

# **SAS<sup>®</sup> 9.3 OLAP Server MDX Guide**



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**SAS® 9.3 OLAP Server: MDX Guide**

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# What's New in the SAS 9.3 OLAP Server

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## Overview

MDX syntax and the content of this document are unchanged for SAS 9.3.

The SAS 9.3 OLAP Server provides the following changes and enhancements:

- restructure and enhance the Cube Designer wizard
- add Multiple Language Support for drill-through tables and caption tables
- add support for shared dimensions
- new and improved functions and options

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## Cube Designer Wizard Restructure and Enhancements

The Cube Designer wizard is used to create new cube definitions and edit existing cube definitions in SAS OLAP Cube Studio. It has been redesigned to make navigating the wizard and editing a cube easier. The pages of the wizard have been modified and reduced in number to simplify the cube building and editing process. You can now make changes to an existing cube without following a sequential order in the wizard. The **Next** button displays the available pages in a drop-down menu. You can go to the next page of the Cube Designer wizard or select a specific page in the wizard. This enables you to bypass pages that you do not need to edit. The **Finish** button is also now available from most pages in the wizard. You can now save the cube definition and, if desired, build the cube from most pages in the wizard.

---

## Multiple Language Support for Drill-through Tables and Caption Tables

Multilingual cubes show member information in the language of the query session. Now, your multilingual cubes can also return captions and drill-through data in the language of the query session.

You provide language-specific captions for multilingual cubes in one or more caption tables. Caption tables must be registered with the metadata server. The naming

convention for the caption tables follows the same convention as that of translated dimension tables. Each table, except for the default language, is suffixed with the five-character locale code.

In SAS OLAP Cube Studio, you can select a primary drill-through table. Additional tables for each language must also be registered in metadata, but you do not need to select them.

---

## Shared Dimension Support

A SAS shared dimension provides a common dimension that is created and updated in one location and is automatically reflected across all cubes that use the dimension. In SAS OLAP Cube Studio, the Shared Dimension Designer wizard enables you to create and edit a shared dimension. This common dimension is created and updated in one place and is automatically reflected across all cubes that use the dimension. After you have created a shared dimension, you can select the dimension for use in a new or existing cube. SAS OLAP Cube Studio enables you to define, update, and use a shared dimension in a cube. After you have created a shared dimension, you can edit the structure of the shared dimension and perform various updates and changes to the shared dimension.

---

## Specify a New Default Member

When you query SAS OLAP cubes, a default member is used to subset a dimension if that dimension is not on the rows or columns of a report. When a SAS OLAP cube is built, the ALL member is the default. You can now assign a different default member at the start of query sessions. The new default member is specified in PROC OLAP using the DEFAULT\_MEMBER option on the HIERARCHY statement. In SAS OLAP Cube Studio, set the **Default Member** option using the Quick Edit dialog box.

---

## Linguistic Sorting Function

The Linguistic Sorting function enables you to select locale and collate options for SAS OLAP cubes that use a single language. The **Linguistic Sorting** tab is available on the General page of the Cube Designer wizard in SAS OLAP Cube Studio.

---

## Reorganize Function

When updating a cube, you might need to add or change members for the cube. As a result, a level might run out of space for new level members after multiple cube update events. This occurs when new level members have been added to the same sorted location for each event. If too many new level members are inserted into the same sort location, this can result in structural errors in the cube and can cause the cube update to fail. At this point, you must reorganize the sort locations for members for the particular

level that failed, or choose to reorganize all levels for the cube. The Reorganize function can be used with a cube that has been incrementally updated. This function reorganizes the levels in a cube, making room for more members. The Reorganize function is accessed from the **Incremental Update** sub-menu.

---

## Cube Options

The **Cube Options** tab displays the currently selected drill-through table for a cube and enables you to select a new drill-through table for the cube if needed. You can apply the new drill-through table to the cube without rebuilding the cube. The **Cube Options** tab can be accessed from the Quick Edit dialog box in SAS OLAP Cube Studio.

---

## Distinct Count Options

In SAS OLAP Cube Studio, you can select whether to include calculated members in the distinct count of a measure for a cube. You can include or exclude calculated members for a measure. You can apply the updated distinct count setting to the cube without rebuilding the cube. The **Distinct Count Options** tab can be accessed from the Quick Edit dialog box in SAS OLAP Cube Studio

---

## New OLAP Procedure Options

The following OLAP Procedure options are new for the SAS 9.3 OLAP Server.

New PROC OLAP statement:

- USE\_DIMENSION

New PROC OLAP statement options:

- CUBETABLELIBREF
- CUBETABLECAPREF
- DTLIBREF
- DTMEMPREF
- DTMEMPREFOPTS
- FORCE
- MLSCAPUPD
- MLSID
- SORTSEQ
- SYNCHRONIZE\_AGGRS

New DIMENSION statement options:

- DIMTABLECAPREF

- MLSID
- PATH
- SHARED

The MLSID option is also new for the HIERARCHY, LEVEL, MEASURE, and PROPERTY statements. Additionally, the ALL\_MLSID option on the HIERARCHY statement enables you to specify the ID that relates to the ALL member caption. An MLSID can also be specified in the DEFINE statement to allow for language-specific captions on your global calculated measure or member.

### ***New OLAPOPERATE Procedure Options***

The following options and statements are new for the OLAPOPERATE procedure in SAS 9.3 OLAP Server:

- LIST CUBES
- OUT, in LIST QUERIES, LIST ROWSETS, and LIST SESSIONS
- CUBE, INACTIVE, and USER, in CLOSE SESSION
- INACTIVE, in CANCEL QUERY
- QUIESCE SERVER
- PAUSE SERVER
- RESUME SERVER



## Chapter 1

# MDX Introduction and Overview

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## MDX Overview

Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) is a powerful syntax that enables you to query multidimensional objects and provide commands that retrieve and manipulate multidimensional data from those objects. MDX is designed to ease the process of accessing data from multiple dimensions. It addresses the conceptual differences between two-dimensional and multidimensional querying. MDX provides functionality for creating and querying multidimensional structures called *cubes* with a full and complete language of its own.

