

# The R Ecosystem

David M Smith<sup>1,\*</sup>

1. VP Marketing and Community, Revolution Analytics

\*Contact author: [david@revolutionanalytics](mailto:david@revolutionanalytics)

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In the last couple of years, and especially since the New York Times feature article about  $R^1$ , I have observed a dramatic shift in the perceptions of R. Long gone are the days when it was regarded as a “niche” statistical computing tool mainly used for research and teaching. Today,  $R$  is viewed as a critical component of any data scientist’s toolbox, and has been adopted as a layer of the analytics infrastructure at many organizations. As a result, a broad ecosystem has sprung up around open-source R. In this talk, I’ll share my observations on this evolving ecosystem, including:

- Estimates of the number of R users
- The R Community: people sharing R software and experiences
- How R is being used in academia and in industry
- R’s role in the Data Science movement
- How R is bringing modern Statistics to business applications

The talk will conclude with some thoughts on what the future holds for R’s role in the worlds of statistics, data science, and business.

## References

Vance, Ashlee (2009). “Data Analysts Captivated by R’s Power”. The New York Times, January 6 2009.