

RRII: Recent R Items of Interest

Ryan Benz • OC RUG • June 27, 2017

The R Community Used to be a Bit Salty...

R-help mailing list to use cage-fighting to resolve conflicts

Posted on [February 5, 2014](#) by [jovialscientist](#)

The [R-help mailing list](#) is to adopt cage-fighting as its preferred method of conflict resolution, a source has revealed.

The R-help mailing list is one of the most psychologically violent environments on the planet, and UN peacekeepers have been patrolling the list since 2007. It is most commonly used by a dedicated bunch of psychopaths to find potential victims, and occasionally provide advice on statistics. Users are subjected to a wide range of passive and actual aggression until they eventually succumb and read the [tortuous documentation](#).

“Cage-fighting is one of the most violent sports on the planet” said *The Rock*, former wrestler and founder of R-help. “Therefore it makes sense for us to use this extreme sport as a means of resolving conflict. I know quite a few people who are looking forward to going bare-knuckle with some of the other moderators on there”.

The [R statistics package](#) is a free software tool designed by sadistic psychology professors to find the exact point at which PhD students’ minds collapse under stress. It is so difficult to master that the authors of the software had to invent a super-intelligent robot, Hadley Wickham, to understand exactly how the loose collection of poorly defined functions actually worked.

... But Not So Much Now

- Companies like R Studio and Revolution Analytics (now Microsoft) have helped to create a great R community
 - Software & tools
 - Support for R Users Groups
 - Actively working with new users, diverse groups
- More R users of all types means a wider range of experiences, view points and perspectives
- An active community means continued interested & development in R

Ways to Follow the R Community

- R Bloggers — <https://www.r-bloggers.com>
- R Weekly — <https://rweekly.org>
- RStudio Blogs
 - R Views — <https://rviews.rstudio.com>
look for posts by Joseph Rickert
 - Developer Blog — <https://blog.rstudio.org>

R in Minecraft!!



Two R Packages

miner <https://github.com/ropenscilabs/miner>

craft <https://github.com/ROpenSciLabs/craft>

And A Book

R Programming with Minecraft

https://ropenscilabs.github.io/miner_book/index.html

<http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2017/06/teach-kids-about-r-with-minecraft.html>

Blog Post on Reproducible Research

- Recent post on Appsilon Data Science blog
- Discusses different levels of reproducibility
 - R session level
 - OS level

<http://blog.appsilondatascience.com/rstats/2017/03/28/reproducible-research-when-your-results-cant-be-reproduced.html>

Deep Learning in R with Keras

- Deep learning with R has been somewhat limited
- However, this is starting to change
- New R interface for Keras provides a high-level interface for doing deep learning computations.
- Uses TensorFlow, streamlines installation process

<https://rstudio.github.io/keras/>

Dplyr 0.7.0 Update

- Two new datasets: starwars & storms
- Better support for databases (more coming)
- New verb, *pull*
- *case_when* can be used inside mutate (no more nested if_else!)
- Tidy evaluation & programming with dplyr
- ... lots of other things

<https://blog.rstudio.org/2017/06/13/dplyr-0-7-0/>

<https://www.rstudio.com/resources/webinars/whats-new-in-dplyr-0-7-0/>

<http://dplyr.tidyverse.org/articles/programming.html>

Live Example Time

dplyr 0.7.0 examples