

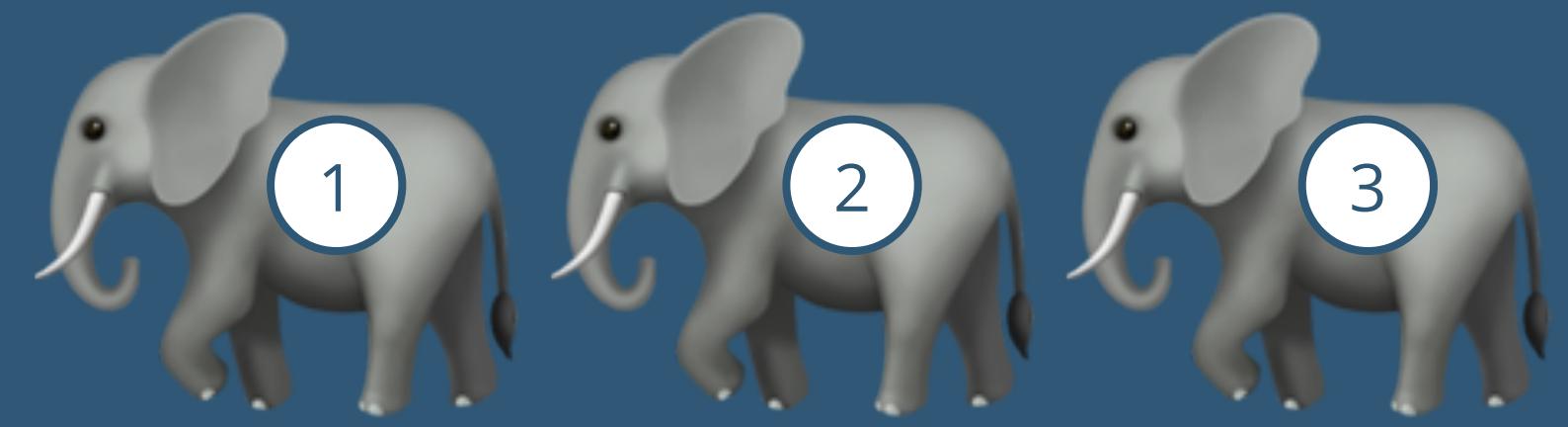


Beyond the basics

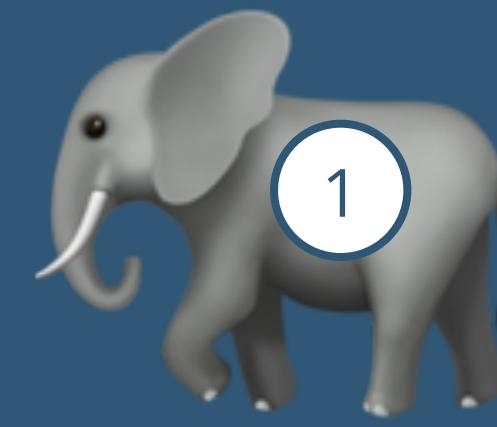
Part of "Doing data science in Positron" workshop

Posit Software, PBC





in the room

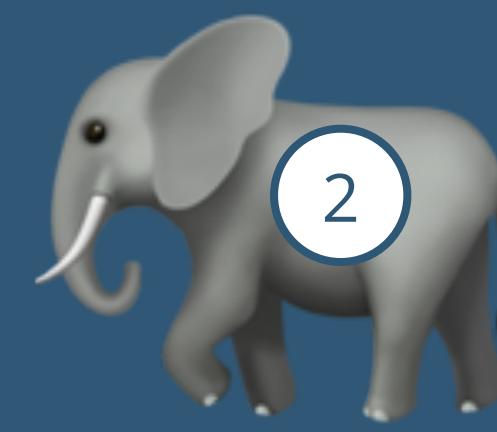


: Python



R and Python, not R or Python

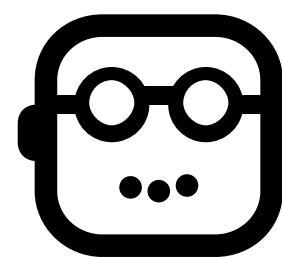
- Difficult: Getting used to and feeling productive in different IDEs
- Feels easier: Learning a second language or being multi-lingual in the same IDE
- Whether you teach with R and Python, or your students learn one of those languages elsewhere, they'll feel at home doing their data science in the same IDE regardless of the language they use



: AI



What about AI?



