

How to build a package with the Rmd first method?

R Lille Meetup 2021

Sébastien Rochette



This presentation on Github: [statnmap/prez](https://github.com/statnmap/prez)
Add your questions there: https://hackmd.io/2WEGjlnsTNa1-6k_ztAMZA?both

Sébastien

Team leader, R expert, R instructor.

- ThinkR Website: <https://rtask.thinkr.fr>
- ThinkR GitHub: <https://github.com/ThinkR-open>
- ThinkR Twitter: [@Thinkr_FR](#)
- Personal website: <https://statnmap.com>
- Personal Twitter: [@statnmap](#)



What is this presentation about?

- Start with a Rmd
- Build your functions inside
- Inflate as a Package

Read squirrels dataset

Quick exploration of data

Check the dataset

Plot the data

```
## $ location
## $ above_ground_sight measurement
## $ specific location
## $ running
## $ chasing
## $ climbing
## $ eating
## $ foraging
## $ other_activities
## $ kuks
## $ quags
## $ moans
## $ tail_flags
## $ tail_twitches
## $ approaches
## $ indifferent
## $ runs_from
## $ other_interactions
## $ lat_long
## $ zip_codes
## $ community_districts
## $ borough_boundaries
## $ city_council_districts
## $ police_precincts

## $ location
## $ above_ground_sight measurement
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## $ above_ground_sight measurement
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## $ indifferent
## $ runs_from
## $ other_interactions
## $ lat_long
## $ zip_codes
## $ community_districts
## $ borough_boundaries
## $ city_council_districts
## $ police_precincts
```

Check the dataset

- Each year this dataset is renewed, a bad analysis because of a corrupted dataset would be a shame
- Let's check some information for our future analyses
 - Verify positions are in New York, around central Park
 - Verify there is only one color in `primary_fur_color`
 - A + in the column is a sign of multiple colours

Code

```
## All tests are good !
```

Plot the data

- Nothing's better than a good plot

Code

Distribution of squirrels in the analysis according to fur color

Files

Plots

Packages

Help

Viewer

New Folder

Delete

Rename

More

/ > / > mnt > Data > ThinkR > Gitlab > squirrels.fusen

▲ Name

☐

.Rhistory

☐

.Rproj.user

☐

DESCRIPTION

☐

dev

☐

docs

☐

LICENSE

☐

LICENSE.md

☐

man

☐

NAMESPACE

☐

R

☐

squirrels.fusen.Rproj

☐

tests

☐

vignettes

Q: Do you work with R Markdown documents?

- A: Yes, everytime
- B: Yes, sometimes, for reports or other specific cases
- C: No, but I know what it is and eventually I tried once
- D: No, and I don't really know what is is

Go to the HackMd to answer: https://hackmd.io/2WEGjlnsTNa1-6k_ztAMZA?both

R Markdown file, what for?

- A file format, which allows to mix code and text
 - Execute R code, in "chunks"
 - Allow reproducible and literal analysis
 - A (dynamic) document that is easy to share, distribute and publish
- A good basis to document your analysis!

Anatomy of R Markdown

```
1- ---
2  title: "Untitled"
3  output: html_document
4  ---
5
6  ```{r setup, include=FALSE}
7  knitr::opts_chunk$set(echo = TRUE)
8  ```
9
10- ## R Markdown
11
12 This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax for
13 authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. For more details on using R Markdown
14 see <http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com>.
15
16 When you click the **Knit** button a document will be generated that includes both
17 content as well as the output of any embedded R code chunks within the document.
18 You can embed an R code chunk like this:
19
20 ```{r cars}
21 summary(cars)
22 ```
23
24 ## Including Plots
25
26 You can also embed plots, for example:
27
28 ```{r pressure, echo=FALSE}
29 plot(pressure)
30 ```
31
32 Note that the `echo = FALSE` parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent
33 printing of the R code that generated the plot.
```

- **YAML header:** Metadata for the output
- **Text:** Text written using Markdown syntax
- **Chunks:** Place where you write classical R code

Knit the R Markdown

```
1- ---
2 title: "Untitled"
3 output: html_document
4 ---
5
6 ```{r setup, include=FALSE}
7 knitr::opts_chunk$set(echo = TRUE)
8 ```
9
10 ## R Markdown
11
12 This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax for
13 authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. For more details on using R Markdown
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29 plot(pressure)
30 ```
31
32 Note that the `echo = FALSE` parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent
33 printing of the R code that generated the plot.
```

Untitled

R Markdown

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>.

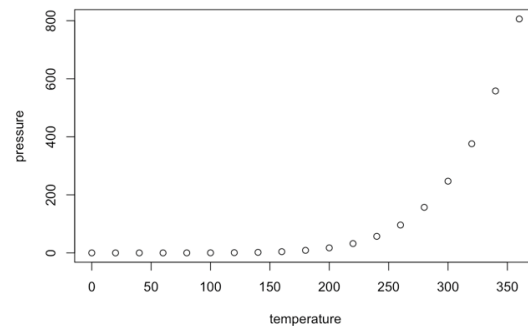
When you click the **Knit** button a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded R code chunks within the document. You can embed an R code chunk like this:

```
summary(cars)
```

```
##      speed      dist
##  Min.   : 4.0    Min.   : 2.00
##  1st Qu.:12.0    1st Qu.: 26.00
##  Median :15.0    Median : 36.00
##  Mean   :15.4    Mean   : 42.98
##  3rd Qu.:19.0    3rd Qu.: 56.00
##  Max.   :25.0    Max.   :120.00
```