MDX is similar to the Structured Query Language (SQL), and MDX provides *Data Definition Language (DDL)* syntax for managing data structures. However, its features can be more complex and robust than SQL's features. The SAS 9.2 OLAP Server technology uses MDX to create OLAP cubes and data queries. MDX is part of the underlying foundation for the SAS 9.2 OLAP Server architecture, and it offers detailed and efficient searches of multidimensional data.

With MDX, specific portions of data from a cube can be extracted and then further manipulated for analysis. This allows for a thorough and flexible examination of SAS OLAP cube data. Users of MDX can take advantage of such features as calculated measures, numeric operations, and axis and slicer dimensions.

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## Basic MDX and Cube Concepts

To better understand the MDX language and the OLAP technology that it supports, a basic understanding of the OLAP cube components is required.

## Dimensions

Dimensions are the top or highest categories of a cube. They contain subcategories of data known as levels and measures. A dimension can have multiple hierarchies and can be used in multiple cubes. A cube can have up to 64 dimensions.

## Hierarchies

A dimension might be categorized into different hierarchies. For example, a company might categorize its profit dimension along the verticals of geography, sales territory, or market.

## Levels

Levels are categories of organization within a dimension. Levels are hierarchical, and each level descending in a dimension is a component of the previous level. For example, a time dimension could include the following levels: Year, Quarter, Month, Week, and Day.

## Members and Measures

An additional component of a dimension and a level is a member. A member is a component of a level and is analogous to the value of a variable on an individual record in a data set. It is the smallest level of data in an OLAP cube. In addition to creating dimension members, a user can create calculated members and named sets that are based on underlying members or on other calculated members and named sets. These user-defined objects are based on evaluated query data from the cube.

Calculated members and named sets can be created in three different ways:

Query scope calculated member	is available only during the query that defines it. It is created by using the WITH MEMBER/SET keyword.
Session scope calculated member	is available for the user that defines the object for the duration of that session. It is created by using the CREATE SESSION MEMBER/SET keyword.
Global scope calculated member	is available for anyone to use and is stored with the cube. It is created by using the CREATE GLOBAL MEMBER/SET keyword. Named sets have the same three scopes.

Calculated members can be created in the Measures dimension and can include any combination of members. Calculated members can also be created in any other dimension and are known as *nonmeasure-based calculated members*. Examples of measures include sales counts, profit margins, and distribution costs.

---

## Additional MDX Concepts and Expressions - Tuples and Sets

MDX extracts multidimensional views of data. A *tuple* is a slice of data from a cube. It is a selection of members (or cells) across dimensions in a cube. It can also be viewed as a cross-section or vector of member data in a cube. A tuple can be composed of member(s) from one or more dimensions. However, a tuple cannot be composed of more than one member from the same dimension.

*Sets* are collections of tuples. The order of tuples in a set is important when querying cube data and is known as *dimensionality*. It is important to note that the order of the dimension members in every tuple must be the same. For example, if your first tuple is (time\_dimension\_member, geography\_dimension\_member), then every other tuple in that set must also have two members in it, the first from the time dimension and the second from the geography dimension.



## Chapter 2

# MDX Queries and Syntax

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## Basic MDX Queries and Syntax

### MDX SELECT Statement

Basic MDX queries use the SELECT statement to identify a data set that contains a subset of multidimensional data. The basic MDX SELECT statement consists of the following clauses:

#### WITH clause (optional)

This allows calculated members or named sets to be computed during the processing of the SELECT and WHERE clauses.

*Note:* You might encounter a syntax error when a member name containing a single quotation mark is used for a calculated member in an MDX query. To prevent this, include an additional single quotation mark in the member name that contains the quotation mark.

#### SELECT clause

The SELECT clause defines the axes for the MDX query structure by identifying the dimension members to include on each axis. The number of axis dimensions of an MDX SELECT statement is also determined by the SELECT clause. The members from each dimension (to include on each axis of the MDX query) must be identified.

#### FROM clause

The cube that is being queried is named in the FROM clause. It determines which multidimensional data source will be used when extracting data to populate the result set of the MDX SELECT statement. The FROM clause (in an MDX query) can list only a single cube. Queries are restricted to a single data source or cube.

#### WHERE clause (optional)

The WHERE clause further restricts the result data. The axis that is formed by the WHERE clause is often referred to as the slicer. The WHERE clause determines which dimension or member is used as a slicer dimension. This restricts the extracting of data to a specific dimension or member. Any dimension that does not appear on an axis in the SELECT clause can be named on the slicer.

*Note:* MDX queries, and specifically the SELECT statement, can have up to 128 axis dimensions. The first five axes have aliases. Furthermore, an axis can be referred to by its ordinal position within an MDX query or by its alias. In total you can have a maximum of 64 different axes.

The SELECT clause of the statement supports using MDX functions to construct different members in a set on axes. The WITH clause of the statement supports using MDX functions to construct calculated members to be used in an axis or slicer. The following example shows the syntax for the SELECT statement:

```
[WITH
  [MEMBER <member-name> AS '<value-expression>' |
  SET <set-name> AS '<set-expression>'] . . .]
SELECT [<axis_specification>
  [, <axis_specification>...]]
```

```
FROM [<cube_specification>]
[WHERE [< slicer_specification>]]
```

## MDX Syntax

When you create and edit MDX queries, be aware of the following syntax guidelines:

- MDX keywords are case insensitive. However, to easily locate keywords in your code, consider using uppercase text when documenting keywords in an MDX query.
- Do not use reserved words as names or identifiers. You can, however, quote reserved words.

*Note:* For more information about reserved words see [“SAS MDX Reserved Keywords” on page 14](#).

- Brackets used in MDX queries should balance.—for example: [ ], ( ), and { }. If brackets do not balance, you should use the SAS option VALIDVARNAME.
- Single and double quotation marks should balance.

