11: Crafting Reports

Environmental Data Analytics | John Fay & Luana Lima | Developed by Kateri Salk

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LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the purpose of using R Markdown as a communication and workflow tool
2. Incorporate Markdown syntax into documents
3. Communicate the process and findings of an analysis session in the style of a report

USE OF R STUDIO & R MARKDOWN SO FAR...

1. Write code
2. Document that code
3. Generate PDFs of code and its outputs
4. Integrate with Git/GitHub for version control

BASIC R MARKDOWN DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

1. **YAML Header** surrounded by — on top and bottom
    - YAML templates include options for html, pdf, word, markdown, and interactive
    - More information on formatting the YAML header can be found in the cheat sheet
2. **R Code Chunks** surrounded by "`on top and bottom + Create using`Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+I'
    - Can be named {r name} to facilitate navigation and autoreferencing
    - Chunk options allow for flexibility when the code runs and when the document is knitted
3. **Text** with formatting options for readability in knitted document

RESOURCES

Handy cheat sheets for R markdown can be found: here, and here.

There's also a quick reference available via the `Help→Markdown Quick Reference` menu.

Lastly, this website give a great & thorough overview.

THE KNITTING PROCESS

- The knitting sequence 

- Knitting commands in code chunks:
- `include = FALSE` - code is run, but neither code nor results appear in knitted file
- `echo = FALSE` - code not included in knitted file, but results are

- `eval = FALSE` - code is not run in the knitted file
- `message = FALSE` - messages do not appear in knitted file
- `warning = FALSE` - warnings do not appear...
- `fig.cap = "..."` - adds a caption to graphical results

WHAT ELSE CAN R MARKDOWN DO?

See: https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com and class recording. * Languages other than R... * Various outputs...

WHY R MARKDOWN?

<Fill in our discussion below with bullet points. Use italics and bold for emphasis (hint: use the cheat sheets or `Help` →`Markdown Quick Reference` to figure out how to make bold and italic text).>

- it's written in **text**
- place to both *write* and *integrate* code
- generate PDFs of code
- integrate with Git and GitHub for version control

TEXT EDITING CHALLENGE

Create a table below that details the example datasets we have been using in class. The first column should contain the names of the datasets and the second column should include some relevant information about the datasets. (Hint: use the cheat sheets to figure out how to make a table in Rmd)

Dataset Names	Relevant Information
NEON_Litterfall	Mass data for plant functional groups from individual sampling bouts.
EPAair_PM25andO3	Data from EPA. Columns include Pollutant, Year, and Geographic Area.

R CHUNK EDITING CHALLENGE

Installing packages

Create an R chunk below that installs the package `knitr`. Instead of commenting out the code, customize the chunk options such that the code is not evaluated (i.e., not run).

```
install.packages("knitr")
```

Setup

Create an R chunk below called "setup" that checks your working directory, loads the packages `tidyverse`, `lubridate`, and `knitr`, and sets a ggplot theme. Remember that you need to disable R throwing a message, which contains a check mark that cannot be knitted.

Load the NTL-LTER_Lake_Nutrients_Raw dataset, display the head of the dataset, and set the date column to a date format.

Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but is not displayed in the final document.

Data Exploration, Wrangling, and Visualization

Create an R chunk below to create a processed dataset do the following operations:

- Include all columns except lakeid, depth_id, and comments
- Include only surface samples (depth = 0 m)
- Drop rows with missing data

```
NTL_LTER_filter<-NTL_LTER %>%
 select(lakename:sampledate, depth:po4)%>%
  filter(depth %in% 0)%>%
  drop_na()
```

Create a second R chunk to create a summary dataset with the mean, minimum, maximum, and standard deviation of total nitrogen concentrations for each lake. Create a second summary dataset that is identical except that it evaluates total phosphorus. Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but not displayed in the final document.

Create a third R chunk that uses the function `kable` in the knitr package to display two tables: one for the summary dataframe for total N and one for the summary dataframe of total P. Use the `caption = " "` code within that function to title your tables. Customize the chunk options such that the final table is displayed but not the code used to generate the table.

Table 2: Summary Statistics of Total Nitrogen (ug)

Lakename	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
Central Long Lake	690.05	343.02	953.06	209.09
Crampton Lake	362.68	353.38	376.30	12.06
East Long Lake	810.78	380.62	2608.96	335.41
Hummingbird Lake	1036.67	779.05	1221.96	204.37
Paul Lake	368.76	45.67	628.62	106.35
Peter Lake	561.88	219.72	2048.15	305.65

Table 3: Summary Statistics of Total Phosphorous (ug)

Lakename	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
Central Long Lake	21.71	8.19	37.27	7.08
Crampton Lake	11.16	5.80	15.55	4.95
East Long Lake	29.29	8.00	101.05	17.38
Hummingbird Lake	36.22	32.76	42.12	4.15
Paul Lake	10.46	1.22	36.07	4.81
Peter Lake	18.39	0.00	64.38	10.98

Create a fourth and fifth R chunk that generates two plots (one in each chunk): one for total N over time with different colors for each lake, and one with the same setup but for total P. Decide which geom option will be appropriate for your purpose, and select a color palette that is visually pleasing and accessible. Customize the chunk options such that the final figures are displayed but not the code used to generate the figures. In addition, customize the chunk options such that the figures are aligned on the left side of the page. Lastly, add a fig.cap chunk option to add a caption (title) to your plot that will display underneath the figure.

