

Blogging in R with Blogdown

Rebecca Barter

30 June 2020, R Ladies Bucharest



@rlbarter



rebeccabarter@berkeley.edu



www.rebeccabarter.com



github.com/rlbarter

Resources

These slides:

<http://tiny.cc/smw5qz>

My blog post on why you should blog:

http://www.rebeccabarter.com/blog/2020-02-03_blogger/

Migrating to Netlify:

<http://www.rebeccabarter.com/blog/2017-06-29-website/>

Blogdown book:

<https://bookdown.org/yihui/blogdown/>



Rebecca Barter

Data meets Narrative



Recent Posts

Learn to purrr

August 19, 2019

Transitioning into the tidyverse (part 2)

August 5, 2019

[View more posts](#)

Learn to purrr

Purrr is the tidyverse's answer to apply functions for iteration. It's one of those packages that you might have heard of, but seemed too complicated to sit down and learn. Starting with map functions, and taking you on a journey that will harness the power of the list, this post will have you purrring in no time.

August 19, 2019

Rebecca Barter

Map functions: beyond apply Simplest usage: repeated looping with map The tilde-dot shorthand for functions Applying map functions in a slightly more interesting context Maps with multiple input objects List columns and Nested data frames Nesting the gapminder data Advanced exercise Additional purrr functionalities for lists Keep/Discard: select_if for lists Reduce Logical statements for lists Answer to advanced exercise “It was on the corner of the street that he noticed the first sign of something peculiar - a cat reading a map” - J.

[Continue Reading](#)

[Categories](#) | [R](#) | [purrr](#) | [tidyverse](#)

Why start a blog?

1. To learn!



Why start a blog?

A background image of Tyra Banks with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a black leather jacket with silver studs. She is looking over her shoulder towards the camera. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the text overlay.

1. To learn!

2. Portfolio & exposure

Why start a blog?

1. To learn!

2. Portfolio & exposure

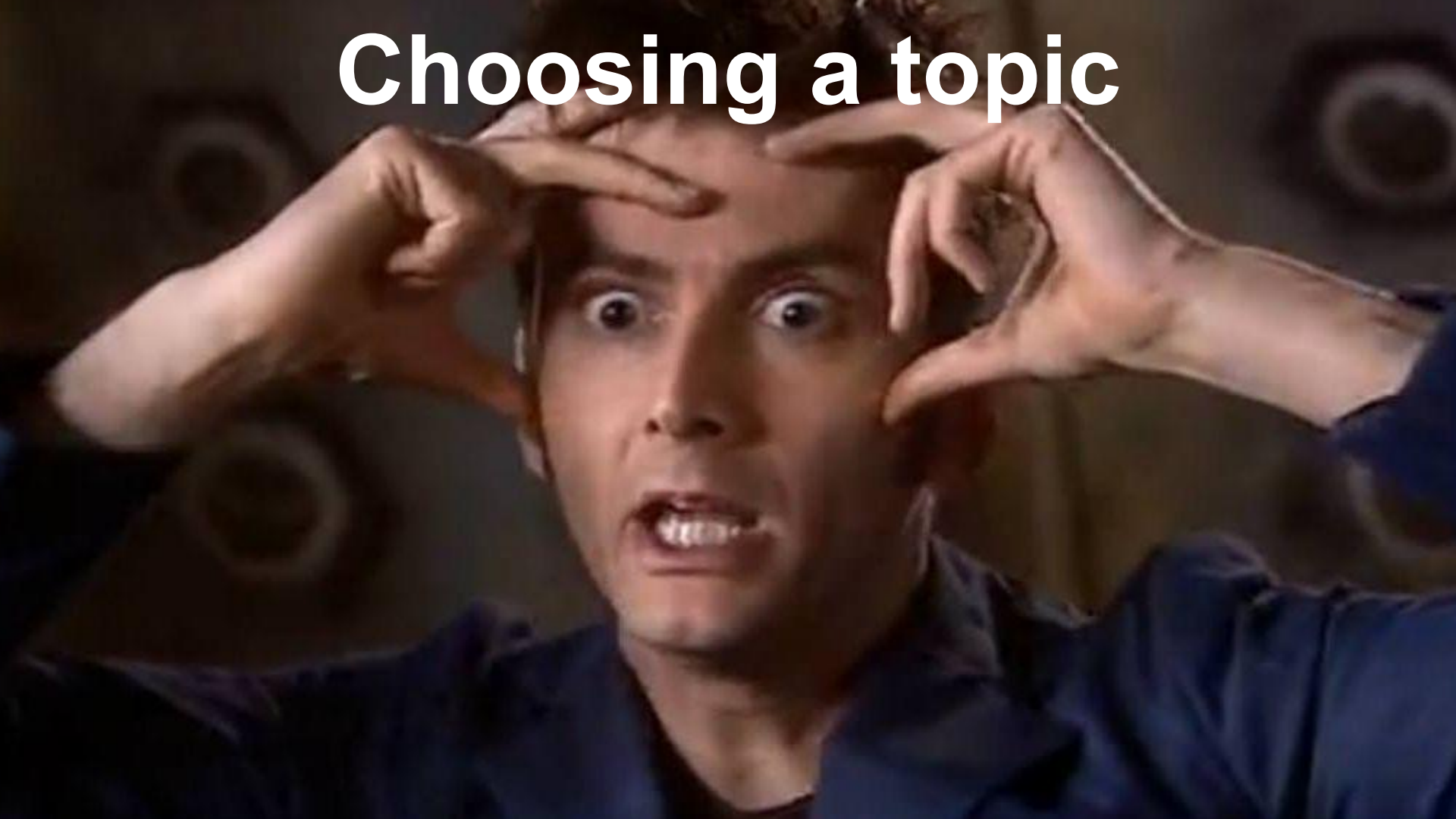
3. To practice communication skills



Why start a blog?

