

# 11: Crafting Reports

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Spring 2022

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the purpose of using R Markdown as a communication and workflow tool
2. Incorporate Markdown syntax into documents
3. Communicate the process and findings of an analysis session in the style of a report

## USE OF R STUDIO & R MARKDOWN SO FAR...

1. Write code
2. Document that code
3. Generate PDFs of code and its outputs
4. Integrate with Git/GitHub for version control

## BASIC R MARKDOWN DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

1. **YAML Header** surrounded by `---` on top and bottom
  - YAML templates include options for html, pdf, word, markdown, and interactive
  - More information on formatting the YAML header can be found in the cheat sheet
2. **R Code Chunks** surrounded by `"on top and bottom + Create using Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+I"`
  - Can be named `{r name}` to facilitate navigation and autoreferencing
  - Chunk options allow for flexibility when the code runs and when the document is knitted
3. **Text** with formatting options for readability in knitted document

## RESOURCES

Handy cheat sheets for R markdown can be found: [here](#), and [here](#).

There's also a quick reference available via the **Help**→**Markdown Quick Reference** menu.

Lastly, this website give a great & thorough overview.

## THE KNITTING PROCESS



- The knitting sequence
- Knitting commands in code chunks:
- `include = FALSE` - code is run, but neither code nor results appear in knitted file
- `echo = FALSE` - code not included in knitted file, but results are

- `eval = FALSE` - code is not run in the knitted file
- `message = FALSE` - messages do not appear in knitted file
- `warning = FALSE` - warnings do not appear...
- `fig.cap = "..."` - adds a caption to graphical results

## WHAT ELSE CAN R MARKDOWN DO?

See: <https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com> and class recording. \* Languages other than R... \* Various outputs...

## WHY R MARKDOWN?

< Fill in our discussion below with bullet points. Use italics and bold for emphasis (hint: use the cheat sheets or Help → Markdown Quick Reference to figure out how to make bold and italic text). >

- Easy **Replication**
- **GitHub** Integration
- **Formatting** graphs, tables, *and* maps
- **Data** cleaning *and* interpretation

## TEXT EDITING CHALLENGE

Create a table below that details the example datasets we have been using in class. The first column should contain the names of the datasets and the second column should include some relevant information about the datasets. (Hint: use the cheat sheets to figure out how to make a table in Rmd)

Dataset Names	Description
EPAair_O3_NC2018_raw.csv	US EPA data on the levels of ozone (O3) in North Carolina Counties in 2018
EPAair_PM25_NC2018_raw.csv	US EPA data on the levels of PM2.5 in North Carolina Counties in 2018
USGS_site02085000_Flow_Processed.csv	USGS data for water flow data in North Carolina

## R CHUNK EDITING CHALLENGE

### Installing packages

Create an R chunk below that installs the package `knitr`. Instead of commenting out the code, customize the chunk options such that the code is not evaluated (i.e., not run).

```
install.packages('knitr')
```

### Setup

Create an R chunk below called “setup” that checks your working directory, loads the packages `tidyverse`, `lubridate`, and `knitr`, and sets a ggplot theme. Remember that you need to disable R throwing a message, which contains a check mark that cannot be knitted.

Load the NTL-LTER\_Lake\_Nutrients\_Raw dataset, display the head of the dataset, and set the date column to a date format.

Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but is not displayed in the final document.

## Data Exploration, Wrangling, and Visualization

Create an R chunk below to create a processed dataset do the following operations:

- Include all columns except lakeid, depth\_id, and comments
- Include only surface samples (depth = 0 m)
- Drop rows with missing data

```
nutrients.processed <-  
  nutrients %>%  
    subset(select = -c(lakeid, depth_id, comments)) %>%  
    filter(depth == 0) %>%  
    na.omit
```

Create a second R chunk to create a summary dataset with the mean, minimum, maximum, and standard deviation of total nitrogen concentrations for each lake. Create a second summary dataset that is identical except that it evaluates total phosphorus. Customize the chunk options such that the code is run but not displayed in the final document.

Create a third R chunk that uses the function `kable` in the `knitr` package to display two tables: one for the summary dataframe for total N and one for the summary dataframe of total P. Use the `caption = " "` code within that function to title your tables. Customize the chunk options such that the final table is displayed but not the code used to generate the table.

