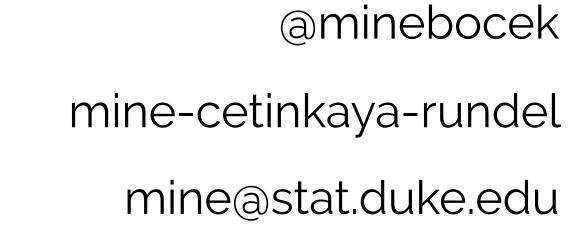
Interactive R tutorials with learnr

Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel Duke University & RStudio







Assumed background

- Assuming you know some R
- Assuming you teach R to others (though not necessarily...)

At a glance

Summarise Tables

Welcome

Summarise groups with summarise()

Combining multiple operations

Useful summary functions

Counts

Start Over

group_by()

summarise() is not terribly useful unless you pair it with group_by(). group_by() changes the unit of
analysis of the data frame: it assigns observations in the data frame to separate groups, and it instructs dplyr
to apply functions separately to each group. group_by() assigns groups by grouping together observations
that have the same combinations of values for the variables that you pass to group_by().

For example, the summarise() code above computes the average delay for the entire data set. If we apply exactly the same code to a data set that has been grouped by date (i.e. the unique combinations of year, month, and day), we get the average delay per date. Click "Run Code" to see what I mean:

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Code Start Over

1 by_day <- group_by(flights, year, month, day)
2 summarise(by_day, delay = mean(dep_delay, na.rm = TRUE),
3 total = sum(dep_delay, na.rm = TRUE))
```

Continue

narrative

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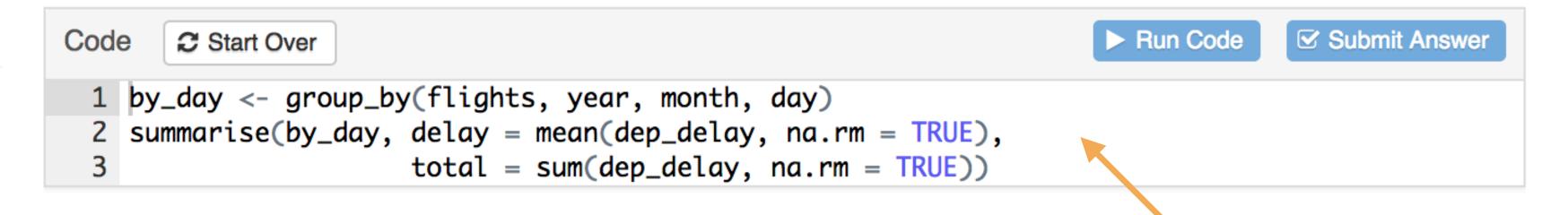
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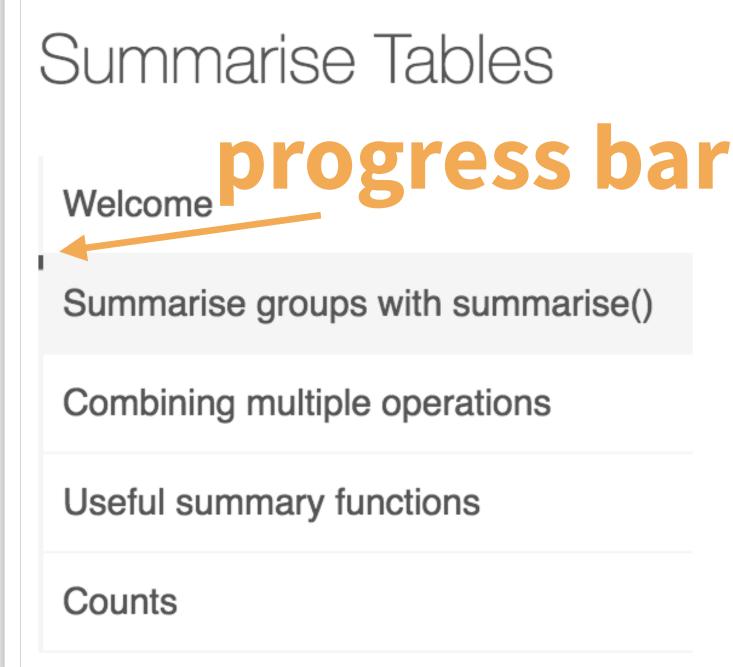
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Continue

code exercises

narrative



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code exercises

Uses

Within a course

- Flipped classroom:
 - Assign a **learnr** tutorial, including narrative and implementation in R that students can practice with, before introducing a concept in class
 - Cover the concept in class (quicker)
 - Allocate the time saved to hands on exercises in class
- Lecture follow-up
 - Provide the same content from the lecture as follow up exercises
- Lab exercises / assignments

Self learning

- Learn by doing
- Package tutorials
- Workshop follow ups

Demo

Roadmap

- Narrative, figures, illustrations, and equations
- Code exercises (R code chunks that students can edit and execute directly)
- Quiz questions
- Videos (supported services include YouTube and Vimeo)
- Interactive Shiny components

Getting started

- Follow along options:
 - Local: In RStudio, install and load the learnr package
 - Cloud: Go to XXX
- File → New File → R Markdown... → From template → Interactive Tutorial

Challenges

Code checking

- No built in code checking feature, but hooks for using other packages for code checking
 - checkr by Danny Kaplan: github.com/dtkaplan/checkr
 - grader by Garrett Grolemund: github.com/rstudioeducation/grader
- In the **setup** chunk of the tutorial: set the **exercise.checker** option to , and then add a "-check" chunk for any exercise you want to check

Recording events

- Recording events like exercise and question submissions, requests for hints/solutions, etc.
- This is possible with learnr, though not very simple
- With other R tools that allow for writing out to spreadsheets (e.g. Google Sheets) and building dashboards (e.g. shinydashboard) it's possible to build a dashboard for your class where you can track their progress and learn from what they're struggling with

