



Organization

Part of the "Getting Started with 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 files associated with a given project together — input data, scripts, analytical results, and figures.
 - (Maybe also?) a special file that marks 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.

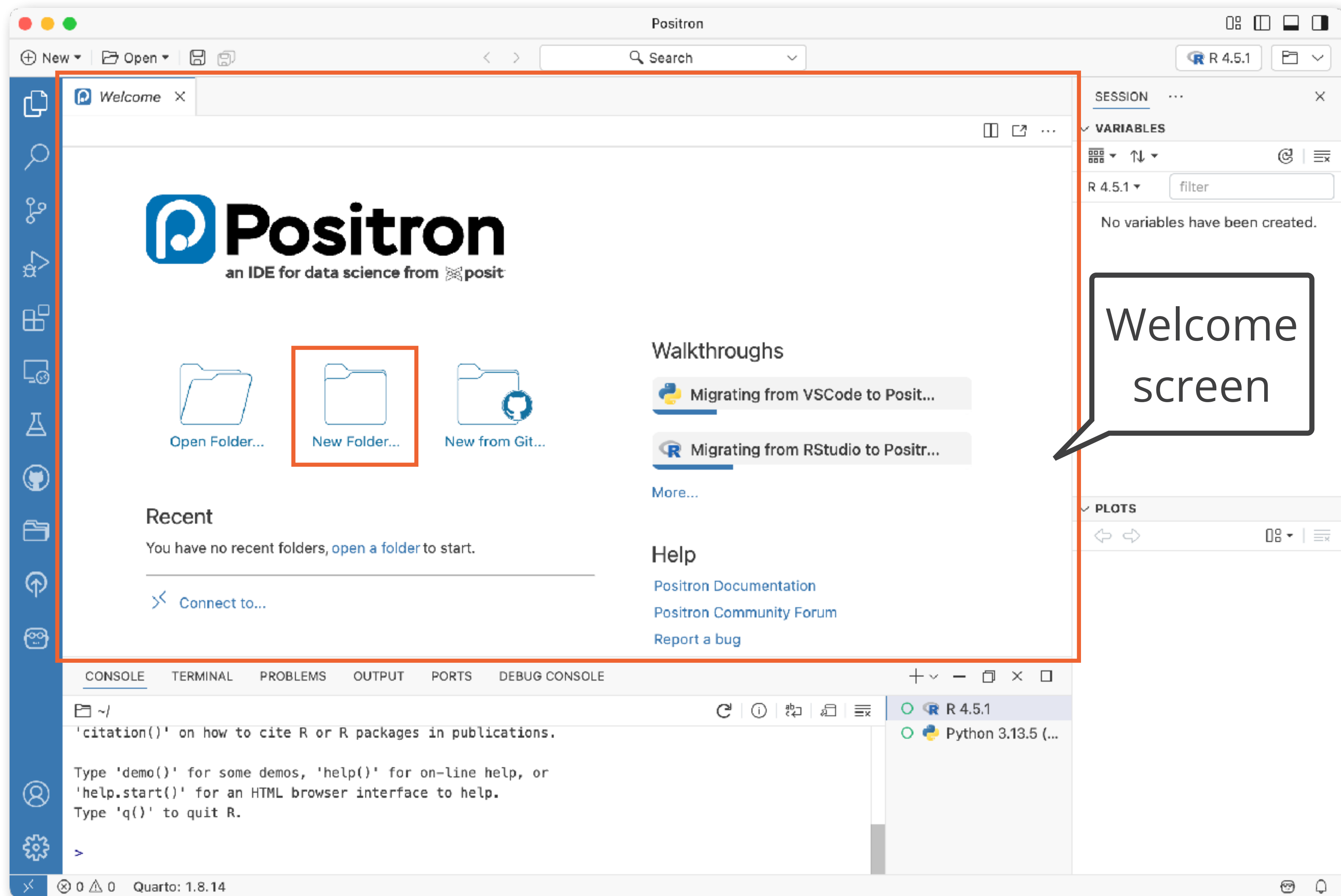
New folder

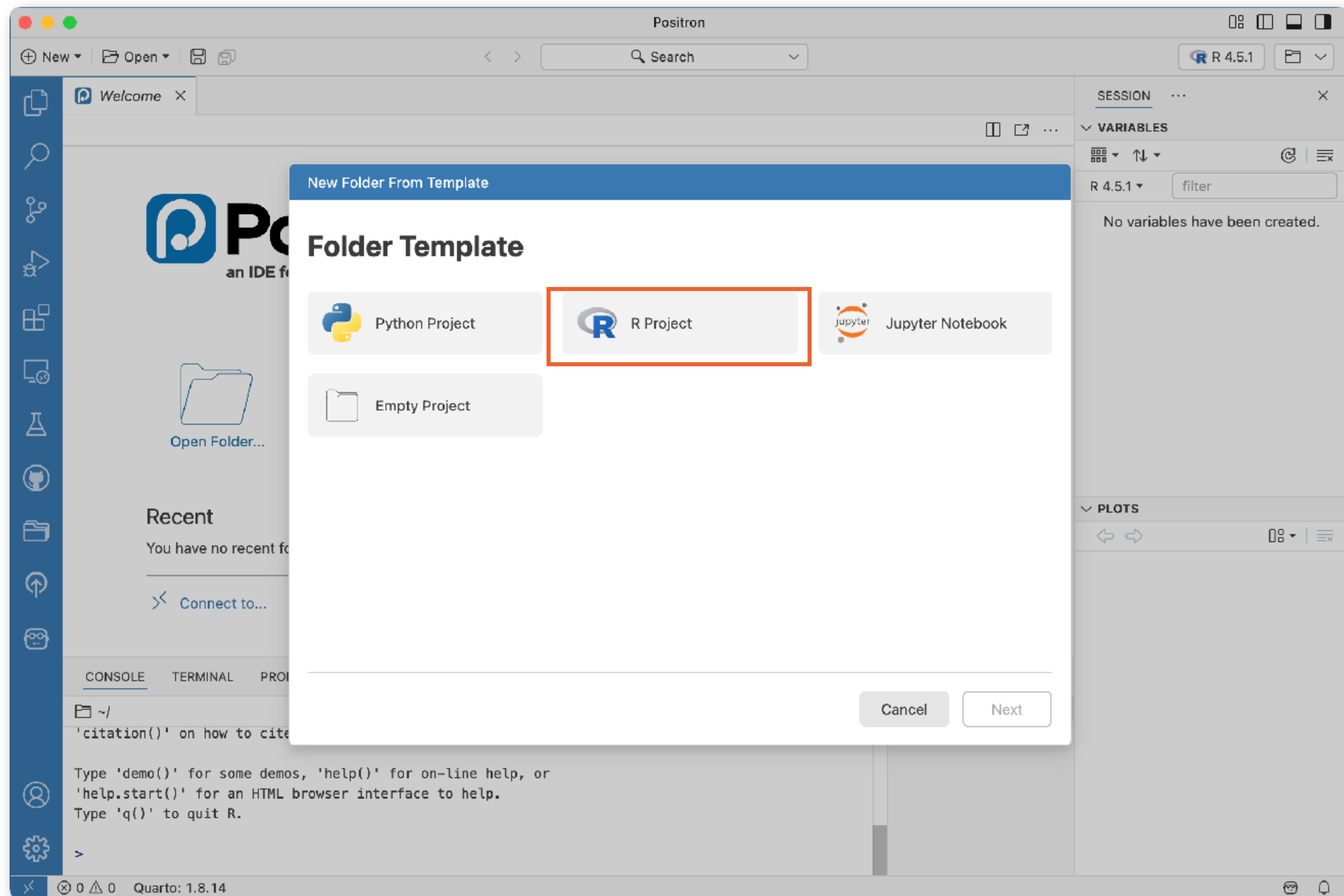
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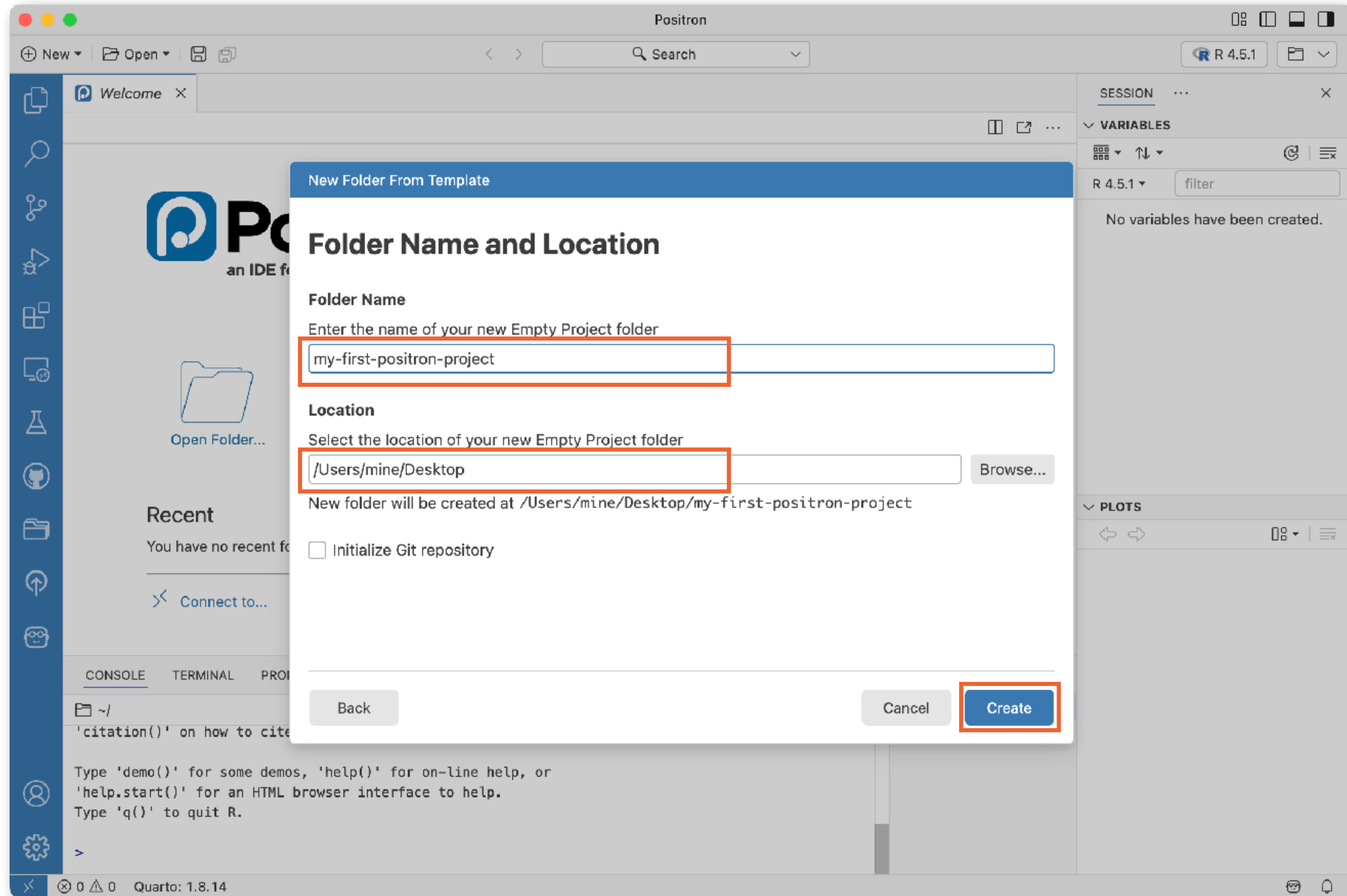
Your turn