1. To learn!
2. Portfolio & exposure
3. To practice communication skills
4. Procrastination

Choosing a topic



Choosing a topic

A man with a shocked expression, hands on his head, with a repeating pattern of his face in the background.

Write about something that
you just learned

Choosing a topic

A man with a shocked expression, wide eyes, and an open mouth, framing his face with his hands. He is wearing a dark blue shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

Write about something that
~~you just learned~~
you want to learn

Tips & Tricks

Use relevant and interesting data
(directly downloadable from the internet)

Tips & Tricks

Keep it simple

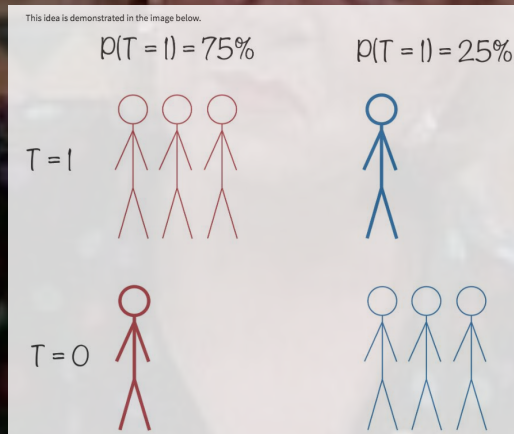
Explain it to your grandma



Tips & Tricks

Keep it simple

Explain it to your grandma



Spreading the word

Tweet about it



Spreading the word

Use easily google-able titles



caret tutorial



All



Videos



News



Images



Shopping




More

Settings

Tools

About 419,000 results (0.39 seconds)

 caret.r-forge.r-project.org ▼

The caret Package

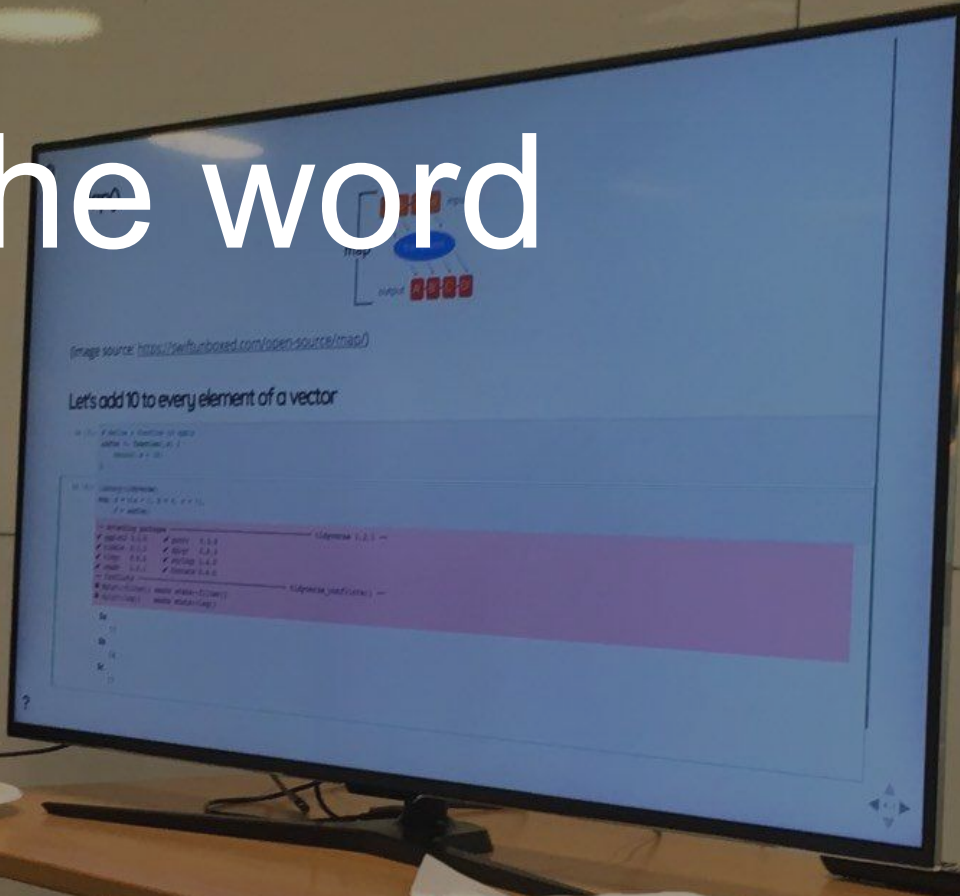
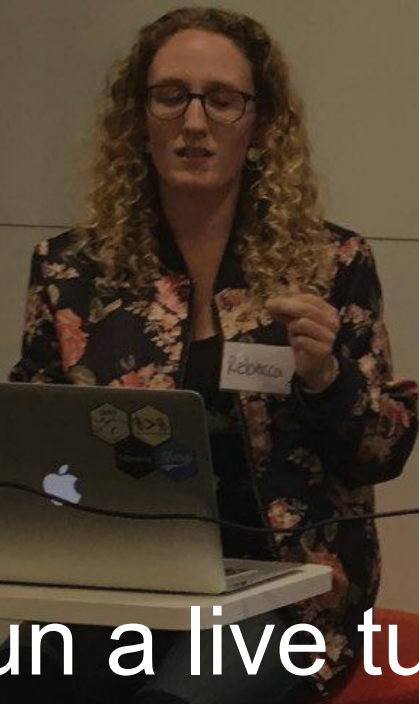
Mar 27, 2019 - Documentation for the **caret** package. ... DataCamp has a beginner's **tutorial** on machine learning in R using **caret** . You can always email me ...

