

# Teaching data science with puzzles

useR! 2019

Irene Steves

 i\_steves  isteves



[bit.ly/ds-puzzles](https://bit.ly/ds-puzzles)



Advent of Code

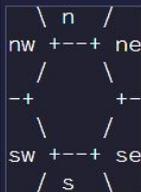
--- Day 11: Hex Ed ---

Crossing the bridge, you've barely reached the other side of the stream when a program comes up to you, clearly in distress. "It's my child process," she says, "he's gotten lost in an infinite grid!"

Fortunately for her, you have plenty of experience with infinite grids.

Unfortunately for you, it's a hex grid.

The hexagons ("hexes") in this grid are aligned such that adjacent hexes can be found to the north, northeast, southeast, south, southwest, and northwest:



You have the path the child process took. Starting where he started, you need to determine the fewest number of steps required to reach him. (A "step" means to move from the hex you are in to any adjacent hex.)

For example:

- ne,ne,ne is 3 steps away.
- ne,ne,sw,sw is 0 steps away (back where you started).
- ne,ne,s,s is 2 steps away (se,se).
- se,sw,se,sw,sw is 3 steps away (s,s,sw).

To begin, get your puzzle input.

Answer:  [Submit]

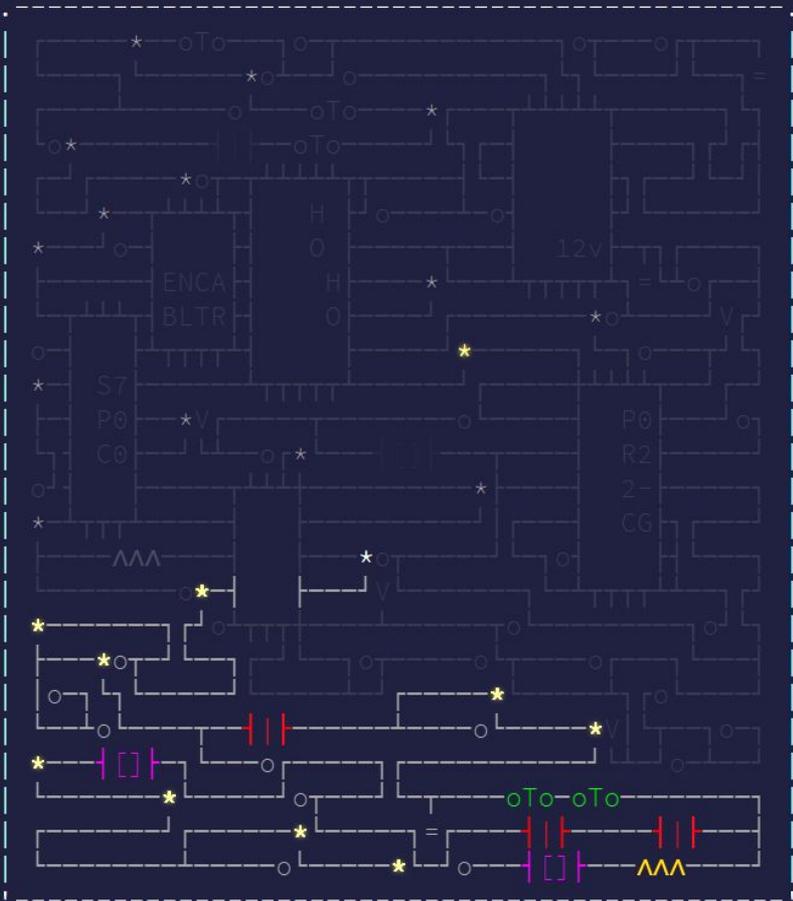
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## Puzzle text

Unique puzzle input

Answer submission



- 25
- 24
- 23
- 22
- 21
- 20
- 19
- 18
- 17
- 16 \*\*
- 15
- 14
- 13
- 12
- 11
- 10 \*
- 9 \*\*
- 8 \*\*
- 7 \*\*
- 6 \*\*
- 5 \*\*
- 4 \*\*
- 3 \*\*
- 2 \*\*
- 1 \*\*

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I solved these with R, but boy was it clunky!

