



This newsletter is the home of Foundation SAS and brings you information about making the most of SAS 9 and Altair SLC. This issue is another one that has been delayed, but this time due to software issues on my blog server, which have now been resolved. This newsletter issue includes an updated InfoGeographic map from LeRoy Bessler, and I have discovered a database of pirated books and papers and written an open letter to Meta, who used it to train its AI assistant. I have also published a 2nd Edition of my “SAS Programming Experiences” and “Altair SLC” paperbacks and ebooks, which include the updates found in Altair SLC 2025, and have explained how to get copies at the best available prices. As usual I have publicised some SAS-related events for the next few months, and I have also added some more SAS formats, options and functions that you may or may not have come across before, but you might find interesting, and even useful.

If you would like to contribute an article, to re-visit and improve an existing article, or just discuss the possibility of doing so, please feel free to send an email to me at views-uk@hollandnumerics.org.uk.

Philip R Holland (Newsletter Editor)

Membership of VIEWS is free and you can register for notification of all future VIEWS News issues by registering at blog.hollandnumerics.org.uk, and then emailing views-uk@hollandnumerics.org.uk, or using the blog site menu, to request access to the VIEWS UK forum. Members will receive an email notification whenever a new issue of the free quarterly VIEWS News is published on the web site, please inform us when you change your email address, otherwise your registration may be cancelled.

Ask The Consultant

This part of VIEWS News is where you can get your technical questions answered. Send your questions to the Editor.

A BETTER way to make tiny geographic areas on web-enabled maps easily discoverable

CORRECTION: In my prior article in VIEWS News Issue 78 for 1st Quarter 2025, there was at least one error in the main image. E.g. Algeria had a Rank button value of 10, but should have been 12. In all footnotes that listed Algeria, the Rank was correct. The code used has been corrected, and is available upon email request. Below are illustrations of a better way to make the maps.

News, Hints, Tips and Information for SAS® Users

Issue 79, 2nd Quarter 2025

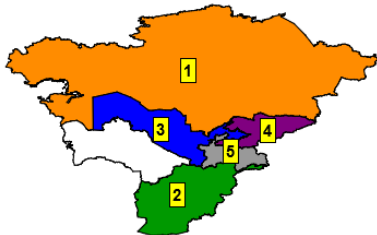
Total Cases in Central America
Total = 4,284,920 For 7 Countries
■ 16,088 - 71,373 (2 lowest)
■ 201,835 - 201,835 (below median)
■ 472,743 - 472,743 (median)
■ 1,041,924 - 1,041,924 (above median)
■ 1,230,653 - 1,250,304 (2 highest)
[Go To Country Lists By Rank In Range](#)

Belize : 6 : 71,373
Costa Rica : 2 : 1,230,653
El Salvador : 5 : 201,835
Guatemala : 1 : 1,250,304
Honduras : 4 : 472,743
Nicaragua : 7 : 16,088
Panama : 3 : 1,041,924



Total Cases in Central Asia
Total = 2,014,948 For 5 Countries
□ No Data
■ 17,786 - 17,786 (1 lowest)
■ 88,934 - 88,934 (below median)
■ 175,081 - 175,081 (median)
■ 230,290 - 230,290 (above median)
■ 1,502,857 - 1,502,857 (1 highest)
[Go To Country List in Alphabetic Order](#)
Countries With No Data: Turkmenistan

Top 1 Countries:
1 : Kazakhstan : 1,502,857
Above Median Countries:
2 : Afghanistan : 230,290
Median Countries:
3 : Uzbekistan : 175,081
Below Median Countries:
4 : Kyrgyzstan : 88,934
Bottom 1 Countries:
5 : Tajikistan : 17,786



Each of the maps above does have a companion with the other version of the SideNotes. I use two different map areas so that I can provide one with response values for every country, and another that includes a country that has no response value.