 www.rebeccabarter.com › blog › 2017-11-17-caret_tutorial ▼

A basic tutorial of caret: the machine learning package in R

Nov 17, 2017 - Note: This **tutorial** was based on an older version of the abalone data that had a binary old variable rather than a numeric age variable.

Spreading the word



Run a live tutorial

We Can Do It!

Let's create our own blog!

These slides:

<http://tiny.cc/smw5qz>

Blogdown book:

<https://bookdown.org/yihui/blogdown/>

Blogdown



Each page/post is an R Markdown file

It produces a static website (based on Hugo)

Getting started with blogdown

```
# run the following commands once:
```

```
# install blogdown
```

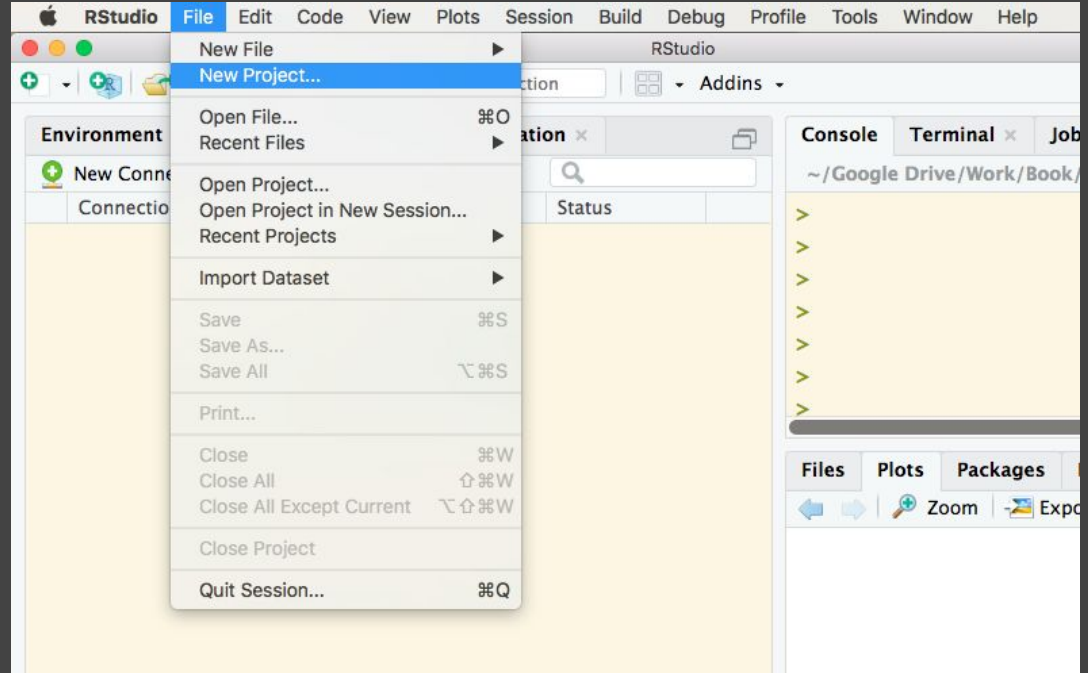
```
> install.packages('blogdown')
```

```
# install hugo
```

```
> blogdown::install_hugo()
```


