

# Reproducible Pharmacometrics

Using Reproducible Research methodologies to improve  
pharmacometric analyses

Justin J Wilkins    E Niclas Jonsson



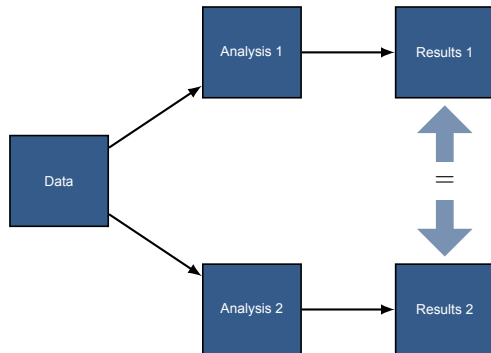
22<sup>nd</sup> PAGE meeting

11-14 June, 2013  
Glasgow, Scotland

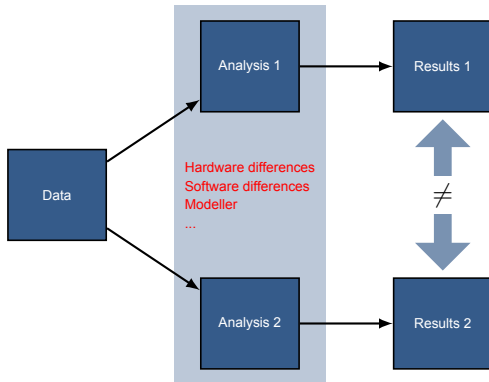
## The aim

- ▶ To show how the principles of Reproducible Research can be used to improve quality and efficiency of generating pharmacometric Results (slides, reports and manuscripts).
- ▶ To show how recent advances in open software support the implementation of Reproducible Research workflows in pharmacometric analyses.

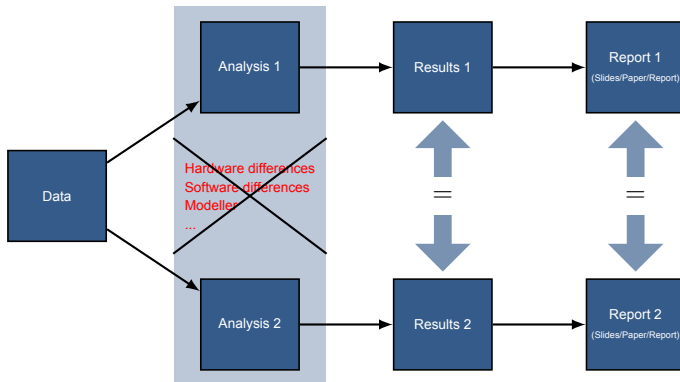
# Reproducibility and Reproducible Research



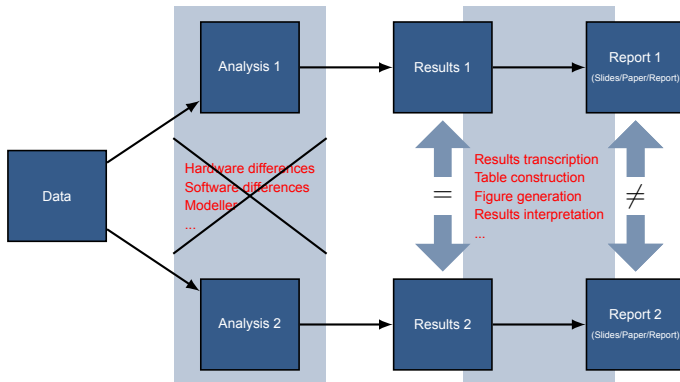
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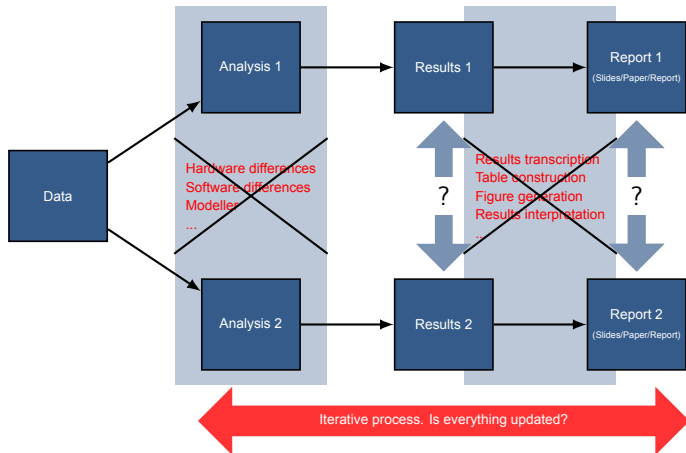
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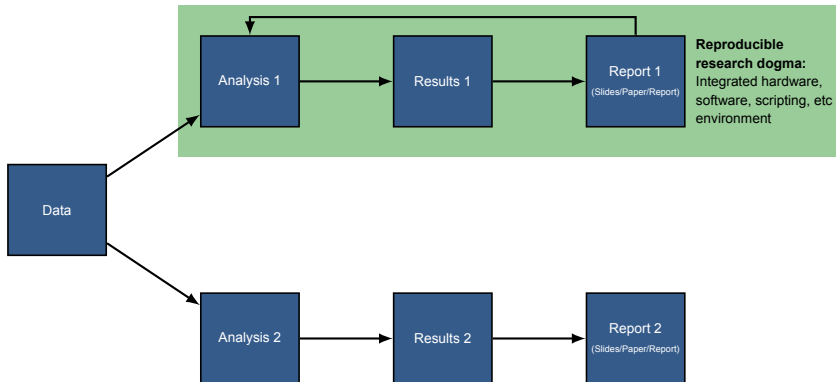
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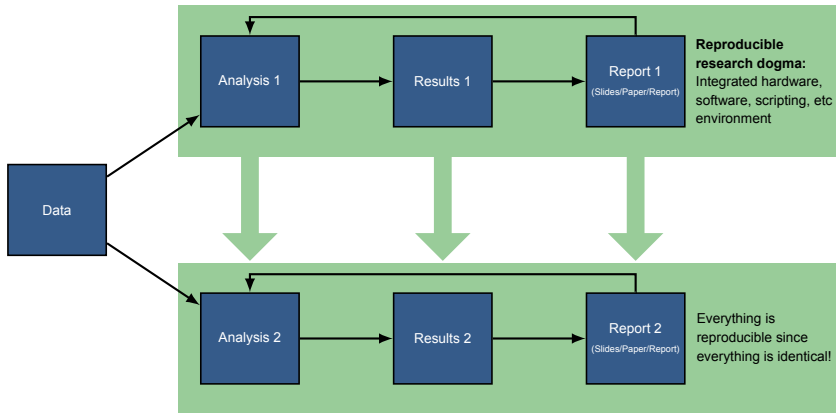


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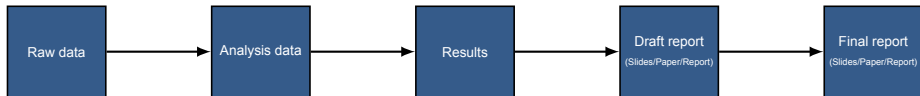




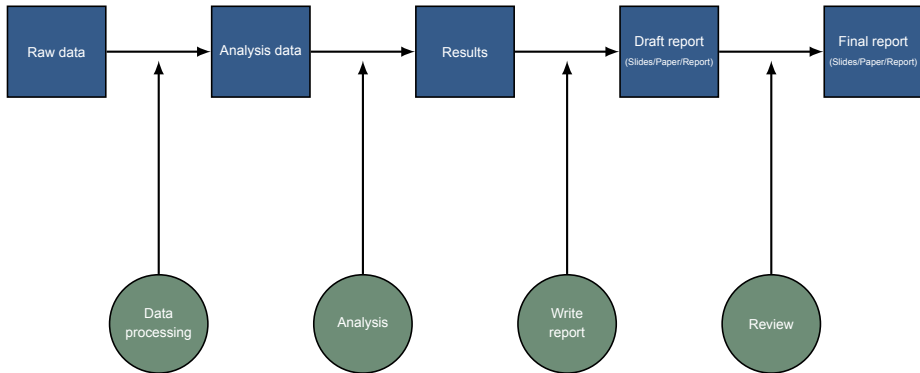
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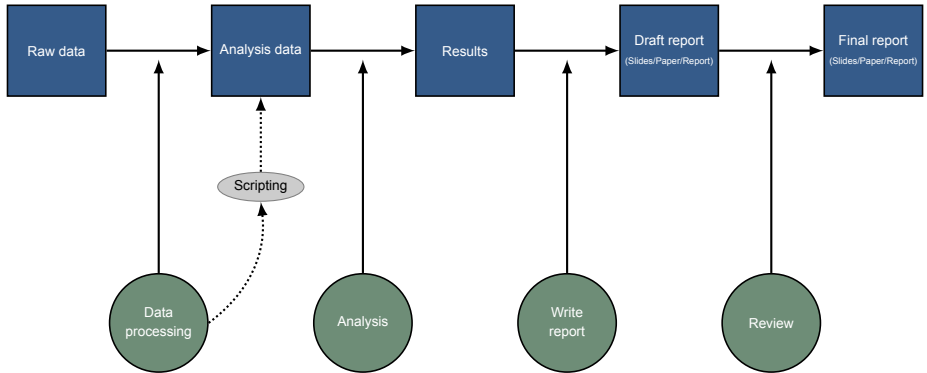
# Analysis and reporting workflow



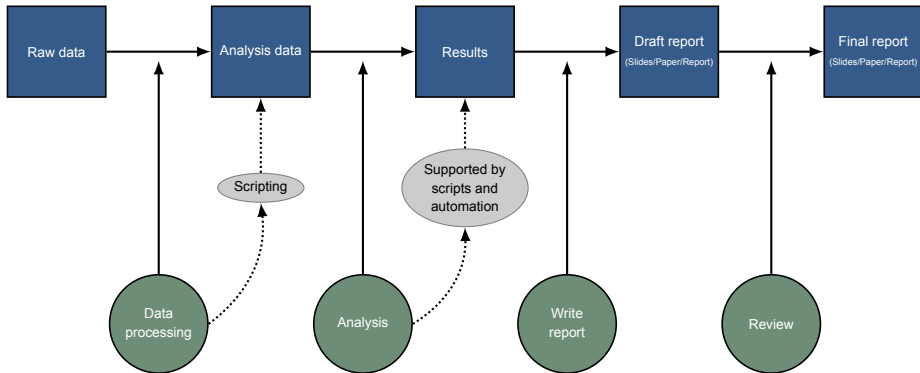
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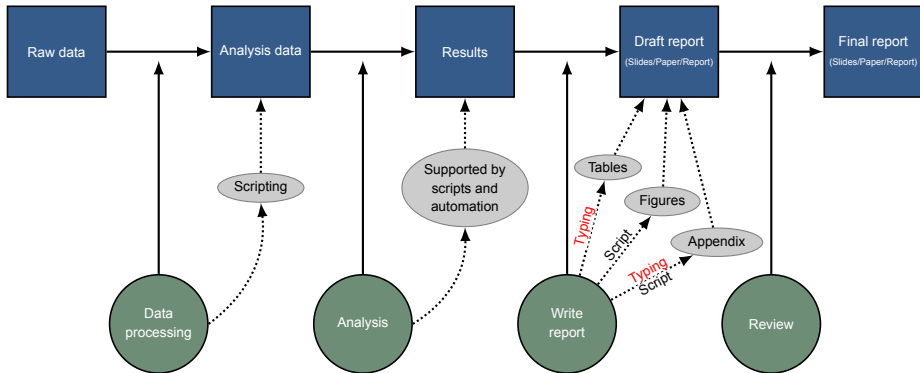
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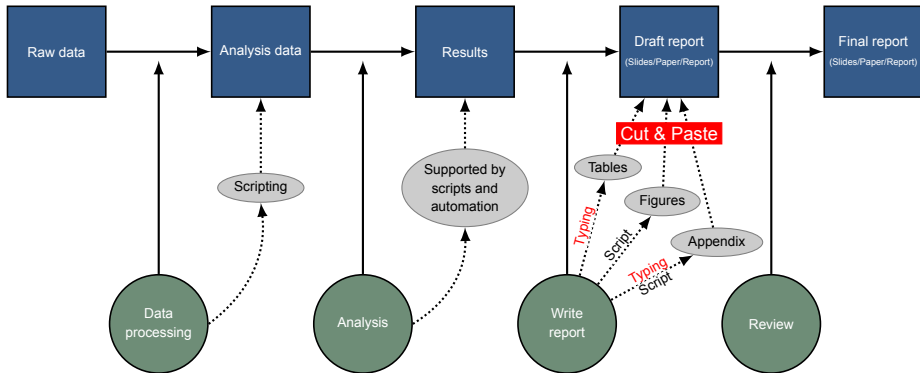
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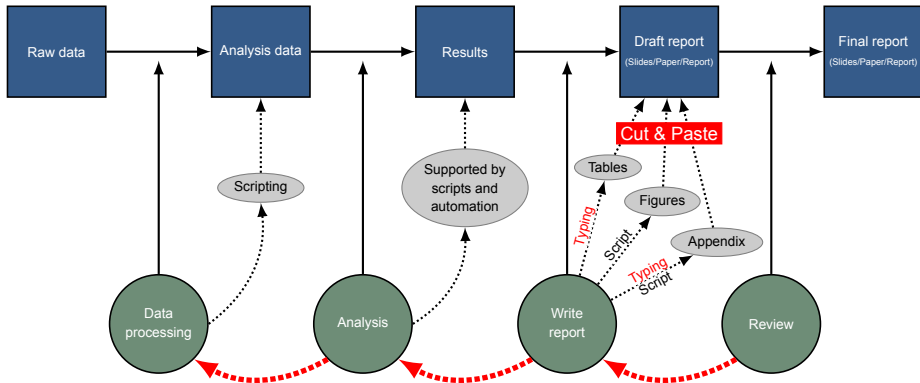
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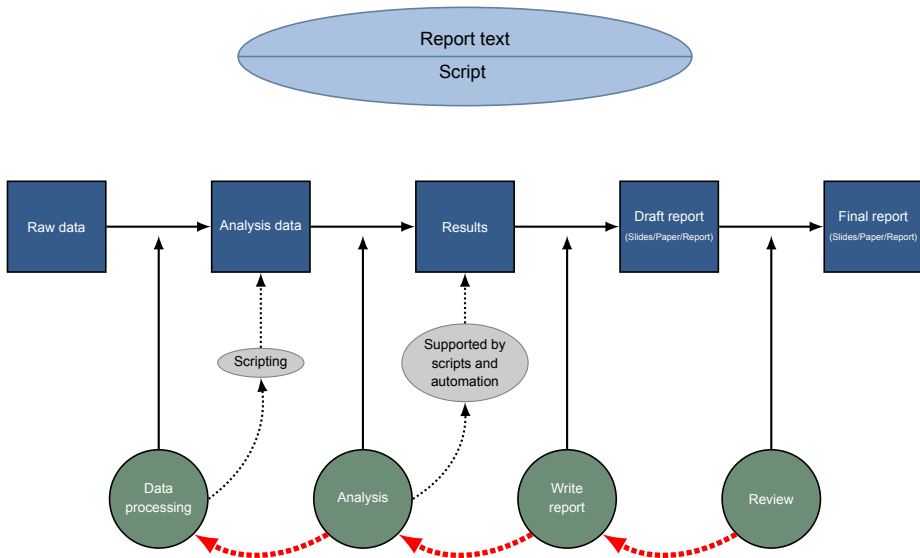


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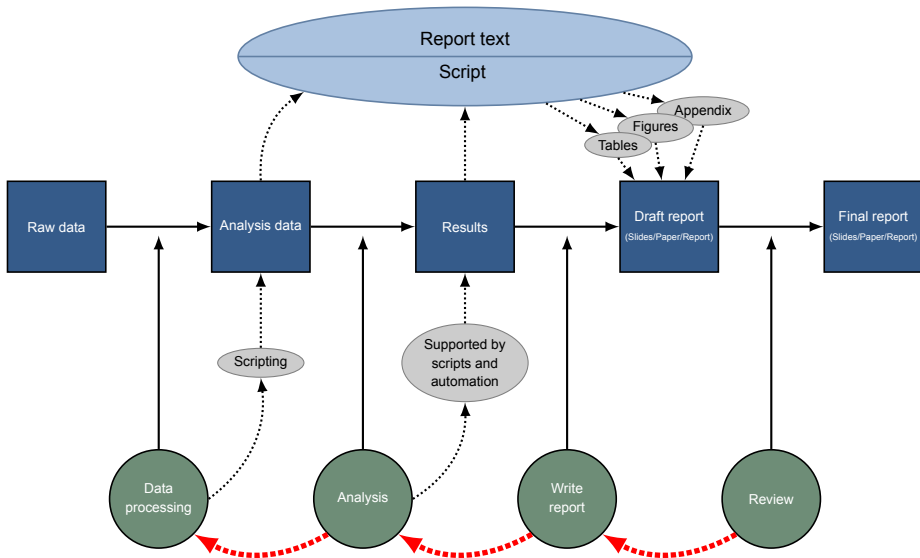




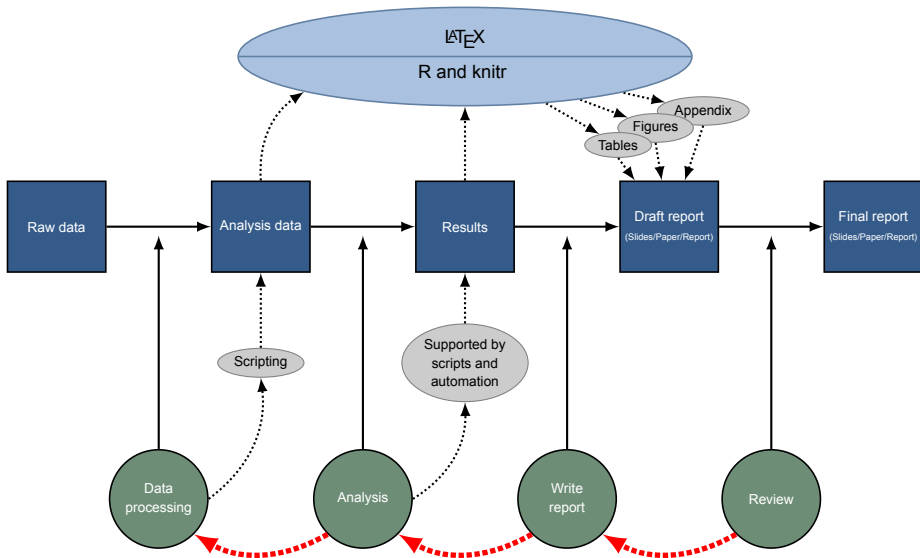
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# Software for Reproducible Research

- ▶ Proprietary / in house / platform or IT environment-specific software
  - ▶ Track record varies
  - ▶ Difficult to establish a common standard

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  - ▶ Difficult to establish a common standard
- ▶ L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X+ R + RStudio + knitr
  - ▶ Open source - available to everyone at no cost.
  - ▶ Not specific to pharmacometrics - leverages developments in other fields.
  - ▶ RStudio offers an integrated analysis and document preparation environment.

# LaTeX is a markup language

A LaTeX file (left) is plain text. After submitting it to LaTeX (`latex latexfile.tex`) the result is a PDF file (right).

```
\documentclass[a4paper]{article}
\usepackage{graphicx}

\title{Example of \LaTeX}
\author{E Niclas Jonsson \and Justin J Wilkins}

\begin{document}

\maketitle

\section{Introduction}
Add some text of introduction.

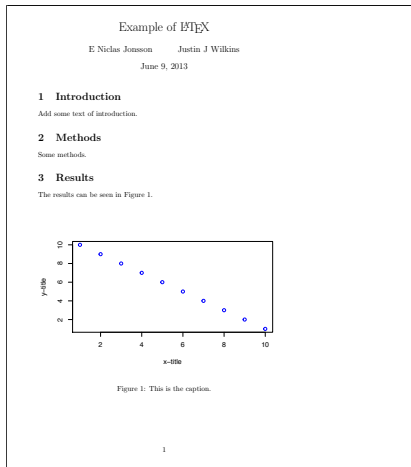
\section{Methods}
Some methods.

\section{Results}
The results can be seen in Figure-\ref{fig:results}.

\begin{figure}
\includegraphics{myPlot}

\caption{This is the caption.} \label{fig:results}
\end{figure}

\end{document}
```



# With **knitr**, it is possible to mix LaTeX and R code

The file is first sent to `knitr` in R, which generates a LaTeX file, which in turn is sent to LaTeX to generate the PDF.

```
\documentclass[a4paper]{article}
\usepackage{graphicx}

\title{Example of knitr and \LaTeX}
\author{E Niclas Jonsson \and Justin J Wilkins}

\begin{document}

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\section{Introduction}

Add some text of introduction.

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Some methods.

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The results can be seen in Figure-\ref{fig:results}.

\begin{figure}
<<myPlot,fig.width=6,fig.height=4>>=
plot(1:10,10:1,col="blue",xlab="x-title",ylab="y-title")
\caption{This is the caption.} \label{fig:results}
\end{figure}

\end{document}
```

Example of knitr and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

E Niclas Jonsson     Justin J Wilkins  
June 9, 2013

## 1 Introduction

Add some text of introduction.

