Organization

Part of "Introduction to Positron" workshop

Posit Software, PBC

CC BY SA

Adopt a folder-oriented workflow

Why:

- Work on more than one thing at a time across multiple Positron sessions.
- Collaborate, communicate, distribute.
- Start and stop.

How:

- Dedicated folder containing all the associated with a given project together — input data, scripts, analytical results, and figures.
- (Maybe also) special files that designate the folder as a workspace.

What’s in a folder?

Open Folder = dedicated Positron window

- File explorer rooted at the folder.
- Dedicated R process with working directory set to the folder.
- Terminal working directory set to the folder.

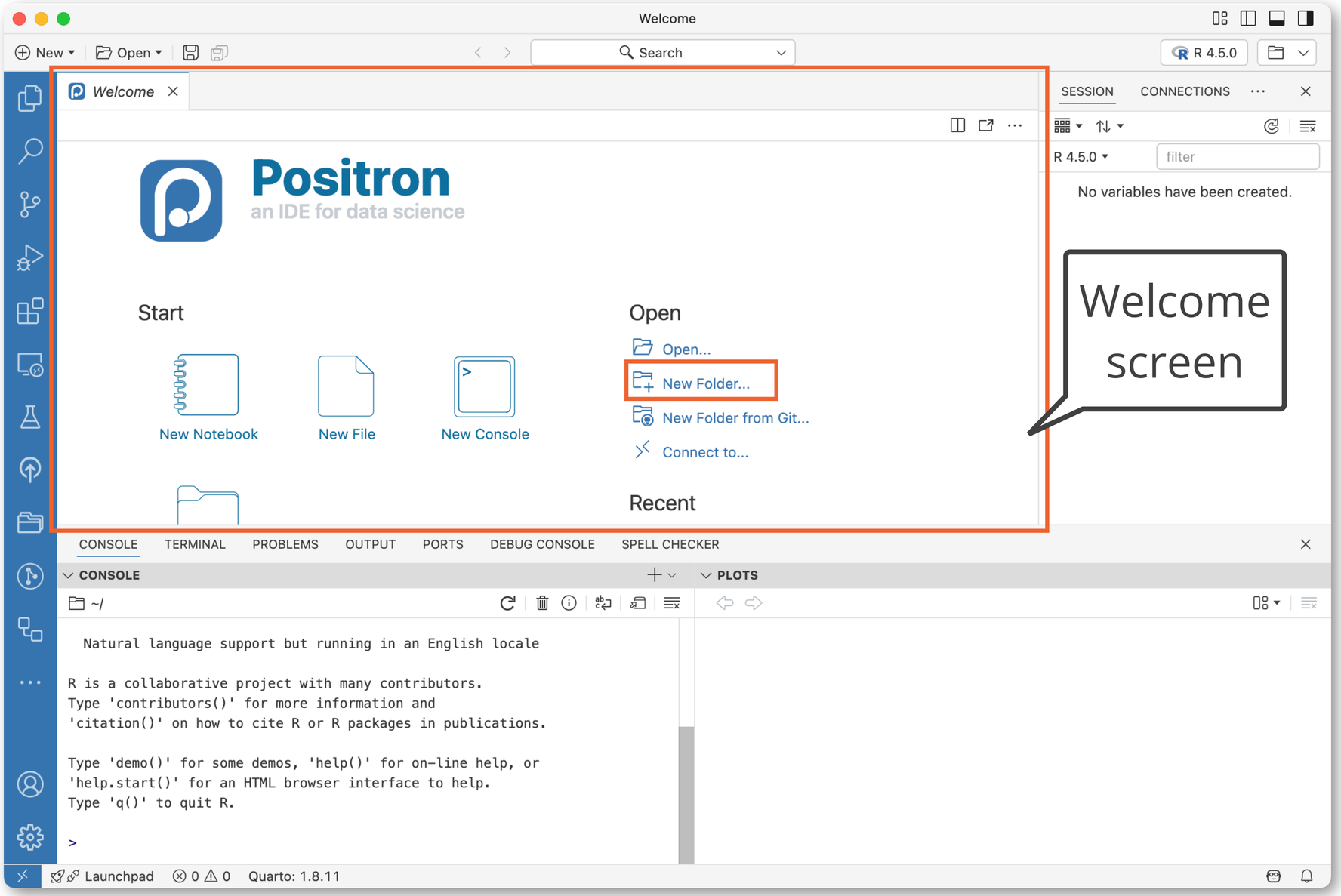
New folder

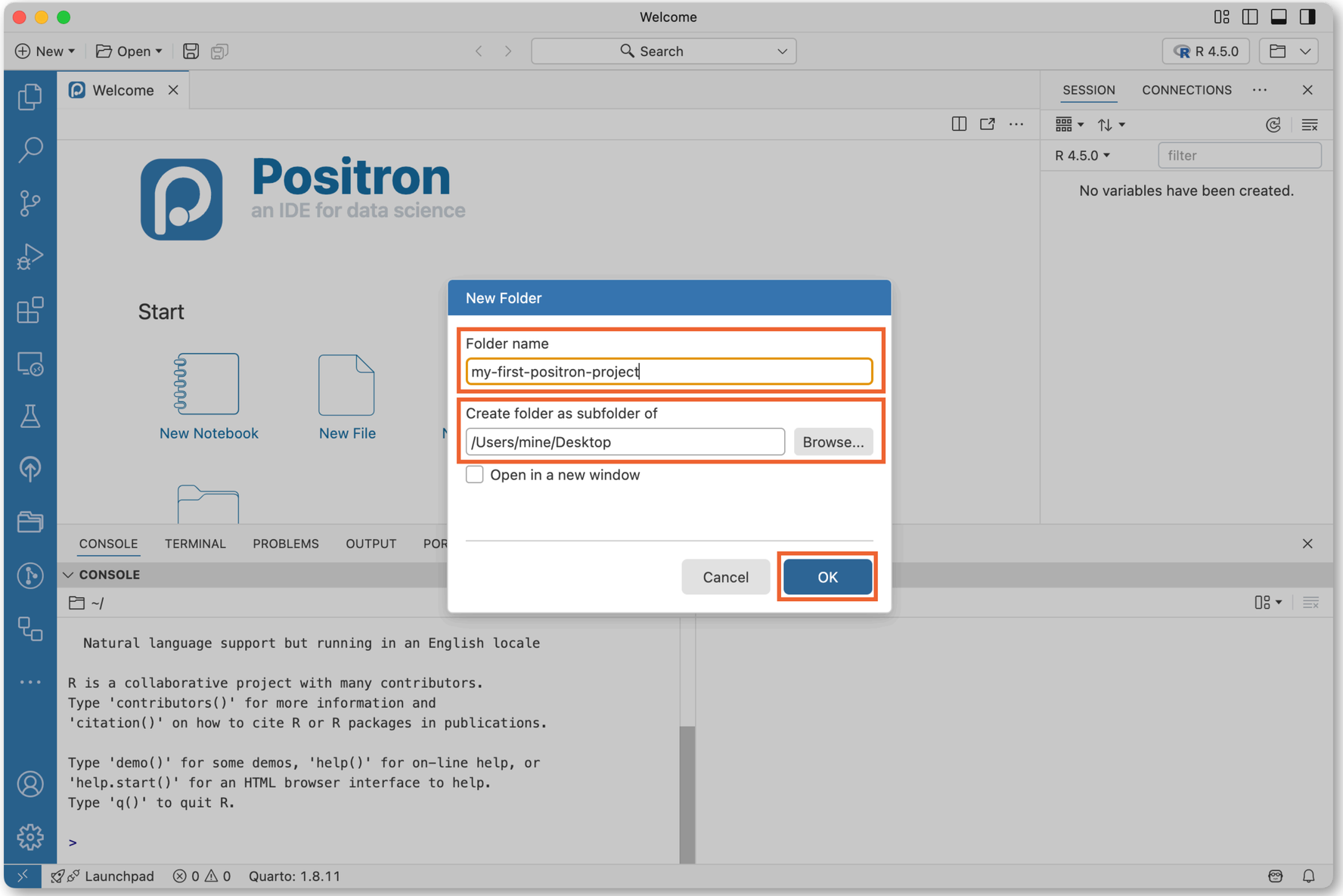
Your turn

Create new folder

5m 00s

- In the Positron Welcome screen, follow the prompts to create a New Folder:
  - Name it `my-first-positron-project`.
  - Place it on your Desktop.
- Add an R script to the folder and save it.
- Close the project.
- Then, reopen the project:
  - Go to the file explorer: **What folder are you in? What's in the folder?**
  - Go to the R console: **What is the current working directory — `getwd()`?**


Welcome
New
Open
Search
R 4.5.0
Welcome
Positron
an IDE for data science
Start
New Notebook
New File
New Console
Open
Open...
New Folder...
New Folder from Git...
Connect to...
Recent
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
R 4.5.0
filter
No variables have been created.
Welcome screen
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
PROBLEMS
OUTPUT
PORTS
DEBUG CONSOLE
SPELL CHECKER
CONSOLE
