

Quick Comparison of JMP, R, and SAS

Note: All three are large, comprehensive and flexible programs. “None” in the table below should be interpreted as either the program doesn’t do this, OR it doesn’t do this yet OR it does it but PMD doesn’t know that.

	JMP	R	SAS
Availability at ISU	Site license	Free (open source)	Site license
Availability for personal PC or Mac	Download and install	Download and install	Free install while ISU-related or use Windows remote desktop
Availability after ISU	Only if provided by new workplace	Free (open source)	Only if provided by new workplace
User interface	Point-and-Click, does have scripting language	Write / run program, some add-on point-and-click libraries	Write / run program. SAS Studio and Enterprise Guide are point-and-click GUIs.
Ability to generate graphs for documents	Good, moderate amount of customization	Excellent, easily customizable	Better now, but not easy to customize
Interactive graphics	Plots and data table are linked	Good. Add-on libraries provide fully interactive graphics	None
Variety of methods	Large	Massive and growing daily	Huge
Strengths	Does what you probably need without distraction.	Regression, libraries provides advanced methods in many fields Code documents your analysis. RMarkdown.	Data management, ANOVA Code documents your analysis.
Weaknesses	Limited to methods already provided. Less documentation Can save script files to archive an analysis, but difficult to read.	Error message often cryptic. Almost no 'did you really want to do that' so can unwittingly do the wrong analysis.	Limited to methods already provided.