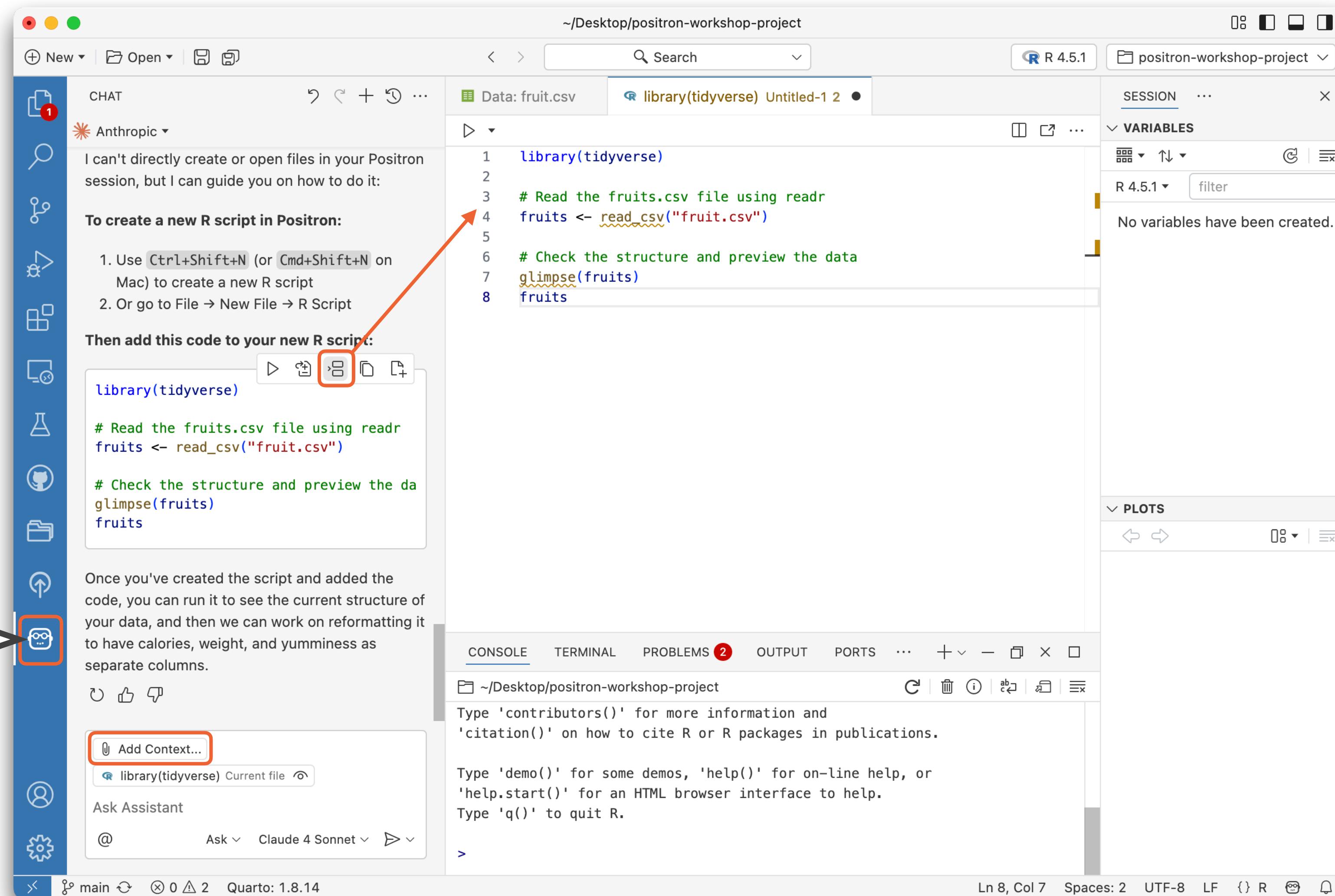
Positron Assistant is an AI client that provides LLM integration within Positron, both for chat and for inline completions.