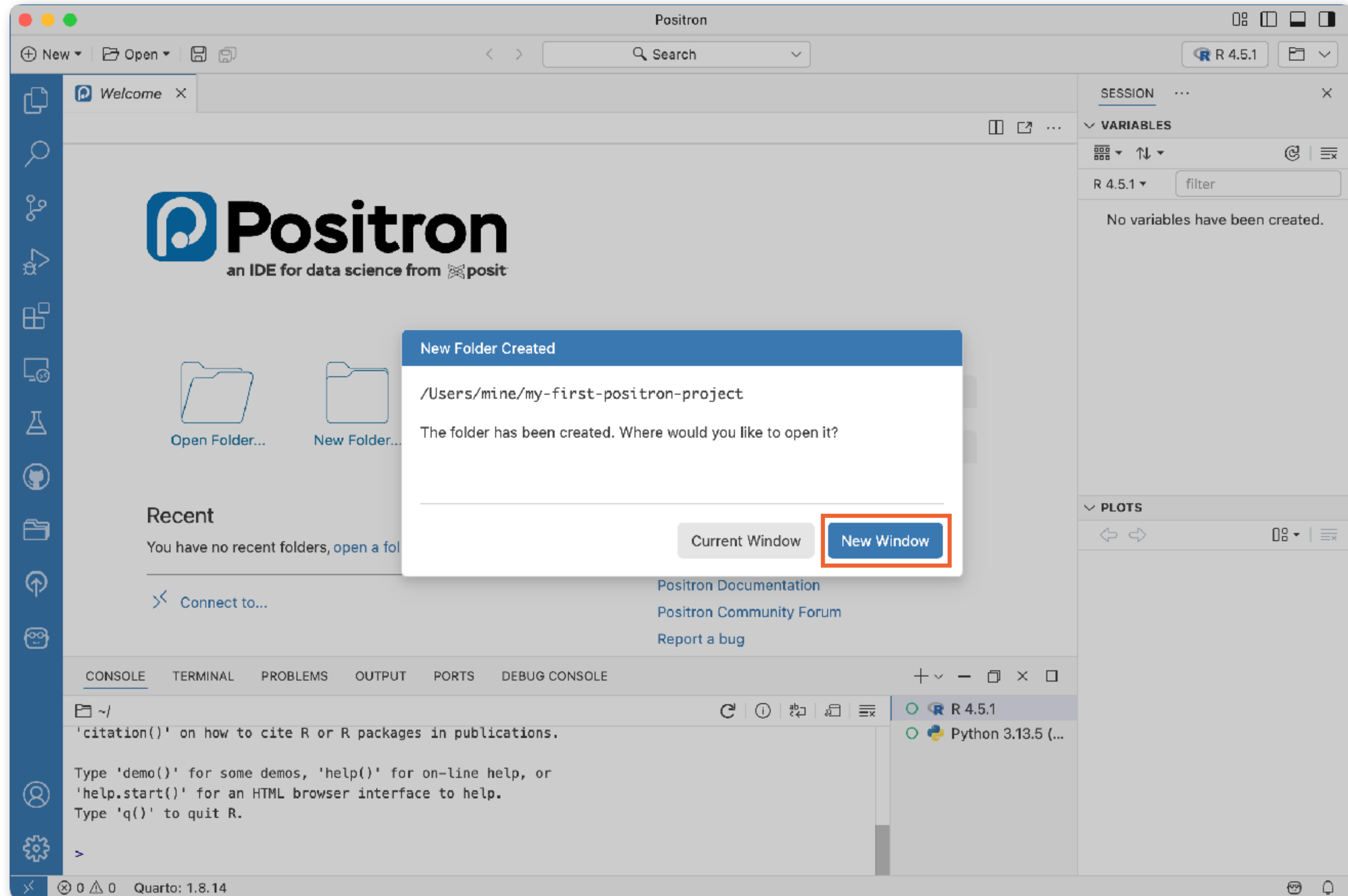
Create new folder

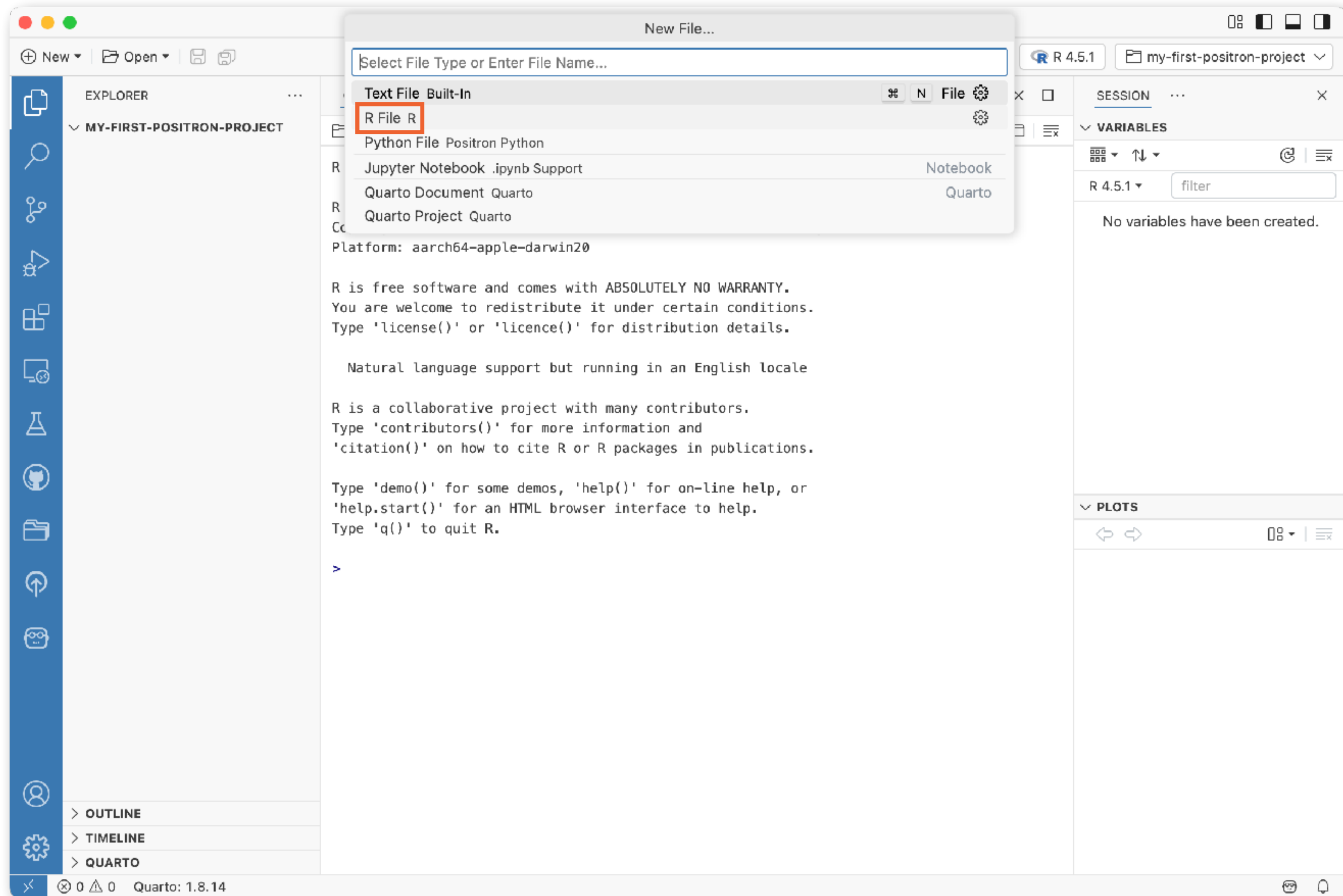
- In the Positron Welcome screen, follow the prompts to create a **New Folder...**
 - R Project
 - Name it my-first-positron-project
 - Place it on your Desktop or other location you like
 - Your choice re: Git. Accept default R version. No renv.
 - Open in a New Window
- Add an R script to the folder and save it.
- How can you tell which folder is open in Positron?

