

useR 2009 Rennes



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Main Areas of Discussion

- High performance computing
- Visualization and graphics
- Workflows and office integration
- Statistics
- R for specialised subjects, e.g. genomics

Initial Thoughts

- Large academic turnout
- As a result, a large number of technical and specialised talks
- Key developments or improvements to existing packages, e.g. iplots, RExcel
- Large concentration in life sciences

RExcel

- Well known interface
- Easy data manipulation and visualisation
- Integration into daily working environment
- Interactivity and R graphics in Excel

ggplot2

- Based on “The Grammar of Graphics” by Leland Wilkinson
- Good parts of base and lattice but none of the bad parts e.g. fiddly legend drawing
- Construct a plot layer by layer
- Powerful but simple and intuitive

bigmemory

- Multi-gigabyte data sets challenge and frustrate R users
- `bigmemory` provides support for implementing massive matrices
- Can be allocated to shared memory
- File-backing for easier management of data sets larger than available RAM

bigmemory

- Consistently outperforms the `ff` package and `RSQLite`
- A `bigmatrix` is like a matrix, e.g. `colmean`, `colmax`
- `mwhich` is a fast no-overhead “multi-which” and also works for normal matrices with no additional overhead
- `bigalgebra` in development

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