Crafting Tools for Data Management and Evaluation

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${f About}$

I recall starting a new job at a nonprofit organization and noted that the organization had a license for SPSS. However, the challenge was that SPSS and the license were locked down on a worthless laptop. The cost to re-license SPSS was in the thousands and obtaining a new license did not seem worth the investment. This started my quest for alternatives to high priced statistical software.

What I did not know at this time was that nonprofit organizations have access powerful data analysis tools. It is open source software and is not a special program through Tech Soup. R and Python are available for any organization to utilize. In Facebook, and Google utilize both R and Python to analyze data. How many nonprofit organizations are even aware of this or have the capacity to take advantage of these tools?

I recall downloading opening R and having no idea what to do with it. Here is a screenshot of what one may find when opening R.

This is a *sample* book written in **Markdown**. You can use anything that Pandoc's Markdown supports; for example, a math equation $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

1.1 Usage

Each **bookdown** chapter is an .Rmd file, and each .Rmd file can contain one (and only one) chapter. A chapter *must* start with a first-level heading: # A good chapter, and can contain one (and only one) first-level heading.

Use second-level and higher headings within chapters like: ## A short section or ### An even shorter section.

The index.Rmd file is required, and is also your first book chapter. It will be the homepage when you render the book.

1.2 Render book

You can render the HTML version of this example book without changing anything:

- 1. Find the Build pane in the RStudio IDE, and
- Click on Build Book, then select your output format, or select "All formats" if you'd like to use multiple formats from the same book source files.

Or build the book from the R console:

bookdown::render_book()

To render this example to PDF as a bookdown::pdf_book, you'll need to install XeLaTeX. You are recommended to install TinyTeX (which includes XeLaTeX): https://yihui.org/tinytex/.

1.3 Preview book

As you work, you may start a local server to live preview this HTML book. This preview will update as you edit the book when you save individual .Rmd files. You can start the server in a work session by using the RStudio add-in "Preview book", or from the R console:

bookdown::serve_book()

Origin Story

A public administration technology course introduced me to databases, and building basic webpages. At the time, I was working at a nonprofit with data in multiple spreadsheets. I managed to put some critical pieces into a database and even a basic query became powerful and useful.

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Cross-references

Cross-references make it easier for your readers to find and link to elements in your book.

3.1 Chapters and sub-chapters

There are two steps to cross-reference any heading:

- 1. Label the heading: # Hello world {#nice-label}.
 - Leave the label off if you like the automated heading generated based on your heading title: for example, # Hello world = # Hello world {#hello-world}.
 - To label an un-numbered heading, use: # Hello world {-#nice-label} or {# Hello world .unnumbered}.
- 2. Next, reference the labeled heading anywhere in the text using \@ref(nice-label); for example, please see Chapter 3.
 - If you prefer text as the link instead of a numbered reference use: any text you want can go here.

3.2 Captioned figures and tables

Figures and tables with captions can also be cross-referenced from elsewhere in your book using \@ref(fig:chunk-label) and \@ref(tab:chunk-label), respectively.

See Figure 3.1.

```
par(mar = c(4, 4, .1, .1))
plot(pressure, type = 'b', pch = 19)
```



Figure 3.1: Here is a nice figure!

Don't miss Table 3.1.

```
knitr::kable(
  head(pressure, 10), caption = 'Here is a nice table!',
  booktabs = TRUE
)
```

Table 3.1: Here is a nice table!

| temperature | pressure |
|-------------|----------|
| 0 | 0.0002 |
| 20 | 0.0012 |
| 40 | 0.0060 |
| 60 | 0.0300 |
| 80 | 0.0900 |
| 100 | 0.2700 |
| 120 | 0.7500 |
| 140 | 1.8500 |
| 160 | 4.2000 |
| 180 | 8.8000 |
| | |

Parts

You can add parts to organize one or more book chapters together. Parts can be inserted at the top of an .Rmd file, before the first-level chapter heading in that same file.