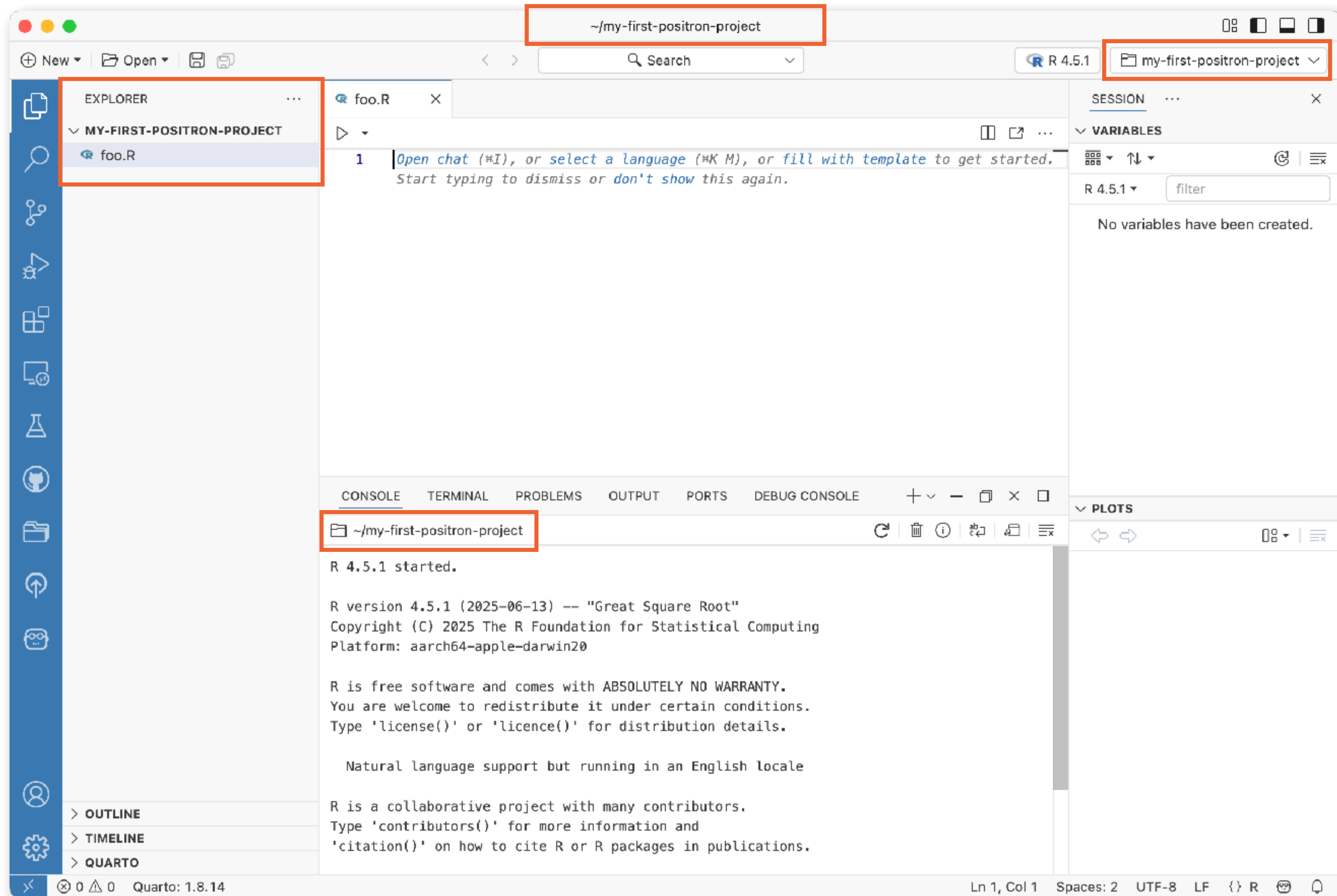








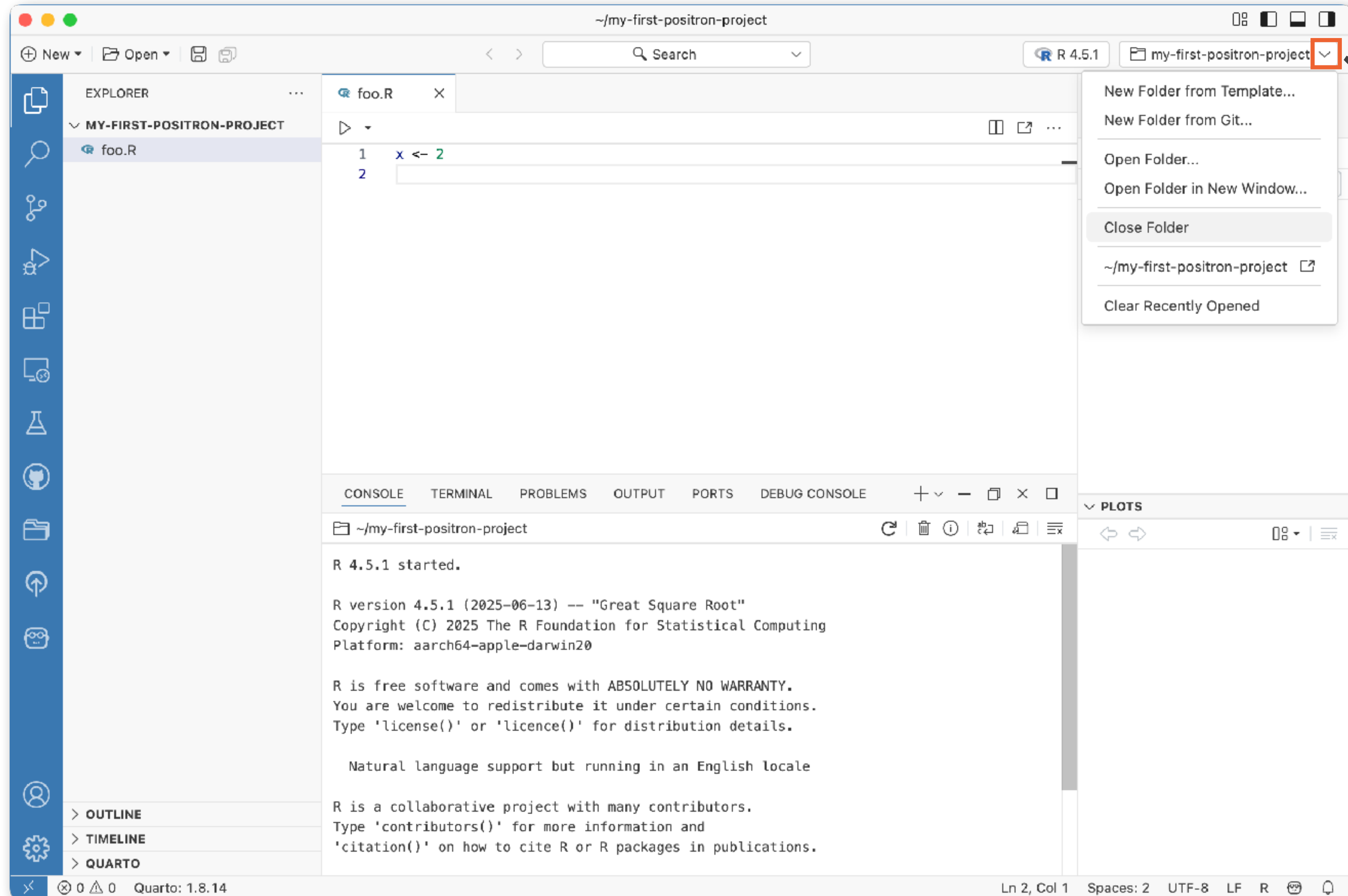




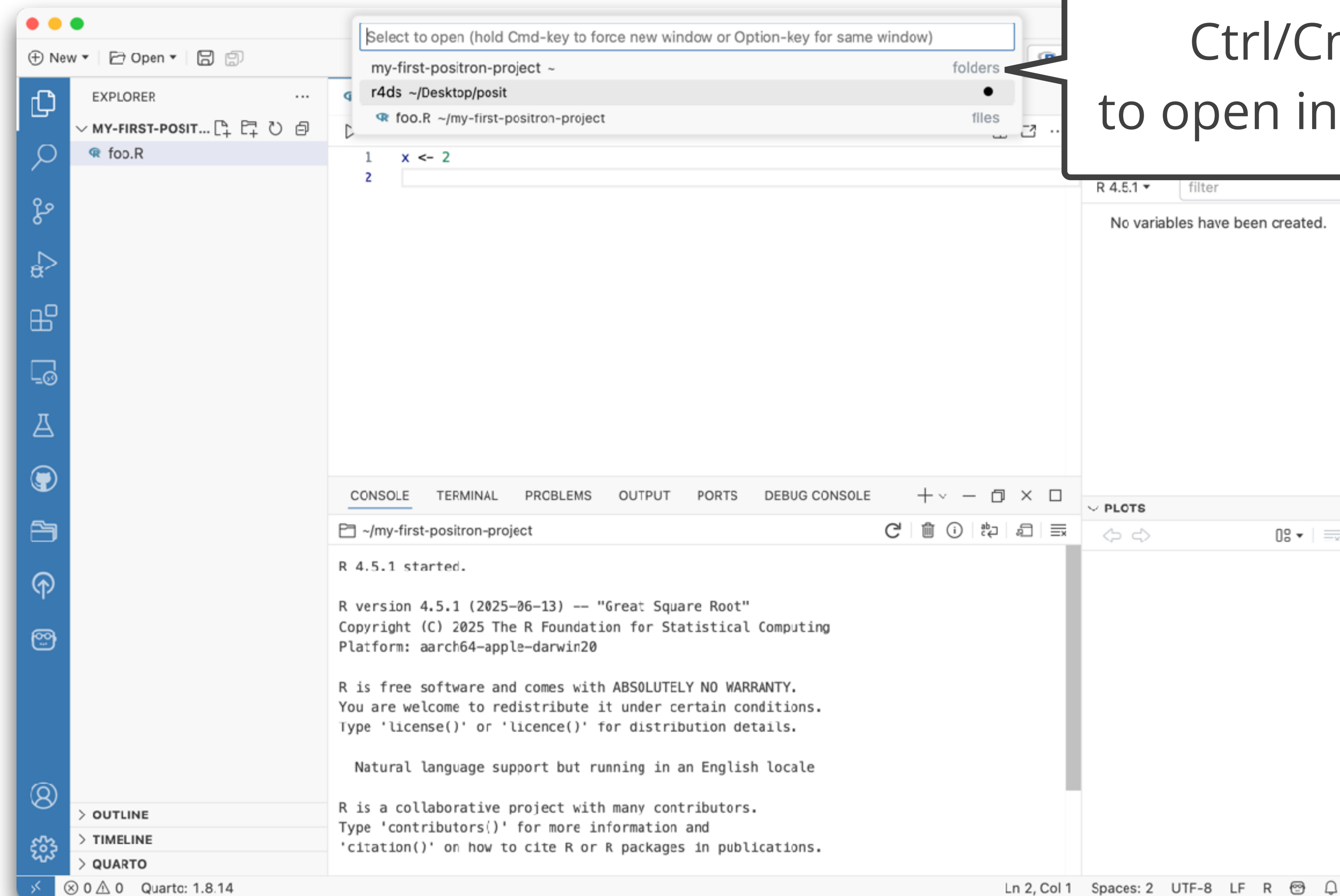
Demo

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): **Ctrl + R**



Ctrl + R



RStudio Projects vs. Positron ???s



- RStudio places an `.Rproj` file in a folder to designate it as an RStudio Project.
- Original purpose: store project-level preferences.
- Secondary uses: 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.
- `here::here()` **can** still recognize the root folder via `.Rproj`, `.git/`, `DESCRIPTION`, `.here`, etc.