Start a new project

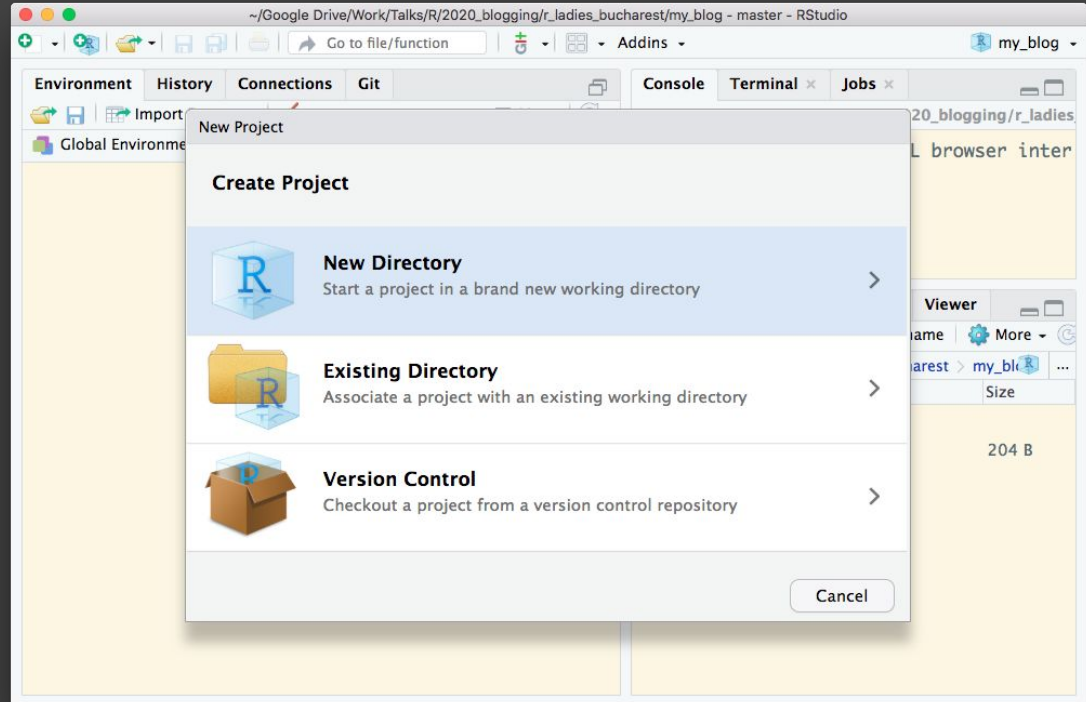
File -> New Project



Start a new project

File -> New Project

Select: New Directory

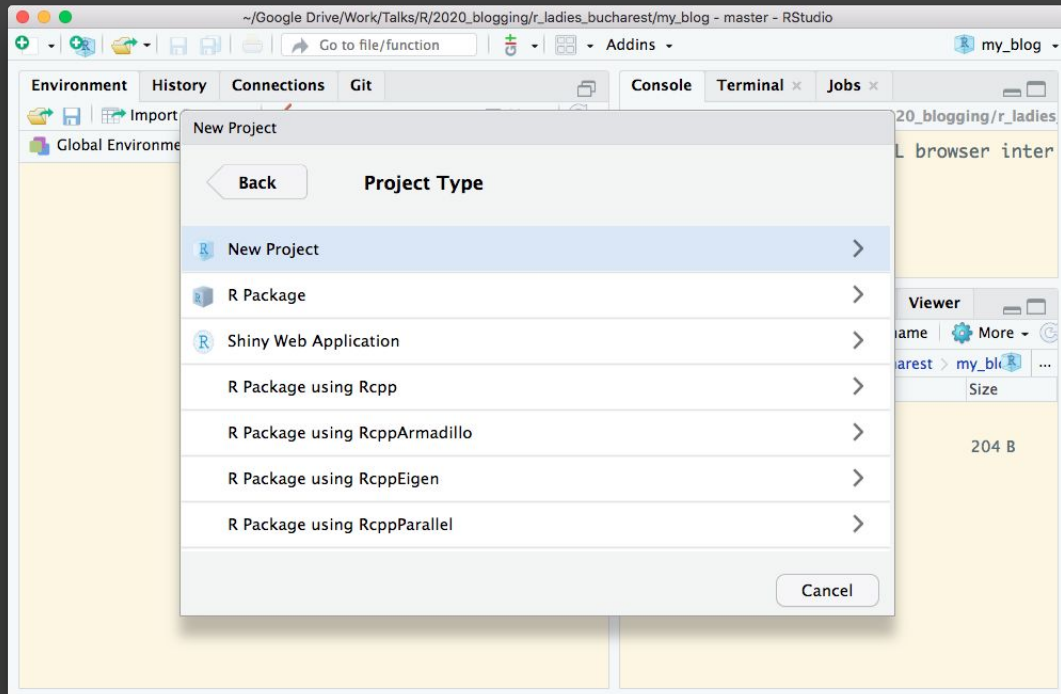


Start a new project

File -> New Project

Select: New Directory

Select: New Project



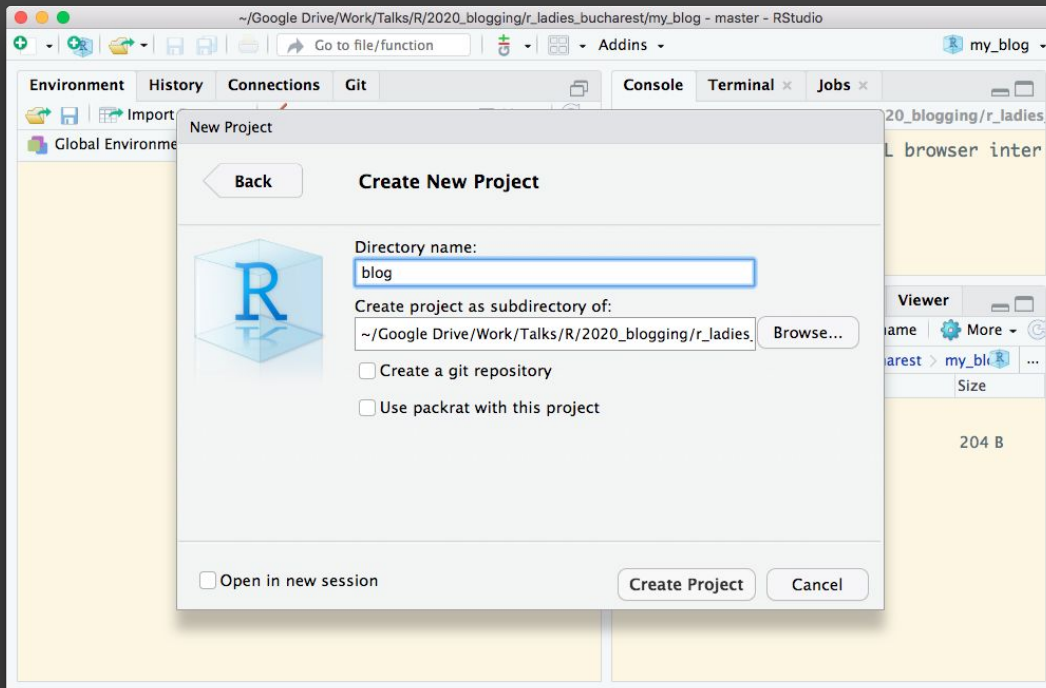
Start a new project

File -> New Project

Select: New Directory

