

Altair SLC 2026 — Three-Book Series

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The 2026 series comprises three volumes that share a substantial common core while each targeting a distinct readership and level of technical depth. The table below maps every chapter across all three titles and notes where content is shared verbatim, adapted, or unique to one volume.

Shaded row	Content present in all three books (same or near-identical text)
White row	Content unique to one or two books
—	Topic absent from that volume

Chapter-by-Chapter Comparison

Topic	Advanced Altair SLC (209 pp)	for Companies (143 pp)	for Business Users (207 pp)
Front matter - identical in all three volumes			
Preface & About the Authors	Ch 1	Ch 1	Ch 1
Introduction, Acknowledgments	Ch 1	Ch 1	Ch 1
Core Altair SLC - shared across all three volumes			
What is Altair SLC? (ODS intro, configuration, initialisation)	Ch 2	Ch 2	Ch 2
Licensing: Personal Edition, Managed Licence, Altair Units	Ch 4	Ch 4	Ch 4
Workflow Processing (2024/2025 Workflows, SAS+R+Python example, Viya-like nodes)	Ch 5	Ch 7	Ch 8
Database Access (delimited, Excel, Access, dBase, MySQL/MariaDB, ODBC, OLEDB)	—	Ch 6	Ch 7
Server Access: Altair SLC Link & Communicate, remote RSUBMIT	—	Ch 5	Ch 6
Alternative Interfaces: VScode extension, SLC vs SAS Studio vs SAS VScode ext.	Ch 7	Ch 8	Ch 10 (partial)
Missing ODS features: destinations, tagsets, styles (sashelp.tmplmst)	Ch 11	Ch 9	—
Clinical Data & Output: CDISC, ADaM, clinical programming examples	Ch 8	—	Ch 11
Recommended Reading (books, official docs, community links)	Ch 12	Ch 11	Ch 12
Appendix A – Legal ruling (Altair vs SAS Institute)	App A	App A	App A
Appendix B – System requirements 2024–2027	App B	App B	App B

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Workbench - coverage differs by volume			
Analytics Workbench 2024: initial view, versioning, customisation	Ch 3 (deep-dive)	—	Ch 3 (deep-dive)
Analytics Workbench 2025+: import EG projects, workflows, Workbench vs EG	Ch 3	—	Ch 3
Altair SLC Versioning (Windows & Linux)	Ch 3	—	Ch 3
Differences from SAS EG / SAS Studio (workspace, server assignment)	Ch 3	—	Ch 3
Brief Workbench overview (licensing/migration context)	—	Ch 2–4 (brief)	—
R and Python programming - depth varies			
PROC R, PROC IML, PROC PYTHON with full code examples	Ch 6	—	Ch 9
R/Python: expanded introduction (why combine, setup for success, workflow)	—	—	Ch 9.1
Requirements for PROC R, PROC PYTHON, Python Editor in Workbench	Ch 6.2	—	Ch 9.2
R program examples (PROC R + PROC IML)	Ch 6.3.1–2	—	Ch 9.3.1–2
Python program example (PROC PYTHON)	Ch 6.3.3	—	Ch 9.3.3
Unique to Advanced Altair SLC only			
Ch 3 - Analytics Workbench deep-dive (versioning, customisation, Workbench vs EG)	Ch 3	—	—
Ch 9 - Non-standard file formats (OpenDocument, SAS 6.03 datasets, LibreOffice ODS output)	Ch 9	—	—
Ch 10 - SLC vs Foundation SAS 9.4M8 difference table (syntax defaults, SAS-only, SLC-only)	Ch 10	—	—
Unique to for Companies only			
Ch 3 - Business case: cost/capability comparison (SLC vs SAS 9.4 vs Viya vs Viya Workbench)	—	Ch 3	—
Ch 10 - Migration Considerations: planning checklist, compatibility verification	—	Ch 10	—
Appendix C - Database test files: code to create and read Access/Excel/dBase samples	—	App C	—

Topic	Advanced Altair SLC (209 pp)	for Companies (143 pp)	for Business Users (207 pp)
Unique to for Business Users only			
Ch 5 - Batch Processing: configuring PATH on Windows & Linux, command-line syntax	—	—	Ch 5
Ch 10.3–10.4 - SASjs integration: Server, CLI, configuring with SLC, running programs	—	—	Ch 10.3–4
R/Python chapter with expanded contextual introduction (Ch 9.1.1–9.1.5)	—	—	Ch 9.1

Intended Readership

Each volume is self-contained but shares the common foundation chapters. The choice of title depends on the reader's role and what they need from Altair SLC.

Volume	Primary audience	Core value proposition
Advanced Altair SLC	Experienced SAS/SLC programmers	Technical depth: PROC R/PROC IML/PROC PYTHON with full programs, ODS gaps, clinical CDISC programming, non-standard file reading/writing, systematic SLC vs SAS 9.4 differences
Altair SLC for Companies	IT managers, architects, decision-makers evaluating migration	Business case: cost and capability comparison with SAS 9.4 and Viya, migration planning checklist, database engine coverage, server architecture
Altair SLC for Business Users	SAS programmers and analysts adopting SLC as their primary tool	Broadest practical coverage: batch processing, server access, database access, R/Python, SASjs integration, clinical programming - all with working code

The Shared Core

Chapters 1, 2 and 4 - covering the Preface, What is Altair SLC (including configuration, initialisation procedures, and the ODS introduction), and Licensing - are common to all three volumes. The Workflow Processing chapter, which covers the 2024 and 2025 Workflow environments, the SAS/R/Python mixed-language example, and the Viya-like neural network node, is likewise present in all three. Both appendices - the Legal ruling and the System Requirements tables for 2024–2027 - are identical. Together these shared sections account for roughly 60–70% of the page count of each volume.

The Recommended Reading chapter (books, official documentation, community resources for Altair SLC, SAS language, R, Python, and cross-language topics) appears in all three, with minor additions in for Business Users reflecting the SASjs and clinical chapters.

Key Content Differences

Analytics Workbench (Ch 3)

Advanced and Business Users carry an identical, in-depth Chapter 3 covering the 2024 and 2025 Workbench environments: initial view and navigation, workspace configuration, file-type association, server assignment, running programs, customisation, and a side-by-side comparison with SAS Enterprise Guide. for Companies omits this chapter; its Workbench coverage is limited to brief contextual references within the licensing and migration chapters.

R and Python programming

Advanced (Ch 6) and Business Users (Ch 9) both provide full working code for PROC R, PROC IML, and PROC PYTHON. The two chapters share the same example programs. Business Users adds a longer introductory section (9.1.1–9.1.5) explaining the rationale for combining SAS, R, and Python in a single platform and providing setup guidance before the code examples begin. for Companies does not cover R or Python.

SASjs integration (Business Users only)

for Business Users is the only volume with a SASjs chapter (10.3–10.4, approximately 20 pages). It explains what SASjs is, its macro library, CLI tooling, and SASjs Server, then provides step-by-step instructions for configuring

SASjs with Altair SLC on both Windows and Linux, running SAS programs through SASjs, and troubleshooting.

Batch processing (Business Users only)

A dedicated batch-processing chapter (Ch 5) appears only in for Business Users. It covers configuring the PATH environment variable for command-line access on Windows and Linux, the wps command-line syntax, and considerations for batch execution in both operating systems.

Business case and migration (Companies only)

for Companies is the only volume with a dedicated business-case chapter (Ch 3): the rise of Altair SLC, a pricing-model comparison table (SLC vs Foundation SAS 9.4 vs SAS Viya vs SAS Viya Workbench), and a capabilities-and-scope matrix. Chapter 10 (Migration Considerations) is also unique to this volume, covering migration planning, a compatibility checklist, and guidance on verifying that existing SAS programs and files will run correctly in Altair SLC. Appendix C provides self-contained code to create and read sample Access, Excel, and dBase database files for testing.

SLC vs SAS differences (Advanced only)

Advanced Altair SLC Chapter 10 is the only systematic comparison of Altair SLC 2026 against Foundation SAS 9.4M8: syntax defaults that differ between the two (e.g. FILELOCKWAIT= vs TRANSACTEDFILEQUENCHDELAY=), features that exist only in SAS software, and features unique to Altair SLC. This reference is absent from the other two volumes.

Non-standard file formats (Advanced only)

Advanced Altair SLC Chapter 9 covers two topics not found elsewhere: reading OpenDocument Spreadsheet files (*.ods) by extracting and parsing the embedded XML, and reading SAS 6.03-format data sets (old file format, but unreadable by current SAS software). It also covers writing LibreOffice Calc output using ODS. These are niche but useful techniques for pharmaceutical and archival SAS environments.

Server Access and Database Access

Both for Companies and for Business Users carry a Server Access chapter (Altair SLC Link and Communicate, running programs on remote servers via RSUBMIT/ENDRSUBMIT) and a Database Access chapter (delimited files, Excel, Microsoft Access, dBase, MySQL, MariaDB, ODBC, OLEDB, and additional database connections in SLC 2025/2026). Advanced Altair SLC does not include either chapter, as its audience is assumed to have addressed those topics elsewhere.

Clinical data and output

Advanced Altair SLC (Ch 8) and for Business Users (Ch 11) both cover clinical programming: the role of CDISC, the data journey from raw data to regulatory submission, leveraging Altair SLC in a clinical context, the Clinical Standards Toolkit, R Pharmaverse, downloading and configuring the sample ADaM data, and a macro to standardise and compare ADaM data sets. The content is near-identical between the two volumes. for Companies does not include a clinical chapter.