---

## MDX Drillthrough

### DRILLTHROUGH Statement

The DRILLTHROUGH statement is used in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) to retrieve the source rowset or rowsets from the source data for a cube cell or specified tuple. This statement enables a client application to retrieve the rowsets that were used to create a specified cell in a cube. An MDX statement is used to specify the subject cell. All of the rowsets that make up the source data of that cell are returned. The total number of rowsets that are returned can also be affected by the MAXROWS and FIRSTROWSET modifiers. Not all cubes support drill-through. Only cubes that have a drill-through table that is specified at cube creation support drill-through.

Here is the syntax for the DRILLTHROUGH statement:

```
<drillthrough>      :=DRILLTHROUGH
[<maxrows>] [<firstrowset>] <MDX select>
    <maxrows>      := MAXROWS <positive number>
    <firstrowset> := FIRSTROWSET <positive number>
```

The following modifiers can be used with the DRILLTHROUGH statement:

#### MAXROWS

indicates the maximum number of rows that should be returned by the resulting rowset.

#### FIRSTROWSET

specifies the first rowset to return.

### Specifying the Maximum Number of Drill-Through Rows

You can limit the number of drill-through rows that users request in a query by selecting the OLAP server definition setting **Maximum number of flattened rows** from SAS

Management Console. This setting controls the maximum number of flattened rows that are allowed for flattened (two-dimensional) data sets.

The following steps enable you to specify the maximum number of flattened rows:

1. In the tree view for the Server Manager plug-in of SAS Management Console, select the node for your OLAP server. This is the physical OLAP server and is located by drilling down from the top of the Server Manager tree view.
2. After selecting the physical OLAP server, right-click and select **Properties**.
3. At the SAS OLAP Server Properties dialog box, select the **Options** tab, and then the **Advanced Options** button.
4. At the Advanced Options dialog box, select the **Server** tab and enter the needed value for the **Maximum number of flattened rows** field. The default setting is 300,000 rows.

### Ensuring That Tables Are Accessible at Query Time

Data that is external to a cube must be available to the SAS OLAP Server under the following conditions:

- If the cube does not include an NWAY, then the SAS OLAP Server must have access to the input data source table (also called the detail data) and any specified dimension tables.
- If the cube is associated with a drill-through table, then the SAS OLAP Server must have access to the drill-through table.
- If the cube uses pre-summarized aggregation tables, then the SAS OLAP Server must have access to those tables.

To ensure that the necessary tables are accessible at query time, the applicable library names need to be allocated when the OLAP server that is associated with the OLAP schema that contains the cubes is invoked.

*Note:* If any of the tables contain user-defined formats, then the SAS OLAP Server also needs information about how to find those formats. User-defined formats cannot be used with drill-through tables.

*Note:* For more information, see the SAS Intelligence Platform: Data Administration Guide and the SAS Intelligence Platform: System Administration Guide.

### Working with User-Defined Formats

If you have existing SAS data sets, you might also have a catalog of user-defined formats and informats. You have two options for making these formats available to applications such as SAS Data Integration Studio:

- The preferred solution is to name the format catalog **formats.sas7bcat** and to place the catalog in the following directory: *path-to-configuration-directory* \Lev1\SASMain\SASEnvironment\SASFormats
- An alternative method of making user-defined formats “visible” is to follow this procedure:
  1. Add a line to the configuration file *path-to-configuration-directory* \Lev1\SASMain\sasv9.cfg that points to a configuration file for handling user-defined format catalogs. For example, you might add the following line:



```
-config
path-to-configuration-directory\Levl\SASMain\userfmt.cfg
```

2. In the file *userfmt.cfg*, enter a SET statement and a FMTSEARCH statement.

```
-set fmtlib1
"path-to-configuration-directory\Levl\Data\orformat"
-fmtsearch (work fmtlib1.orionfmt library)
```

This makes the format catalog *fmtlib1.orionfmt* available. For more information, see the SAS Intelligence Platform: Data Administration Guide.

---

## Basic MDX DDL Syntax

The SAS OLAP Server provides support for the MDX Data Definition Language (DDL). DDL enables users and administrators to manage the definitions of calculated members and named sets at either a session or a global level. Management of calculated members and named sets is provided by the CREATE and DROP DDL statements.

By using the CREATE DDL statement, a user can create definitions of calculated members or named sets for use within a client session or for use within a cube on a global scale. Here is the format for the CREATE DDL statement:

```
CREATE [global | session]
      [MEMBER . AS ' ' |
      SET AS ' ' . . .]
```

If **GLOBAL** or **SESSION** is not specified, then the default scope is **SESSION**. When a calculated member or named set is defined within the **SESSION** scope, the definition is available only for the lifetime of the user's client session. When a calculated member or named set is defined within the **GLOBAL** scope, the definition is permanently attached to the cube definition and is visible to all current and future client sessions.

By using the DROP DDL statement, a user can remove definitions of calculated members or a named set from use within a client session or from use within a cube on a global scale. Here is the format for the DROP DDL statement:

```
DROP [MEMBER . . . .] |
     [SET ] . . . .]
```

When using the DROP statement, only calculated members or named sets can be dropped at the same time. However, a user cannot drop both calculated members and named sets in a single DROP statement.

*Note:* The name of the calculated member or named set must contain the cube name.

