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My Example Computed Manuscript

Created in Rmarkdown

Jeffrey M. Perkel ·

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Abstract A mock computed manuscript created in RStudio using {Rmarkdown}. The {Bookdown} and {Rticles} packages were used to output the text in Springer Nature's desired manuscript format.

Keywords

1 Introduction

"Literate programming" is a style of programming that uses computational notebooks to weave together code, explanatory text, data and results into a single document, enhancing scientific communication and computational reproducibility.[1–3] (These references were added into the document using RStudio's integration with the open-source Zotero reference manager[4] plus the Better BibTeX Zotero plugin.)

Several platforms for creating such documents exist.[5] Typically, these documents interleave code and text 'blocks' to build a computational narrative. But some, including R Markdown, Observable, and the JupyterBook extension to the Jupyter ecosystem, also allow authors to include and execute code "inline" – that is, within the text itself.

This makes it possible to create fully executable manuscripts in which the document itself computes and inserts values and figures into the text rather than requiring authors to input them manually. This is in many ways the 'killer feature' of computed manuscripts: it circumvents the possibility that the author will enter an incorrect number, or forget to update a figure or value should new data arise.

Jeffrey M. Perkel
Springer Nature, 1 New York Plaza, New York, NY
E-mail: jeffrey.perkel@nature.com

In this manuscript, created in RStudio using the R Markdown language, we will demonstrate one such example.

2 Results

2.1 Inline computation

Imagine we are analyzing data from a clinical trial. We have grouped subjects in three bins and measured the concentration of some metabolite. (These data are simulated.)

Rather than analyzing those data and then copying the results into our manuscript, we can use the programming language `R` to do that in the manuscript itself. Simply enclose the code inside backticks, with the letter `r`. For instance, to calculate the circumference and area of a circle with radius $r = 10$, you could write "A = `` `r pi * r^2` `` " and "C = `` `r 2 * pi * r` ``. Those evaluate to"A = **314.159** and C = **62.832**".

Returning to our dataset, we have **99** (simulated) subjects in our study (see Table 1; see `R/mock_data.R` for code to generate the mock dataset). The average metabolite concentration is **185.36** (range: **78 to 298**). We have **32** subjects in Group 1, **43** subjects in Group 2, and **24** in Group 3. (The numbers in **bold face type** throughout this document are computed values.)

2.2 Incorporating new data

Now suppose we get another tranche of data (Table 2). There are **60** subjects in this new dataset. Their average concentration is **185.13** (range: **77 to 299**).

Combining the two datasets, we have a total of **159** subjects. The revised average metabolite concentration is **185.28** (range: **77 to 299**). We now have **55** subjects in Group 1, **60** subjects in Group 2, and **44** in Group 3.

2.3 Plotting the data

We can also create and include figures during manuscript creation. Here we graph boxplots of our clinical trial data. The data are shown in Figure 1. Note that this figure number (as well as the table numbers above) is automatically generated.

3 Code

The following code was used to load, merge, and plot the (simulated) clinical trial data:

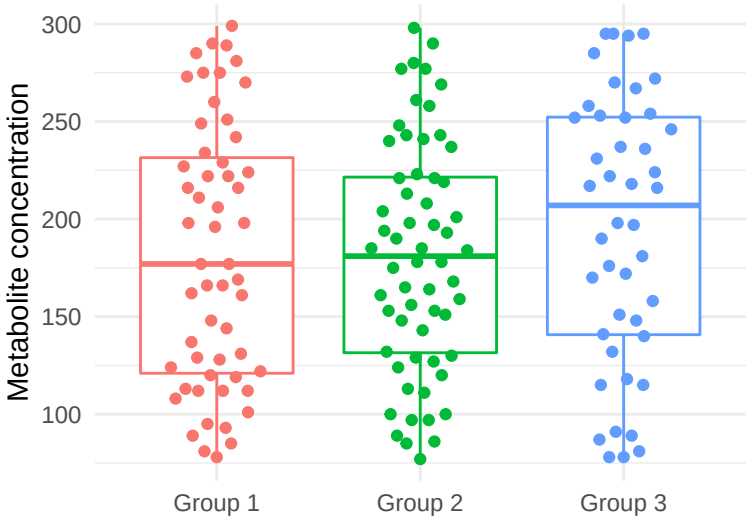

Fig. 1 Metabolite concentration of clinical trial subjects

```
# load libraries
library(tidyverse)
library(ggbeeswarm)
library(bookdown)
```

```
# read in some initial data
df1 <- read_csv('data/example-data-1.csv')
```

```
# read new dataset
df2 <- read_csv('data/example-data-2.csv')
```

```
# merge datasets
final_data <- rbind(df1, df2)
```

```
# plot the data
p <- final_data %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = class, y = conc, color = class)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  ggbeeswarm::geom_quasirandom(width = 0.25) +
  xlab("") +
  ylab("Metabolite concentration") +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(legend.position = "none")
p
```

