

September 11, 2024

Editor
The R Journal

Dear Dr Mark van der Loo,

Please consider our article titled “Teaching Computers to See Patterns in Scatterplots with Scagnostics” for publication in the R Journal.

The manuscript introduces the new package called **cassowaryr** which provides a user-friendly method to calculate scagnostics in R and examples that illustrate how these scagnostics can be used to explore data. Scagnostics are a set of metrics that describe the shapes in scatter plots, and can be useful as a dimension reduction technique. This package calculates the scagnostics in R, which makes the package more accessible compared to previous scagnostics packages that are simply wrappers for C++ code.

We believe the readers of the R Journal will find this article helpful because scanogstics are commonly used in data analysis, and are required for other popular packages such as **tourr** and **ggobi**. This paper provides details on an actively maintained scagnostics package and highlights potential pitfalls that should be avoided when using them.

Regards,

Harriet Mason
Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics
University of Monash
Clayton, VIC, Australia
harriet.mason1@monash.edu

Dianne Cook Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics
University of Monash
Clayton, VIC, Australia
dicook@monash.edu

Ursula Laa Institute of Statistics University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna.
Vienna, Austria ursula.laa@boku.ac.at

Stuart Lee
stuart.andrew.lee@gmail.com