



LondonR Workshop
March 30th 2015

WiFi

- UCLGuest Wireless Network
- Navigate to a page outside of UCL
- Click on the link to the self service page
- Enter your details and event code (CDRC)
- Click Generate Account
- Make a note of the username and password
- Click on the link to login

Workshop Aim

Be able to develop a simple Shiny App with standard inputs and outputs

A subset of Mango's forthcoming Shiny training course!

Outline

- A Basic Shiny app
- Defining the User Interface
- Displaying Outputs
- Reactivity
- Beyond the Basics

Workshop resources

- R (version 3.1.2)
- RStudio
- Shiny (version 0.11)

Workshop structure

- 2 hours
- Presentation format
- Worked examples of creating apps
- Exercises during the workshop

What is Shiny?

- R Package for Interactive Web Apps developed by RStudio
- Gives the power of R in a convenient user interface
- Can be written entirely in R

A Basic Shiny App

- A basic app requires:
 - A user interface script
 - A "Server" script
- Runs using the `runApp` function

The User Interface Script

- Defines the components of the user interface
 - Page titles
 - Input options
 - Outputs
- Defines what the user will see and interact with

The Server Script

- Contains the information to build the app
- Requires a call to the function `shinyServer`
 - Contains a function with parameter input and output
- Defines what happens in R

Worked Example 1

My First Shiny App!

Enter text here:

You entered the text: Welcome to LondonR!

Worked Example 1 - UI

```
shinyUI(fluidPage(  
  titlePanel("My First Shiny App!"),  
  sidebarLayout(  
    sidebarPanel(  
      textInput("myText", "Enter text here:")  
    ),  
    mainPanel(  
      textOutput("niceTextOutput")  
    )  
  )  
))
```

Worked Example 1 - Server

```
shinyServer(function(input, output) {  
  
  output$niceTextOutput <-  
  renderText(paste("You entered the text:\n",  
input$myText))  
  
})
```

Layouts

- Example 1 used a sidebarLayout
- There are a number of possible layouts
- In this workshop we will only use the sidebarLayout

Sidebar Panel

- Define the contents of the sidebar using the `sidebarPanel` function
- Accepts `*Input` functions that specify the app inputs

Input Controls

| Input | Description |
|--------------|--|
| textInput | Text string input |
| numericInput | Numeric value input |
| selectInput | Select single or multiple values from drop down list |
| sliderInput | Numeric range “slider” input |
| radioButtons | Set of radio button inputs |
| fileInput | File upload control |

Worked Example 2

My First Shiny App!

Enter text here:

Select a number:

Select from the dropdown:

Worked Example 2 - UI

```
sidebarPanel (  
  textInput ("myTextInput", "Enter text  
here:"),  
  numericInput ("myNumberInput", "Select a  
number:", value = 50, min = 0, max =  
100, step = 1),  
  selectInput ("mySelectInput", "Select from  
the dropdown:", choices = LETTERS[1:10])  
)
```

Main Panel

- Define the contents of the main panel using the function `mainPanel` function
- Can contain outputs using the `*Output` functions
- Can include HTML using a series of functions that replicate the HTML tags

HTML Formatting

- We don't need to use HTML tags
- Shiny includes a series of equivalent functions

| Function | Usage |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| p | A paragraph of text |
| h* | A level * (1, 2, 3,...) header |
| code | A block of code |
| img | An image |
| strong | Bold text |
| em | Italic text |

Worked Example 2

My First Shiny App!

Enter text here:

Select a number:

Select from the dropdown:

Using HTML in Shiny

This is a paragraph of text that is included in our main panel. **This text will be in bold.**

You entered the text: Welcome to LondonR!

