# R Package Creation

Creating Well Documented and Reusable Software

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- ► Simple workflow devtools cheatsheet
- ▶ A minimal example package utilizing S3 and S4 OOP systems

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- ► Thousands of packages that extend R functionality can be found on CRAN, Bioconductor, and github
- ► An R package is essentially a main directory with subdirectories that are organized in a very specific manner

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- Deliver your work to the world! (PhD Dissertations)

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- ▶ Don't use package.skeleton(), this will create way too much extra work for you in the end

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- ▶ Each of these components has a specific use/meaning in an R package

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- ► Hadley's rule: if I can't remember where a function lives, I need more files, or better names for files

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- ▶ License is important to understand when you want to released your package to others, but we won't delve into that here

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- isNamespaceLoaded("pkg", quietly = TRUE)

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- Export as few functions as necessary to avoid conflicts with existing packages

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  - I ALWAYS use namespace::function() to call functions in a package, i.e. I use imports not depends

# Developing an R package in RStudio

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  - You can also do this with devtools::create(), devtools::check(), devtools::build, devtools::install()

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- ▶ R package developers used to have to document our functions manually by reading "Writing R Extensions", and messing up a lot

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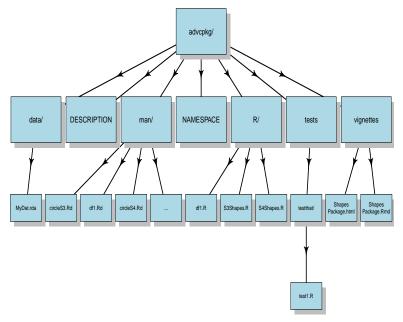
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  - ▶ I suggest reading R Packages Data for more information

# Flowchart of overall package structure



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- ► Three short tests provided in the example package tests are NOT required to check a package, accomplish via devtools::test()

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- Vignettes can be transformed into journal articles, so it's not a waste of time

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- ➤ Your workflow may change from time to time based on your requirements, for instance you may not be in the testing stage yet but are trying to work out kinks from roxygen2

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- ▶ We'll see that different characteristics and functions apply based on the class of the shape

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- In order to make it easier, it's all done through roxygen2 so you won't have to manually write documentation pages