

## **Minimize PROC REPORT time and maximize your beach time**

### Abstract:

General approach for displaying results using PROC REPORT has been by manually adjusting column width and header width on a trial and error basis. This final step in production of listings and tables could be very labor intensive and time consuming, subsequently reducing the time a programmer has to perform additional programming/validation checks. However, with the aid of SAS macro language and “do loops,” it is possible to alleviate this problem and create a program, which will automate this step, allowing you to focus on other issues or head to the beach.

The macro described in this paper evaluates the maximum number of characters in all variables to be displayed in PROC REPORT and their corresponding label lengths. After this step, column width is assigned proportionally to the width of each variable in relation to other variables and the total page width using “do loops”.

Once the report is produced, minimal visual inspection and adjustment of column widths would be required to finalize the Excel/RTF output file.

### Outline of paper:

1. Intro
2. Necessary set-up of data to be processed by macro
3. Get maximum lengths of all passed-in variables and store them as macro variables
4. Get lengths of all passed variable labels and store them as macro variables
5. Compute ratio between length of variables and their labels
6. Assign new column widths proportional for each variable and total width of the page and save as macro variables
7. Set up PROC REPORT
8. Include “do loop” in PROC REPORT to assign saved column width
9. Review of results and adjustments as needed.