# Basic Programming Terminology

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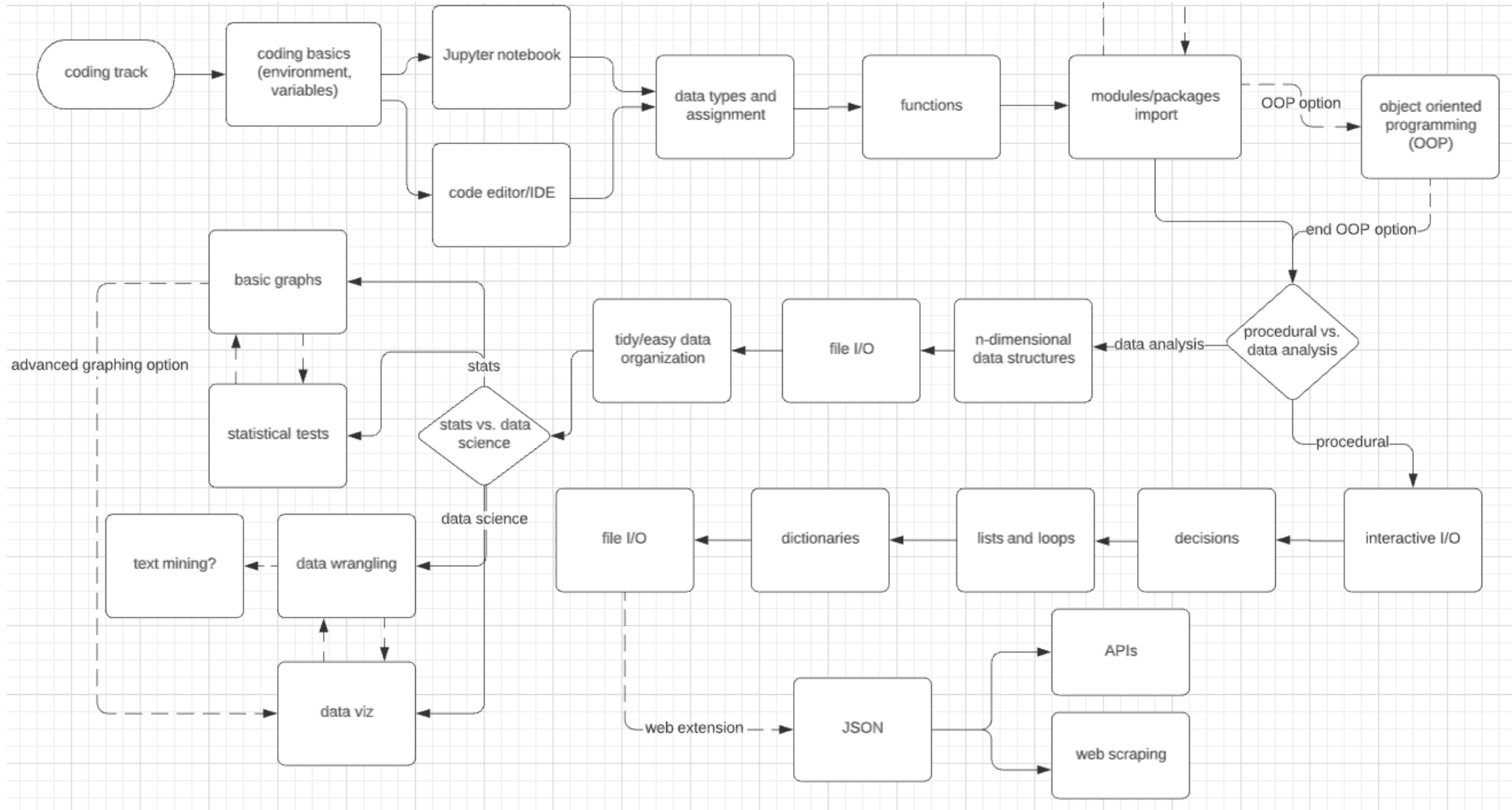**DISC** **DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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# Digital Scholarship and Communications Office (DiSC)

- Unit of the Vanderbilt Libraries

- Support for data best practices (DMP tool, repositories), GIS, copyright, Linked Data (including Wikidata), tools (GitHub, ORCID, Open Science Framework, etc.), and Open Access publishing.

