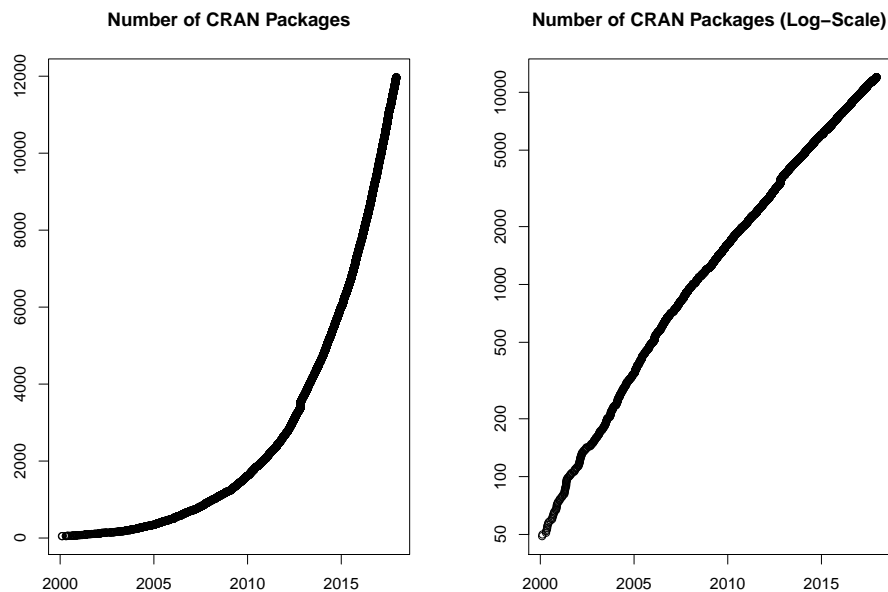# Changes on CRAN

2017-06-01 to 2017-11-30

by Kurt Hornik, Uwe Ligges and Achim Zeileis

In the past 6 months, 1244 new packages were added to the CRAN package repository. 19 packages were unarchived, 55 archived and 3 removed. The following shows the growth of the number of active packages in the CRAN package repository:

Number of CRAN Packages **Number of CRAN Packages (Log–Scale)**

On 2017-11-30, the number of active packages was around 11875.

Changes in the CRAN checks

The package check pages now also show issues found by checks of corruption of constants (provided by Tomáš Kalibera).

Changes in the CRAN submission pipeline

Package maintainers who submitted packages this year found the automated submission system accepted or rejected some packages automatically while other packages went into a manual inspection queue. The number of false positives that led to wrong rejections has been reduced. Given the system is pretty stable now, we will go a step further and also auto-accept packages with reverse dependencies where the check status of all reverse dependencies checked is not worse than before. So far incoming checks in CRAN have been performed on a single platform (Linux or Windows) only. While (incoming) checks are improved all the time, we will shortly have both Linux and Windows systems analyzing packages before publishing automatically.

CRAN received 2087 package submissions in November 2017, i.e., around 70 submissions a day. Hence the CRAN team is no longer able to respond to individual help requests or be involved in lengthy discussions for exceptions. Please really use the corresponding mailing lists such as R-package-devel (see https://www.r-project.org/mail.html).

Changes in the CRAN Repository Policy

The Policy now says the following:

- CRAN packages should use only the public API. Hence they should not use entry points not declared as API in installed headers nor `.Internal()` nor `.Call()` etc. calls to base packages. Also, `:::` should not be used to access undocumented/internal objects in base packages (nor should other means of access be employed).

- Packages should not attempt to disable compiler diagnostics.

- All correspondence with CRAN must be sent to `CRAN-submissions@R-project.org` (not members of the team) and be in plain text ASCII (and not HTML).

    In addition, the Policy now also points to a new Checklist for CRAN submissions.