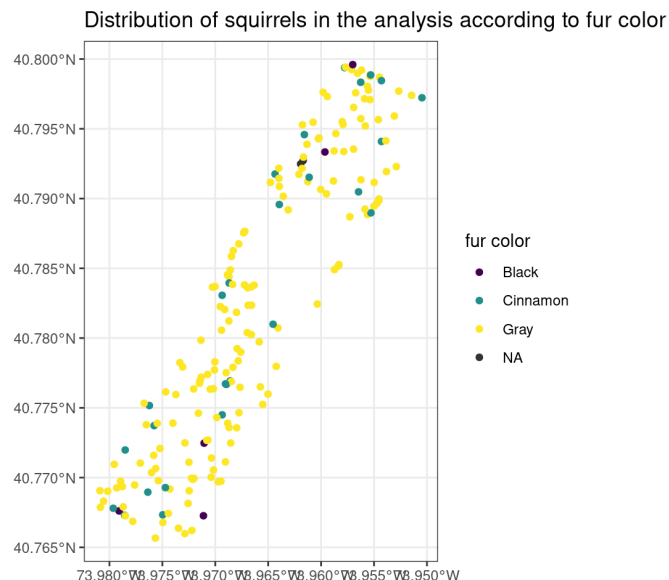
Including Plots

You can also embed plots, for example:



My data analysis in a Rmd

- TidyTuesday, NYC Squirrel Census:
 - Original study: <https://www.thesquirrelcensus.com/>
 - Data source:
<https://github.com/rfordatascience/tidytuesday/tree/master/data/2019/2019-10-29>



Let's open the "nyc_squirrels_rmd_simple.Rmd" file and the associated "nyc_squirrels_rmd_simple.html"

Q: Which of these situations have you faced?

Maintenance

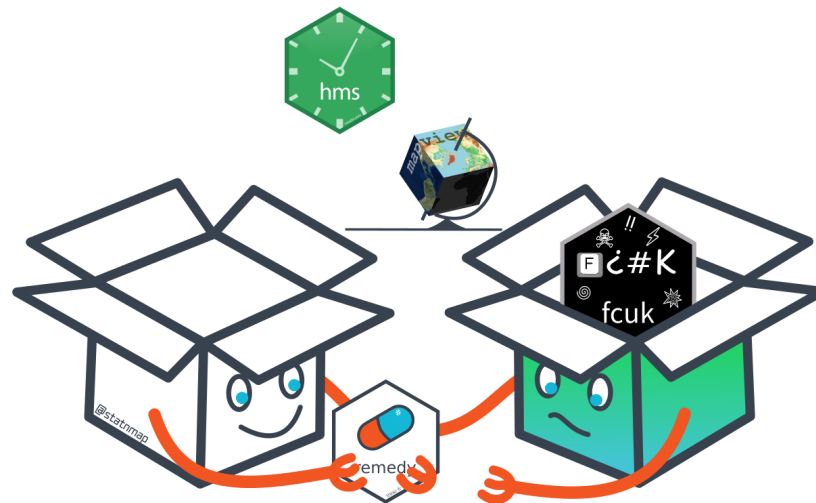
- A: Damn, I updated `{random.package}` last week, and my [old written] analysis does not work anymore
- B: I embeded my project in a Docker / `{renv}`, but I want this last `{random.package}` fonctionnality that may break my code
- C: My colleagues modified part of our shared analysis for their data, but it broke mine somewhere
- D: Maybe I need to add some verifications inside my scripts to protect from unfortunate modifications or inputs

Go to the HackMd to answer: https://hackmd.io/2WEGjlnsTNa1-6k_ztAMZA?both

Q: Which of these situations have you faced?

Collaboration

- E: My colleagues do not get how to adapt my scripts to their specific case and come ask me a new question every day
- F: I got someone else code, but which packages to install?
- G: I use to copy-paste some lines, but with a small modification



Go to the HackMd to answer: https://hackmd.io/2WEGjlnsTNa1-6k_ztAMZA?both

Packages framework helps for these situations

Let's explore a package structure

- Package structure during development != installed on your computer
- Let's open the heart of {attachment}
- <https://github.com/ThinkR-open/attachment>



What to do with this package ?

My questions as a user

- What does it do?
- How to install it with its dependencies?
- What are its function?
- How to fill parameters of this function?
- Can I have an example on how to use this function?
- Can I have an example on how to use the package as a whole?
- Will it work with the last version of R and dependencies?

What to do with this package ?

My answers as a user

Questions	Answers
What does it do?	CRAN page: https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/attachment/index.html
How to install it with its dependencies?	<code>install.packages('attachment')</code>
What are its function?	<code>?attachment</code> => Index
How to fill parameters of this function?	<code>?att_amend_desc</code>
Can I have an example on how to use this function?	<code>?att_amend_desc</code> => Examples
Can I have an example on how to use the package as a whole?	Vignettes, GitHub: https://thinkr-open.github.io/attachment/articles/fill-pkg-description.html
Will it work with the last version of R and dependencies?	Readme Check, https://github.com/ThinkR-open/attachment

The dedicated website gathers all these answers: <https://thinkr-open.github.io/attachment/>

What to do with this package ?

How the developers answered your questions?

