This post is kept (literally) minimal to demonstrate how simple is this hack using R (of course could be simple in other languages too). This is also to establish a point that R has got use-cases beyond statistics and data-mining.

**Objective**

rstats subreddit is one of the popular sources of R-related information / discussion on the internet. We’re trying to extract the top posts of rstats subreddit.

**Data Format**

Lucky for us, Reddit offers a json file for every subreddit and we’ll use that here.

subreddit url: "<https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/>"

subreddit json: "<https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/.json>"

**jsonlite @ Action**

The package that will help us in this endeavor is jsonlite (by **Jeroen Ooms** and Team) for parsing json files and feeds. It’s got a sweet function that fromJSON() that parses a json file and stores the result in a list object. Ultimately, we can find the required information – title, url of the subreddit in there.

library(jsonlite)

reddit <- fromJSON("<https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/.json>")

(top10 <- reddit$data$children$data[1:10,c("title","url")])

## title

## 1 Beginners Cookbook for Interactive Visualization in R with highcharter

## 2 Chaos game animation

## 3 Knitting an R Notebook to pdf- how do you wrap r code so it doesn't overflow across the page?

## 4 Taking a basic college stat class that does a lot of its work in R this fall... what would be a good way to learn/prepare myself going in with no experience?

## 5 Dealing with February heatmap, and 2 value heatmaps

## 6 Logging into your Rstudio Environment from Any Browser: Amazing

## 7 Creating a figure showing ratios on a line?

## 8 Using expressions in cowplot plot\_grid labels?

## 9 help needed with r -integration package with SPSS

## 10 Significance test in R

## url

## 1 <https://www.programmingwithr.com/beginners-cookbook-for-interactive-visualization-in-r-with-highcharter/>

## 2 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cn4ym1/chaos_game_animation/>

## 3 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cn6pok/knitting_an_r_notebook_to_pdf_how_do_you_wrap_r/>

## 4 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmuy42/taking_a_basic_college_stat_class_that_does_a_lot/>

## 5 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmylmk/dealing_with_february_heatmap_and_2_value_heatmaps/>

## 6 <https://jagg19.github.io/2019/08/aws-r/>

## 7 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmsqkr/creating_a_figure_showing_ratios_on_a_line/>

## 8 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmsvc0/using_expressions_in_cowplot_plot_grid_labels/>

## 9 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmtruo/help_needed_with_r_integration_package_with_spss/>

## 10 <https://www.reddit.com/r/rstats/comments/cmx3v0/significance_test_in_r/>

**3-lines**

* Load the library
* Retrieve and Parse the json file
* Extract the relevant information for the list object

**Summary**

This post while is primarily intended to demonstrate the simplicity of R and jsonlite for json parsing, it can also be used to automate such a script to email or send notification about top 10 rstats subreddit post at a scheduled interval.