

DATA Step

Can I create an Excel Workbook containing the metadata for all datasets in a library?

The metadata for datasets can be obtained using the DATASETS procedure with the CONTENTS statement and directing the output to a dataset. Use ODS TAGSETS.EXCELXP (or ODS EXCEL in SAS® 9.4) to direct the output to a workbook using PROC PRINT for a simple listing report.

Use options to create a separate worksheet for each dataset in the library.

```
proc datasets lib = sashelp nolist ;
  contents data = _all_
    out = work.dsets
    ;
quit ;

proc format ;
  value vartyp 1 = 'Num '
                2 = 'Char'
    ;
run ;

ods tagsets.excelxp file = 'C:\documents\datasets.xls'
  options (sheet_label = ' ' sheet_interval = 'bygroup') ;

proc print data = work.dsets noobs ;
  by memname ;
  pageby memname ;
  format type vartyp. ;
  var memname
    name
    type
    length
    ;
run ;

ods _all_ close ;
```

Metadata can also be obtained using the dictionary tables from PROC SQL. Use ODS along with PROC REPORT for more control over style and layout.

```
proc sql ;
  create table dsets as
  select memname
    ,name
```

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```
,propcase(type) as type label = 'Type'  
,length  
,lowcase(format) as format label = 'Format'  
from dictionary.columns  
where libname = 'SASHELP'  
order by memname  
;  
quit ;  
  
ods tagsets.excelxp file = 'C:\documents\datasets.xls'  
      options (sheet_label      = 'Dataset '  
              sheet_interval   = 'bygroup'  
              suppress_bylines = 'on'  
            ) ;  
  
proc report data = work.dsets nowd style(report) = [fontsize = 10pt]  
              style(column) = [fontsize = 10pt wi  
dth = 100]  
              style(header) = [fontsize = 10pt]  
            ;  
column memname  
      name  
      type  
      length  
format  
      ;  
define memname / order ;  
break after memname / page summarize ;  
  by memname ;  
run ;  
  
ods _all_ close ;
```

The ORDER usage type suppresses the repetition of the dataset name in the MEMNAME column; the SUMMARIZE keyword on the BREAK statement causes the analysis variable (LENGTH) to be SUMmed.

Unique solution ID: #1006

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