---

## SAS Functions

### *SAS Function in an MDX Query*

SAS functions are functions that anyone can reference in MDX expressions. SAS functions are slightly limited in the arguments that they accept and return. Here is an MDX query that uses a SAS function called "MDY":

```

WITH MEMBER measures.mdy AS 'SAS!mdy(2,9,2003)'
SELECT {cars.members} ON 0 FROM mddbcars
WHERE (measures.mdy)

```

The resulting cells look like this:

```

NOTE:    0.3 [0]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [1]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [2]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [3]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [4]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [5]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [6]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [7]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [8]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [9]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [10]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [11]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [12]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [13]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [14]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)
NOTE:    0.3 [15]: f=15742 (u=15742.00)

```

In order to gain access to a SAS function library and before you can use a SAS function in a query, you must define or open the library for the current session. To do this, apply the USE statement at the beginning of your MDX query:

```

USE
LIBRARY "SAS"

```

## SAS Functions Available for Use in MDX Expressions

**Table 2.1** SAS Functions Available for Use in MDX Expressions

Function	Description	Argument
DATE	Returns the current date in SAS date format.	(none)
DATEJUL	Converts a Julian date to a SAS date value.	«julian-date»
DATEPART	Returns a SAS date value that corresponds to the date portion of a SAS datetime value .	«SAS datetime»
DATETIME	Returns the current data and time in SAS datetime format.	(none)
DAY	Returns an integer that represents the day of the month from a SAS date value.	«SAS date»
DHMS	Returns a SAS datetime value from a numeric expression that represents the date, hour, minute, and second.	«SAS date», «hour», «minute», «second»

Function	Description	Argument
HMS	Returns a SAS time value from a numeric expression that represents the hour, minute, and second.	«hour», «minute», «second»
HOUR	Returns a numeric value that represents the hour from a SAS time or datetime value.	«SAS time»   «SAS datetime»
IN	Returns TRUE if the first expression is contained in the list of expressions that start from the second parameter to the end of the parameters provided; otherwise, FALSE.	«expression», «expression1», . . . , «expressionN»
JULDATE	Converts a SAS date value to a numeric value that represents a Julian date.	«SAS date»
JULDATE7	Converts a SAS date value to a numeric value that represents a Julian date with the year represented in 4 digits.	«SAS date»
LEFT	Returns the argument with leading blanks moved to the end of the value; the argument's length does not change.	«argument»
MDY	Returns a SAS date value from numeric expressions that represent the month, day, and year.	«month», «day», «year»
MINUTE	Returns a numeric value that represents the minute from a SAS time or datetime value.	«SAS time»   «SAS datetime»
MONTH	Returns a numeric value that represents the month from a SAS time.	«SAS date»
QTR	Returns a value of 1, 2, 3, or 4 from a SAS date value to indicate the quarter of the year during which the SAS date value falls.	«SAS date»
RIGHT	Returns the argument with trailing blanks moved to the beginning of the value; the argument's length does not change.	«argument»
ROUND	Rounds the first argument to the nearest multiple of the second argument, or to the nearest integer when the second argument is omitted.	(argument <,rounding-unit>)
SECOND	Returns a numeric value that represents the second from a SAS time or datetime value.	«SAS time»   «SAS datetime»

Function	Description	Argument
SUBSTR	Returns a portion of the string expression argument, starting at the index position and returning up to “n” characters. If “n” is not specified, then the rest of the string is returned.	«argument», «position» <, «n»>
TIME	Returns the current time in SAS time format.	(none)
TIMEPART	Returns a SAS time value that corresponds to the time portion of a SAS datetime value.	«SAS datetime»
TODAY	Returns the current date in SAS date format.	(none)
TRIM	Returns the argument with the trailing blanks removed; if the argument contains all blanks, then the result is a string with a single blank .	«argument»
TRIMN	Returns the argument with the trailing blanks removed; if the argument contains all blanks, then the result is a null string.	«argument»
TRUNC	Truncates a numeric value to a specified length.	(number,length)
UPCASE	Returns the argument with all lowercase characters converted to uppercase characters.	«argument»
WEEKDAY	Returns an integer that represents the day of the week, where 1 = Sunday, 2 = Monday, . . . , 7 = Saturday, from a SAS date value.	«SAS date»
YEAR	Returns a numeric value that represents the month from a SAS time.	«SAS date»
YYQ	Returns a SAS date value that corresponds to the first day of the specified quarter.	«year», «quarter»

### Function Arguments and Return Types

Currently only floating-point (double) arguments, character string arguments, and return values are supported. There is no limit to the number of arguments. The promotion of arguments from MDX types to SAS data types is automatically performed when there is a difference between the two types.

## Numeric Precision

### ***Floating-point Representation***

To store numbers of large magnitude and to perform computations that require many digits of precision to the right of the decimal point, the SAS OLAP Server stores all numeric values as floating-point representation. Floating-point representation is an implementation of scientific notation, in which numbers are represented as numbers between 0 and 1 times a power of 10.

In most situations, the way the SAS OLAP Server stores numeric values does not affect you as a user. However, floating-point representation can account for anomalies that you might notice in MDX numeric expressions. This section identifies the types of problems that can occur and how you can anticipate and avoid them.

### ***Magnitude versus Precision***

Floating-point representation allows for numbers of very large magnitude (such as  $2^{30}$ ) and high degrees of precision (many digits to the right of the decimal place). However, operating systems differ on how much precision and how much magnitude to allow.

Whether magnitude or precision is more important depends on the characteristics of your data. For example, if you are working with engineering data, very large numbers might be needed and magnitude will probably be more important. However, if you are working with financial data where every digit is important, but the number of digits is not great, then precision is more important. Most often, applications that are created with the SAS OLAP Server need a moderate amount of both magnitude and precision, which is handled well by floating-point representation.

### ***Computational Considerations of Fractions***

Regardless of how much precision is available, there is still the problem that some numbers cannot be represented exactly. For example, the fraction  $1/3$  cannot be rendered exactly in floating-point representation. Likewise,  $.1$  cannot be rendered exactly in a base 2 or base 16 representation, so it also cannot be accurately rendered in floating-point representation. This lack of precision is aggravated by arithmetic operations. Consider the following example:

```
((10 * .1) = 1)
```

This expression might not always return TRUE due to differences in numeric precision. However, the following expression uses the ROUND function to compensate for numeric precision and therefore will always return TRUE:

```
(round((10 * .1), .001) = 1)
```

Usually, if you are doing comparisons with fractional values, it is good practice to use the ROUND function.

