Organization Part of "Introduction to Positron" workshop

Posit Software, PBC







Adopt a folder-oriented workflow

Why:

- Work on more than one thing at a time across multiple Positron sessions.
- Collaborate, communicate, distribute.
- Start and stop.

How:

- Dedicated folder containing all the associated with a given project together — input data, scripts, analytical results, and figures.
- (Maybe also) special files that designate the folder as a workspace.

What's in a folder?

Open Folder = dedicated Positron window

- File explorer rooted at the folder.
- Dedicated R process with working directory set to the folder.
- Terminal working directory set to the folder.

New folder

Your turn Create new folder

- In the Positron Welcome screen, follow the prompts to create a **New Folder...**:
 - Empty project
 - Name it my-first-positron-project.
 - Place it on your Desktop
 - Open in a New Window
- Add an R script to the folder and save it.
- How can you tell which folder is open in Positron?



Your turn Create new folder - v2025.06.0-167

- - Name it my-first-positron-project.
 - Place it on your Desktop.
 - Check Open in a New Window
- Add an R script to the folder and save it.
- How can you tell which folder is open in Positron?



• In the Positron Welcome screen, follow the prompts to create a **New Folder..**:

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Demo Folder workflow

- Close one Positron window: File > Close Window
- Close all Positron windows: Windows: File > Exit, Mac: Positron > Quit
- Open Positron: last window(s) open will reopen
- Folder menu in top bar
 - Close folder
 - Open recent folder
- Open Recent (including folders): Crtl + R

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Your turn Open RStudio Project as a folder

- Open the project folder in Positron.



• Locate a project that you usually work on in RStudio that has an Rproj file.



RStudio Projects vs. Positron ???s

- RStudio places an . Rproj file in a folder to designate it as an RStudio Project.
- Used for storing project-level preferences, launching projects, and for identifying the project root (e.g., for here::here()).



- Positron doesn't place anything that functions exactly like an Rproj file in every folder.
- Unless you set workspace-level preferences, which prompts the creation of a .vscode/ settings.json file that stores these preferences.
- Note: In Positron, here::here() will find the folder root typically through finding a .git folder.

Positron and the Rproj file

- Positron doesn't do anything with the contents of an Rproj file.
- For example, your Rproj file might indicate preferences like using spaces for tabs (UseSpacesForTab: Yes) or using line breaks after each sentence in Quarto or R Markdown files (MarkdownWrap: Sentence).
- We'll discuss expressing some of these as Positron settings in a later module.
- For Quarto projects, some might be best set in _quarto.yml.

r4ds.Rproj

Version: 1.0

RestoreWorkspace: Default SaveWorkspace: Default AlwaysSaveHistory: Default

EnableCodeIndexing: Yes **UseSpacesForTab:** Yes NumSpacesForTab: 2 Encoding: UTF-8

RnwWeave: Sweave LaTeX: XeLaTeX

StripTrailingWhitespace: Yes

BuildType: None

UseNativePipeOperator: Yes

MarkdownWrap: Sentence MarkdownCanonical: Yes

SpellingDictionary: en_US



Your turn Open new folder from Git

You'll need this project in the next module. Ask for help if you get stuck!

- Open a **New Folder from Git**:

 - As a folder on your Desktop

No Git?

Run in the R Console:



• The repo: <u>https://github.com/posit-dev/positron-workshop-project</u>

usethis::use_course("posit-dev/positron-workshop-project")



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Launch Positron

Launch from Windows File Explorer

Next >

Cancel

Setup: When installing Positron, enable context menu integration in Setup > Select Additional Tasks by checking the box to "Open with Positron".

Setup - Positron		_		×
Select Additional Tasks				
Which additional tasks should be performed?				•
Select the additional tasks you would like Setup to perform while i	nstalling Positro	n, then click Next.		
Additional icons:				
Create a desktop icon				
Other:				
Add "Open with Positron" action to Windows Explorer file cont	text menu	_		
Add "Open with Positron" action to Windows Explorer director	y context menu			
Register Positron as an editor for supported file types		•		
Add to PATH (requires shell restart)				
	< Back	Next >	C	ancel

In File Explorer: Right-click on a folder and select "Open with Positron" from the context menu.

Launch from Mac OS Finder (via Terminal)

Setup: Add Positron to yout PATH via the Command Palette by pressing Cmd+Shift+P to open the palette and typing *Install 'positron' command in PATH*.

>Install 'positron' command in PATH

Shell Command: Install 'positron' command in PATH

similar commands 🐯

Shell Command: Uninstall 'positron' command from PATH

In Finder: Right-click on a folder and select "New Terminal at Folder" then, in the Terminal, type positron . to launch Positron.



Launch from the Project Manager extension

Setup: Install extension from Open VSX Registry.

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In the Command Palette: Type *Project Manager: List projects to open* which gives you a you a nice searchable UI in the command palette.

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In the Activity Bar: Click on extension icon.	 New PROJECT MANAGER PROJECT MANAGER FAVORITE POSitron-learning positron-website Project Manager GIT (436) Dunny-nat bunny-scarf butcher butcher callr candy



> HELP AND FEEDBACK

Making your folders known to Project Manager

. . .

Favorites: Explicitly save specific folders as favorites.



 Git: Tell the extension about specific folders where you tend to keep Git repositories — any subfolder of these base folders that is also a Git repo is automatically treated as a project.



Learn more

Positron docs: Migrating from RStudio > The Rproj file positron.posit.co/rstudio-rproj-file.html