

How to Name Files Like a Normie

↗ pos.it/how-to-name-files

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Check out Jason Bourne, 6 minutes in!

- 05 - SPEARFISH
- 06 - LARX
- 07 - OUTCOME
- 08 - EMERALD LAKE
- 09 - BLACKBRIAR
- 10 - TREADSTONE

Pick a filename convention
Any convention
Just pick one



NO

myabstract.docx
Jane's Filenames Use “Spaces” & Punctuation ;).xlsx
figure 1.png
JW7d^ (2sl@deletethisandyourcareerisoverWx2*.txt

YES

2022-09-24_abstract-for-normconf.docx
janes-filenames-are-getting-better.xlsx
fig01_scatterplot-talk-length-vs-interest.png
1986-01-28_raw-data-from-challenger-o-rings.txt

good file names are ...

- machine readable
- human readable
- sorted in a useful way

globbing

```
> ls  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A01.csv  
...  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv  
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A01.csv  
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A02.csv  
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv  
...  
  
> ls *Plasmid*  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_A01.csv  
...  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H02.csv  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_H03.csv  
2013-06-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction_platefile.csv
```

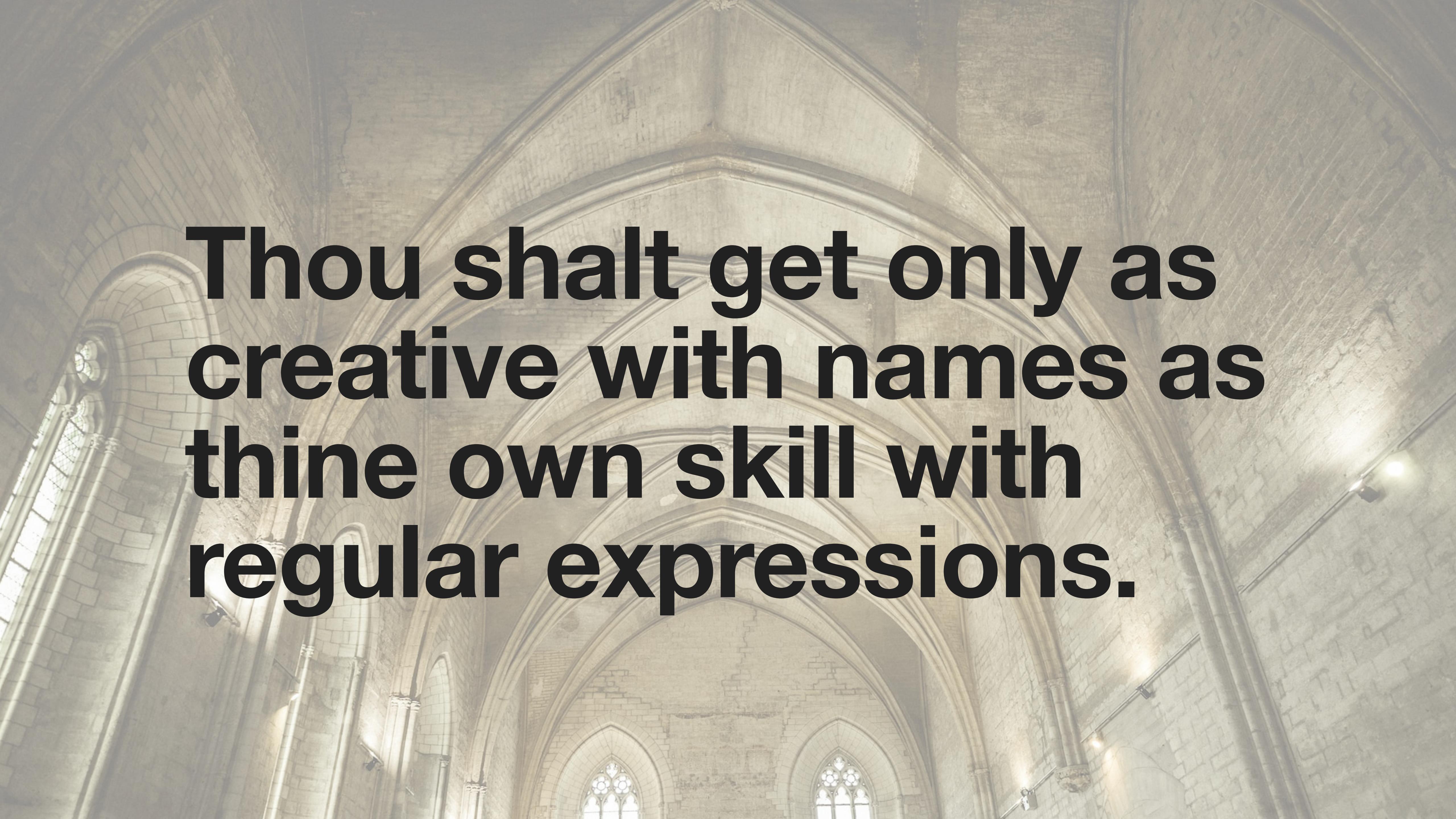
regular expressions

```
2014-02-26_BRAFWTNEGASSAY_FFPEDNA-CRC-1-41_A03.csv
```

```
tibble(filenames) |>
  separate_wider_delim(
    filenames,
    delim = regex("_[\\\\.]"),
    names = c("date", "assay", "line", "well", NA)
  )
#> # A tibble: 25 × 4
#>   date       assay      line      well
#>   <chr>     <chr>     <chr>     <chr>
#> 1 2013-06-26 BRAFWTNEGASSAY Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction A01
#> 2 2013-06-26 BRAFWTNEGASSAY Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction A02
#> 3 2013-06-26 BRAFWTNEGASSAY Plasmid-Cellline-100-1MutantFraction A03
...

