Starting LASR Server and loading Datasets Automatically

Introduction:

In VA 6.2, the Autoload facility provides the ability to load datasets to Public LASR Server, automatically. A script runs every 15 minutes (depending on set parameters) in the background and checks inside Autoload folder for datasets. You can keep any dataset there and it will load into the Public LASR server automatically. It will even start the Public LASR Server for you if it is not already started on MPP environments (on SMP, you need to start the Public LASR Server manually).

But there is no such facility for the Default LASR Server. You have to start the LASR server first and register tables to Metadata and load them into the Default LASR Server. My script provides the facility to do all this process by a single click without visiting **VA Admin webapp**. My scripts first starts the Default LASR Server, if it is not running already and then checks for the datasets in a specified folder and load them one by one in to the LASR Server.

Environment:

This facility currently works with **SAS 9.4 VA 6.2 SMP** environment on **Windows** platform.

How it works?

This utility is divided in to 3 scripts, a batch script and 2 sas programs, one to start the LASR server and another to load the datasets to LASR Server.

Double Click on **Run_AutoLoad.cmd** to start the utility.

1. **Run_AutoLoad.cmd**: This script checks for the LASR server status. If the LASR server is not running, this script calls the Start_LASR.sas program to start the server and then call the AutoLoad_LASR.sas program to start the Autoload process. Otherwise, it directly calls the AutoLoad_LASR.sas program to start the Autoload process.
2. **Start_LASR.sas:** This program starts the LASR Server.
3. **AutoLoad_LASR.sas:** This program starts the Autoload process to load the datasets available at the folder location provided by the user, to LASR Server.

Installation:

Download the **AutoLoad_LASR.zip** file from the **SAS ToolPool** site and unzip it to any location of your choice on the operating system. The folder structure will look something like this:

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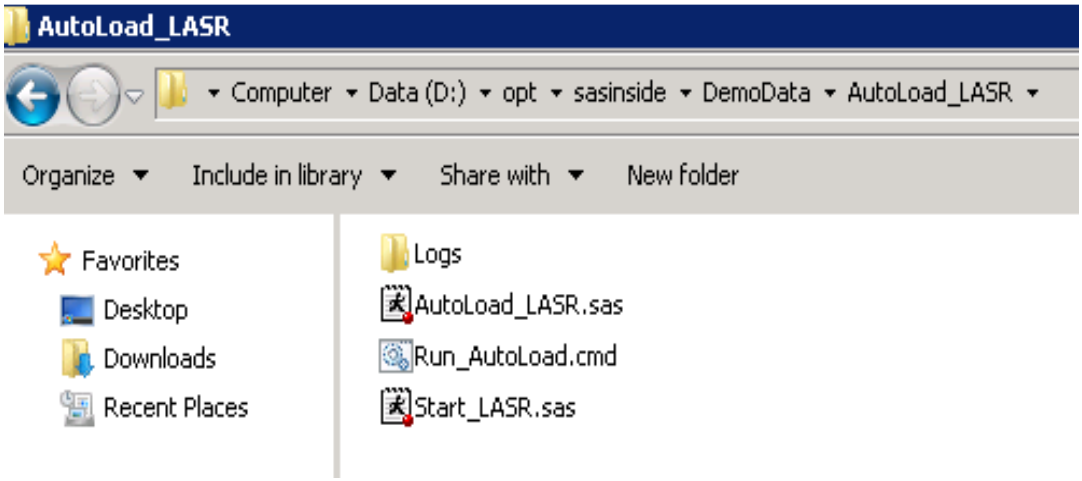
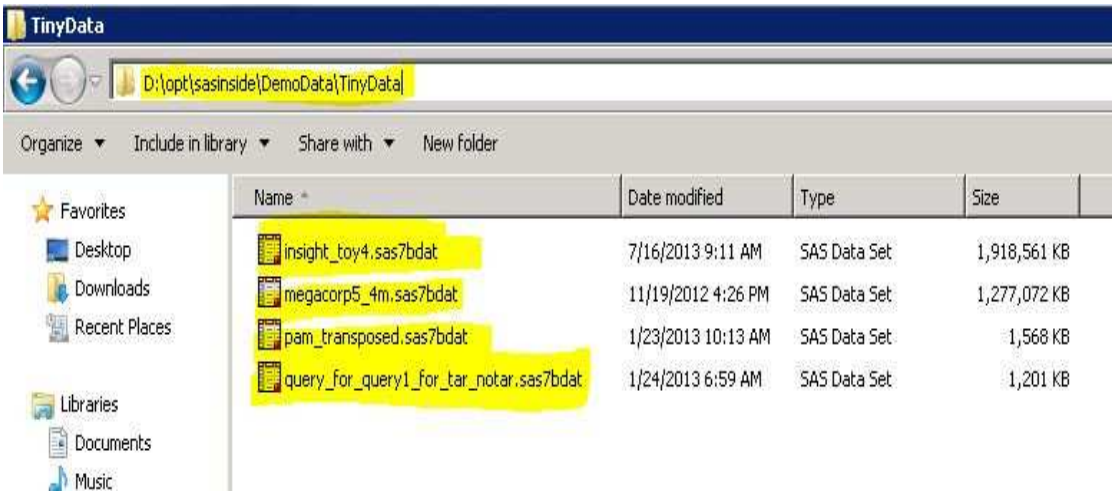


Usage:

Before using this utility, a user has to customize it as per their VA 6.2 SMP Server Setup. This utility is developed using user friendly and easy to understand code and anyone having little or no knowledge of DOS batch scripts and SAS programming will be able to customize it. We have used windows RACE image, **EEC100_94TS1M0** for developing this utility and the environment setup is done as per this image only.

This is how my Datasets Folder looks like.

Physical Location: `D:\opt\sasinside\DemoData\TinyData`



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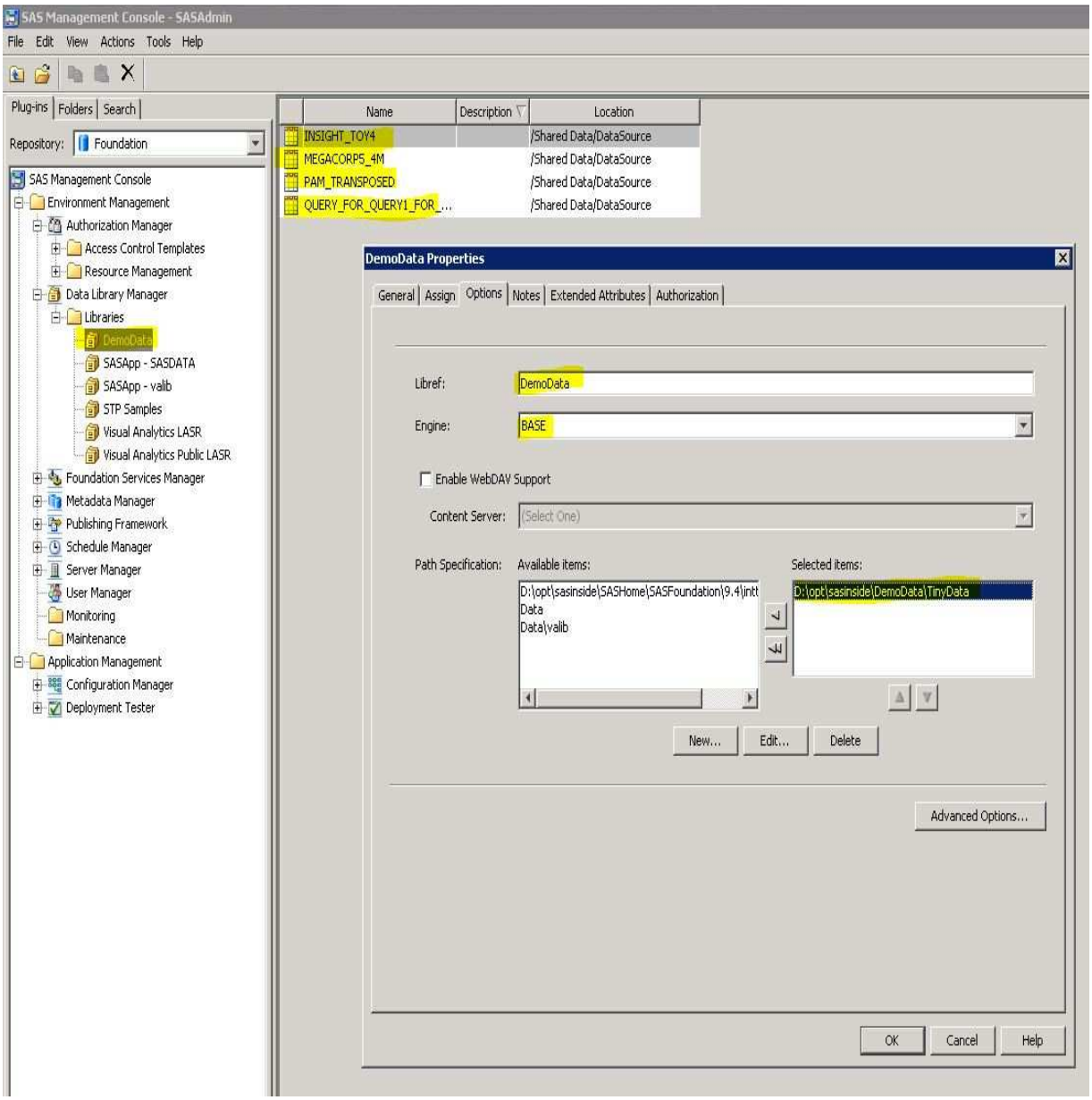
This is how my DemoData Library looks like inside metadata.