Select: New Project

Name your project and
save it in a sensible
location



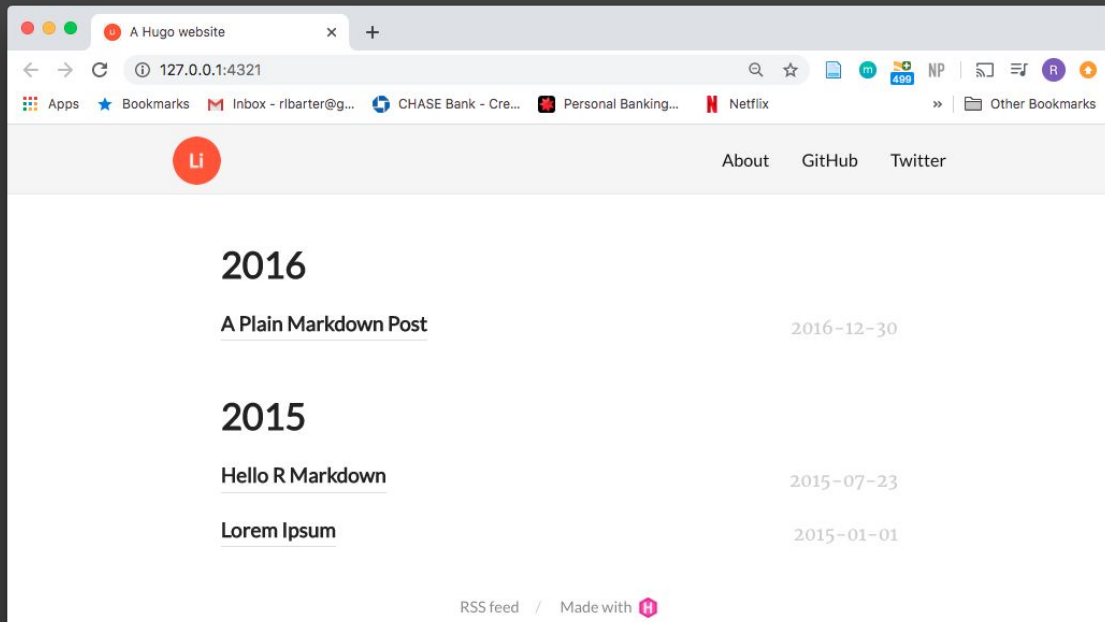
Turn your project into a blog

```
# turn project into blog  
> blogdown::new_site()
```

Turn your project into a blog

```
# turn project into blog  
> blogdown::new_site()
```

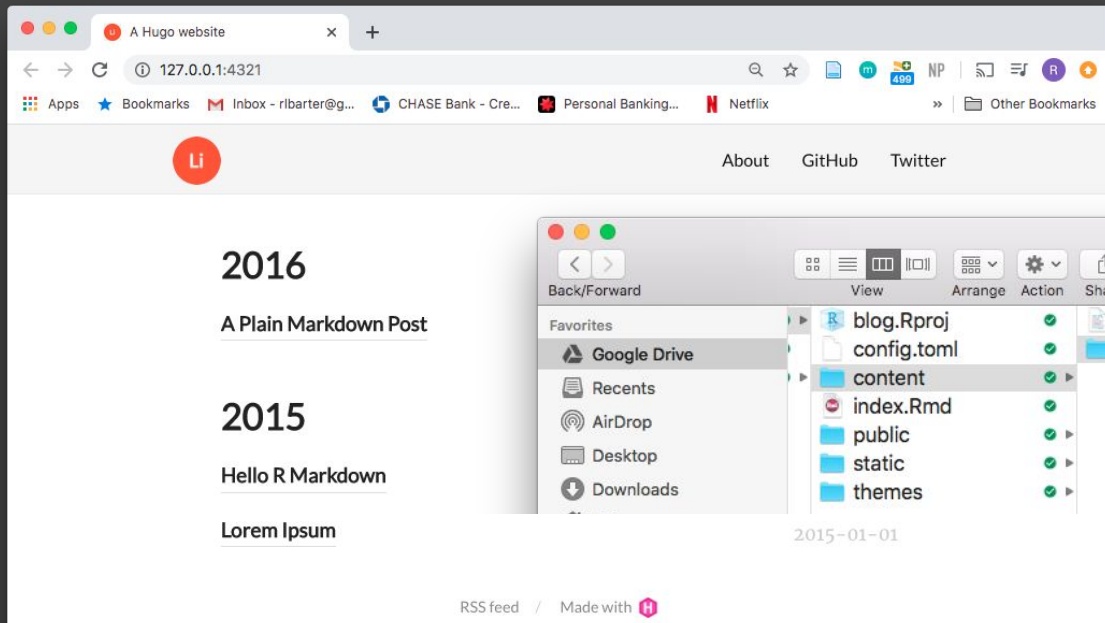
This will create a
webpage.