```

- _ Underscore to delimit fields
- Hyphen to delimit words within fields



Thou shalt get only as
creative with names as
thine own skill with
regular expressions.

machine readable

- regular expression and globbing friendly
 - avoid spaces, punctuation, accented characters, case sensitivity
- easy to compute on
 - deliberate use of delimiters



01.md
01.R
02.md
02.R
03.md
03.R
04.md
04.R
9.md
90.R
figure/
helpers.R
Makefile



01_marshall-data.md
01_marshall-data.R
02_pre-dea-filtering.md
02_pre-dea-filtering.R
03_dea-with-limma-voom.md
03_dea-with-limma-voom.R
04_explore-dea-results.md
04_explore-dea-results.R
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.md
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.R
figure/
helper01_load-counts.R
helper02_load-exp-des.R
helper03_load-focus-statinf.R
helper04_extract-and-tidy.R
Makefile

embrace the slug

01_marshall-data.R

02_pre-dea-filtering.R

03_dea-with-limma-voom.R

04_explore-dea-results.R



human readable

- make it easy to guess what the heck something is, based on its name

logical

01_marshall-data.R
02_pre-dea-filtering.R
03_dea-with-limma-voom.R
04_explore-dea-results.R
90_limma-model-term-name-fiasco.R
figure/
helper01_load-counts.R
helper02_load-exp-des.R
helper03_load-focus-statinf.R
helper04_extract-and-tidy.R
Makefile