Table 1 Initial subject data

ID	Class	Conc	—	ID	Class	Conc	—	ID	Class	Conc
ID_1	Group 2	153	—	ID_34	Group 2	221	—	ID_67	Group 3	148
ID_2	Group 1	224	—	ID_35	Group 1	112	—	ID_68	Group 1	281
ID_3	Group 2	127	—	ID_36	Group 3	246	—	ID_69	Group 3	295
ID_4	Group 2	194	—	ID_37	Group 2	190	—	ID_70	Group 2	111
ID_5	Group 1	251	—	ID_38	Group 1	177	—	ID_71	Group 2	132
ID_6	Group 1	81	—	ID_39	Group 1	148	—	ID_72	Group 2	261
ID_7	Group 2	100	—	ID_40	Group 2	290	—	ID_73	Group 1	122
ID_8	Group 1	270	—	ID_41	Group 2	151	—	ID_74	Group 2	124
ID_9	Group 2	100	—	ID_42	Group 2	159	—	ID_75	Group 1	234
ID_10	Group 1	161	—	ID_43	Group 2	113	—	ID_76	Group 2	184
ID_11	Group 3	158	—	ID_44	Group 1	249	—	ID_77	Group 3	272
ID_12	Group 3	118	—	ID_45	Group 1	124	—	ID_78	Group 1	242
ID_13	Group 2	143	—	ID_46	Group 3	87	—	ID_79	Group 2	277
ID_14	Group 2	258	—	ID_47	Group 1	166	—	ID_80	Group 3	236
ID_15	Group 3	224	—	ID_48	Group 1	196	—	ID_81	Group 1	101
ID_16	Group 3	254	—	ID_49	Group 1	112	—	ID_82	Group 3	218
ID_17	Group 3	190	—	ID_50	Group 1	289	—	ID_83	Group 2	130
ID_18	Group 2	148	—	ID_51	Group 2	161	—	ID_84	Group 1	128
ID_19	Group 1	89	—	ID_52	Group 3	270	—	ID_85	Group 3	252
ID_20	Group 2	89	—	ID_53	Group 2	237	—	ID_86	Group 1	198
ID_21	Group 3	253	—	ID_54	Group 2	280	—	ID_87	Group 1	169
ID_22	Group 3	231	—	ID_55	Group 2	175	—	ID_88	Group 2	185
ID_23	Group 1	112	—	ID_56	Group 2	223	—	ID_89	Group 1	216
ID_24	Group 2	277	—	ID_57	Group 3	295	—	ID_90	Group 2	185
ID_25	Group 2	197	—	ID_58	Group 1	275	—	ID_91	Group 2	97
ID_26	Group 2	208	—	ID_59	Group 2	120	—	ID_92	Group 2	165
ID_27	Group 2	193	—	ID_60	Group 1	78	—	ID_93	Group 3	89
ID_28	Group 3	141	—	ID_61	Group 3	78	—	ID_94	Group 2	221
ID_29	Group 1	206	—	ID_62	Group 3	140	—	ID_95	Group 1	162
ID_30	Group 2	168	—	ID_63	Group 3	294	—	ID_96	Group 1	131
ID_31	Group 2	298	—	ID_64	Group 3	295	—	ID_97	Group 1	93
ID_32	Group 1	144	—	ID_65	Group 3	285	—	ID_98	Group 2	240
ID_33	Group 2	241	—	ID_66	Group 2	129	—	ID_99	Group 2	86

4 Colophon

This manuscript was built at **14 Jan 2022 19:57:56 MST** using the following computational environment and dependencies:

```
## R version 4.0.4 (2021-02-15)
## Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin17.0 (64-bit)
## Running under: macOS Mojave 10.14.6
##
## Matrix products: default
## BLAS:   /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.0/Resources/lib/libRblas.dylib
## LAPACK: /Library/Frameworks/R.framework/Versions/4.0/Resources/lib/libRlapack.dylib
```