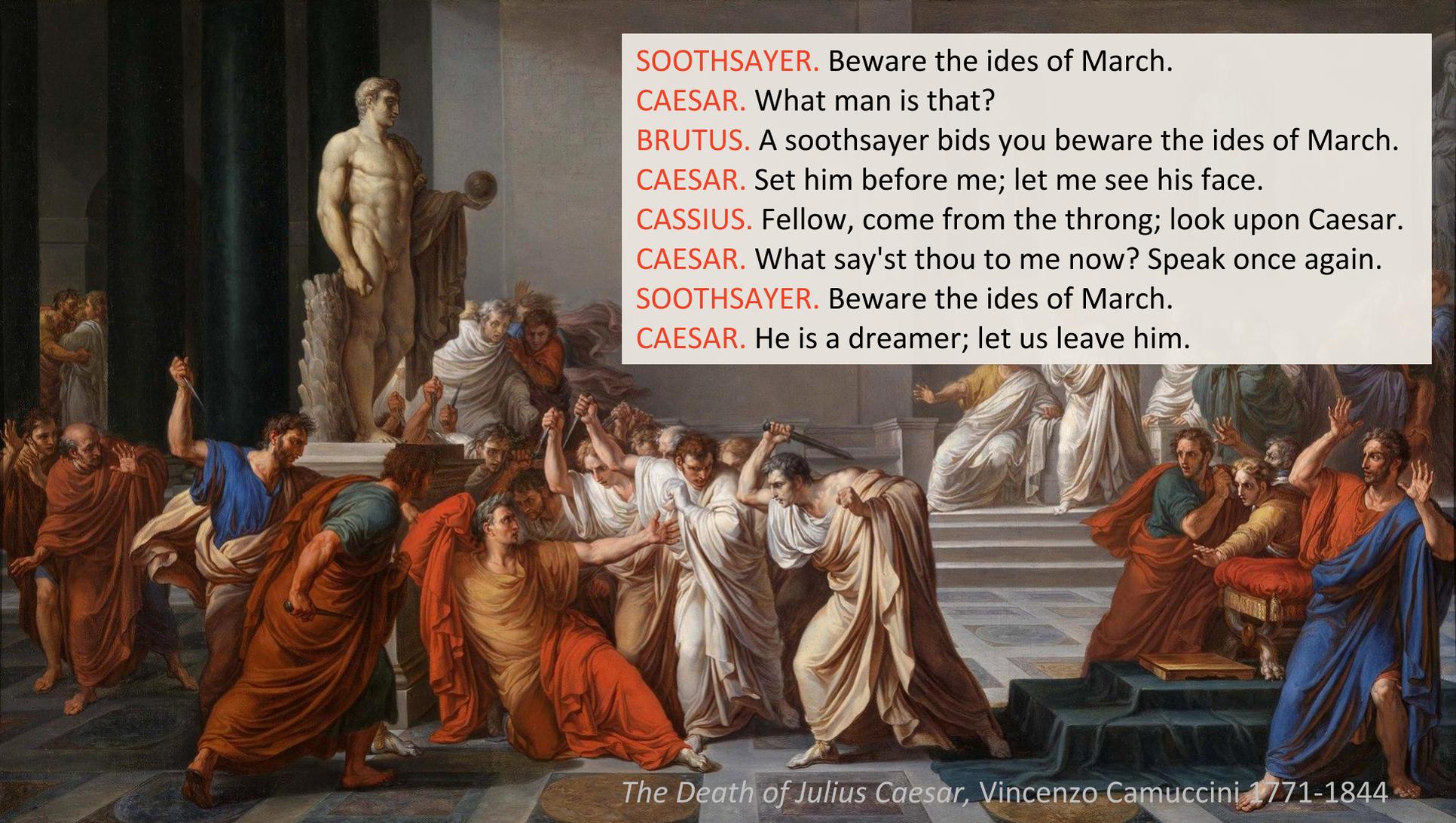
Let's make puzzles  
that highlight what  
R/the tidyverse are  
good at!