PLOTS
~/
Natural language support but running in an English locale
R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.
Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.
>
Launchpad
0 0
Quarto: 1.8.11


Welcome
New
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Search
R 4.5.0
Welcome
Positron
an IDE for data science
Start
New Notebook
New File
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
R 4.5.0
filter
No variables have been created.
New Folder
Folder name
my-first-positron-project
Create folder as subfolder of
/Users/mine/Desktop
Browse...
Open in a new window
Cancel
OK
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
PROBLEMS
OUTPUT
CONSOLE
~/
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Launchpad
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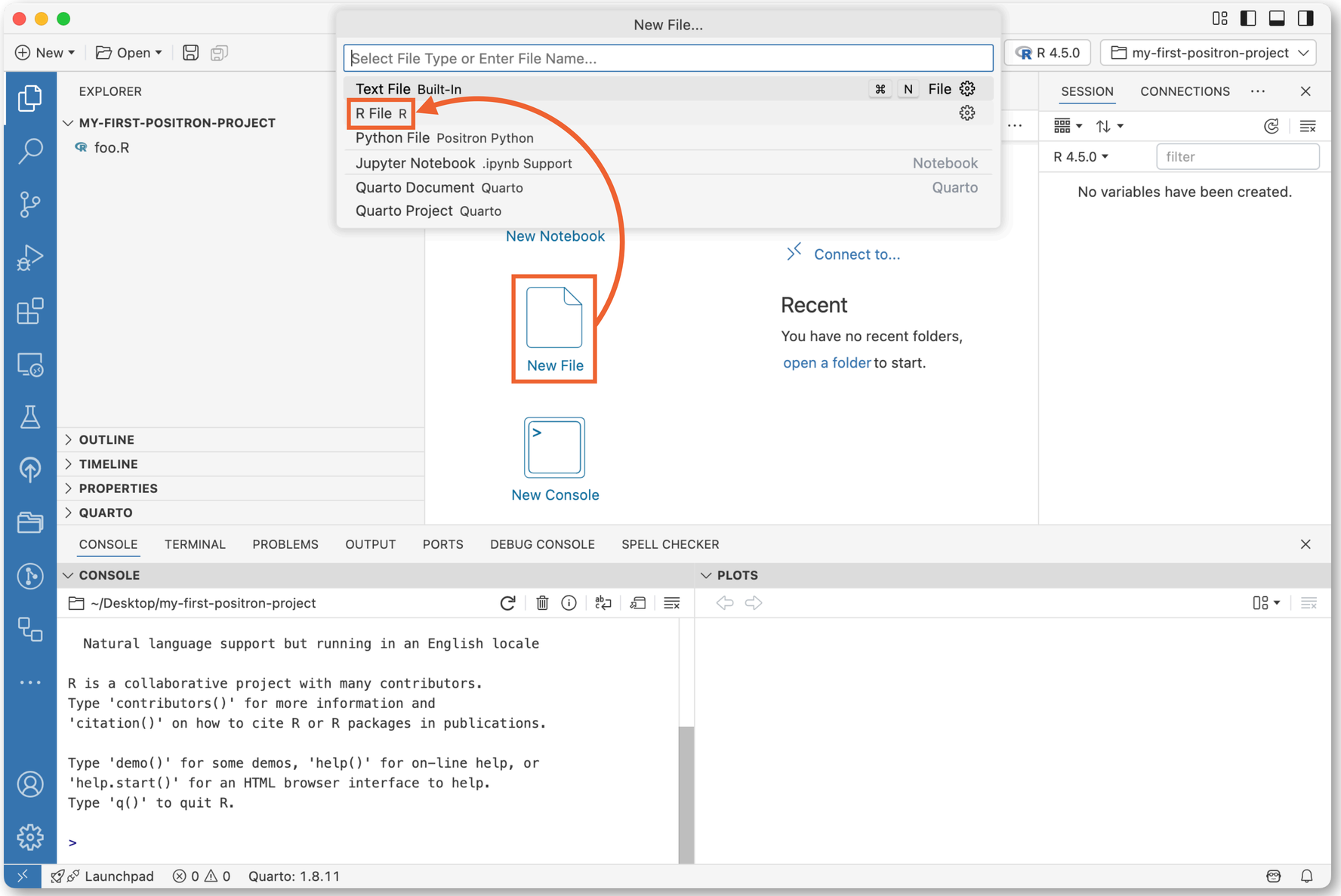
New File...
Select File Type or Enter File Name...
Text File Built-In
R File R
Python File Positron Python
Jupyter Notebook .ipynb Support
Quarto Document Quarto
Quarto Project Quarto
File
Notebook
Quarto
New
Open
R 4.5.0
my-first-positron-project
EXPLORER
MY-FIRST-POSITRON-PROJECT
foo.R
OUTLINE
TIMELINE
PROPERTIES
QUARTO
New Notebook
New File
New Console
Connect to...
Recent
You have no recent folders,
open a folder to start.
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
R 4.5.0
filter
No variables have been created.
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
PROBLEMS
OUTPUT
PORTS
DEBUG CONSOLE
SPELL CHECKER
CONSOLE
PLOTS
~/Desktop/my-first-positron-project
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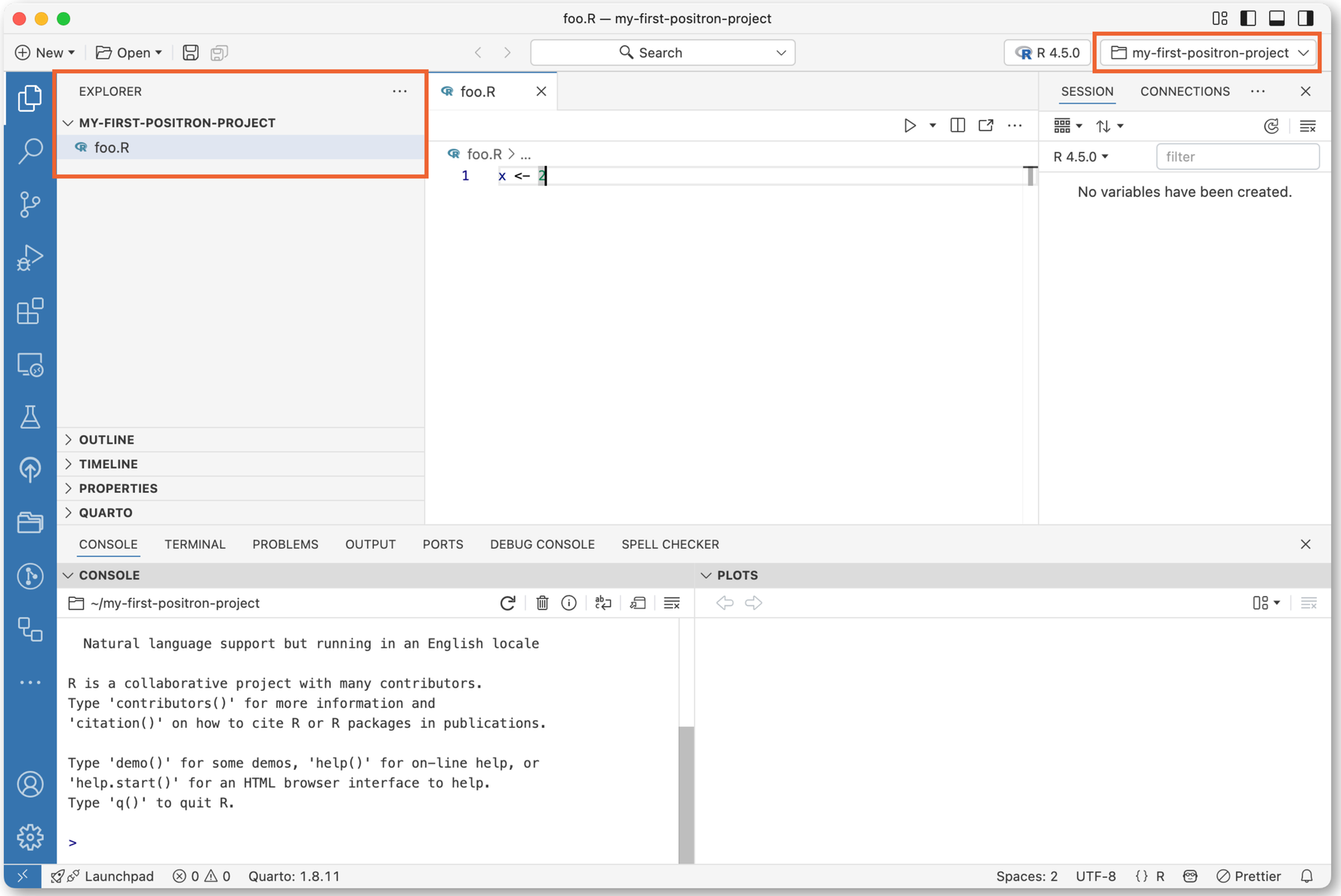
Quarto: 1.8.11