Table 2 New subject data

ID	Class	Conc	—	ID	Class	Conc	—	ID	Class	Conc
ID_100	Group 2	219	—	ID_120	Group 2	85	—	ID_140	Group 2	77
ID_101	Group 2	243	—	ID_121	Group 3	181	—	ID_141	Group 1	299
ID_102	Group 2	213	—	ID_122	Group 3	216	—	ID_142	Group 3	222
ID_103	Group 1	177	—	ID_123	Group 1	222	—	ID_143	Group 1	85
ID_104	Group 3	197	—	ID_124	Group 3	252	—	ID_144	Group 1	273
ID_105	Group 2	198	—	ID_125	Group 1	166	—	ID_145	Group 3	115
ID_106	Group 1	120	—	ID_126	Group 2	204	—	ID_146	Group 1	290
ID_107	Group 3	170	—	ID_127	Group 2	243	—	ID_147	Group 2	269
ID_108	Group 3	78	—	ID_128	Group 3	198	—	ID_148	Group 2	97
ID_109	Group 1	129	—	ID_129	Group 1	119	—	ID_149	Group 1	229
ID_110	Group 1	137	—	ID_130	Group 1	198	—	ID_150	Group 3	176
ID_111	Group 3	217	—	ID_131	Group 3	151	—	ID_151	Group 2	164
ID_112	Group 1	227	—	ID_132	Group 3	115	—	ID_152	Group 3	172
ID_113	Group 3	81	—	ID_133	Group 3	237	—	ID_153	Group 1	222
ID_114	Group 2	248	—	ID_134	Group 2	178	—	ID_154	Group 1	285
ID_115	Group 1	211	—	ID_135	Group 1	275	—	ID_155	Group 2	153
ID_116	Group 1	113	—	ID_136	Group 2	178	—	ID_156	Group 3	132
ID_117	Group 1	216	—	ID_137	Group 3	267	—	ID_157	Group 2	156
ID_118	Group 3	91	—	ID_138	Group 1	95	—	ID_158	Group 1	260
ID_119	Group 3	258	—	ID_139	Group 1	108	—	ID_159	Group 2	201

```
##
## locale:
## [1] en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/C/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats     graphics  grDevices utils     datasets  methods   base
##
## other attached packages:
##  [1] bookdown_0.24    ggbeeswarm_0.6.0 forcats_0.5.1    stringr_1.4.0
##  [5] dplyr_1.0.5      purrr_0.3.4      readr_2.1.1      tidyr_1.1.3
##  [9] tibble_3.1.6     ggplot2_3.3.3    tidyverse_1.3.0
##
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
##  [1] Rcpp_1.0.7       lubridate_1.8.0  assertthat_0.2.1 digest_0.6.29
##  [5] utf8_1.2.2       R6_2.5.1         cellranger_1.1.0 backports_1.2.1
##  [9] reprex_2.0.0     evaluate_0.14    highr_0.9        httr_1.4.2
## [13] pillar_1.6.4     rlang_0.4.12     readxl_1.3.1     rstudioapi_0.13
## [17] rticles_0.22     rmarkdown_2.11   labeling_0.4.2   bit_4.0.4
## [21] munsell_0.5.0    broom_0.7.6      compiler_4.0.4   vipor_0.4.5
## [25] modelr_0.1.8     xfun_0.29        pkgconfig_2.0.3  htmltools_0.5.2
## [29] tidyselect_1.1.1 fansi_1.0.0      crayon_1.4.2     tzdb_0.2.0
## [33] dbplyr_2.1.0     withr_2.4.3      grid_4.0.4       jsonlite_1.7.2
## [37] gtable_0.3.0     lifecycle_1.0.1  DBI_1.1.1        magrittr_2.0.1
```

```
## [41] scales_1.1.1     cli_3.1.0        stringi_1.7.6    vroom_1.5.7
## [45] farver_2.1.0     fs_1.5.2         xml2_1.3.3       ellipsis_0.3.2
## [49] generics_0.1.1   vctrs_0.3.8      tools_4.0.4      bit64_4.0.5
## [53] glue_1.6.0       beeswarm_0.4.0   hms_1.1.1        parallel_4.0.4
## [57] fastmap_1.1.0    yaml_2.2.1       colorspace_2.0-0 rvest_1.0.2
## [61] knitr_1.37       haven_2.3.1
```

The current Git commit details are:

```
## [76bdab3] 2022-01-14: Merge branch 'main' of github.com:jperkel/computed_manuscript into main
```

References

1. Shen, H. Interactive notebooks: Sharing the code. *Nature* **515**, 151–152 (2014).
2. Perkel, J. M. A toolkit for data transparency takes shape. *Nature* **560**, 513–515 (2018).
3. Perkel, J. M. Why Jupyter is data scientists' computational notebook of choice. *Nature* **563**, 145–146 (2018).
4. Perkel, J. M. Streamline your writing and collaborations with these reference managers. *Nature* **585**, 149–150 (2020).
5. Perkel, J. M. Reactive, reproducible, collaborative: computational notebooks evolve. *Nature* **593**, 156–157 (2021).