

Reproducible research

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Slides: `kbroman.org/Talk_JAXsymp`



Karl -- this is very interesting,
however you used an old version of
the data (n=143 rather than n=226).

I'm really sorry you did all that
work on the incomplete dataset.

Bruce

The results in Table 1 don't seem to correspond to those in Figure 2.

Where did we get this data file?

Why did I omit those samples?

Which image goes with which experiment?

How did I make that figure?

In what order do I run these scripts?

“Your script is now giving an error.”

“The attached is similar to the code we used.”

Reproducible research

organize the data and code in a way
that you can hand them to someone else
and they can re-run the code
and get the same results
(the same figures and tables)

Steps to reproducible research

- ▶ Organize your data and code
- ▶ Everything with a script
- ▶ Automate the process
- ▶ Turn scripts into reproducible reports
- ▶ Turn repeated code into functions
- ▶ Package functions for reuse
- ▶ Use version control
- ▶ License your software

Additional considerations

- ▶ Arranging data within files
- ▶ Metadata
- ▶ Sharing data and code
- ▶ Software testing
- ▶ Capturing the software environment
- ▶ Containers
- ▶ Handling large-scale computations
- ▶ Coordinating with collaborators

Challenges in collaborations

- ▶ Shared vision
- ▶ Compromise
- ▶ Coordination
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Sharing code and data
- ▶ Synchronization

Tools

- ▶ R, python
- ▶ R Markdown, Quarto, Jupyter notebooks
- ▶ GNU make, snakemake, targets
- ▶ functions and packages
- ▶ git and GitHub
- ▶ renv, conda
- ▶ docker

The most important tool is the **mindset**,
when starting, that the end product
will be reproducible.

– Keith Baggerly

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The second-most important tool is **training**.

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