foo.R — my-first-positron-project
New
Open
Search
R 4.5.0
my-first-positron-project
EXPLORER
MY-FIRST-POSITRON-PROJECT
foo.R
OUTLINE
TIMELINE
PROPERTIES
QUARTO
foo.R
foo.R > ...
1 x <- 2
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
R 4.5.0
filter
No variables have been created.
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
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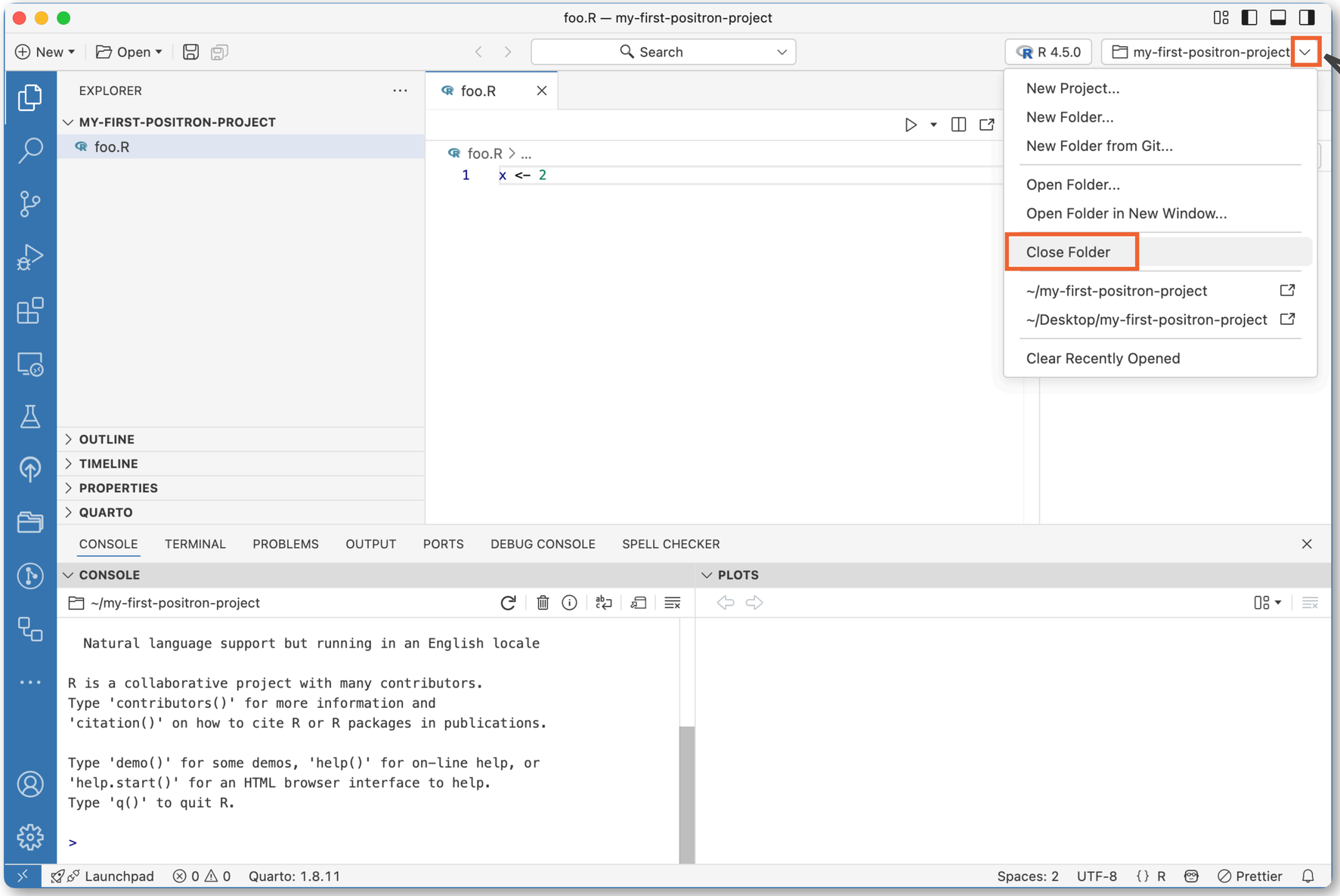
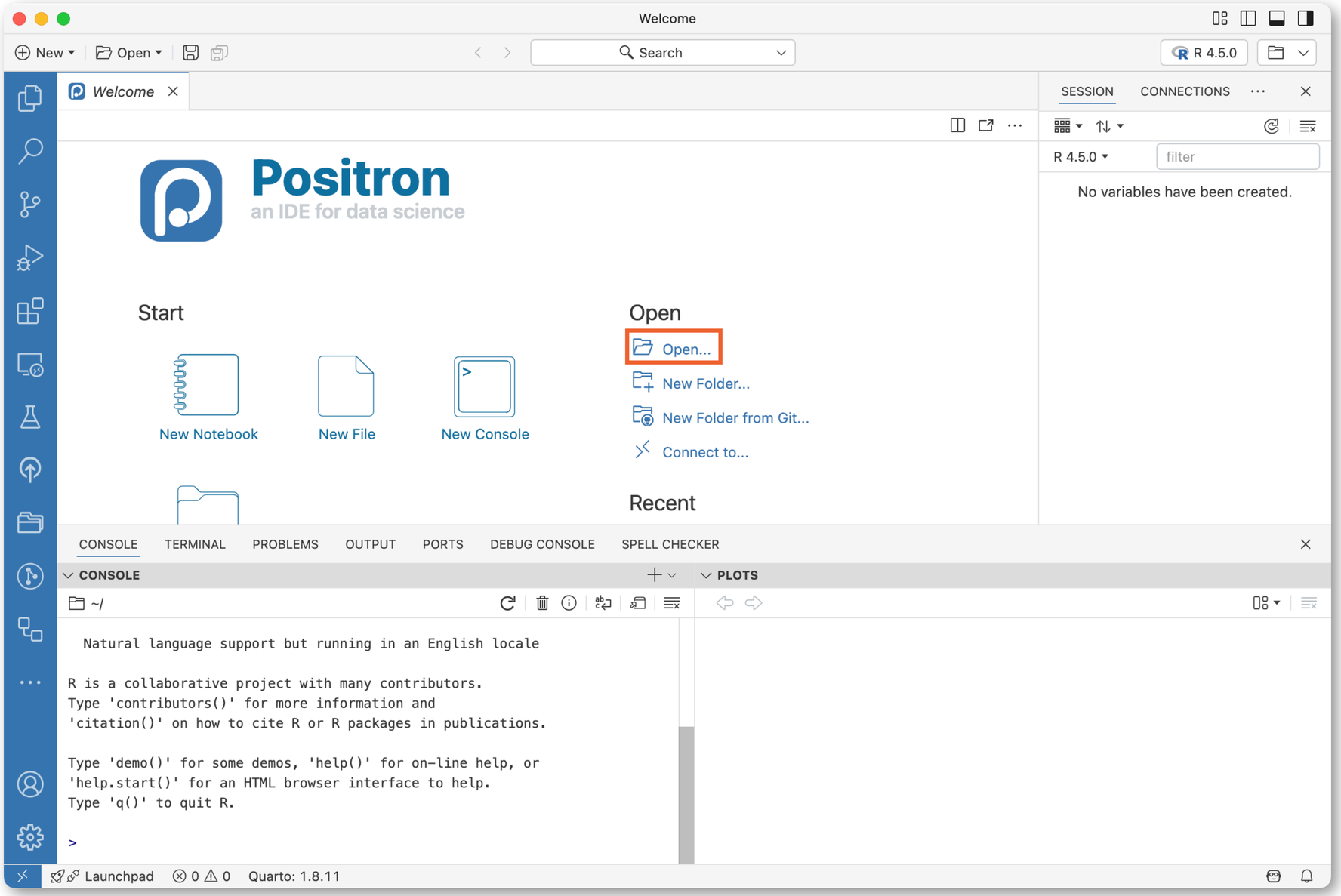
PLOTS
Launchpad
0 0
Quarto: 1.8.11
Spaces: 2
UTF-8
{} R
Prettier



