

R and S-PLUS: Similar but different?

Jeff Coombs, CEO, Insightful Corporation

S-PLUS and R both include implementations of the S language, originally developed by Bell Labs (Lucent Technologies) in the 1980's. While there are many similarities between S-PLUS and R, there are also a number of differences. Jeff Coombs, CEO of Insightful Corporation (makers of S-PLUS) will discuss the differences between S-PLUS and R in light of the varying origins, development models and uses of the two packages. Jeff will also discuss ways that developments in R are leading to changes in S-PLUS, and the impact the S language is having on the use of statistics in commercial environments. Jeff will outline alternative business models that combine open source and commercial software and explain the approach that Insightful is taking with S-PLUS and R.