This is an example of a reproducible document that contains code that is dynamically evaluated to create the content such as an R plot or a numerical summary. The idea is that we create our Word/OpenOffice document by writing text and then putting the code in as we would type it in R. The only difference is that we must use a particular style for representing the code in the document. This allows us to find the code of that form and to evaluate it and replace it.

Let’s look at an example. Suppose we wanted to put a plot into the document. We might have something like:

plot(density(rnorm(10000)))

We have used the Rplot style for this paragraph. Now let’s suppose we wanted to have a simple frequency table appear as the result of an R command. We would use the Rcode style:

data(mtcars)  
table(mtcars$cyl)

Now, when we save this file, we can read it back into R and identify the nodes of interest and then process the code within those and generate and insert it back into the document. Then we can render that.