chronological

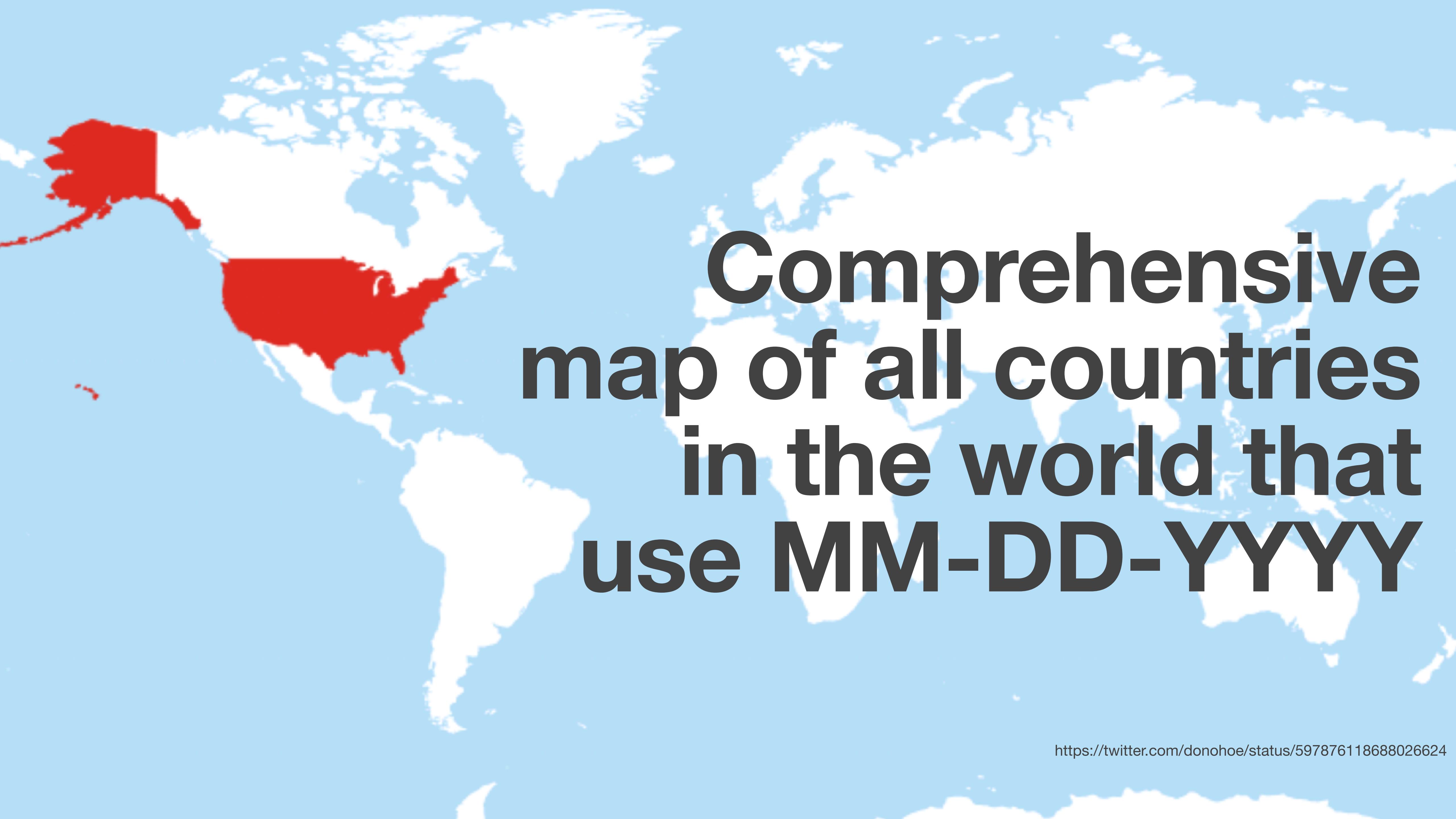
2015-11-09_package-installation.R
2015-12-23_package-installation.R
2016-05-21_package-installation.R
2016-07-30_package-installation.R
2017-09-05_package-installation.R
2018-06-29_package-installation.R
2019-02-19_repair-default-library.R
2019-06-25_package-installation.R
2020-06-06_record-existing-pkgs.R
2021-06-15_git-config-analysis.R
2021-07-19_fix-https-git-urls.R
2021-08-29_git-default-branch-analysis.R
2022-08-11_rebuilding-my-user-library.R
2022-08-11_record-existing-pkgs.R

NO

```
10_final-figs-for-publication.R  
1_data-cleaning.R  
2_fit-model.R  
...
```

YES

```
01_data-cleaning.R  
02_fit-model.R  
...  
10_final-figs-for-publication.R
```



A world map background with white clouds. The contiguous United States and the state of Alaska are filled with a solid red color.

**Comprehensive
map of all countries
in the world that
use MM-DD-YYYY**

for the love of god, please

ISO 8601

2022-12-15

sorted in a useful way

- plan for alphanumeric sorting
- put something numeric-ish first-ish
- use the ISO 8601 standard for dates
- left pad numbers with zeros

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