In the prior VIEWS News article, I was touting the advantages of my earlier design for more usable choropleth maps. Since then, I realised that there IS a better way. Just like a presentation slide with bullet points is more communication-effective than a paragraph of sentences with the same information, I realised that my long wrapped footnotes containing concatenated strings of

Country	Rank	Response Value
---------	------	----------------

separated with | between each country pair were both clumsy to digest and unnecessarily distant from country areas. Just as the CURVELABEL for a line in multi-line overlay time series plot can be more convenient than a legend below the plot, using what I will call “SideNotes” rather than footnotes is a vast improvement.

So, my formerly pushing all of the text lookup information to the bottom of the web page impedes and slows down the lookup.

Except for a World Map, which for the COVID-19 data includes information for up to 236 countries, it is much better to display the lists of Country, Rank, and Response Value as SideNotes.

This version of the new design published here omits links to a bar chart with columns of more variables associated with each country, the link to an index of ALL maps in the atlas, and the links to the same two-part package for each of the other COVID-19 variables (Case Rate, Mortality Rate, Mortality Count, and Population). Those features, always part of the design of the atlas, will be added. The final code can be requested via email.

Though the full code for this new design is too long to publish here. However, I want to share some pieces which can be applied in other contexts.

The full code consists of:

- define the colour palette with macro variable values
- input the response data
- determine any countries with missing response
- determine the number of countries with non-null response
- determine the grand total response
- determine the start & end values in each of the five ranges
- determine the countries in each of the ranges
- provide macro variable values for all of that determined information described above
- use the colour palette and range boundary macro variables to create the Range Attribute Map used to colour the map
- extract the map information for countries in the area
- determine the centroid of each country's area
- attach the centroid coordinates to each country's response
- complete three parts of the layout
 - LeftSide Column Region:
 - a "slide" of notes displayed above the map
 - the map
 - RightSide Column Region:
 - a "slide" of the countries list(s) for the map

As you can see in the illustration, the slide of notes above the map includes the title, the legend as title lines, and the link to the map with the other version of the SideNotes.

The new design still uses separate web pages for the countries in one alphabetical order list versus in a stack of rank-ordered countries within each of the five ranges. However, especially for comparatively narrow maps (e.g. not Asia), it would be more convenient to display the map between one list at the left and the other list at the right. Though that sounds straightforward, the project has encountered an obstacle. If overcome, the result will be reported in a future issue.

Here is skeleton code to complete the layout in the web page:

```
ODS RESULTS OFF;
ODS _ALL_ CLOSE;
TITLE; FOOTNOTE;

ODS HTML5 PATH="C:\temp" (URL=NONE)
OPTIONS (BITMAP_MODE="INLINE")
/* The above statement imbeds the image file
in the HTML file. It assures portability.
The web page can be relocated, or emailed
without having to also manage a separate
image file. */
BODY="CentralAsiaWithAlphabeticList.HTML"
(TITLE="Central Asia With Alphabetic List")
STYLE=AtlasFont11ptBold;

OPTIONS NOCENTER;

ODS LAYOUT GRIDDED COLUMNS=2
COLUMN_WIDTHS=(4in 2in) COLUMN_GUTTER=0.05in;
ODS REGION COLUMN=1;

/* Do the map and its title lines, which include
the legend and link to map with other list(s) */

ODS REGION COLUMN=2;

/* Do the SideNotes */

ODS LAYOUT END;
ODS HTML5 CLOSE;
```