- Let open it: <https://github.com/ThinkR-open/attachment>

Questions	Answers
What does it do?	DESCRIPTION
How to install it with its dependencies?	DESCRIPTION
What are its function?	'R/' directory
How to fill parameters of this function?	'R/': Roxygen skeleton
Can I have an example on how to use this function?	'R/': <code>@examples</code>
Can I have an example on how to use the package as a whole?	'vignettes/' directory
Will it work with the last version of R and dependencies?	'tests/' directory and Continuous Integration

■ A minimum of 4 different places to store code and documentation

Q: Have you already built a package with all these?

- A: Yes, everything. Functions, examples, tests, vignettes
- B: Only part of documentation. Functions, examples, maybe vignettes
- C: Only functions in a "R/" directory
- D: No. I never built a package from scratch

Go to the HackMd to answer: https://hackmd.io/2WEGjlnsTNa1-6k_ztAMZA?both

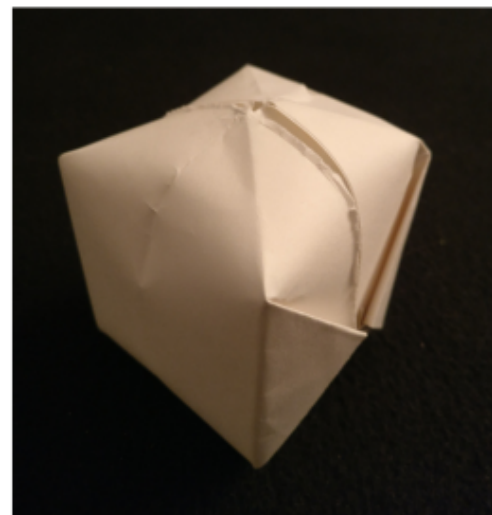
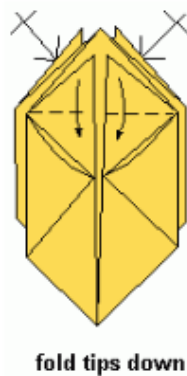
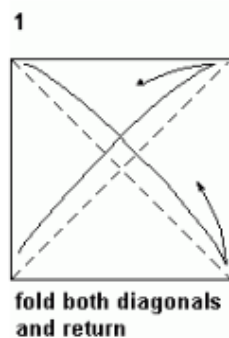
There are many things to set up as a developer

The only thing I (barely?) know is the R Markdown...

How to jump from Rmd to package?

Many files and info to remember...

What if there was a package that could take a Rmd file, a bit like a flat sheet of paper, and if you follow the right folding, you can inflate it as a package?