You selected the number: 50

You selected option: A

Worked Example 2 - UI

```
mainPanel (  
  h4("Using HTML in Shiny"),  
  p("This is a paragraph of text that is  
    included in our main panel."),  
  strong("This text will be in bold.")),  
  textOutput("niceTextOutput"),  
  textOutput("niceNumberOutput"),  
  textOutput("niceSelectOutput")  
)
```

Exercise 1

Build a simple Shiny application that takes a date string input (e.g. “30-03-2015”) and returns the following text:

- What day of the week is it (e.g. “Wednesday”)
- What month it is (e.g. “December”)
- What year it is

Hint: try using the `dateInput` and `format` functions

Exercise 1 - UI

```
require(shiny)

shinyUI(fluidPage(

  # Define the header for the page
  titlePanel("Exercise 1"),

  # Set up the page to have a sidebar
  sidebarLayout(
    # Define the contents of the sidebar
    sidebarPanel(
      dateInput("dateInput", "Select date")
    ),

    # Define the contents of the main panel
    mainPanel(
      textOutput("dateOutput")
    )
  )
))
```


Exercise 1 - Sever

```
require(shiny)

shinyServer(function(input, output){

  output$dateOutput <- renderText(
    format(input$dateInput, format = "A %A in %B. The year is %Y")
  )

})
```

Defining Outputs

- So far we have just output text
- Shiny also allows us to output graphics, data and images
- We have to define the output in the UI and the Server scripts using different functions

Rendering Outputs

| Output Type | server.R Function | ui.R Function |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Text | renderPrint | textOutput |
| Data | renderDataTable | dataTableOutput |
| Plot | renderPlot | plotOutput |
| Image | renderImage | imageOutput |

Worked Example 3 - Render Data

- From the user interface select a dataset from a dropdown menu
- Display the data in a dataTable

Worked Example 3 - Render Data

Render Data in a Shiny App

Select from the dropdown:

airquality ▼

Show 25 entries

Search:

| | Ozone | Solar.R | Wind | Temp | Month | D |
|----|-------|---------|------|------|-------|----|
| 41 | 190 | | 7.4 | 67 | 5 | 1 |
| 36 | 118 | | 8 | 72 | 5 | 2 |
| 12 | 149 | | 12.6 | 74 | 5 | 3 |
| 18 | 313 | | 11.5 | 62 | 5 | 4 |
| | | | 14.3 | 56 | 5 | 5 |
| 28 | | | 14.9 | 66 | 5 | 6 |
| 23 | 299 | | 8.6 | 65 | 5 | 7 |
| 19 | 99 | | 13.8 | 59 | 5 | 8 |
| 8 | 19 | | 20.1 | 61 | 5 | 9 |
| | 194 | | 8.6 | 69 | 5 | 10 |
| 7 | | | 6.9 | 74 | 5 | 11 |

Worked Example 3 - UI

```
sidebarLayout (  
  sidebarPanel (  
    selectInput("selectInput", "Select from the  
    dropdown:", choices = c("airquality", "iris",  
    "mtcars"))  
  ),  
  mainPanel (  
    dataTableOutput("dataOutput")  
  )  
)
```

Worked Example 3 - Server

```
output$dataOutput <-  
  renderDataTable (switch (input$selectInput,  
    "airquality" = airquality,  
    "iris" = iris,  
    "mtcars" = mtcars)  
  )
```

