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Because you work in a SAS shop, you may want to look into the possibilities for R/SAS integration. Then you may have the best of both worlds, commercial supported software and open-source flexibility:

http://support.sas.com/rnd/app/da/iml/Rintegration.html  
  
http://support.sas.com/rnd/app/studio/Rinterface2.html

Let us know what you find out. SAS/R integration could be a good topic for the Cafe discussion forum.