### ***Using the TRUNC Function***

The TRUNC function truncates a number to a requested length and then expands the number back to full precision. The truncation and subsequent expansion duplicate the effect of storing numbers in less than full precision. So in the following example, the first expression would return FALSE and the second would return TRUE:

```
((1/3) = .333)
```

```
(TRUNC((1/3), 3)  
= .333)
```

When you compare the result of a numeric expression to be equal to a specific value, such as 0, it is important that you use the TRUNC and ROUND functions to ensure that the comparison evaluates as intended.

### Differences with Microsoft Analysis Services 2000

Microsoft Analysis Services 2000 (AS2K) labels external functions as user-defined functions (UDFs). Because AS2K runs only on Windows, it supports calling COM libraries (usually written in Visual Basic). Because MDX evaluation can occur on either the client or the server, Microsoft provides a means to install and use libraries on either location (due to a dual-mode OLE DB for OLAP provider, MSOLAP).

If you use a client-side function, then all the execution is on the client. The SAS OLAP Server is a thin-client system that is designed for high volume and scalability, with all evaluation done on the server. Therefore, external function libraries such as SAS functions can be installed only on the server. In addition, with the proper license, you can run a server on your own computer and install any libraries that you need.

### SAS MDX Reserved Keywords

A reserved keyword should not be used to reference a dimension, hierarchy, level, or member name unless the reference is enclosed in square brackets [ ]. Otherwise, the keyword might be interpreted incorrectly.

*Note:* The SAS OLAP Server currently does not support the use of square brackets in cube, dimension, hierarchy, level, or member names or captions.

**Table 2.2** SAS MDX Reserved Keywords

(	DRILLDOWNMEMBER	NONEMPTYCROSSJOIN
)	DRILLDOWNMEMBERBOTTOM	NOT
*	DRILLDOWNMEMBERTOP	NULL
+	DRILLTHROUGH	ON
'	DRILLUPLEVEL	OPENINGPERIOD
-	DRILLUPMEMBER	OR
.	DROP	ORDER
/	ELSE	ORDINAL
:	EMPTY	PAGES
<	END	PARALLELPERIOD
<=	EXCEPT	PARENT
<>	EXCLUDEEMPTY	PARENT_COUNT
=	EXTRACT	PARENT_LEVEL

>	FALSE	PARENT_UNIQUE_NAME
>=	FILTER	PERIODSTODATE
{	FIRSTCHILD	POST
}	FIRSTROWSET	PREDICT
	FIRSTSIBLING	PREVMEMBER
ABSOLUTE	FONT_FLAGS	PROPERTIES
ADDCALCULATEDMEMBERS	FONT_NAME	PTD
AFTER	FONT_SIZE	PUT
AGGREGATE	FORMATTED_VALUE	QTD
ALL	FORMAT_STRING	RANGE
ALLMEMBERS	FORE_COLOR	RANK
ANCESTOR	FROM	RECURSIVE
ANCESTORS	GENERATE	RELATIVE
AND	GLOBAL	ROLLUPCHILDREN
AS	HEAD	ROOT
ASC	HIERARCHIZE	ROWS
ASCENDANTS	HIERARCHY	SCHEMA_NAME
AVG	HIERARCHY_UNIQUE_NAME	SECTIONS
AXIS	IGNORE	SELECT
BACK_COLOR	IIF	SELF
BASC	INCLUDEEMPTY	SELF_AND_AFTER
BDESC	INTERSECT	SELF_AND_BEFORE
BEFORE	IS	SELF_BEFORE_AFTER
BEFORE_AND_AFTER	ISANCESTOR	SESSION
BOTTOMCOUNT	ISEMPTY	SET
BOTTOMPERCENT	ISGENERATION	SETTOARRAY
BOTTOMSUM	ISLEAF	SETTOSTR

CALCULATIONCURRENTPASS	ISSIBLING	SIBLINGS
CALCULATIONPASSVALUE	ITEM	SOLVE_ORDER
CALL	LAG	STDDEV
CAPTION	LASTCHILD	STDDEVP
CASE	LASTPERIODS	STDEV
CATALOG_NAME	LASTSIBLING	STDEVP
CELL	LEAD	STRIPCALCULATEDMEMBERS
CELL_ORDINAL	LEAVES	STRTOMEMBER
CHAPTERS	LEVEL	STRTOSET
CHILDREN	LEVELS	STRTOTUPLE
CHILDREN_CARDINALITY	LEVEL_NUMBER	STRTOVALUE
CLOSINGPERIOD	LEVEL_UNIQUE_NAME	SUBSET
COALESCEEMPTY	LIBRARY	SUM
COLUMNS	LINKMEMBER	TAIL
CORRELATION	LINREGINTERCEPT	THEN
COUNT	LINREGPOINT	TOGGLEDRIILLSTATE
COUSIN	LINREGR2	TOPCOUNT
COVARIANCE	LINREGSLOPE	TOPPERCENT
COVARIANCEN	LINREGVARIANCE	TOPSUM
CREATE	LOOKUPCUBE	TRUE
CROSSJOIN	MAX	TUPLETOSTR
CUBE_NAME	MAXROWS	UNION
CURRENT	MEDIAN	UNIQUENAME
CURRENTMEMBER	MEMBER	USE
DATAMEMBER	MEMBERS	USERNAME
DEFAULTMEMBER	MEMBERTOSTR	VALIDMEASURE
DESC	MEMBER_CAPTION	VALUE



DESCENDANTS	MEMBER_GUID	VAR
DESCRIPTION	MEMBER_NAME	VARIANCE
DIMENSION	MEMBER_ORDINAL	VARIANCEP
DIMENSIONS	MEMBER_TYPE	VARP
DIMENSION_UNIQUE_NAME	MEMBER_UNIQUE_NAME	VISUALTOTALS
DISPLAY_INFO	MIN	WHEN
DISTINCT	MTD	WHERE
DISTINCTCOUNT	NAME	WITH
DRILLDOWNLEVEL	NAMETOSET	WTD
DRILLDOWNLEVELBOTTOM	NEXTMEMBER	XOR
DRILLDOWNLEVELTOP	NON	YTD