The screenshot shows the Positron Assistant settings in the Positron IDE. The left sidebar lists various extensions: Jake, JavaScript Debugger, JSON, Jupyter, Kernel Supervisor, Markdown, Markdown Math, Media Previewer, Merge Conflict, Microsoft Account, Npm, PHP, Posit Publisher, Positron Assistant (which is selected and highlighted in blue), Project Manager, Pyright, Python, Python Debugger, Quarto, R, Reference Search View, Remote SSH, Reticulate, and Druff. The main content area is titled "Extensions" and "Positron Assistant". It includes sections for "Assistant: Enable" (Preview), "Assistant > Git Integration: Enable" (Experimental), "Assistant: Inline Completion Excludes" (with a list of glob patterns and an "Add Item" button), "Assistant > Streaming Edits: Enable" (with a checked checkbox), and "Assistant: Use Anthropic Sdk" (with a checked checkbox). A search bar at the top is empty, and the top right corner has a filter icon.

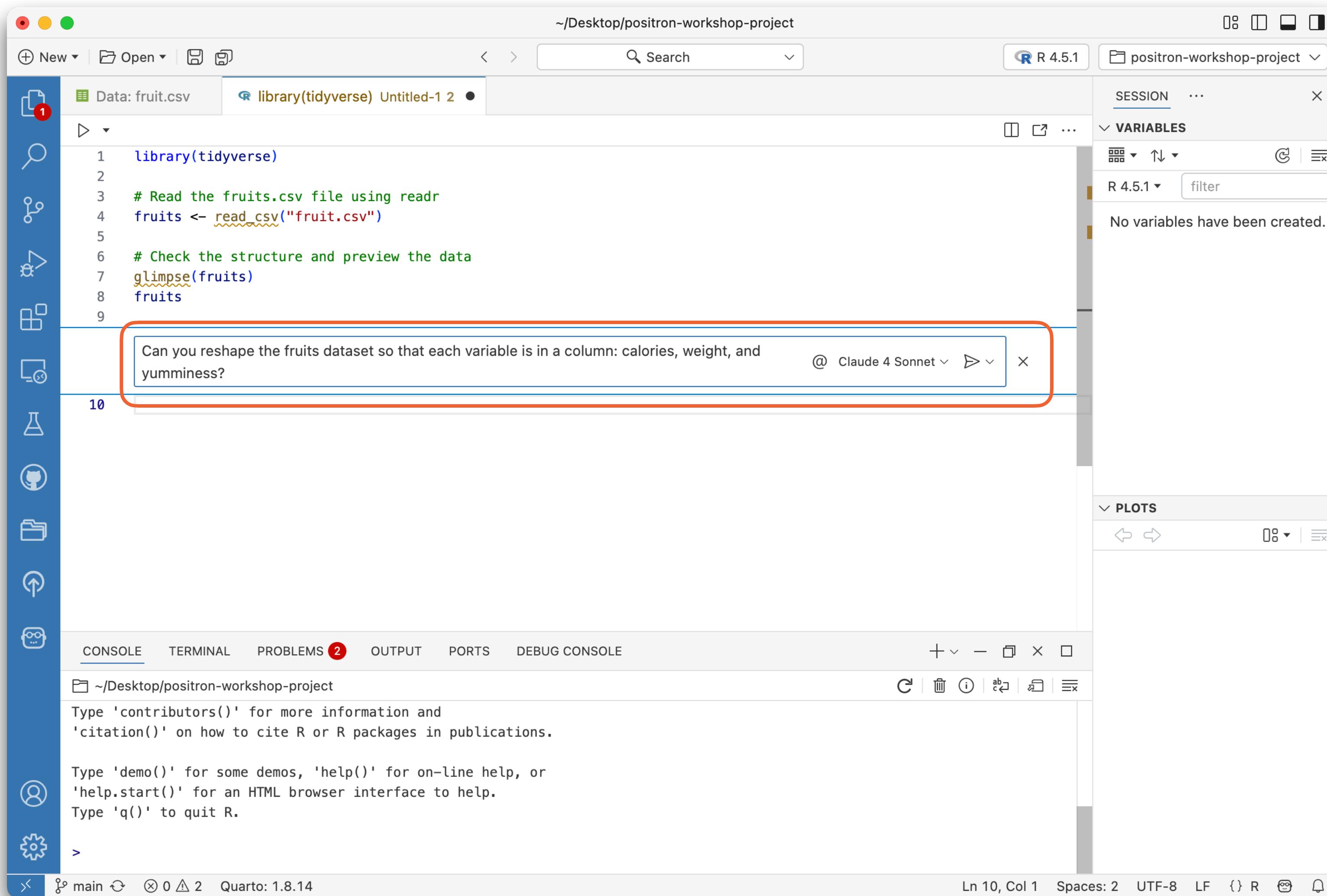
<https://positron.posit.co/assistant.html>

