

August 21, 2025

Editor
The R Journal

Dear Professor Hyndman,

Please consider our article titled “blocking: An R Package for Blocking of Records for Record Linkage and Deduplication” for publication in the R Journal.

The manuscript introduces the new package called **blocking** and the goal is to provide blocking methods for record linkage and deduplication using approximate nearest neighbour (ANN) algorithms and graph techniques. It supports multiple ANN implementations via ‘rnndescent’, ‘RcppHNSW’, ‘RcppAnnoy’, and ‘mlpack’ packages, and provides integration with the ‘reclin2’ package. The package generates shingles from character strings and similarity vectors for record comparison, and includes evaluation metrics for assessing blocking performance including false positive rate (FPR) and false negative rate (FNR) estimates.

We believe the readers of the R Journal will find this article helpful for their work because it provides generally useful instructions that will work for many purposes.

Regards,

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NOTES: Modify this file with information about your article.

1. It may be invisible to you, so be aware that after each address line there are two spaces, this makes the line break correctly.
2. It is also reasonable to submit an .md format of your motivating letter instead of a pdf.