

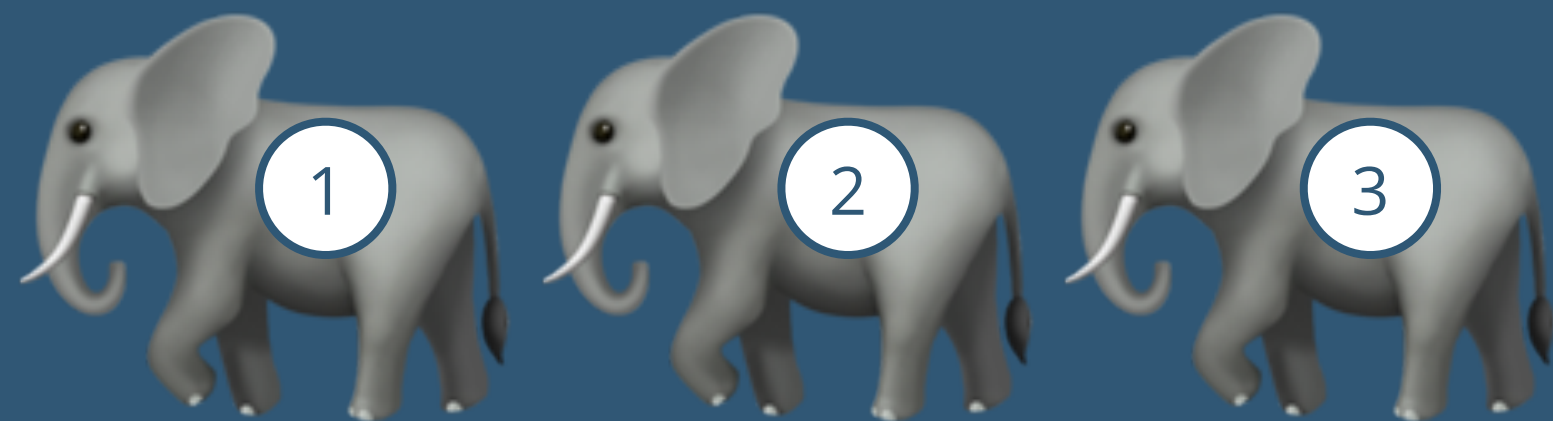


Beyond the basics

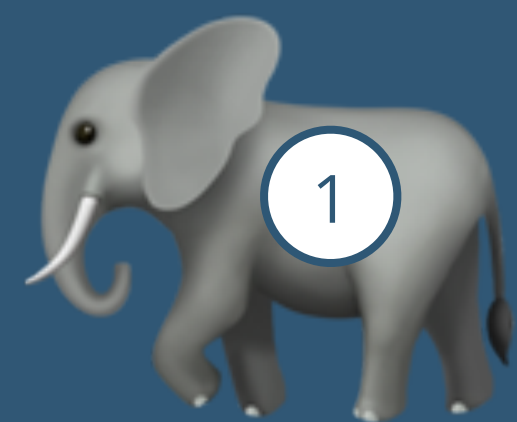
Part of "Doing data science in Positron" workshop

