



HARTFORD AREA SAS® USERS GROUP

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Fourth Quarter, Nov 2011

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The HASUG Flash is available for reading on the World Wide Web at <http://www.hasug.org>

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(Vikash Jain, eClinical Solutions)

Our August meeting at the Glastonbury SAS office had an excellent turnout with attendees representing 18 different organizations. It was an opportunity to network with each of the individuals and hear how they adapt SAS to analyze data for their business operations.

Thanks to Linda Kestenbaum for serving as hostess. None the less we always appreciate the support provided by Dwight Fowler from SAS Institute and his idea to have a surprise give away of SAS/JMP Manuals including a bumper prize of SAS Certified Base Programmer and Advanced Programmer for SAS 9 as part of the raffle. Attendees had an opportunity to win as part of the lucky drawings. This was a very thoughtful idea and appreciated by the HASUG committee to support our members.

Also thanks to our presenters Mary-Elizabeth ("M-E") Eddlestone from SAS Institute and Selvaratnam Sridharma from U. S. Census Bureau for sharing their valuable knowledge in areas of text analytics and graphics enhancements in SAS.

Between our August meeting and now, we received great news about the formation of a new user group within our SAS community which is being called, Insurance and Finance SAS User Group (IFSUG). We were excited to know that our fellow steering committee member and the founder of HASUG, Charles Patridge, 'Chuck', has been selected to head this upcoming annual event as academic chair during the 1st quarter of next year. With this announcement many of the HASUG members are already starting to support Charles Patridge in many aspects, helping him with the upcoming IFSUG

event by volunteering to be a speaker or finding a speaker/s in the area of insurance and finance for that event. If you, or any one you know, is interested in participating in this upcoming event, please get in contact with Chuck or one of the committee members to guide you through the correct channels of communication.

As we are moving forward in our efforts to host our upcoming HASUG November meeting we have two great presentations lined up. One will be focused on Social Media Analytics and other will be on developing DEFINE.XML. I hope to see you at our next meeting. Spread the word to your friends and colleagues and explore these trending topics in industry by being part of the next meeting.

NEXT HASUG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Our next meeting is on:

Thursday, November 10, 2011

At

**Bristol-Myers Squibb
5 Research Parkway
Wallingford, CT 06492**

from 9:00 am to noon

***Registration will be open until noon
on Wednesday, November 9th.
Refreshments to be served, & time
for conversation, beginning at 8:30.***

Our topics and Speakers are:

“Creating a define.xml file for ADaM and SDTM”

John Adams, Boehringer Ingelheim

The use of Define.xml files is currently required for most FDA submissions. While
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the define.xml file process for SDTM only submissions is pretty stable now, many users in the pharmaceutical industry are still struggling with define.xml files that also cover ADaM submissions.

A define.xml is central to any electronic FDA submission. It is what a reviewer sees first and guides the reviewer through the objectives, analyses and data for the submission. You can think of the define file as a container of metadata (and table of contents) that describes all of the data and analysis that a submission contains. While it is a machine readable file, an accompanying style sheet allows the reviewer to display and read the file in any browser. Since the define.xml file has imbedded active links, the reviewer can easily drill down into the data and or supporting documents.

While there are standard SDTM schema and style sheet available from CDISC, this is not the case for ADaM. The final drafts of these are still under discussion by the CDISC team. The CDISC pilot 1 project did create and used a modified schema / style sheet set. This paper describes a project for creating a metadata user interface and a program to create a viable SDTM/ADaM define.xml file, using that pilot 1 schema / style set.

John Adams is currently working in Biometrics and Data Management as a Principal Statistical Analyst. His scope of responsibility covers development of global SAS macros, implementing SAS9.2, implementing integrated project databases, implementing CDISC SDTM and ADaM, and he is participating in a number of global working groups. Prior to joining Boehringer Ingelheim, John's career spanned 20 years as a programmer/project leader for IBM. During that time, John was involved with the design, development and implementation

of many major software systems. John has over 30 years of SAS experience and has presented many papers at the SUGI, Global Forum, NESUG and PharmaSUG conferences over the years.

