

Transitioning between various RMarkdown packages for workflow optimization in academic research; a graduate student's perspective.

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Hello useR! 2019



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Quick Facts:

- Started using R in 2014
- Hated it!
- Realized the value in FOSS
- Taught myself R
- Made the {posterdown} package
- Now known as the "you can do that in R!" guy in my lab!

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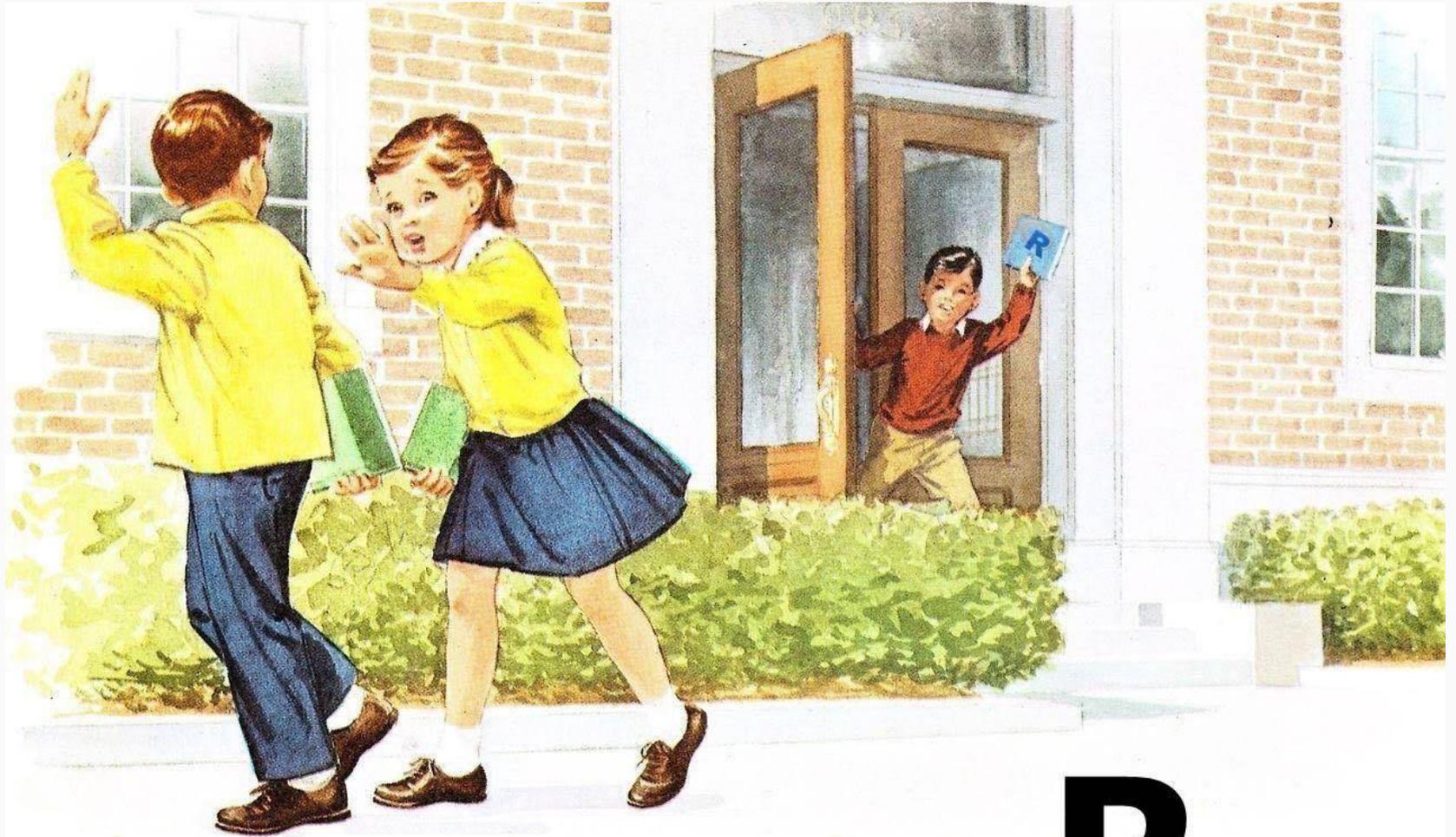
What packages can I use?