Add a numbered part: # (PART) Act one {-} (followed by # A chapter)

Add an unnumbered part: # (PART*) Act one {-} (followed by # A chapter)

Add an appendix as a special kind of un-numbered part: # (APPENDIX) Other stuff {-} (followed by # A chapter). Chapters in an appendix are prepended with letters instead of numbers.

Footnotes and citations

5.1 Footnotes

Footnotes are put inside the square brackets after a caret ^[]. Like this one ¹.

5.2 Citations

Reference items in your bibliography file(s) using @key.

For example, we are using the **bookdown** package (Xie, 2021) (check out the last code chunk in index.Rmd to see how this citation key was added) in this sample book, which was built on top of R Markdown and **knitr** (Xie, 2015) (this citation was added manually in an external file book.bib). Note that the .bib files need to be listed in the index.Rmd with the YAML bibliography key.

The bs4_book theme makes footnotes appear inline when you click on them. In this example book, we added csl: chicago-fullnote-bibliography.csl to the index.Rmd YAML, and include the .csl file. To download a new style, we recommend: https://www.zotero.org/styles/

The RStudio Visual Markdown Editor can also make it easier to insert citations: https://rstudio.github.io/visual-markdown-editing/#/citations

¹This is a footnote.

Blocks

6.1 Equations

Here is an equation.

$$f\left(k\right) = \binom{n}{k} p^{k} \left(1 - p\right)^{n - k} \tag{6.1}$$

You may refer to using \@ref(eq:binom), like see Equation (6.1).

6.2 Theorems and proofs

Labeled theorems can be referenced in text using \@ref(thm:tri), for example, check out this smart theorem 6.1.

Theorem 6.1. For a right triangle, if c denotes the length of the hypotenuse and a and b denote the lengths of the **other** two sides, we have

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

 $Read\ more\ here\ https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/markdown-extensions-by-bookdown.html.$

6.3 Callout blocks

The bs4_book theme also includes special callout blocks, like this .rmdnote.

You can use markdown inside a block.

```
head(beaver1, n = 5)

#> day time temp activ

#> 1 346 840 36.33 0

#> 2 346 850 36.34 0

#> 3 346 900 36.35 0

#> 4 346 910 36.42 0

#> 5 346 920 36.55 0
```

It is up to the user to define the appearance of these blocks for LaTeX output.

You may also use: .rmdcaution, .rmdimportant, .rmdtip, or .rmdwarning as the block name.

The R Markdown Cookbook provides more help on how to use custom blocks to design your own callouts: https://bookdown.org/yihui/rmarkdown-cookbook/custom-blocks.html

Sharing your book

7.1 Publishing

HTML books can be published online, see: https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/publishing.html

7.2 404 pages

By default, users will be directed to a 404 page if they try to access a webpage that cannot be found. If you'd like to customize your 404 page instead of using the default, you may add either a _404.Rmd or _404.md file to your project root and use code and/or Markdown syntax.

7.3 Metadata for sharing

Bookdown HTML books will provide HTML metadata for social sharing on platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, using information you provide in the index.Rmd YAML. To setup, set the url for your book and the path to your cover-image file. Your book's title and description are also used.

This bs4_book provides enhanced metadata for social sharing, so that each chapter shared will have a unique description, auto-generated based on the content.

Specify your book's source repository on GitHub as the repo in the _output.yml file, which allows users to view each chapter's source file or suggest an edit. Read more about the features of this output format here:

 $https://pkgs.rstudio.com/bookdown/reference/bs4_book.html$

Or use:

?bookdown::bs4_book

Bibliography

Xie, Y. (2015). Dynamic Documents with R and knitr. Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, Florida, 2nd edition. ISBN 978-1498716963.

Xie, Y. (2021). bookdown: Authoring Books and Technical Documents with R Markdown. R package version 0.24.