Here is code to create the map:

```
ODS GRAPHICS ON / RESET=ALL
SCALE=OFF /* I have never found any benefit
from SCALE=ON */
WIDTH=4in
/* HEIGHT= not assigned here.
Accepting default 0.75 times WIDTH.
When the default is too vertically squashed,
assign HEIGHT to a preferred result. */
NOBORDER /* BORDER would add no value. */
ANTIALIASMAX=200000 /* Oversized for maximum
need, such as a World Map */
TIPMAX=200000 /* Oversized */
IMAGEMAP=ON /* for data tips */
OUTPUTFMT=PNG; /* actually the default */

PROC SGMAP NOAUTOLEGEND
RATTRMAP=WORK.RattrMap
MAPDATA=WORK.AreaMapData
MAPRESPDATA=WORK.OneOBSperID
PLOTDATA=WORK.CountryAnnoData

CHOROMAP TotalCases / ID=ID MAPID=ID
DENSITY=6 /* This is always best.
It is not the default. */
RATTRID=RangeID
TIP=(Country TotalCases Rank)
TIPFORMAT=($52. COMMA11. F2.)
TIPLABEL=('Country' 'Total Cases' 'Rank');
```

```

TEXT X=XCENTER Y=YCENTER TEXT=Rank /
STRIP /* ESSENTIAL */ BACKFILL
FILLATTRS=(COLOR=YELLOW) OUTLINE
OUTLINEATTRS=(COLOR=BLACK) PAD=2PT
TEXTATTRS=(SIZE=11PT) /* actually style
value */
TIP=(Country TotalCases Rank))
TIPFORMAT=($52. COMMA11. F2.)
TIPLABEL=('Country' 'Total Cases' 'Rank');
RUN;

```

The simplified code above omits the avalanche of data tips that were shown in a screen capture for the earlier design. They will be included in the ultimate version.

Let me explain the reason for use of STYLE= on the ODS HTML5 statement. Below is a clipping of the top of the web page using the default style for ODS HTML5. The TITLE statements area was ADDED only for demonstration purposes. The key features of the default are the useless web page background color, and the fact that, IF the application HAD used TITLE and/or FOOTNOTE statements, only TITLE1 would have true colour black as the default colour. I don't know what to call the default colour used in TITLE2.

color=black with default height and font
NO color= or other assignments for this TITLE
color=black height=11pt font='Arial/Bold'
Notice the No-Value-Added default light blue background for the web page.



Below is a comparison of a default footnote versus a customised one. No titles or footnotes are used in the new design of the map.

NO color= or other assignments for this FOOTNOTE
color=black height=11pt font='Arial/Bold'

Below is code to create the custom ODS style used in the map.

```

%MACRO AtlasStyleSetUp(Size, Family=ARIAL,
Weight=BOLD);
%LET FamilyForStyle =
%SYSFUNC(COMPRESS(&Family, ' '));

PROC TEMPLATE;
DEFINE STYLE STYLES.WhiteWebPageBackground;
PARENT=STYLES.HTMLblue;
CLASS COLORS /
'DOCBG'=WHITE /* background for web page */
'SYSTITLEBG'=WHITE; /* background for
NOGTITLE title lines that might be in
the web page */
STYLE SYSTEMTITLE FROM SYSTEMTITLE /
FOREGROUND=BLACK; /* black text */
STYLE SYSTEMFOOTER FROM SYSTEMFOOTER /
FOREGROUND=BLACK; /* black text */
STYLE USERTEXT FROM USERTEXT /
FOREGROUND=BLACK BACKGROUND=WHITE;
END;
RUN;

```

```

PROC TEMPLATE;
DEFINE STYLE
STYLES.AtlasFont&FamilyForStyle.&Size.pt&Weight;
PARENT=STYLES.WhiteWebPageBackground;
CLASS GRAPHFONTS /
'GRAPHVALUEFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
'GRAPHVALUEFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
'GRAPHLABELFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
'GRAPHDATAFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
'GRAPHTITLEFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
'GRAPHFOOTNOTEFONT' =
("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight);
END;
RUN;
%MEND AtlasStyleSetUp;

```

Using %AtlasStyleSetup(11); will create the style Styles.AtlasFontArial11ptBold. 11 point Arial Bold will be used for every piece of text in the web page unless options are used to customise it for that specific text element.