Click to reveal menu


Welcome
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New Notebook
New File
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New Folder...
New Folder from Git...
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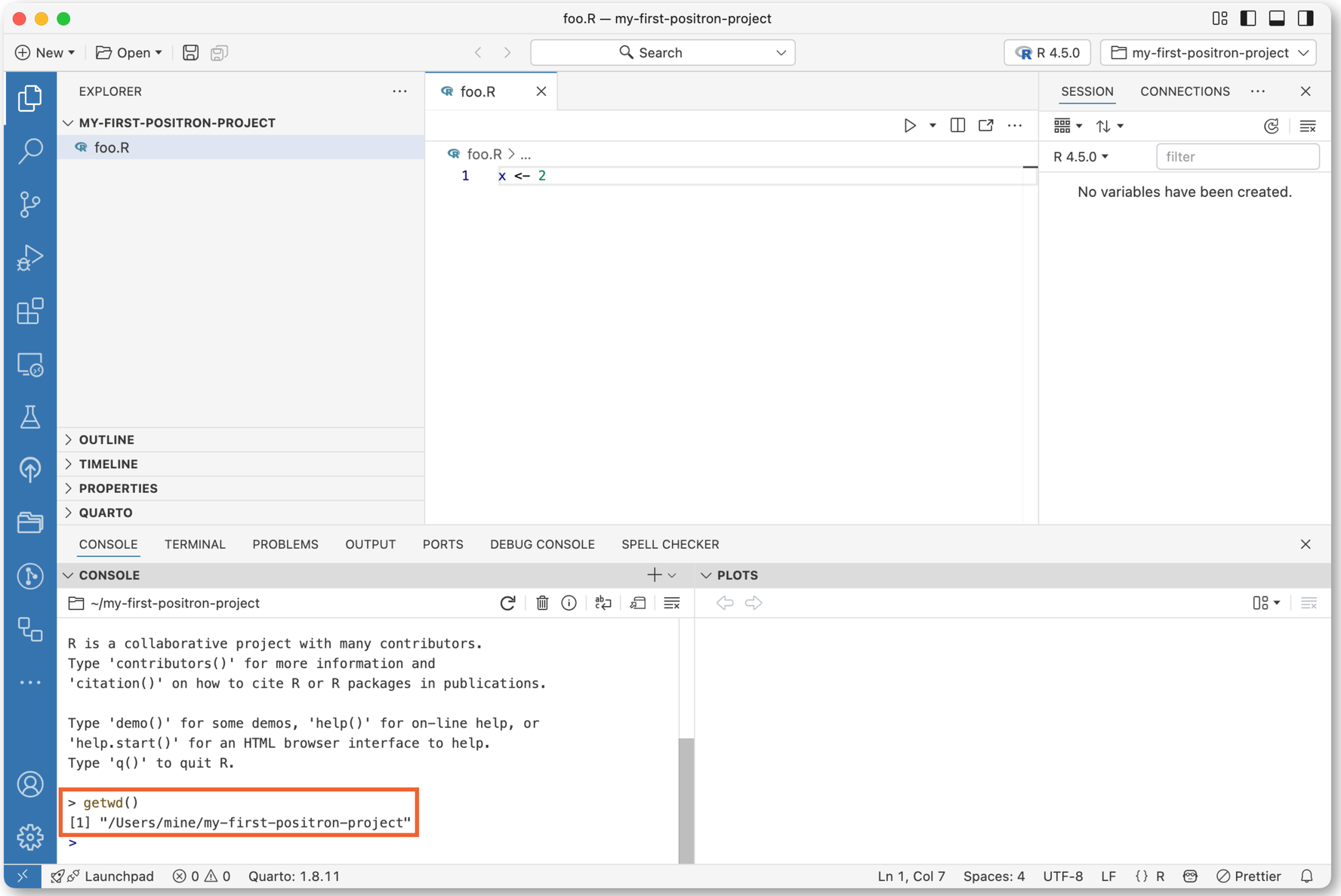
foo.R — my-first-positron-project
New
Open
Search
R 4.5.0
my-first-positron-project
EXPLORER
MY-FIRST-POSITRON-PROJECT
foo.R
OUTLINE
TIMELINE
PROPERTIES
QUARTO
foo.R
foo.R > ...
1 x <- 2
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
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No variables have been created.
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Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.
> getwd()
[1] "/Users/mine/my-first-positron-project"
>
PLOTS
Launchpad
0 0
Quarto: 1.8.11
Ln 1, Col 7
Spaces: 4
UTF-8
LF
{} R
Prettier