Worked Example 4 - Render Plots

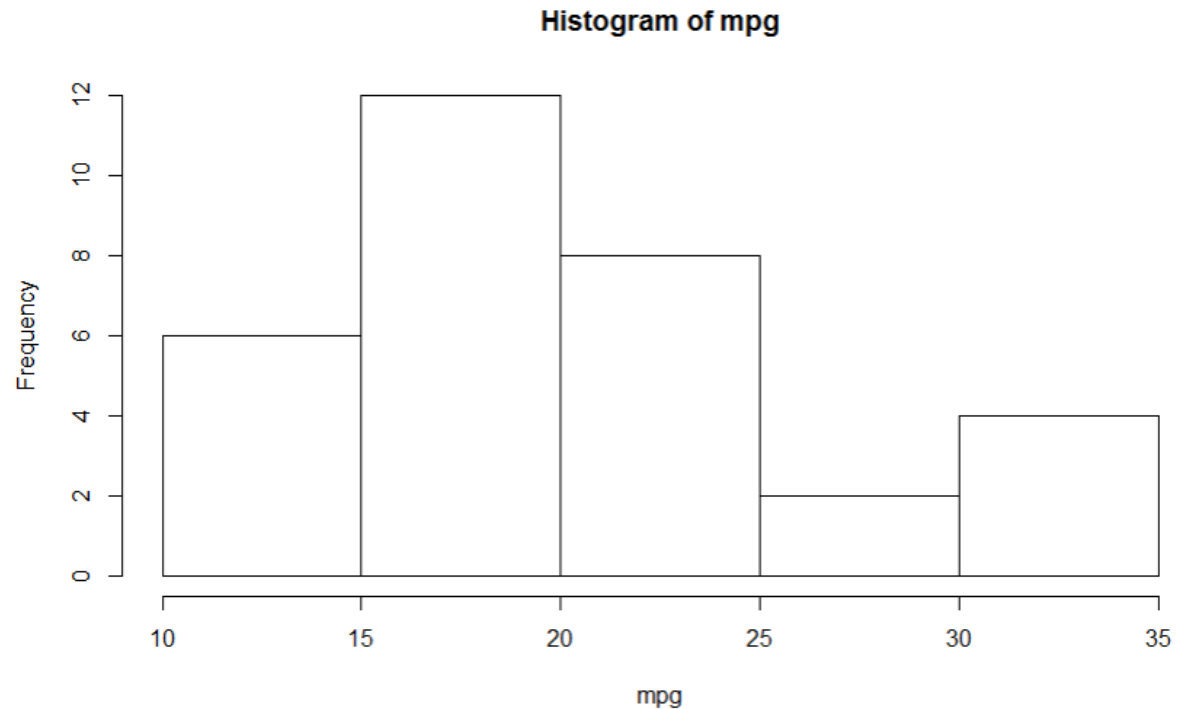
- Select a column of the data from a drop down menu
- Plot a histogram of the data

Worked Example 4 - Render Plots

Render Plot in a Shiny App

Select column:

mpg ▼



Worked Example 4 - UI

```
sidebarLayout (  
  sidebarPanel (  
    selectInput ("selectInput", "Select  
column:", choices = colnames (mtcars))  
  ),  
  mainPanel (  
    plotOutput ("plotOutput")  
  )  
)
```

Worked Example 4 - Server

```
output$plotOutput <- renderPlot(  
  hist(mtcars[,input$selectInput],  
       main = paste("Histogram  
of", input$selectInput),  
       xlab = input$selectInput)  
)
```

Exercise 2

Create a Shiny application that takes:

- A numeric value between 1 and 500
- A colour
- A main title

Use these inputs to create an output histogram of random data from any distribution where n is the numeric input

Exercise 2 - UI

```
require(shiny)

shinyUI(fluidPage(

  # Define the header for the page
  titlePanel("Render Plot in a Shiny App"),

  # Set up the page to have a sidebar
  sidebarLayout(
    # Define the contents of the sidebar
    sidebarPanel(
      numericInput("numberInput", "Select size of data:", min = 0, max = 500, value = 100),
      selectInput("colInput", "Select a colour", choices = c("red", "yellow", "blue", "green"))
    ),

    # Define the contents of the main panel
    mainPanel(
      plotOutput("plotOutput")
    )
  )
))
```

Exercise 2 - Server

```
require(shiny)

shinyServer(function(input, output){

  output$plotOutput <- renderPlot(
    hist(rnorm(input$numberInput), col = input$colInput)
  )

})
```

Reactivity

- Consider the last exercise...
 - Suppose we want to change the colour of the plot, what happens to the data?

Reactivity

- Each time we change an option the data is simulated again
- Suppose this was reading in a large dataset, connecting to a database etc.