“The Power of Social Media Listening”

David Kelly, SAS Institute

A virtual focus group is taking place online, and although these conversations are taking place at an increasing rate, most organizations have yet to fully realize the potential for transforming this information into strategic decisions. Join us for this session focusing on how organizations can turn volumes of social media data into meaningful and actionable information. We will discuss how advanced analytics enables organizations to monitor online conversations allowing an accelerated response to localized and worldwide events. In addition, you will learn SAS' approach to:

- Transforming unstructured data into meaningful information you can act upon and that enhances research efforts
- Gauging the sentiment of public opinion regarding your brand, products, leadership, and more
- Identify advocates of and threats to your organization's reputation
- Improve service offerings and continuously measure the effectiveness of your communications

David Kelly is a member of the SAS Customer Intelligence practice within the SAS Marketing organization. David is responsible for working with existing and prospective SAS customers to provide marketing expertise across all SAS industry
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verticals. David helps clients identify and see the potential to transform their marketing and customer experiences through his expertise in both marketing and SAS technology. His areas of focus include: Marketing Automation, Campaign Management, Marketing Resource Management, Email Marketing, Email Analytics, and Interactive Marketing. David earned his B.A. degrees in Politics and Mathematics at Salve Regina University.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Future General Meetings and Conferences:

November 10, 2011

Bristol-Myers Squibb, Wallingford, CT

February 16, 2012

CIGNA, Bloomfield, CT

March 4-6, 2012

IFSUG, Cary, NC

HASUG Steering Committee Meetings:

November 10, 2011

Immediately after HASUG meeting

December 8, 2011

Conference call 11:30-12:30

February 16, 2012

Immediately after HASUG meeting

CONTINUING WITH EDUCATION...

(Peter Prause)

The **SAS Institute Regional Training Center** in Glastonbury, CT is offering the following courses. Course information for these courses and many other non-local courses are available on the Internet at the support.sas.com web site. To

register for a course or get more information, phone SAS Institute at 1-800-333-7660.

SAS Programming 1:
Essentials.....Nov 14 - 16

SAS Macro Language 1:
Essentials.....Nov 17 - 18

SAS Enterprise Guide 2: Advanced Tasks
and Querying.....Dec 01 - 02

SAS Programming 2: Data Manipulation
Techniques.....Dec 07 - 09

SAS Programming 2: Data Manipulation
Techniques.....Jan 11 - 13

SAS Programming 1:
Essentials.....Jan 25 - 27

SAS Report Writing 1: Using Procedures
and ODS.....Feb 29 - Mar 02

SAS Programming 1:
Essentials.....Mar 07 - 09

SAS Programming 2: Data Manipulation
Techniques.....Mar 14 - 16

SAS Enterprise Guide 1: Querying and
Reporting.....Mar 21 - 22

SAS Programming 3: Advanced Techniques
and Efficiencies.....Apr 11 - 13

SAS SQL 1:
Essentials.....Apr 23 - 24

SAS Programming 1:
Essentials.....May 07 - 09

SAS Macro Language 1:
Essentials.....May 24 - 25

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SAS Programming 2: Data Manipulation
Techniques..... Jun 06 - 08

SAS Macro Language 2: Developing Macro
Applications..... Jun 13 - 14

When time and distance are an issue, SAS Institute offers Live Web classes and self paced e-learning to help you get the training you need while accommodating your busy schedule. Call for more details.

Destiny Corporation provides SAS training courses in their Rocky Hill, CT office and at customer sites. Please visit the Destiny Corporation website for more information. Contact Destiny at 1-800-7-TRAINING or at www.destinycorp.com.

HASUG EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

This service is provided free of charge to all who wish to subscribe to the email notification process. In order to sign up for this service, you need to point your browser to the HASUG web site, <http://www.hasug.org>, and click the hyperlink, "Join HASUG Email List".

Your name and email address are not displayed nor given out to any party, including members of the HASUG steering committee. Only the list administrators have access to subscription information. Only List administrators will be able to send out email messages to the HASUG members.