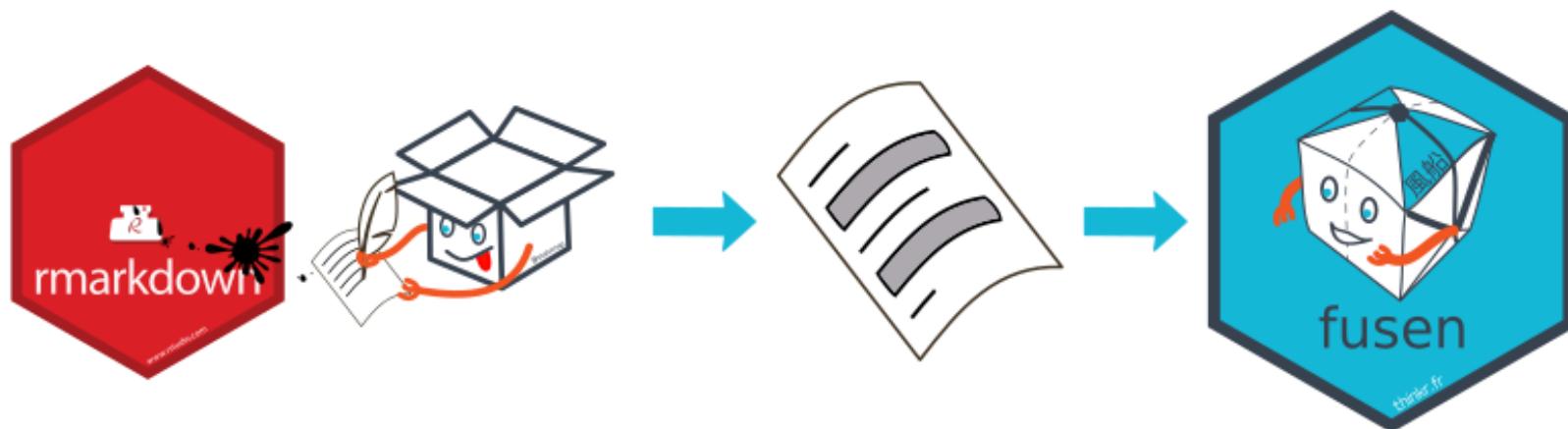


<https://rtask.thinkr.fr/fusen-create-a-package-from-a-single-rmarkdown-file/>

Inflate your Rmd with {fusen}

Let {fusen} deal with the package structure

- Write your Rmd
- Follow the folding lines
- Inflate

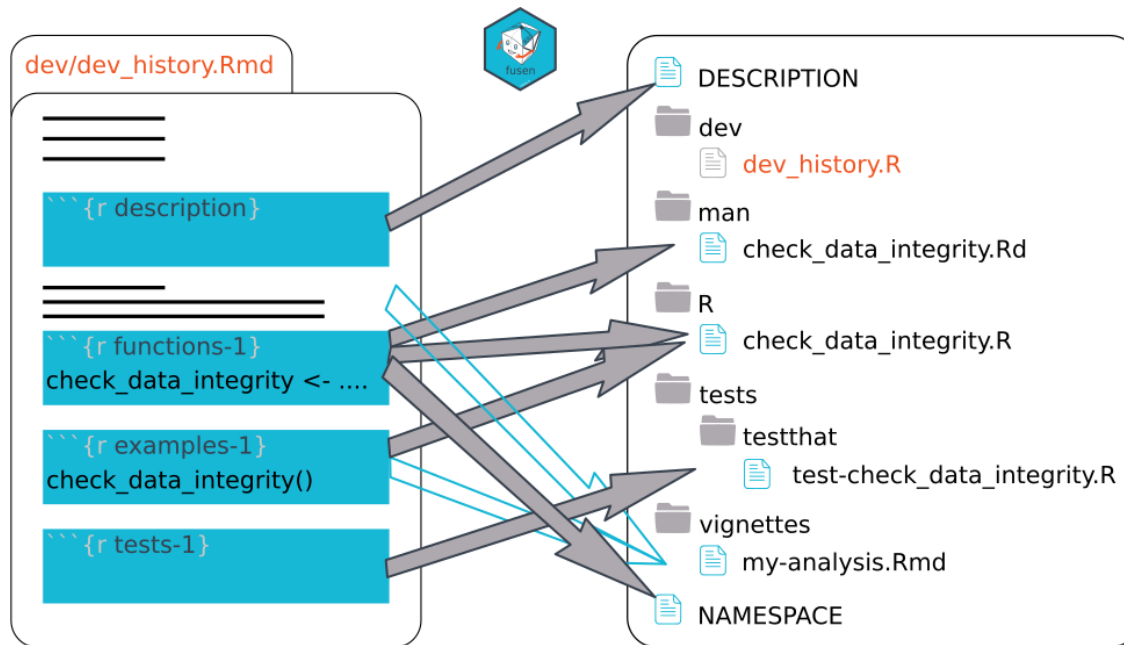


Follow {fusen} folding lines

Four different places to store code and documentation

- **DESCRIPTION**: package documentation
- **'R/'** directory: functions and examples
- **'tests/'** directory: unit tests
- **'vignettes/'** directory: documentation

{fusen} needs to distinguish these places to be able to correctly distribute



Let's inflate the squirrels analysis

- To begin: use the {fusen} template: `fusen::add_dev_history()`
 - Use it as a template for your {fusen}

```
21 ▾ ```{r description}
22
23 ▴ |``
24
25 ▾ # My function
26
27 ▾ ```{r function-1}
28
29 ▴ ```
30
31 ▾ ```{r examples-1}
32
33 ▴ ```
34
35 ▾ ```{r tests-1}
36 ▾ test_that("my_function works properly", {
37
38 ▴ })
39 ▴ ```
40
```

Here, move "nyc_squirrels_rmd_simple.Rmd" to "dev/"

Use a minimal template: `fusen::add_dev_history(name = "minimal")`

The squirrels analysis - DESCRIPTION

- Add a chunk named `description`
- Fill functions `fusen::fill_description()` and `usethis::use_mit_license()`
-

```
```{r description}
Describe your package
fusen::fill_description(
 pkg = here::here(),
 fields = list(
 Title = "Tools to Build the Annual Study of NYC Squirrel data",
 Description = "The NYC Squirrel data includes the locations, fur coloration,
activities, and bizarre behavior of over 2,000 City squirrels. The present package
gives different tools to explore this dataset.",
 `Authors@R` = c(
 person("Sebastien", "Rochette", email = "sebastien@thinkr.fr", role =
c("aut", "cre"), comment = c(ORCID = "0000-0002-1565-9313")),
 person(given = "ThinkR", role = "cph")
)
)
)
Define License with use_*_license()
usethis::use_mit_license("Sébastien Rochette")
```
```

The squirrels analysis - DESCRIPTION

- Add a chunk named `description`
- Fill functions `fusen::fill_description()` and `usethis::use_mit_license()`
- Execute the content of the chunk

