# Introduction to SAS Programming

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## Introduction

SAS (Statistical Analysis Software) is a programming language for doing statistics



### Cons and Pros

- Old
- Closed-source
- Steep learning curve
- Clunky
- Expensive!

- Old
- Closed-source
- Steep learning curve
- Excellent support
- Legal guarantees





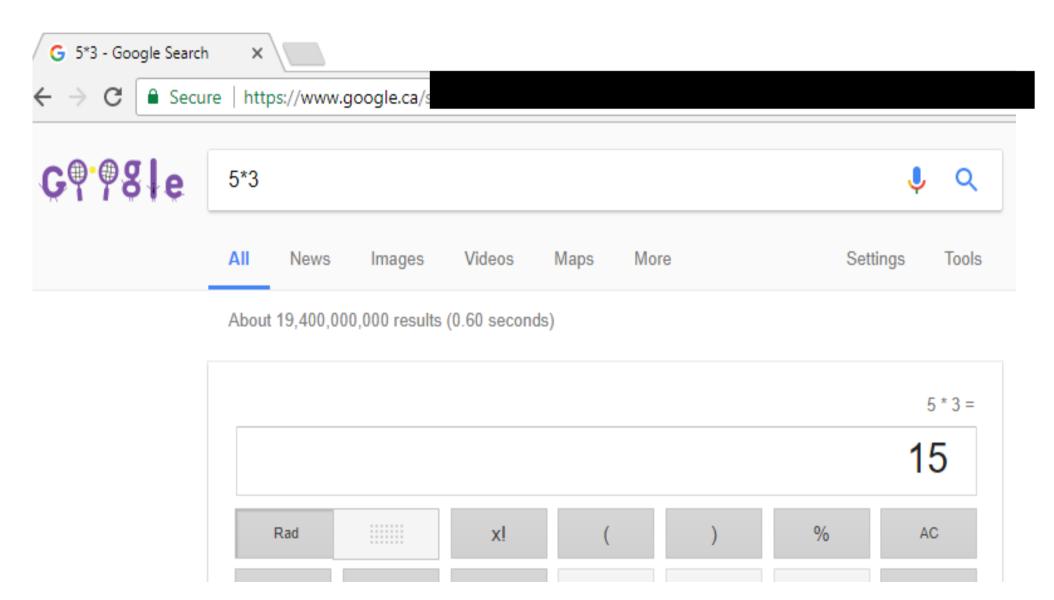
## SAS Programs

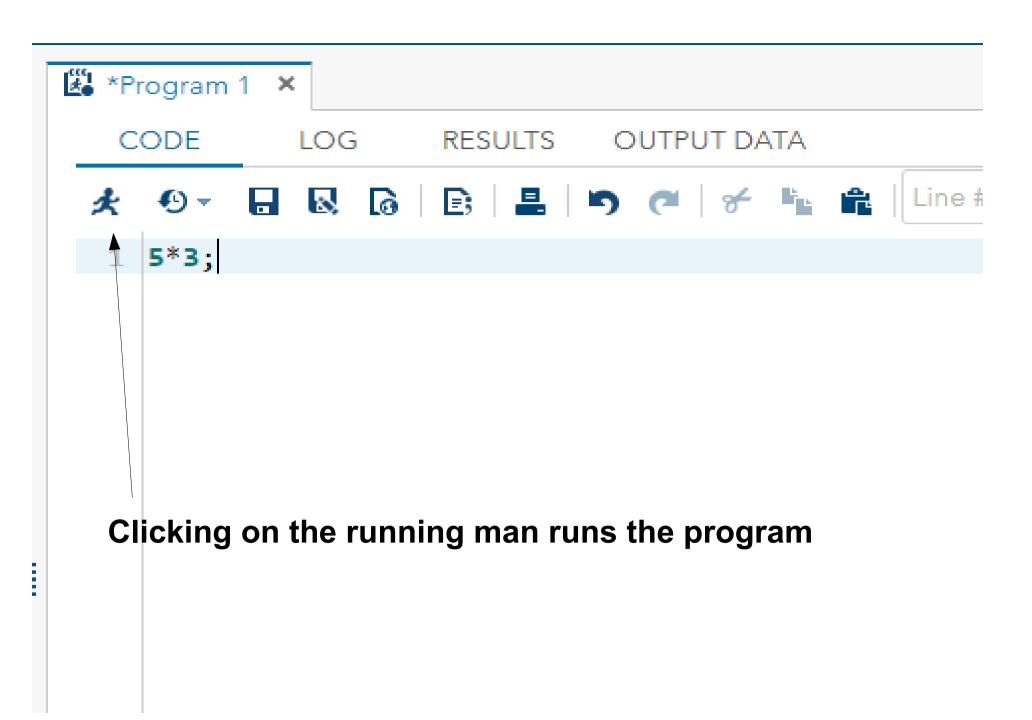
A SAS Program consists of three kinds of things called **steps** 