Bite-sized puzzles that focus on *core data science skills* as championed by the tidyverse set of packages

[still unreleased!]



**SOOTHSAYER.** Beware the ides of March.

**CAESAR.** What man is that?

**BRUTUS.** A soothsayer bids you beware the ides of March.

**CAESAR.** Set him before me; let me see his face.

**CASSIUS.** Fellow, come from the throng; look upon Caesar.

**CAESAR.** What say'st thou to me now? Speak once again.

**SOOTHSAYER.** Beware the ides of March.

**CAESAR.** He is a dreamer; let us leave him.

*The Death of Julius Caesar, Vincenzo Camuccini 1771-1844*



Photo: flickr clement127

# Wrangling



# Wrangling



# Workflow



# Web-based experience

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--- Day 11: Hex Ed ---

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Fortunately for her, you have plenty of experience with infinite grids. Unfortunately for you, it's a `hex grid`.

The hexagons ("hexes") in this grid are aligned such that adjacent hexes can be found to the north, northeast, southeast, south, southwest, and northwest:

```

  \  n  /
nw +--+ ne
  /  \  \
-+      +-
  \  /  /
sw +--+ se
  /  s  \

```

You have the path the child process took. Starting where he started, you need to determine the fewest number of steps required to reach him. (A "step" means to move from the hex you are in to any adjacent hex.)

For example:

- `ne,ne,ne` is 3 steps away.
- `ne,ne,sw,sw` is 0 steps away (back where you started).
- `ne,ne,s,s` is 2 steps away (`se,se`).
- `se,sw,se,sw,sw` is 3 steps away (`s,s,sw`).

To begin, [get your puzzle input](#).

Answer:  [\[Submit\]](#)

## Tidies of March

Select puzzle:

11\_sandwiches

Select user ID:

1

The little sandwich store around the corner makes the best sandwiches! It's an adventure every time you go there—you can get everything from classics like Italian beef sandwiches to more exciting choices like Fluffernutters and Kokoretsi sandwiches.

Unfortunately, they're spending so much on ingredients that they can't turn a profit. They've decided to cut their selection and only focus on their best-selling sandwich.

They've collected data on the favorite sandwiches among customers that came into the store in the last month. Most people ended up listing several sandwiches as their favorites (in no particular order), so the data looks like this:

names	sandwiches
Abby	Denver; Toastie; Torta ahogada; Barbecue
Abigail	BLT; Ftira; Primanti; Ice cream; Choripán
Adam	Corned beef; Montadito; Cheesesteak; Tripleta; Dagwood; Jambon-beurre
Alexa	Mortadella; Dagwood
Alexandria	Slider; Beschuit met muisjes; Chicken salad
Ana	Fried brain; Polish boy; Vegetable; Pudgy Pie; Dagwood

In this sample, the Dagwood sandwich is the most popular.

**In the data provided, what is the most popular sandwich among the sandwich customers?**

Click [download](#) to get your unique puzzle input (csv). If you need extra help, click [hint](#) for a list of useful functions that are relevant to this puzzle.

[Download](#) [Hint](#)

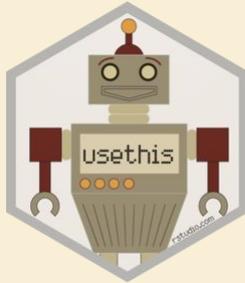
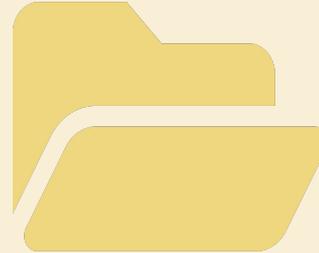
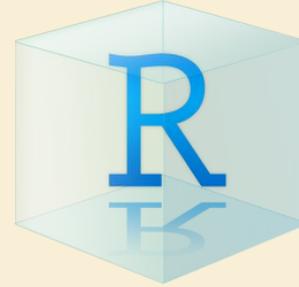
Your solution:

[Submit](#)

Language & platform agnostic

# Workflow

**R-mediated  
experience**



Console Terminal x

~/R/ ↻

&gt; .