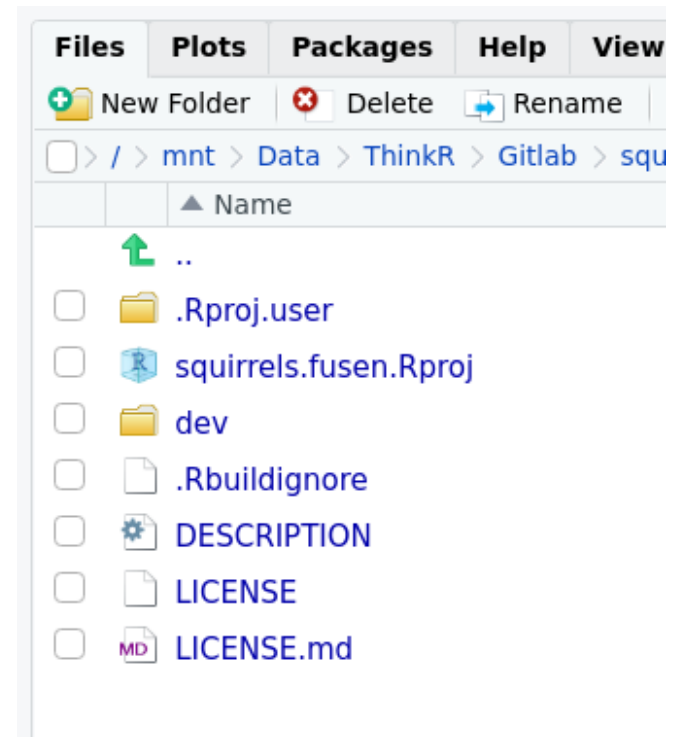
```
```{r description}
Describe your package
fusen::fill_description(
 pkg = here::here(),
 fields = list(
 Title = "Tools to Build the Annual Study of NYC Squirrel data",
 Description = "The NYC Squirrel data includes the locations, fur coloration,
activities, and bizarre behavior of over 2,000 City squirrels. The present package
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 `Authors@R` = c(
 person("Sebastien", "Rochette", email = "sebastien@thinkr.fr", role =
c("aut", "cre"), comment = c(ORCID = "0000-0002-1565-9313")),
 person(given = "ThinkR", role = "cph")
)
)
)
Define License with use_*_license()
usethis::use_mit_license("Sébastien Rochette")
```
```

```
dev_history.Rmd x DESCRIPTION x
1 Package: squirrels.fusen
2 Version: 0.0.0.9000
3 Title: Tools to Build the Annual Study of NYC Sq
4 Description: The NYC Squirrel data includes the
5 Authors@R: c(person(given = "Sebastien",
6 family = "Rochette",
7 role = c("aut", "cre"),
8 email = "sebastien@thinkr.fr",
9 comment = c(ORCID = "0000-0002-1565-9313:
10 person(given = "ThinkR",
11 role = "cph"))
12 License: MIT + file LICENSE
13 Encoding: UTF-8
14 LazyData: true
15 Roxygen: list(markdown = TRUE)
16 RoxygenNote: 7.1.1
17
```


The squirrels analysis - DESCRIPTION

- Add a chunk named `description`
- Fill functions `fusen::fill_description()` and `usethis::use_mit_license()`
- Execute the content of the chunk

```
```{r description}
Describe your package
fusen::fill_description(
 pkg = here::here(),
 fields = list(
 Title = "Tools to Build the Annual Study of NYC Squirrel data",
 Description = "The NYC Squirrel data includes the locations, fur coloration,
activities, and bizarro behavior of over 2,000 City squirrels. The present package
gives different tools to explore this dataset.",
 `Authors@R` = c(
 person("Sebastien", "Rochette", email = "sebastien@thinkr.fr", role =
c("aut", "cre"), comment = c(ORCID = "0000-0002-1565-9313")),
 person(given = "ThinkR", role = "cph")
)
)
)
Define License with use_*_license()
usethis::use_mit_license("Sébastien Rochette")
```
```



The squirrels analysis - functions

- Your script

```
#  
# Verify points are in New York around Central Park  
all_coords_ok <- all(  
  c(  
    min(nyc_squirrels[["lat"]]) > 40.76400,  
    max(nyc_squirrels[["lat"]]) < 40.80100,  
    min(nyc_squirrels[["long"]]) > -73.98300,  
    max(nyc_squirrels[["long"]]) < -73.94735  
  )  
)  
if (!all_coords_ok) {stop("Not all data are in Central Park")}  
  
# Verify there is only one color in primary_fur_color.  
# A `+` in the column is a sign of multiple colours  
if (any(grepl("+", nyc_squirrels[["primary_fur_color"]], fixed = TRUE))) {  
  stop("There are multiple colors in some 'primary_fur_color'")  
}  
  
message("All tests are good !")  
#
```

The squirrels analysis - functions

- Transform as a function and parametrize

```
check_data_integrity <- function(x) {  
  # Verify points are in New York around Central Park  
  all_coords_ok <- all(  
    c(  
      min(x[["lat"]]) > 40.76400,  
      max(x[["lat"]]) < 40.80100,  
      min(x[["long"]]) > -73.98300,  
      max(x[["long"]]) < -73.94735  
    )  
  )  
  if (!all_coords_ok) {stop("Not all data are in Central Park")}  
  
  # Verify there is only one color in primary_fur_color.  
  # A `+` in the column is a sign of multiple colours  
  if (any(grepl("+", x[["primary_fur_color"]], fixed = TRUE))) {  
    stop("There are multiple colors in some 'primary_fur_color'")  
  }  
  
  message("All tests are good !")  
}
```

The squirrels analysis - functions

- Document function, parameters in a chunk named `function`

```
```{r function-1}
```

```
Check data integrity
##
@param x dataframe with at least columns "lat", "long" and "primary_fur_color"
##
@return Original dataframe if all tests are good. Otherwise stops.
@export
check_data_integrity <- function(x) {
 # Verify points are in New York around Central Park
 all_coords_ok <- all(
 c(
 min(x[["lat"]]) > 40.76400,
 max(x[["lat"]]) < 40.80100,
 min(x[["long"]]) > -73.98300,
 max(x[["long"]]) < -73.94735
)
)
 if (!all_coords_ok) {stop("Not all data are in Central Park")}

 # Verify there is only one color in primary fur color.
 # A '+' in the column is a sign of multiple colours
}
```

# The squirrels analysis - examples

- Test with a reproducible example in a new chunk named `examples`
  - A data.frame with "lat", "long", "primary\_fur\_color"

```
```{r examples-1}
```

```
# A working example
my_data_example <- data.frame(
  lat = c(40.77, 40.78),
  long = c(-73.95, -73.96),
  primary_fur_color = c("grey", "black")
)
check_data_integrity(my_data_example)
```

```
...
```

```
#> All tests are good !
```

The squirrels analysis - tests

- Test on your reproducible examples in a chunk named `tests`

```
```{r tests-1}
```