- Offers on-demand educational programming, consultations, web resources

- Typically offering lessons on Python, R, and GIS

- More online at: **vanderbi.lt/disc**

- Email: disc@vanderbilt.edu

# What is CodeGraf?

# Terms for programs

# a program

- a generic term for a complete set of instructions that does something

Sauce for 2 pizzas

Sauté ½ c onion with the hamburger. (Add ½ lb. hamb.)
Add: Drain grease!
1 8 oz. can tomato sauce
1 6 oz. tomato paste
1 salt
¼ t. oregano
⅛ t. garlic salt
⅛ t. pepper
Slice thin or grate ½ lb. mozzarella cheese. Cover with tomato sauce. Top with parmazan cheese. + or mushrooms, Sausage, salami, (etc) onions, green peppers...
Bake at 450° for 15-20 minutes. 425

```python
#data = readDict('vanderbilt_units.csv')
#print(json.dumps(data,indent=2))

while True: # infinite loop
    print('Time checked:',
datetime.datetime.utcnow().isoformat())
    with open('last_run.txt', 'rt',
encoding='utf-8') as fileObject:
        date_last_run = fileObject.read()
    print('Date last run:', date_last_run)

    date_now_utc = generate_utc_date()
    print('UTC date now is:', date_now_utc)

    if date_now_utc > date_last_run:
        run_all_queries()

        # Update the date last run
        with open('last_run.txt', 'wt',
encoding='utf-8') as fileObject:

fileObject.write(generate_utc_date())

        print('done')
    print()

    # wait an hour before checking again
    sleep(3600)
```