Table 2: Summarized Nitrogen Levels by Lake

lakename	mean.nitrogen	min.nitrogen	max.nitrogen	sd.nitrogen
Central Long Lake	690.0469	343.020	953.063	209.09341
Crampton Lake	362.6813	353.380	376.304	12.05748
East Long Lake	810.7834	380.620	2608.956	335.41457
Hummingbird Lake	1036.6695	779.053	1221.960	204.36889
Paul Lake	368.7564	45.670	628.625	106.34741
Peter Lake	561.8752	219.720	2048.151	305.64909
Tuesday Lake	423.5605	237.363	554.418	78.84522
West Long Lake	762.6017	303.170	2870.302	402.95992

Table 3: Summarized Phosphorus Levels by Lake

lakename	mean.phos	min.phos	max.phos	sd.phos
Central Long Lake	21.70981	8.190	37.270	7.076388
Crampton Lake	11.16033	5.803	15.555	4.946759
East Long Lake	29.28984	8.000	101.050	17.375710
Hummingbird Lake	36.21925	32.765	42.119	4.146717
Paul Lake	10.45606	1.222	36.070	4.805142
Peter Lake	18.39153	0.000	64.383	10.976205
Tuesday Lake	11.71853	6.325	18.663	3.044289
West Long Lake	19.82981	2.690	63.243	10.541276

Create a fourth and fifth R chunk that generates two plots (one in each chunk): one for total N over time with different colors for each lake, and one with the same setup but for total P. Decide which geom option will be appropriate for your purpose, and select a color palette that is visually pleasing and accessible. Customize the chunk options such that the final figures are displayed but not the code used to generate the figures. In addition, customize the chunk options such that the figures are aligned on the left side of the page. Lastly,

add a `fig.cap` chunk option to add a caption (title) to your plot that will display underneath the figure.

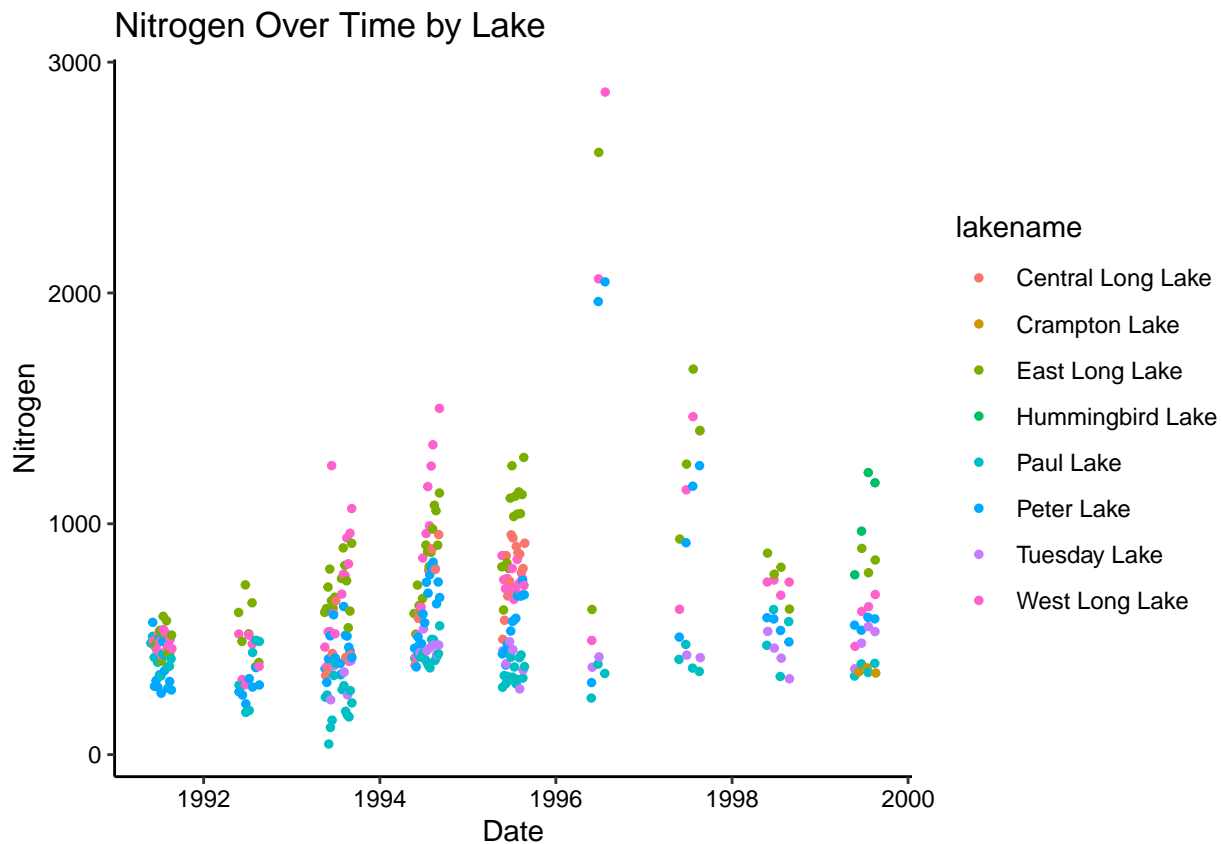


Figure 1: Nitrogen Plot

### Communicating results

Write a paragraph describing your findings from the R coding challenge above. This should be geared toward an educated audience but one that is not necessarily familiar with the dataset. Then insert a horizontal rule below the paragraph. Below the horizontal rule, write another paragraph describing the next steps you might take in analyzing this dataset. What questions might you be able to answer, and what analyses would you conduct to answer those questions?