Though not relevant here, if you wanted to establish default text characteristics for tabular output that might be in the web page, in addition to the CLASS GRAPHFONTS statement, include:

```

CLASS FONTS /
'TITLEFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
/* above for table titles and footnotes */
'HEADINGFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight)
/* above for table column headers and row
headers */
'DOCFONT' = ("&Family",&Size.pt,&Weight);
/* above for table cells */

```

Other options possibly of interest when creating a table are:

```

CLASS HEADER /
BACKGROUND = WHITE COLOR = BLACK
CLASS ROWHEADER /
BACKGROUND = WHITE COLOR = BLACK
CLASS DATA /
BACKGROUND = WHITE COLOR = BLACK
CLASS TABLE /
RULES=NONE FRAME=VOID; /* turn off the grid */

```

If you want to compact the table vertically, select a point size that is, say, two points higher than the text size, and use:

```

CLASS ROWHEADER / CELLHEIGHT =
PointSizeIntegerPT;
CLASS DATA / CELLHEIGHT = PointSizeIntegerPT;

```

Below is a partially resolved skeleton of the code to create the titles, and the titles as legend, in the column above the map. This is for the map with the Alphabetic Order list of countries. By "partially resolved" I mean that I have, e.g. omitted %IF code to support both types of the list(s) AND I have substituted the values for macro variables for MapArea and MapVar, and other macro variables' values.

```

GOPTIONS RESET=GOPTIONS DEVICE=PNG
VSIZE=&AreaHeightForMapHeadings
HSIZE=&ImageWidth;

```

```

PROC GSLIDE DESCRIPTION=' ';
NOTE "Total Cases in Central Asia";
NOTE "Total = &GrandTotalTotalCasesDisplay "
      "FOR &CountryCountDisplay Countries";
%IF "&CountriesWithNoTotalCases" NE
  "All Countries Had Data" %THEN %DO;
  NOTE HEIGHT=&NoDataSymbolHeight
        COLOR=BLACK FONT='WingDings' '6F'X
        HEIGHT=&TitleHeight COLOR=BLACK
        FONT='ARIAL/BOLD' " No Data";
%END;
NOTE HEIGHT=&LegendSymbolHeight
      COLOR=&NlowestColor FONT='WingDings' '6E'X
      HEIGHT=&TitleHeight COLOR=BLACK
      FONT='ARIAL/BOLD' " &Nlowest";
/* NOTE statements here for the other four
   ranges */
NOTE COLOR=BLUE UNDERLIN=1
      LINK="CentralAsia_RankOrderWithinRange.HTML"
      "Go TO Country Lists By Rank in Range";
%IF "&CountriesWithNoTotalCases" NE
  "All Countries Had Data" %THEN %DO;
  NOTE COLOR=RED "Countries with No Data:
&CountriesWithNoTotalCases";
%END;
RUN; QUIT;

```

Below is the code used to create the SideNotes. Via email I can provide the even more complicated code that is used to CREATE the values for the indexed macro variables. The value for SideNotesRegionWidth is specified in the master macro's invocation code.

```

ODS REGION COLUMN=2;

GOPTIONS RESET=GOPTIONS DEVICE=PNG
  VSIZE=11in /* being oversized does no harm */
  HSIZE=&SideNotesRegionWidth;

PROC GSLIDE DESCRIPTION=' ';

%IF &SideNoteType EQ AlphabeticOrder
%THEN %DO;

  %MACRO SideNoteSegments;
  %DO R = 1 %TO &CountryCount;
    NOTE &FontOverride COLOR=&&CountryColor&R
          "&&Country&R : &&Rank&R : &&Value&R";
  %END;
%MEND SideNoteSegments;

  %SideNoteSegments;

%END;
%ELSE %DO;

  %MACRO SideNoteSections;
  %DO S = 1 %TO 5;
    NOTE &FontOverride
          COLOR=&&RangeHeadingColor&S "&&List&S";
  %DO T = 1 %TO &&CountryCount&S;
    NOTE &FontOverride "&&&List&S.Rank&T :
&&&List&S.Country&T : &&&List&S.Value&T";
  %END;
%END;
%MEND SideNoteSections;

  %SideNoteSections;

%END;

RUN; QUIT;

```

Via email, I welcome any requests for code, or comments as to what else might be done in the Atlas for COVID-19.

LeRoy Bessler, Bessler Consulting and Research

A future issue of VIEWS News will present an investigation of the relationship, if any, between the COVID-19 case rate in one country and the median case rate in all of its surrounding countries.

Did You Know?

If you have a useful hint or tip, please send it to the Editor, and share it with the VIEWS membership.