Resources

Try

rstudio.cloud/learn/primers

Guide

Primers

DataCamp Courses

Cheat Sheets



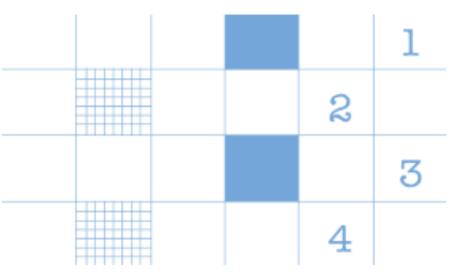
Learn data science basics with the interactive tutorials below.

The Basics



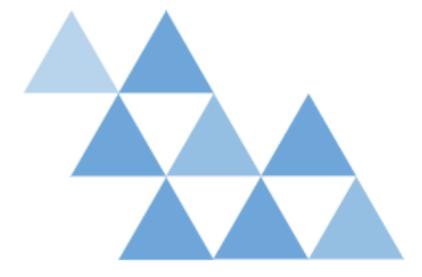
Start here to learn the skills that you will rely on in every analysis (and every primer that follows): how to inspect, visualize, subset, and transform your data, as well as how to run code.

Work with Data



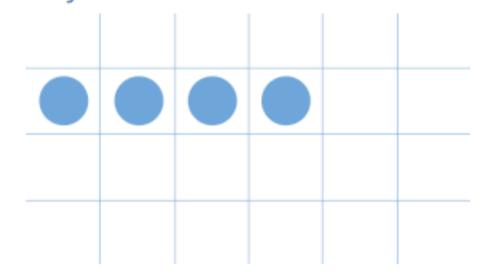
Learn the most important data handling skills in R: how to extract values from a table, subset tables, calculate summary statistics, and derive new variables.

Visualize Data



Learn how to use ggplot2 to make any type of plot with your data. Then learn the best ways to visualize patterns within values and relationships between variables.

Tidy Your Data



Unlock the tidyverse by learning how to make and use tidy data, the data format designed for R.

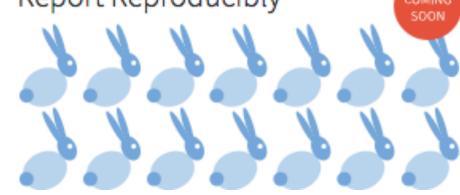
Iterate



Automate Tasks



Report Reproducibly



Build Interactive Web Apps





Build

rstudio.github.io/learnr/

learnr Home Exercises Questions Publishing Formats Examples

Overview Getting Started Tutorial Types Exercises Questions Videos Shiny Components External Resources Preserving Work Publishing

Interactive Tutorials for R

Overview

The **learnr** package makes it easy to turn any R Markdown document into an interactive tutorial. Tutorials consist of content along with interactive components for checking and reinforcing understanding. Tutorials can include any or all of the following:

- 1. Narrative, figures, illustrations, and equations.
- 2. Code exercises (R code chunks that users can edit and execute directly).
- 3. Quiz questions.
- Videos (supported services include YouTube and Vimeo).
- Interactive Shiny components.

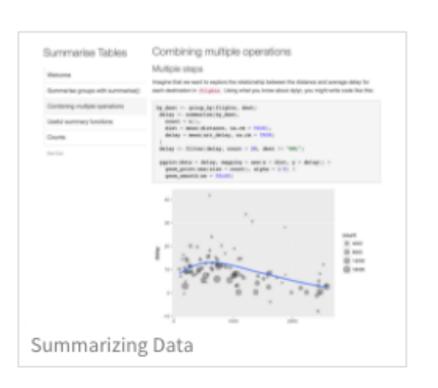
Tutorials automatically preserve work done within them, so if a user works on a few exercises or questions and returns to the tutorial later they can pick up right where they left off.

Examples

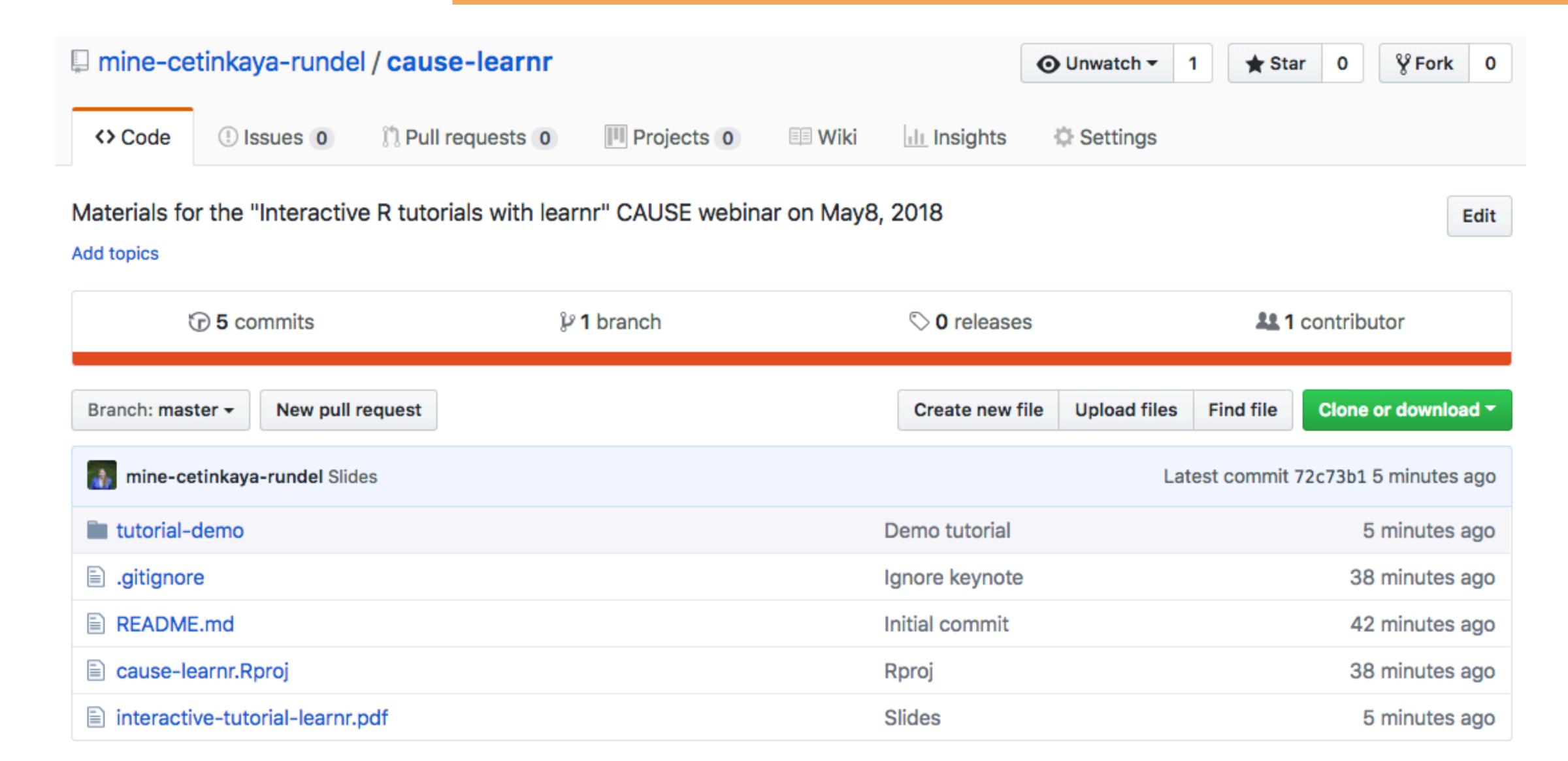
Here are some simple examples of tutorials created with the learnr package:







Review github.com/mine-cetinkaya-rundel/cause-learnr



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