Positron and the `.Rproj` file

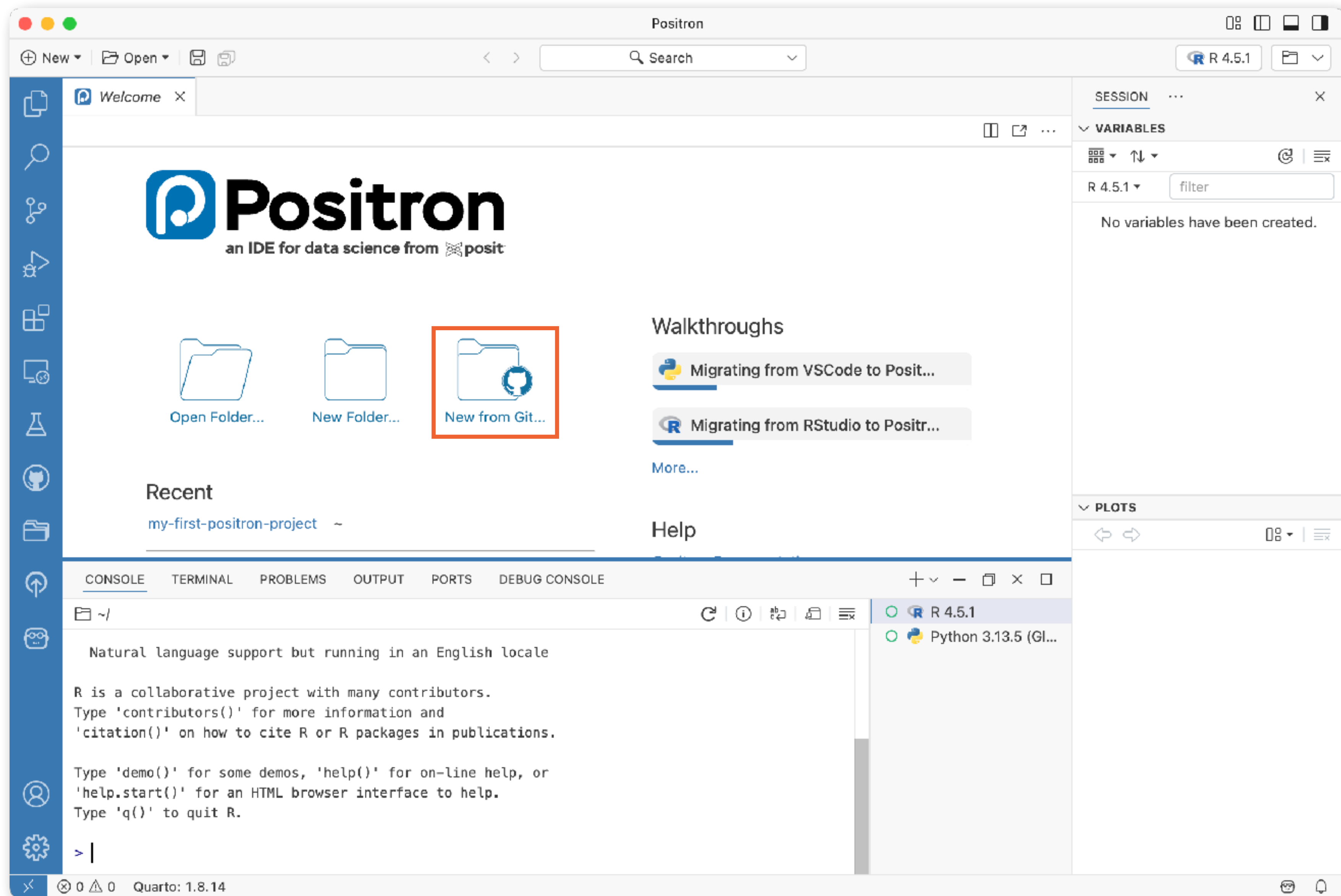
- Positron doesn't do anything with the contents of an `.Rproj` file.
- For example, your `.Rproj` file might indicate preferences like using spaces for tabs (`UseSpacesForTab: Yes`) or using line breaks after each sentence in Quarto or R Markdown files (`MarkdownWrap: Sentence`).
- We'll discuss expressing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

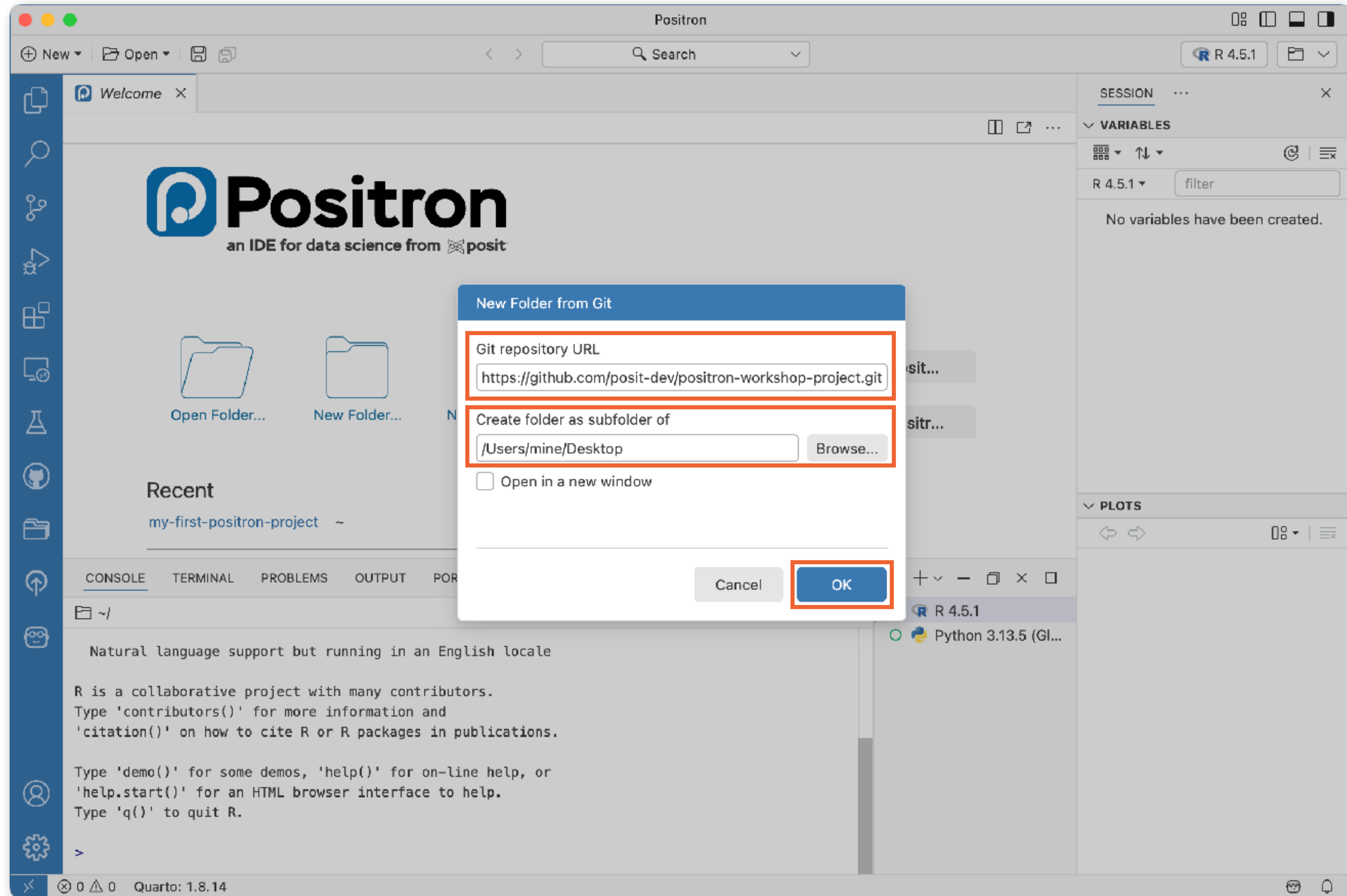
r4ds.Rproj	
Version:	1.0
RestoreWorkspace:	Default
SaveWorkspace:	Default
AlwaysSaveHistory:	Default
EnableCodeIndexing:	Yes
UseSpacesForTab:	Yes
NumSpacesForTab:	2
Encoding:	UTF-8
RnwWeave:	Sweave
LaTeX:	XeLaTeX
StripTrailingWhitespace:	Yes
BuildType:	None
UseNativePipeOperator:	Yes
MarkdownWrap:	Sentence
MarkdownCanonical:	Yes
SpellingDictionary:	en_US