CRAN mirror security

Currently, there are 95 official CRAN mirrors, 58 of which (about 61%) provide both secure downloads via '`https`' *and* use secure mirroring from the CRAN master (via rsync through ssh tunnels). Since the R 3.4.0 release, `chooseCRANmirror()` offers these mirrors in preference to the others which are not fully secured (yet).

Hyperlinks in package DESCRIPTION files on CRAN

For package authors specified via an '`Authors@R`' field in the DESCRIPTION file, ORCID identifiers (see `https://orcid.org/` for more information) can be provided via elements named '`ORCID`' in the `comment` argument of the `person()` calls, e.g., `person("Achim","Zeileis",comment = c(ORCID = "0000-0003-0918-3766"))`. These identifiers will then be hyperlinked in the CRAN package web pages to the corresponding ORCID pages. See, e.g., the page for package **ctv**.

Windows binaries

Starting with R 3.4.3, Jeroen Ooms maintains the Windows base R binaries and the toolchain for building both R and contributed packages on Windows.

New packages in CRAN task views

Bayesian **openEBGM**, **tRophicPosition**.

ClinicalTrials **InformativeCensoring**, **Mediana**, **ThreeArmedTrials**, **clusterPower**, **crmPack**, **dfped**, **dfpk**, **ewoc**, **gsbDesign**.

DifferentialEquations **QPot**, **cOde**, **dMod**, **phaseR**, **rODE**, **rodeo**, **rpgm**.

Distributions **MittagLeffleR**, **coga**, **hyper2**.

Econometrics **OrthoPanels**, **dlsem**, **pder**, **wooldridge**, **zTree**.

ExperimentalDesign **DoE.MIParray**, **FMC**, **MBHdesign**, **PBIBD**, **bioOED**, **edesign**, **idefix**, **minimalRSD**, **odr**, **optbdmaeAT**, **optrcdmaeAT**, **rsurface**, **sFFLHD**, **skpr**[*], **soptdmaeA**, **unrepx**.

ExtremeValue **POT**.

FunctionalData **covsep**, **denseFLMM**, **freqdom.fda**, **ftsspec**.

HighPerformanceComputing **Sim.DiffProc**, **drake**, **parSim**.

MachineLearning **ICEbox**, **effects**, **ggRandomForests**, **pdp**, **plotmo**, **tensorflow**.

MetaAnalysis **CIAAWconsensus**, **ConfoundedMeta**, **MetaSubtract**, **RandMeta**, **TFisher**, **clubSandwich**, **effsize**, **forestmodel**, **getmstatistic**, **metaBMA**, **metacart**, **metaforest**, **nmaINLA**, **psychmeta**, **ratesci**, **rma.exact**.

NaturalLanguageProcessing **alineR**, **ore**, **rel**, **stm**, **stringdist**.

NumericalMathematics **PythonInR**, **SnakeCharmR**, **XR**, **XRJulia**, **XRPython**, **expint**, **feather**, **findpython**, **fourierin**, **interp**, **logOfGamma**, **reticulate**, **tripack**.

Optimization **ABCoptim**, **CVXR**, **ManifoldOptim**, **Rtnmin**, **SACOBRA**, **colf**, **coneproj**, **ecr**, **flacco**, **metaheuristicOpt**, **mize**, **n1qn1**, **ompr**, **optimr**, **optimsimplex**, **quadprogXT**, **sdpt3r**.

Pharmacokinetics **RxODE**.

Phylogenetics **treeplyr**.

Psychometrics **CTTShiny**, **EFAutilities**, **MIIVsem**, **PLmixed**, **dexter**, **umx**.

Spatial **spm**, **spsann**.

SpatioTemporal **FLightR**, **sf**, **sigloc**.

TimeSeries **dLagM**, **fpp2**, **freqdom**, **freqdom.fda**, **ftsa**, **funtimes**, **influxdbr**, **odpc**, **sweep**, **timetk**, **tscount**, **wktmo**.

WebTechnologies **gtrendsR**.

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