SeekR: A Search Engine for R users

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For most people using the statistical computing environment R, it is difficult to search for information about the search engine R, since R is a single letter. The website **Rseek** [1] provides a solution to this problem. **Rseek** is a search engine that only provides results whose content is related to R, and it does so by using Google Custom Search [2]. In order to configure Google Custom Search, a search engine administrator registers the URLs of website to be searched. **Rseek** brings up R-related websites, which are principally written in English.

In July 2009 I launched a search engine named "SeekR" [3] which brings up Japanese R-related websites, for Japanese users of R. Basically, SeekR is a Japanese version of Rseek, but it has some additional user-friendly features. One of these features is a Web browser add-on, which allows users to add an option in right-click menu for redirecting the SeekR search results page. This Add-on is available for Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome. In addition, SeekR is compatible with OpenSearch, a standard format for search engines. OpenSearch allows users to add a standard search engine on many Web browsers. Another feature of SeekR is speech input. SeekR has speech input feature: with HTML5 speech input technology, users can input a search query simply by speaking aloud. It is available for Web browsers support speech input feature, such as the latest version of Google Chrome.

In March 2014, I launched a Chinese version of **SeekR** [4] which allow users to switch between simplified Chinese and traditional Chinese. This version brings up search results for Websites whose R-related content is written in Chinese. This version of **SeekR** is still being improved, in order to make the R Ecosystem [5] more productive and user-friendly.

References

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