## External Functions

### External Function Example

External functions are functions that can be written on a server that clients can later reference in MDX expressions. External functions can be written by most MDX users. External function names are case sensitive, and unlike internal functions, they are more limited in the arguments that they can take. Here is an example of an MDX query that uses an external function called **addOne()**, which takes one parameter, a double argument, and adds one (1) to it. It then returns another double argument:

```
WITH MEMBER measures.x AS
'addone(measures.sales_sum) '
SELECT {cars.members} ON 0 FROM Mddbcars
WHERE (measures.x)
```

The resulting cells look like this:

```
0.0[0]: 229001
0.0[1]: 27001
0.0[2]: 40001
0.0[3]: 86001
0.0[4]: 76001
0.0[5]: 17001
0.0[6]: 10001
0.0[7]: 20001
0.0[8]: 20001
0.0[9]: 10001
0.0[10]: 44001
0.0[11]: 17001
```

```

0.0[12]: 15001
0.0[13]: 4001
0.0[14]: 14001
0.0[15]: 58001

```

Here is the query and the resulting cells without the external `addOne()` function:

```

SELECT {cars.members} ON 0
FROM Mddbcars
WHERE (measures.sales_sum)

Array(0)=229000
Array(1)=27000
Array(2)=17000 Array(3)=10000
Array(4)=40000 Array(5)=20000
Array(6)=20000 Array(7)=86000
Array(8)=10000 Array(9)=44000
Array(10)=17000 Array(11)=15000
Array(12)=76000 Array(13)=4000
Array(14)=14000 Array(15)=58000

```

### **Gaining Access to an External Function Library or Class**

Before you can use a function in a query, you must define or open the library for the current session. To do this, you execute the `USE` statement in MDX:

```
USE LIBRARY "Hello"
```

You do not add the `.class` extension, because it is automatically provided. When the session ends, the library is released. You can use a `DROP` statement to release the library before the session ends:

```
DROP LIBRARY "Hello"
```

### **State Information**

The class is instantiated when the `USE` statement is first encountered in a session, and then it is released when the session ends or the `DROP` statement is executed. As a result, the state can be kept in a normal class and static variables can be maintained. Here is an example:

```

public
class Hello
{
    static int count = 0;
    int instance;
    int iteration = 0;
    public Hello()
    {
        instance = count++;
        System.out.println("Hello constructor " + instance);
    }
    public double addOne(double d)
    {
        System.out.println("addOne, world! " + instance + " " +
iteration++);
        return d+1.0;
    }
}

```

```

    }
    public void finalize()
    {
        System.out.println("Hello finalize");
    }
}

```

*Note:* **System.out** is used in the above example for illustration and cannot be used in a real function except for debugging.

Here is an example of the debugging output that is generated:

```

Hello constructor 0
addOne, world! 0 0
addOne, world! 0 2
Hello constructor 1
addOne, world! 0 3
addOne, world! 1 0
addOne, world! 1 1

```

Each time a new session (a user or client connection) uses this class, the Java constructor is called and a new **Hello** object is created. The count is incremented so that **instance** has a unique value. Example items that you might want to save in a real application include file handles, shopping cart lists, and database connection handles.

Although cleanup is automatic, you can have an optional *finalize* method for special circumstances. Normal Java garbage collection of the class occurs some time after the class is no longer needed. The *finalize* method should then be called. However, in accordance with Java standards, it is possible that the *finalize* method will never be called (for example, if the server is shut down early, or the class never needs to be removed by the garbage collector).

## Function Arguments and Return Types

Only floating-point (double) arguments and return values are supported by SAS 9.2 OLAP Server. Java function overloading is also supported and there is no limit to the number of arguments that are supported.

SAS OLAP Server looks at the parameters that are passed to an external function and creates a Java signature from that. It then looks up the function and signature in the class. In the **addOne()** example that was mentioned earlier, there is one parameter. Also, because it is a double argument, it looks for the signature “D(D)”.

## Performance

Certain OLAP hosts use an in-process Java virtual machine (JVM), whereas other OLAP hosts use an out-of-process JVM. An out-of-process JVM is much less efficient because each method call has to be packaged (marshaled) and transmitted to the JVM process. It is then unpackaged (unmarshaled) and run, and a return packet is sent back. Currently HP-UX, OpenVMS, and z/OS use out-of-process JVMs. In later releases, hosts should be able to use in-process JVMs. z/OS will use a shared address space so it can be optimized.

Although synthetic benchmarks show that calling Java is considerably slower than calling built-in functions, real-world performance tests show that the performance impact of calling Java methods was negligible (at least with in-process Java implementations). If you encounter a problem, reducing the number of function calls per

output cell, the number of cells queried, and the number of parameters to the function can all boost performance.

## Deployment

To make a Java class available, copy the .class file to a directory that is listed in the CLASSPATH environment variable when the server is started. The CLASSPATH can contain any number of directories that are separated by semicolons (;). The current release of SAS OLAP Server does not contain a method to make the server reload a .class file after it has been loaded. Therefore, if you update the .class file after using it one time, the server will continue to use the old version. Currently you need either to restart the server or give the new class a different name.

It is possible that later releases of SAS OLAP Server will not use CLASSPATH. A benefit of using Java for external functions is that the .class files are portable. As a result, you can use JavaC to compile your class one time, and deploy it on different machines without recompiling.

## Security

Because the Java classes are loaded from the server's local file system, they have full access to the server's system (under the ID that started the server). Any public methods (on any classes) in the CLASSPATH can be invoked by any client. As a result, use caution when you decide which classes and directories to make visible.

