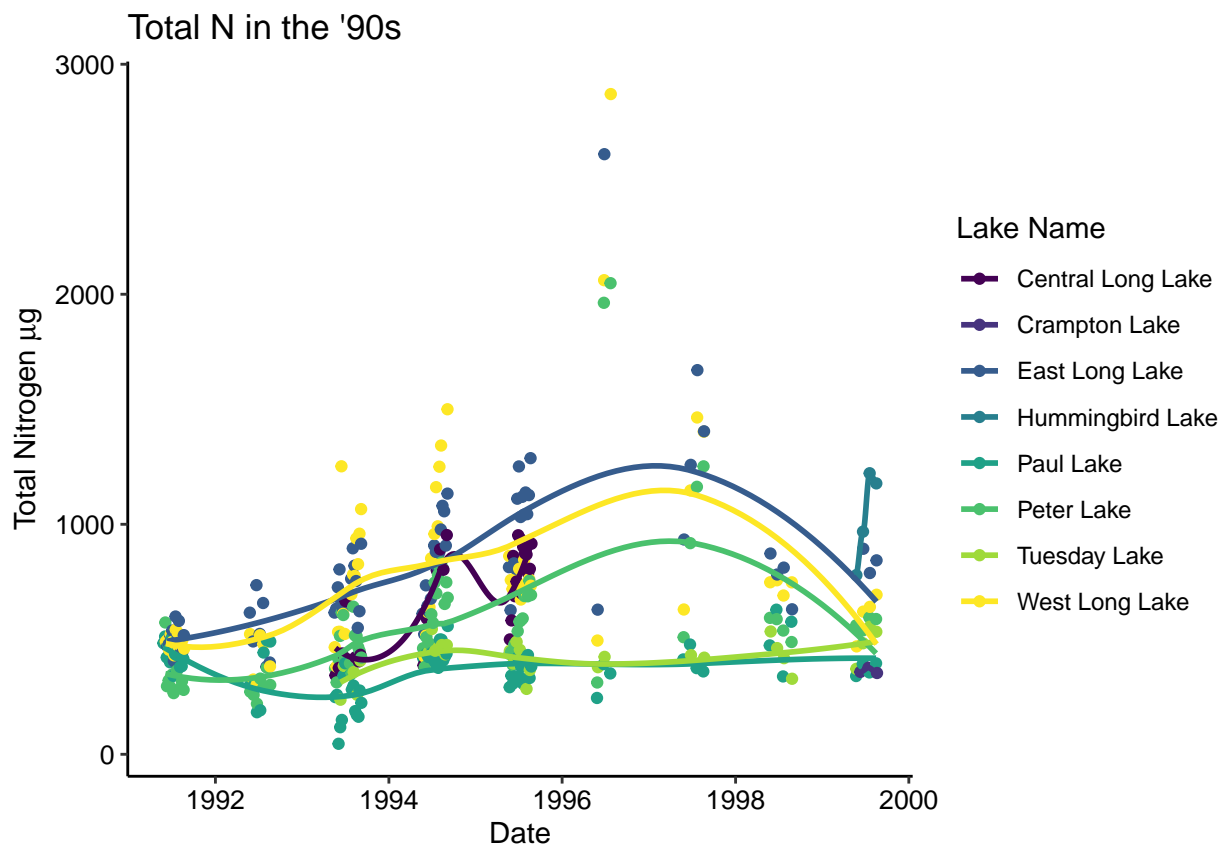


Figure 1: Total Nitrogen

```
## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : reciprocal condition number 0
## Warning in simpleLoess(y, x, w, span, degree = degree, parametric =
## parametric, : There are other near singularities as well. 3183.2
```