# code

- instructions that make up a program

```python
#data = readDict('vanderbilt_units.csv')
#print(json.dumps(data,indent=2))

while True: # infinite loop
    print('Time checked:',
datetime.datetime.utcnow().isoformat())
    with open('last_run.txt', 'rt', encoding='utf-
8') as fileObject:
        date_last_run = fileObject.read()
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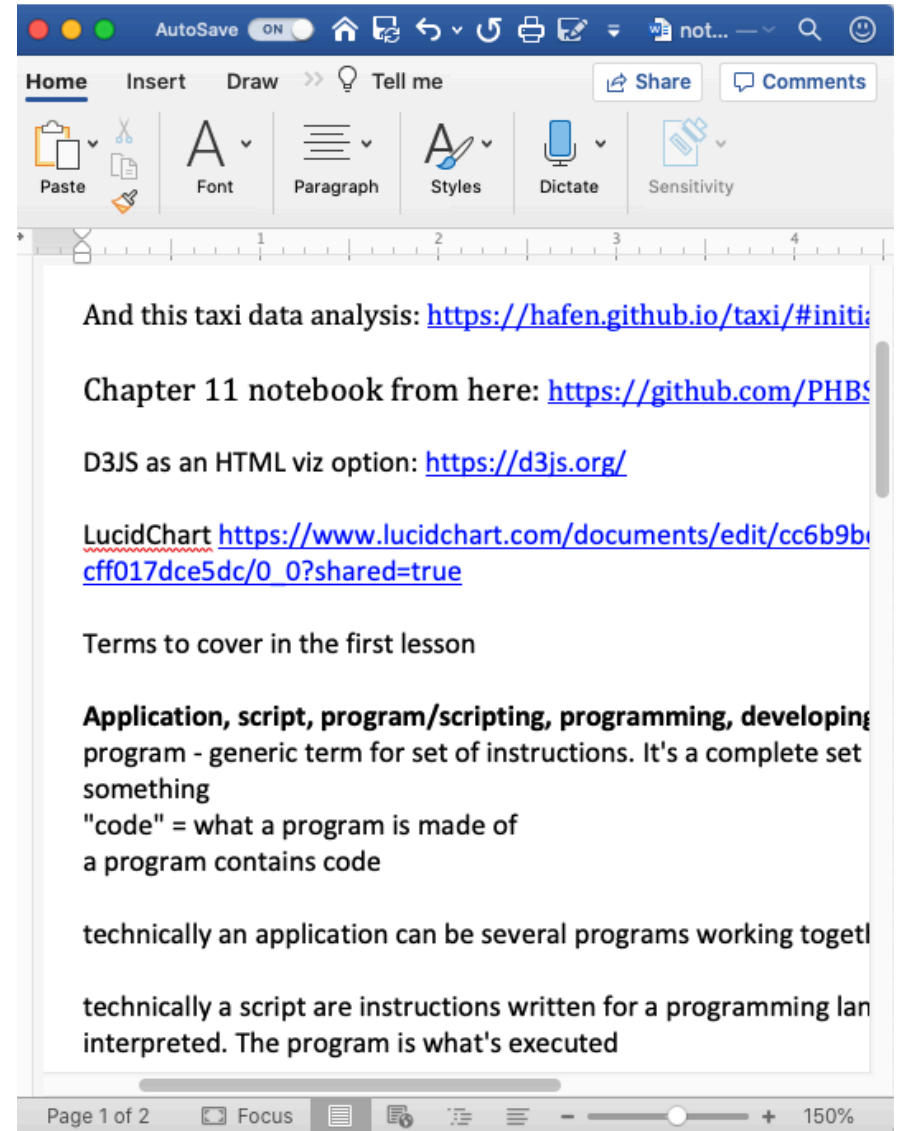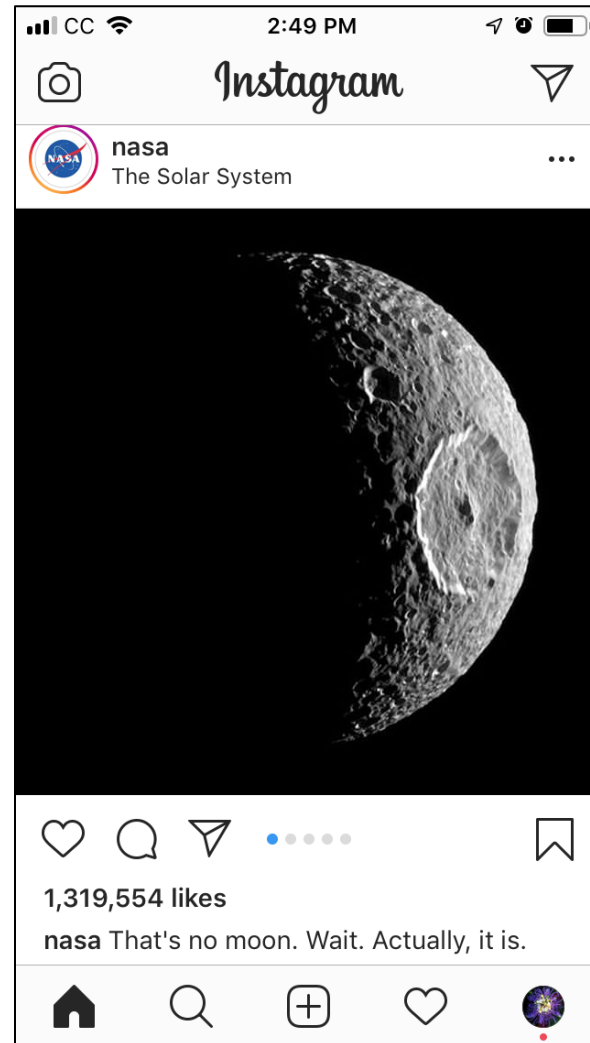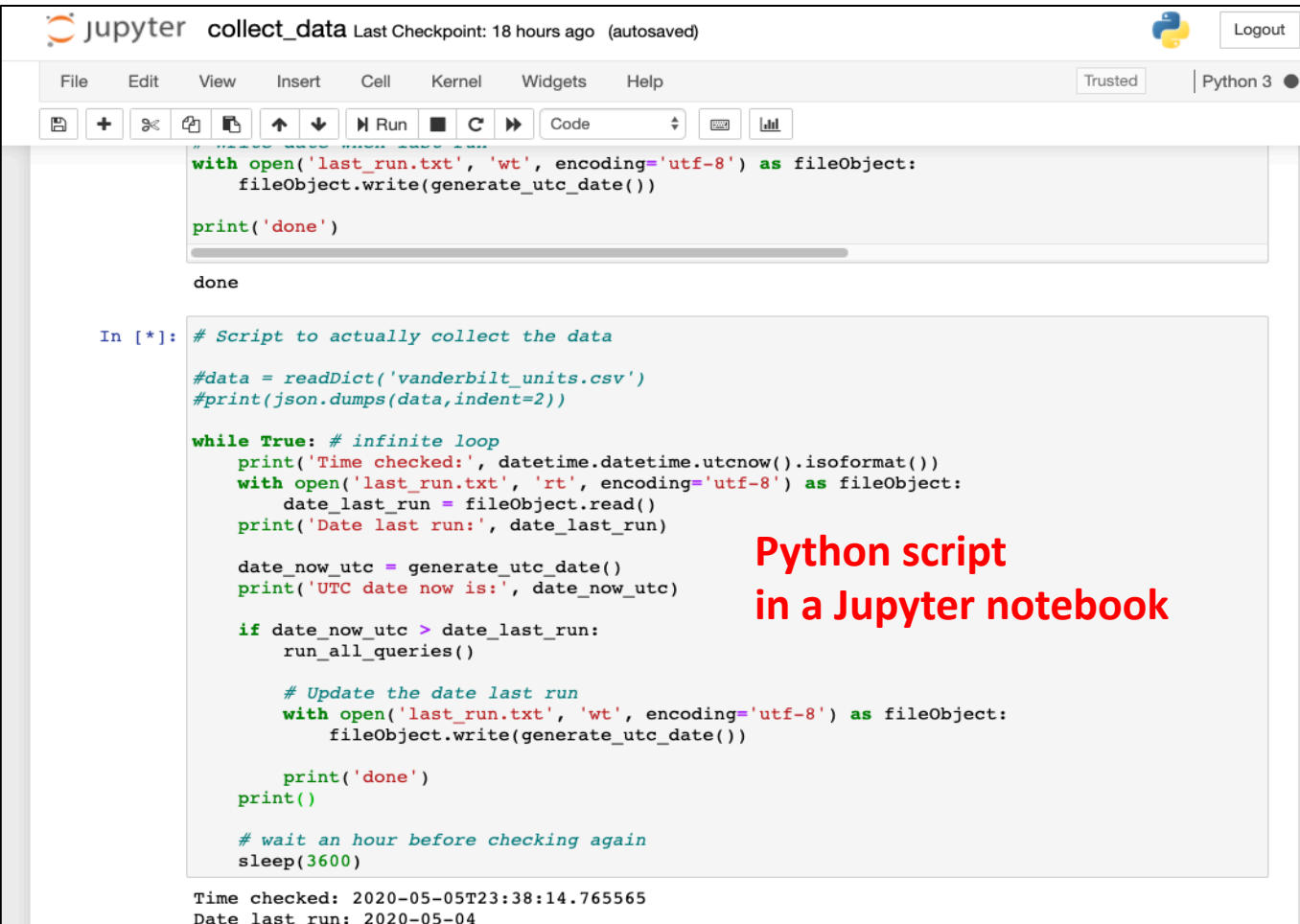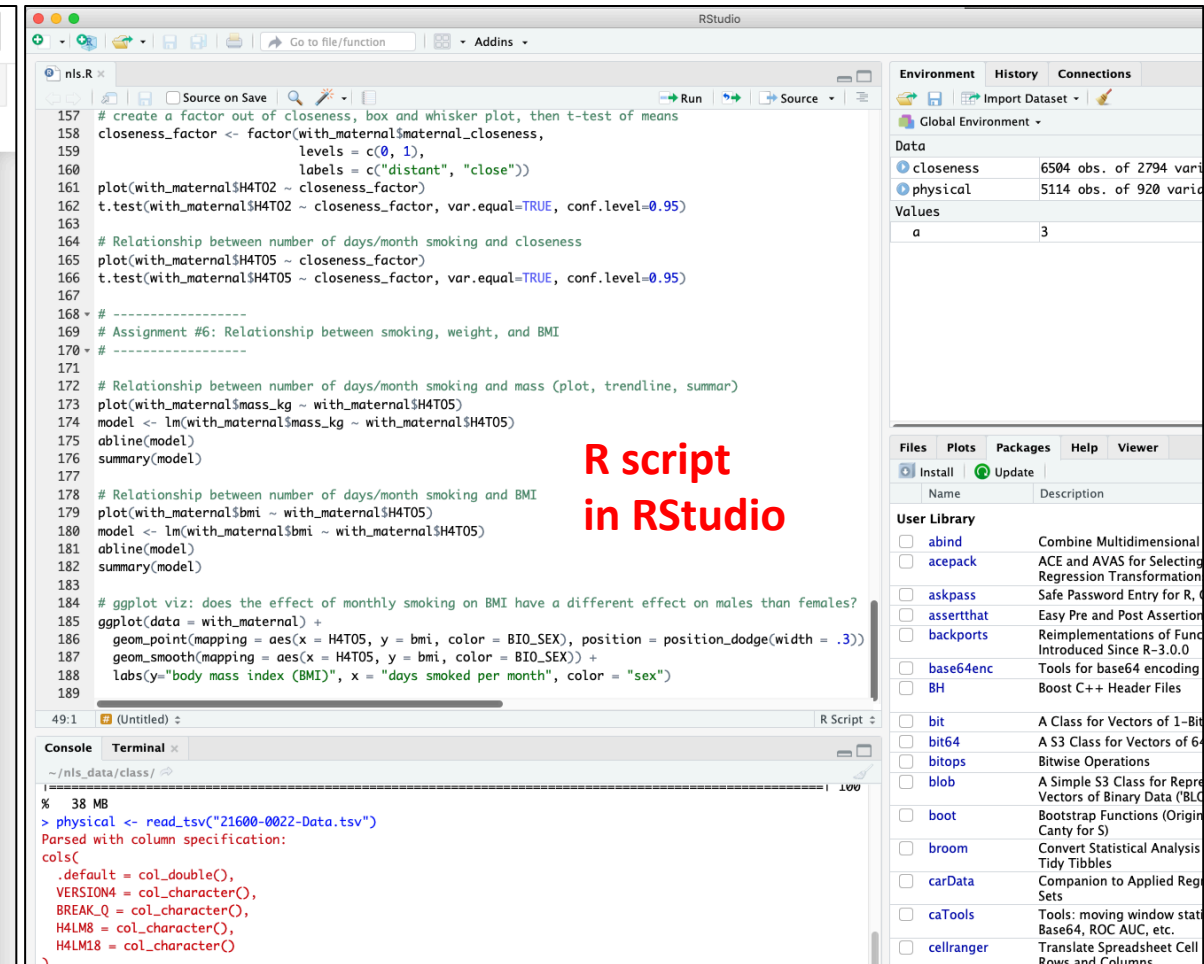
# an application (app)

- one or several programs working together for the end user

# a script

- instructions in a programming language that need to be interpreted



Python script
in a Jupyter notebook

R script
in RStudio

# Command-line interfaces (CLI)

# consoles

- A **console** is a program that sends text commands and receives text output

- The typical console for Macs is called **Terminal**
- The typical console for Windows is called **Command prompt**

# the shell



shell               console

- A **shell** is the program that receives and processes text commands from a console

- **bash** is a shell that processes commands in the Linux operating system

- **Python** and **R** both have shells

Image from https://www.clipart.email/

# CLI vs. GUI

- A **command-line interface** (CLI) is basically synonymous with a shell.
- A CLI is in contrast to a **graphical user interface** (GUI)



command-line interface for Git

graphical user interface for Git

# Variables and objects

# variables

- **variables** are named locations where we store data
- example a variable named "basket" that is a list that can store multiple alphanumeric strings