## Differences with Microsoft Analysis Server (AS2K)

See [“Differences with Microsoft Analysis Services 2000”](#) on page 14

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# Using Derived Statistics with the Aggregate Function

## Example 1

When the aggregate function is used in a calculated member, the statistic associated with the current measure will determine how the values are aggregated. For example:

WITH

```
MEMBER [measures].[calc] AS '
    [measures].[actual_max] - [measures].[actual_min]'
```

```
MEMBER [time].[agg complexfunc] AS
    'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children)'
```

SELECT

```
{[time].[all time].[1994].children, [time].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
[measures].[actual_max], [measures].[actual_min],
[measures].[actual_sum], [measures].[actual_n],
[measures].[actual_avg], measures.calc} ON 1
```

FROM [prdmddb]

This example returns the following:

	1	2	3	4	agg complexfunc
actual_max	\$1,000.00	\$987.00	\$992.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
actual_min	\$13.00	\$3.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$3.00
actual_sum	\$89,763.00	\$93,359.00	\$89,049.00	\$88,689.00	\$360,860.00
actual_n	180	180	180	180	720
actual_avg	\$498.68	\$518.66	\$494.72	\$492.72	\$501.19
calc	987	984	972	985	997

For each current measure listed on the left, the aggregate function does the following:

**actual\_max**

It takes the MAX of the actual\_max values associated with the children of 1994.

**actual\_min**

It takes the MIN of the actual\_min values associated with the children of 1994.

**actual\_sum**

It summarizes the actual\_sum values associated with the children of 1994.

**actual\_n**

It counts the actual\_n values associated with the children of 1994.

**actual\_avg**

It divides the aggregated sum of the children of 1994 by the aggregated count value of the children of 1994.

**calculated measure calc**

It takes the MAX of the actual\_max values for the children of 1994 (1000) and subtracts the MIN of the actual\_min values for the children of 1994 (3).

## Example 2

This example shows what happens when the query is changed to include a numeric expression:

WITH

```
MEMBER [time].[agg complexfunc] AS
  'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_max + 1)'
```

SELECT

```
{[time].[all time].[1994].children, [time].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
{[measures].[actual_max], [measures].[actual_min],
 [measures].[actual_sum], [measures].[actual_n],
 [measures].[actual_avg]} on 1
```

FROM [prdmddb]

This example returns the following:

	1	2	3	4	agg complexfunc
actual_max	\$1,000.00	\$987.00	\$992.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,001.00
actual_min	\$13.00	\$3.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$988.00
actual_sum	\$89,763.00	\$93,359.00	\$89,049.00	\$88,689.00	\$3,983.00

actual_n	180	180	180	180	3983
actual_avg	\$498.68	\$518.66	\$494.72	\$492.72	

For each current measure listed on the left, the aggregate function does the following::

#### actual\_max

It takes the MAX of the actual\_max values associated with the children of 1994 and adds 1 to it.

#### actual\_min

It takes the MIN of the actual\_max values associated with the children of 1994 and adds 1 to it.

#### actual\_sum

It adds 1 to each of the actual\_max values associated with the children of 1994 and SUMs the values.

#### actual\_n

It adds 1 to each of the actual\_max values associated with the children of 1994 and SUMs the values.

#### actual\_avg

It cannot compute a derived measure based on another measure, so it returns a missing value.

### Example 3

This example shows what happens when the query is changed to include a numeric expression with measures that aggregate differently.

WITH

```
MEMBER [time].[agg complexfunc] AS
    'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_max -
measures.actual_min)'
```

SELECT

```
{[time].[all time].[1994].children, [time].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
{[measures].[actual_max], [measures].[actual_min],
[measures].[actual_sum], [measures].[actual_n],
[measures].[actual_avg]} on 1
```

FROM [prdmddb]

This example returns the following:

	1		2		
3	4 agg complexfunc				
actual_max	\$1,000.00	\$987.00	\$992.00	\$1,000.00	\$987.00
actual_min	\$13.00	\$3.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$972.00
actual_sum	\$89,763.00	\$93,359.00	\$89,049.00	\$88,689.00	\$3,928.00
actual_n	180	180	180	180	3928
actual_avg	\$498.68	\$518.66	\$494.72	\$492.72	

For each current measure listed on the left, the aggregate function does the following:

#### actual\_max

It subtracts the actual\_min value associated with each child of 1994 from the corresponding actual\_max value. It picks the MAX of these values (1000–13).

**actual\_min**

It subtracts the actual\_min value associated with each child of 1994 from the corresponding actual\_max value. It picks the MIN of these values (992 - 20).

**actual\_sum**

It subtracts the actual\_min value associated with each child of 1994 from the corresponding actual\_max value. It then sums all of these values.

**actual\_n**

It subtracts the actual\_min value associated with each child of 1994 from the corresponding actual\_max value. It then sums all of these values.

**actual\_avg**

It cannot compute a derived measure based on other measures, so it returns a missing value.

**Example 4**

This example shows what happens when the query is changed to have the aggregate function on a calculated measure, and the numeric expression is the actual\_avg measure.

WITH

```
MEMBER [measures].[agg complexfunc] AS
    'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_avg)'
```

SELECT

```
{[measures].[actual_sum], [measures].[actual_n],
 [measures].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
 {[time].[all time].[1994].children} ON 1
```

FROM [prdmddb]

This example returns the following:

actual_sum	actual_n	agg complexfunc
1	\$89,763.00	180 501.194444444444
2	\$93,359.00	180 501.194444444444
3	\$89,049.00	180 501.194444444444
4	\$88,689.00	180 501.194444444444

The current measure is the calculated measure [agg complexFunc]. However, using this would cause infinite recursion, so the aggregate function aggregates based only on the numeric expression. In this case, the statistic is average, which divides the sum by the count. For each child of 1994, the sum is divided by the count, and these values are summed together. This total is then divided by the number of children of 1994 to give the aggregate value.

**Example 5**

This example shows what happens when the numeric expression is changed to an expression that used a derived statistic.