Grad Student's Needs	Possible R packages
Taking notes	rmarkdown/ pagedown
Manage Citations	rbbt/ citr/
Conference Posters	pagedown/ posterdown (<i>personal bias on this one</i>)
Thesis/ Dissertation	bookdown/ thesisdown/ pagedown
Slide Shows	xaringan/ beamer
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New User's

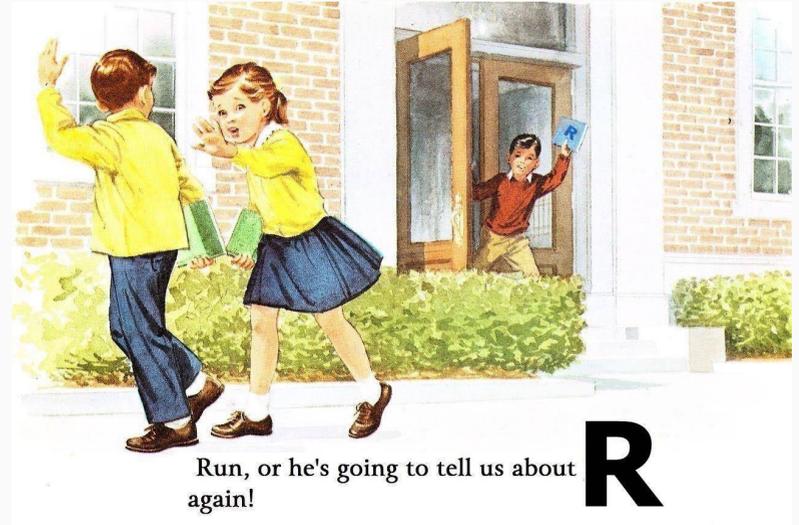


Run, or he's going to tell us about
again!

R

New User's

- Show them, don't tell them
- Show them only 1 item at a time
- Ask them if they want help getting started



LaTeX or HTML?



JAKE-CLARK.TUMBLR

LaTeX or HTML?

- Can be difficult to transition between the two.
- Often a person sticks with what they started with.



JAKE-CLARK.TUMBLR

Can we simplify syntax?



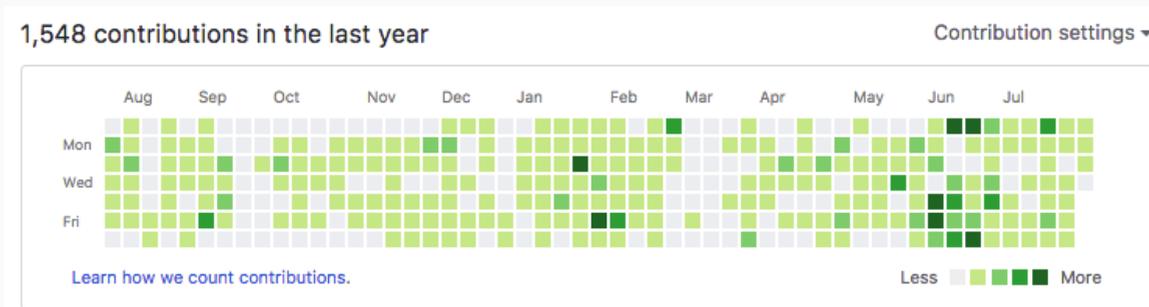
Can we simplify syntax?

- New users are put off when needing to change what they know for little gain.
- I made `posterdown` to ensure a document written in `rmarkdown` could be immediately turned into a conference poster.



Why should your supervisors care?

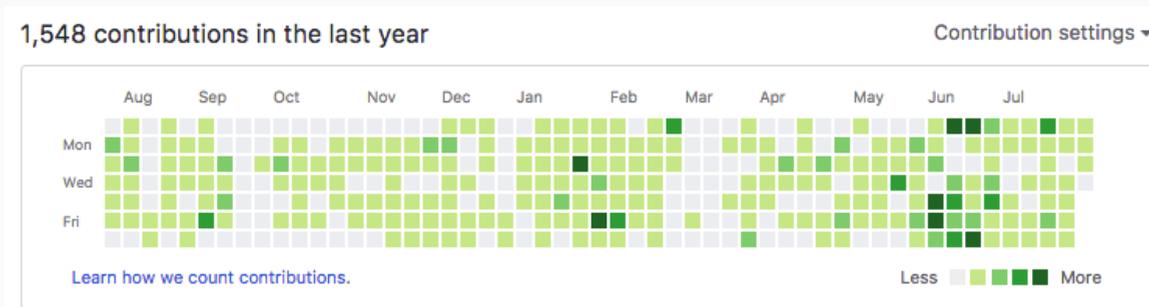
- 1) Version control
- 2) Reproducible
- 3) More time for the important stuff, think of all the manuscripts!
- 4) Check up on progress from a distance....



- 5) No need to track down a student years after they're gone for data/ analysis.

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Conclusion

- R markdown and other down packages are changing the way academia can become more streamlined for graduate students
- When creating new packages/ templates for the downverse it will be important to consider how a template may be transitioned to or from by simplifying the syntax.
- Let's encourage all levels of academia to embrace reproducible research!

Thank you

Thank you to useR! 2019 for providing a scholarship for me to attend this years meeting!