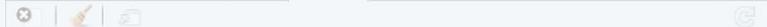
I

Environment History Connections

New Connection

Connection Status

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

`initialize_puzzles(".", " ")`

Files | Plots | Packages | Help | Viewer

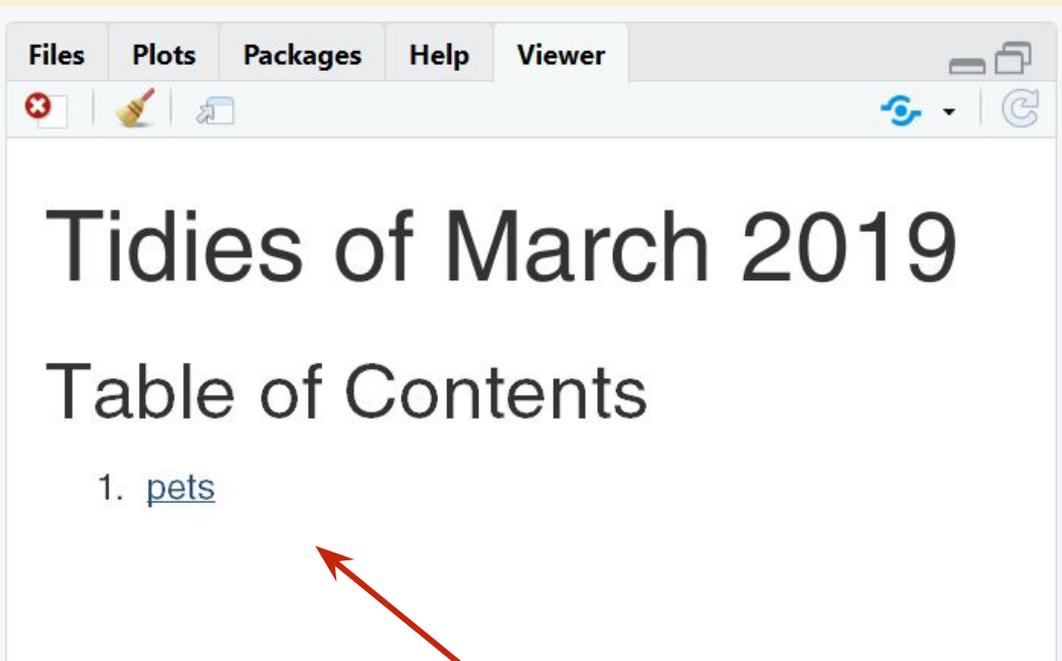
New Folder | Delete | Rename | More

Home > R > tidiesofmarch2019

	Name	Size	Modified
	..		
	.puzzle	13 B	Jan 16, 2019, 9:33 PM
	01_pets		
	README.Rmd	735 B	Jan 6, 2019, 2:45 AM
	tidiesofmarch2019.Rproj	407 B	Jan 16, 2019, 9:32 PM

**New R Project**

```
README.Rmd x
1 ---
2 title: "Tidies of March 2019"
3 output: html_document
4 ---
5
6 ```{r setup, include=FALSE}
7 library(tidyverse)
8 library(fs)
9 library(here)
10 library(glue)
11 ```
12
13 ## Table of Contents
14
15 ```{r echo = FALSE, results = "asis"}
16 puzzle_dirs <- dir_ls(".", type = "directory", regexp = "[0-9]{2}_")
17
18 puzzle_no <- str_extract(puzzle_dirs, "[0-9]{2}(?=_)")
19 puzzle_name <- str_extract(puzzle_dirs, "(?<=)[a-z-]+")
20
21 glue("{puzzle_no}.
22 [{puzzle_name}]({puzzle_dirs}/{puzzle_no}_solution.R)")
23 ```
```



