R on Different Platforms: The useRs' Point of View

Stefano Iacus Uwe Ligges Simon Urbanek

R is available and widely used on various platforms, most notably under the operating systems Linux, Mac OS, and Windows. In our talk we will focus on (surprising?) analogousness but also differences between these operating systems. We try to answer some of the useR's questions on her/his way to become a developer:

- Where is the graphical user interface?
- What is the "right" editor to use?
- What is the "right" way to install and manage packages?
- How can I write platform independent code?
- How can I build my own package on my platorm / for other platforms?
- Which features are platform specific?

We will present some answers and examples for these questions and point to the appropriate documentation. UseRs will see that installing packages on Windows is not mysterious, Linux is great to run R jobs with low priority in the background, and R for Mac OS X already runs smoothly on Intel based Macs.