```
my_data_example <- data.frame(
 lat = c(40.77, 40.78), long = c(-73.95, -73.96),
 primary_fur_color = c("grey", "black")
)
my_data_example_error <- data.frame(
 lat = c(40.77, 40.78), long = c(-73.95, -73.96),
 primary_fur_color = c("grey+blue", "black") # not unique color
)

test_that("check_data_integrity works correctly", {
 expect_message(check_data_integrity(my_data_example), "All tests are good !")
 expect_error(check_data_integrity(my_data_example_error), "multiple colors")
})
```

```
...
```

```
#> Test passed 🏆
```

# The squirrels analysis - vignette

- What about the vignette?

**The Rmd is the core of the vignette, fill it with information for the users**

## # Check the validity of the entry dataset

Because my dataset may be updated regularly, I need to be sure nothing as changed in its structure. I will build a function that checks the content of some columns of the dataset for instance:

- + Verify positions are in New York, around central Park
- + Verify there is only one color in `primary\_fur\_color`
  - + A `+` in the column is a sign of multiple colours

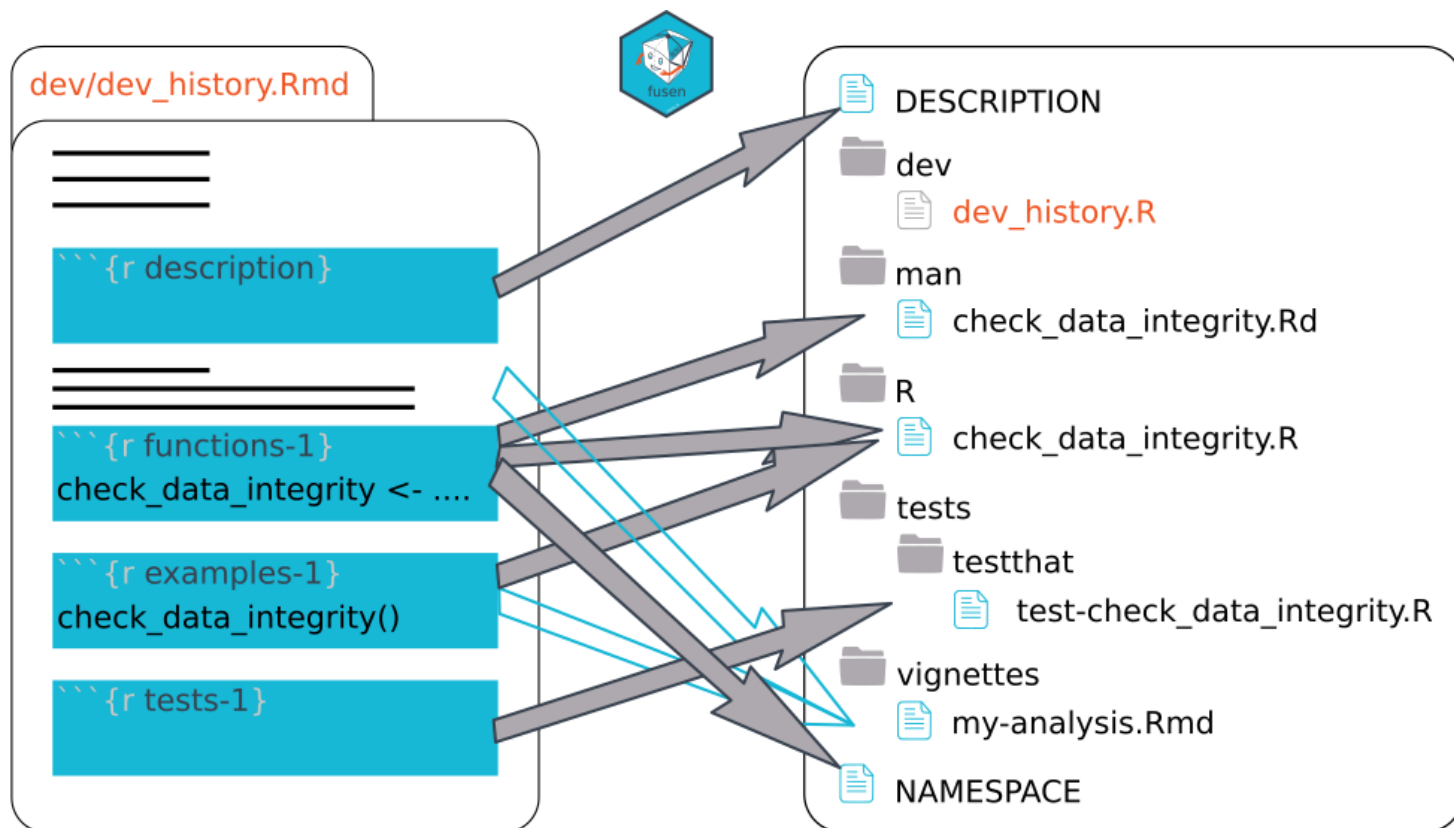
- {fusen} will remove chunks named `description`, `function`, `tests`, `development`
- Chunk named `examples` will stay as they are part of your documentation
  - They are also recycled in `@examples` in the function documentation

# The squirrels analysis - the package

- Inflate !

