Blogging about R

Tal Galili

This talk is a basic introduction to blogs: why to blog, how to blog, and the importance of the R blogosphere to the R community.

Because R is an open-source project, the R community members rely (mostly) on each other's help for statistical guidance, generating useful code, and general moral support.

Current online tools available for us to help each other include the R mailing lists, the community R-wiki, and the R blogosphere. The emerging R blogosphere is the only source, besides the R journal, that provides our community with articles about R. While these articles are <u>not</u> peer reviewed, they do come in higher volume (and often are of very high quality).

According to the meta-blog **www.R-bloggers.com,** the (English) R blogosphere has produced, in January 2010, about 115 "articles" about R. There are (currently) a bit over 50 bloggers who write about R, with about 1000 subscribers who read them daily (through e-mails or RSS). These numbers allow me to believe that there is a genuine interest in our community for more people - perhaps you? - to start (and continue) blogging about R.

In this talk I intend to share knowledge about blogging so that more people are able to participate (freely) in the R blogosphere - both as readers and as writers. The talk will have three main parts:
1) **What is a blog**
2) **How to blog** – using the (free) blogging service **WordPress.com** (with specific emphasis on R)
3) **How to develop readership** - integration with other social media/networks platforms, SEO, and other best practices

Also, my intention is to tailor the talk according to audience needs. If you are considering attending the talk, please e-mail me at **tal.galili@gmail.com** (with the subject line "blogging about R") so that I can receive your feedback through a short survey and also send you an update with the final talk outline.

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Tal Galili founded www.R-bloggers.com and blogs on www.R-statistics.com