



# Fundamentals of Package Development

**Andy Teucher**  
**posit::conf(2023)**  
**Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago**

- WiFi:
  - Network: Posit Conf 2023
  - Password: conf2023
- Bathrooms through the kitchen
- There are **gender-neutral bathrooms** located among the Grand Suite Bathrooms.
- There are two **meditation/prayer rooms**: Grand Suite 2A and Grand Suite 2B. Open Sunday - Tuesday 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- The **lactation room** is located in Grand Suite 1. Open Sunday - Tuesday 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Participants who do not wish to be photographed have **red lanyards**; please note everyone's lanyard colours before taking a photo and respect their choices.

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<https://posit.co/code-of-conduct/>

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Reporting:

- any posit::conf staff member
- [conf@posit.com](mailto:conf@posit.com)
- 844-448-1212

# Welcome!

- Introductions
  - Instructor:
    - Andy Teucher
    - GitHub: [ateucher](#)
    - Mastodon: [@andyteucher@fosstodon.org](#)
  - TAs:
    - Nic Crane
    - Simon Couch
  - Yourselfs



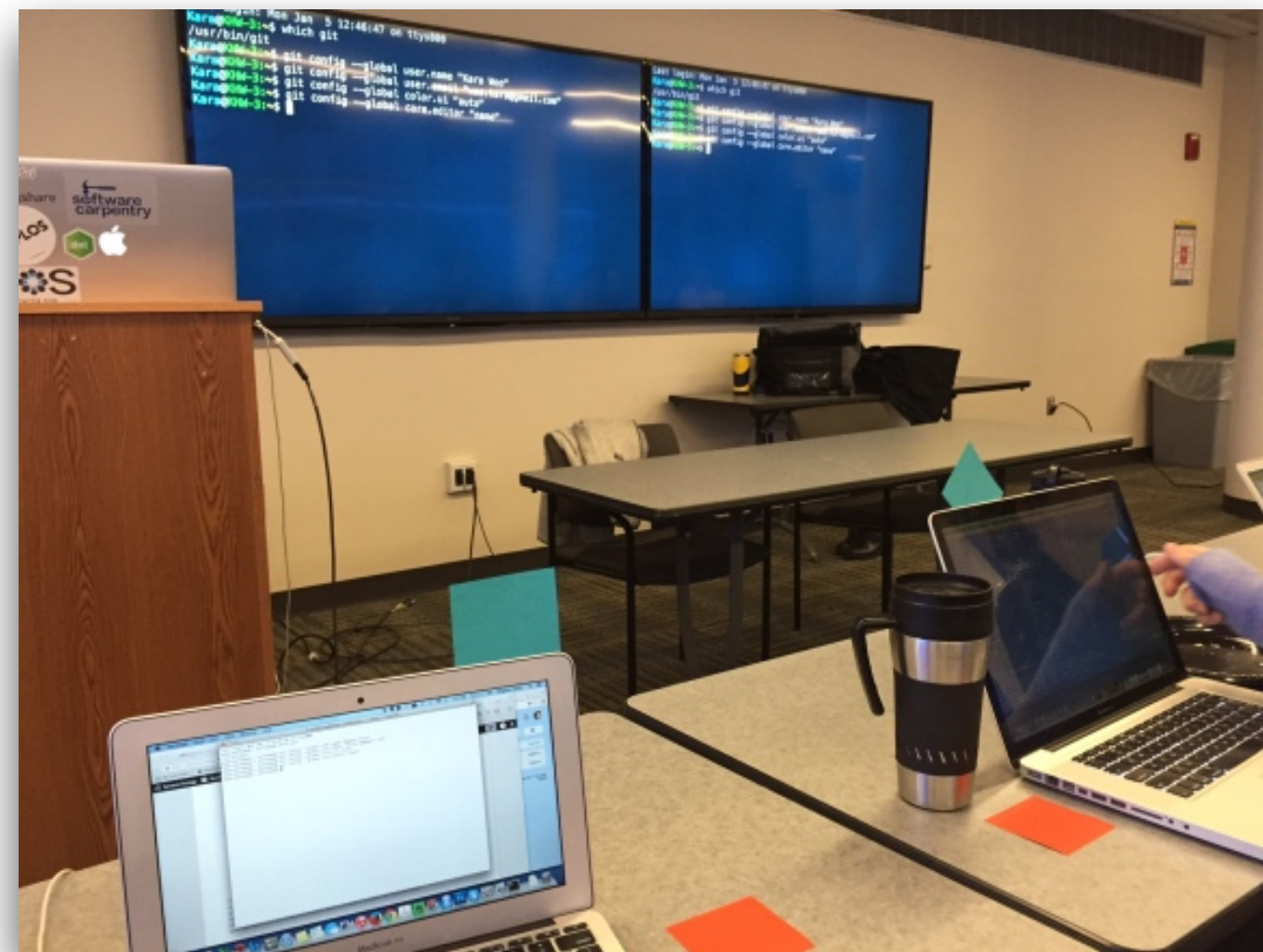
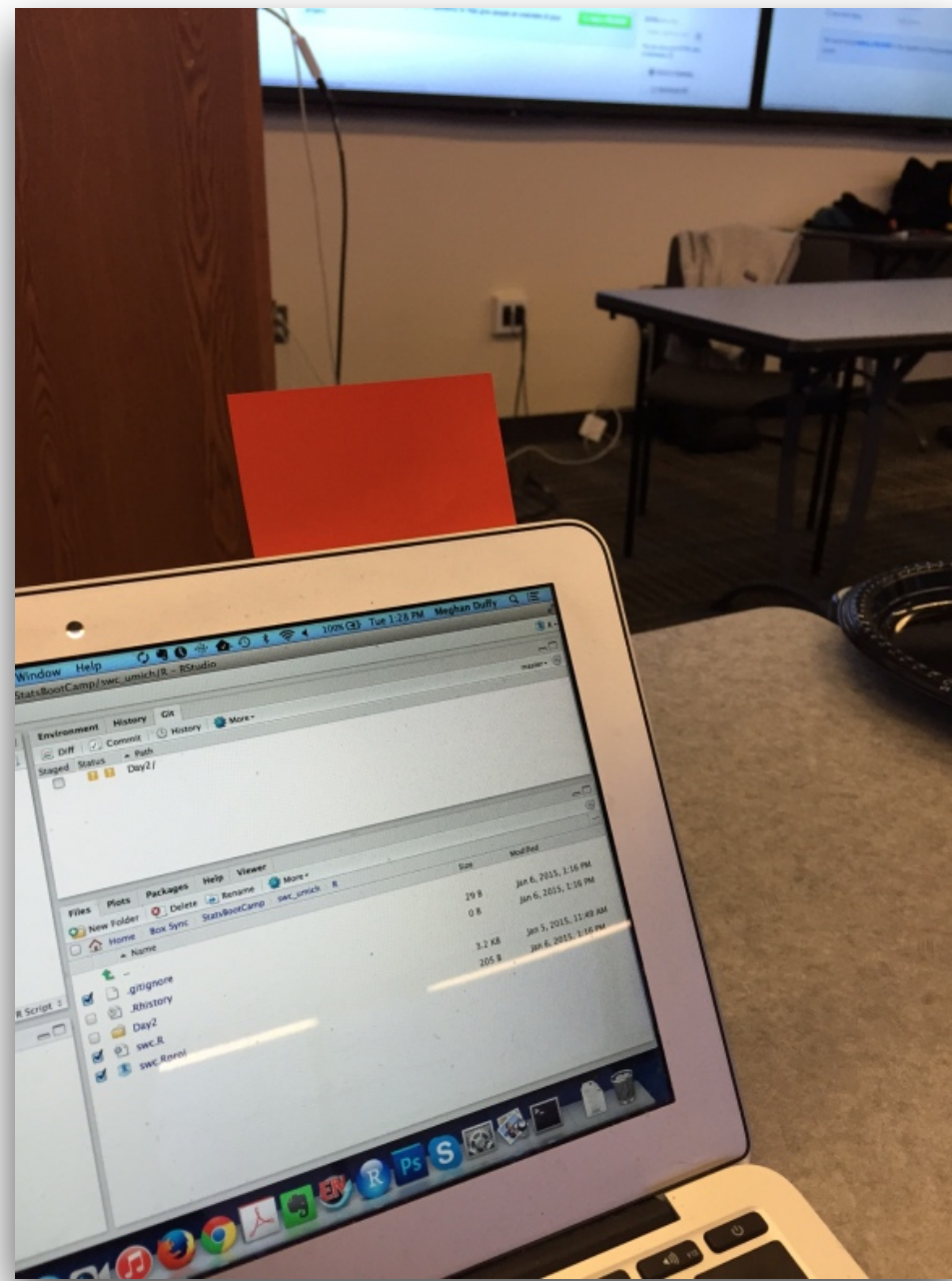
# Sticky Notes

**PURPLE**

**I'm stuck, please  
send help**

**GREEN**

**I'm good, let's  
move on**



# Discord

1. Go to your event portal: <http://pos.it/conf-event-portal>
2. Click on the image that says, “Click here to join Discord, the virtual networking platform!”.
3. Accept the invitation, and review and agree to the code of conduct.
4. Click "Browse Channels" in the top-left corner and find **#fundamentals-of-package-development**
5. Click the checkbox to join the channel
6. Click on the channel in the left sidebar.
7. Introduce yourself!



# Resources

- Workshop website: [pos.it/pkg-dev-conf23](https://pos.it/pkg-dev-conf23)
- Cheatsheet in your handout

# Schedule and Learning Objectives

---

- What is a package and why should you make one?

START: 9:00

- Package Structure and State - where do they come from, where do they live?
- 

- Package Creation and Metadata

BREAK: 10:30 - 11:00

- Documentation
- 

- Testing

LUNCH: 12:30 - 1:30

- Package Dependencies
- 

- Continuous Integration

BREAK: 3:00 - 3:30

- Package Website & Vignettes

- Package Distribution (CRAN)
- 

END: 5:00

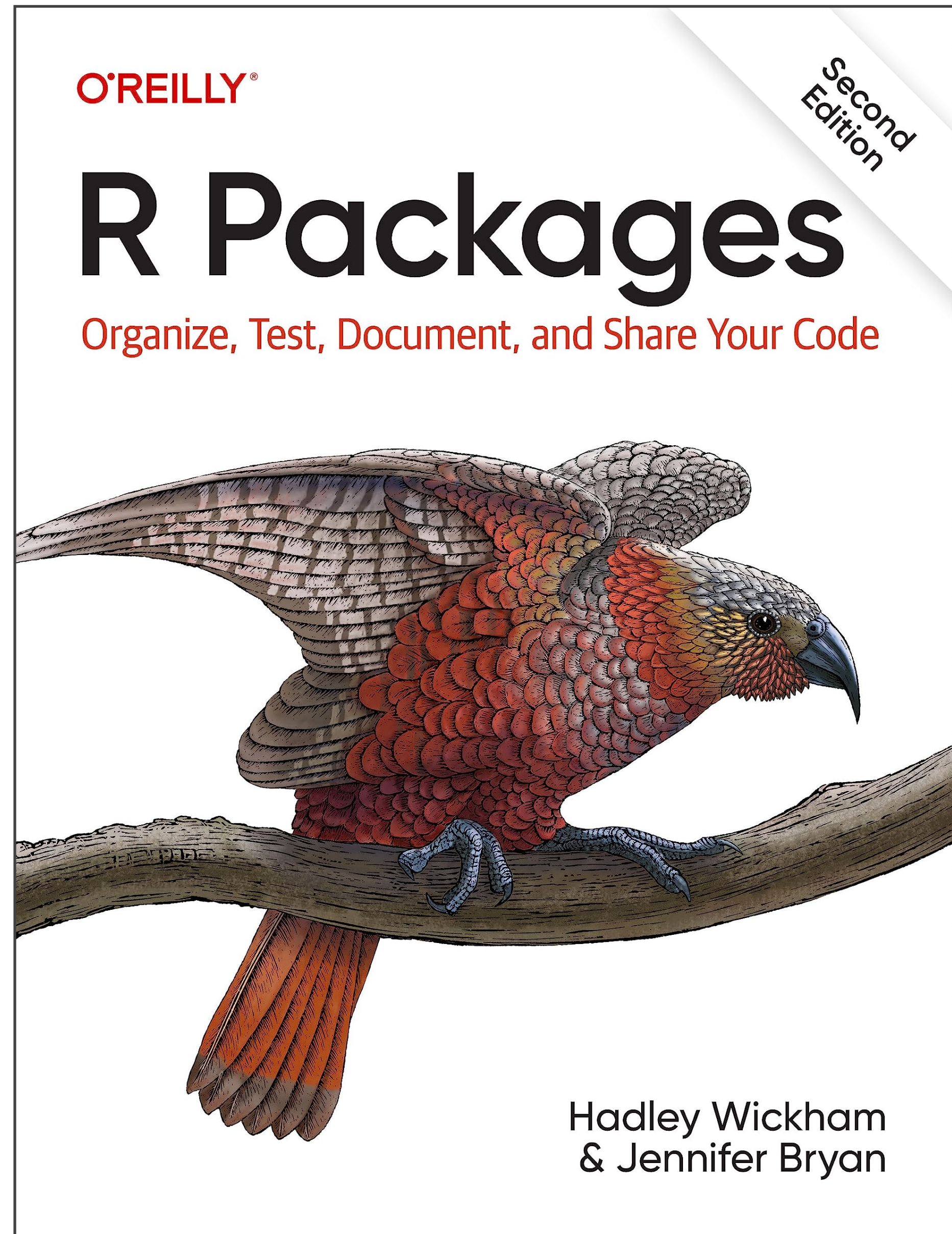


# R Packages (2e)

Hadley Wickham

Jenny Bryan

<https://r-pkgs.org>



Packages in a nutshell 🥜



# Why make a package?





# Why make a package?





# Why make a package?



- Easier to reuse functions you write
- A consistent framework which encourages you to better organize, document, and test your code
- This framework means you can use many standardized tools
- Easiest way to distribute code (and data)
  - To your team
  - To the world

# Script vs Package

<https://r-pkgs.org/package-within.html>

## Script

- Performs data analysis
- Collection of one or more `.R` files
- `library()` calls
- Documentation in `#` comments
- Run with `source()` or `select+run`

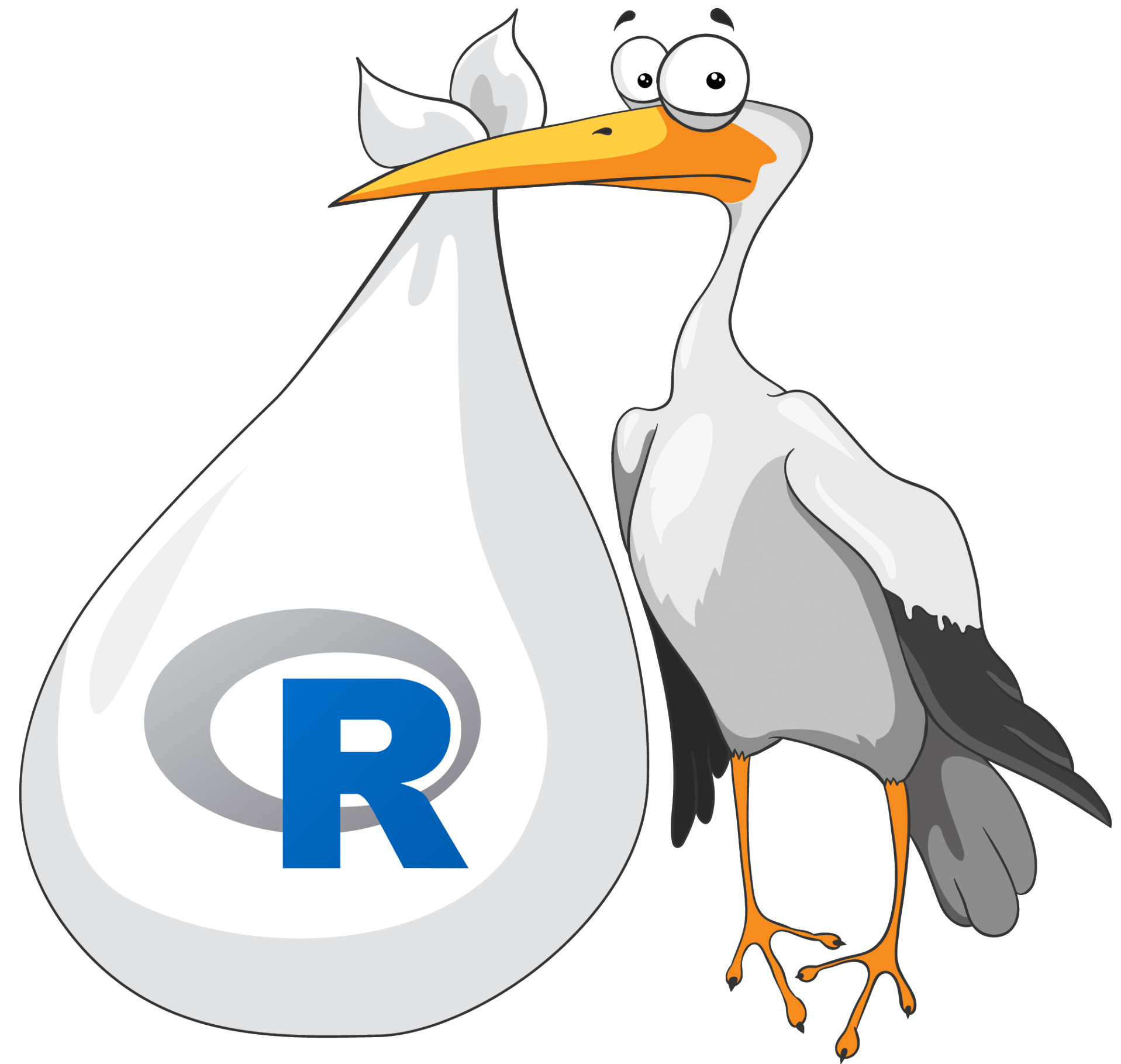
## Package

- Reusable functions to use in analyses
- Defined by particular file organization
- Required packages in `DESCRIPTION`
- Documentation in `Roxxygen` comments and “man” files
- Functions available when package attached



# Where do packages come from?

- Discuss with your neighbour and put up a green sticky when you have:
  - Your favourite package
  - 2 **places** from which you install packages
  - 2 **functions** you can use to install packages
- Write them in the Discord channel



# R Libraries - where do packages live?

- A **library** is a directory containing installed **packages**
- You have at least one library on your computer
- Common (and recommended) to have two libraries:
  1. A **system** library with **base** (14) and **recommended** (15) packages; installed with R.
  2. A **user** library with user-installed packages
- We use `library(pkg)` function to **attach** a package
- 7 base packages are always attached (`base`, `methods`, `utils`, `stats`, `grDevices`, `datasets`, `graphics`)

# Your turn

Type `.libPaths()` to see your libraries

- How many libraries do you have?
- What are they? (Put them in the Discord)

# Package Structure and State

## Five forms

### Source

- Directory of files with specific structure
  - What you interact with as you build a package
- 

### Bundle

- Package compressed into a single file (tar.gz) via `devtools::build()` -> R CMD build
  - Vignettes are built and files listed in `.Rbuildignore` are left behind
- 

### Binary

- Platform-specific compressed file (.tgz, .zip)
  - Made with `devtools::build(binary = TRUE)` -> R CMD INSTALL --build
- 