**Auto-generated  
table of contents**

	Name	Size	Modified
	..		
<input type="checkbox"/>	01_data.xlsx	10.2 KB	Jan 16, 2019, 11:07 F
<input type="checkbox"/>	01_soln.R	297 B	Jan 16, 2019, 11:07 F
<input type="checkbox"/>	01_text.Rmd	1.7 KB	

three principles for (file) names

machine readable

human readable

plays well with default ordering

```
01_soln.R x
Source on Save
Run
Source

1 #' ---
2 #' title: Pets
3 #' ---
4 #'
5 #' Use _Ctrl (Cmd) + Shift + K_ to render this file
6 #'
7 #+ r setup, include = FALSE
8 options(tidyverse.quiet = TRUE)
9
10 #+ r
11 library(tidyverse)
12 library(here)
13 data_path <- here::here('01_pets', '01_data.xlsx')
14
15 # YOUR SOLUTION CODE HERE
16
```

**Knittable .R file**

**Omit tidyverse messages from html output**

**Paths that work in the console & when rendered**



The neighborhood deli makes amazing sandwiches--from classics like BLTs to dessert sandwiches like Fluffernutters. Since many of their specialty ingredients keep going bad, they've decided to cut their selection and focus on their best-selling sandwich.

To help with the decision, the storeowners collected data on their customers' favorites. Most people listed several varieties (in no particular order). Here's a sample of the data:

<b>names</b>	<b>sandwiches</b>
Abby	Denver; BLT; Torta ahogada; Barbecue
Abigail	BLT; Ftira; Primanti; Ice cream; Choripán
Adam	Corned beef; Montadito; Cheesesteak; Tripleta; Dagwood; Jambon-beurre
Alexa	Dagwood; Mortadella
Alexandria	Slider; Beschuit met muisjes; Chicken salad
Ana	Fried brain; Polish boy; Vegetable; Pudgy Pie; Dagwood

In this sample, the Dagwood sandwich is the most popular.

In the full dataset, **what is the most popular sandwich among the customers?**

names	sandwiches
Abby	Denver; BLT; Torta ahogada; Barbecue
Abigail	BLT; Ftira; Primanti; Ice cream; Choripán
Adam	Corned beef; Montadito; Cheesesteak; Tripleta; Dagwood; Jambon-beurre
Alexa	Dagwood; Mortadella
Alexandria	Slider; Beschuit met muisjes; Chicken salad
Ana	Fried brain; Polish boy; Vegetable; Pudgy Pie; Dagwood

test case

In this sample, the Dagwood sandwich is the most popular.



```
SW
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##   names      sandwiches
##   <chr>      <chr>
## 1 Abby       Denver; BLT; Torta ahogada; Barbecue
## 2 Abigail    BLT; Ftira; Primanti; Ice cream; Choripán
## 3 Adam       Corned beef; Montadito; Cheesesteak; Tripleta; Dagwood; Jamb.
## 4 Alexa      Dagwood; Mortadella
## 5 Alexandria Slider; Beschuit met muisjes; Chicken salad
## 6 Ana        Fried brain; Polish boy; Vegetable; Pudgy Pie; Dagwood
```

```
sw %>%
```

```
  separate_rows(sandwiches, sep = "; ")
```

```
## # A tibble: 25 x 2
##   names    sandwiches
##   <chr>    <chr>
## 1 Abby     Denver
## 2 Abby     BLT
## 3 Abby     Torta ahogada
## 4 Abby     Barbecue
## 5 Abigail  BLT
## 6 Abigail  Ftira
## 7 Abigail  Primanti
## 8 Abigail  Ice cream
## 9 Abigail  Choripán
## 10 Adam    Corned beef
## # ... with 15 more rows
```

```
sw %>%  
  separate_rows(sandwiches, sep = "; ") %>%  
  count(sandwiches, sort = TRUE)
```

```
## # A tibble: 22 x 2  
##   sandwiches      n  
##   <chr>          <int>  
## 1 Dagwood        3  
## 2 BLT            2  
## 3 Barbecue       1  
## 4 Beschuit met muisjes 1  
## 5 Cheesesteak   1  
## 6 Chicken salad  1  
## 7 Choripán      1  
## 8 Corned beef   1  
## 9 Denver        1  
## 10 Fried brain   1  
## # ... with 12 more rows
```