Communicating results

Write a paragraph describing your findings from the R coding challenge above. This should be geared toward an educated audience but one that is not necessarily familiar with the dataset. Then insert a horizontal rule

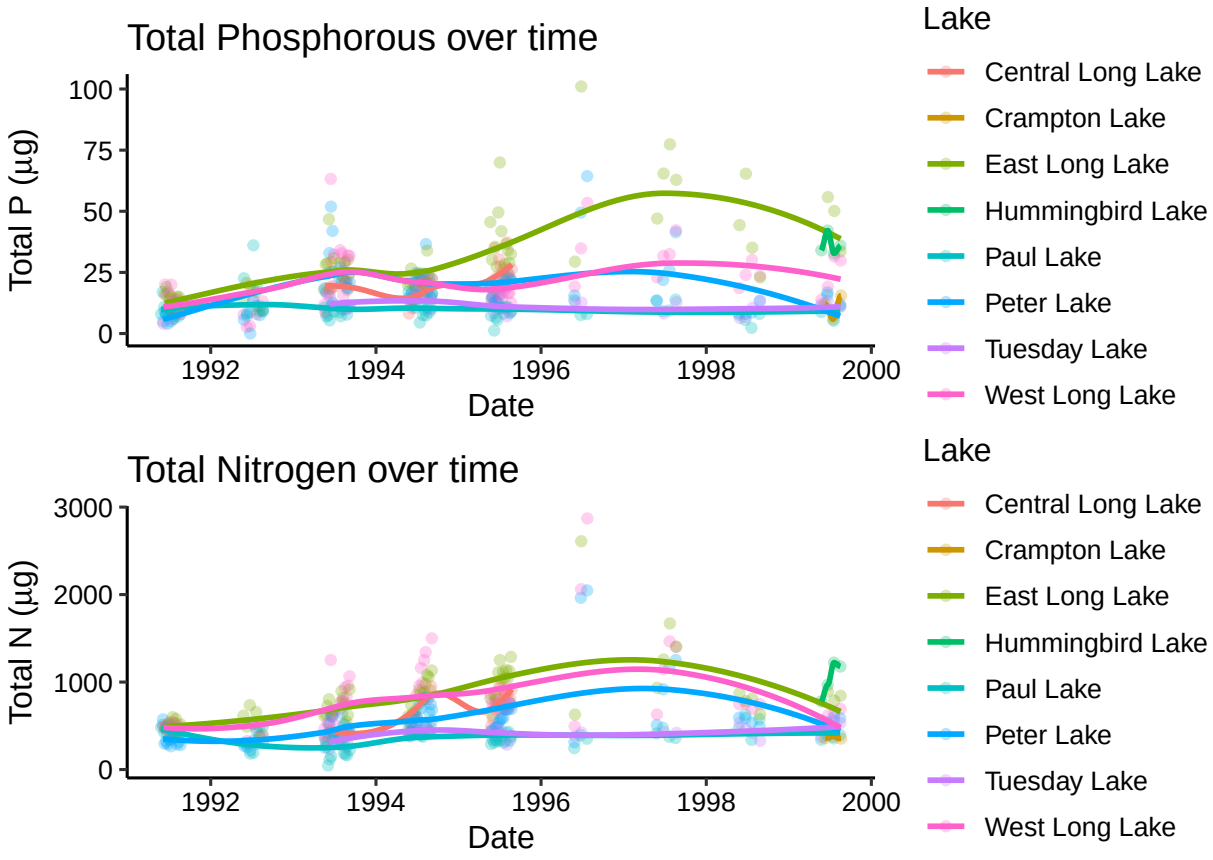

Figure 1: graphs created by Meghan Seyler April 4, 2022

below the paragraph. Below the horizontal rule, write another paragraph describing the next steps you might take in analyzing this dataset. What questions might you be able to answer, and what analyses would you conduct to answer those questions?

This challenge utilized the data from the North Temperate Lakes Long Term Ecological Research website. The data ranges from the year 1984-2000 and includes five lakes: Central Long Lake, Crampton Lake, East Long Lake, Hummingnird Lake, Paul Lake, and Peter Lake. The summary statistics demonstrate that East Long Lake has the highest mean total phosphorous, 29.29 (ug), and Hummingbird Lake has the highest mean total nitrogen 1036.67(ug). Interestingly, the phosphorous over time graphical analysis shows that east long lake phosphorous linearly increased with time from the years 1996 to 1998 and then started steadily decreasing from 1998 to 2000.The graphical analysis of nitrogen overtime reveals that the nitrogen levels of three lakes–East Long Lake, West Long Lake, and Peter Lake—all rose and fell synchronously.

For next steps in the analyses for the nitrogen data it would be interesting to see the size and locations of East Long Lake, West Long Lake and Peter Lake to try to determine what factors may have cause them to have a synchronous rise and fall of nitrogen levels. Next steps for the phosphorous data I'd like to investigate what events caused the concentrations in east lake to rise and fall so drastically before and after 1998.

KNIT YOUR PDF

When you have completed the above steps, try knitting your PDF to see if all of the formatting options you specified turned out as planned. This may take some troubleshooting.

OTHER R MARKDOWN CUSTOMIZATION OPTIONS

We have covered the basics in class today, but R Markdown offers many customization options. A word of caution: customizing templates will often require more interaction with LaTeX and installations on your computer, so be ready to troubleshoot issues.

Customization options for pdf output include:

- Table of contents
- Number sections
- Control default size of figures
- Citations
- Template (more info here)

pdf_document:
toc: true
number_sections: true
fig_height: 3
fig_width: 4
citation_package: natbib
template: