The Use and Abuse of the Program Data Vector

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ABSTRACT
Have you ever wondered why SAS does the things it does or why your programs “get away with” the things that they do or why SAS would not do what you wanted it to? A key operational component of SAS is the program data vector. Without it SAS would not function, as we know it. With knowledge of the program data vector, programmers can better understand how SAS works. This paper will help you understand how the program data vector works, how data steps use it, and how you can exploit, manipulate, and trick it.
sources, or created during the execution of the data step. The program data vector is used to populate the output data sets. All variables in the output data sets are in the program data vector, but not all variables on the program data vector are written to the output data sets.

**DROP / KEEP / WHERE / RENAME**

Use &.0T*0.0034ite the o22P / WHERE /P 2 1r1can haj T*39. a arefou1r1effects on the progam
The order the DROP and KEEP statements or da3/TT2t
data two;
set one(where=(a=1));
where b=2;
WARNING: The WHERE statement cannot be applied to a data set on the last SET/MERGE/UPDATE/MODIFY statement. Either the data sets listed failed with open errors or they already specify a WHERE data set option.
run;

5at3.-2.2;
Variable A - input from data set ONE; variable is retained; value is calculated. At observation 4, the value
var1=X var2=1
var1=X var2=
var1=Z var2=1
var1=Z var2=v