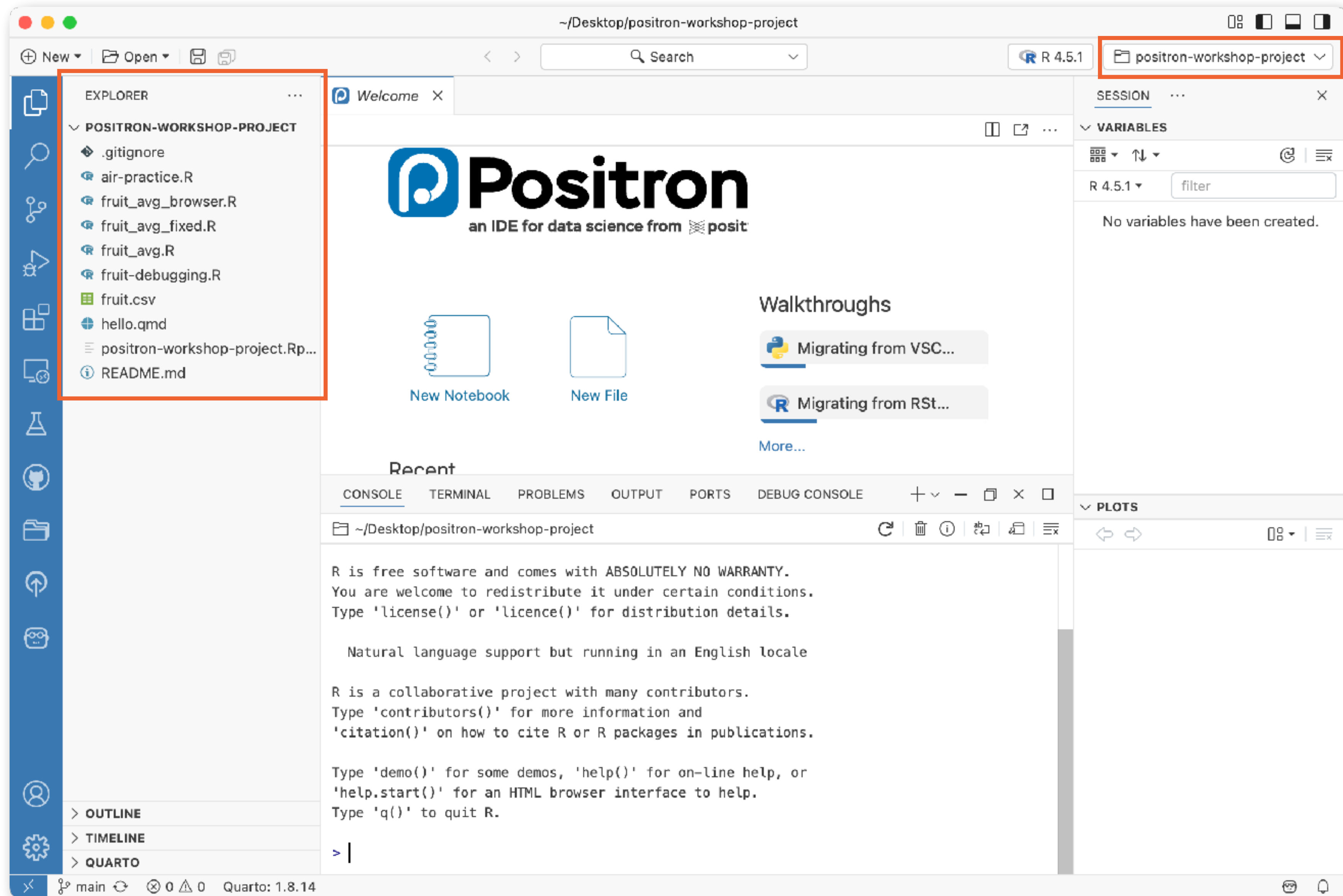
Your turn

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**:
 - The repo: <https://github.com/posit-dev/positron-workshop-project>
 - As a folder on your Desktop
- **No Git?**
Run in the R Console:
`usethis::use_course("posit-dev/positron-workshop-project")`





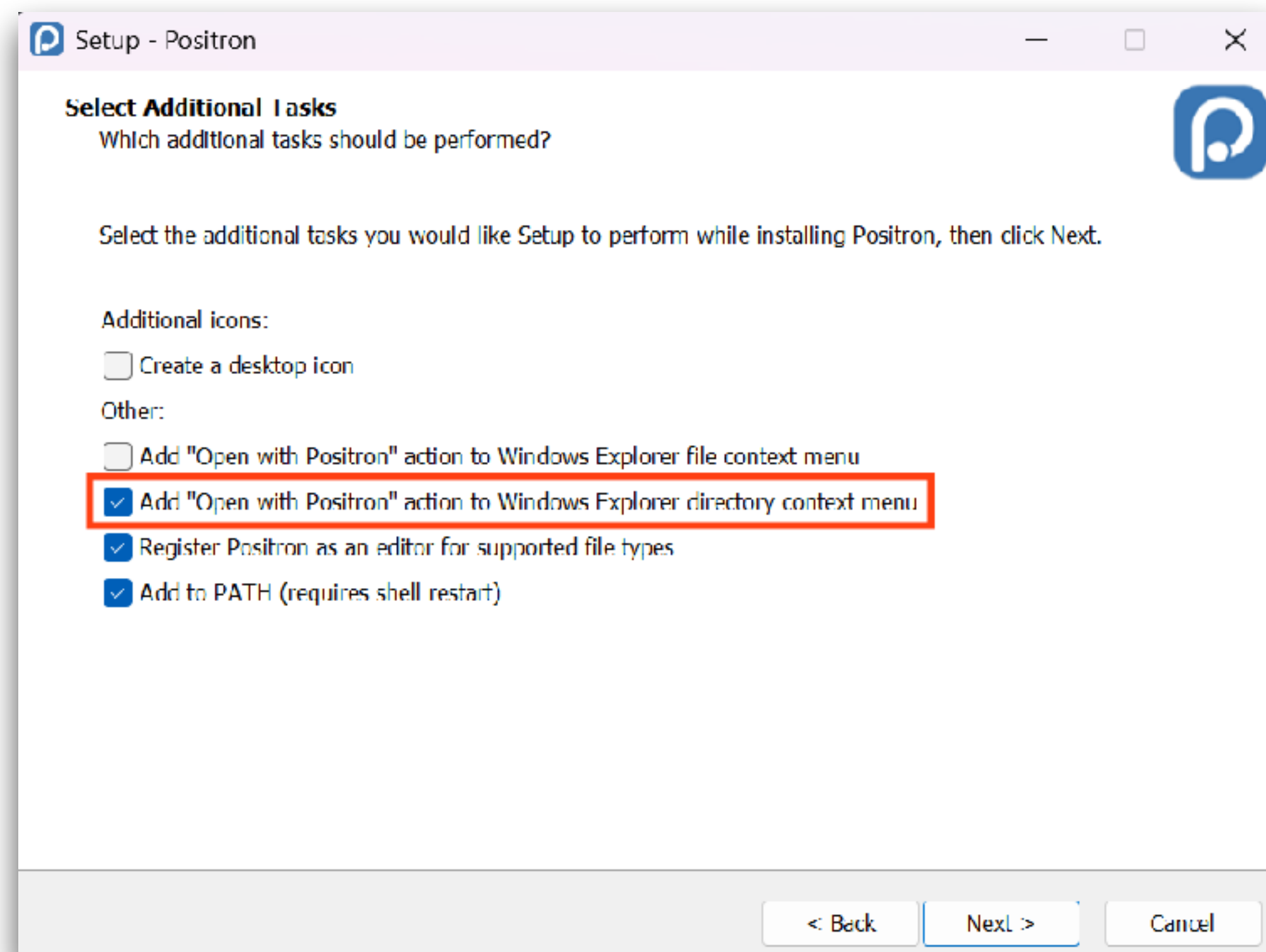


Launch Positron

Windows: Launch from File Explorer

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

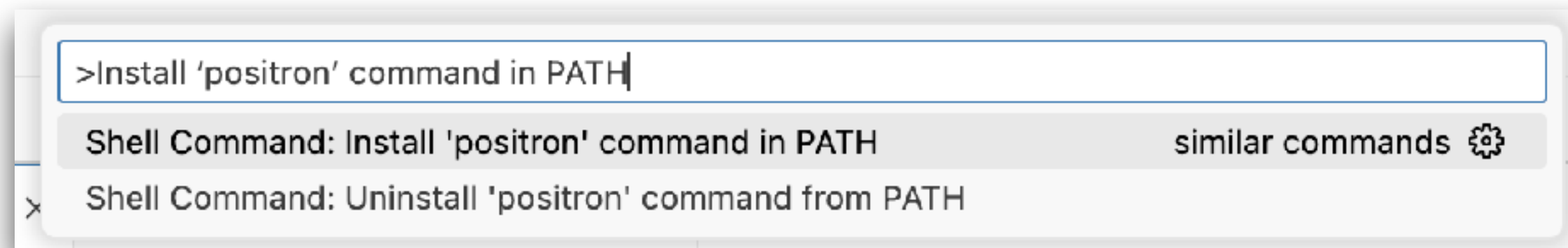
In File Explorer: Right-click on a folder and select “Open with Positron” from the context menu.