Positron Assistant > Chat interface

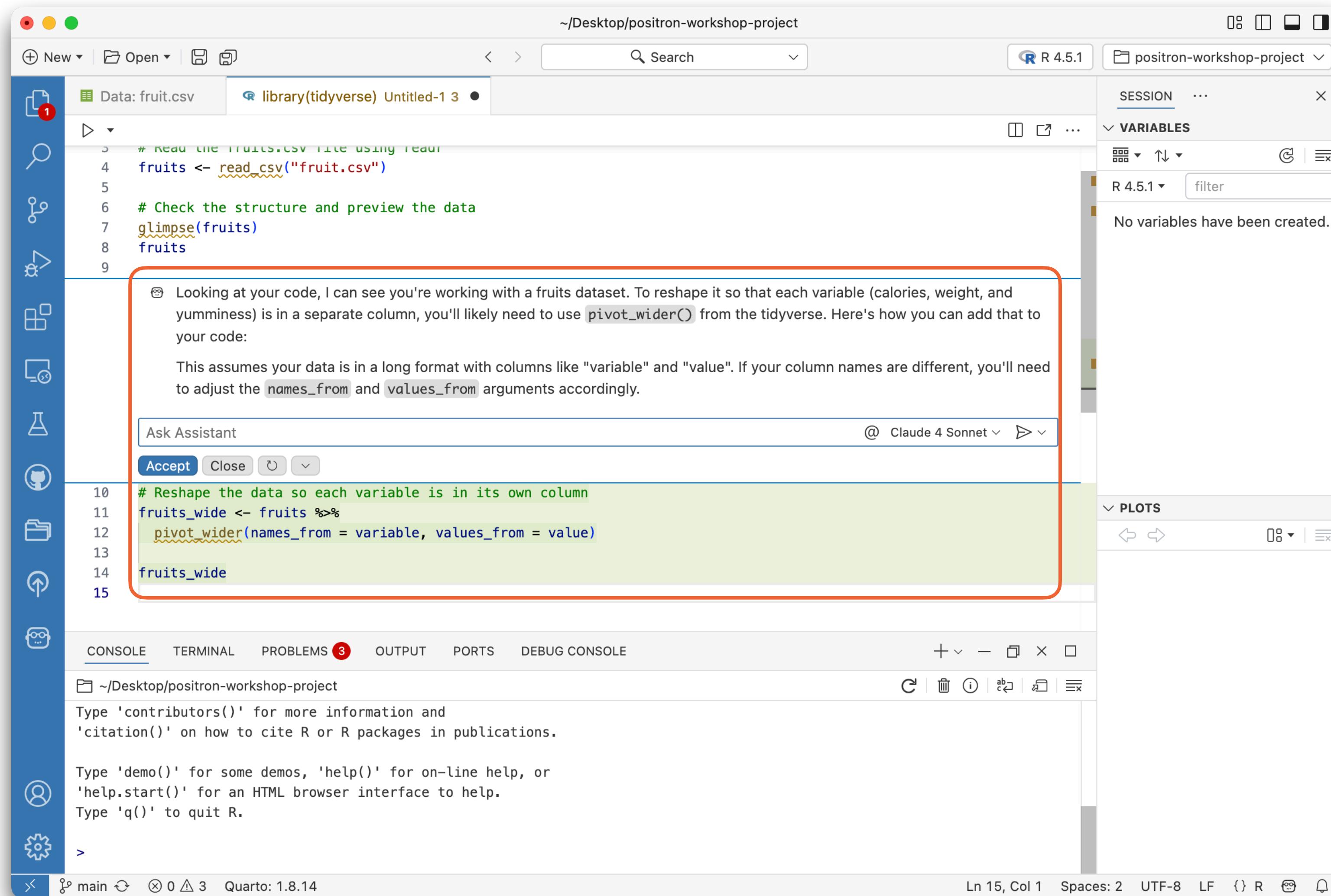
Once enabled,
Positron
Assistant is
accessible from
the sidebar