```
fusen::inflate(rmd = "dev/dev_history.Rmd")
```

*functions*



@statnmap

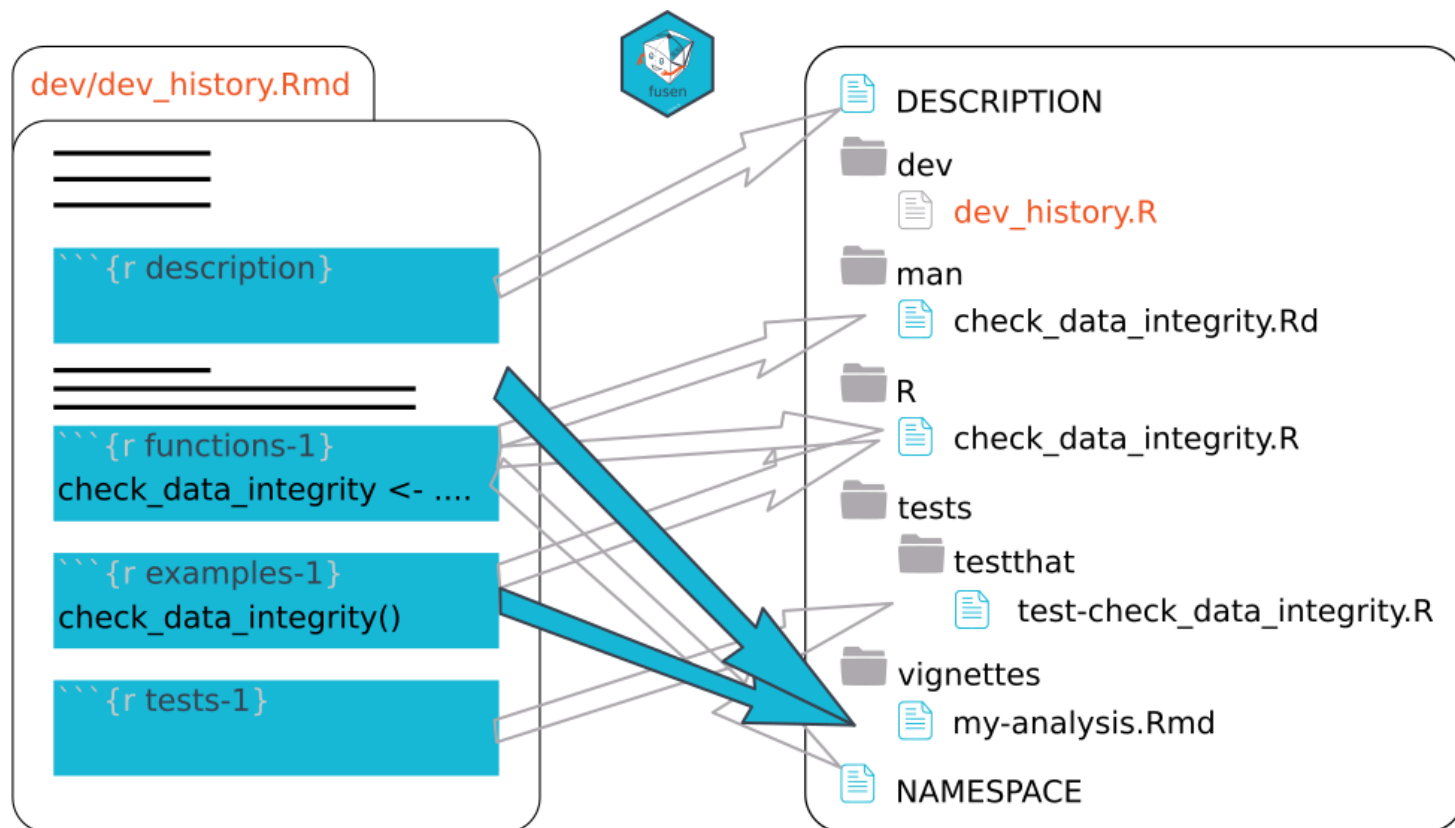


# The squirrels analysis - the package

- Inflate !