Turn your project into a blog

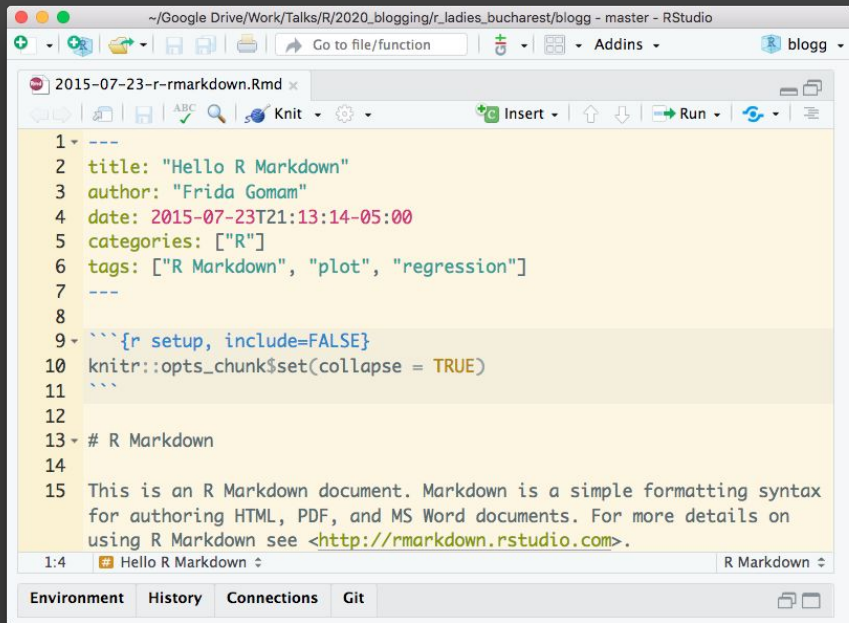
```
# turn project into blog  
> blogdown::new_site()
```

Look at the structure
of your local folder.
Your posts will live in
content/post



Turn your project into a blog

(R)Markdown file

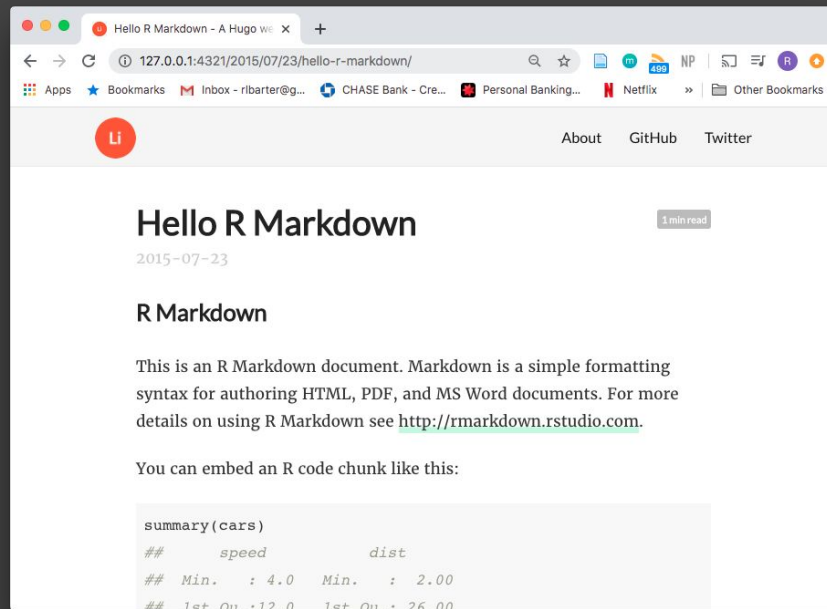


The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with a file named "2015-07-23-r-rmarkdown.Rmd" open. The editor displays the following R Markdown code:

```
1 ---
2 title: "Hello R Markdown"
3 author: "Frida Gomam"
4 date: 2015-07-23T21:13:14-05:00
5 categories: ["R"]
6 tags: ["R Markdown", "plot", "regression"]
7 ---
8
9 ```{r setup, include=FALSE}
10 knitr::opts_chunk$set(collapse = TRUE)
11 ```
12
13 # R Markdown
14
15 This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax
    for authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. For more details on
    using R Markdown see <http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com>.
```