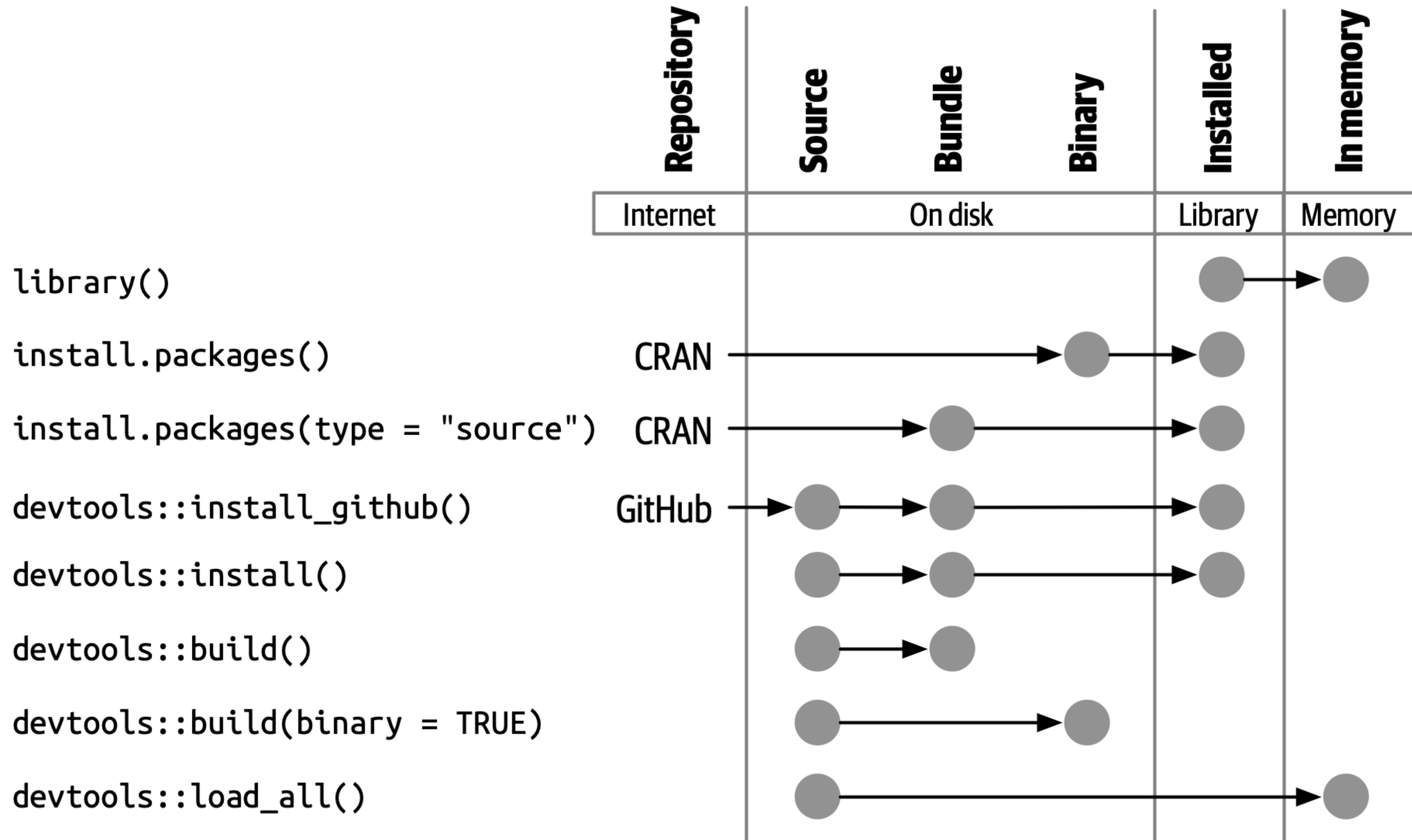
### Installed

- Binary package decompressed into a user's library
  - `install.packages()`
- 

### In Memory

- Loaded and ready for use in an R session
- `library()`

# Package Structure and State



# Let's make a package together

## We will:

- Create a simple package
- Use git to track our changes
- Push the code to a repository on GitHub
- Create tests for our functions
- Create documentation for our functions
- Create a package website (if we have time)
- Focus on workflows

## We won't:

- Talk (much) about function writing and design
- Talk about how to include data in your package (even though it's possible and often helpful)



# libminer

## Sneak peak of our end goal on GitHub

- <https://github.com/ateucher/libminer.master>
- A package to explore our local R package libraries





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- <https://github.com/ateucher/libminer.master>
- A package to explore our local R package libraries





Get Ready





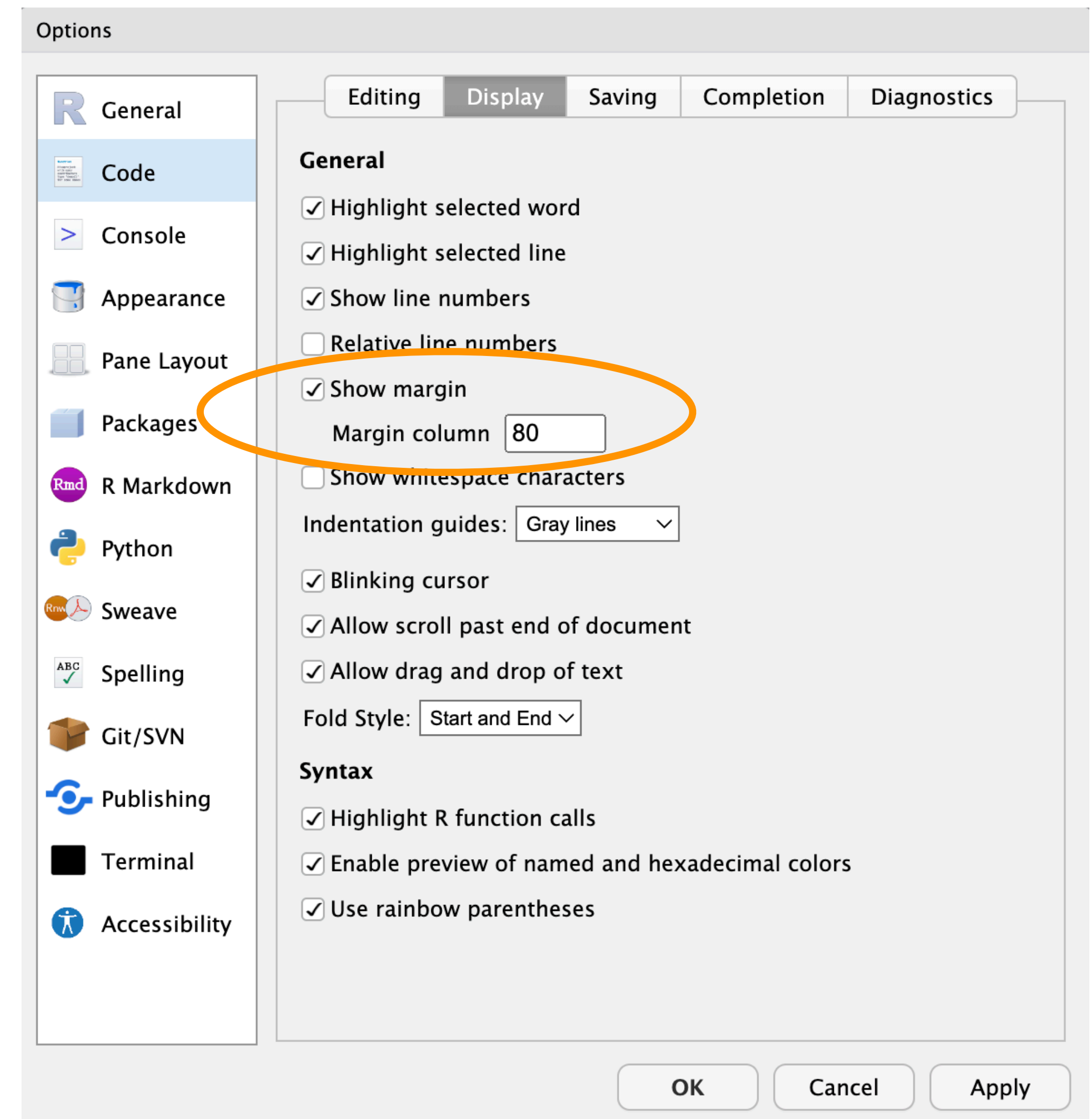
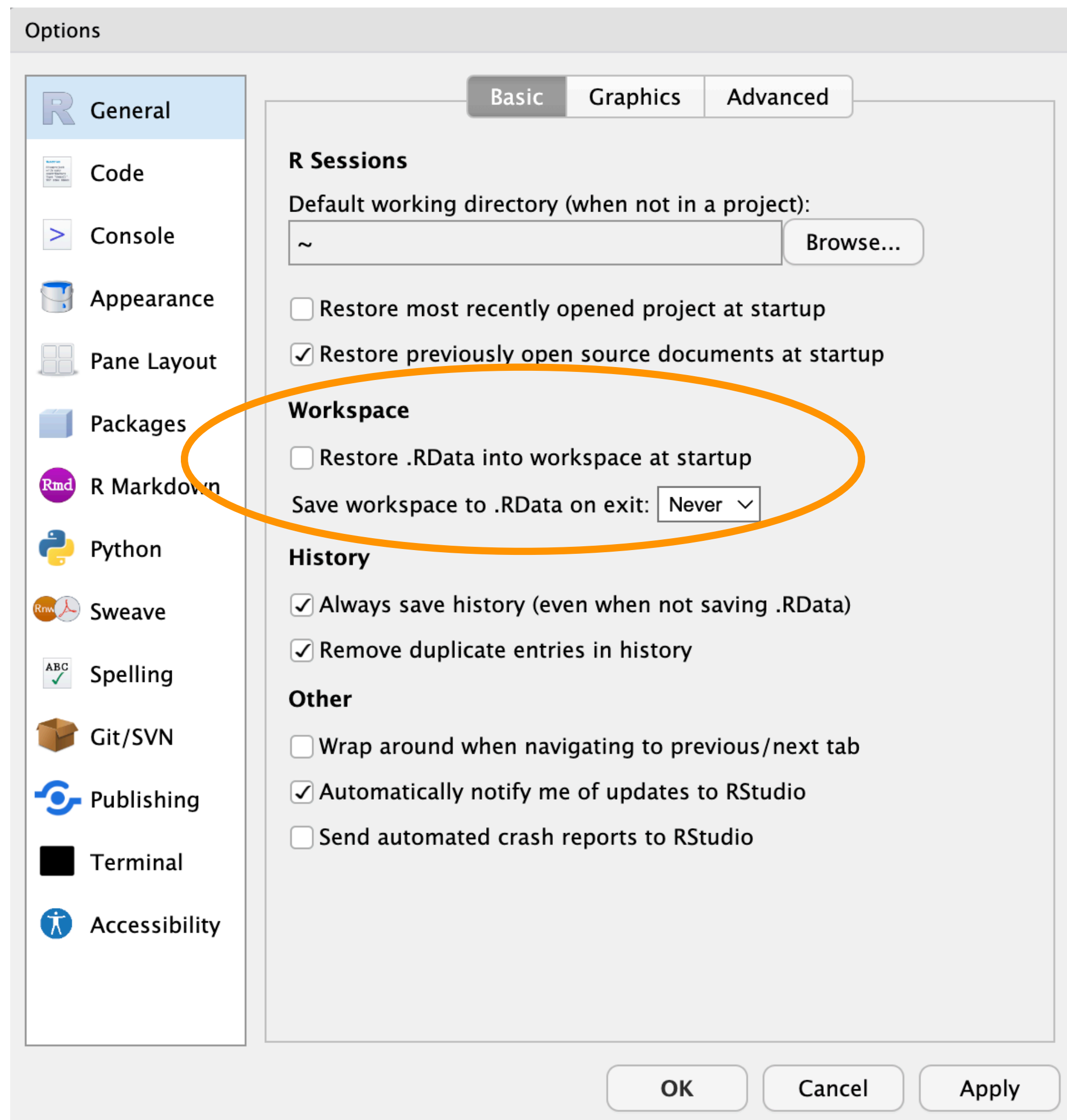
Get Ready






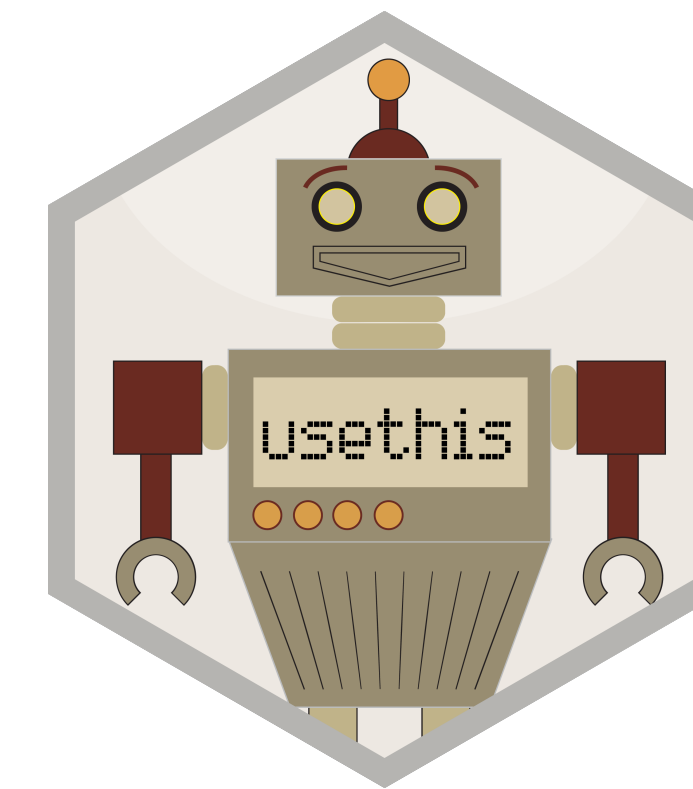
# Configure RStudio

## Tools > Global Options



# Tools

- R  $\geq$  4.3.0
-  Studio® (<https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/>)
- Packages:



```
install.packages(  
  c("devtools", "roxygen2", "testthat", "knitr", "pkgdown")  
)
```



Create a package





Create a package





# Load devtools

```
library(devtools)
#> Loading required package: usethis

packageVersion("devtools")
#> [1] '2.4.5'
```

- Update if necessary!
- Provides a suite of functions to aid package development
- Loads **usethis**, the source of most functions we will be using

# create\_package()

```
create_package("~/Desktop/mypackage")
```

.Rbuildignore

.Rproj.user

.gitignore

DESCRIPTION

NAMESPACE

R

mypackage.Rproj

- Creates directory
  - Final part of path will be the package name
- Sets up basic package skeleton
- Opens a new RStudio project
- Activates "build" pane in RStudio

# create\_package()

```
create_package("~/Desktop/mypackage")
#> ✓ Creating '/Users/jane/Desktop/mypackage/'
#> ✓ Setting active project to '/Users/jane/Desktop/mypackage'
#> ✓ Creating 'R/'
#> ✓ Writing 'DESCRIPTION'
#> Package: mypackage
#> Title: What the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
#> Version: 0.0.0.9000
#> Authors@R (parsed):
#>   * First Last <first.last@example.com> [aut, cre] (YOUR-ORCID-ID)
#> Description: What the package does (one paragraph).
#> License: `use_mit_license()`, `use_gpl3_license()` or friends to pick a
license
#> Encoding: UTF-8
#> Roxygen: list(markdown = TRUE)
#> RoxygenNote: 7.2.3
#> ✓ Writing 'NAMESPACE'
#> ✓ Writing 'mypackage.Rproj'
#> ✓ Adding '^mypackage\\.Rproj$' to '.Rbuildignore'
#> ✓ Adding '.Rproj.user' to '.gitignore'
#> ✓ Adding '^\\.Rproj\\.user$' to '.Rbuildignore'
#> ✓ Setting active project to '<no active project>'
```

# create\_package()

```
create_package("~/Desktop/mypackage")
#> ✓ Creating '/Users/jane/Desktop/mypackage/'
#> ✓ Setting active project to '/Users/jane/Desktop/mypackage'
#> ✓ Creating 'R/'
#> ✓ Writing 'DESCRIPTION'
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#> Title: What the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
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#> ✓ Adding '^\\.Rproj\\.user$' to '.Rbuildignore'
#> ✓ Setting active project to '<no active project>'
```

 **Your Turn**

# use\_git()

- `use_git_config(`  
    `user.name = "Jane Doe",`  
    `user.email = "jane@example.org"`  
  `)`
- `use_git()`
- Turns package directory into a git repository
- Commits your files (with a prompt)
- Restarts RStudio (with a prompt)
  - Activates "git" pane in RStudio

```
use_git()

#> ✓ Setting active project to
#>     '/Users/Jane/rrr/mypackage'
#> ✓ Adding '.Rhistory', '.Rdata',
#>     '.httr-oauth', '.DS_Store',
#>     '.quarto' to '.gitignore'
#> There are 5 uncommitted files:
#> * '.gitignore'
#> * '.Rbuildignore'
#> * 'DESCRIPTION'
#> * 'metrify.Rproj'
#> * 'NAMESPACE'
#> Is it ok to commit them?
#>
#> 1: Absolutely not
#> 2: Not now
#> 3: Yeah
```

# use\_git()

- `use_git_config(`  
    `user.name = "Jane Doe",`  
    `user.email = "jane@example.org"`  
)
- `use_git()`
- Turns package directory into a git repository
- Commits your files (with a prompt)
- Restarts RStudio (with a prompt)
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```
use_git()

#> ✓ Setting active project to
#>   '/Users/Jane/rrr/mypackage'
#> ✓ Adding '.Rhistory', '.Rdata',
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#> * '.gitignore'
#> * '.Rbuildignore'
#> * 'DESCRIPTION'
#> * 'metrify.Rproj'
#> * 'NAMESPACE'
#> Is it
#>
#> 1: Ab
#> 2: No
#> 3: Ye
```

 **Your Turn**



# devtools::use\_devtools()

## Automatically load devtools when R starts

- Opens .Rprofile file
- Copies code to your clipboard
- Paste into .Rprofile
- Restart R

```
if (interactive()) {  
  # Load package dev packages:  
  suppressMessages(require("devtools"))  
}
```

 Ctrl+Shift+F10 (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+0 (macOS)

# devtools::use\_devtools()

## Automatically load devtools when R starts

- Opens .Rprofile file
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if (interactive()) {  
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 Ctrl+Shift+F10 (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+0 (macOS)

 **Your Turn**



# use\_r()

## Write your first function

- R code goes in **R/**
- Name the file after the function it defines

```
use_r("my-fun")
```

```
#> ✓ Setting active project to '/Users/jane/rrr/mypackage'
```

```
#> • Edit 'R/my-fun.R'
```

- Put the definition of your function (and only the definition!) in this file

# use\_r()

## Write your first function

- R code goes in **R/**
- Name the file after the function it defines

