**Week 8 Discussion**

You have now learned the basics for R and Python. Of the two languages which do you think is more robust? Why? Which do you think is easier to use? Why? Which professions in the data science and analytics industry do you think would benefit from either language? Your answer should be a minimum of three paragraphs. Please cite all sources. Respond to three other student’s posts.

I think for statistical analysis R is the better choice. I appreciate the vectorized operations implicit in the R functions. As I wrote for and if loops to perform similar calculations in python, I missed the simplicity of these operations in R. We have also seen many functions in R that specifically created for statistics. I found Ray’s statement, that R “represents the way statisticians think pretty well, so anyone with a formal statistics background can use R easily,”[[1]](#endnote-1) to be good way to think about R and who uses it.

Python seems to be able to do so much more, though not everything as easily, though, admittedly, I have not learned all functions in Python. I have found writing more loops to do work. Alternatively, I have see how much more power hashmaps/dictionaries have in Python. I have used them to great advantage to the efficiency of these in Python, verses in R. Ray says that machine learning and deeper software applications are better in R. He further states that the libraries “Numpy, Pandas, Scipy, Scikit-learn, and Seaborn” can do almost any statisctial analysis as in R.

Kopf, quotes Chris Groskopf, who says “(i)n a nutshell, he says, Python is better for for data manipulation and repeated tasks, while R is good for ad hoc analysis and exploring datasets.”[[2]](#endnote-2) So if we consider different industries and jobs, the language will probably be based on the job duties. Jobs such as machine learning engineer, or a data science job in which we need a reproducible code you would want to use Python. Whereas a singular deep, statistical dives would be better suited to R.

1. https://stoodnt.com/blog/r-vs-python-metareview-usability-popularity-pros-cons-jobs-salaries/ [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. https://qz.com/1063071/the-great-r-versus-python-for-data-science-debate [↑](#endnote-ref-2)