Mac OS: Launch from Finder (via Terminal)

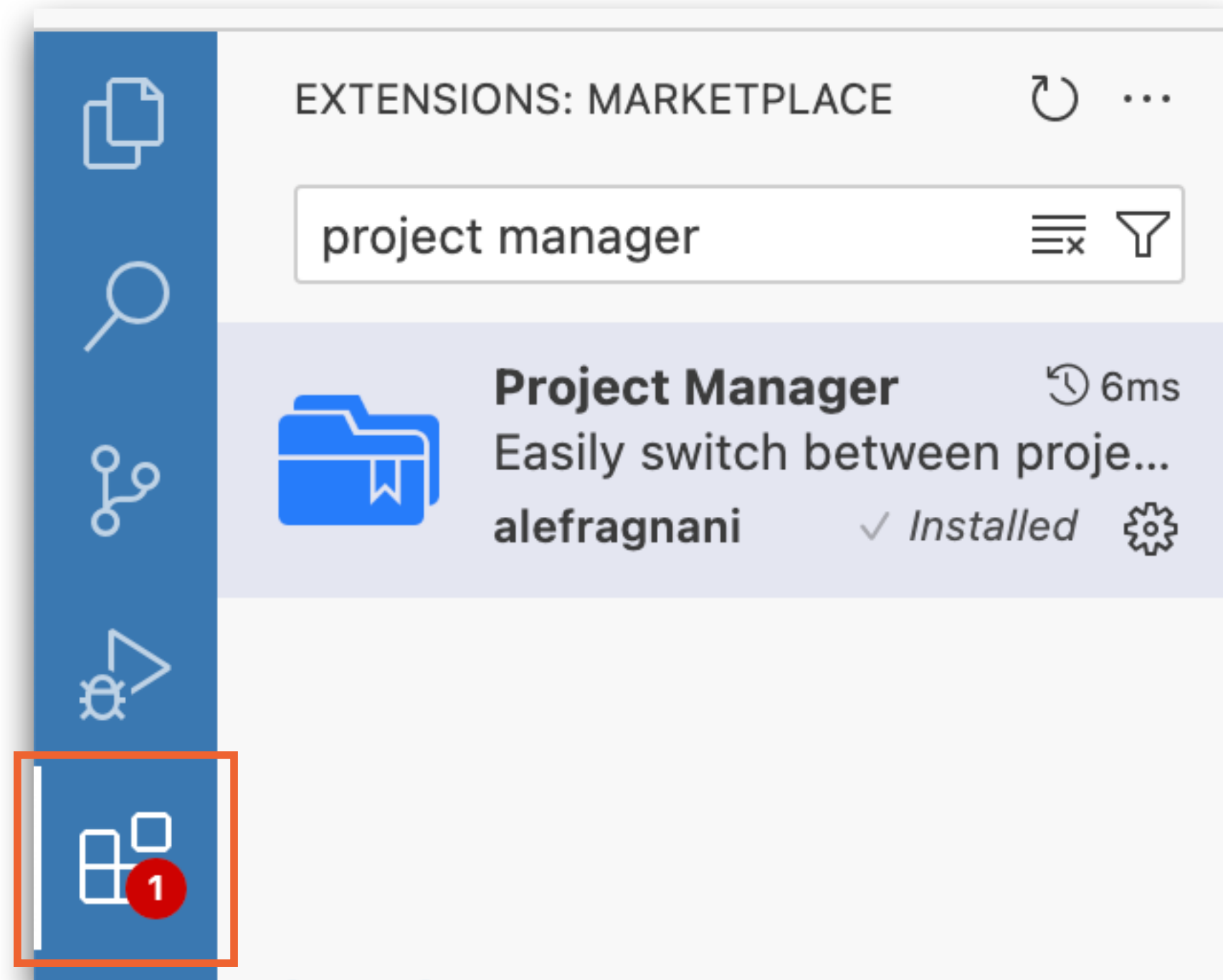
Setup: Add Positron to your **PATH** via the Command Palette by pressing Cmd+Shift+P to open the palette and typing Install 'positron' command in PATH.

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

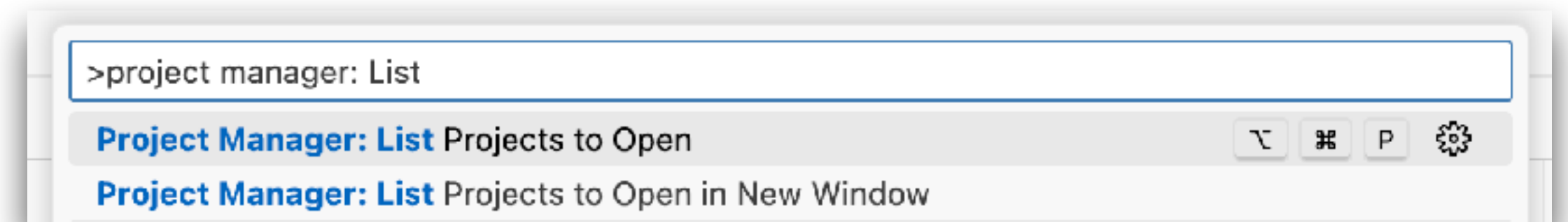


Launch from the Project Manager extension

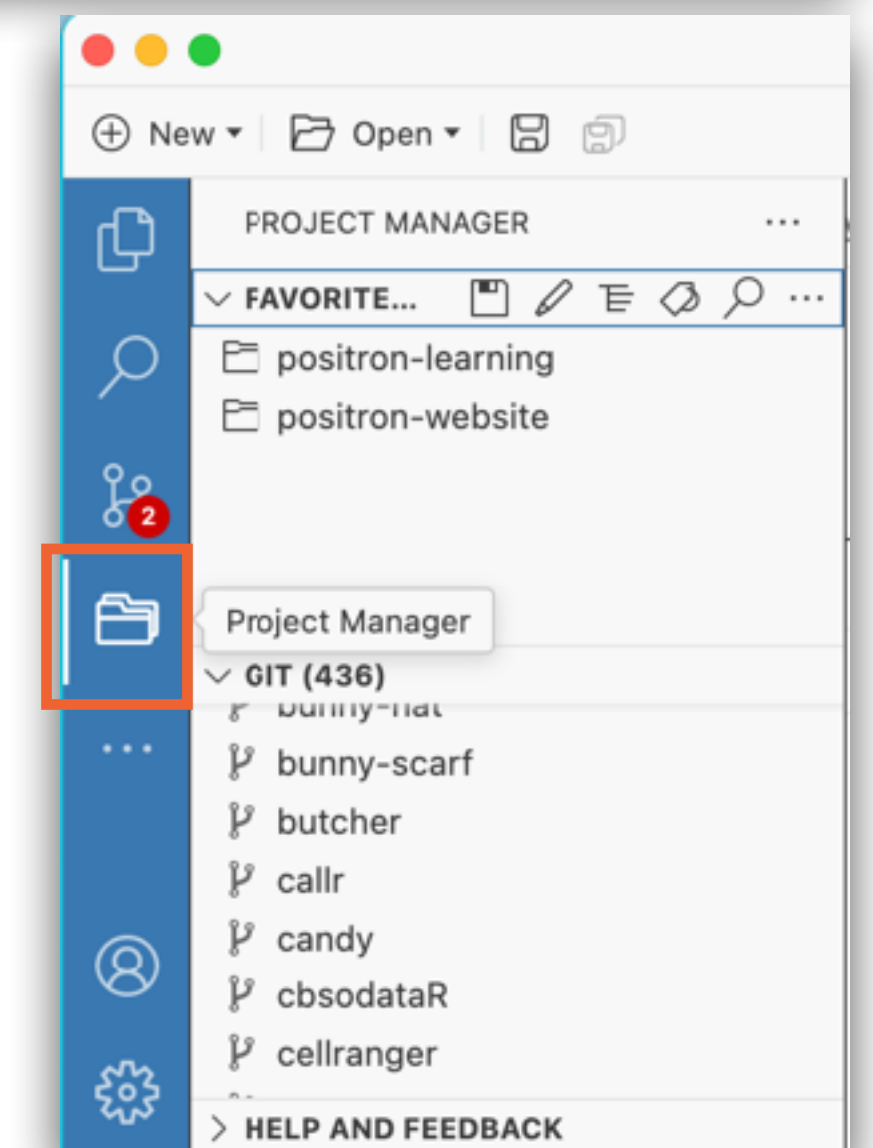
Setup: Install extension from Open VSX Registry.