```
use_r("my-fun")
```

```
#> ✓ Setting active project to '/Users/jane/rrr/mypackage'
```

```
#> • Edit 'R/my-fun.R'
```

- Put the definition of your function (and only the defin

 **Your Turn**

# Test your function in the new package

## But how?

- `source("R/my-fun.R")`
- Send function to console using RStudio (Ctrl/CMD+Return)

 Ctrl+Shift+L (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+L (macOS)



# Test your function in the new package

## But how?

- ~~`source("R/my-fun.R")`~~
- ~~Send function to console using RStudio (Ctrl/CMD+Return)~~
- `devtools::load_all()`

 Ctrl+Shift+L (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+L (macOS)

# Test your function in the new package

## But how?

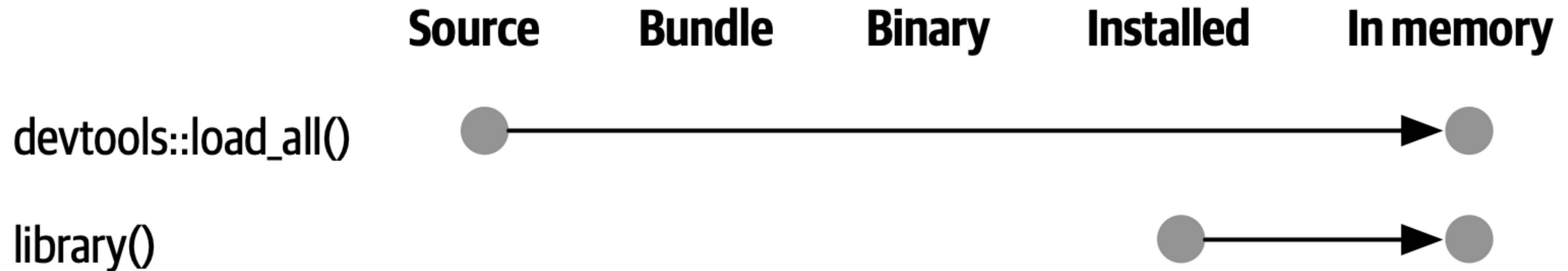
- ~~`source("R/my-fun.R")`~~
- ~~Send function to console using RStudio (Ctrl/CMD+Return)~~
- `devtools::load_all()`

 Ctrl+Shift+L (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+L (macOS)

# load\_all()

≈ **install.packages() + library()**

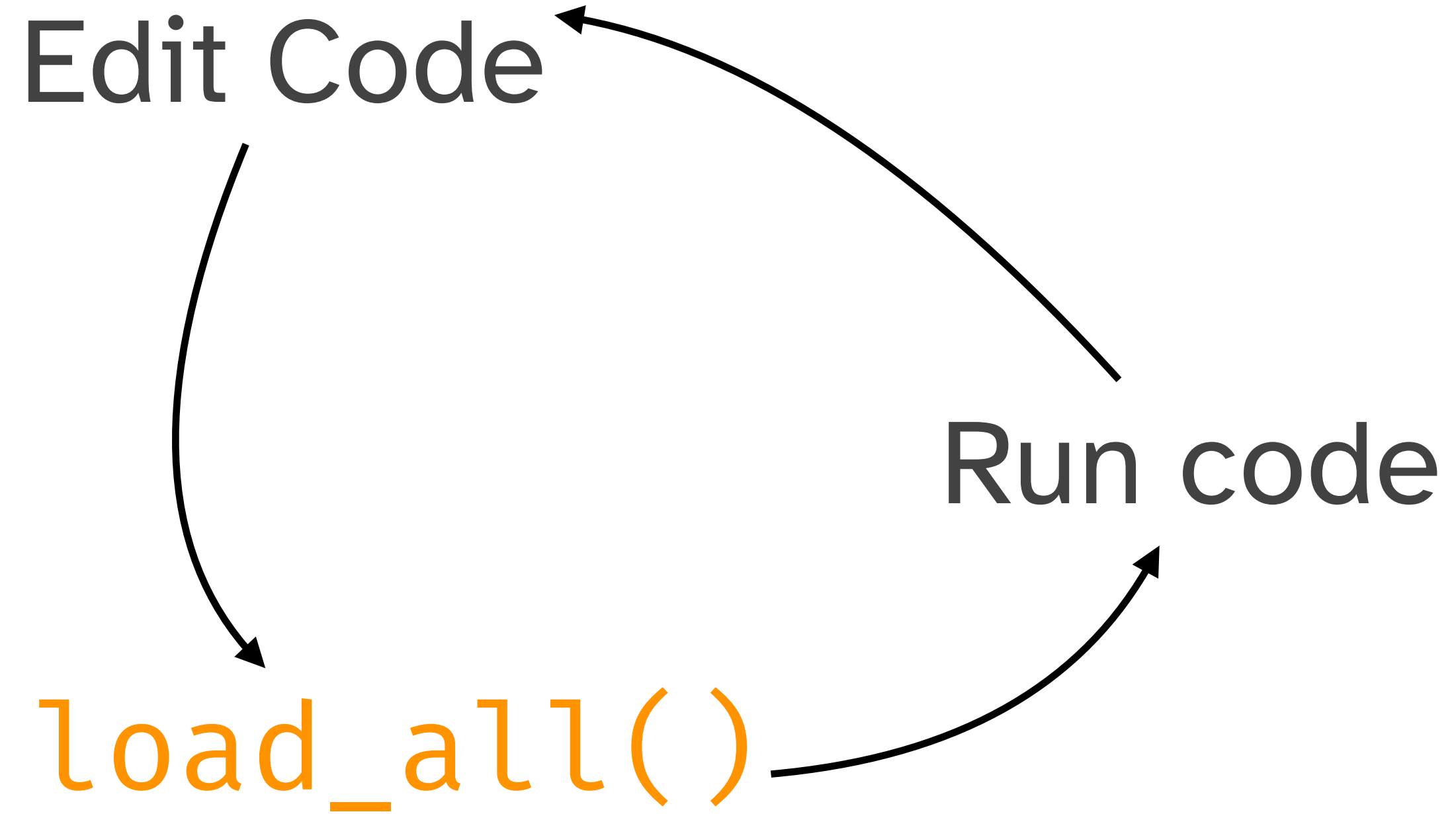



- Simulates building, installing, and attaching your package
- Makes all of the functions from your package immediately available to use
- Allows fast iteration of editing and test-driving your functions
- Good reflection of how users will interact with your package\*



Try it out, and commit your  
changes 

# Workflow



 Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+L

# check()

## Run R CMD check from within R

```
check()

#> — R CMD check results —————
#> Duration: 3.1s
#>
#> > checking DESCRIPTION meta-information ... WARNING
#>   Invalid license file pointers: LICENSE
#>
#> 0 errors ✓ | 1 warning ✗ | 0 notes ✓
```

- `check()` early and often
- Reduce future pain by catching problems early\*



# check()

## Run R CMD check from within R

```
check()  
  
#> — R CMD check results —————  
#> Duration: 3.1s  
#>  
#> > checking DESCRIPTION meta-information ... WARNING  
#>   Invalid license file pointers: LICENSE  
#>  
#> 0 errors ✓ | 1 warning ✘ | 0 notes ✓
```

- `check()` early and often
- Reduce future pain by catching problems early\*

 **Your Turn**

# R CMD check

## 3 types of messages

- **ERRORs:** Severe problems - always fix.
- **WARNINGs:** Problems that you should fix, and must fix if you're planning to submit to CRAN.
- **NOTEs:** Mild problems or, in a few cases, just an observation.
  - When submitting to CRAN, try to eliminate all NOTEs.

# Licenses

## use\_\*\_license()

- Permissive:
  - **MIT:** simple and permissive.
  - **Apache 2.0:** MIT + provides patent protection.
- Copyleft:
  - Requires sharing of improvements.
  - **GPL (v2 or v3)**
  - **AGPL, LGPL (v2.1 or v3)**
- Creative commons licenses:
  - Appropriate for data packages.
  - **CC0:** dedicated to public domain.
  - **CC-BY:** Free to share and adapt, must give appropriate credit.



# use\_mit\_license()

- ✓ Adding 'MIT + file LICENSE' to License
- ✓ Writing 'LICENSE'
- ✓ Writing 'LICENSE.md'
- ✓ Adding '^LICENSE\\.md\$' to '.Rbuildignore'

# use\_mit\_license()

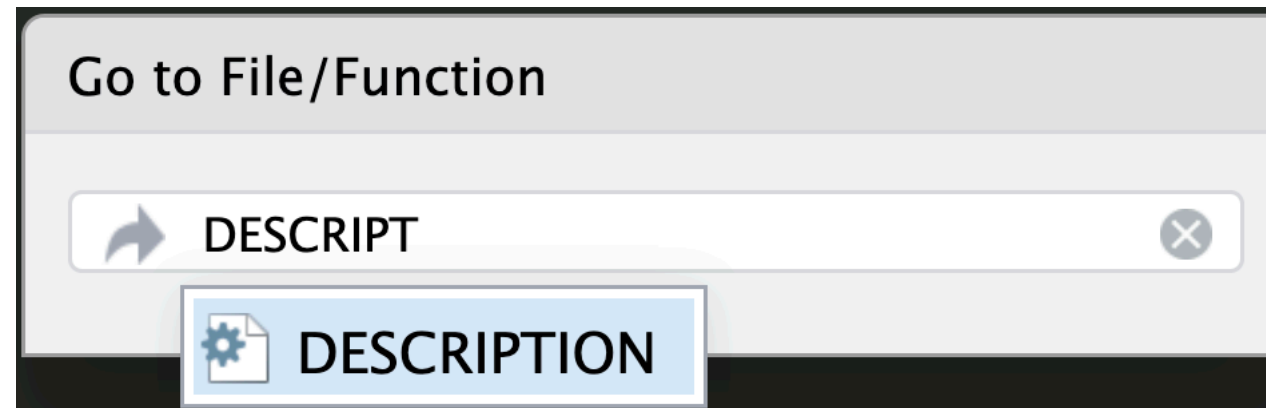
- ✓ Adding 'MIT + file LICENSE' to License
- ✓ Writing 'LICENSE'
- ✓ Writing 'LICENSE.md'
- ✓ Adding '^LICENSE\\.md\$' to '.Rbuildignore'

 **Your Turn**

# The DESCRIPTION file

## Package metadata

- Make yourself the author
  - Name & Email
  - Role
  - ORCID (optional)
- Write descriptive
  - **Title:**
  - **Description:**



 Ctrl+.

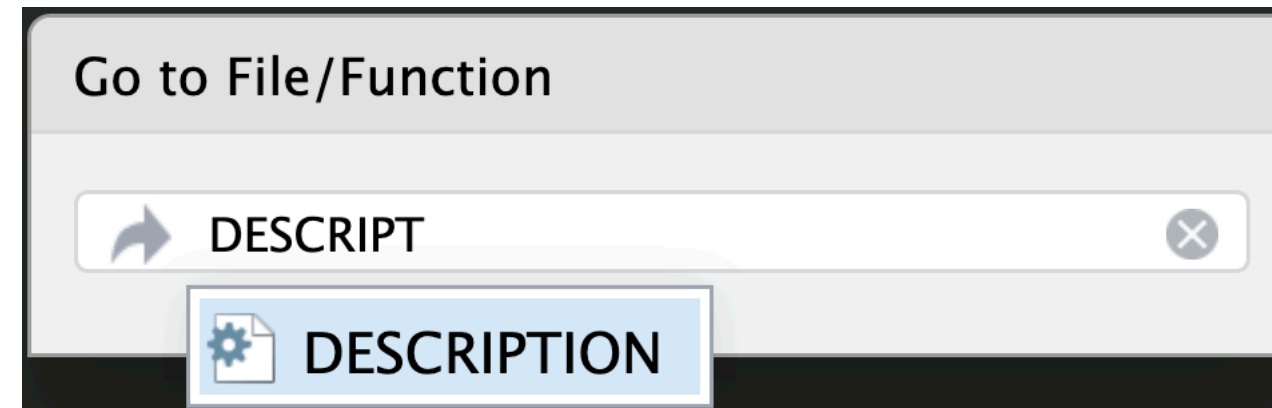
start typing DESCRIPTION

```
Package: mypackage
Title: What the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
Version: 0.0.0.9000
Authors@R: person(
  "First", "Last", ,
  "first.last@example.com",
  role = c("aut", "cre"),
  comment = c(ORCID = "YOUR-ORCID-ID")
)
Description: What the package does (one paragraph).
License: `use_mit_license()`, `use_gpl3_license()` or
  friends to pick a license
Encoding: UTF-8
Roxygen: list(markdown = TRUE)
RoxygenNote: 7.2.3
```

# The DESCRIPTION file

## Package metadata

- Make yourself the author
  - Name & Email
  - Role
  - ORCID (optional)
- Write descriptive
  - Title:
  - Description:



 Ctrl+.

start typing DESCRIPTION

```
Package: mypackage
Title: What the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
Version: 0.0.0.9000
Authors@R: person(
  "First", "Last", ,
  "first.last@example.com",
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Encoding: UTF-8
Roxygen: list(markdown = T
RoxygenNote: 7.2.3
```

 **Your Turn**



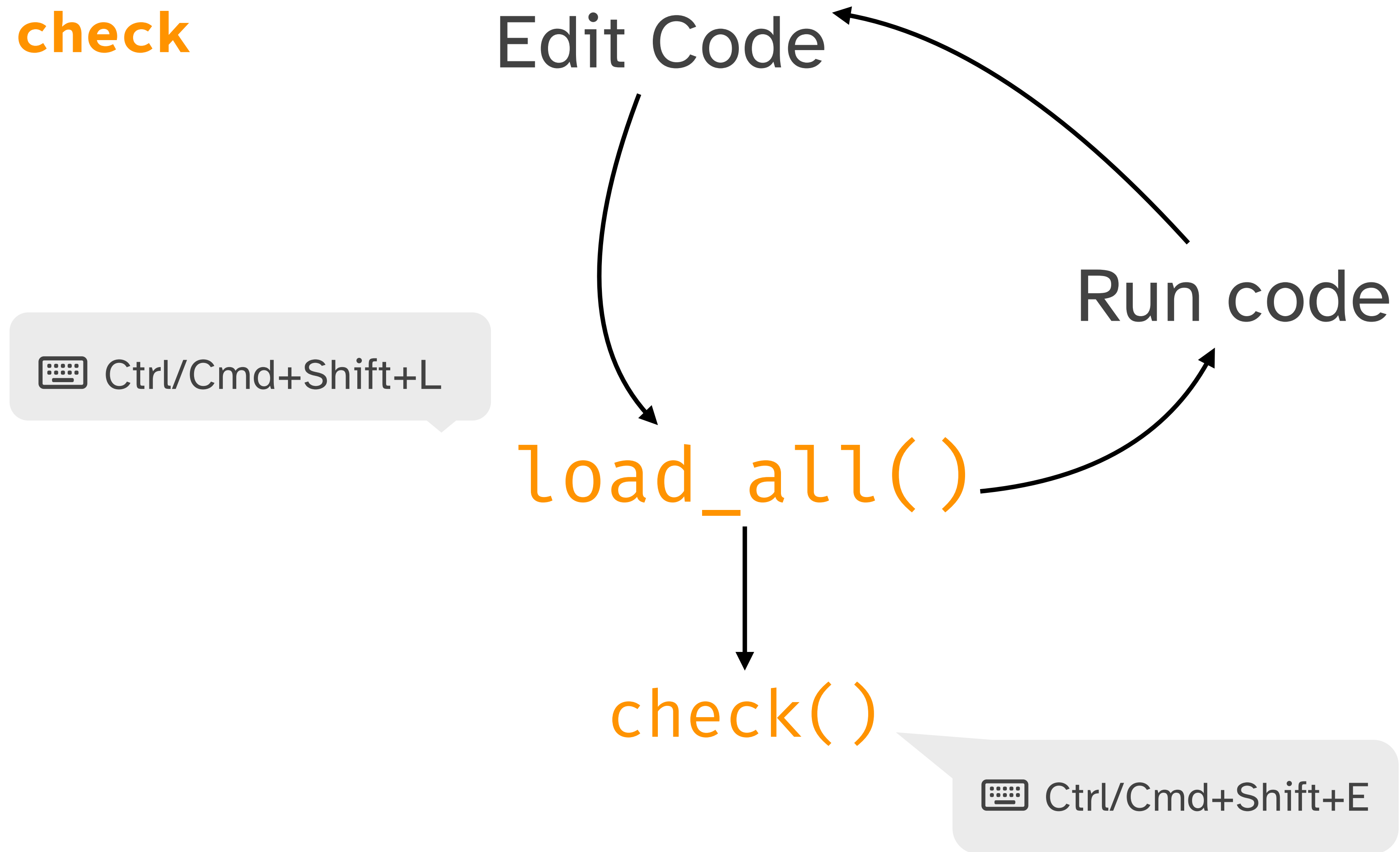
# The DESCRIPTION file

## Package metadata

- Take a look at the DESCRIPTION for ggplot2.
  - CRAN Package page
  - DESCRIPTION on GitHub
  - Note other Author roles:
    - ‘cph’ (copyright holder, often your employer)
    - ‘fnd’ (funder)

# Workflow

Code + check



# check() again

```
check()
```

```
#> == Documenting ==  
...  
#> == Building ==  
...  
#> == Checking ==  
...  
#> — R CMD check results —  
#> Duration: 3.1s  
#>  
#> 0 errors ✓ | 0 warnings ✓ | 0 notes ✓
```



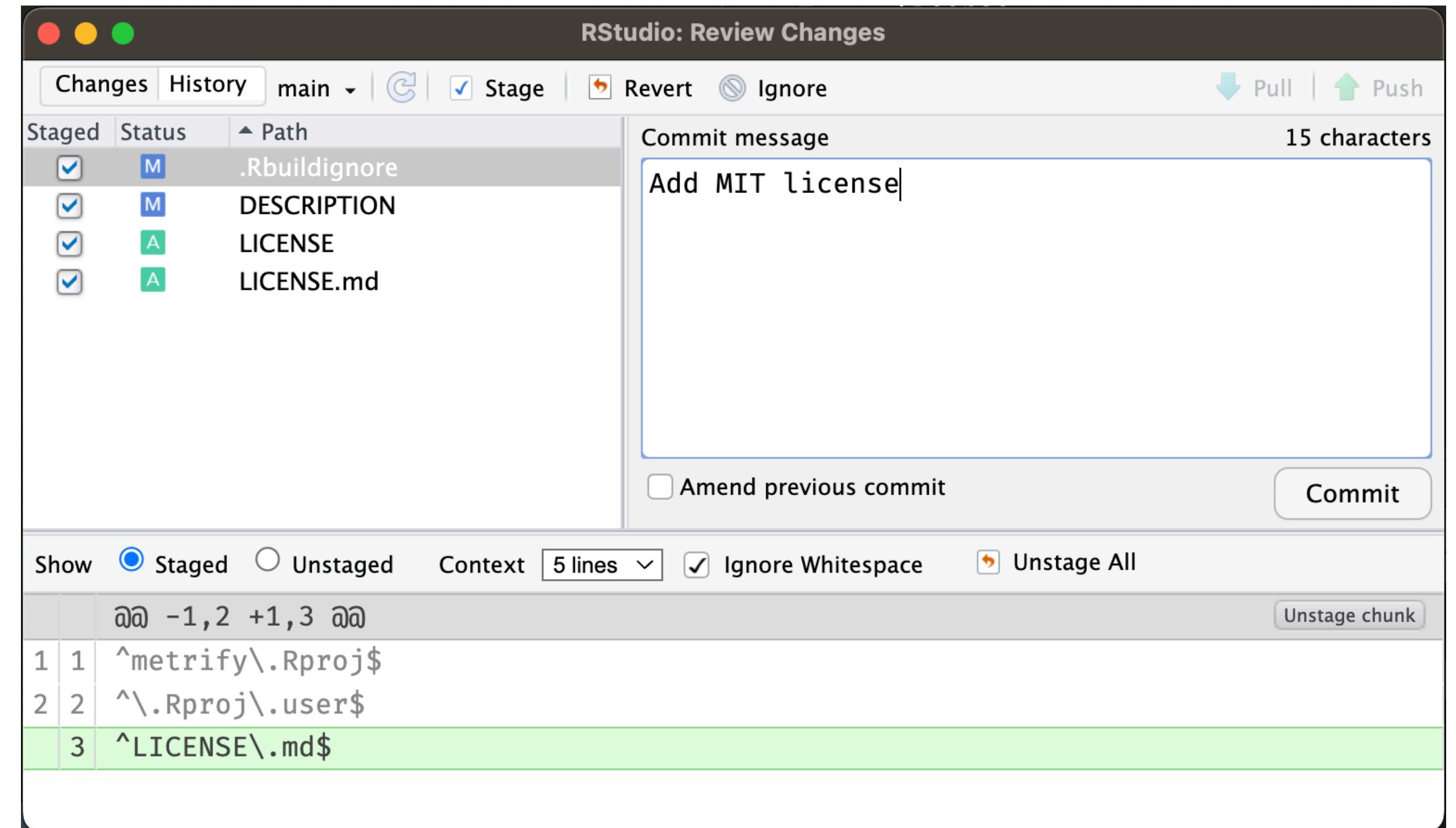






# Commit changes to git

```
$ git add DESCRIPTION \  
  LICENSE \  
  LICENSE.md \  
  .Rbuildignore  
  
$ git commit -m "Add MIT license"
```



# use\_github()

## Put your package code on GitHub

- Prerequisites:
  - GitHub account
  - `create_github_token()` - follow instructions
  - `gitcreds::gitcreds_set()` - paste PAT
  - `git_sitrep()` - verify

`use_github()` - push content to new repository on GitHub

# use\_github()

## Put your package code on GitHub

- Prerequisites:
  - GitHub account
  - `create_github_token()` - follow instructions
  - `gitcreds::gitcreds_set()` - paste PAT
  - `git_sitrep()` - verify

`use_github()` - push content to new repo

 **Your Turn**



Avoid some pain of package setup: `edit_r_profile()`

**And set default DESCRIPTION values**

```
# Set usethis options:
options(
  usethis.description = list(
    "Authors@R" = utils::person(
      "Jane", "Doe",
      email = "jane@example.com",
      role = c("aut", "cre"),
      comment = c(ORCID = "0000-1111-2222-3333")
    )
  )
)
```

<https://usethis.r-lib.org/articles/usethis-setup.html>

# While you're in there...

Set some other helpful defaults

```
options(  
  warnPartialMatchArgs = TRUE,  
  warnPartialMatchDollar = TRUE,  
  warnPartialMatchAttr = TRUE  
)
```

# Documentation





# Documentation





# Documentation

# Documentation

## Function documentation

```
> ?use_git

use_git                package:usethis                R Documentation

Initialise a git repository

Description:

  'use_git()' initialises a Git repository and adds important files
  to '.gitignore'. If user consents, it also makes an initial
  commit.