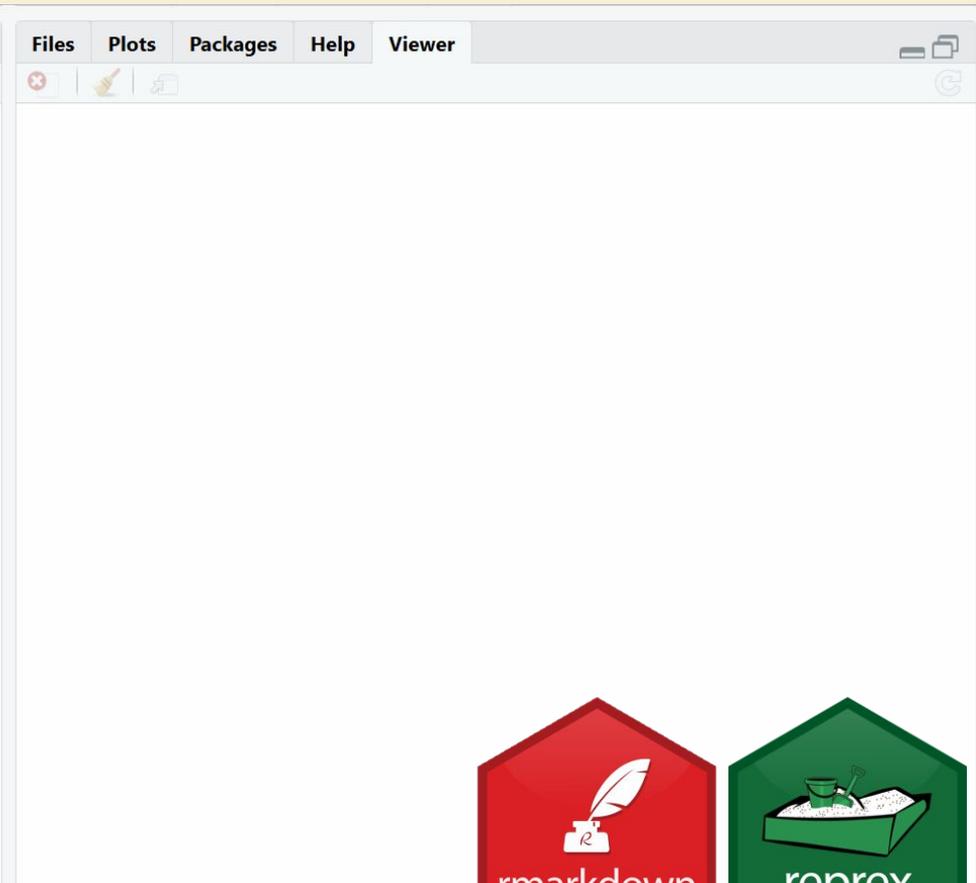


Console Terminal x

~/R/tidiesofmarch2019/ ↗

> |

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer



The background of the image is a dark blue field filled with numerous small, multi-colored hexagons and dots. The colors include red, yellow, green, blue, orange, grey, and white. The word "tidyverse" is centered in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

tidyverse

# Beyond the tidyverse



Projects  
& version  
control

git



Consistent and  
parseable names



Test cases



Self-contained  
code

# Thank you!

Irene Steves



i\_steves



isteves

**[bit.ly/ds-puzzles](https://bit.ly/ds-puzzles)**