The data analysis done above offers some insight into the nutrient levels at certain lakes over time. Most notable is that at the start of the data collection in 1991 many of the lakes nutrient levels, both phosphorus and nitrogen were of a similar level. Over time, spiking between 1996 and 1997, a few lakes such as Hummingbird Lake and East Long Lake began seeing higher nutrient levels than their counterparts. However approaching the year 2000 these levels began to drop again. It was also of note that nitrogen and phosphorus levels seemed to mimic one another, in which the same lakes had higher concentrations of each.

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To continue this analysis it would be helpful to find more recent data and perform a time series analysis. It would also be interesting to see if there is a connection between the causes of these nutrient spikes at certain lakes. This could be done by researching policies put in effect designed to regulate nutrient levels, or perhaps by performing a spatial analysis of high nutrient polluting activities near these lakes.

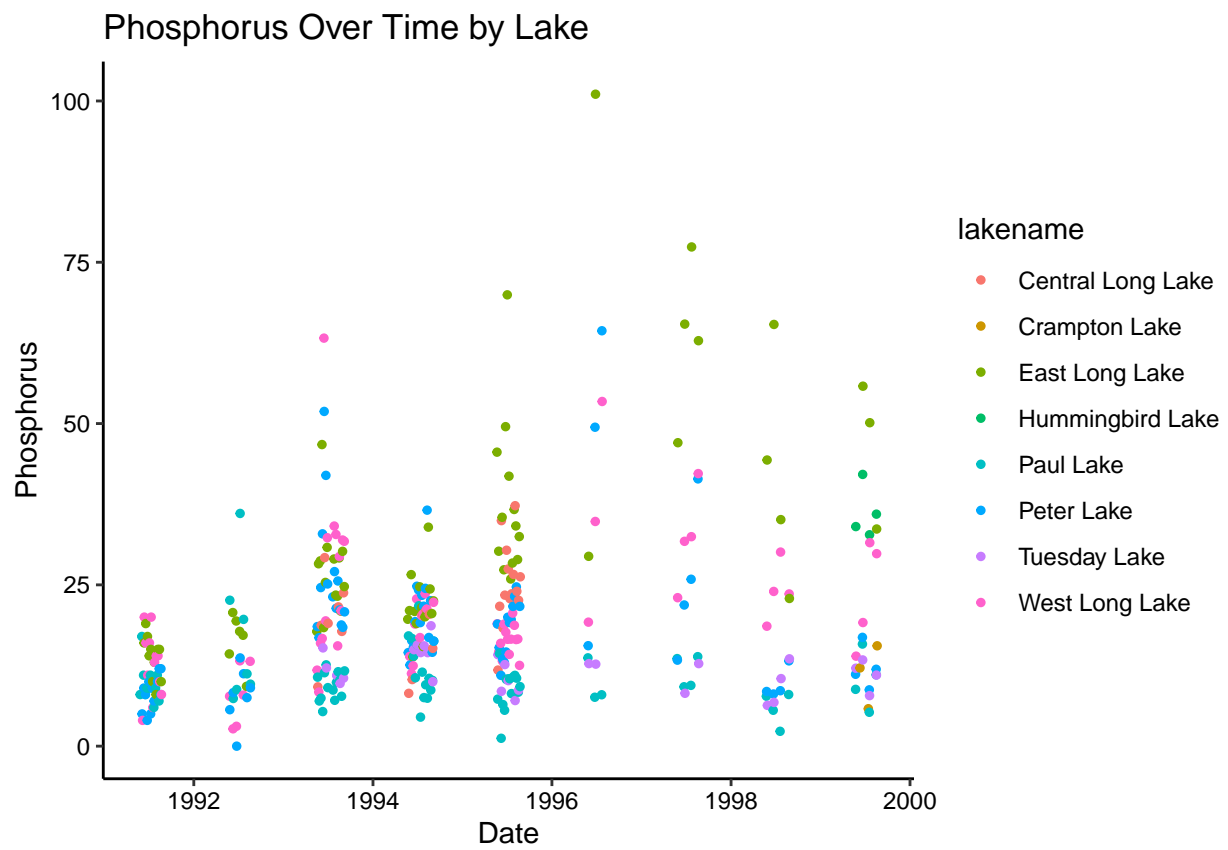


Figure 2: Phosphorus Plot

## KNIT YOUR PDF

When you have completed the above steps, try knitting your PDF to see if all of the formatting options you specified turned out as planned. This may take some troubleshooting.

## OTHER R MARKDOWN CUSTOMIZATION OPTIONS

We have covered the basics in class today, but R Markdown offers many customization options. A word of caution: customizing templates will often require more interaction with LaTeX and installations on your computer, so be ready to troubleshoot issues.

Customization options for pdf output include:

- Table of contents
- Number sections
- Control default size of figures
- Citations
- Template (more info [here](#))

pdf\_document:

toc: true

number\_sections: true

fig\_height: 3

fig\_width: 4

citation\_package: natbib

template: