

chem-bla-ics

A R GUI: rkward

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Abstract

The great thing about open source is that... it's open.

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The great thing about open source is that... it's open.

When I was browsing the internet just now, I dropped in on [KDE Dot News](#). In the rightside column, there is a feed of new KDE software from [KDE-apps.org](#). A new version of my favorite music player, [amarok](#), lured me to the KDE-apps website, where I saw [rkward](#) is latest announcement. The funny name, and the categorization as scientific, triggered some interest on my side, and it turned out to be a graphical frontend to my favorite statistics program, [R](#).

Ok, they had a [Debian](#) package, and the `debian/` build dir in the tar.gz so I downloaded it and started making a [Kubuntu 5.10 package](#). While doing this I saw some notice about the R syntax highlighting used, which conflicts with the older version in the Kate packages.

Then I realized that a long time ago, I wrote such syntax highlighting for Kate, so my attention was lured again. And, indeed, they use my syntax highlighting, though [extended later](#) (somewhere down the page).

And this makes me happy. The syntax highlighting was useful to me in the past, but apparently to a lot of other people too. And because I released it as GPL, back then, it now appears in [rkward](#)! Yes, a really like open source :)