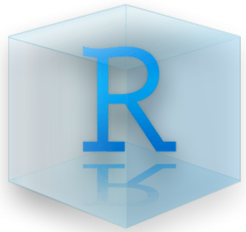
Your turn

Open RStudio Project as a folder

- Locate a project that you usually work on in RStudio that has an Rproj file.
- Open the project folder in Positron.

RStudio Projects vs. Positron ???s

- RStudio places an `.Rproj` file in a folder to designate it as an RStudio Project.
- Used for launching projects, identifying the project root (e.g., for `here::here()`), and for storing project-level preferences.



- Positron doesn't place anything that functions exactly like an Rproj file in every folder.
- Unless you set workspace-level preferences, which prompts the creation of a `.vscode.json` file that stores these preferences.
- *Note:* In Positron, here::here() will find the folder root typically through finding a `.git` folder.

Positron and the Rproj file

- Positron doesn't do anything with the contents of an Rproj file.
- For example, your Rproj file might indicate preferences like using spaces for tabs (**`UseSpacesForTab: Yes`**) or using line breaks after each sentence in Quarto or R Markdown files (**`MarkdownWrap: Sentence`**).
- We'll discuss expressing some of these as Positron settings in a later module.
- For Quarto projects, some might be best set in `_quarto.yml`.

r4ds.Rproj

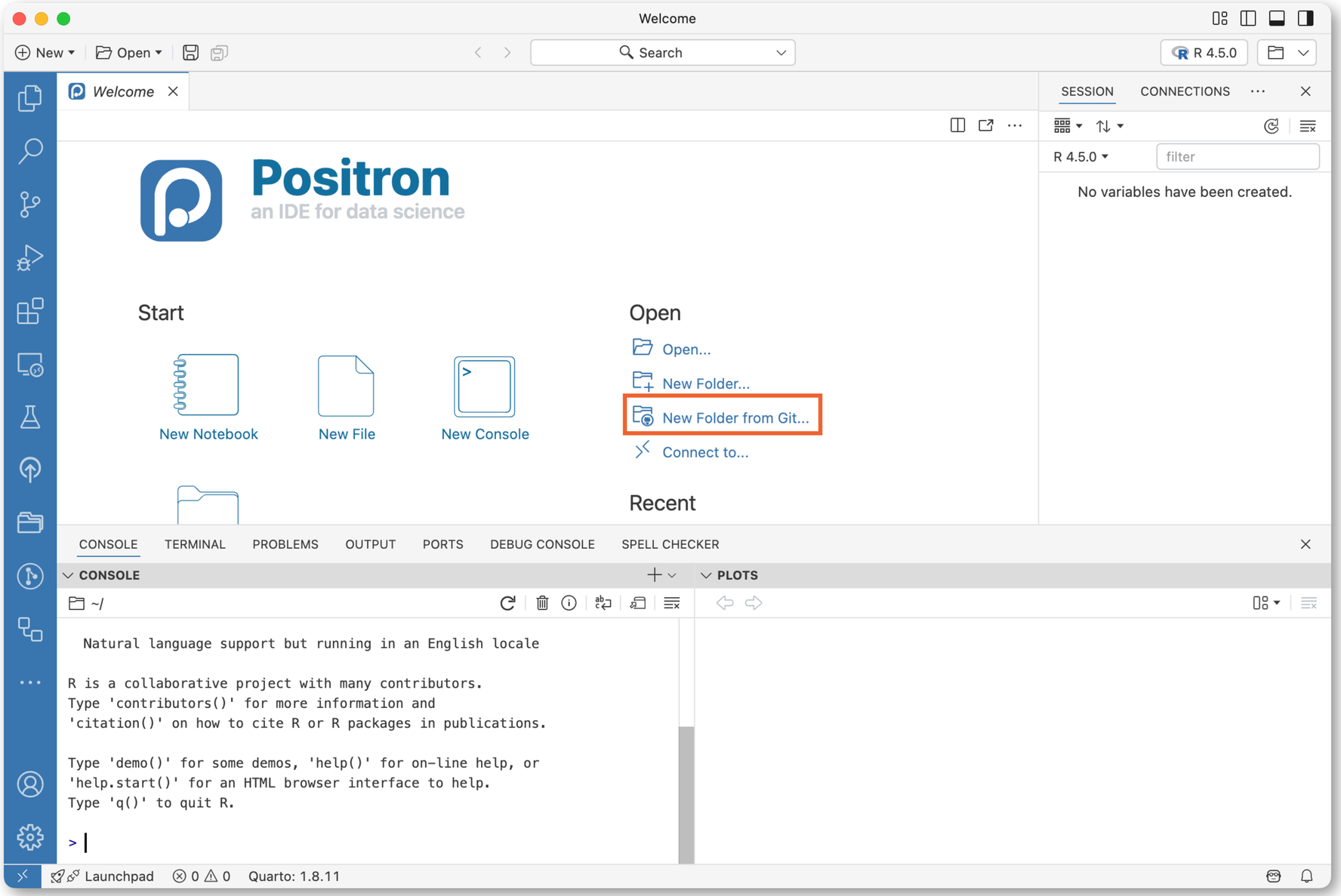
```
Version: 1.0

RestoreWorkspace: Default
SaveWorkspace: Default
AlwaysSaveHistory: Default

EnableCodeIndexing: Yes
UseSpacesForTab: Yes
NumSpacesForTab: 2
Encoding: UTF-8

RnwWeave: Sweave
LaTeX: XeLaTeX

StripTrailingWhitespace: Yes

BuildType: None

UseNativePipeOperator: Yes

MarkdownWrap: Sentence
MarkdownCanonical: Yes

SpellingDictionary: en_US
```

Your turn

Open new folder from Git

3m 00s

- Open a New Folder from Git:
  - The repo: https://github.com/posit-dev/positron-workshop-project
  - As a folder on your Desktop


