

# SAS Functions

Streamlining data manipulation, simplifying complex logic,  
and improving code efficiency

Presented by: Carleigh Jo Crabtree

Email: [CarleighJo.Crabtree@sas.com](mailto:CarleighJo.Crabtree@sas.com)

LinkedIn: [Carleigh Jo Crabtree | LinkedIn](#)





**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**




**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**



## Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing



```
IF expression THEN action;  
ELSE IF expression THEN action;  
ELSE action;
```

**IFC**(*expression, value-when-true, value-when-false, value-when-missing* )

Returns a **character** value based on whether an expression is true, false, or missing

**IFN**(*expression, value-when-true, value-when-false, value-when-missing* )

Returns a **numeric** value based on whether an expression is true, false, or missing

```
if Profit>0 then PosNegProfit="Positive Profit";  
else if Profit<=0 then PosNegProfit="Negative Profit";  
else PosNegProfit="Missing- Investigate";
```

```
PosNegProfit=  
ifc(Profit>0, "Positive Profit", "Negative Profit", "Missing- Investigate");
```

Value if expression  
is true

Value if expression  
is false

Value if missing

Profit	PosNegProfit
41.9136	Positive Profit
219.582	Positive Profit
6.8714	Positive Profit
-383.031	Negative Profit

```
if (Ship_Date-Order_Date)>5 and Sales>500 then FuturePromo=round(Sales*.1);  
else FuturePromo=0;
```

```
FuturePromo=ifn((Ship_Date-Order_Date)>5 and Sales>500, round(Sales*.1), 0);
```

Order Date	Ship Date	Sales	FuturePromo
09/11/2013	12/11/2013	261.96	0
09/11/2013	12/11/2013	731.94	0
13/06/2013	17/06/2013	14.62	0
11/10/2012	18/10/2012	957.5775	96

Value if expression  
is true

Value if expression  
is false



**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**





## **Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



<b>Manipulating Dates</b>	<b>MONTH</b> ( <i>dateCol</i> ) <b>YEAR</b> ( <i>dateCol</i> ) <b>DAY</b> ( <i>dateCol</i> ) <b>QTR</b> ( <i>dateCol</i> )
<b>Creating Dates</b>	<b>MDY</b> ( <i>month, day, year</i> )
<b>Shifting Dates</b>	<b>INTNX</b> ( <i>interval, startDate, increment, 'alignment'</i> ) <b>INTCK</b> ( <i>interval, startDate, endDate, 'method'</i> )

```
CustomerBdayMonth=month(customer_birthdate);
```

 Customer BirthDate	 CustomerBdayMonth
01MAR1992	3
01MAR1992	3
26MAY1990	5
11JUN1948	6

Col or value for  
month

Col or value for  
day

Col or value for  
year

**BdayPromo=mdy (CustomerBdayMonth, 1, year(today())) ;**

#	CustomerBdayMonth	BdayPromo
	3	01MAR2025
	3	01MAR2025
	5	01MAY2025
	6	01JUN2025



Interval of time

Number of  
increments to shift

Start date value

Position of dates  
within the interval

```
Anniversary=intnx('year', Employee_hire_date, 10, 'same');
```

 Employee Hire Date	 Anniversary
01-JUL-2008	01JUL2018
01-JUN-1994	01JUN2004
01-JAN-1979	01JAN1989

Interval of time

End date value

Start date value

Method to count intervals

```
WeeksPassedD=intck('week', employee_hire_date, FirstDay, 'd');
```

```
WeeksPassedC=intck('week', employee_hire_date, FirstDay, 'c');
```

📅 Employee_Hire_Date	📅 FirstDay	⊕ WeeksPassedD	⊕ WeeksPassedC
01-AUG-2011	23SEP2011	7	7
01-OCT-2011	15NOV2011	7	6

**Discrete**  
**'d'**

Counts interval  
boundaries  
Ex: end of the year, end  
of the week

**Continuous**  
**'c'**

Counts interval  
boundaries based on  
the start date

# Discrete 'd'

October, 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 - begin
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November, 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 - end				

