RMarkdown Workflow

RMarkdown is a collection of technologies that allow useRs to create rich documents or slides that include text, code, images and the potential for interactive content.

There are three things you need to know about to understand the RMarkdown document creation workflow.

RStudio Projects

RStudio projects help useRs to create transportable code that should work independent of operating system and remove the requirement to use setwd() in scripts.

The folder this document is found in is an example of an RStudio project, because it contains a .Rproj file. This allows for relative file paths to be used for including images etc.

.Rmd files

You write your report/presentation in an "RMarkdown file". RMarkdown files have the extension .Rmd and are "plain text" files.

This means you can *technically* work with .Rmd files in any text editor. There's nothing special about the .Rmd file, it's the **rmarkdown** and **knitr** packages which take a .Rmd file and generate output.

It's exactly like working with a .html, .tex or .md file.

This document itself is an .Rmd file

Knitting files

Generating output from an .Rmd file is achieved by clicking the "Knit" button in RStudio.

knitr::include_graphics("images/knit-button.png")

