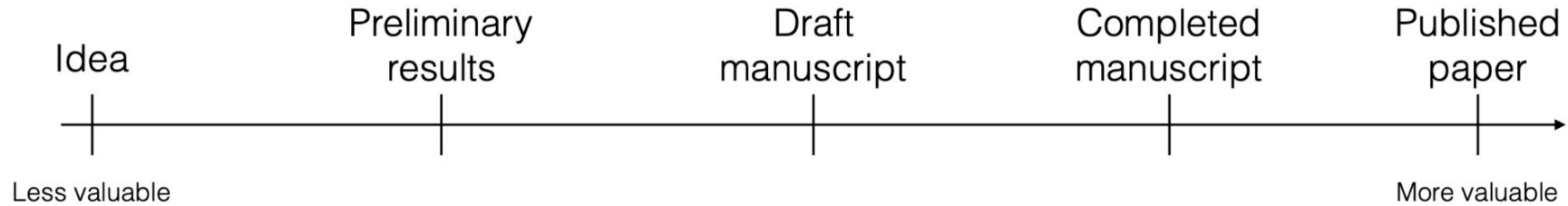


You need an academic website.

Eric Manning
R Group
23 April 2025

How we normally think of our work and goals



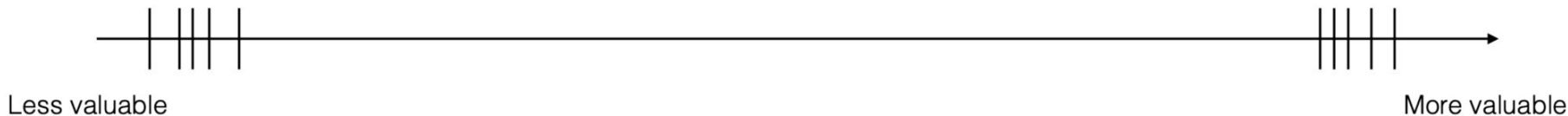
How we *should* think of our work and goals

Anything still
on your computer

(Data, code, results,
draft, finished paper)

Anything out
in the world

(Paper, preprint, product,
blog post, open source,
tweet)



You are (probably) going to leave Princeton.



sites.google.com/*

***.netlify**

***.wordpress.com**

***.github.io**

yourname.com

Prerequisites

- RStudio (the current version!)
- A GitHub account
 - Your website will be yourusername.github.io unless you route it somewhere else
- Connect RStudio and your GitHub account
 - <https://sites.northwestern.edu/researchcomputing/resources/using-git-and-github-with-r-rstudio/>
 - For the “Linking to GitHub” bit, use the directions here: <https://usethis.r-lib.org/articles/git-credentials.html>
- (Optional:) A domain – that you bought – with your name on it
 - I like namecheap.com but there are many fine vendors
 - I pay \$20/year for eric-manning.com
- (Optional:) Google Analytics tracking/measurement ID:
 - <https://quarto.org/docs/websites/website-tools.html#google-analytics>

Steps

1. Clone an existing repository or use an existing template
 - You can also start from scratch
2. Create R project from GitHub repository
3. Make and push changes to site from RStudio
4. Deploy from GitHub repo settings

Step 1: ~~Steal~~ borrow a template

If it's a ~public template, fine.

If it's clearly not, ask the owner.

Don't use the default.

Here are some great examples, compiled by Dr. Gang He:

<https://drganghe.github.io/quarto-academic-site-examples.html>

Some of the built-in Quarto templates are fine:

<https://quarto.org/docs/websites/website-about.html#templates>

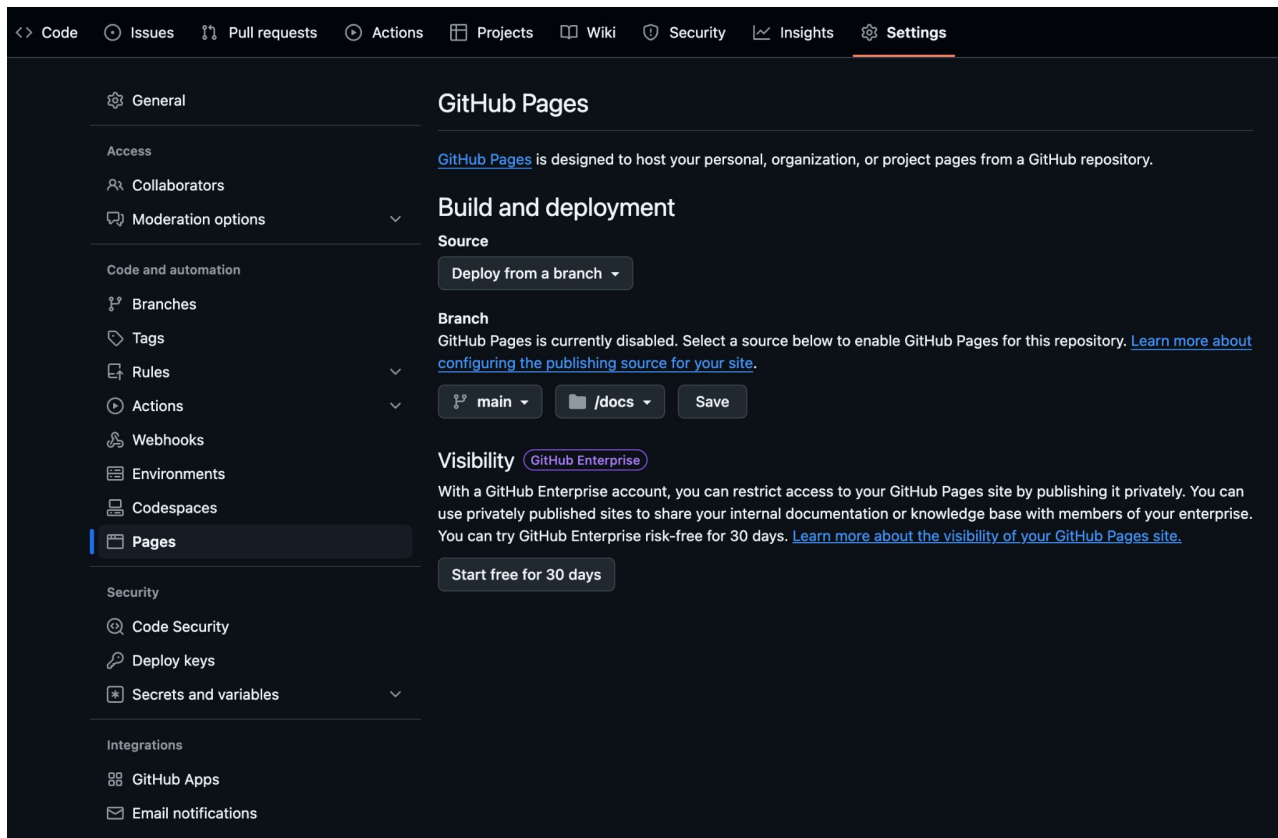
Step 2: Create R project from GitHub repository or Quarto template