If you should change your email address

under which you subscribed, you will need to unsubscribe with your old email address, and then re-subscribe using your new email address. Typically, a notice is sent approximately 3 weeks before meetings, as well as a couple of days beforehand to remind people of the date, time, and location.

To subscribe to the HASUG list you will need to follow the following steps:

1. From the HASUG website pick "Join HASUG Email List". Enter your email address and click on the SUBSCRIBE button. You will receive an email from noreply@googlegroups.com. Open the email and click on the confirmation URL in the email.
2. There are no questions to answer. Just click on "Apply to this Group" .
3. You will receive an email saying you have been added to the distribution list.

You must complete steps 1-3 to be added to the list.

THE HASUG SPONSORSHIP POLICY

All parties are encouraged and welcome to attend our quarterly HASUG meetings scheduled during the months of February, May, August, and November from 9 am to noon at various locations throughout Connecticut. Past locations have included Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, Norwalk, Glastonbury, Stamford and New Haven. We are always looking for new hosts within the state of Connecticut. If you feel your organization can host a meeting of up to 70 or so people, please contact one of the steering committee members.

TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Niraj Pandya, eClinical Solutions

SPEDIS and Fuzzy Matching (with thanks to Karol Katz for this tip)

<http://blogs.sas.com/content/publishing/2011/08/15/sas-authors-tip-spedis-and-fuzzy-matching/>

The following excerpt is from SAS Press author Ron Cody's book Learning SAS by Example: A Programmer's Guide,

Program 12-18 Using the SPEDIS function to perform a fuzzy match

```
data fuzzy;
input Name $20.;
Value = spedis(Name,'Friedman');
datalines;
Friedman
Freedman
Xriedman
Freidman
Friedmann
Alfred
FRIEDMAN
;
```

Here is a listing of data set Fuzzy:

Listing of FUZZY	
Name	Value
Friedman	0
Freedman	12
Xriedman	25
Freidman	6
Friedmann	3
Alfred	100
FRIEDMAN	87

The SPEDIS function returns a 0 if the two arguments match exactly. The function assigns penalty points for each type of spelling error. For example, getting the first letter wrong is assigned more points than misspelling other letters. Interchanging two letters is a relatively small error, as is adding an extra letter to a word.

Once the total number of penalty points has been computed, the resulting value is computed as a percentage of the length of the first argument. This makes sense because getting one letter wrong in a 3-letter word would be a more serious error than getting one letter wrong in a 10-letter word.

Notice that the two character values evaluated by the SPEDIS function are case-sensitive (look at the last observation in the listing). If case may be a problem, use the UPCASE or LOWCASE function before testing the value with SPEDIS.

To identify any name that is similar to **Friedman**, you could extract all names where the value returned by the SPEDIS function is less than some predetermined value. In the program here, values less than 15 or 20 would identify some reasonable misspellings of the name.

Here mentioned following tips and techniques are from www.sascommunity.org There is more to read on these tips, please follow the links specified.

http://www.sascommunity.org/wiki/Tip_of_the_Day:June_19

You can use the **LOCK** statement to prevent other SAS programs from either reading from or writing to a SAS data set that your program needs until you release the lock. This can be handy in cases where multiple programmers have access to SAS data sets residing on shared disk space; such as can be found on network drives, Windows servers, UNIX servers, etc. Using the LOCK statement can guarantee that you have exclusive control of a SAS data set for the time period when you need it

LOCK is a Base SAS statement. Although there is increased functionality with SAS/SHARE, LOCK can be used to simulate some of the capabilities of SAS/SHARE.

See the sample code below for the syntax for the LOCK statement. After the first LOCK statement, you will see the following in the SAS Log:

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NOTE: TEMPLIB.ORSALES.DATA is now locked for exclusive access by you.

After the second LOCK statement, with the CLEAR option, you will see the following in the SAS Log:

NOTE: TEMPLIB.ORSALES.DATA is no longer locked by you.