# Continuous 'c'

October, 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 - begin
2	3	4	5	6	7	1 8
9	10	11	12	13	14	2 15
16	17	18	19	20	21	3 22
23	24	25	26	27	28	4 29
30	31					

November, 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	6 12
13	14	15 - end				





**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**



## Converting Column Types

**INPUT**(*source, informat.*)

Converts character values to **numeric** values using a specified **informat**

**PUT**(*source, format.*)

Converts numeric or character values to **character** values using a specified **format**

## Character columns with dates

OrderDate	ShipDate
11/09/2013	11/12/2013
11/09/2013	11/12/2013
06/13/2013	06/17/2013

Create numeric columns-  
what format can be used?

```
NumOrderDate=input(OrderDate, mmddyy10.);  
NumShipDate=input(ShipDate, mmddyy10.);
```

OrderDate	ShipDate	NumOrderDate	NumShipDate
11/09/2013	11/12/2013	19671	19674
11/09/2013	11/12/2013	19671	19674
06/13/2013	06/17/2013	19522	19526

```
format NumOrderDate NumShipDate date9.;
```


NumOrderDate	NumShipDate
09NOV2013	12NOV2013
09NOV2013	12NOV2013
13JUN2013	17JUN2013

## Numeric columns with dates

📅 Order Date	📅 Ship Date
09/11/2013	12/11/2013
09/11/2013	12/11/2013
13/06/2013	17/06/2013

Create **character** columns  
with the day of week

```
OrderDay=strip(put(Order_Date, downname.));  
ShipDay=strip(put(Ship_Date, downname.));
```



📅 OrderDay	📅 ShipDay
Saturday	Tuesday
Saturday	Tuesday
Thursday	Monday



**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**



## Manipulating Character Values

**SCAN**(*string, count, character-list, modifiers* )

```
SubCatCode=scan(product_id, 2, '-');
```

Product ID
FUR-BO-10001798
FUR-CH-10000454
OFF-LA-10000240



SubCatCode
BO
CH
LA



**TRANWRD**(*source, target, replacement* )

```
ProdName=tranwrd(Product_Name, "&", "and");
```

Product Name
C-Line Peel & Stick Add-On Filing Pockets, 8-3/4 x 5-1/8, 10/Pack



ProdName
C-Line Peel and Stick Add-On Filing Pockets, 8-3/4 x 5-1/8, 10/Pack

**COMPRESS**(*source, characters, modifiers* )

```
ProdName2=compress (ProdName , " ' : " ) ;
```

Product Name
Eldon Fold 'N Roll Cart System
Stur-D-Stor Shelving, Vertical 5-Shelf: 72"H x 36"W x 18 1/2"D



ProdName2
Eldon Fold N Roll Cart System
Stur-D-Stor Shelving, Vertical 5-Shelf 72"H x 36"W x 18 1/2"D

**CATX(*delimiter, item1, itemn...* )**

```
select distinct catx('-', SubCatCode, Sub_Category) as SubCatsAndCodes
```

SubCatCode
BO
CH
LA

Sub_Category
Bookcases
Chairs
Labels



SubCatsAndCodes
AC-Accessories
AP-Appliances
AR-Art
BI-Binders
BO-Bookcases
CH-Chairs
CO-Copiers

**FIND**(*string, substring, startposition, modifiers*)

```
PosClassBegins=find(ship_mode, 'Class');
```

```
LastChar=PositionClassBegins-2;
```

Ship Mode	PosClassBegins	LastChar
Second Class	8	6
Standard Class	10	8
First Class	7	5

**SUBSTR**(*string, position, length*)

```
Shipping=substr(ship_mode, 1, LastChar);
```

Shippinga	Shippinga2
Second	Second
Standard	Standard
First	First

```
Shipping2=substr(ship_mode, 1, find(ship_mode, 'Class')-2);
```



