

Introduction to Shiny

16TH Annual UT-KBRIN Bioinformatics Summit 2017

Presenter: Joshua Lambert

joshua.lambert@uky.edu

twitter.com/joshuawlambert

github.com/joshuawlambert

Friday April 21, 2017

First Let's Install Shiny in RStudio!

```
install.packages("shiny")  
library(shiny)
```

- ▶ Also, you can click on the packages tab in RStudio, then Install Button, then type "Shiny", then "Install"
- ▶ 10 people, CRAN, Steve Jobs
- ▶ More on shinyFSA.org, R package: ***install.packages("rFSA",type="source")***

What is Shiny?

***Shiny** is an open source **R** package that provides an elegant and powerful web framework for building web applications using **R**. Shiny helps you turn your analyses into interactive web applications without requiring HTML, CSS, or JavaScript knowledge. -- RStudio.com*

- ▶ These *apps* can be deployed locally, on the web, or on your own server.
- ▶ Users with a basic familiarity with **R** can create applications within **RStudio** easily and deploy them for free at <http://www.shinyapps.io/>.
- ▶ Visit Shiny Gallery, ShowMeShiny.com, or Dean Attali to see some neat examples and generate ideas about how Shiny can help you present your data and research questions in unique ways.
- ▶ RStudio offers many tutorials and there is a very active Shiny Google Group where you can post questions to Rstudio staff and other users.

Shiny App Basics

- ▶ Every* Shiny Application has two files: `ui.R` and `server.R`.
1. ***ui.R*** is an *R* file where you specify the user interface. Here you get to choose what your application will look like. Do you want a dropdown box? Or maybe a list of checkboxes for the user to select? What do you want to display? Histograms? Maps?
 2. ***server.R*** is an *R* file where server side *R* calculations are done. Complex Algorithm? Very specific Plot? That stuff goes here.
- ▶ What about a Bar Optimizer that recommends drinks based on your own bar's inventory? The choice is yours!

A Simple Shiny Example

```
library(shiny)
runExample("01_Hello")
```

- Or view source code on [Github](#)

Hello Shiny! ui.R File

```
library(shiny)

# Define UI for application that draws a histogram
shinyUI(fluidPage(

  # Application title
  titlePanel("Hello Shiny!"),

  # Sidebar with a slider input for the number of bins
  sidebarLayout(
    sidebarPanel(
      sliderInput("bins",
                  "Number of bins:",
                  min = 1,
                  max = 50,
                  value = 30)
    ),

    # Show a plot of the generated distribution
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput("distPlot")
    )
  )
))
```

Hello Shiny! server.R File

```
library(shiny)

# Define server logic required to draw a histogram
shinyServer(function(input, output) {

  # Expression that generates a histogram. The expression is
  # wrapped in a call to renderPlot to indicate that:
  #
  # 1) It is "reactive" and therefore should be automatically
  #    re-executed when inputs change
  # 2) Its output type is a plot

  output$distPlot <- renderPlot({
    x    <- faithful[, 2] # Old Faithful Geyser data
    bins <- seq(min(x), max(x), length.out = input$bins + 1)

    # draw the histogram with the specified number of bins
    hist(x, breaks = bins, col = 'darkgray', border = 'white')
  })
})
```

Inputs Types

- ▶ There are many types of inputs that you can add to your shiny app.
- ▶ To add them to your application you would simply add one of these functions to your ui.R file:
 - ▶ `actionButton` (Action Button)
 - ▶ `checkboxGroupInput` (A group of check boxes)/`checkboxInput` (A single check box)
 - ▶ `dateInput` (A calendar to aid date selection)/ `dateRangeInput` (A pair of calendars for selecting a date range)
 - ▶ `fileInput` (A file upload control wizard)
 - ▶ `helpText` (Help text that can be added to an input form)
 - ▶ `numericInput` (A field to enter numbers)
 - ▶ `radioButtons` (A set of radio buttons)
 - ▶ `selectInput` (A box with choices to select from)
 - ▶ `sliderInput` (A slider bar)
 - ▶ `submitButton` (A submit button)
 - ▶ `textInput` (A field to enter text)
- ▶ Most these functions has a required `inputId` field where you specify the name of the input. On the server side, when you want to use that input you simply use `input$NAME_OF_INPUT` to render the value the user provided.

Printing R Output to the Shiny App

- ▶ This is usually done with a function in the ui.R file assigning the outputs variable name (and other UI parameters) and an assignment of R procedures to that will produce the output desired in the server.R file.
- ▶ Examples of Outputs are
 - ▶ Scatterplots, histograms, piecharts, bar graphs, and other things that typically go in the plots window. Use `plotOutput(ui)`, and `renderPlot(server)`.
 - ▶ Static and dynamic text, summary, and other R text statements. Use `textOutput(ui)`, and `renderText/renderPrint(server)`.
 - ▶ Images. Use `imageOutput(ui)`, and `renderImage(server)`
 - ▶ Datatables and Tables. Use `dataTableOutput/tableOutput(ui)`, and `renderDataTable/renderTable(server)`.
 - ▶ Dynamic user interface. Use `uiOutput(ui)`, and `renderUI(server)`.

Reactive Values

- ▶ If you wish to use Shiny your ultimate goal is to take inputs from the user and use those in your R code and display the results on the screen.

input values => R code => output values

- ▶ Reactive Values: change when user changes the input field or interact with the app.
- ▶ Reactive Expressions: change when any of the input fields contained in the expression change.

Creating your own application

- ▶ Allow RStudio to create the necessary folder and files to get started. You can do this by going to RSTUDIO: “File>New Project>New Directory>Shiny Web Application>” and select what you would like your app to be called, and where it should be located.
- ▶ RStudio will create a folder, with a server.R, ui.R, and .Rproj file in it.
- ▶ From here you can edit out the generic ingredients and put in new modules.

An Example

```
library(shiny)
runGitHub(repo = "KBRIN17", username = "joshuaw Lambert", subdir = "Dataset Viewer")
```

- Or View code on Github