Usage:

  use_git(message = "Initial commit")

Arguments:

  message: Message to use for first commit.

See Also:

  Other git helpers: 'use_git_config()', 'use_git_hook()',
  'use_git_ignore()'

Examples:

## Not run:

use_git()
## End(Not run)
```

# Documentation

man/\* .Rd

```
% Generated by roxygen2: do not edit by hand
% Please edit documentation in R/git.R
\name{use_git}
\alias{use_git}
\title{Initialise a git repository}
\usage{
use_git(message = "Initial commit")
}
\arguments{
\item{message}{Message to use for first commit.}
}
\description{
\code{use_git()} initialises a Git repository and adds important files to
\code{.gitignore}. If user consents, it also makes an initial commit.
}
\examples{
\dontrun{
use_git()
}
}
\seealso{
Other git helpers:
\code{\link{use_git_config}()},
\code{\link{use_git_hook}()},
\code{\link{use_git_ignore}()}
}
\concept{git helpers}
```



## Function documentation

```
> ?use_git

use_git                package:usethis                R Documentation

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Examples:

  ## Not run:

  use_git()
  ## End(Not run)
```

# Documentation

man/\* .Rd

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```

```
\name{use_git}  
\alias{use_git}  
\title{Initialise a git repository}  
\usage{  
  use_git(message = "Initial commit")  
}  
\arguments{  
  \item{message} {  
    Message to use for first commit.  
  }  
}  
\description{  
  Initialise a git repository and add important files to  
  the repository.  
}  
\examples{  
  \dontrun{  
    use_git()  
  }  
}  
\seealso{  
  Other git helpers: \link{use_git_hook()},  
  \link{use_git_ignore()}  
}  
\concept{git helpers}
```



files to  
it.



## Function documentation

```
> ?use_git
```

```
use_git          package:usethis          R Documentation
```

```
Initialise a git repository
```

```
Description:
```

```
'use_git()' initialises a Git repository and adds important files  
to '.gitignore'. If user consents, it also makes an initial  
commit.
```

```
Usage:
```

```
use_git(message = "Initial commit")
```

```
Arguments:
```

```
message: Message to use for first commit.
```

```
See Also:
```

```
Other git helpers: 'use_git_config()', 'use_git_hook()',  
'use_git_ignore()'
```

```
Examples:
```

```
## Not run:
```

```
use_git()  
## End(Not run)
```



# roxygen2



- RStudio: *Code > Insert Roxygen Skeleton*
- Special comments (`#'`) above function definition in `R/*.R`
  - Title
  - Description
  - Parameters (`@param`)
  - Return value (`@return`)
  - Export tag (`@export`)
  - Example usage (`@examples`)
  - ...
- Markdown-like syntax
- Keep documentation with code!

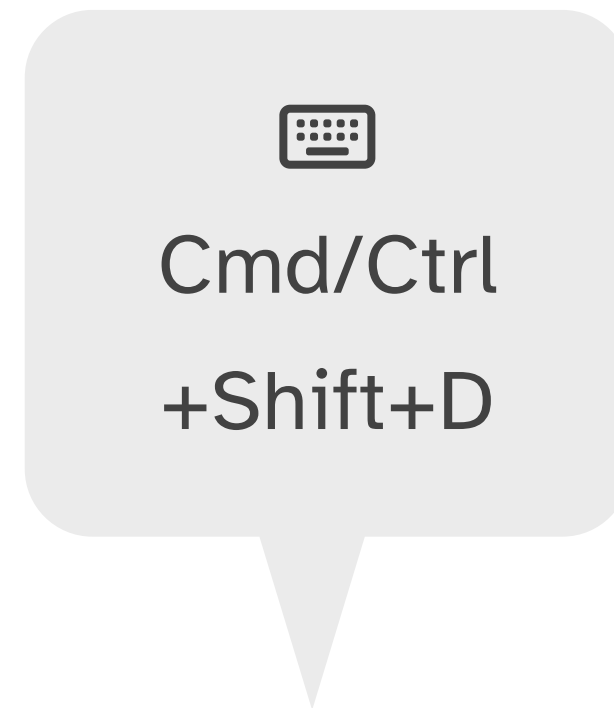
 `Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+Shift+R`

```
#' Title
#' A longer description of what the function
#' is used for
#'
#' @param x
#' @param y
#'
#' @return
#' @export
#'
#' @examples
add <- function(x, y) {
  x+y
}
```

# document()

## R/use-git.R

```
## Initialise a git repository
##
## `use_git()` initialises a Git
## repository and adds important
## files to `.gitignore`. If user
## consents, it also makes an
## initial commit.
##
## @param message Message to use
##   for first commit.
## @export
## @examples
## \dontrun{
##   use_git()
## }
use_git <- function(message = "Initial
commit") {
  . . .
}
```



document()

## man/\* .Rd

```
% Generated by roxygen2: do not edit by hand
% Please edit documentation in R/git.R
\name{use_git}
\alias{use_git}
\title{Initialise a git repository}
\usage{
  use_git(message = "Initial commit")
}
\arguments{
  \item{message}{Message to use for first commit.}
}
\description{
  \code{use_git()} initialises a Git repository and adds
  important files to \code{.gitignore}. If user consents,
  it also makes an initial commit.
}
\examples{
\dontrun{
  use_git()
}
}
```

# Create roxygen comments

- Go to function definition

 Ctrl+. (Start typing function name...)

- Cursor in function definition

- Insert roxygen skeleton

 Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+Shift+R

- Complete the roxygen fields

- `document()`

 Cmd/Ctrl+Shift+D

- `?myfunction`



# Create roxygen comments

- Go to function definition

 Ctrl+. (Start typing function name...)

- Cursor in function definition

- Insert roxygen skeleton

 Cmd/Ctrl+Alt+Shift+R

- Complete the roxygen fields

- `document()`

 Cmd/Ctrl+Shift+D

- `?myfunction`



 **Your Turn**



check() 

Commit your changes 

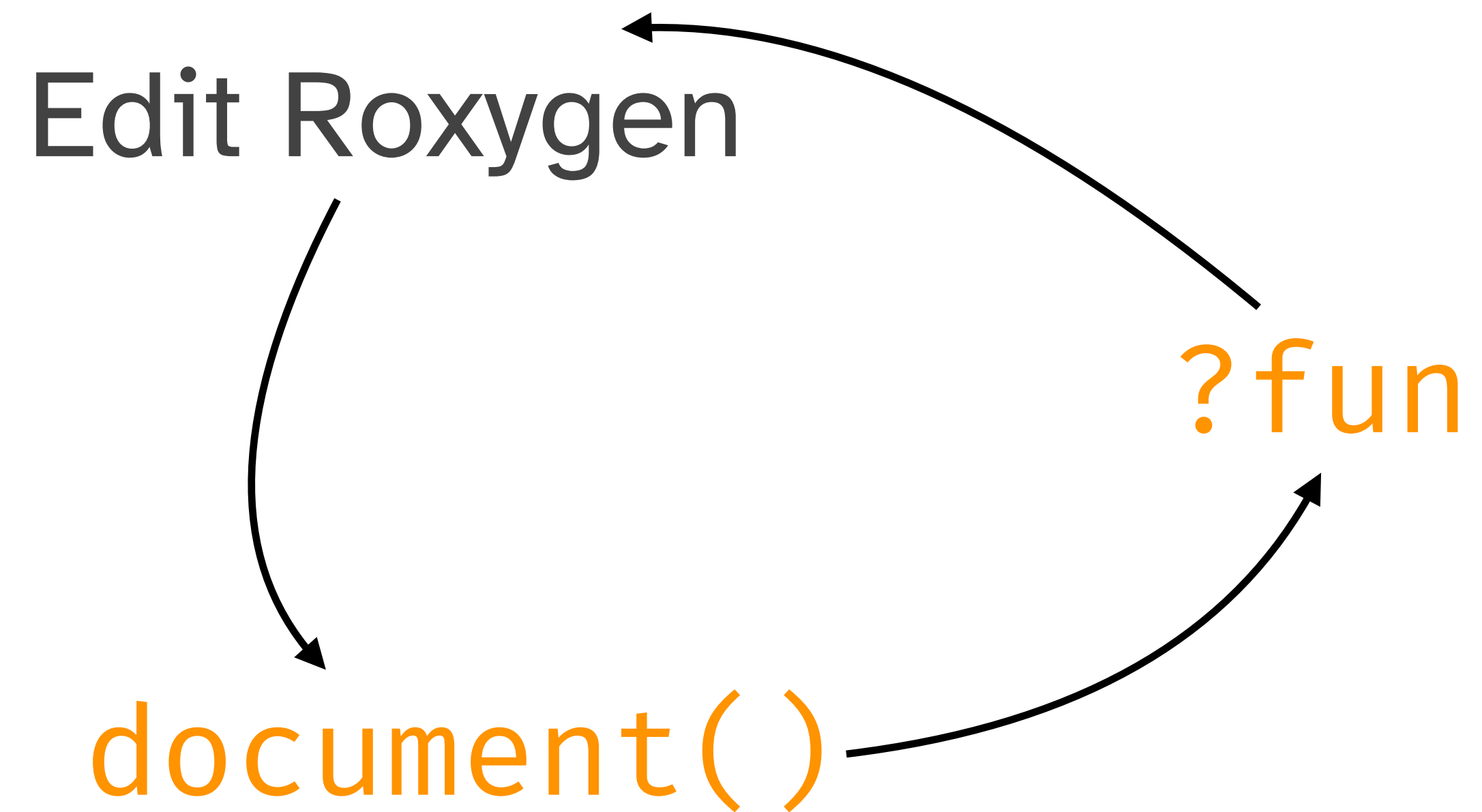
Push to Github 

# NAMESPACE

## An introduction

- Lists R objects that are:
  - **Exported** from your package to be used by package users
    - `export()`, `S3method()`, ...
  - **Imported** from another package to be used internally by your package
    - `import()`, `importFrom()`, ...
- `document()` updates the `NAMESPACE` file with directives from Roxygen comments in your R code.

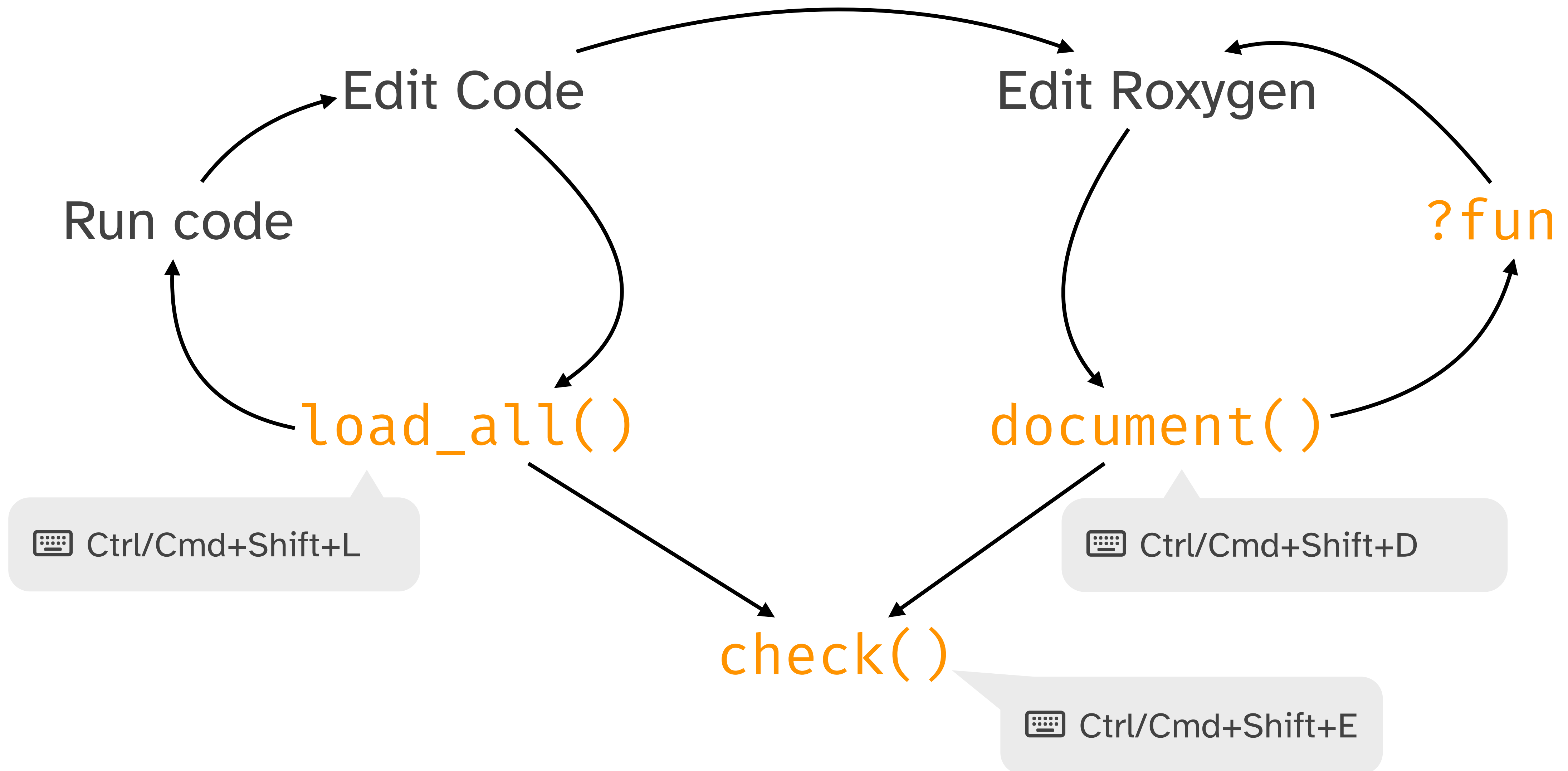
# Documentation workflow



- ⌨️ Ctrl+Shift+D (Windows & Linux)
- ⌨️ Cmd+Shift+D (macOS)

# Workflow

Code + documentation + check





# Package-level documentation

## `use_package_doc()`

```
use_package_doc()
```

```
#> ✓ Writing 'R/mypackage-package.R'
```

```
#> • Modify 'R/mypackage-package.R'
```

```
document()
```

- Package-level help available via `?mypackage`
- Creates relevant `.Rd` file from `DESCRIPTION`
- A good place for roxygen dependency directives

# Package-level documentation

## use\_package\_doc()

```
use_package_doc()  
  
#> ✓ Writing 'R/mypackage-package.R'  
#> • Modify 'R/mypackage-package.R'  
  
document()
```

- Package-level help available via `?mypackage`
- Creates relevant `.Rd` file from `DESCRIPTION`
- A good place for roxygen dependency directives

 **Your Turn**

# check() again

