

Exploring gander for Vibe Coding in R

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What is "vibe coding"?



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Andrej Karpathy

Co-founder, OpenAI &
Former Director of AI, Tesla

"fully give in to the vibes, embrace
exponentials, and forget that the
code even exists."

1960s Counterculture

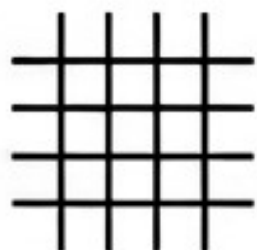
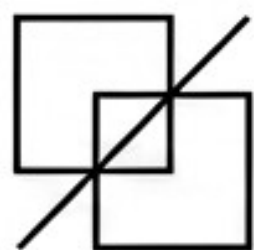
Good vibes /
Emotional atmosphere

Modern Slang

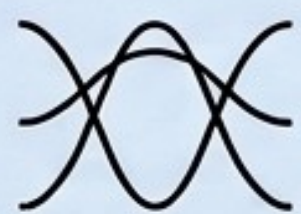
Mood, aesthetic,
instinctual feeling

2025 Software Dev

A new AI workflow

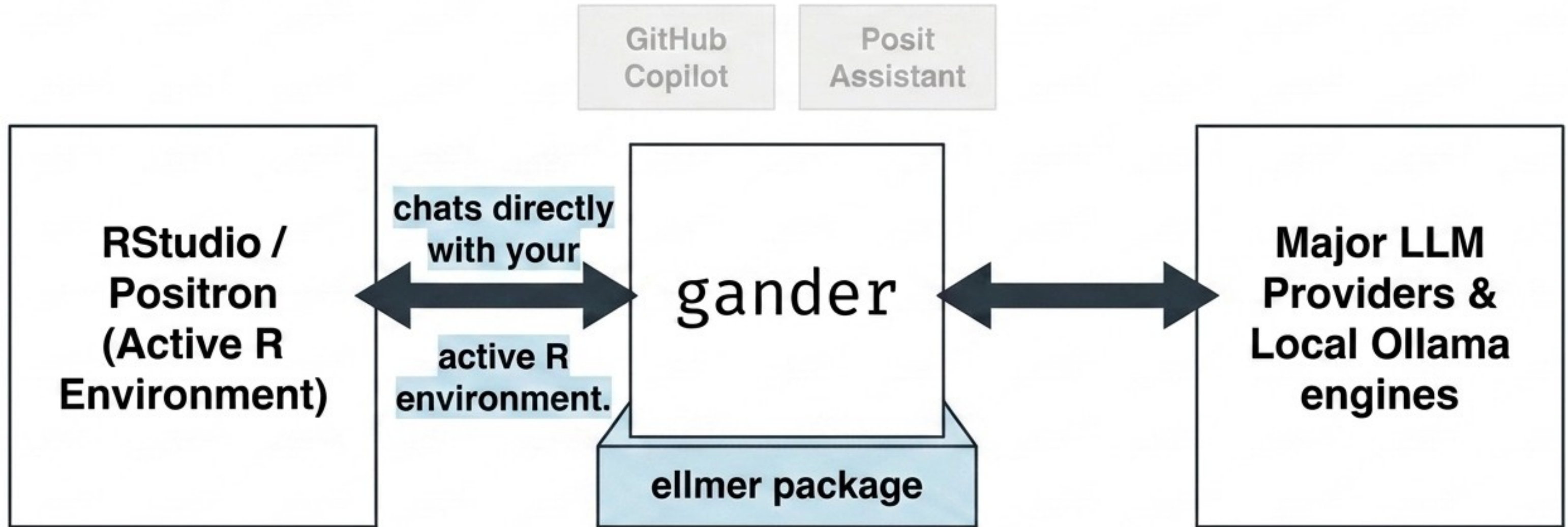


Grinding • Rigid Rules •
Mechanical Syntax



**Relaxed • Intuitive •
Building Software by Feel**

Vibe coding in R



A streamlined vibe coding tool seamlessly integrating active workspaces with major language models.



simonpcouch.github.io/gander/

Context-Aware Chat

Knows your workspace, variables, and active scripts.

Code Generation

Drafts, modifies, and explains R code dynamically.

Seamless IDE Integration

Built natively for the RStudio and Positron workflows.

Using gander

Install gander

RStudio

Navigate to:
Tools > Modify Keyboard Shortcuts >
Search "gander"

Ctrl+Alt+G (or Ctrl+Cmd+G on macOS)

Positron

1. Open the command palette.
2. Run "Open Keyboard Shortcuts (JSON)".
3. Paste the gander keybindings into `keybindings.json`.

Workflow: Highlight your R object → Press Shortcut → Prompt what you want to do with it.

Using gander

Configure model with ellmer

Set Chat Model

`gander` uses `ellmer` to power its AI addin. Set `gander.chat` to any model supported by `ellmer` (Claude, GPT-4, Gemini, Ollama, etc.).

```
options(gander.chat = ellmer::chat_claude(model = "claude-sonnet-4-6"))
```

Make Setup Permanent

1. Open your R profile file:
Run `usethis::edit_r_profile()`
2. Paste the `options(gander.chat = ...)` code.
3. Save the file to automatically set up the model every time you start R.

Prerequisite: Ensure your API key (e.g. `ANTHROPIC_API_KEY`) is configured in your R environment.

**Time for practical
session, go to**

wnarifin.github.io/workshop.html