- `usethis::use_git()`
- `usethis::use_github()`

Step 3: Make and push changes from RStudio

- <https://quarto.org/docs/publishing/github-pages.html>

Step 4: Deploy



For Quarto, “Deploy from a branch” (probably main), then build from /docs

Optional: Routing from a custom domain

Domain

Products

Sharing & Transfer

Advanced DNS

DNS TEMPLATES

Choose DNS Template

HOST RECORDS

Actions

Filters

Search

☐	Type	Host	Value	TTL	
☐	A Record	@	185.199.108.153	30 min	
☐	A Record	@	185.199.110.153	Automatic	
☐	A Record	@	185.199.109.153	Automatic	
☐	A Record	@	185.199.111.153	Automatic	
☐	CNAME Record	www	ericmanning.github.io.	30 min	

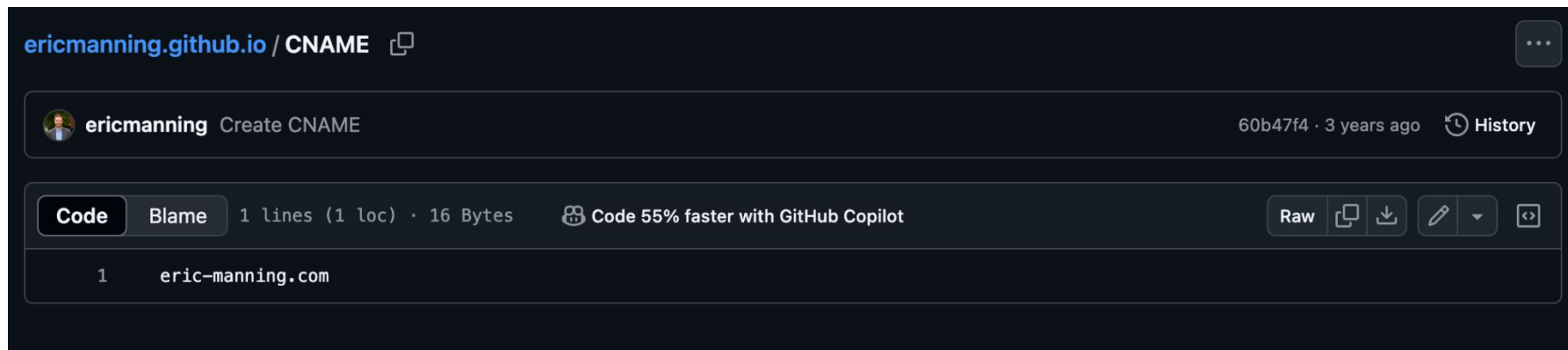
+

ADD NEW RECORD

NameCheap Account Dashboard > Manage (your URL) > Advanced DNS

GitHub DNS record values for apex domains are [here](#)

CNAME file in repo root



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the file `CNAME` in the `ericmanning.github.io` repository. The page has a dark theme. At the top, the repository name and file name are displayed. Below this, a commit by `ericmanning` is shown, with the message "Create CNAME" and the commit hash `60b47f4` from 3 years ago. A "History" link is available. The file content is displayed in a code editor with a line number of 1. The content of the file is `eric-manning.com`. The interface includes standard GitHub navigation buttons like "Code", "Blame", "Raw", and "Download".

ericmanning.github.io / CNAME

ericmanning Create CNAME 60b47f4 · 3 years ago History

Code Blame 1 lines (1 loc) · 16 Bytes Code 55% faster with GitHub Copilot Raw Copy Download Edit History

```
1 eric-manning.com
```

This section of the page will appear in Settings > Pages.

Change it to your URL.

Custom domain

Custom domains allow you to serve your site from a domain other than `ericmanning.github.io`. [Learn more about configuring custom domains.](#)

eric-manning.com

Save

Remove

✓ DNS check successful

Read the docs.

<https://quarto.org/docs/websites/>