```
check()
```

```
#> == Documenting ==  
...  
#> == Building ==  
...  
#> == Checking ==  
...  
#> — R CMD check results —  
#> Duration: 3.1s  
#>  
#> 0 errors ✓ | 0 warnings ✓ | 0 notes ✓
```

# install()

## Install package to your library

- R CMD INSTALL

⌨️ Ctrl+Shift+B (Windows & Linux)

⌨️ Cmd+Shift+B (macOS)

- Restart R

⌨️ Ctrl+Shift+F10 (Windows & Linux)

⌨️ Cmd+Shift+0 (macOS)

- Attach package with `library()` like any other package



# install()


## Install package to your library

- R CMD INSTALL

 Ctrl+Shift+B (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+B (macOS)

- Restart R

 Ctrl+Shift+F10 (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+0 (macOS)

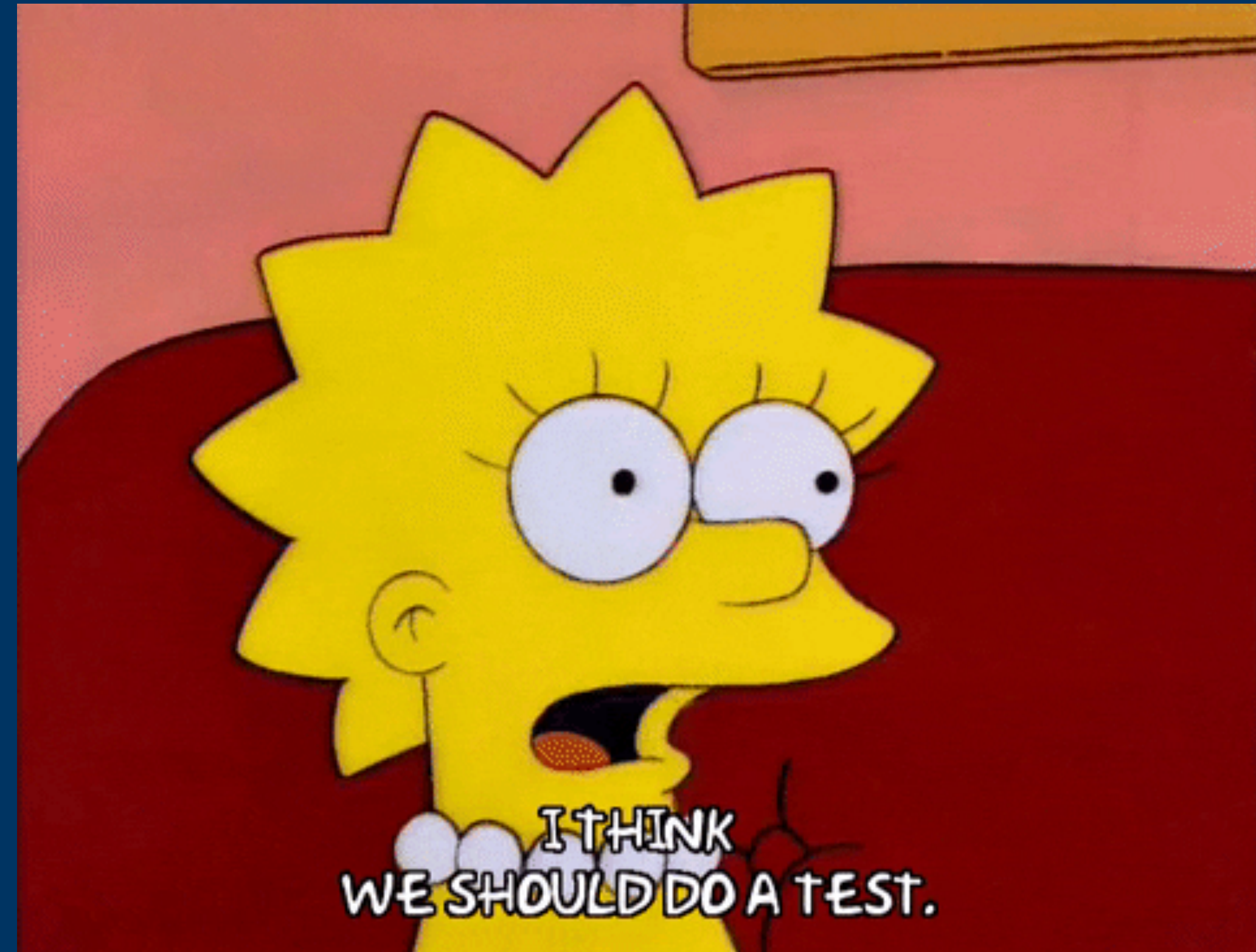
- Attach package with `library()` like any other package

 **Your Turn**

Commit your changes 

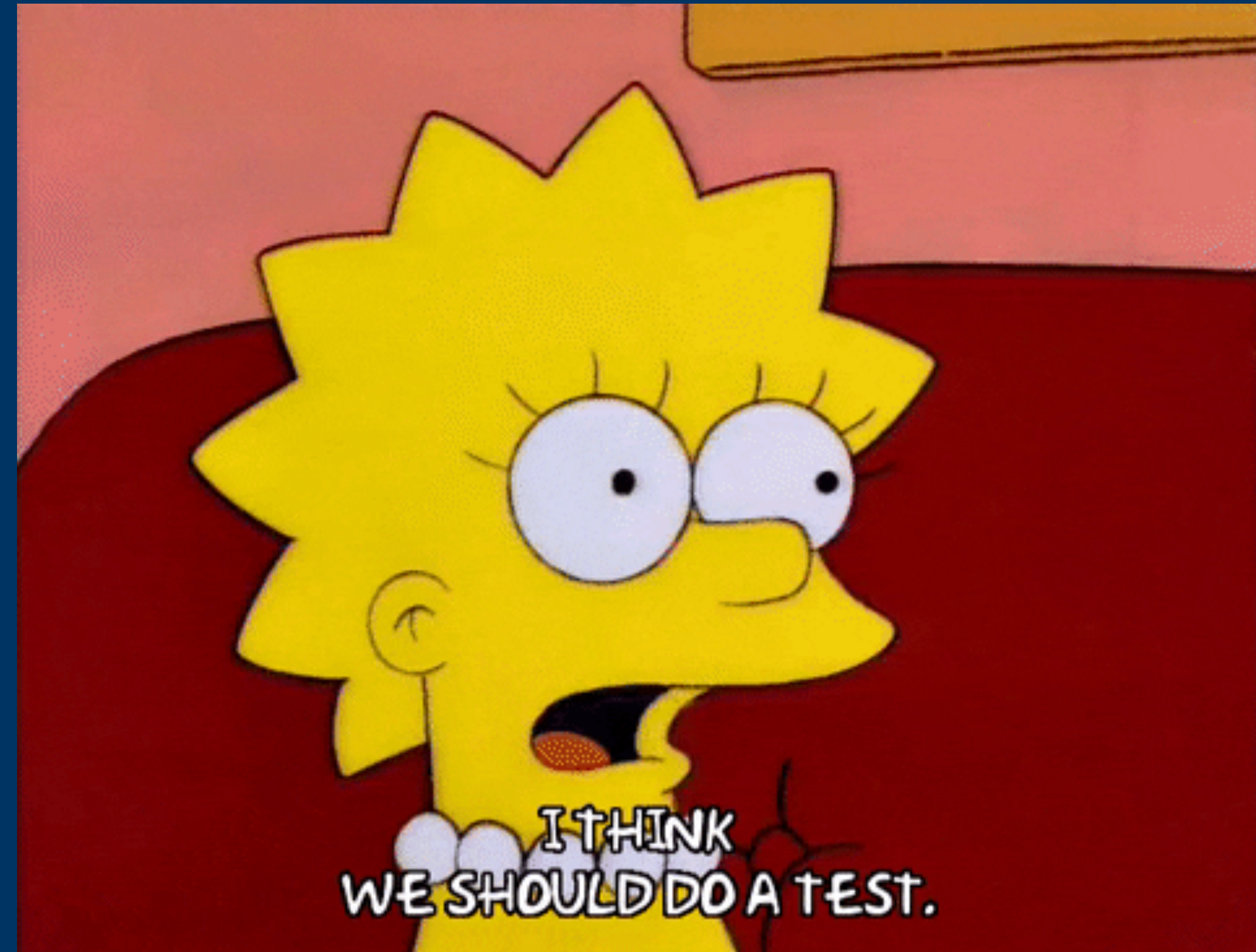
Push to Github 

# Testing





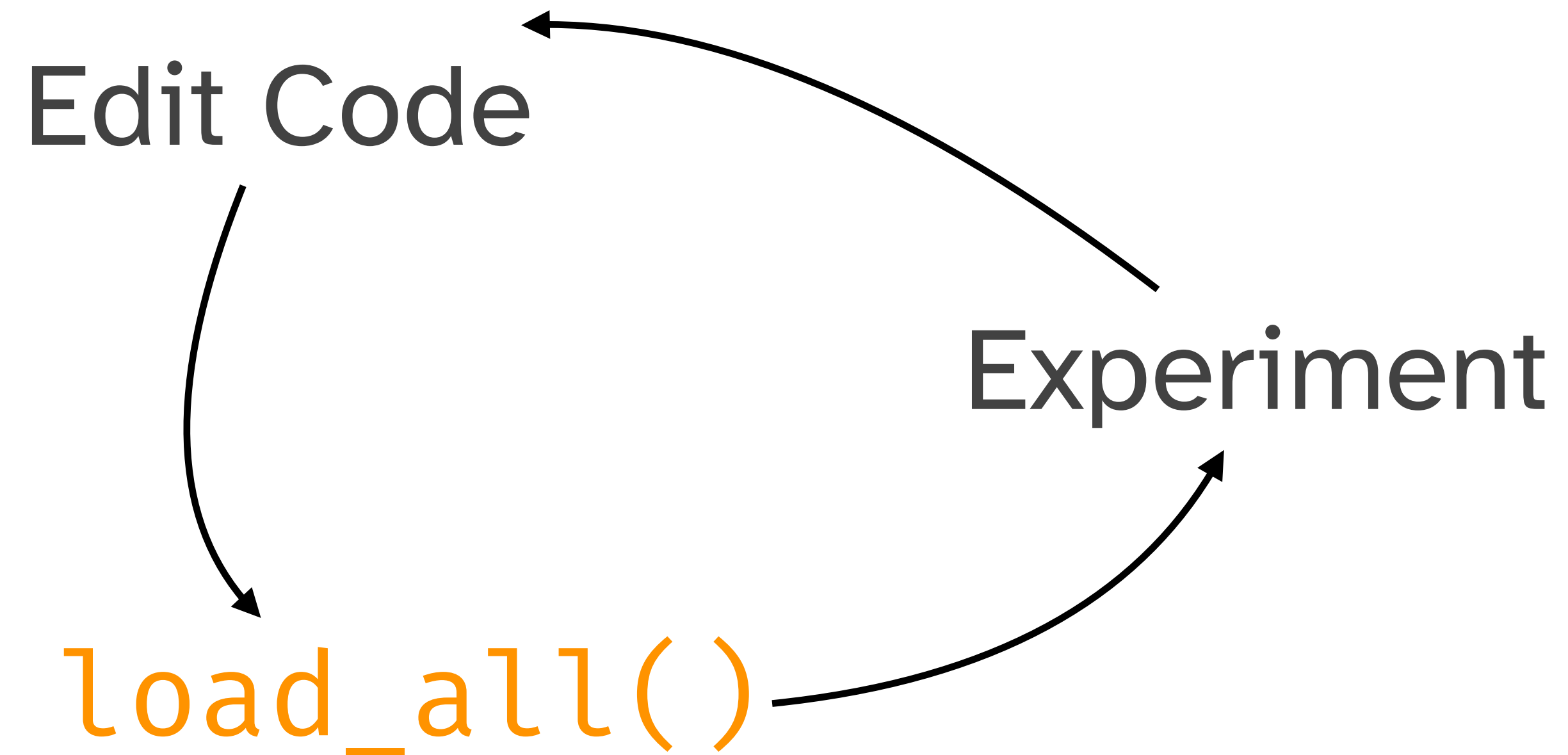
# Testing







# Testing

## Current workflow



-  Ctrl+Shift+L (Windows & Linux)
-  Cmd+Shift+L (macOS)

# Automated Testing

## Benefits

- Fewer bugs
- Better code structure
- Call to action when fixing bugs
- Robust (future-proof) code



# use\_testthat()

**Set up formal testing of your package\***

```
use_testthat()
```

```
#> ✓ Adding 'testthat' to Suggests field in DESCRIPTION
```

```
#> ✓ Adding '3' to Config/testthat/edition
```

```
#> ✓ Creating 'tests/testthat/'
```

```
#> ✓ Writing 'tests/testthat.R'
```

```
#> • Call `use_test()` to initialize a basic test file and  
open it for editing.
```

\*Sorry, you still have to write the tests

# use\_test()

```
use_test('my-fun.R')*
```

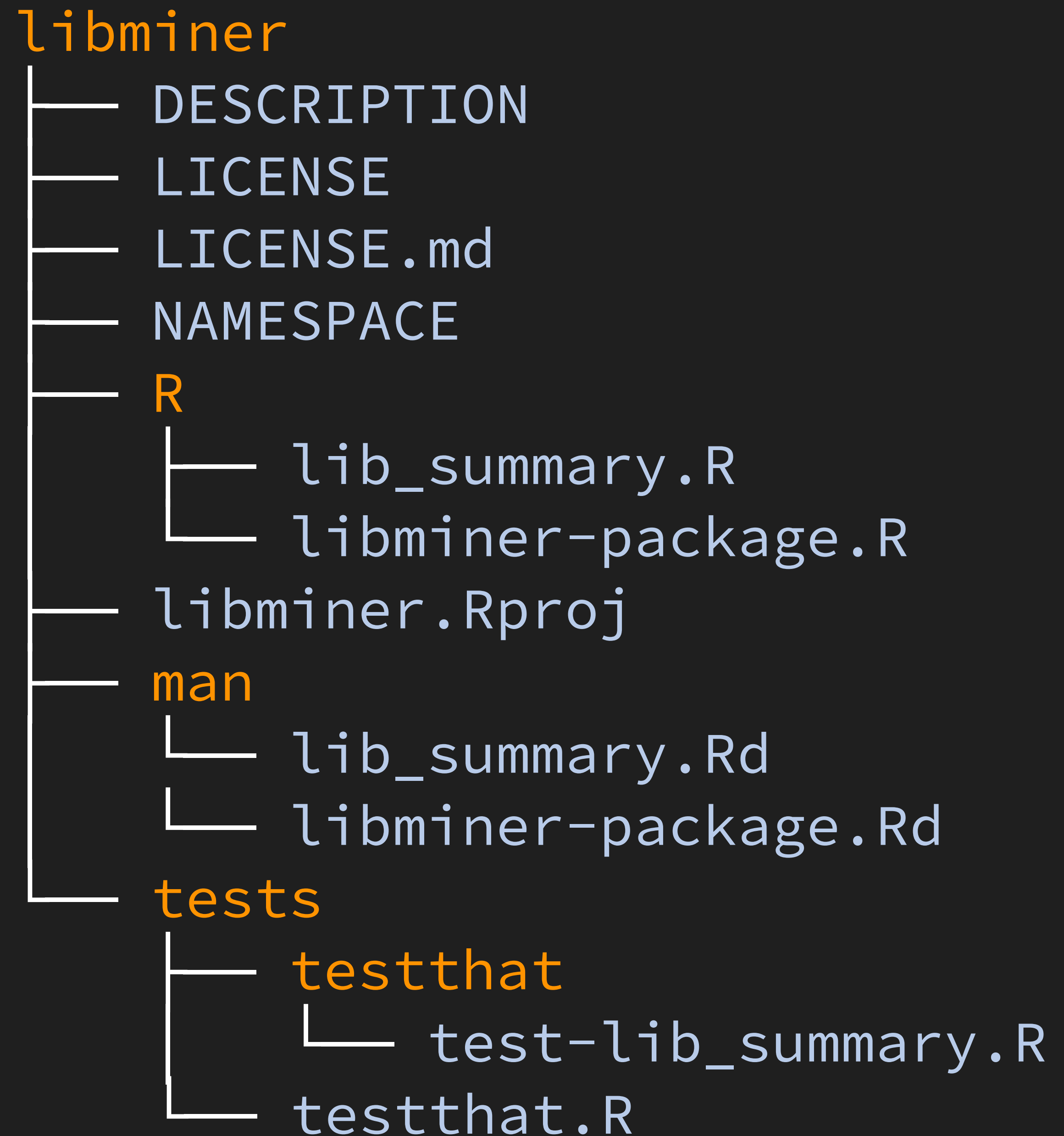
```
#> ✓ Writing 'tests/testthat/test-my-fun.R'
```

```
#> • Edit 'tests/testthat/test-my-fun.R'
```

\*Omit file name when 'R/my-fun.R' is active file



# File structure



# Test structure

```
testthat("description of what you're testing", {  
  expect_equal([function output], [expected output])  
})
```

- **File:** one or more related tests
- **Test:** `test_that("...")`
  - Tests a unit of functionality (hence unit tests)
  - Contains one or more expectations
- **Expectation:** `expect_that(...)`
  - Tests a specific computation and compares it to an expected value

# test()

- Runs all tests in your test suite

```
test()
```

```
#> i Testing
```

```
#> ✓ | F W S OK | Context
```

```
#>
```

```
#> ⋮ | 0 |
```

```
#> ✓ | 1 |
```

```
#>
```

```
#> == Results ==
```

```
#> [ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 1 ]
```

 Ctrl+Shift+T (Windows & Linux)

 Cmd+Shift+T (macOS)

# test()

- Runs all tests in your test suite

