Professor Dianne Cook
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May 13, 2022

Dear Prof. Dianne Cook,

We would like to thank you for having taken the time to lead the reviewing process for our manuscript entitled "R-miss-tastic: a unified platform for missing values methods and workflows". We would like thank again both referees for their suggestions throughout their major and minor comments. We appreciated very much your detailed reading and critical questioning of our work. The remarks and questions of the referees allowed us to improve the manuscript. In our response to the referees (separate document) we have listed and commented the changes that we made according to their questions and recommendations.

In summary, the main changes to the manuscript consist in the following points:

- Clarification of the structure of the manuscript, by removing/changing duplicate section titles, reformulating cross-references between sections, marking the appendix more explicitly as such.

- Improvement of figures for better readability and with clearer references in the text.

- Grammatical and linguistic amendments, cut sentences and paragraphs to allow for a fluent reading (with the help of a native English speaker).

- Addition of function code in the appendix to help understanding of the workflow section and to reproduce all the results reported in the manuscript (all source code is also available on the R-miss-tastic platform).

We would like to comment on referee 2's remark of a suitable venue for presenting the platform: We can partly understand referee 2's concerns. However, we remain convinced that this type of presentation in the form of a published article is the best way to value and showcase the work that has been put into this platform and the results of this project. For example, describing the structure of the workflows reflects how this contribution was created and can help in the development of new workflows. The goal of this platform is to provide a perennial form of hub and entry point for missing data problems. We would like to stress that this work is not a closed chapter but that the work on this platform is ongoing as we regularly update it with recent developments in the field and add new content such as additional workflows to answer various, often practical, needs reported to us by users.

The development of these workflows was a long process led by the authors of this manuscript and assisted by collaborators who are all experts on missing values problems. All collaborators on these workflows and on the platform as a whole have spent many hours on contributing and developing material because they are all convinced that sharing self-guiding theoretical and practical tutorials lowers the threshold for new users to address missing values in a consistent and suitable way and to gain more insight into the different existing solutions which often exist in different areas but without resources that draw a bigger picture.

In addition, we have already received feedback from several sources (after conference and seminar presentations where we presented this platform, or through our public github repository) that this platform has been well used for research and teaching purposes. In other research fields such biology, it is common to describe the development and provision of a resource website in an article, such as `https://www.nature.com/articles/ng.2653`, `https://dx.doi.org/10.1093%2Fnar%2Fgkx1081`. In order to enable uniform way of referencing and promoting among a wide audience this project and sub-projects such as the workflows, we would be grateful if our manuscript got accepted for publication in the R Journal.

Finally, we would like to note that referee 2 has expressed that the manuscript is of good quality and a contribution on this topic is indeed needed by the community. The main concern of referee 2 seems to be the format of presentation of this work.

We hope that the amendments in the manuscript as well as our responses to the referees' comments address their and your concerns and will convince you of the relevance and quality of our submitted manuscript. We are looking forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Imke Mayer and Aude Sportisse for the authors