Open Letter to Meta: If a Pirated-Books Database has been used to Obtain Copyrighted Training Data, the Copyright Owners should now receive their Legally-Owed Royalties

In VIEW News 78 I asked whether we should continue to hide our best programs on restricted sites. The following article may suggest that it is already too late!

The examples were extracted using a search tool at <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/03/search-libgen-data-set/682094/>. This search tool is part of The Atlantic's investigation into the Library Genesis data set.

Search for an author in LibGen

For instance, Stephen King, Min Jin Lee, or Fyodor Dostoevsky. Note that different spellings of the same name—"JK Rowling" versus "J. K. Rowling"—may produce different results.

37 Results

Saving Time and Money Using SAS
Philip R. Holland

SAS Programming and Data Visualization Techniques: A Power User's Guide
Philip R. Holland

1. Saving Time and Money Using SAS
Philip R. Holland
2. SAS Programming and Data Visualization Techniques: A Power User's Guide
Philip R. Holland
3. SAS/GRAPH ® : should we use classic procedures or ODS templates?
Pharmaceutical Programming
Philip R. Holland
4. SAS Programming and Data Visualization Techniques ||
Philip R. Holland
5. ChemInform Abstract: PREPARATION, MECHANISM OF FORMATION, STRUCTURE, AND REACTIONS OF μ -ALLYL COMPLEXES OF RUTHENIUM(II)

- Chemischer Informationsdienst
C. F. J. BARNARD, J. A. DANIELS, P. R. HOLLAND, R. J. MAWBY
6. ChemInform Abstract: PREPARATION, STRUCTURE, AND REACTIONS OF ALKENYL COMPLEXES OF RUTHENIUM(II)
Chemischer Informationsdienst
P. R. HOLLAND, B. HOWARD, R. J. MAWBY
-
7. Visual Data Insights Using SAS ODS Graphics: A Guide to Communication-Effective Data Visualization
LeRoy Bessler
8. How to Become a Top SAS Programmer
Michael A. Raithel
9. The Complete Guide to SAS Indexes
Michael A. Raithel
10. Data Management and Reporting Made Easy with SAS Learning Edition 2.0
Sunil Gupta
11. Clinical Data Quality Checks for CDISC Compliance Using SAS
Sunil Gupta
12. Sharpening your advanced SAS skills
Sunil Gupta
13. Clinical data acceptance testing procedure
Pharmaceutical Programming
Sunil Gupta
14. Sharpening Your SAS Skills
Sunil Gupta, Curt Edmonds
15. Power SAS: A Survival Guide
Kirk Paul Lafler
16. Proc SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS
Kirk Paul Lafler
17. PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS, third edition
Kirk Paul Lafler
18. PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS®, Second Edition
Kirk Paul Lafler
19. PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS, Third Edition
Kirk Paul Lafler
20. Power SAS: A Survival Guide ||
Kirk Paul Lafler
21. Data preparation and fuzzy matching techniques for improved statistical modeling
Model Assisted Statistics and Applications
- Stephen Sloan, Kirk Paul Lafler, Jennifer Waller, Tyler Smith
22. Biostatistics by Example Using SAS® Studio
Ron Cody
23. A Gentle Introduction to Statistics Using SAS Studio in the Cloud
Ron Cody
24. Learning SAS by Example: A Programmer's Guide, Second Edition
Ron Cody
25. Cody's Data Cleaning Techniques Using SAS
Ron Cody
26. The SAS Workbook Solutions
Ron Cody
27. Cody's Collection of Popular SAS Programming Tasks and How to Tackle Them
Ron Cody
28. Learning SAS by Example. A Programmer's Guide [2nd ed.]
Ron Cody
29. Learning SAS by Example: A Programmer's Guide, Second Edition
Ron Cody
30. A Gentle Introduction to Statistics Using SAS Studio (Hardcover edition)
Ron Cody
31. Getting Started with SAS Programming: Using SAS Studio in the Cloud (Hardcover edition)
Ron Cody
32. The SAS Workbook
SAS Press program
Ron Cody
33. Cody's Data Cleaning Techniques Using SAS
SAS
Ron Cody
34. Getting Started with SAS Programming
Ron Cody
35. SAS Statistics by Example
Ron Cody
36. An Introduction to SAS University Edition
Ron Cody
37. SAS Functions by Example, Second Edition
Ron Cody
38. Learning SAS by Example, A Programmer's Guide
Ron Cody
39. Learning SAS by Example: A Programmer's Guide