```
fusen::inflate(rmd = "dev/dev_history.Rmd")
```

*vignette*



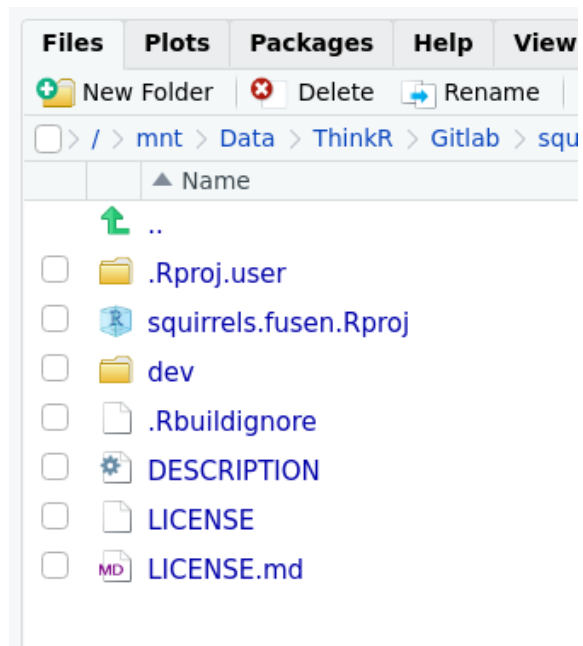
@statnmap

# The squirrels analysis - the package

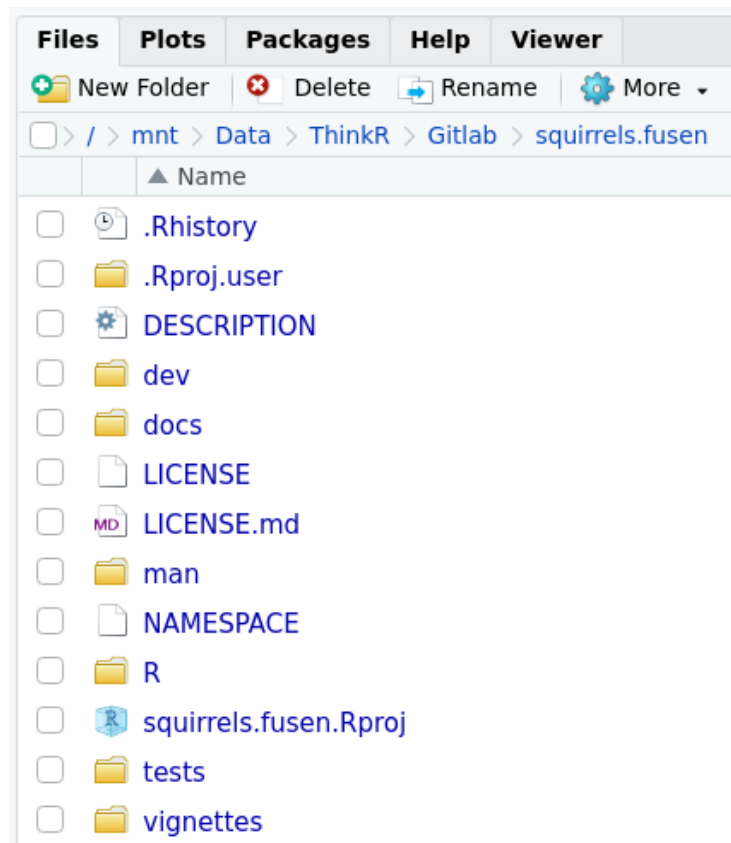
- Inflate !

```
fusen::inflate(rmd = "dev/dev_history.Rmd")
```

*Before*




*After*



# The squirrels analysis - the website

- Verify the correct documentation of your package

```
usethis::use_pkgdown()
pkgdown::build_site()
```

squirrels.fusen 0.0.0.9000  Reference Articles ▾

## Check data integrity

Check data integrity

check\_data\_integrity(x)

Contents

Arguments

Value

Examples

## Arguments

x dataframe with at least columns "lat", "long" and "primary\_fur\_color"

## Value

Original dataframe if all tests are good. Otherwise stops.

## Examples

```
A working example
my_data_example <- data.frame(
 lat = c(40.77, 40.78),
 long = c(-73.95, -73.96),
 primary_fur_color = c("grey", "black")
)
check_data_integrity(my_data_example)
#> All tests are good !
```

# How this answers original problems?

- *A: Damn, I updated `{random.package}` last week, and my [old written] analysis does not work anymore*
  - **Unit tests**
- *B: I embeded my project in a Docker / `{renv}`, but I want this last `{random.package}` fonctionnality that may break my code*
  - **Unit tests**
- *C: My colleagues modified part of our shared analysis for their data, but it broke mine somewhere*
  - **Unit tests**
- *D: Maybe I need to add some verifications inside my scripts to protect from unfortunate modifications or inputs*
  - **Unit tests**
- *E: My colleagues do not get how to adapt my scripts to their specific case and come ask me a new question every day*
  - **Vignette + examples + pkgdown**
- *F: I got someone else code, but which packages to install?*
  - **DESCRIPTION**
- *G: I use to copy-paste some lines, but with a small modification*
  - **functions**

# 'Rmd first' method for every project

## Documentation matters

Document for you, document for developers  
Document for customers, document for your colleagues, document for your boss

## Start with Rmd

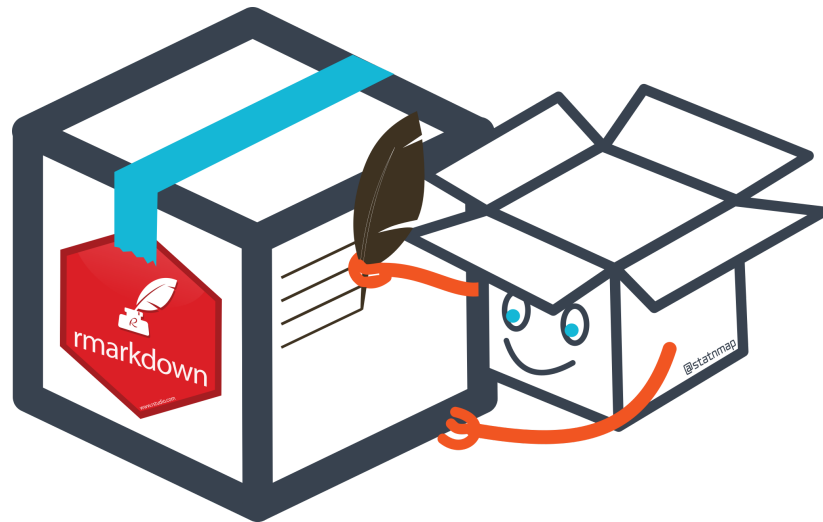
- Start with a Rmd as a sandbox
- Document your functions with reproducible examples
- Create your tests while you code

## THINK Package with **{fusen}** !

**THANK YOU** for your attention

See more:

- [rtask.thinkr.fr](https://rtask.thinkr.fr)
- <https://thinkr-open.github.io/fusen>



This presentation on Github: [statnmap/prez](https://github.com/statnmap/prez)