```
test()
```

```
#> i Testing
```

```
#> ✓ | F W S OK | Context
```

```
#>
```

```
#> ⋮ | 0 |
```

```
#> ✓ | 1 |
```

```
#>
```

```
#> == Results ==
```

```
#> [ FAIL 0 | WARN 0 | SKIP 0 | PASS 1 ]
```

 Ctrl+Shift+T (Windows & Linux)

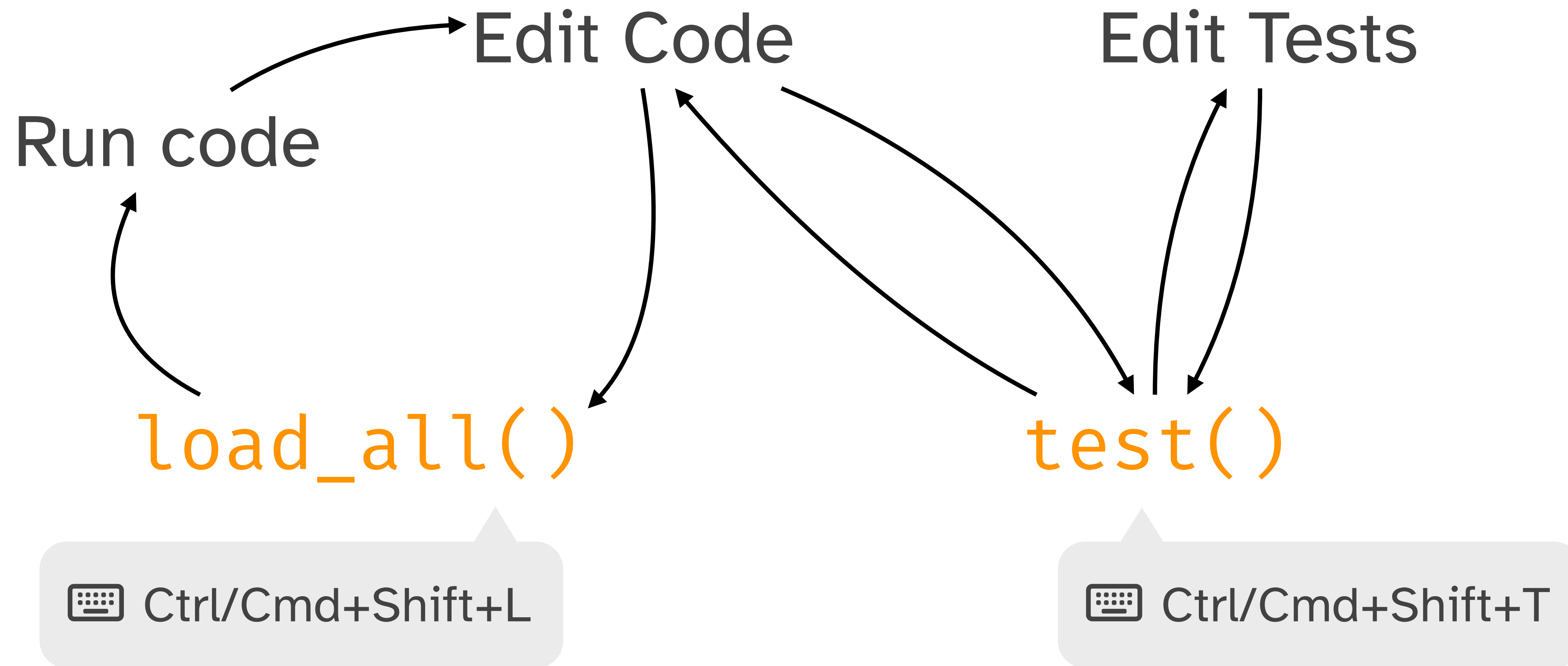
 Cmd+Shift+T (macOS)

 **Your Turn**



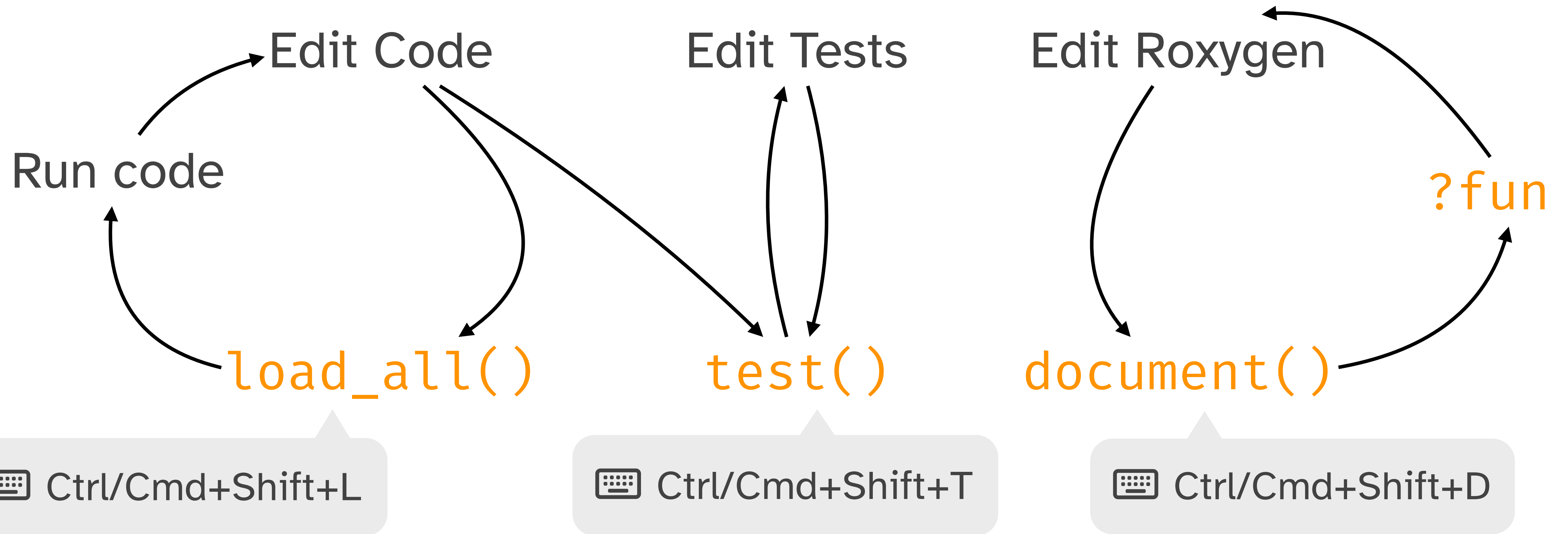
# Updated workflow

## Code + testing



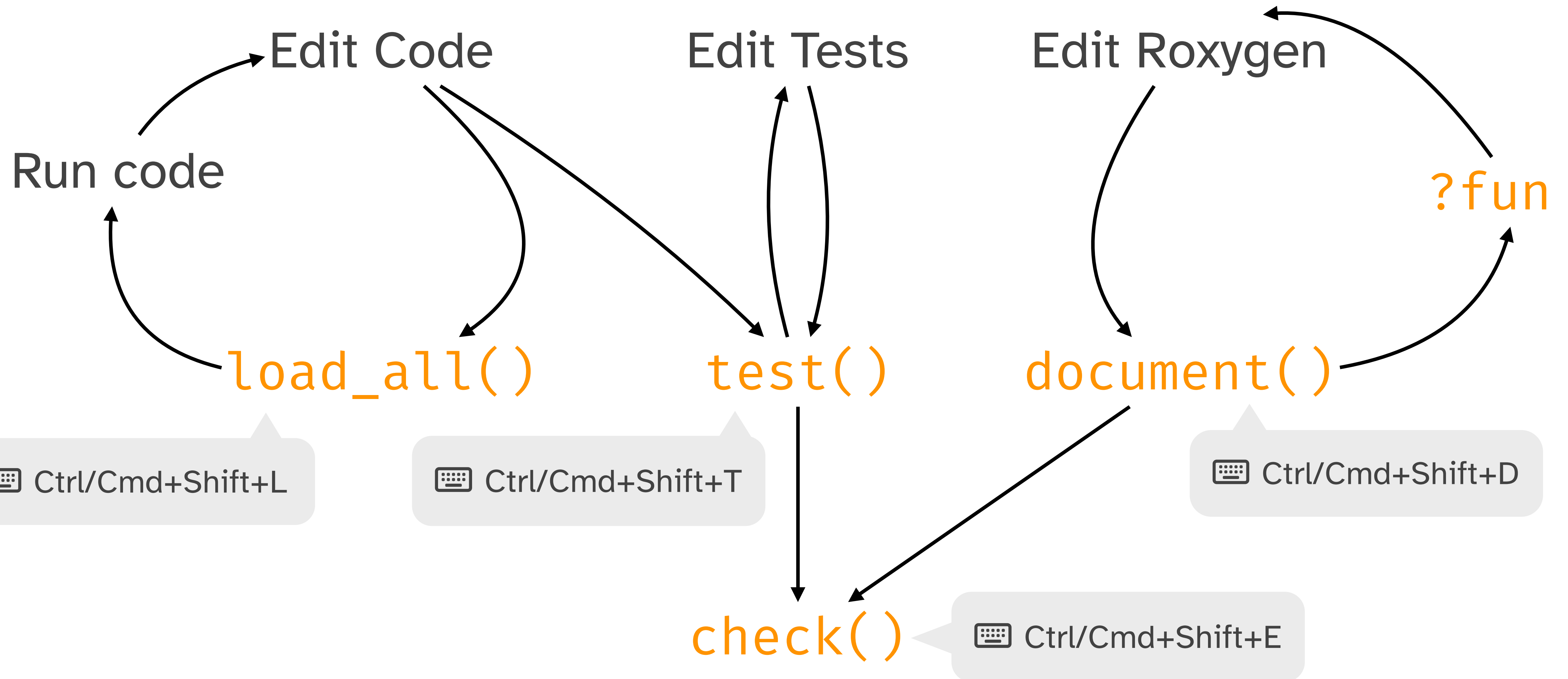
# Workflow

Code + testing + documentation



# Workflow

Code + testing + documentation + check



check() 

Commit your changes 

Push to Github 



# Dependencies





# Dependencies




# Use functions from another package inside your package

```
library("fs")
```

```
# use functions from the fs package..
```

# Use functions from another package inside your package

```
library("fs")  
  
# use fun... kage...
```



# use\_package()

## Add a dependency

- Use functions from another package inside your package
- Dependencies must be declared
  - Even from included packages (`stats::sd()`, `tools::file_ext()` etc.)
- Never call `library(pkg)` in code below `R/!`

```
use_package("fs")  
#> ✓ Adding 'fs' to Imports field in DESCRIPTION  
#> • Refer to functions with `fs::fun()``
```



# Listing dependencies in DESCRIPTION

## Three options

- **Depends:**
  - Ensures the package is installed with your package
  - *Attaches the package when yours is attached*
  - Rarely needed or recommended
- **Imports:**
  - Ensures the package is installed with your package
  - Most common location for dependencies
- **Suggests:**
  - Does not ensure installation automatically
  - Packages required for development (running tests, building vignettes, etc).
  - Rarely used functionality (especially if the dependency is difficult to install)

**devtools DESCRIPTION file:**

**<https://github.com/r-lib/devtools/blob/main/DESCRIPTION>**

# Listing dependencies in DESCRIPTION

## Three options

- **Depends:**
  - Ensures the package is installed with your package
  - *Attaches the package when yours is attached*
  - Rarely needed or recommended
- **Imports:**
  - Ensures the package is installed with your package
  - Most common location for dependencies
- **Suggests:**
  - Does not ensure installation automatically
  - Packages required for development (running tests, building vignettes, etc).
  - Rarely used functionality (especially if the dependency is difficult to install)

**devtools DESCRIPTION file:**

**<https://github.com/r-lib/devtools/blob/main/DESCRIPTION>**

# Imports: DESCRIPTION vs NAMESPACE

## DESCRIPTION

- Lists packages that your package requires
- Ensures required packages are ***installed*** during package installation
- ***Does not*** import that package into your package's namespace
- Add via `use_package()` (or manually)

## NAMESPACE

- ***Imports*** R objects from another package into your package's namespace
- **`import ==`** Available to be used internally by your package
- Don't edit manually - use roxygen tags:  

```
#' @importFrom pkg fun  
#' @import pkg
```

# 3 ways to use functions from another package

## 1 - Call function with namespace qualifier

1. Add package to `DESCRIPTION` file in `Imports`
2. Call function like `package::fun()`

☑ Most common and recommended pattern

DESCRIPTION

```
Imports:  
  purrr
```

R/my-fun.R

```
#' @export  
myfun <- function(x) {  
  purrr::map(x, mean)  
}
```

NAMESPACE

```
export(myfun)
```

document()



# 3 ways to use functions from another package

## 2 - Import just the functions you want to use via `@importFrom` tag:

1. Add package to `DESCRIPTION` file in `Imports`
2. Use `@importFrom` roxygen tags
3. Call function like `fun()`

DESCRIPTION

```
Imports:  
  purrr
```

R/my-fun.R

```
#' @importFrom purrr map  
#' @export  
myfun <- function(x) {  
  map(x, mean)  
}
```

NAMESPACE

```
importFrom(purrr, map)  
export(myfun)
```

`document()`





# 3 ways to use functions from another package

## 3 - Import the entire package via `@import roxygen` tag:

1. Add package to `DESCRIPTION` file in `Imports`
2. Use `@import` roxygen tag
3. Call functions like `fun()`

DESCRIPTION

```
Imports:  
  purrr
```

R/my-fun.R

```
#' @import purrr  
#' @export  
myfun <- function(x) {  
  y <- map(x, mean)  
  reduce(y, `+`)  
}
```

NAMESPACE

```
import(purrr)  
export(myfun)
```

`document()`



# 3 ways to use functions from another package

1. `package::fun()`

2. Import just the functions you want to use via `@importFrom` roxygen tag:

```
#' @importFrom pkg fun1 fun2
```

Adds to `NAMESPACE`:

```
importFrom(pkg, fun1)  
importFrom(pkg, fun2)
```

\*Shortcut: `usethis::use_import_from("pkg", "function")`

3. Import the entire package with `@import`:

```
#' @import pkg
```

Adds to `NAMESPACE`:

```
import(pkg)
```

**Common**

**Rare**

# Use your new dependency

## Write a function using a function from the dependent package

- `use_package("fs")`
- Write/edit function using dependency: `pkg::fn()`
- Edit roxygen comments
- `document()`
  - Writes `man/* .Rd` files & regenerates `NAMESPACE`
- Update tests

# Use your new dependency

## Write a function using a function from the dependent package

- `use_package("fs")`
- Write/edit function using dependency: `pkg::fn()`
- Edit roxygen comments
- `document()`
  - Writes `man/* .Rd` files & regenerates `NAMESPACE`
- Update tests

 **Your Turn**

# Let's add one more

`use_import_from("pkg", "function")`

- See:
  - DESCRIPTION
  - R/mypackage-package.R (remember `use_package_doc()`?)
  - NAMESPACE
- Write/edit function using dependency: `fn()`
- `*test()`



# Let's add one more

`use_import_from("pkg", "function")`

- See:
  - DESCRIPTION
  - R/mypackage-package.R (remember `use_package_doc()`?)
  - NAMESPACE
- Write/edit function using dependency: `fn()`
- `*test()`

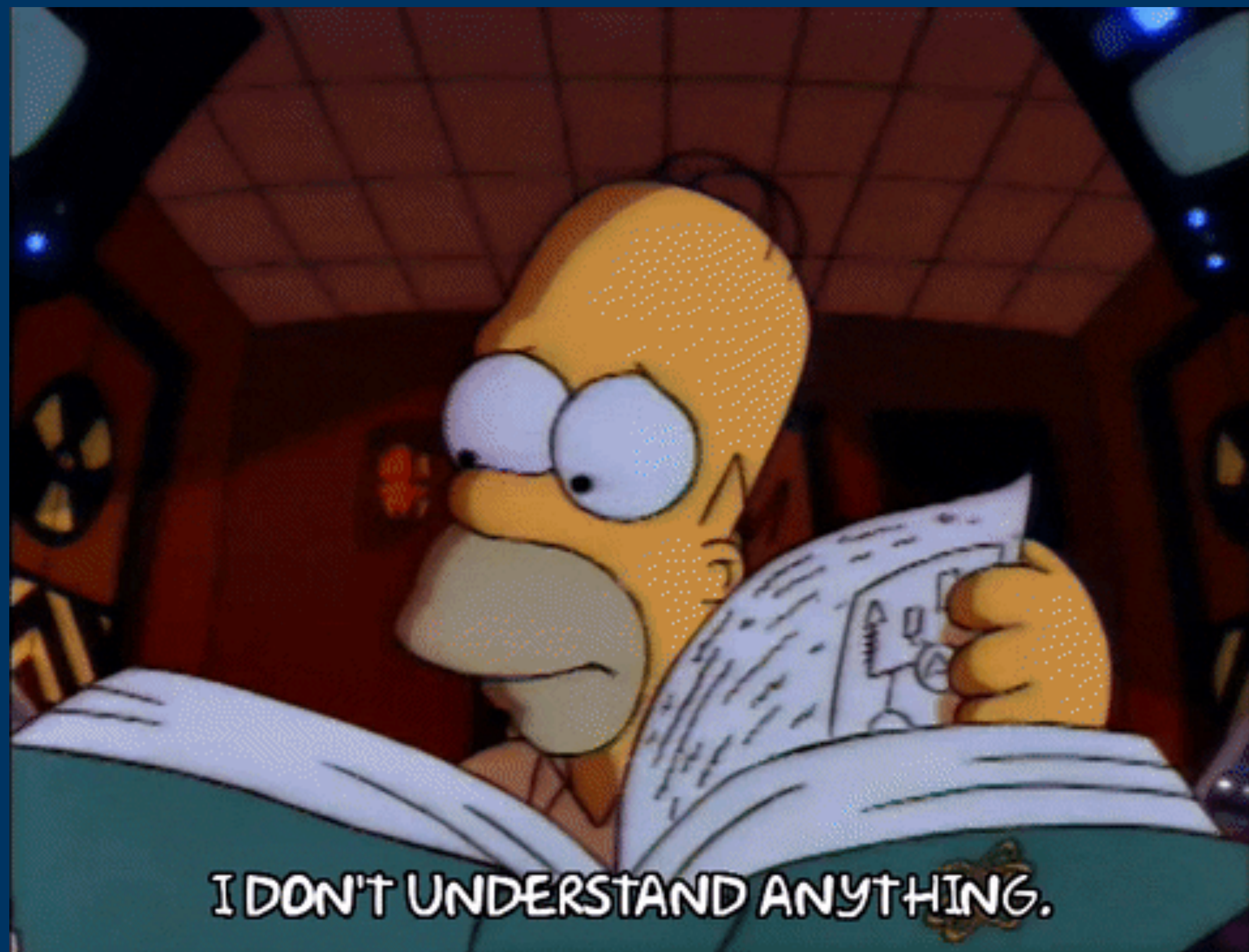
 **Your Turn**

check() 

Commit your changes 

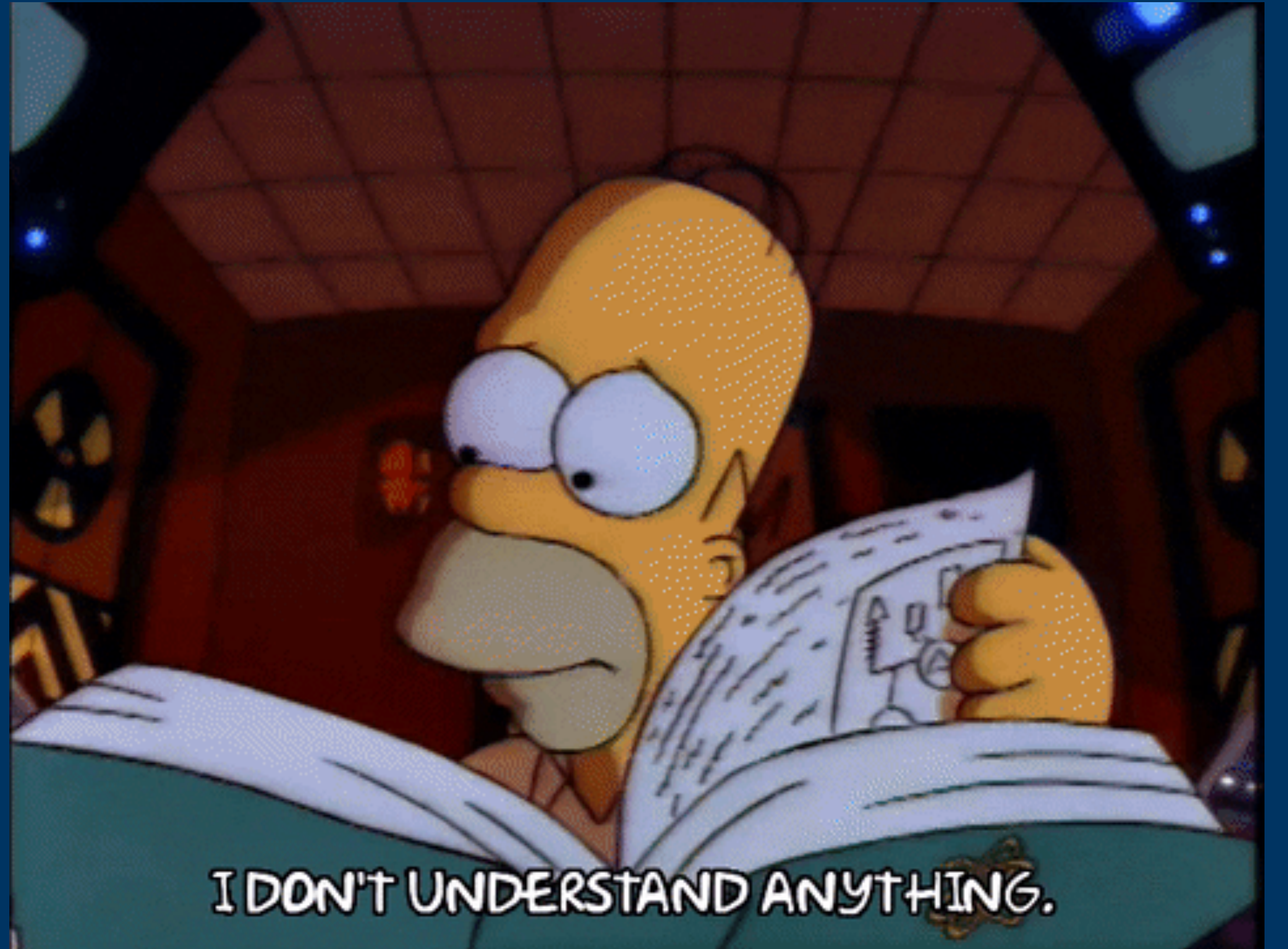
Push to Github 

# README





# README



# use\_readme\_rmd()

**Generates README.md, your package's home page on GitHub**

- The purpose of the package
- Installation instructions
- Example usage
- Contributing guide