Posit Software, PBC





in the room



: Python

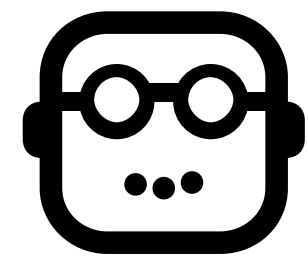


R and Python, not R or Python

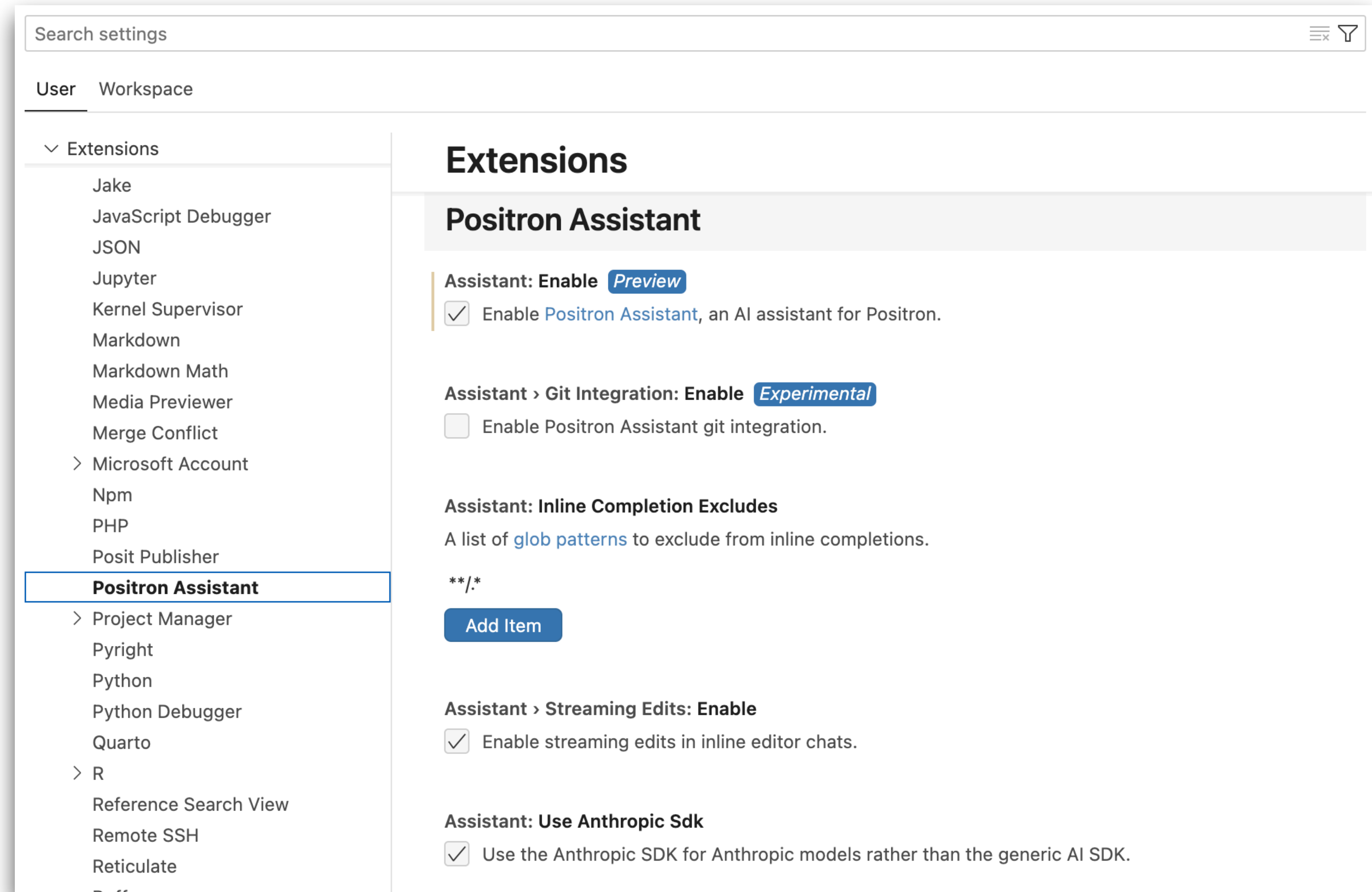
- Difficult: Getting used to and feeling productive in different IDEs
- Feels easier: Learning a second language or being multi-lingual in the same IDE
- Whether you teach with R and Python, or your students learn one of those languages elsewhere, they'll feel at home doing their data science in the same IDE regardless of the language they use



What about AI?



Positron Assistant
is an AI client that
provides LLM integration
within Positron, both for
chat and for inline
completions.



<https://positron.posit.co/assistant.html>

Positron Assistant > Chat interface

Once enabled,
Positron
Assistant is
accessible from
the sidebar

The screenshot displays the Positron IDE interface. On the left sidebar, the 'CHAT' panel is active, showing a conversation with 'Anthropic'. The chat text includes instructions on how to create a new R script and add code to it. A red box highlights the 'Add Context...' button in the chat panel. An orange arrow points from this button to the code editor. The code editor shows an R script with the following code:

```
1 library(tidyverse)
2
3 # Read the fruits.csv file using readr
4 fruits <- read_csv("fruit.csv")
5
6 # Check the structure and preview the data
7 glimpse(fruits)
8 fruits
```

The right sidebar shows the 'SESSION' and 'VARIABLES' panels. The 'VARIABLES' panel indicates that no variables have been created. The bottom panel shows the 'CONSOLE' with the following output:

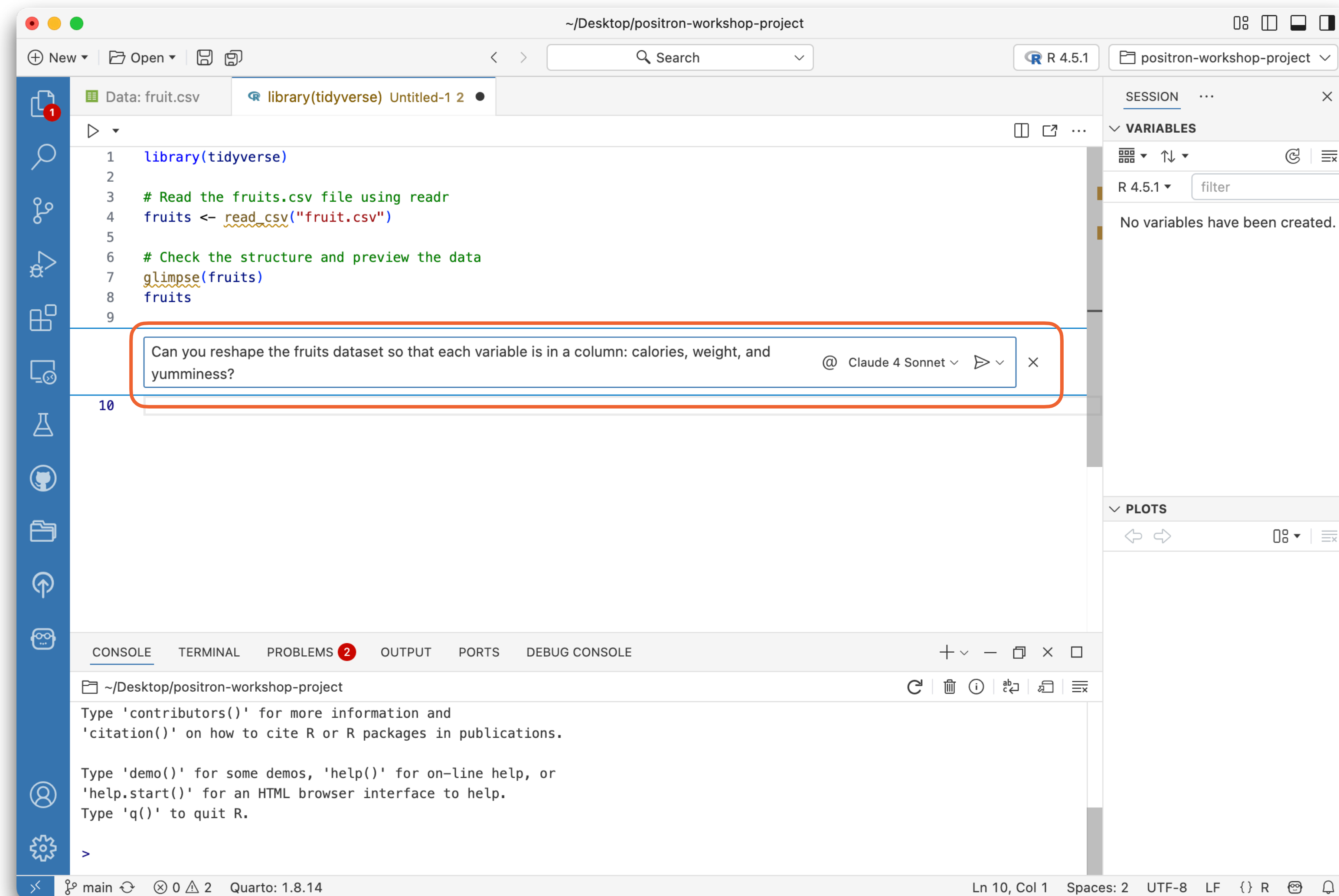
```
~/Desktop/positron-workshop-project
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

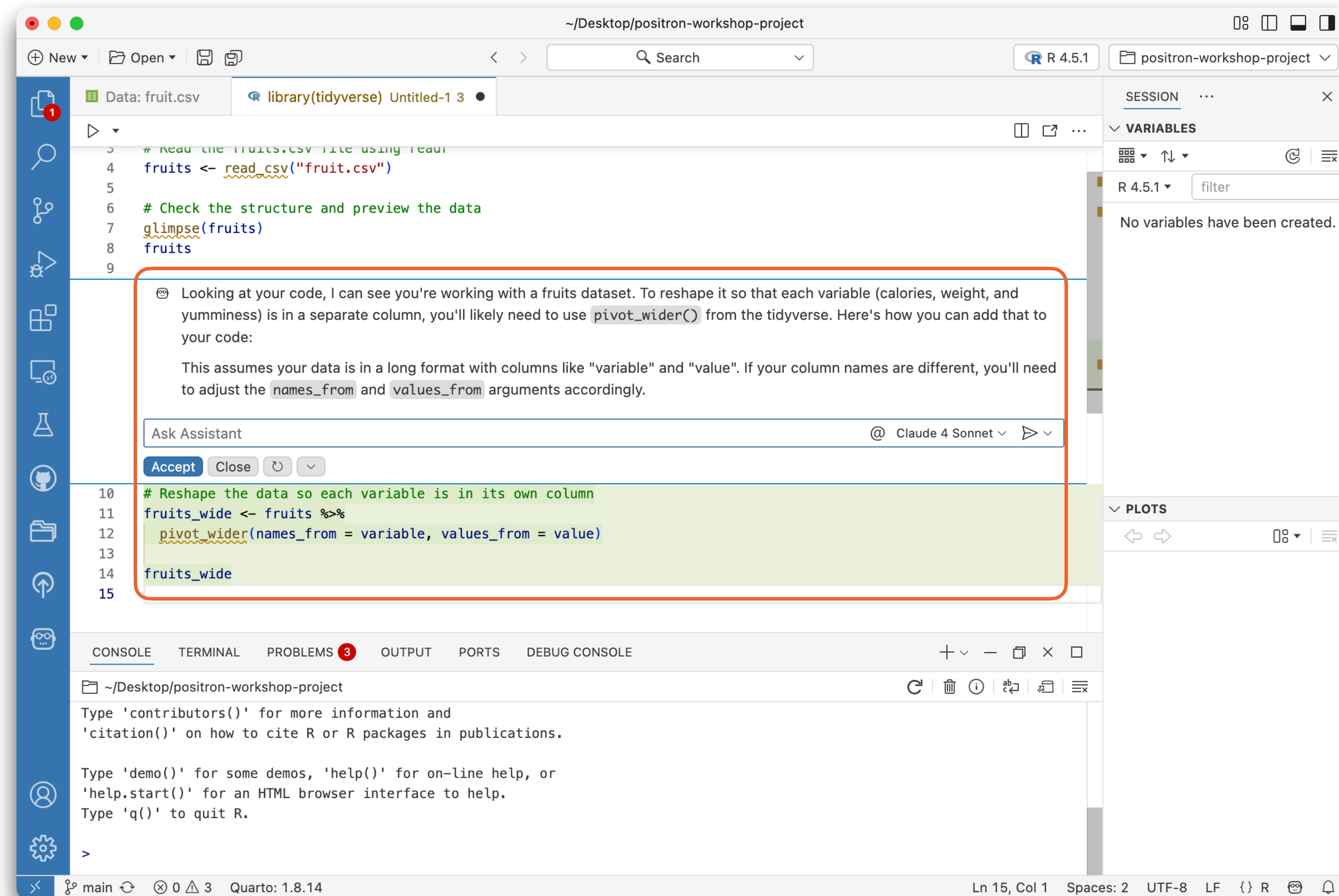
>
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates the current file is 'main', the version is 'Quarto: 1.8.14', and the cursor is at 'Ln 8, Col 7'.

Positron Assistant > Inline completions

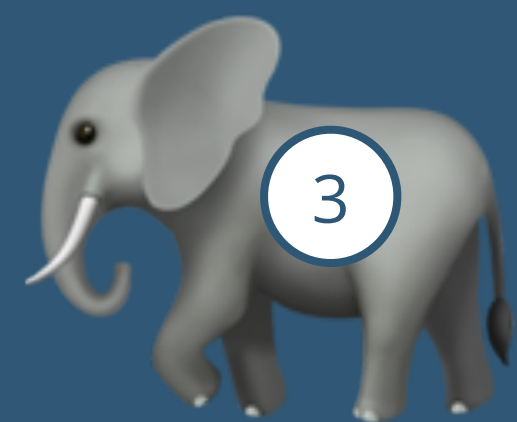


Positron Assistant > Inline completions



Good (I think) practices for teaching & AI tools

- Recommend iterative development through the chat interface instead of inline completions
- But, note language model provider choices:
 - Chat: Anthropic Claude only (at this time) — Students would need to pay unless institution provides keys.
 - Inline: GitHub Copilot available — Free for students with verified GitHub accounts.



: RStudio 

Is RStudio going away?

- No, but “we intend to prioritize security, stability, priority bug fixes, and targeted improvements over an emphasis on sweeping novel feature development” and “bulk of large-scale, new features will go into Positron”.
- We recommend starting with Positron for those who don’t have prior R or RStudio experience, but Positron doesn’t yet have the full set of options that RStudio does for “teaching in the browser” — it’s on the near-term roadmap though!

Positron vs. RStudio

Some R-focused features will remain exclusive to RStudio:

- RStudio has deeper support for Sweave and R Markdown vs. can render R Markdown in Positron but targeted focus is on Quarto.
- No inline output for source documents in Positron, but:
 - actively enhancing our Positron-native notebook UI that will provide inline outputs for R or Python sessions
 - working on improving Quarto's Visual Editor to improve the authoring experience for Quarto
- RStudio is extensible only via RStudio add-ins vs. not all add-ins are supported in but many more extensions are available

Wrap-up

Keeping up-to-date

- Positron will automatically update
 - Setting: *Update > Positron: Channel*
 - **prereleases**: ~ monthly, same version as on download page. Soon to be called releases
 - **dailies**: ~ every day, cutting edge

Getting help

- Positron Docs: <https://positron.posit.co/>
- Ask questions on GitHub discussions: <https://github.com/posit-dev/positron/discussions>

Feedback

Please visit burl.live/workshop or scan the QR code to leave us feedback for this workshop.



Q&A