Welcome
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R 4.5.0
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New Notebook
New File
New Console
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Open...
New Folder...
New Folder from Git...
Connect to...
Recent
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R 4.5.0
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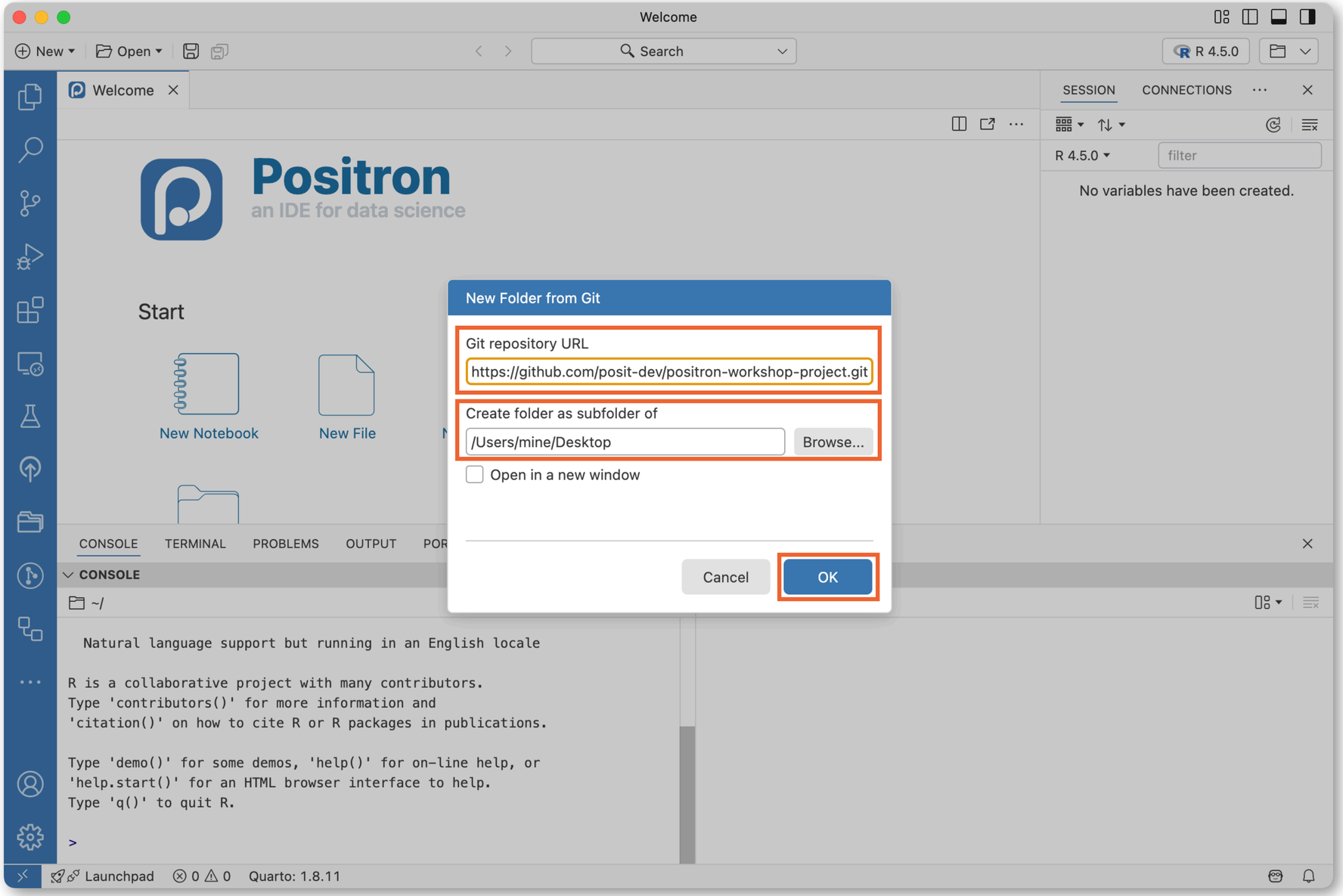
>
Launchpad
0 0
Quarto: 1.8.11


Welcome
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R 4.5.0
Welcome
Positron
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Start
New Notebook
New File
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
R 4.5.0
filter
No variables have been created.
New Folder from Git
Git repository URL
https://github.com/posit-dev/positron-workshop-project.git
Create folder as subfolder of
/Users/mine/Desktop
Browse...
Open in a new window
Cancel
OK
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
PROBLEMS
OUTPUT
CONSOLE
~/
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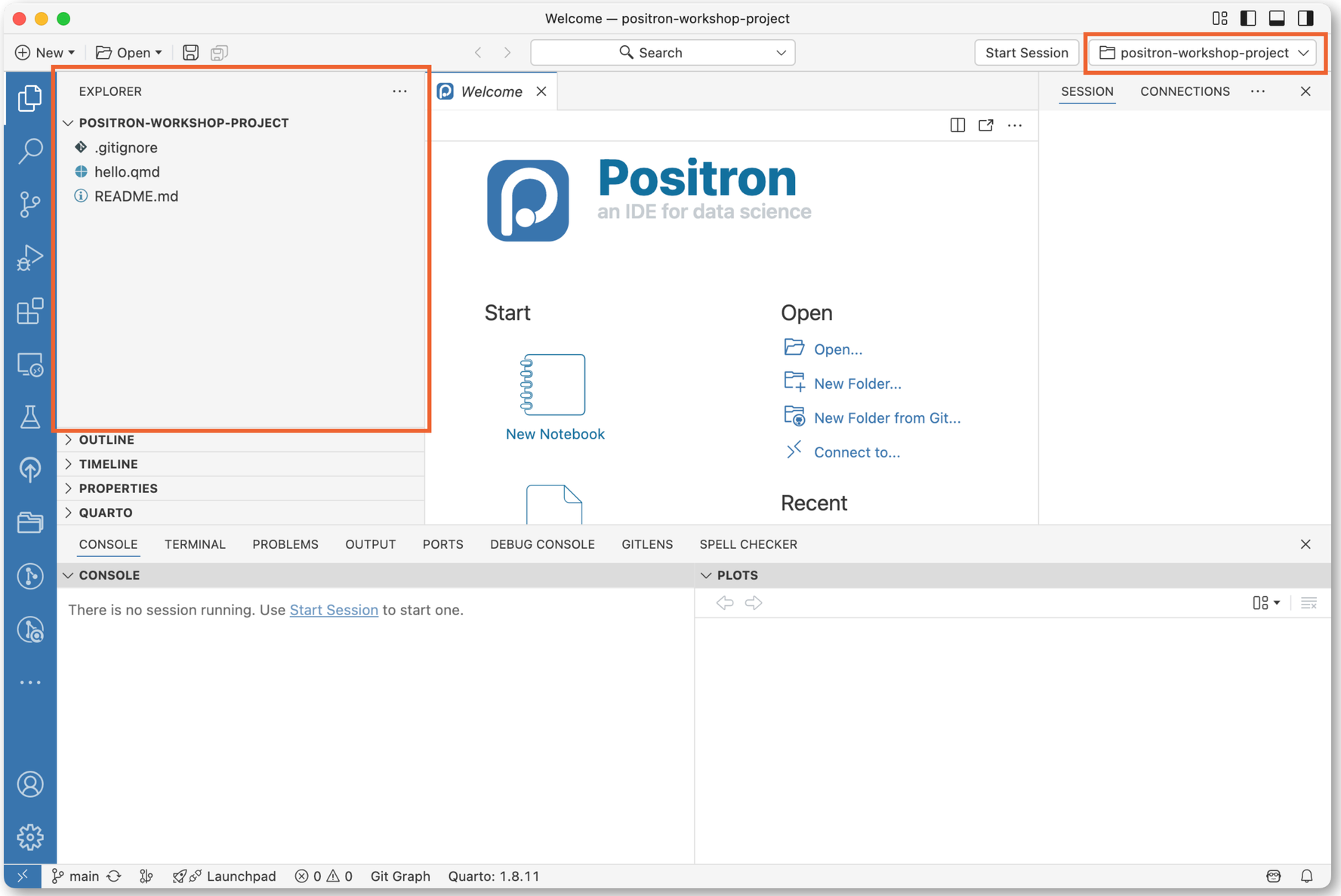
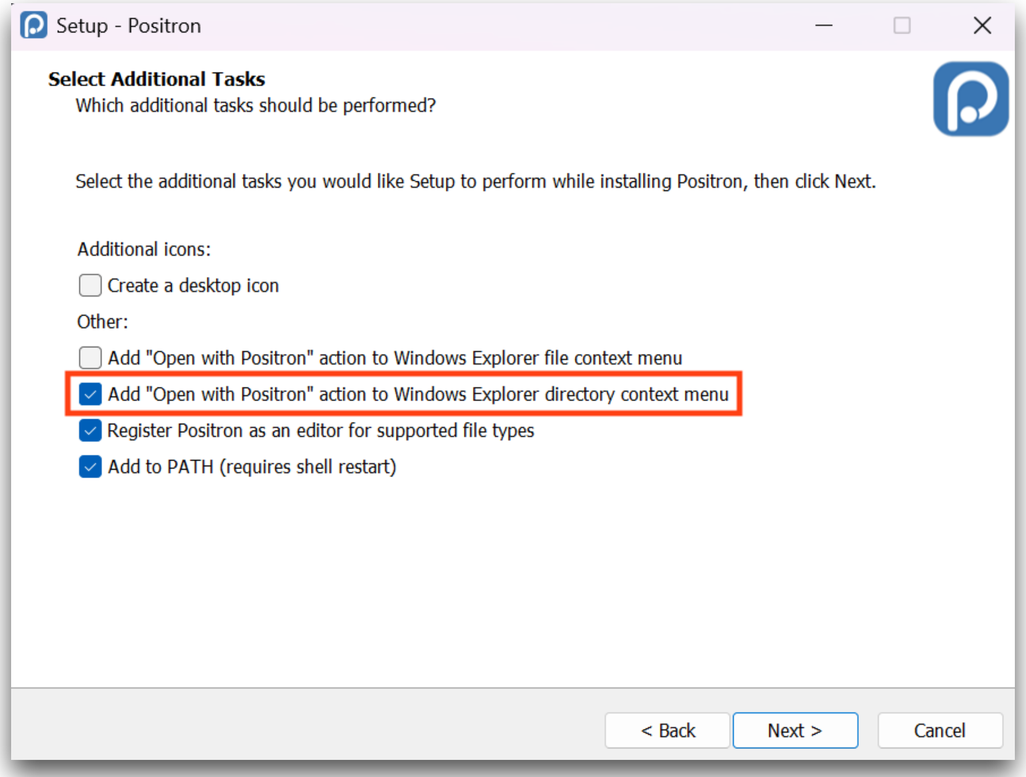
>
Launchpad
0 0
Quarto: 1.8.11