Ron Cody

40. A Gentle Introduction to Statistics Using SAS Studio

SAS

Ron Cody

41. Test Scoring and Analysis Using SAS

Ron Cody, Jeffrey K. Smith

42. Carpenter's Guide to Innovative SAS Techniques

Art Carpenter

43. Carpenter's Complete Guide to the SAS Macro Language, Third Edition

Art Carpenter

44. Carpenter's Complete Guide to the SAS Macro Language

SAS

Art Carpenter

45. Carpenter's Complete Guide to the SAS REPORT Procedure

SAS Press

Art Carpenter

46. Carpenter's Complete Guide to the SAS Macro Language, 2nd Edition

Art Carpenter

47. Carpenter's guide to innovative SAS® techniques

Art Carpenter

48. The Essential Guide to SAS Dates and Times

Derek Morgan

My abstracts from Chemischer Informationsdienst (items 5 & 6) are not subject to copyright in the same way as my books, but have been listed to indicate the date range of documents in the database, as they were published in 1980 and 1983, respectively, around the time when I was completing my post-graduate studies.

Books 1 and 2 below were published by SAS Press and Apress, respectively. The books from 7 to 48, by other well-known authors, all have well-known publishers too. However, my other books, self-published on Lulu.com, have not been found in the database!

Could this be the way to protect your intellectual property from being used to train AI without your permission?

Should the Big Publishing Houses do more to Protect their Authors' Books from Library Genesis and other Pirates?

Should Copyrighted Intellectual Property be used to Train AI without the Permission of the Copyright Owners?

Philip R Holland (Newsletter Editor)

Formats, Options, and Functions

This section is devoted to the description of useful, or unusual, SAS Formats, Options, and Functions. Please read the SAS documentation to find out more about them.

[SAS 9.4M5 and Altair SLC 2024] The SAS language allows the **NLSTRMONw.d** format and informat to convert the month name in a specified locale from/to an integer, where d = 0 (full month and mixed-case), 1 (abbreviated month and mixed-case), 2 (full month and upper-case), 3 (abbreviated month and upper-case). In Altair SLC only the format **NLSTRMONw..** is permitted, which converts an integer to an abbreviated upper-case month.

[SAS 8 and Altair SLC 2025] The **VALIDVARNAME=** system option controls the type of SAS variable names that can be created and processed during a SAS session. This can be particularly important while you are in transition between different versions of SAS software. **VALIDNAME=V7** is the default option, which allows up to 32 mixed-case alphanumeric characters, beginning with alphabetic characters or an underscore. **VALIDNAME=UPCASE** is the same as **V7**, except that the names are changed internally to upper-case. **VALIDNAME=V6** is the same as **UPCASE**, except that the names are limited to 8 alphanumeric characters. **VALIDNAME=ANY** extends **V7** by allowing any characters to appear as valid SAS variable names, including blanks, "=" and "*", but these must be contained in a '**varname**'n construct, and can only be used in certain SAS steps, e.g. Data Step and PROC SQL. Note also that **VALIDNAME=V6** option is not available in SAS v9!

[SAS 9.2 and Altair SLC 2025] The Data Step function **KPROPDATA()** converts an input data string to the current SAS session encoding, then removes or replaces unprintable characters. Previously it was only available from SAS 9.2.

Book Releases

SAS Programming Experiences and Altair SLC paperbacks and ebooks now have 2nd Editions

The original editions only included details of the 2024 versions of Altair SLC, but with the release of 2025 versions of Altair SLC, it seemed right to revise my SAS Programming Experiences and Altair SLC paperbacks and ebooks to include the new features of Altair SLC 2025.