The reactive Function

- This lets us create a reactive function
- The function is only called when the relevant inputs are updated
- Our data is only updated when the number of simulations is changed

Worked Example 5

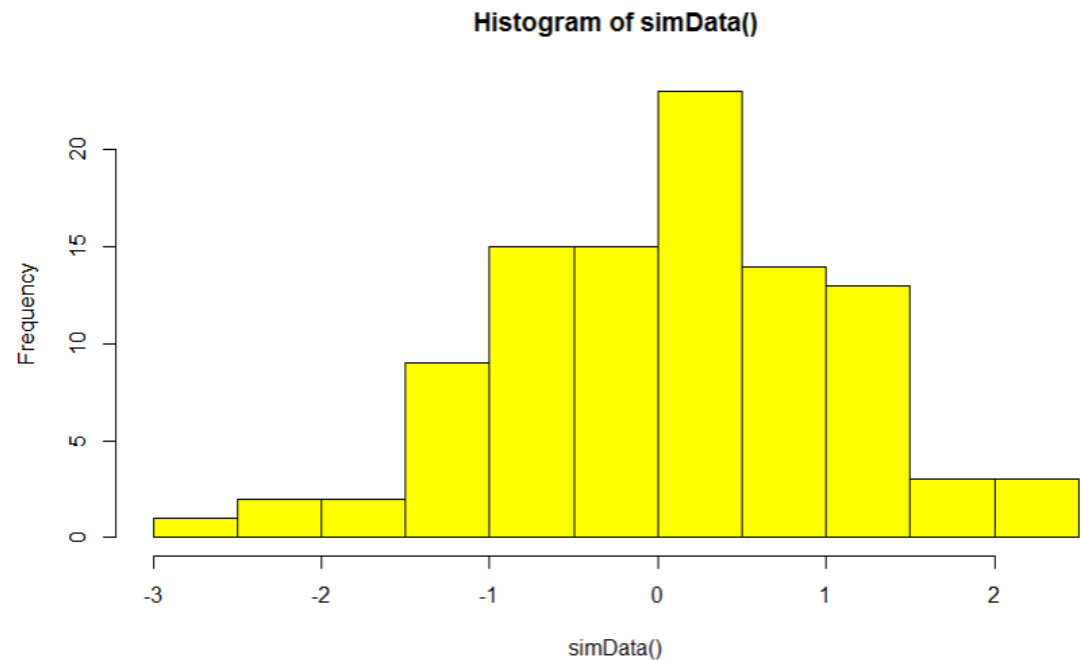
Render Plot in a Shiny App

Select size of data:

Select a colour:

yellow

- red
- yellow
- blue
- green



Worked Example 5 - Server

```
simData <- reactive({  
  rnorm(input$numberInput)  
})  
  
output$plotOutput <- renderPlot(  
  hist(simData(), col =  
    input$colInput)  
)
```

Beyond the basics

- Changes to layouts
- Including tabbed pages
- Include CSS to style the page
- Incorporate Shiny and Markdown
- Share your app
- ...

All covered on our 1 day Getting Started with Shiny course

Shiny Themes

- A new package that allows us to change the bootstrap theme
- Requires Shiny v0.11
- Available on CRAN

