

A new task-based GUI for R

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One of Revolution Analytics' main goals is to make data analysis done in *R* accessible to a wider community of people. To that end, we have designed a graphical user interface for *R*.

Last year at useR!, I presented¹ the design methodology used to develop a GUI for *R*. This year, I will follow up on that theme by discussing some of the issues discovered during usability testing at various stages in the development. A demo of the soon-to-be released product will show how these issues were addressed, including:

- A task-based interface with an easy way to browse through the dialogs to find the task you want to perform.
- Task dialogs to allow users to generate and run R code. This can be done without ever seeing the code, although a user may click a button to reveal the code at any time.
- Script editor to write code that does not have a corresponding dialog.
- Workspace explorer to help you to learn more about your data as well as make it easy to drop variables into a task or into code written in the script editor.
- Output and history also organized by the tasks.

References

1. Gilley (2010). Designing a flexible GUI for R.
<http://user2010.org/abstracts/Gilley.pdf>.