## 2 Methods

Some methods.

## 3 Results

The results can be seen in Figure 1.

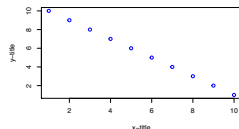
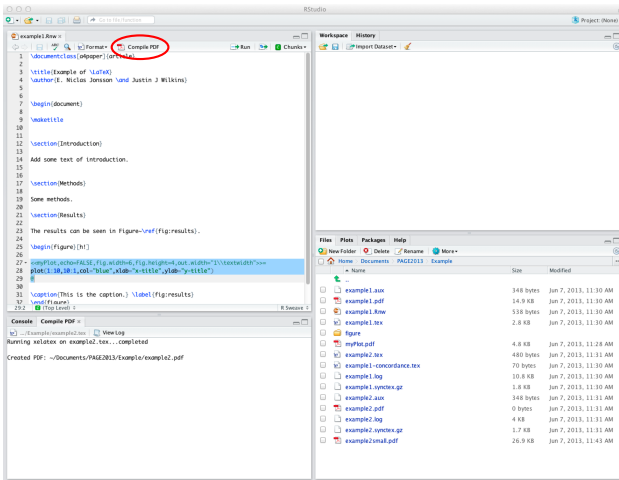


Figure 1: This is the caption.

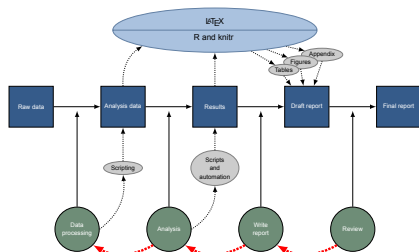
RStudio brings R, knitr and LaTeX together in a clean, integrated environment, with document generation at the push of a button





# Benefits of a Reproducible Research workflow in pharmacometrics

- ▶ Reproducibility(!)
- ▶ Documentation
- ▶ Efficiency
- ▶ Very template oriented
- ▶ Possibility to prepare reports before final data and models
- ▶ Very good for large complicated technical documents



## Drawbacks with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and knitr

- ▶ Steep learning curve
- ▶ Very template oriented
- ▶ Integration into existing IT environments
- ▶ Unfamiliar and archaic interface...

# A bit like this really

```
$PROB THEOPHYLLINE POPULATION DATA
$INPUT ID DOSE=AMT TIME CP=DV WT
$DATA THEOPP

$SUBROUTINES ADVAN2

$PK
;THETA(1)=MEAN ABSORPTION RATE CONSTANT (1/HR)
;THETA(2)=MEAN ELIMINATION RATE CONSTANT (1/HR)
;THETA(3)=SLOPE OF CLEARANCE VS WEIGHT RELATIONSHIP
;SCALING PARAMETER=VOLUME/WT SINCE DOSE IS WEIGHT-ADJUSTED
CALLFL=1
KA=THETA(1)+ETA(1)
K=THETA(2)+ETA(2)
CL=THETA(3)*WT+ETA(3)
SC=CL/K/WT

$THETA (.1,3,5) (.008,.08,.5) (.004,.04,.9)
$OMEGA BLOCK(3) 6 .005 .0002 .3 .006 .4

$ERROR
Y=F+EPS(1)

$SIGMA .4

$EST MAXEVAL=450 PRINT=5
$COV
$TABLE ID DOSE WT TIME
$SCAT (RES WRES) VS TIME BY ID
```

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## The end product is a PDF file

- ▶ No "standard" Office document is involved in the report generation process.
- ▶ In many organizations the final report version is a PDF.
- ▶ PDFs can (almost) be converted to Microsoft Word
  - ▶ Possibly useful for the review process...
  - ▶ Not for the final document since it *breaks the traceability chain!*

And now, a live demonstration!  
Because we know you won't believe us when  
we tell you it's easy.

# Conclusions

Reproducible Research methodology:

- ▶ improves consistency and efficiency of pharmacometric analyses and report generation.
- ▶ is not particularly difficult to implement.
- ▶ enhances both technical and scientific quality.

Come visit us in our booth!