R, SAS or Python: Let’s Compare!

Abstract

The global analytics industry is dynamic and the trends in the languages keep changing. There are attributes that help make the comparison easy. There are five attributes that I have chosen and used a scoring scale to rank the three languages. Across all the attributes the scoring for Python and R is higher when compared to Statistical Analysis System (SAS).

Introduction

The Analytics industry is booming and the top three tools that breathe life into this industry are – R, SAS and Python. Understanding the different levels in the industry and various types of professionals functioning at each level is necessary to decide which tool would be the best. The evolving roles of analytics professionals make the future of the analytics industry bright.

Research Methodology

The comparison is made through the perspective of a person who would like to enter the World of Analytics. The attributes for comparing these three tools are based on simple parameters. The Parameters chosen for comparison are:
1. Data Management
2. Level of Difficulty to learn
3. Graphical Capabilities
4. Big Data Applications
5. Cost-Efficient

Findings

1. Data Management - R and Python prove to be better at across every level in the analytics world.
2. Level of Difficulty to learn – Python is the easiest amongst the three.
3. Graphical Capabilities – R takes the lead here followed by Python.
4. Big Data Applications- Python takes the lead here followed by R.
5. Cost-Efficient- R and Python are both open-sourced software.

Conclusion

Presently, SAS is dominant and widely used across the industry. The use of R and Python are on the rise as new entrants in the market are changing the trend by choosing R and Python over SAS for several reasons and factors. Opportunities in the Market for Analytics Professionals are stronger for Python and R in the near future.