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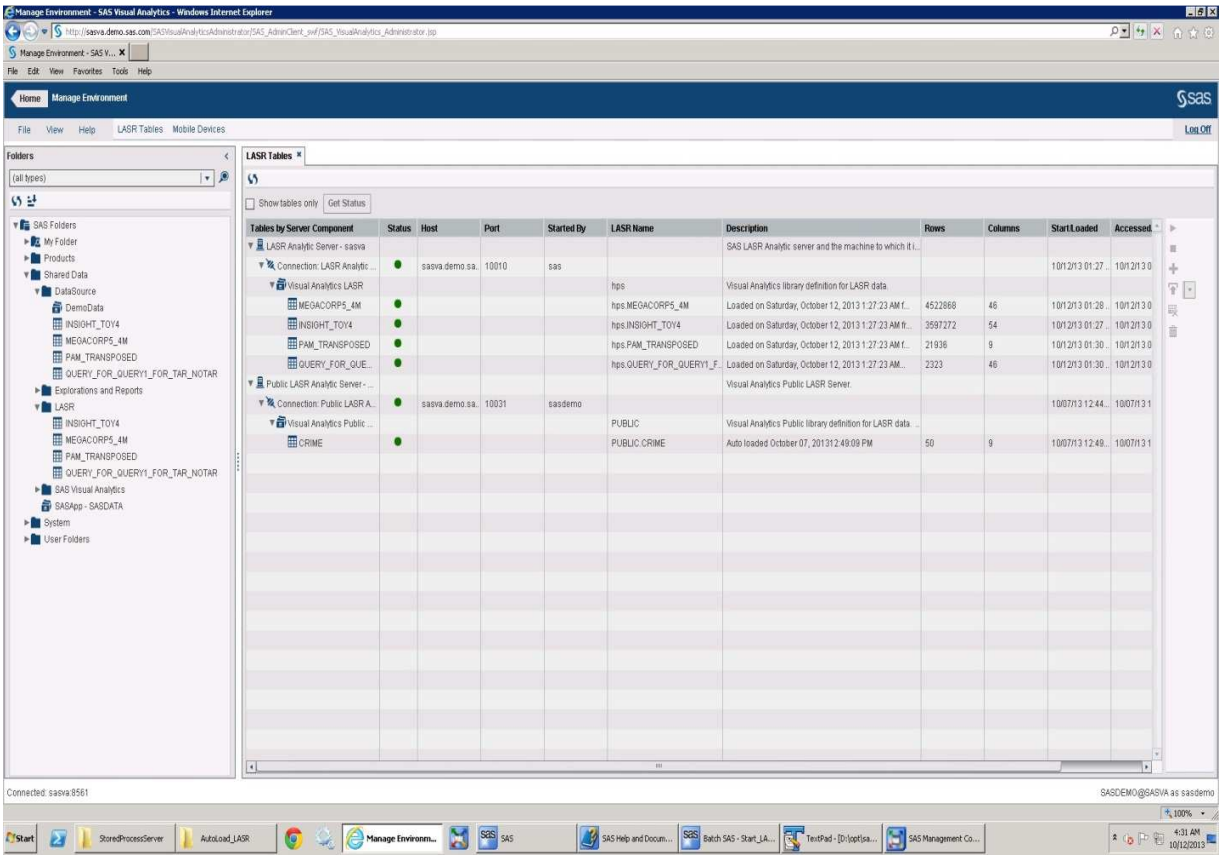
This is how my VA Administrator Environments look like.



