The Compatibility Challenge: Examining R and Developing TERR

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My group has been working for several years to develop TIBCO® Enterprise Runtime for R (TERR) [1], a new R-compatible engine. We wanted the TERR software to be completely independent of the open-source R engine, so we redesigned and rebuilt the engine from scratch. However, we also wanted TERR to be compatible with R so that we could load and execute existing R software from CRAN and other repositories.

This talk will discuss the challenges we encountered trying to make TERR compatible with R. In order to duplicate the functionality of R, we closely examined its behavior, exposing some interesting features that may not be evident to most users. For some features, we took a different implementation approach than R, though the result was still compatible. In other cases, we deliberately chose not to make TERR 100% compatible.

References

[1] TIBCO (2014). TIBCO Enterprise Runtime for R, http://spotfire.tibco.com/terr/.