The LOCK statement might be just the thing that you need to ensure your privacy when processing SAS data sets on shared disk space!

```
options msglevel=I;

libname templib "c:\temp";

proc copy in=sashelp out=templib;
    select orsales;
run;

lock templib.orsales;

proc summary nway
data=templib.orsales;
    class Product_Line;
    var quantity profit;
output out=summ1 sum=;
run;

lock templib.orsales clear;
```

http://www.sascommunity.org/wiki/Tip_of_the_Day:August_14

You can easily obtain the amount of computer memory available to SAS with the undocumented XMRLMEM option.

```
data _null_;
format amt comma20.;
amt =
input(getoption('xmrlmem'),20.);
put amt=;
run;
```

The previous code will give you the total number of bytes of real memory available. (It does not count the operating system's virtual memory; only real memory). You can simply divide this number by 1024 to get it into K's... or whatever to get it into Megs or Gigs.

XMRLMEM is an undocumented diagnostic option that can come in handy when you are considering allocating a bushel-full of buffers or considering doing some big-time hashing. It is described in the SAS Global Forum 2007 paper by Jason Secosky and Janice Bloom [Getting Started with the DATA Step Hash Object](#)

http://www.sascommunity.org/wiki/Tip_of_the_Day:September_21

SAS supports only 3 bases for log function, namely, {2, 10, exp(1)}, corresponding to functions such as log2(), log10() and log().

Sometimes, we need to calculate log value of any positive base number, just as in Excel or some other programming environment, we have function like log(Val, Base). It is not hard to do so by noting that we can calculate logarithms with other base values by dividing the result of the log() function with log(base), where log() is the natural logarithm function.

Therefore,

$\log(\text{Value}, \text{Base}) = \log(\text{Value}) / \log(\text{Base})$. This can be shown in this short DATA step.

```
data show;
val=55;
b2 = log2(val);
v2 = log(val) / log(2);
put b2= ;
put v2=;
run;
```

THE HASUG RECRUITING POLICY

HASUG's primary mission is to provide a forum for SAS professionals to meet and share experiences. HASUG also recognizes that searching for new employment opportunities is a normal activity when professionals meet. Since we depend on our respective employers to support HASUG by providing time for members to attend, prepare presentations, and provide meeting facilities, we do not wish to jeopardize those relationships we have all nurtured.

Therefore, when attending any of our quarterly meetings, we request that all parties engaged in recruiting activities be "professional and discreet", and suggest that such activities be carried outside and after our meetings. Those seeking or offering positions may display materials at a location designated by HASUG at each quarterly meeting. The materials may include resumes, job openings, contract opportunities, business cards, etc. None of the materials may include salary information. All such materials left after the meeting will be discarded. Violators of this policy may be asked to leave the meeting.

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Steering Committee list and
Directions and Map to November 10
meeting.

HASUG Steering Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Kathleen Alber	Service National Corp	(203) 315-4312	kalber@1fbusa.com
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Vikash Jain	eClinical Solutions	(703) 577-0496	vjain@eclinicalsol.com
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Helen Wang	Ingenix	(860) 231-8241	Helen.Wang@ingenix.com
Gerald Zuckier	Aetna	(860) 273-2841	GZuckier@alum.mit.edu

Directions to Bristol-Myers Squibb Company:

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Research Parkway
Wallingford, CT 06492

Via Route 15 (Merritt / Wilbur Cross Parkways)

Exit 66 in Wallingford
Left at light at end of ramp onto Rte. 5 South
Stay on Rte. 5 for approx. 1/2 mile
Left immediately past Shell station onto access road or Rte. 68
Left at light onto Rte. 68 East
Follow Rte. 68 past Courtyard Hotel (on left), past entrances to I-91
Left at 1st traffic light past I-91 (not incl. Entrance to I-91 North) onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb driveway is the 1st on the right

Via I-95 (New England Thruway) and New Haven Area

I-95 North to Exit 48 (left exit) onto I-91 North
Stay on I-91 for about 15 miles to Exit 15 (Rte. 68)
Right off exit onto Rte. 68 (east toward Durham)
Left at 1st light onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb driveway is the 1st on the right

Via I-91 (from Hartford)

I-91 South to exit 15 (Rte. 68)
Left at light at end of ramp
Left at 1st traffic light past I-91 (not incl. Entrance to I-91 North)
onto Research Parkway
Bristol-Myers Squibb driveway is the 1st on the right