Positron Assistant > Inline completions

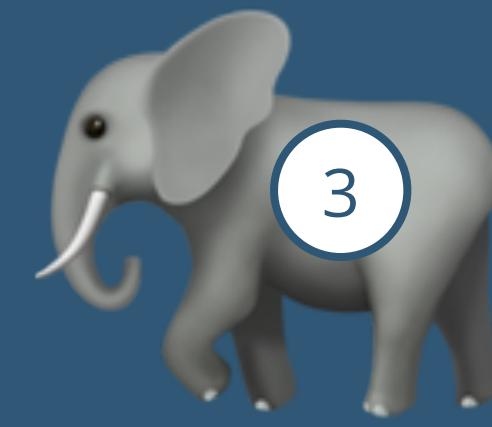


Positron Assistant > Inline completions



Good (I think) practices for teaching & AI tools

- Recommend iterative development through the chat interface instead of inline completions
- But, note language model provider choices:
 - Chat: Anthropic Claude only (at this time) — Students would need to pay unless institution provides keys.
 - Inline: GitHub Copilot available — Free for students with verified GitHub accounts.



: RStudio R

Is RStudio going away?

- No, but “we intend to prioritize security, stability, priority bug fixes, and targeted improvements over an emphasis on sweeping novel feature development” and “bulk of large-scale, new features will go into Positron”.
- We recommend starting with Positron for those who don’t have prior R or RStudio experience, but Positron doesn’t yet have the full set of options that RStudio does for “teaching in the browser” — it’s on the near-term roadmap though!

Positron vs. RStudio

Some R-focused features will remain exclusive to RStudio:

- RStudio has deeper support for Sweave and R Markdown vs. can render R Markdown in Positron but targeted focus is on Quarto.
- No inline output for source documents in Positron, but:
 - actively enhancing our Positron-native notebook UI that will provide inline outputs for R or Python sessions
 - working on improving Quarto's Visual Editor to improve the authoring experience for Quarto
- RStudio is extensible only via RStudio add-ins vs. not all add-ins are supported in but many more extensions are available

Wrap-up

Keeping up-to-date

- Positron will automatically update
 - Setting: Update > Positron: Channel
 - **prereleases**: ~ monthly, same version as on download page. Soon to be called releases
 - **dailies**: ~ every day, cutting edge

Getting help

- Positron Docs: <https://positron.posit.co/>
- Ask questions on GitHub discussions: <https://github.com/posit-dev/positron/discussions>

Feedback

Please visit burl.live/workshop or
scan the QR code to leave us
feedback for this workshop.



Q&A