```
basket = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana', 'lemon', 'lime']
```

# classes and objects

**Classes** are abstract categories of things.
**Objects** are particular instances or individuals of a class.

Class: Car

object: toyotaPrius

object: ferrari

object: volkswagenBeetle

# classes and objects

**Classes** are abstract categories of data structures.
**Objects** are particular data structures.
The **type** of an object is the class to which it belongs.

There are technical distinctions between **variables** and **named objects** but we will use them interchangeably.

| item[0] |
| item[1] |
| item[2] |
| item[3] |
| ... |

Class: list

| 'apple' |
| 'orange' |
| 'banana' |
| 'lemon' |
| 'lime' |

object name: **fruits**
type: **list**

| 3593 |
| 269 |
| 45801 |
| 2804 |

object name: **ids**
type: **list**

| True |
| False |
| False |

object name: **in_stock**
type: **list**

# Executing code

# Statements

- Code is made up of **statements**

- A statement performs a particular action.

- A "line of code" is roughly the same as a statement

```python
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    print('Date last run:', date_last_run)

    date_now_utc = generate_utc_date()
    print('UTC date now is:', date_now_utc)

    if date_now_utc > date_last_run:        ← a statement
        run_all_queries()

        # Update the date last run
        with open('last_run.txt', 'wt', encoding='utf-8') as fileObject:
            fileObject.write(generate_utc_date())

    print('done')
    print()

    # wait an hour before checking again
    sleep(3600)
```

```r
# Relationship between age of starting smoking and closeness
# create a factor out of closeness, box and whisker plot, then t-test of means
closeness_factor <- factor(with_maternal$maternal_closeness,
                        levels = c(0, 1),
                        labels = c("distant", "close"))
plot(with_maternal$H4TO2 ~ closeness_factor)        ← a statement
t.test(with_maternal$H4TO2 ~ closeness_factor, var.equal=TRUE, conf.level=0.95)

# Relationship between number of days/month smoking and closeness
plot(with_maternal$H4TO5 ~ closeness_factor)
t.test(with_maternal$H4TO5 ~ closeness_factor, var.equal=TRUE, conf.level=0.95)
```

# interactive vs. script mode

- In **interactive mode**, one statement is run at a time in the shell. Immediate feedback is given after each line.

- In **script mode**, the entire script is run at once. Feedback is only given when explicitly required by the script.

- Both R and Python can be run in either mode.

# Writing code with an editor

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# Code editors

- **Code editors** are text editors on steroids.
- They are "aware" of the language in which you are coding.
- They generally have **syntax checking** and highlighting.
- They may help with automatic **formatting**.
- Some code editors have capabilities for running the code and are essentially integrated development environments (IDEs).

# NEED HELP? ASK A LIBRARIAN!

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