Welcome — positron-workshop-project
New
Open
Search
Start Session
positron-workshop-project
EXPLORER
POSITRON-WORKSHOP-PROJECT
.gitignore
hello.qmd
README.md
OUTLINE
TIMELINE
PROPERTIES
QUARTO
Welcome
Positron
an IDE for data science
Start
New Notebook
Open
Open...
New Folder...
New Folder from Git...
Connect to...
Recent
SESSION
CONNECTIONS
CONSOLE
TERMINAL
PROBLEMS
OUTPUT
PORTS
DEBUG CONSOLE
GITLENS
SPELL CHECKER
CONSOLE
There is no session running. Use Start Session to start one.
PLOTS
main
Launchpad
0 0
Git Graph
Quarto: 1.8.11

Launch Positron

Launch from Windows File Explorer

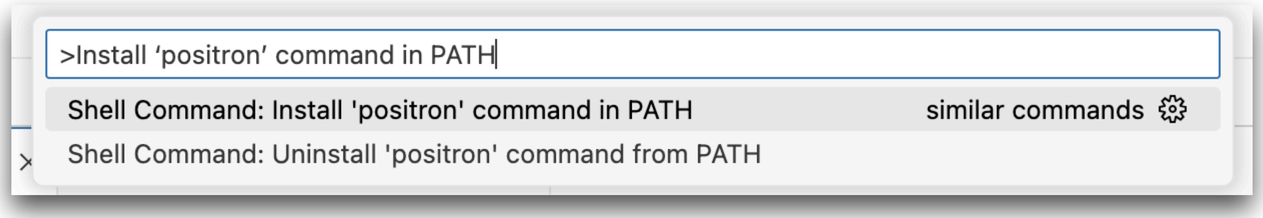
Setup: When installing Positron, enable context menu integration in Setup > Select Additional Tasks by checking the box to “Open with Positron”.



In File Explorer: Right-click on a folder and select “Open with Positron” from the context menu.

Launch from Mac OS Finder (via Terminal)

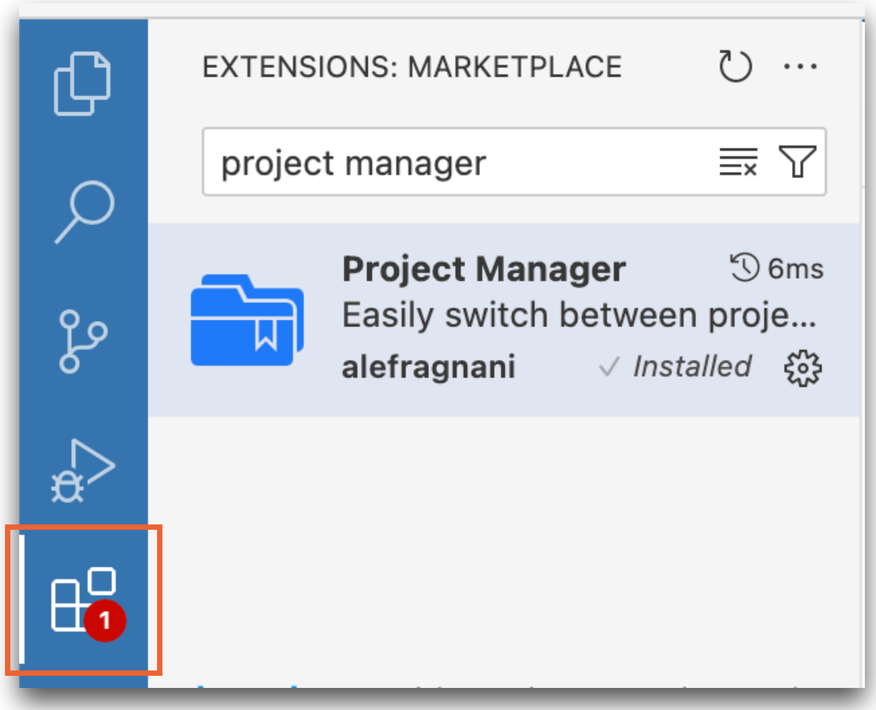
Setup: Add Positron to yout `PATH` via the Command Palette by
pressing Cmd+Shift+P to open the palette and typing *Install 'positron' command in PATH*.