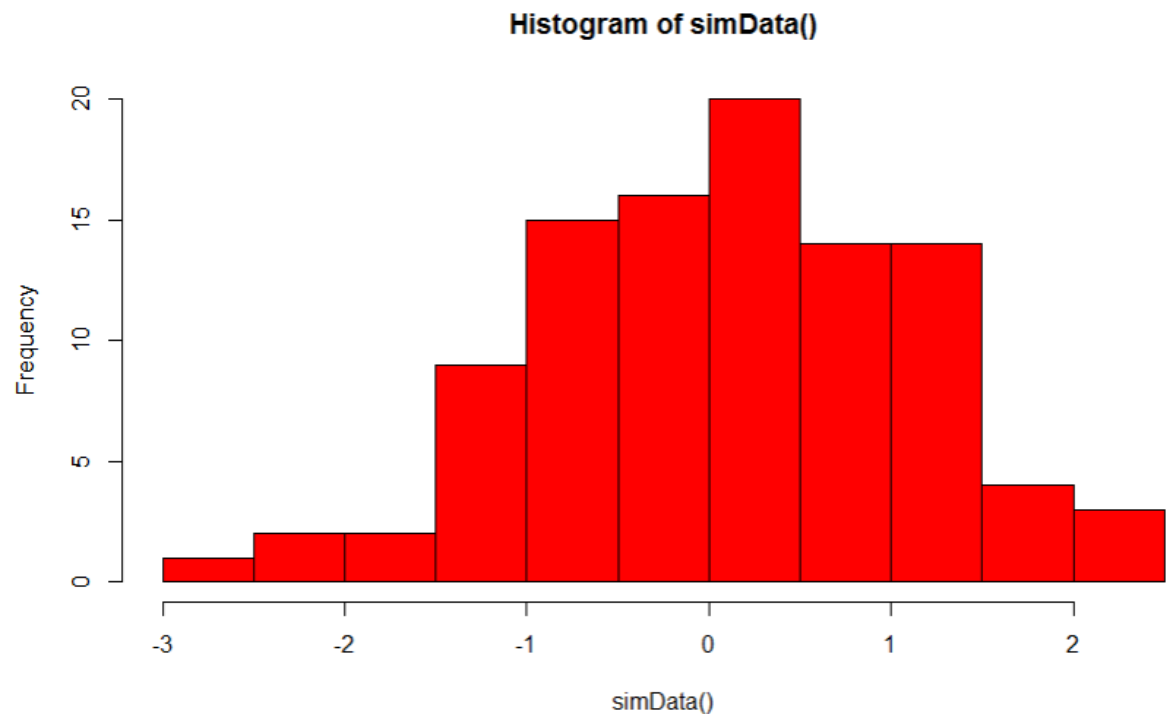
<http://rstudio.github.io/shinythemes/>

Worked Example 6

Render Plot in a Shiny App

Select size of data:

Select a colour



Worked Example 6 - UI

```
require(shinythemes)
```

```
shinyUI(fluidPage(  
  theme = shinytheme("cerulean"),  
  ...  
))
```

Shiny Dashboard

- Package under development by RStudio for developing Dashboards with Shiny
- Available on github

What Next?

- This evenings LondonR meeting!
- Getting Started with Shiny training course
- Data Visualisation in R training course

- EARL 2015

LondonR tonight

- **SAS to R Migration** – Rich Pugh, Mango Solutions
- **The Coder and the Designer: Using R for Visualising London's Data** – James Cheshire, UCL (and Co-Author of The Information Capital)
- **How to build a mid-sized analytical application with Shiny** – Enzo Martoglio, Sopra Steria

Getting Started with Shiny - May 27th

- 1 Day Training Course
 - Covers this content in more depth + more!
 - Including CSS
 - Shiny + Rmarkdown
- To be held in central London
- See the Mango team for more details!

Data Visualisation in R - May 28th

- 1 Day Training Course
 - The Principles of Data Visualisation
 - Implementing these principles in ggplot2
- To be held in central London
- See the Mango team for more details!

EARL 2015

LONDON 14 - 16 SEPTEMBER

- Tower Hotel
- 2 day conference
- 1 day of workshops prior to conference
- Capacity for 400+
- Conference evening event in Tower Bridge
- Earlybird deadline ends tomorrow
- Abstract deadline extended to 17th April

EARL 2015

LONDON 14 - 16 SEPTEMBER

- **Alex Bellos** (Author of Alex's Adventures in Numberland)
- **Joe Cheng** (Creator of Shiny!)
- **Dirk Eddelbuettel** (Author of Rcpp)
- **Hannah Fry** (Lecturer in Mathematics at the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis)

Speak to the Mango team to know more or visit the webpage

<http://www.earl-conference.com/>

EARL Workshops

- 10.00 – 13.00
 - **Integrating R and Python** (Chris Musselle)
 - **Current Best Practices in Formal Package Development** (Aimee Gott, Gregoire Gauriot)
- 14.00 – 17.00
 - **Introduction to Rcpp** (Dirk Eddelbuettel)
 - **Interactive reporting with R Markdown and Shiny** (Joe Cheng)

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