**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**




## **Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**

## UPCASE(*argument*)

```
where Product_Name like '%chair%';
```

 Product Name
Office Star - Mesh Screen back chair with Vinyl seat
Office Star - Mesh Screen back chair with Vinyl seat
Office Star - Contemporary Task Swivel chair with Loop Arms, Charcoal

```
where upcase(Product_Name) like '%CHAIR%';
```

 Product_Name
Hon Deluxe Fabric Upholstered Stacking Chairs, Rounded Back
Global Deluxe Stacking Chair, Gray
Office Star - Mesh Screen back chair with Vinyl seat



**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**





**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

## Pearl Regular Expressions (PRX)

Pattern matching tools used to **search, extract, or modify text** based on **patterns** rather than exact characters

Function	What It Does	Typical Use
PRXPARSE	Compiles a regex pattern	Define reusable pattern
PRXMATCH	Finds first match position	Check if pattern exists
PRXPOSN	Retrieves captured text	Extract parts of a match
PRXNEXT	Finds next match in a loop	Iterate through multiple matches
PRXSUBSTR	Returns matched substring	Get match directly
PRXCHANGE	Substitutes text using regex	Replace or reorder text
PRXDEBUG	Turns on debugging info	Troubleshoot regex logic

Employee_Name	FirstLast
Lu, Patrick	Patrick Lu
Zhou, Tom	Tom Zhou
Dawes, Wilson	Wilson Dawes

```
FirstLast=prxchange('s/(\w+), (\w+)/$2 $1/', -1, employee_name);
```

Syntax	Description
s/.../.../	Substitution operator. “Find this pattern and replace it with something else.”
(\w+)	Capture group: captures one or more word characters (letters, numbers, or underscores). This first capture group represents the <b>last name</b> .
,	Matches a literal comma followed by a space.
(\w+)	Capture group: captures another word — this one is the <b>first name</b> .
\$2 \$1	The replacement text: inserts the <b>second capture group</b> (first name) followed by a space and the <b>first capture group</b> (last name).
-1	The second argument. Means replace all matches in the string- often added as best practice.
Employee_name	Column containing the names.

Customer_Name	ProperName
Aalfs, Ms. Deborah	Deborah Aalfs
Aarts, Ms. Jie	Jie Aarts
Abarrategui, Mr. Didier	Didier Abarrategui

```
ProperName=prxchange('s/(\w+), (?:\w+\.\s)?(\w+)/$2 $1/', -1, customer_name);
```

Syntax	Description
s/.../.../	Substitution operator. “Find this pattern and replace it with something else.”
(\w+)	Capture group: captures one or more word characters (letters, numbers, or underscores). This first capture group represents the <b>last name</b> .
,	Matches a literal comma followed by a space.
(?: ... )	Specifies a non-capturing group.
(?:\w+\.\s)?	Looks for one or more word characters followed by a period and space. The final question mark specifies the entire group is optional.
(\w+)	Capture group: captures another word — this one is the <b>first name</b> .
\$2 \$1	The replacement text: inserts the <b>second capture group</b> (first name) followed by a space and the <b>first capture group</b> (last name).



**Replacing IF-THEN Conditional Processing**



**Manipulating, Creating, and Shifting Dates**



**Converting Column Types**



**Manipulating Character Values**



**Eliminating Case Sensitivity on the WHERE Statement**



**Bonus:**

**Using Patterns to Manipulate Data**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**

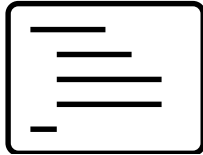


**Bonus:**

**Modifying Character Column Length Using a Macro**

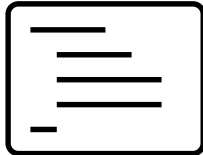
## **MAX(LENGTH(*argument* )**

Returns the length of the longest value in a character column



**%charCheck**

Creates a data set of all character variables in a specified data set along with their defined length and the length of the longest value in the variable



**%charResize**

Updates character columns in the specified data set if the defined length is larger than the length of the longest value in the variable