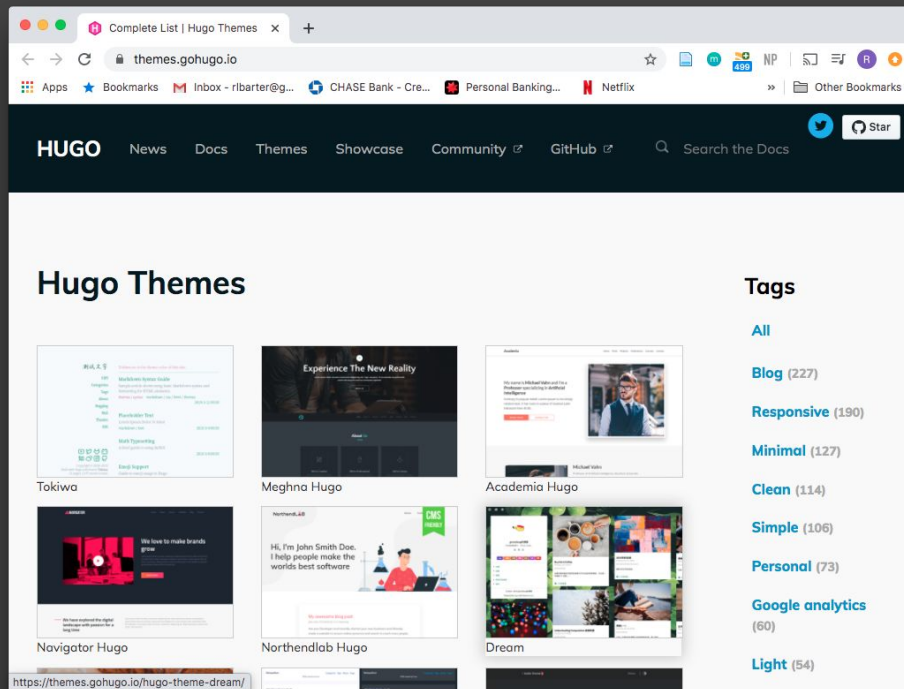
The RStudio interface includes a toolbar at the top with icons for file operations, a "Go to file/function" search bar, and a "blogg" button. The bottom pane shows the "Environment" tab.

Post on local site



Themes

<https://themes.gohugo.io/>



Changing themes

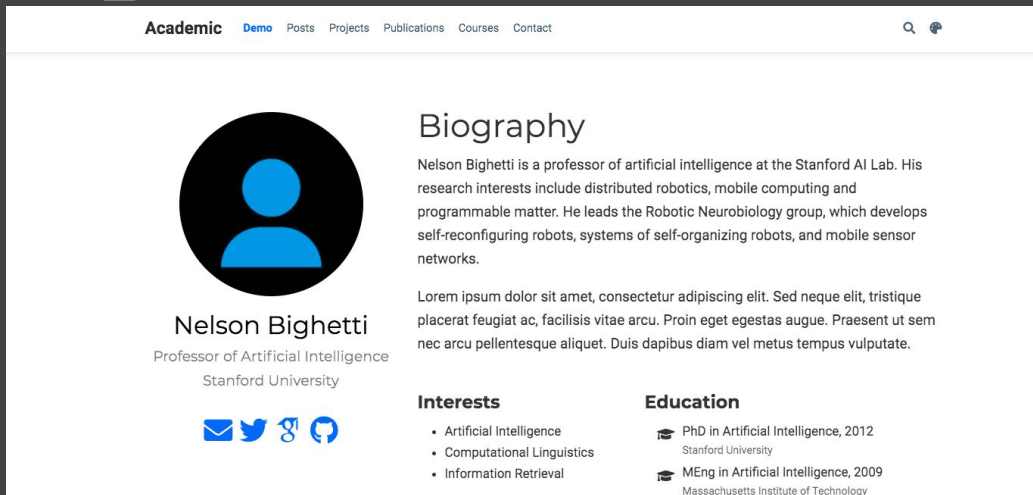
The cleanest way to change the theme of your site is to make a new one:

Changing themes

The cleanest way to change the theme of your site is to make a new one:

In a new project:

```
> blogdown::new_site(theme = 'gcushen/hugo-academic')
```



Updating content

When you update the content, RStudio will automatically update your page for you.

To stop the automatic reloading, run

```
> blogdown::stop_server()
```

To start the server (+ reloading) again later, run

```
> blogdown::serve_site()
```

(i.e. you don't have to run `new_site()` every time)

Hosting your blog online

Host online using:



GitHub

+



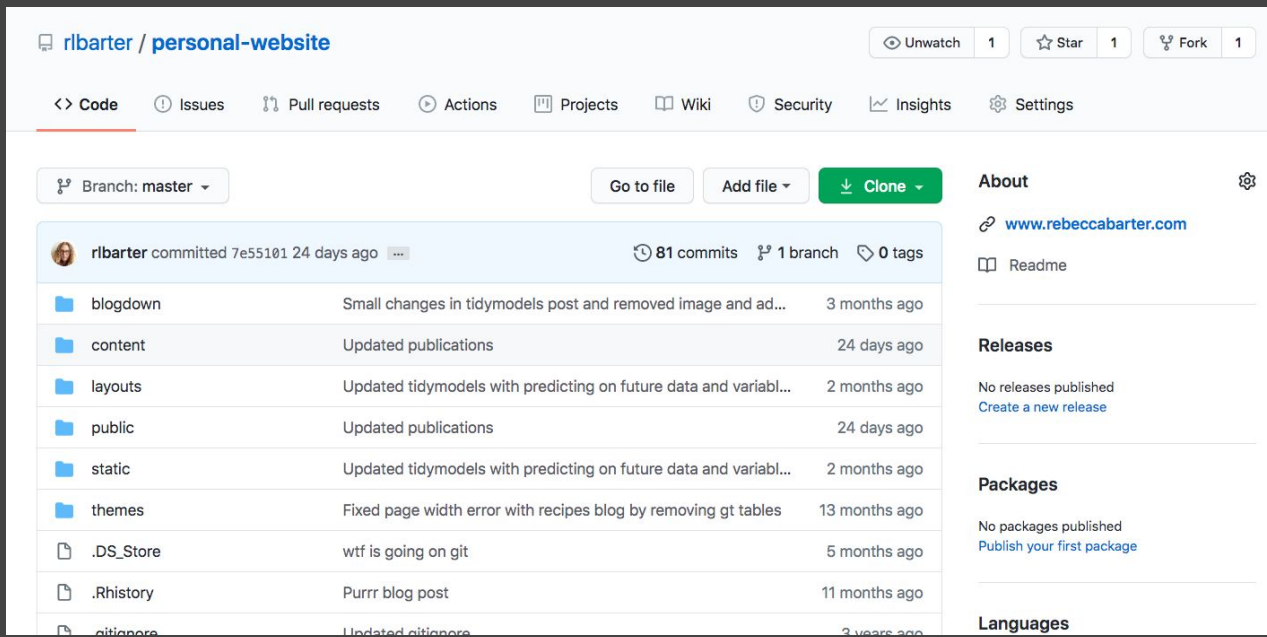
Netlify

Hosting your blog online

Host online using:



GitHub



The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for the repository 'rbarter / personal-website'. The repository is in the 'master' branch. The file list includes folders like 'blogdown', 'content', 'layouts', 'public', 'static', 'themes' and files like '.DS_Store', '.Rhistory', and 'citipere'. The right sidebar shows the 'About' section with the website URL 'www.rebeccabarter.com', 'Releases' section with 'No releases published', and 'Packages' section with 'No packages published'.

Repository: rbarter / personal-website

Branch: master

81 commits, 1 branch, 0 tags

File/Folder	Description	Time Ago
blogdown	Small changes in tidymodels post and removed image and ad...	3 months ago
content	Updated publications	24 days ago
layouts	Updated tidymodels with predicting on future data and variabl...	2 months ago
public	Updated publications	24 days ago
static	Updated tidymodels with predicting on future data and variabl...	2 months ago
themes	Fixed page width error with recipes blog by removing gt tables	13 months ago
.DS_Store	wtf is going on git	5 months ago
.Rhistory	Purrr blog post	11 months ago
citipere	Updated citipere	3 years ago

About: www.rebeccabarter.com

Releases: No releases published. [Create a new release](#)

Packages: No packages published. [Publish your first package](#)

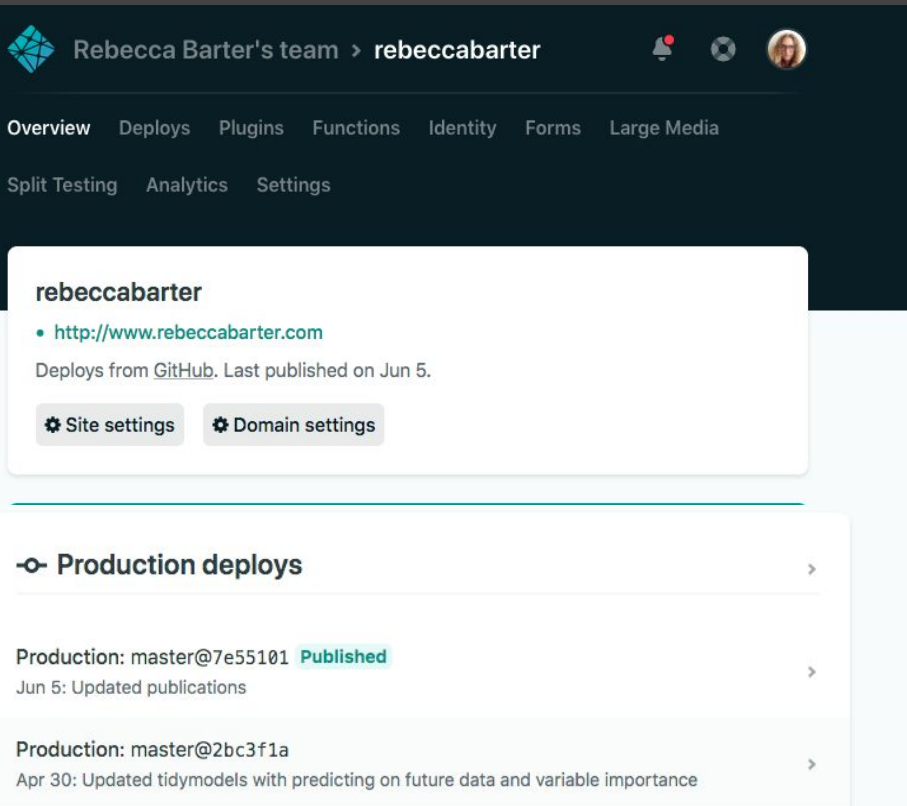
Languages

Hosting your blog online

Host online using:



Netlify



Resources one last time...

These slides:

<http://tiny.cc/smw5qz>

My blog post on why you should blog:

http://www.rebeccabarter.com/blog/2020-02-03_blogger/

Migrating to Netlify:

<http://www.rebeccabarter.com/blog/2017-06-29-website/>

Blogdown book:

<https://bookdown.org/yihui/blogdown/>