



Alberta Health
Services

How ***Big*** Does It Have To Be?!

Using Macros To Set Array Size At Run-Time.

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Defining The Problem

```
proc transpose data=ds1 (keep = uli
                        start_dt
                        end_dt
                        mis
                        diag)
    out =ds2 (drop = _name_)
    prefix=diag_;
by uli start_dt mis end_dt;
var diag;

run;
```

Defining The Problem (2)

Alphabetic List of Variables and Attributes

#	Variable	Type	Len	Format	Informat	Label
5	diag_1	Char	7			
6	diag_2	Char	7			
7	diag_3	Char	7			
8	diag_4	Char	7			
9	diag_5	Char	7			
10	diag_6	Char	7			
11	diag_7	Char	7			
12	diag_8	Char	7			
13	diag_9	Char	7			
14	diag_10	Char	7			
15	diag_11	Char	7			

How Many Diag_x Variables Are There?

SAS Can Do It!!

(It Can Do It Better And Faster Than We Can Too.)

- † Output data set must contain at least ten diagnosis variables
- † If more than ten diagnosis variables, must be able to dynamically adjust array sizes in our code so processing includes all variables.

* Define macro function with four parameters:

```
var_count = macro variable name to store array size
ds        = data set name
var       = common part of array variable names
z        = minimum array size parameter;
```

```
%macro array_size (var_count=, ds=, var=, z=);
```

```
[Part 1 - Declare Global Macro Variable]
```

```
[Part 2 - Number of Variables]
```

```
[Part 3 - Add Variables, If Needed]
```

```
%mend array_size;
```

Part 1 – Declare Global Macro Variable

```
%macro array_size (var_count=, ds=, var=, z=);  
  
    %global &var_count;  
  
    [Code For Part 2 And Part 3 Here]  
  
%mend array_size;
```

Part 2 – How Many Variables In The Array?

```
%let i = 0;

%let dsid = %sysfunc(open(&ds,i));

  %do %until (&x = 0);

    %let i = %eval(&i + 1);
    %let x = %sysfunc(varnum(&dsid,&var.&i));

  %end;

%let rc=%sysfunc(close(&dsid));
```


Part 3 – Do We Need To Add New Variables?

```
* Do this part if we need to add new variables.;
```

```
%if %eval(&i - 1) < &z %then %do;
```

```
    %let &var_count = &z;
```

```
    [Code For Adding And Initializing New Variables]
```

```
%end;
```

```
* Do this part if we do not.;
```

```
%if %eval(&i - 1) >= &z %then %do;
```

```
    %let &var_count = %eval(&i - 1);
```

```
%end;
```

Part 3 – Code For Adding New Variables

```
* Determine length of new variable to add.;

%let dsid = %sysfunc(open(&ds,i));
%let vlong = %sysfunc(varlen(&dsid,%eval(&i-1)));

* Add and initialize new variables.;

  %do j = &i %to &z;

    %if (%sysfunc(vartype(&dsid,&i))=N) %then %do;
      length &var.&j &vlong; &var.&j=.;
    %end;

    %else %do;
      length &var.&j $ &vlong; &var.&j=' ';
    %end;

  %end;

%let rc=%sysfunc(close(&dsid));
```

Invoking The Macro

```
data old_ds;  
  set old_ds;  
  
  %array_size (var_count=diag_var_count,  
              ds=old_ds,  
              var=diag_  
              z=10) ;  
  
run;
```

Later On – Adding Variables And Defining Arrays

```
data new_ds;  
  set old_ds;  
  
  length colon_cat_diag_1 -  
    colon_cat_diag_&diag_var_count $15;  
  
  array olddiag{&diag_var_count} $  
    diag_1 - diag_&diag_var_count;  
  
  array colon_cat_diag{&diag_var_count} $  
    colon_cat_diag_1 - colon_cat_diag_&diag_var_count;  
  
  [More Code Here]  
  
run;
```

Later On – Controlling Program Execution

```
do i = 1 to &diag_var_count;
```

```
    [More Code Here]
```

```
end;
```



**Alberta Health
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Questions?

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