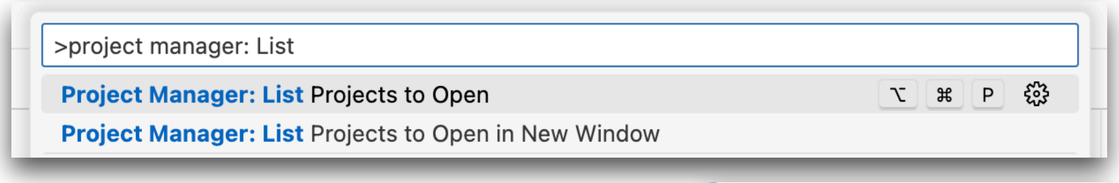
In Finder: Right-click on a folder and select "New Terminal at Folder" then, in the Terminal, type `positron .` to launch Positron.

Launch from the Project Manager extension

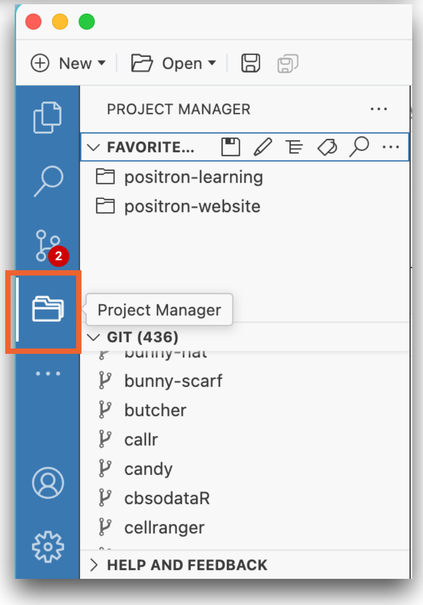
Setup: Install extension from Open VSX Registry.



In the Command Palette: Type *Project Manager: List projects to open* which gives you a you a nice searchable UI in the command palette.

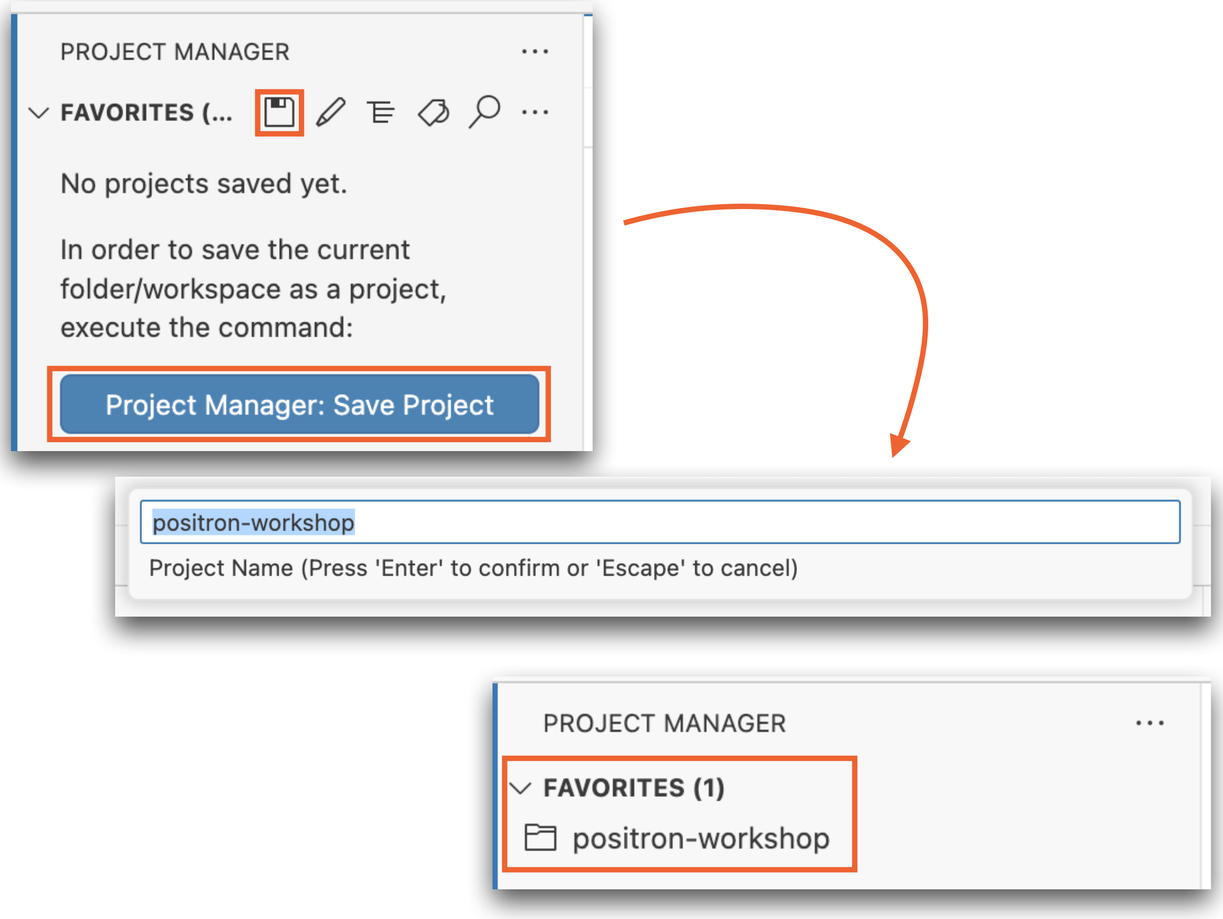


In the Activity Bar: Click on extension icon.

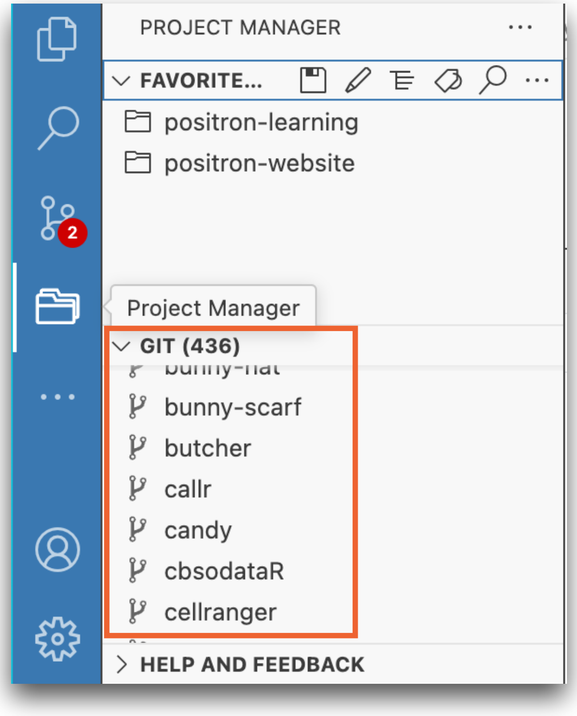


Making your folders known to Project Manager

Favorites: Explicitly save specific folders as favorites.



Git: Tell the extension about specific folders where you tend to keep Git repositories — any subfolder of these base folders that is also a Git repo is automatically treated as a project.



Learn more

Positron docs: Migrating from RStudio > The Rproj file

positron.posit.co/rstudio-rproj-file.html