Some of the windows in Altair Analytics Workbench have changed significantly between 2024 and 2025, but the major difference you will see is that the 2nd Editions will be available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Ingram, etc.. However, please do not buy these editions there, as the resellers inflate their prices, but wait for discounted prices for the paperbacks on Lulu.com (which should be in every "odd" month: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep and Nov), or download the equivalent ebooks instead from <https://hollandnumerics.org.uk/book-table>, which is where the lowest prices for paperbacks and ebooks can always be found.

Philip R Holland (Newsletter Editor)

In Brief

- Back issues of *VIEWS News* are available from the VIEWS UK forum at **blog.hollandnumerics.org.uk**. Please register for free membership on the blog, and then request free access to the VIEWS UK forum.
- The SAS Professional Forum group on LinkedIn, which currently has over 41,100 members. Everyone is welcome to request to join, but discussions here are restricted to SAS-related topics: www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=70702.
- The SAS Opportunities group on LinkedIn, which currently has over 22,800 members. Everyone is welcome to request to join, but discussions here are also restricted to SAS-related topics: www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=805217.
- Altair SLC Personal Edition provides named users with free access to Altair SLC and Analytics Workbench software (formerly WPS) including a SAS language compiler with coding and workflow tools on unlimited data volumes, with interfaces to a wide range of databases, as well as integrated R and Python programming environments. When the Personal Edition software is downloaded, it includes a licence for up to 12 months. At the end of this term, users should download a new copy of the software to renew their licence and/or to upgrade to the latest available full version. Download the software from altairone.com/Marketplace. No technical support service is offered with the Personal Edition, but assistance can be requested using the Community forums at community.altair.com. The current General Access version of Altair SLC is 5.25.1 (2025).
- Do you use Microsoft Visual Studio Code Editor?
 - You may be interested in a SAS-related extension called **SASjs - DevOps for SAS**. You can develop SAS applications and run code on local SAS installations, SAS Viya, SAS 9 EBI, SASjs Server or local Altair SLC! Just set up the target, and click the running man to execute your SAS code. The SASjs Server could be your local SAS installation. SASjs is an open source project, and can be obtained from the Visual Studio Code Marketplace, where the current version is v2.6.0.
 - The SAS Institute has also been developing its own extension called **SAS**. You can develop SAS applications and run code on local SAS installations, SAS Viya, or SAS OnDemand for Academics! Just set up the target, and click the running man to execute your SAS code. The extension can be obtained from the Visual Studio Code Marketplace, where the current version is v1.15.0.
 - Another Microsoft Visual Studio Code Editor extension has just been released called **Altair SLC**. This extension currently only allows you to connect to local Altair SLC installations, even if, until now, you have only been able to use Altair Analytics Workbench to access Altair SLC. The current version in the Visual Studio Code Marketplace is v0.7.1 (pre-release).

Diary

Are you organising an event that would be of interest to the VIEWS readership? Let us know as we are interested in all non-profit making events related to SAS.

November 2025

16-19 **PhUSE EU Connect**, Hamburg, Germany

The PhUSE Community allows you to enhance your learning and gain insights from our experts on today's most critical industry topics through a variety of engaging presentations, workshops, and networking opportunities. Individuals from all areas of the industry will be gathered in one place, providing an opportunity not only for you to advance your career but also to heighten the pharmaceutical industry's influence and findings. Full details at **www.phuse.eu**.

March 2026

22-26 **PhUSE US Connect**, Austin, TX, USA

The PhUSE Community allows you to enhance your learning and gain insights from our experts on today's most critical industry topics through a variety of engaging presentations, workshops, and networking opportunities. Individuals from all areas of the industry will be gathered in one place, providing an opportunity not only for you to advance your career but also to heighten the pharmaceutical industry's influence and findings. Full details at **www.phuse.eu**.

May 2026

31 May-3 June **PharmaSUG 2026**, Boston, MA, USA

2.5 days of live presentations, hands-on training, e-posters and panel discussions. Pre- and post-conference in-person training seminars. Networking opportunities during the conference. Full details at **www.pharmasug.org**.

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