```
use_readme_rmd()
```

```
#> ✓ Writing 'README.Rmd'
```

```
#> ✓ Adding '^README\\.Rmd$' to '.Rbuildignore'
```

```
#> • Update 'README.Rmd' to include installation instructions.
```

```
#> ✓ Writing '.git/hooks/pre-commit'
```



# build\_readme()

**README.Rmd -> README.md**

- Installs package to a temporary directory before rendering
- README.md renders on the front page of your GitHub repo

# build\_readme()

**README.Rmd -> README.md**

- Installs package to a temporary directory before rendering
- README.md renders on the front page of your GitHub repo

 **Your Turn**

# Final check() and install()

You did it!

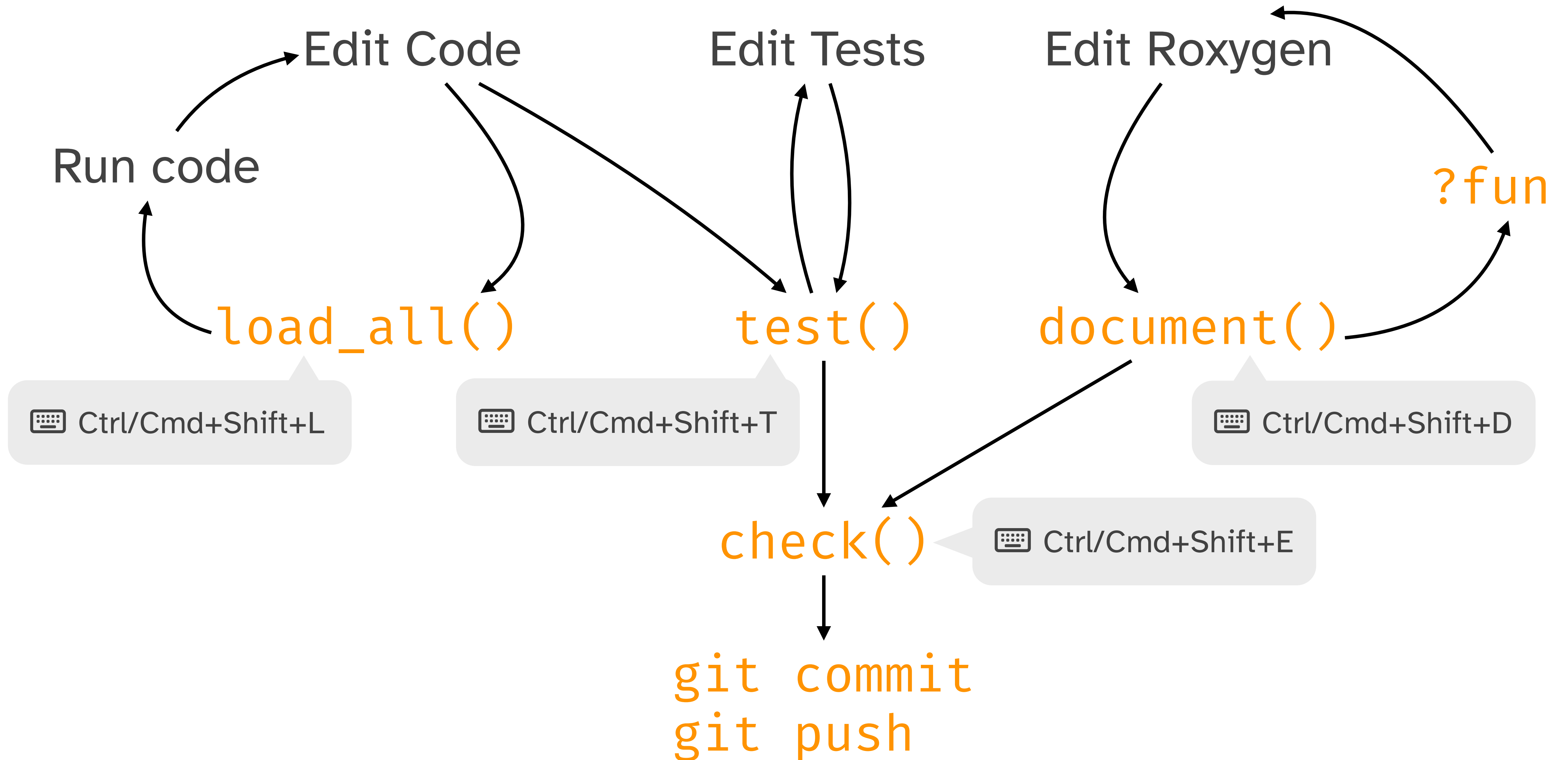
```
check()
```

```
#> — R CMD check results —————  
#> Duration: 3.1s  
#>  
#> 0 errors ✓ | 0 warnings ✓ | 0 notes
```

