

Unlocking Innovation: The Role of New Starters in Bridging the Gap Between SAS and R

By Agota Bodoni, Eilis Meldrum-Dolan and Josh Carlton



Inspired by **patients.**
Driven by **science.**



The current landscape in pharmaceutical statistical programming

SAS is well-established

- A traditional statistical analysis software that has played a vital role in the pharmaceutical industry for decades
- It has been key for supporting data analysis, reporting, and decision-making processes

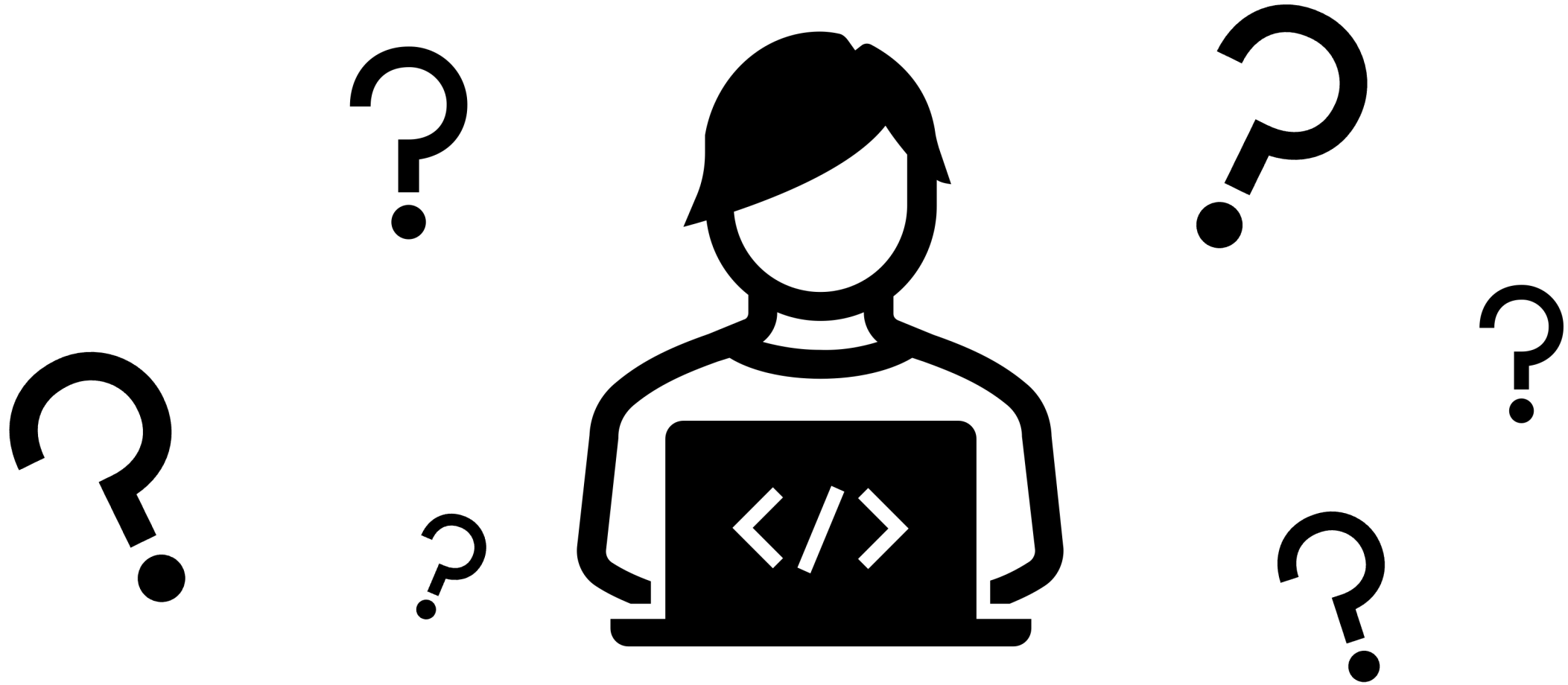


But R is gaining prominence

- An open-source programming language for statistical programming
- It is becoming a prominent choice in the pharmaceutical industry for data analysis, modelling, and visualisation



The evolving landscape of statistical programming: A challenge for SAS veterans



New starters can help with the uptake of R



- ☐ Familiarity with R from university
- ☐ Fresh knowledge
- ☐ Open-minded and can adapt to new ways of working
- ☐ Ask questions

Components of Innovation

Example: Paired Programming



Knowledge

University Programming Project

- ☐ Programming
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Communication



Collaboration

Working with SAS programmers

- ☐ Tables created in SAS
- ☐ Figures created in R



Learning

Demonstrating R Code

- ☐ Explaining
- ☐ Visualising

Example: Shiny App



Knowledge

- Group projects in University
- Time management
- Teamwork
- Planning
- Creating the basics of the shiny app and developing it each sprint



Collaboration

- 2/3-week sprints
- Feedback
- Daily meetings
- Retrospective
- Buddy system
- Parallel development



Learning

- Questions
- Encourage best practices
- Code review
- Refresh on fundamentals
- Team members transition from SAS to R

UCB in the Future



We have a team that specialise in R which new starters are joining



New member from a different team (primarily working with SAS) will join the R team for 3 months



Teaching others new skills to become language agnostic



Inspired by **patients.**
Driven by **science.**

UCB Team Name [XXXXXXX] - UCB - Approval [XX-XX-XXX] - Approval date [XX Month XXXX] ! GO TO INSERT>HEADER FOOTER to change.

New starters play a pivotal role in promoting the uptake of R



R is gaining prominence



New starters bring new innovative ideas, open-mindedness and the willingness to ask questions



Collaboration between new starters and experienced workers is the best way to foster innovation



Thank you. Any questions?

Feel free to contact us at:
agota.bodoni@ucb.com
eilis.meldrum-dolan@ucb.com
joshua.carlton@ucb.com



Inspired by **patients.**
Driven by **science.**

Proprietary and Confidential Property of UCB

