



SAS Hash Object Programming Made Easy

By Michele M. Burlew

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Hash objects, an efficient look-up tool in the SAS DATA step, are object-oriented programming structures that function differently from traditional SAS language statements. Michele Burlew's SAS Hash Object Programming Made Easy shows readers how to use these powerful features, which they can program to quickly look up and manage data and to conserve computing resources. SAS provides various look-up techniques, and hash objects are among the newest, so therefore many users may not have yet used them. Because the examples presented vary in complexity, SAS Hash Object Programming Made Easy is useful to SAS users of all experience levels, from novice programmer to advanced programmer. Novice programmers can adapt some of the simpler hash programming techniques as they develop their SAS programming skills. This book helps more experienced programmers learn how to take advantage of hash object programming by comparing traditional processing techniques to those that use hash objects. Additionally, users from diverse fields with different requirements can adapt the examples in SAS Hash Object Programming Made Easy to fit their unique situations.

This book is part of the SAS Press program.

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Editorial Review

Review

"For those unfamiliar with component objects such as hash tables, the book is a thorough introduction, offering clear explanations of elements associated with object-oriented programming and contrasting them to familiar SAS concepts such as array processing, sorting, and match/merging.... The author's guidance, through dozens of applied examples, makes the book an invaluable resource. Readers who learn well from examples will find the book to be effective training. At the same time that it offers practical examples, it also does an admirable job of covering the underlying principles of objects and their associated properties and methods." --Pat Bland, OptumHealth, The opinions expressed are those of the reviewer only, and do not reflect the opinion of OptumHealth or United Health Group

If you are a SAS programmer who is ready to advance your programming skills, you should check out Michele's latest book about hash objects in SAS! Being able to use look-up tables is so basic for many SAS programming projects. Adding hash object programming to your DATA step arsenal can make your programming more efficient and more powerful than other look-up methods you are already familiar with (formats, merges, joins, etc.). Michele explains how to get started using hash object programming in SAS. She steps through typical examples to show you how, why, and when to do it. She might even convince you that hash object programming can actually be more easily programmed for complex look-ups than techniques you are already familiar with now. --Sue Hakomaki, OptumHealth, The opinions expressed are those of the reviewer only, and do not reflect the opinion of OptumHealth or United Health Group.

"Within the first 6 pages, you'll get the concept and start seeing applications in your own work. This book has all the detail you need to get you through simple and complicated uses of hash objects. You'll be surprised that you had not known how to use hash tables before. They are a particularly important tool for those using large data sets who want to speed up simple operations. And, if you run into code with hash object programming, this book will provide everything you need to understand and modify it." --Peter Graven, Research Faculty, Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, Oregon Health and Science University

"I knew this book was written for me when I read the opening sentence, Programming hash objects in SAS sounds like a geeky process, and then immediately saw examples using DATA step merge, PROC SQL, and the hash object to present problems and show how the hash object fits in the solution space. The book starts with a no-nonsense approach that continues throughout, illustrating all the concepts with clear examples. I recommend this book to anyone who needs to learn how to effectively use the hash object. If you have a limited time budget, the clear examples will quickly show you how the hash objects work. When your time budget expands, you can revisit the book to learn why the hash object works as it does." --Peter Eberhardt, Fernwood Consulting Group

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About the Author

Michele M. Burlew designs and programs SAS applications for data management, data analysis, report writing, and graphics for academic and corporate clients. A SAS user since 1980, she has expertise in many SAS products and operating systems. Burlew is the author of seven SAS Press books: SAS Hash Object Programming Made Easy; Combining and Modifying SAS Data Sets: Examples, Second Edition; Output Delivery System: The Basics and Beyond (coauthor); SAS Guide to Report Writing: Examples, Second Edition; SAS Macro Programming Made Easy, Third Edition; Debugging SAS Programs: A Handbook of

Users Review

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