```
install()
```

```
#> — R CMD build —————  
#> checking for file '/Users/jane/rrr/mypackage/DESCRIPTION' ... ✓  
#> preparing 'mypackage':  
#> checking DESCRIPTION meta-information ... ✓  
#> checking for LF line-endings in source and make files and shell  
scripts  
#> checking for empty or unneeded directories  
#> building 'mypackage_0.0.0.9000.tar.gz'  
#> Running /usr/local/bin/R CMD INSTALL \  
#>   /tmp/RtmpK6WnOX/mypackage_0.0.0.9000.tar.gz --install-tests  
#> * installing to library '/Users/jane/Library/R/arm64/4.3/library'  
#> * installing *source* package 'mypackage' ...  
#> ** using staged installation  
#> ** help  
#> *** installing help indices  
#> ** building package indices  
#> ** testing if installed package can be loaded from temporary  
location  
#> ** testing if installed package can be loaded from final location  
#> ** testing if installed package keeps a record of temporary  
installation path  
#> * DONE (mypackage)
```

# Review: Workflow



Commit your changes 

Push to Github 



# Review: functions

## Run once

- `create_package()`
- `use_git()`
- `use_github()`
- `use_mit_license()`
- `use_testthat()`
- `use_readme_rmd()`

## Run periodically

- `use_r()`
- `use_test()`
- `use_package()`
- `rename_files()`

## Run frequently

- `load_all()`

 Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+L

- `document()`

 Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+D

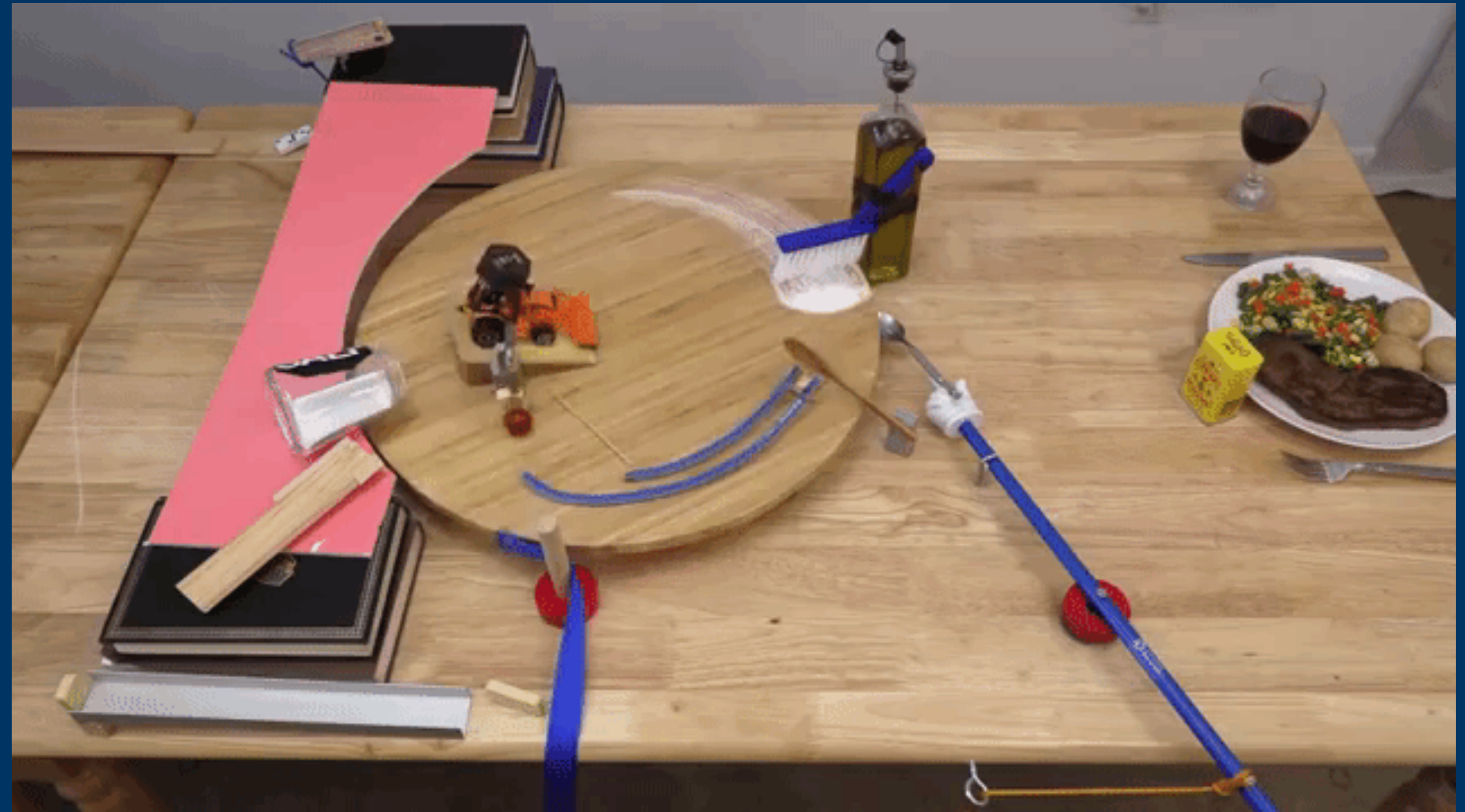
- `test()`

 Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+T

- `check()`

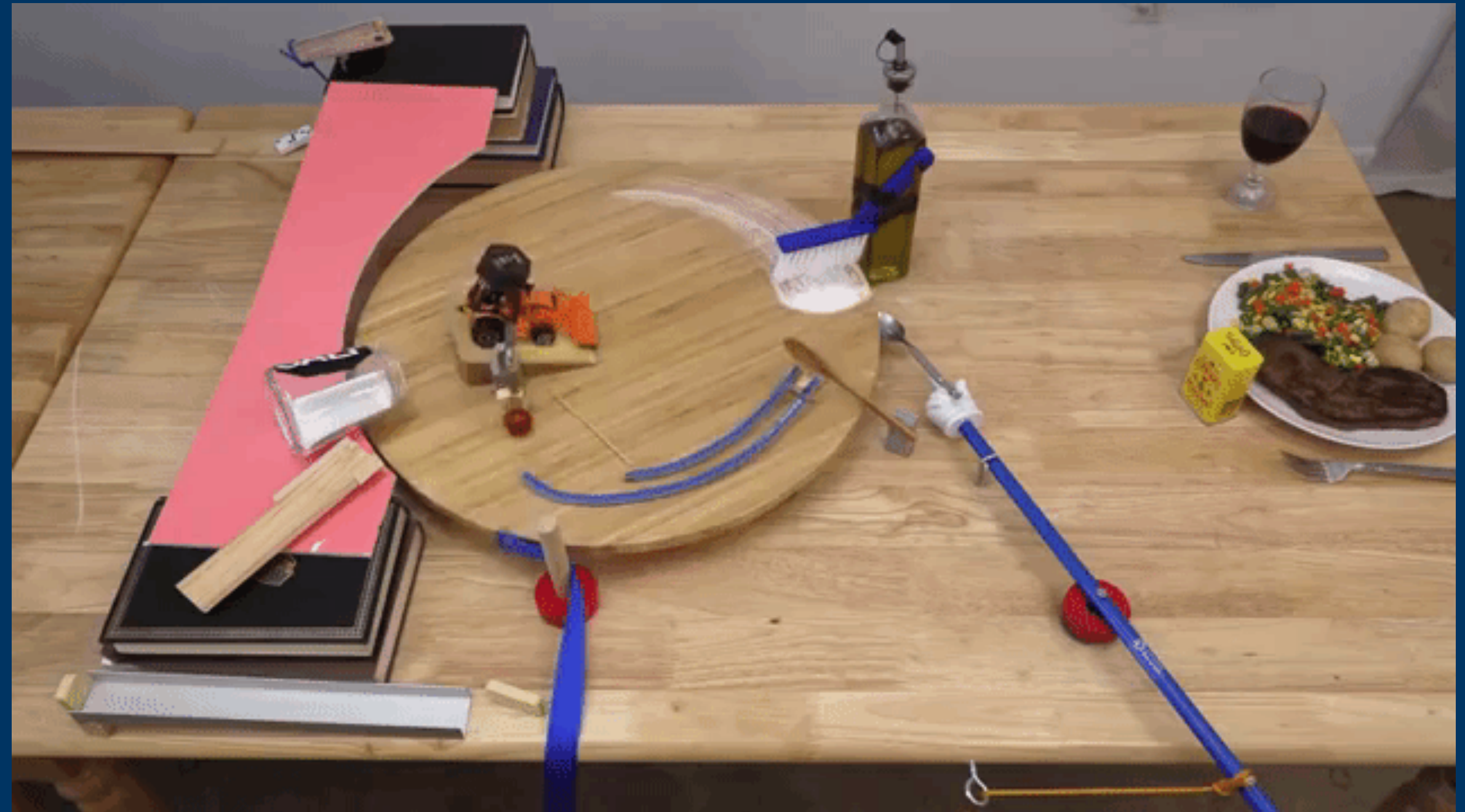
 Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+E

# Continuous Integration





# Continuous Integration



# use\_github\_action()

[github.com/r-lib/actions](https://github.com/r-lib/actions)

- "check-standard": Runs R CMD check when you push:
  - On different platforms (macOS, Windows, Linux)
  - On current R, R-devel, and R-oldrel
- "test-coverage": Compute test coverage and report at [codecov.io](https://codecov.io)
- "pr-commands": Enables automatic documentation and styling of code via special PR comments
- And more...\*

\*<https://github.com/r-lib/actions/tree/v2-branch/examples>

# use\_github\_action()

[github.com/r-lib/actions](https://github.com/r-lib/actions)

- "check-standard": Runs R CMD check when you push:
  - On different platforms (macOS, Windows, Linux)
  - On current R, R-devel, and R-oldrel
- "test-coverage": Compute test coverage and report at [codecov.io](https://codecov.io)
- "pr-commands": Enables automatic documentation special PR comments
- And more...\*

\*<https://github.com/r-lib/>

 **Your Turn**



Website



Website



# use\_pkgdown\_github\_pages()

[pkgdown.r-lib.org/](https://pkgdown.r-lib.org/)

- Automatically creates a website using pkgdown:
  - Function documentation
  - Dataset documentation
  - Vignettes (and articles)
  - README and NEWS
- Sets up a GitHub Action to deploy on GitHub Pages





# use\_pkgdown\_github\_pages()

[pkgdown.r-lib.org/](https://pkgdown.r-lib.org/)

- Automatically creates a website using pkgdown:
  - Function documentation
  - Dataset documentation
  - Vignettes (and articles)
  - README and NEWS
- Sets up a GitHub Action to deploy on GitHub Pages



 **Your Turn**

# Review: functions





## Run once

- `create_package()`
- `use_git()`
- `use_github()`
- `use_mit_license()`
- `use_testthat()`
- `use_readme_rmd()`
- `use_pkgdown_github_pages()`

## Run periodically

- `use_r()`
- `use_test()`
- `use_package()`
- `rename_files()`
- `use_github_action()`
- `use_vignette()`

## Run frequently

- `load_all()`  
 `Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+L`
- `document()`  
 `Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+D`
- `test()`  
 `Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+T`
- `check()`  
 `Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+E`



# Sharing your Package

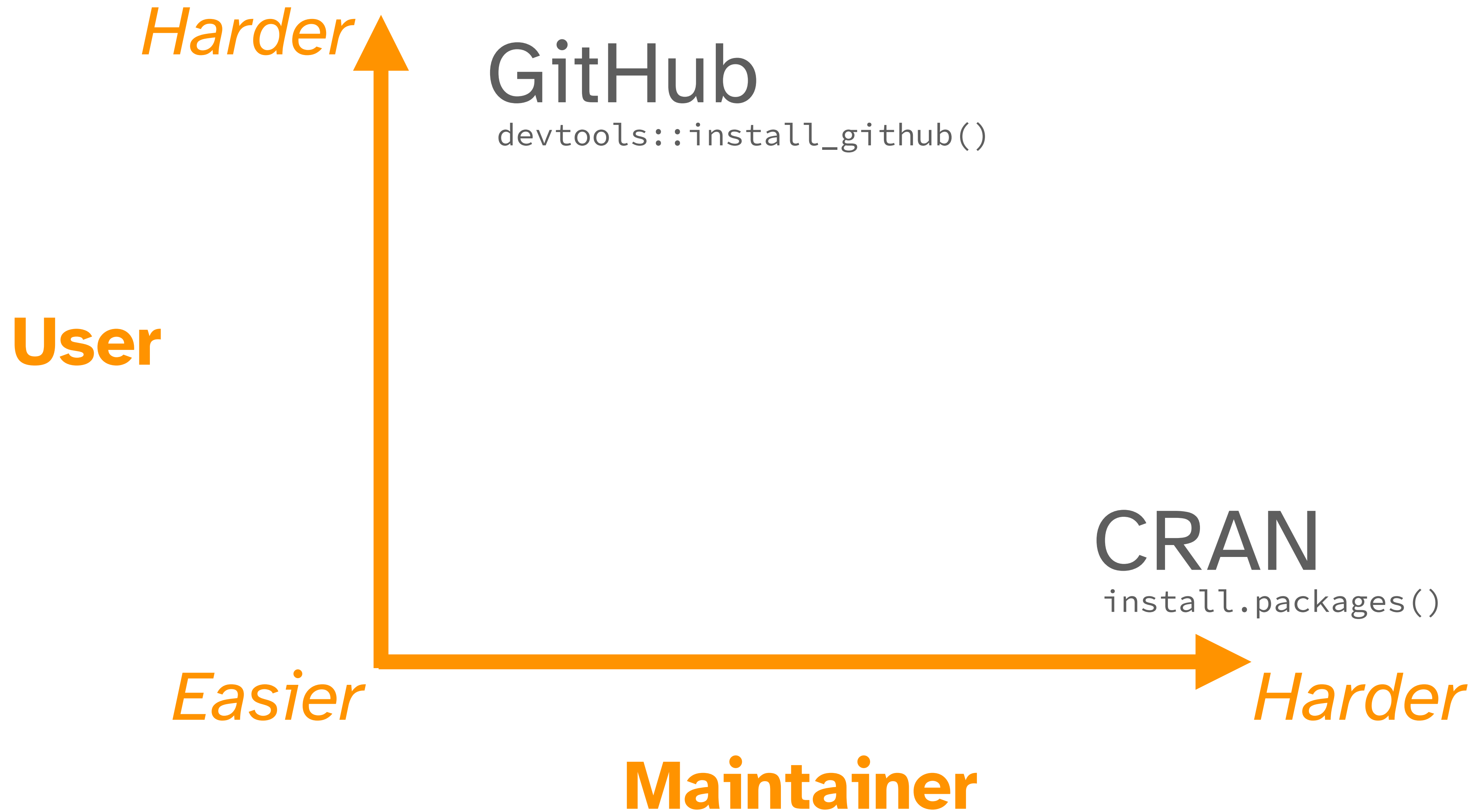




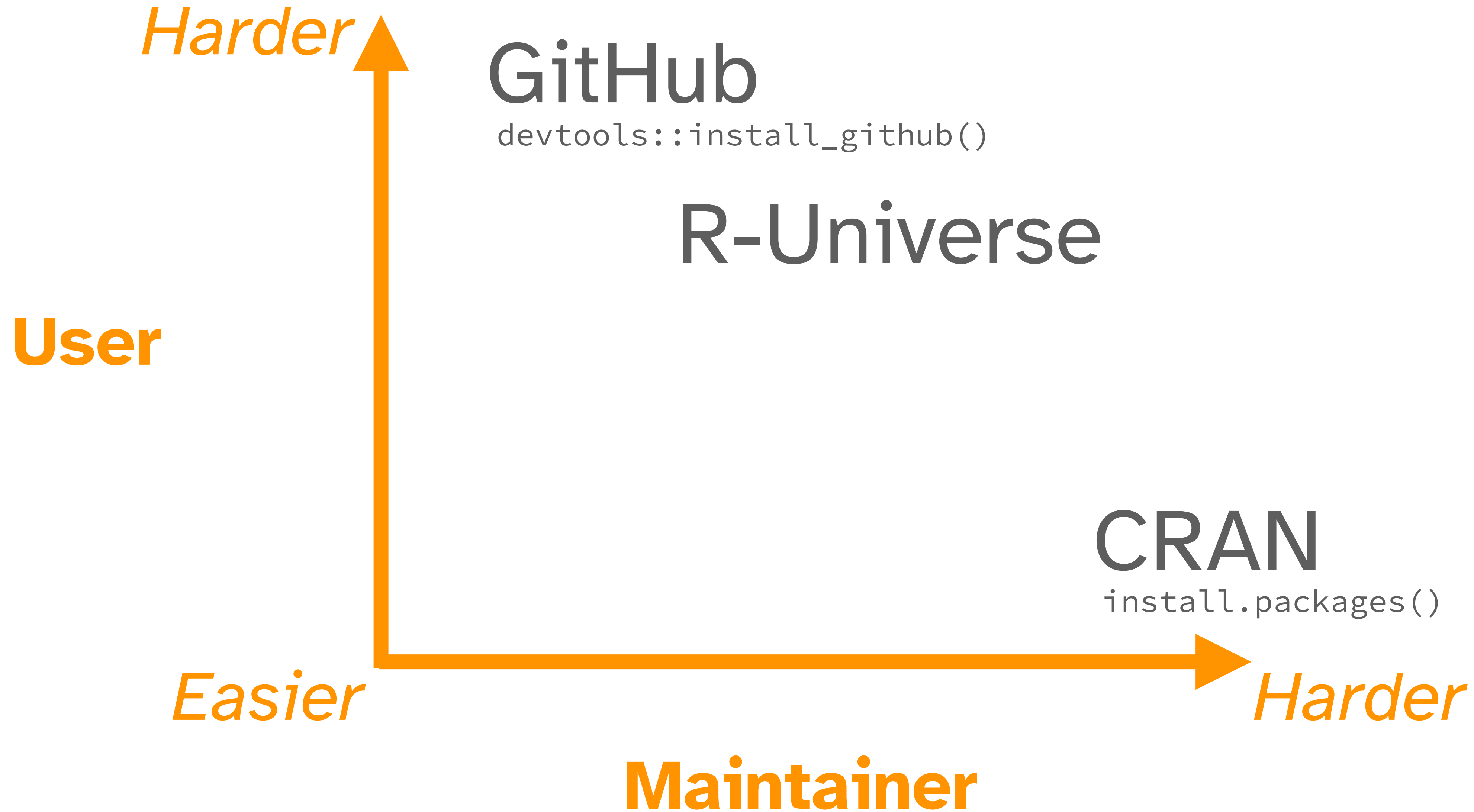
# Sharing your Package



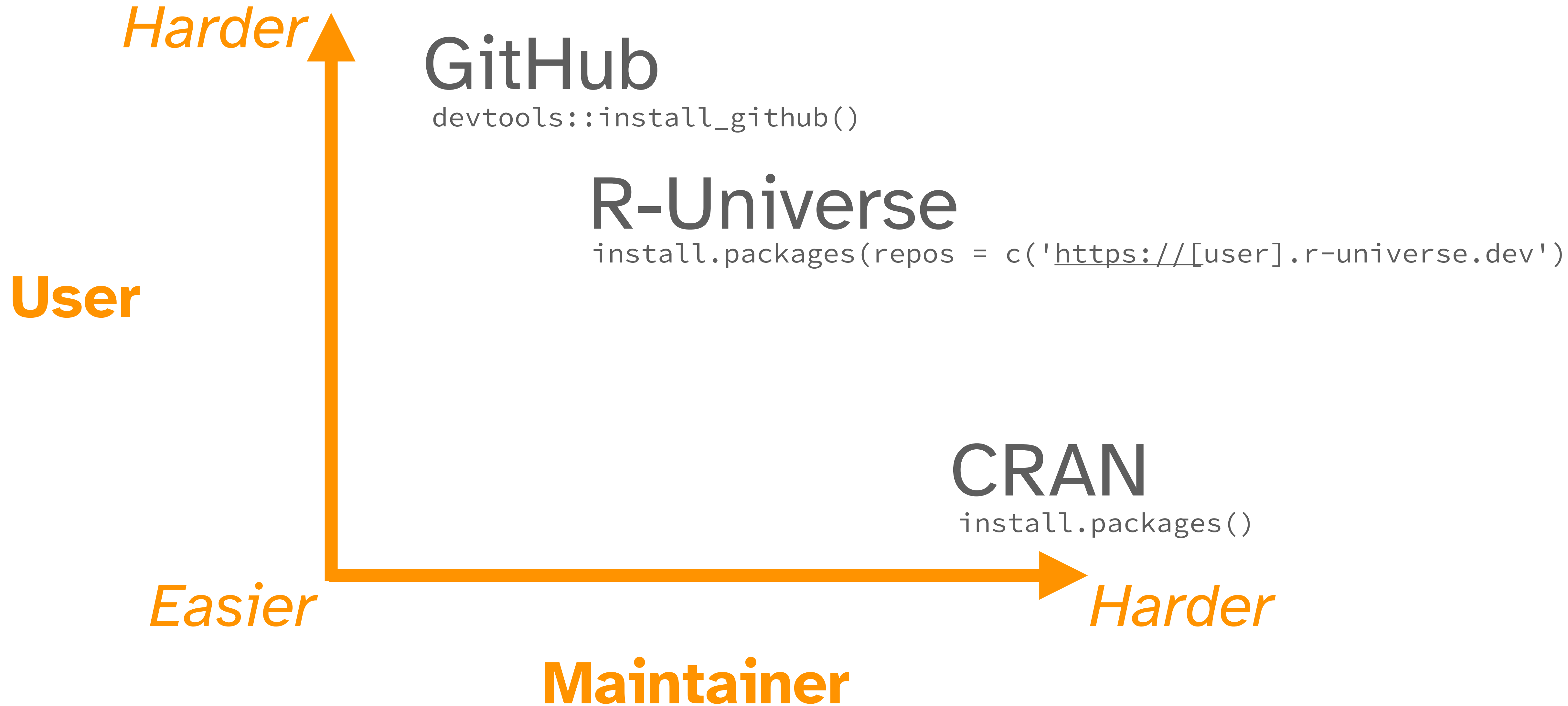
# Package Distribution



# Package Distribution



# Package Distribution





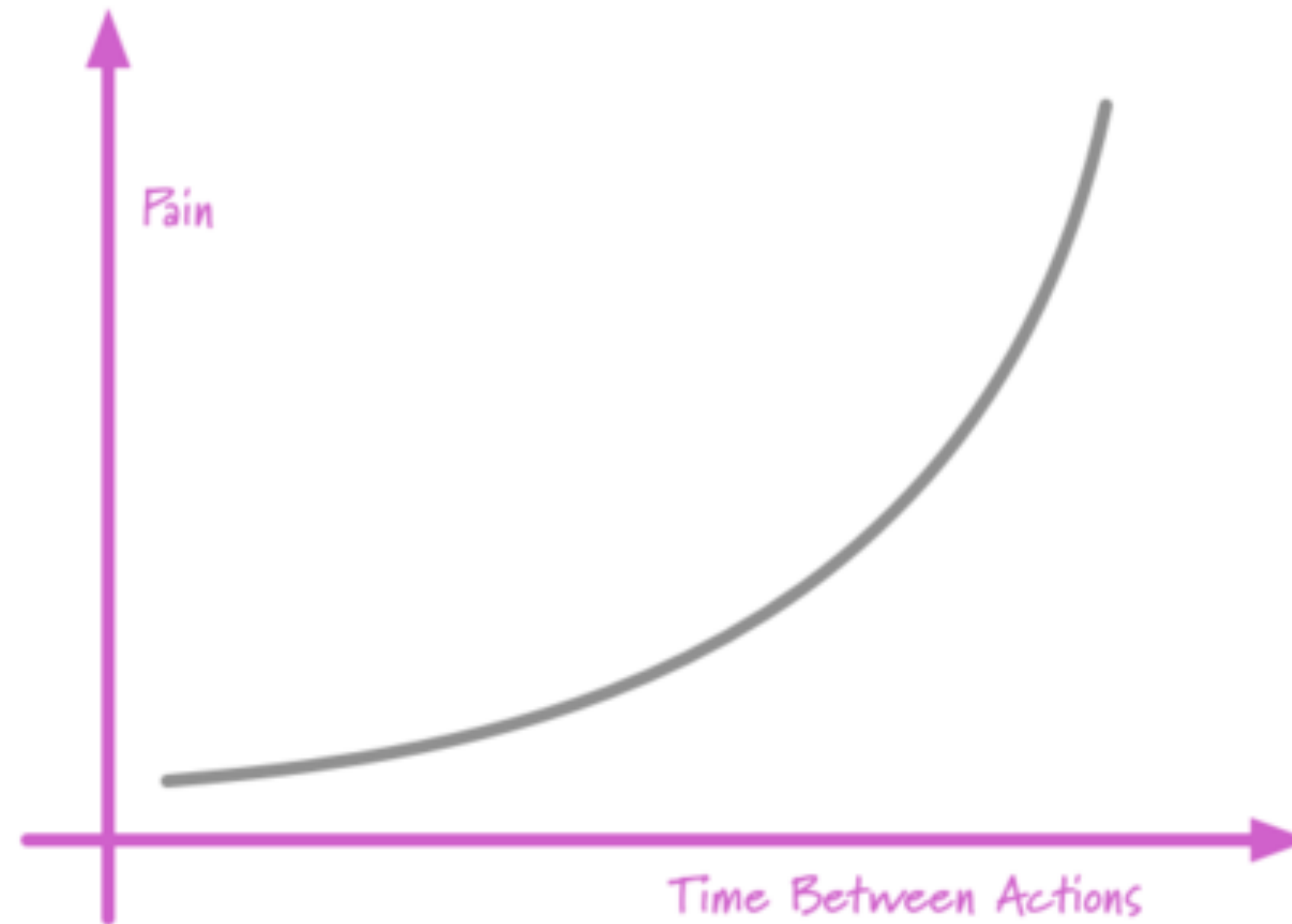
# Releasing your package to CRAN



# Releasing your package to CRAN



“If it hurts, do it more often”





# Releasing to CRAN

## TLDR:

- `use_release_issue()`
  - Opens a GitHub issue with a checklist
- `release()`
  - Runs through an additional list of checks
  - Builds package bundle and submits to CRAN

## Release libminer 0.1.0 #1

Open

25 tasks

ateucher opened this issue 4 minutes ago · 0 comments



ateucher commented 4 minutes ago

Owner ...

### First release:

- `usethis::use_news_md()`
- `usethis::use_cran_comments()`
- Update (aspirational) install instructions in README
- Proofread `Title:` and `Description:`
- Check that all exported functions have `@return` and `@examples`
- Check that `Authors@R:` includes a copyright holder (role 'cph')
- Check [licensing of included files](#)
- Review <https://github.com/DavisVaughan/extrachecks>

### Prepare for release:

- `git pull`
- `urlchecker::url_check()`
- `devtools::build_readme()`
- `devtools::check(remote = TRUE, manual = TRUE)`
- `devtools::check_win_devel()`
- `git push`
- Draft blog post

### Submit to CRAN:

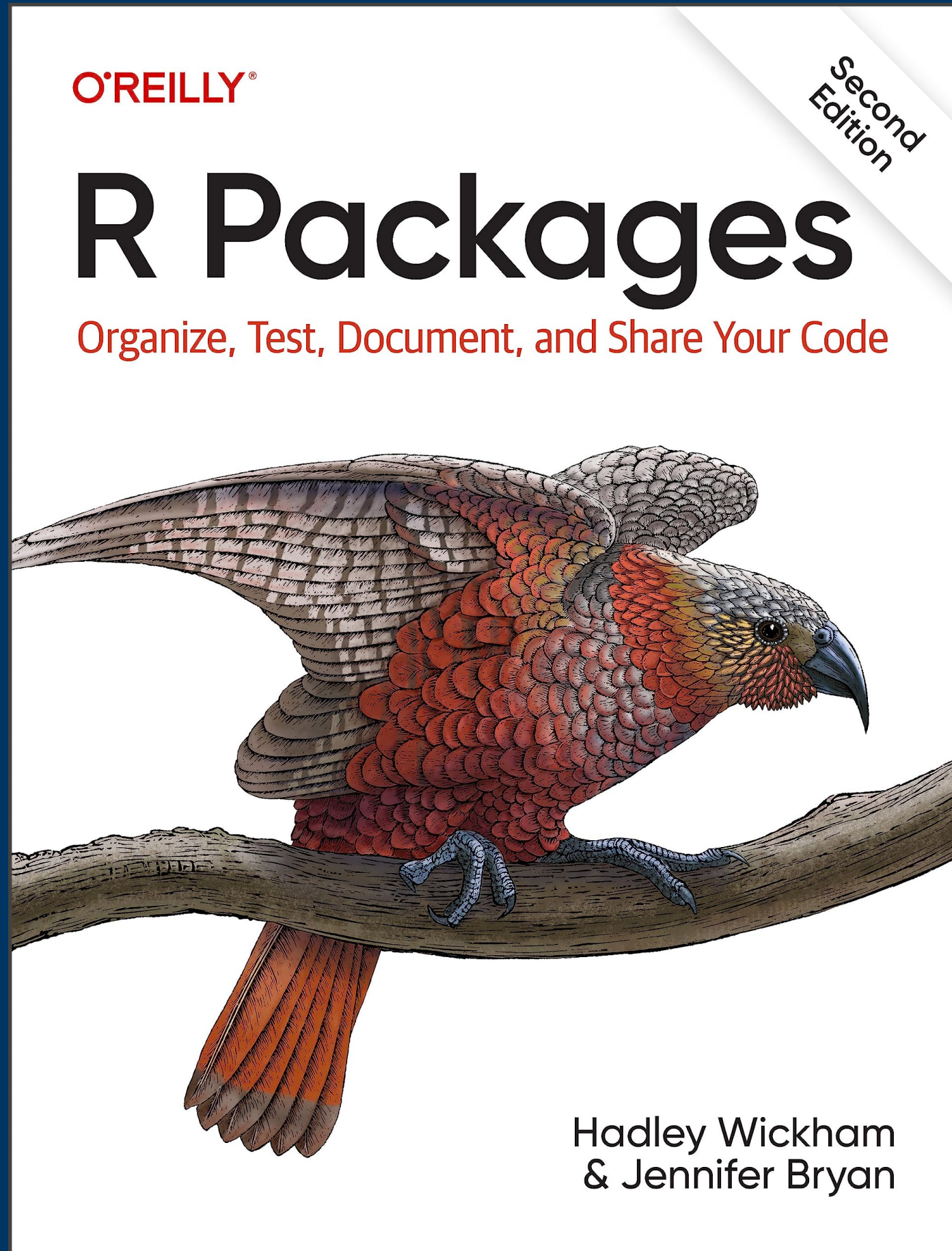
- `usethis::use_version('minor')`
- `devtools::submit_cran()`
- Approve email

### Wait for CRAN...

- Accepted 🎉
- Add preemptive link to blog post in pkgdown news menu
- `usethis::use_github_release()`
- `usethis::use_dev_version(push = TRUE)`
- `usethis::use_news_md()`
- Finish blog post
- Tweet



# Resources



r-pkgs.org

### Happy Git and GitHub for the useR

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## Let's Git started

Still from Heaven King video

Happy Git provides opinionated instructions on how to:

- Install Git and get it working smoothly with GitHub, in the shell and in the RStudio IDE.
- Develop a few key workflows that cover your most common tasks.
- Integrate Git and GitHub into your daily work with R and R Markdown.

happygitwithr.com

## Package Development : : CHEAT SHEET

### Package Structure

A package is a convention for organizing files into directories. This cheat sheet shows how to work with the 7 most common parts of an R package:

- `DESCRIPTION`: Set up metadata and organize package functions
- `NAMESPACE`: Write R code for your package
- `R/`: Verify your code is correct
- `tests/`: Document your code and write tutorials and how-tos
- `man/`: Include datasets in your package
- `vignettes/`
- `data/`

There are multiple packages useful to package development, including `usethis` which handles many of the more repetitive tasks, install and load `devtools`, which wraps together several of these packages to access everything in one step.

### Getting Started

Once per machine:

- Get set up with `use_r_profile()` so `devtools` is always loaded in interactive R sessions

```
if (interactive()) {
  require("devtools", quietly = TRUE)
  # automatically attaches usethis
}
```

Once per package:

- `create_package()` - Create a project with package scaffolding
- `use_git()` - Activate git
- `use_github()` - Connect to GitHub
- `use_github_action()` - Set up automated package checks

Having problems with git? Get a situation report with `git_sitrep()`.

### Workflow

• `load_all()` (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + L) - Load code

• `document()` (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + D) - Rebuild docs and NAMESPACE

• `test()` (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + T) - Run tests

• `check()` (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + E) - Check complete package

R/

All of the R code in your package goes in `R/`. A package with just an `R/` directory is still a very useful package.

- Create a new package project with `create_package("path/to/name")`.
- Create R files with `use_r("file-name")`.

Follow the tidyverse style guide at [style.tidyverse.org](https://style.tidyverse.org)

- Click on a function and press F2 to go to its definition
- Find a function or file with `Ctrl +`

### DESCRIPTION

The `DESCRIPTION` file describes your work, sets up how your package will work with other packages, and applies a license.

- Pick a license with `use_mit_license()`, `use_gpl3_license()`, `use_proprietary_license()`.
- Add packages that you need with `use_package()`.

Import packages that your package requires to work. R will install them when it installs your package.

```
use_package(x, type = "imports")
```

Suggest packages that developers of your package need. Users can install or not, as they like.

```
use_package(x, type = "suggests")
```

### NAMESPACE

The `NAMESPACE` file helps you make your package self-contained: it won't interfere with other packages, and other packages won't interfere with it.

- Export functions for users by placing `@export` in their roxygen comments.
- Use objects from other packages with `package::object` or `@importFrom package object` (recommended) or `@import package` (use with caution).
- Call `document()` to generate `NAMESPACE` and `load_all()` to reload.

DESCRIPTION	NAMESPACE
Makes packages available	Makes function available
Mandatory	Optional (can use <code>instead</code> )
<code>use_package()</code>	<code>use_import_from()</code>

posit

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## Tidy design principles

Welcome

The goal of this book is to help you write better R code. It has four main components:

- Identifying design **challenges** that often lead to suboptimal outcomes.
- Introducing useful **patterns** that help solve common problems.
- Defining key **principles** that help you balance conflicting patterns.
- Discussing **case studies** that help you see how all the pieces fit together with real code.

While I've called these principles "tidy" and they're used extensively by the tidyverse team to promote consistency across our packages, they're not exclusive to the tidyverse. Think tidy in the sense of tidy data (broadly useful regardless of what tool you're using) not tidyverse (a collection of functions designed with a singular point of view in order to facilitate learning and use).

This book will be under heavy development for quite some time; currently we are loosely aiming for completion in 2025. You'll find many chapters contain disjointed text that mostly serve as placeholders for the authors, and I do not recommend attempting to systematically read the book at this time. If you'd like to follow along with my journey writing this book, and learn which chapters are ready to read, please sign up for my [tid design substack mailing list](https://tidydesign.substack.com).

1 Unifying principles →

design.tidyverse.org  
tidydesign.substack.com

posit.co/resources/cheatsheets/



Thank You!

# Course Materials

[pos.it/pkg-dev-conf23](https://pos.it/pkg-dev-conf23)

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# Survey

<http://pos.it/conf-workshop-survey>

Your feedback is crucial! Please complete the post-workshop survey! 🙏

Data from the survey informs curriculum and format decisions for future conf workshops, and we really appreciate you taking the time to provide it.