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

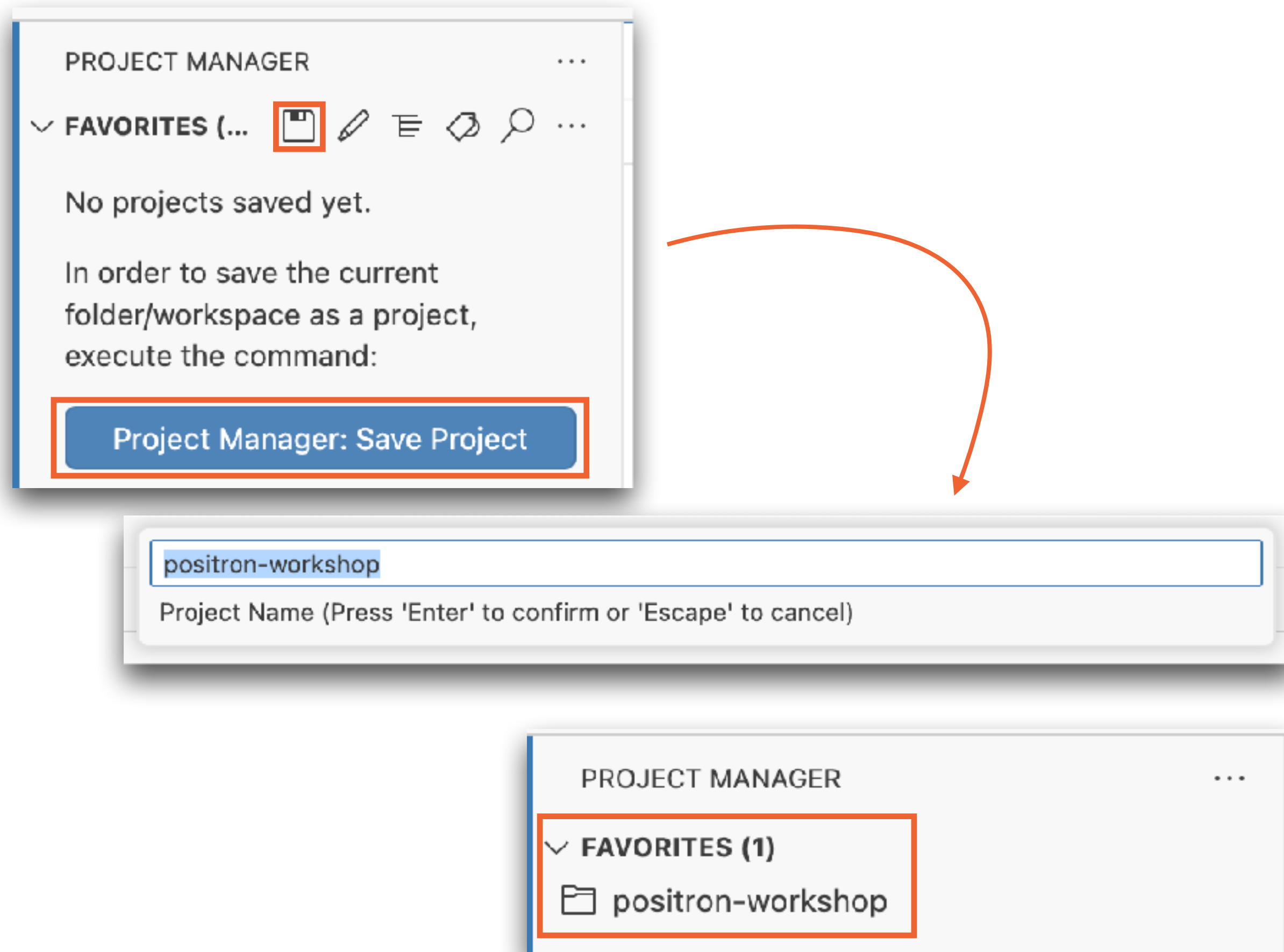


In the Activity Bar:
Click on extension icon.

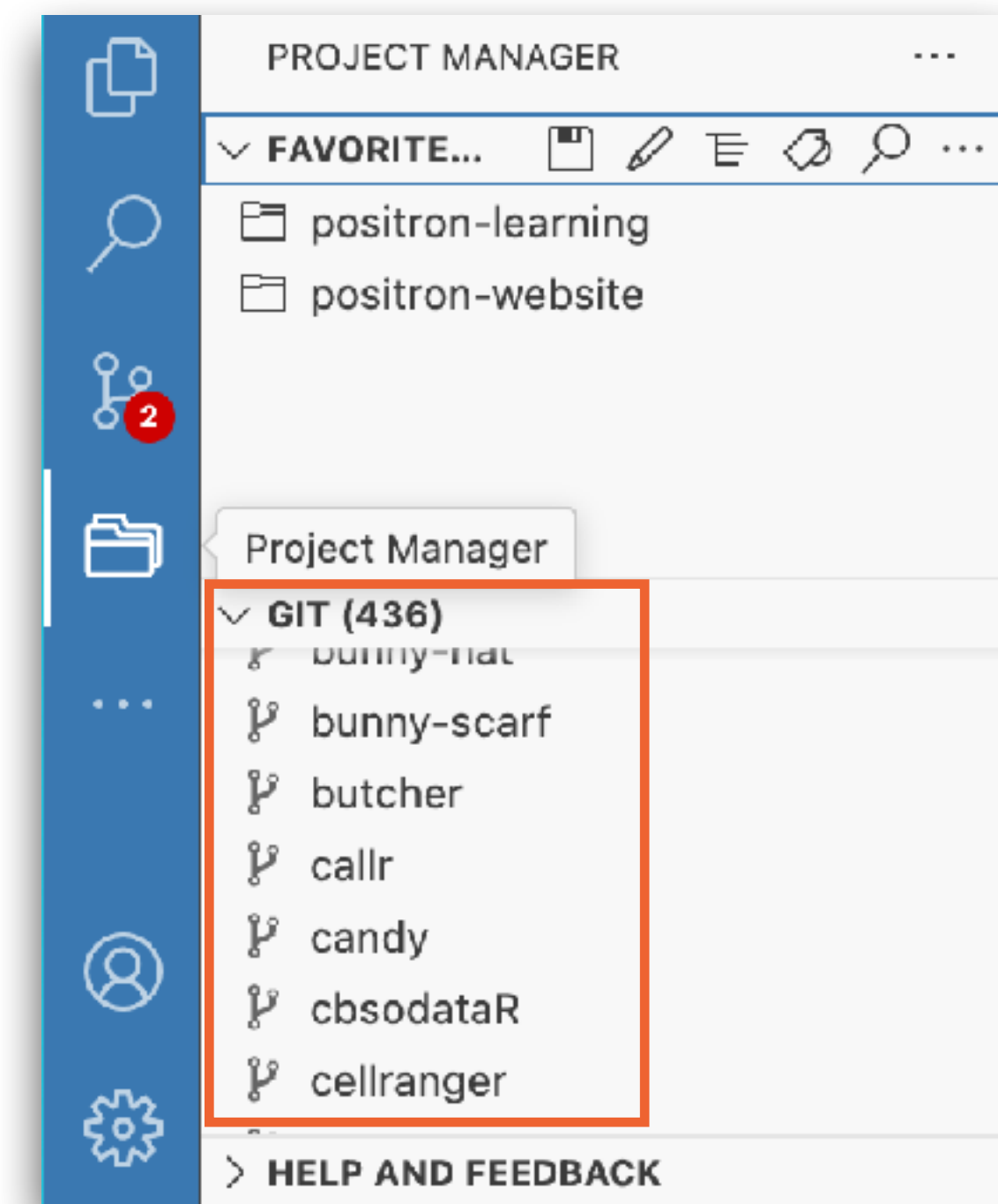


Making your folders known to Project Manager

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