Customization of Script Files:

You need to customize the following parameters before using the utility. Please do not make any changes other than these parameters given below, otherwise the utility either may not work or may exit erroneously. In my example we have the following setup of VA server and files are customized accordingly:

VA Hostname: sasva.demo.sas.com

AutoLoad_LASR folder was unzipped at: `D:\opt\sasinside\DemoData\AutoLoad_LASR`

Run_AutoLoad.cmd:

```
SET SCRIPT_HOME=D:\opt\sasinside\DemoData\AutoLoad_LASR

SET SAS_HOME=D:\opt\sasinside\SASHome\SASFoundation\9.4

SET DATASET_HOME=D:\opt\sasinside\DemoData\TinyData
```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AutoLoad_LASR.sas

```
%let HOST_NAME=sasva.demo.sas.com;
            /* Change the hostname as per your VA setup if required */

%let META_REPOSITORY=Foundation;
            /* Change the repository as per your VA setup if required */

%let META_PORT=8561;
            /* Change the Metadata Port as per your VA setup if required */

%let META_ADM_USER=sasadm@saspw;
            /* Change the Metadata Admin User Name as per your VA setup if
required */

%let META_ADM_USER_PASS=Orion123;
            /* Change the Password as per your VA setup if required */

%let META_VA_USER=sasdemo;
            /* Change the Metadata VA Admin User Name as per your VA setup if
required */

%let META_VA_USER_PASS=Orion123;
            /* Change the Password VA Admin User as per your VA setup if
required */

%let LIB_DEMODATA_LOC=D:\opt\sasinside\DemoData\TinyData;
            /* Location where your datasets reside on operating system */

%let LASR_PORT=10010;
            /* Change the LASR Server's PORT Number if running on different
port in your setup */

%let LASR_SIGNER_URL=http://sasva.demo.sas.com:80/SASLASRAuthorization;
            /* Change LASR Server's SIGNER URL if different in your setup */

%let REGISTER_TABLE_LIBRARY=/Products/SAS Visual Analytics
Administrator/Visual Analytics LASR;
            /* Library where tables will get Registered. Please do not change
      unless you are very sure about this*/

%let REGISTER_TABLE_FOLDER=/Shared Data/LASR;
            /* Location of Metadata folder where you registered the tables.
Make sure that this folder location has already been created in SMC */
```

Start_LASR.sas

```
%let HOST_NAME=sasva.demo.sas.com;
            /* Change the hostname as per your VA setup if required */

%let LASR_START_PORT=10010;
                  /* Change the LASR Server's PORT Number if running on
different port in your setup */
```


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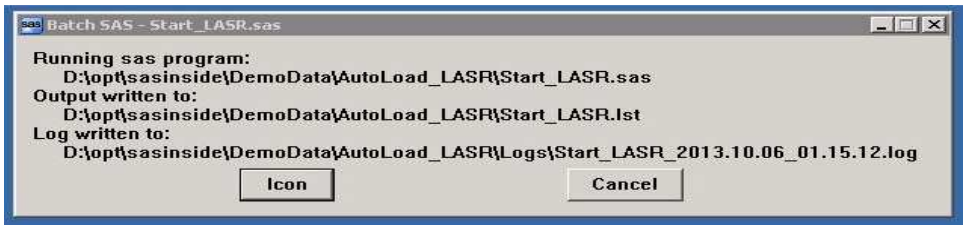
```
%let
LASR_SIGFILE_PATH=D:\opt\sasinside\sasva\Lev1\AppData\SASVisualAnalytics6.2\V
isualAnalyticsAdministrator\sigfiles;
            /* Change LASR Server's SIGNER FILE path if different in your
            setup */

%let LASR_SIGN_URL=http://sasva.demo.sas.com:80/SASLASRAuthorization;
            /* Change LASR Server's SIGNER URL if different in your setup */
```

Important info: Start_LASR.sas script will keep a sas window open till the time LASR server is running. Closing that window will cause LASR server to stop immediately and will unload all the datasets loaded on the LASR Server. On windows, you cannot hide the SAS session windows.



Disclaimer:

These scripts are tested to judge the basic functionality only and under standard environment. Please read the document and set all the variables values carefully as the utility may not suit your environment setup and fail. These scripts doesn't check if datasets are already registered or not and if datasets are already loaded to the LASR.

THIS UTILITY IS INTENDED TO BE USED BY INTERNAL SAS EMPLOYEES FOR THIER OWN PERSONAL CONVENIENCE OF STARTING LASR AND LOADING DATASETS. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT, LIKE ANY TOOLPOOL ENTRIES, IF YOU USE THIS UTILITY FOR DEMO PURPOSES, A CONSULTING EFFORT WILL BE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN IT IN PRODUCTION. THE AUTHOR WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ISSUES RELATED TO DISTRIBUTION OF THIS UTILITY OUTSIDE SAS OR TO CUSTOMERS.

Future Developments:

We have plans to customize this utility to work with Linux SMP and MPP environments. Also, we are working on to make this utility to run as Windows Service and Linux Daemon along with other SAS Services.

How did you find this utility?

If you have any suggestions to improve the utility or find any errors or issues, please let me know. Mail me at:

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