

SAS® GLOBAL FORUM 2016

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SAS-IO, a Browser-Based Tool to Automate Creation of Inputs/Outputs Lists for SAS® Programs

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Introduction

- High-quality **documentation** of SAS® code is standard practice in multi-user environments for smoother group collaborations.
- One of the documentation items that facilitate program sharing and retrospective review is a **header section** at the beginning of a SAS® program highlighting the main features of the program .
- In this header section, one of helpful components is to keep a **list of the inputs and outputs** of the SAS® program (e.g. SAS® datasets and files the program used and created).
- **SAS-IO** is a browser based tool that can automate production of such an input/output list. This can save the programmers' time especially when working with long SAS® programs.

What is this tool good for:

- Get an **overview** of a SAS® program without running it.
- Enhance your program's **documentation** in a collaborative environment.
- Get a **comment free** version of your SAS® program.

How was this tool developed:

- **Regular expressions** language was used to detect text patterns to extract from a SAS code or its log
- **JavaScript, HTML5** and **CSS** were used to implement a universal browser based user interface.

[See a Sample Input/Output List](#)

[Watch a Video of SAS/IO in Action](#)

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Sample List Created by SAS/IO

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Watch a Video of SAS/IO in Action

```
* ++++++ Input/Output List ++++++
* ++++++ Date list created: Oct 06 2015 12:40:30 ++++++
*
* Extraction Source: Both SAS Program and Log
*
* .....
* >>> Libraries Defined
* .....
* mylib      /network_storage/users/johndoe/datasets/mylib
* hosp       /network_storage/data_warehouse/hospitals2011
*
* .....
* >>> Data Used
* .....
* mylib.patients_2011
* hosp.hospitals_2011
* /network_storage/users/johndoe/project_1/input/disease_codes.csv
*
* .....
* >>> Data Created
* .....
* mylib.cohort_1--[n=34405--vars=37]
* mylib.cohort_2--[n=5315--vars=5]
*
* .....
* >>> Reports/Files/Outputs Produced
* .....
*
* /network_storage/users/johndoe/project_1/output/Report1.rtf
* /network_storage/users/johndoe/project_1/output/Table1.txt
* /network_storage/users/johndoe/project_1/output/Table2.txt
* /network_storage/users/johndoe/datasets/export2R.csv
*
* .....
* >>> Macros Called
* .....
* %MAKETABLE
* %MAKEREPORT
*
* ++++++
*
* ;
```

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Video: SAS/IO in Action

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