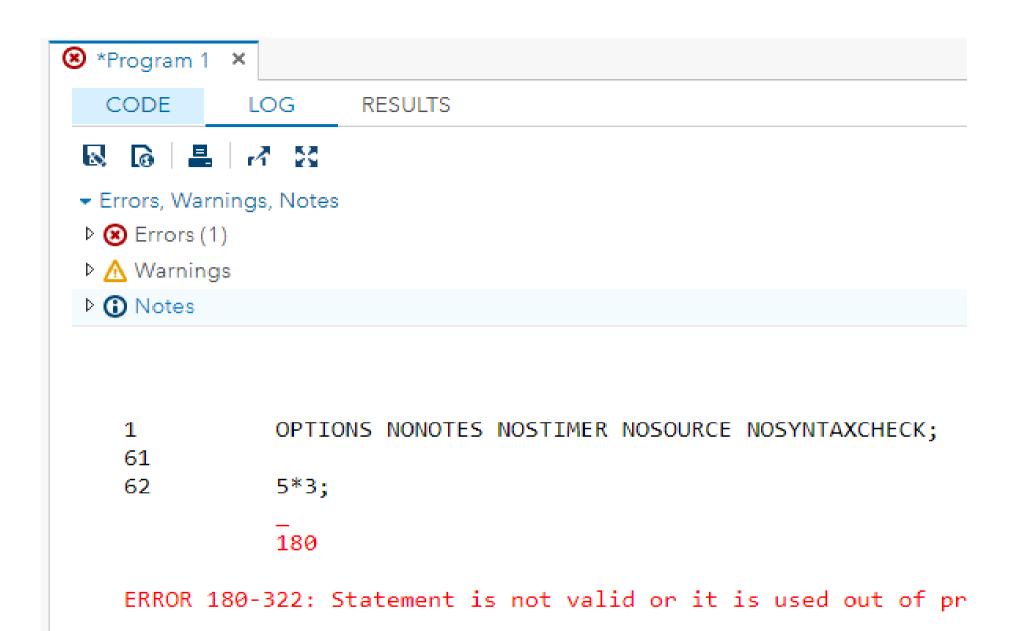
- Options steps (set options)
- Data steps (read in some data)
- Proc steps (do things with the data, including printing the results)

"PROC" is short for "procedure"

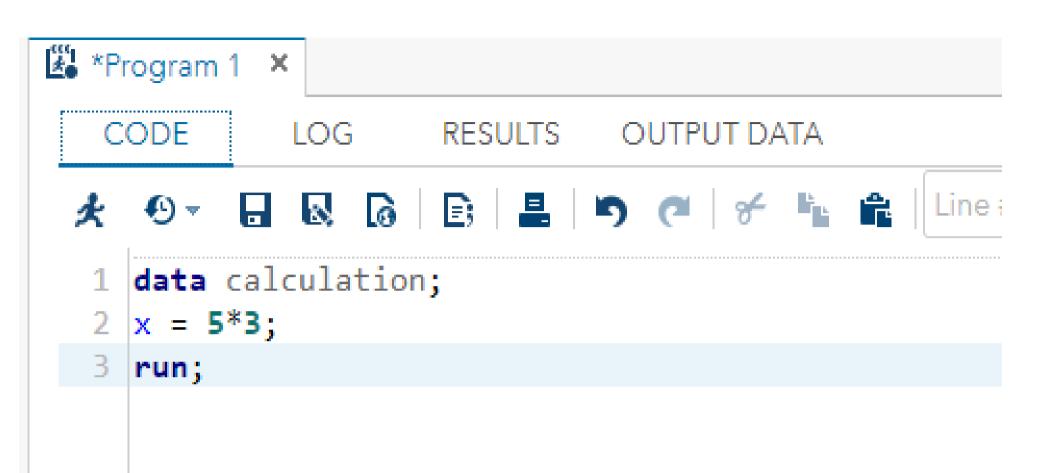
## You can't do anything in SAS without data!

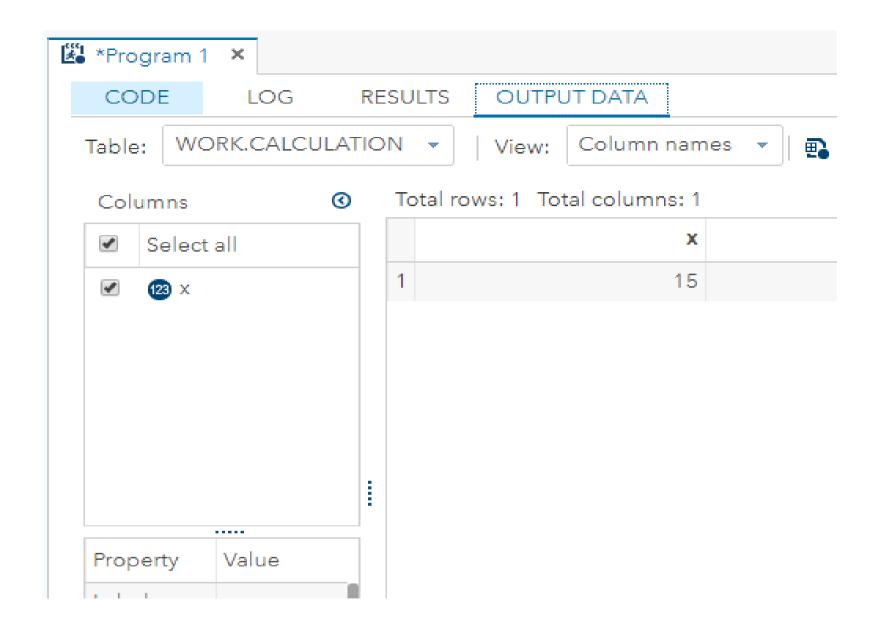






OPTIONS NONOTES NOSTIMER NOSOURCE NOSYNTAXCHECK;





This program doesn't actually output anything, but SAS showed me a LOG file, which shows we have really calculated that 5 times 3 equals 15.

### Conclusion

1. Every SAS program that does something needs a data step. This creates or loads some data for it to work on.

2. Every line of a SAS program needs to end with a semicolon character, like this;