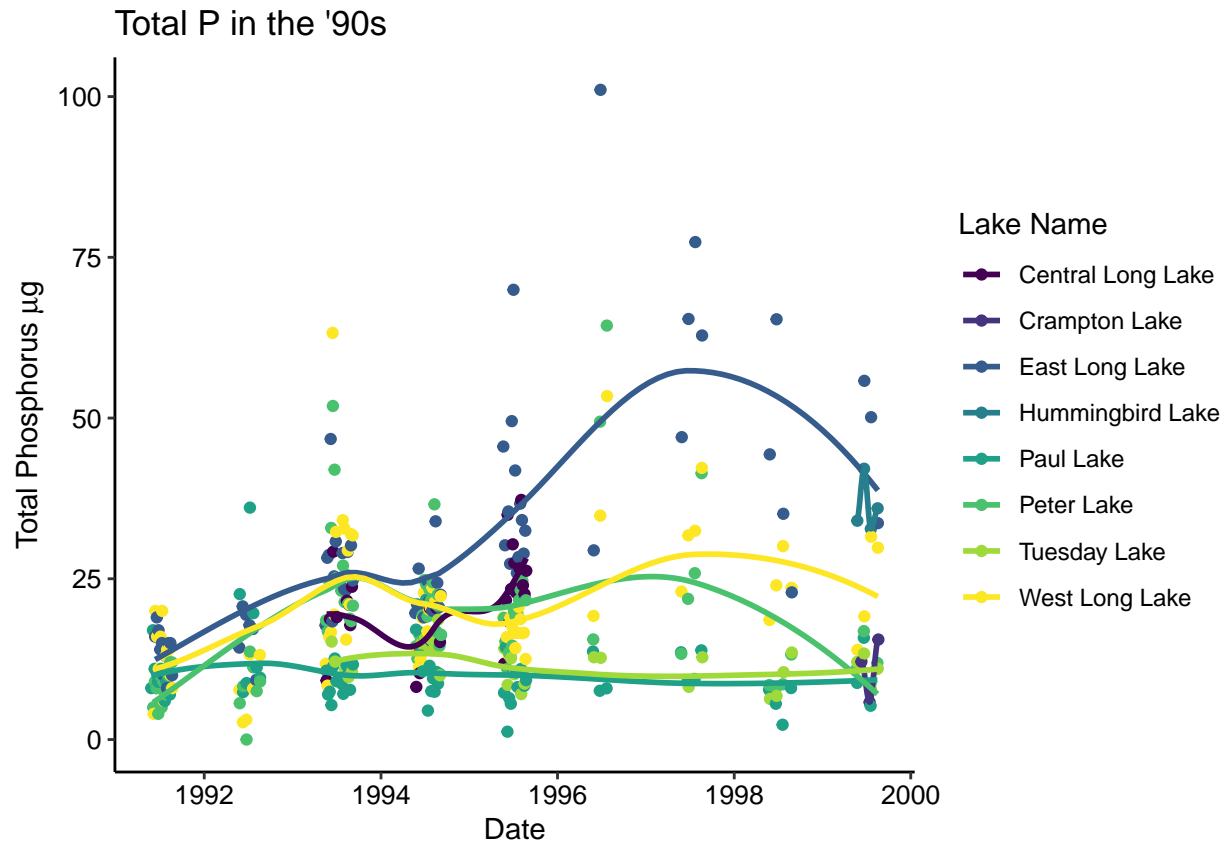


Figure 2: Total Phosphorus

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?

The lakes in the NTL-LTER study display shifts in nutrient availability over time, specifically in the amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus present. Total nitrogen amounts have remained relatively the same in Tuesday and Paul Lakes between 1990 and 2000. The other lakes all saw an increase in Nitrogen availability through 1997, and then a rapid decrease up to 2000, especially in West Long, East Long, and Peter Lakes. A similar pattern can be observed with total phosphorus availability, with a general increase up to 1997 in some lakes followed by a decrease, while other lakes exhibited little change.

To follow up on these initial findings, several analyses can be done to further parse out the scale, severity, and reason behind the patterns seen in this data. Initially, an analysis of each lake's change in nutrient concentrations relative to its starting point would answer the questions of scale and severity in the change in nutrient amounts in the lakes. The next would be to look at other aspects of the lakes during this time frame to attempt to determine maybe what caused this shift and what was subsequently done to remedy the increase back to lower levels of nutrients. Conditions such as temperature and turbidity could be examined as well as historical records of land use nearby or directly upstream would potentially yield answers as to where these nutrients came from and why they affected some, but not all of the lakes in the study.

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:
```