

Re: R versus Fortran?

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From: optionstraderjeff (jeffkatz_at_scientific-consultants.com)

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Hi,

I would never consider giving up Fortran and C/C++! I phrased the question as "R versus Fortran" because I am already familiar with Fortran and wanted to know the contrasting strengths of the two languages/environments. You've done a great job of answering that question. The graphics capability sounds really interesting. I just downloaded R together with a tar'd library of R subroutines from one of the "Cran" sites. I also downloaded the new G95 Fortran compiler; currently I use g77, which I like.

Thanks.

Jeffrey Owen Katz, Ph.D.

Graham Jones wrote:

> In article <1109412092.328082.165490@z14g2000cwz.googlegroups.com>,
> optionstraderjeff <jeffkatz@scientific-consultants.com> writes
> >Hi,
> >
> >I have always done my statistical analyses in good old Fortran. As
> a
> >result, I have acquired/developed a large library of routines.
> >However, I am considering learning "R" since it appears to be a very
> >popular environment/language for statistics, and there there are
> many
> >useful subroutines available, e.g., for polychoric correlations,
> that
> >are harder to find in the current Fortran world. What can I expect
> >from R. Is it worth learning? Can you easily link in Fortran or C
> >subroutines?
> >
> >I do a lot of work with time series, neural networks, wavelets,
> factor
> >analysis & correlational statistics.
> >
> >Jeffrey Owen Katz, Ph.D.
> >

sci.stat.math: Re: R versus Fortran?

- >
- > *I've used C for many years, mainly for pattern recognition. I've started*
- > *using R, and certainly found it worth learning. You should probably be*
- > *thinking `R and Fortran', not `R vs Fortran'. R is an interpreted*
- > *language, with the convenience and slowness that implies. It is also*
- > *`vectorised' and linear algebra is usually convenient and fast.*
- >
- > *Calling Fortran or C routines from R is very common, and I found it easy*
- > *– I won't promise you'll find it easy because that might depend on your*
- > *OS and your compiler, and I'm no expert on this aspect of R. (I've*
- > *mostly communicated between C and R using files, to do big operations.)*
- > *It is also possible to call R functions from other languages, but I've*
- > *never tried that.*
- >
- > *For me, the graphics facilities in R are a major attraction. It is hard*
- > *to beat an interpreted language when tweaking a graph, and can you*
- > *export graphics as postscript or bitmaps.*
- >
- >
- > *--*
- > *Graham Jones*
- > *<http://www.visiv.co.uk>*
- > *Emails to graham@visiv.co.uk may be deleted as spam*
- > *Please add a j just before the @ to ensure delivery*