WITH

```
MEMBER [measures].agg complexfunc] AS
    'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_avg + 12)'
```

```

SELECT
    {[measures].[actual_sum], [measures].[actual_n],
     [measures].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
    {[time].[all time].[1994].children} ON 1
FROM [prdmddb]

```

This example returns the following:

	actual_sum	actual_n	agg complexfunc
1	\$89,763.00		180
2	\$93,359.00		180
3	\$89,049.00		180
4	\$88,689.00		180

In this case, the value of the aggregation is missing. When measures that are associated with derived statistics are used in an expression for the aggregate function, it is not able to calculate the correct value, so it simply returns missing.

### Example 6

This example shows what happens when the query is changed to have a standard statistic in the expression.

```

WITH

    MEMBER [measures].[agg complexfunc] AS
        'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_max + 12)'

SELECT
    {[measures].[actual_max],
     [measures].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
    {[time].[all time].[1994].children} ON 1
FROM [prdmddb]

```

This example returns the following:

	actual_max	agg complexfunc
1	\$1,000.00	1012
2	\$987.00	1012
3	\$992.00	1012
4	\$1,000.00	1012

In this case, the aggregate function looks for the max value associated with the actual\_max measure for the children of 1994. Then 12 is added to this value.

### Example 7

This example shows what happens when the query is changed to still have the aggregate function on a calculated measure, and it has a numeric expression that includes measures that aggregate differently.

```

WITH

    MEMBER [measures].[agg complexfunc] AS
        'aggregate([time].[all time].[1994].children, measures.actual_max +

```



```

measures.actual_min) '

SELECT
  {[measures].[actual_max], measures.actual_min,
   [measures].[agg complexfunc]} ON 0,
  {[time].[all time].[1994].children} ON 1
FROM [prdmddb]

```

This example returns the following:

	actual_max	actual_min	agg complexfunc
1	\$1,000.00	\$13.00	
2	\$987.00	\$3.00	
3	\$992.00	\$20.00	
4	\$1,000.00	\$15.00	

In this case, one measure is a max and the other a min. It is unclear how to aggregate the values, so a missing value is returned.

## Standard Statistics

Here are the standard statistics and how they are aggregated.

**Table 2.3** Standard Statistics

Standard Statistic	How it is aggregated
MAX	Get the MAXIMUM of the values
MIN	Get the MINIMUM of the values
N	Count the values
NMISS	Sum the NMISS values
SUM	Sum the SUM values
SUMWGT	Sum the SUMWGT values
USS	Sum the USS values
UWSUM	Sum the UWSUM values

## Derived Statistics

For measures associated with these statistics, the system will use the values that are being aggregated to determine the result value based on the statistic. For example, for AVG, it will take the SUM of the values and divide it by the N of the values. Here are the derived statistics:

- AVG
- RANGE

- CSS
- VAR
- STD
- ERR
- CV
- T
- PRT
- LCLM
- UCLM
- NUNIQUE

---

## SAS OLAP Security Totals and Permission Conditions

### ***SECURITY\_SUBSET Option***

As part of the SAS security model, SAS OLAP cubes can have member-level authorizations applied as permission conditions. Permission conditions limit access to a cube dimension so that only designated portions of the data is visible to a user or group of users. These permission conditions can affect the rolled-up values for measures at query time. In order for a cube to control the roll-up values for designated members, the PROC OLAP option `SECURITY_SUBSET = YES` must be set when the cube is built. In addition, users who access the cube must have the necessary permissions to see the members in the roll-up values. If the PROC OLAP option `SECURITY_SUBSET = YES` is set for a cube, then the rolled-up values will include only those members that the user has permission to see.

When you create MDX queries for security totals, there is no designated MDX code that needs to be written in order to apply security totals to a cube. The only difference between a query written against a cube without the `SECURITY_SUBSET` option and the same query written against a cube with the `SECURITY_SUBSET` option is in the values of the output.

### ***Example 1 Applying the SECURITY\_SUBSET Option to an MDX Query***

Below is an example of an MDX query:

```
SELECT measures
on_columns,
dealers.members on_rows
FROM mddbcars
```

This query has the following applied permission condition:

```
{[dealers].[all dealers],
descendants([dealers].[all dealers].[smith])}
```

Here is the resulting data table if the `SECURITY_SUBSET` option has not been set.

MeasuresLevel			sales_sum
All Dealers	dealer	dest	
[-] All Dealers	All Dealers		\$229,000.00
	[-] Smith	Smith	\$108,000.00
		CA	\$12,000.00
		CT	\$15,000.00
		NC	\$25,000.00
		NJ	\$56,000.00

However, if the SECURITY\_SUBSET option has been set to YES, then here is the resulting data table:

MeasuresLevel			sales_sum
All Dealers	dealer	dest	
[-] All Dealers	All Dealers		\$108,000.00
	[-] Smith	Smith	\$108,000.00
		CA	\$12,000.00
		CT	\$15,000.00
		NC	\$25,000.00
		NJ	\$56,000.00

Note that the members displayed in both resulting data tables don't change. This is because both data tables were built with the same permission condition. It is the final value for the All Dealers member that changes from \$229,000 in the first table to \$108,000 in the second table and shows the sales value of Smith only. The \$229,000 in the first table includes sales figures for all dealers.

### Example 2 Applying the SECURITY\_SUBSET Option to an MDX Query

Here is a second example of an MDX query:

```
SELECT
  measures on 0,
  date.members on 1
FROM mddbcars
```

This query has the following applied permission condition:

```
{[dealers].[all dealers],
descendants([dealers].[all dealers].[smith])}
```

Here is the resulting data table:

MeasuresLevel		sales_sum
All Date	dte	
[-] All Date	All Date	\$229,000.00
	January	\$54,000.00
	February	\$64,000.00
	March	\$59,000.00
	April	\$34,000.00
	May	\$18,000.00

However, if the SECURITY\_SUBSET option is applied, then the resulting data table is as follows:

MeasuresLevel		sales_sum
All Date	dte	
[-] All Date	All Date	\$108,000.00
	January	\$10,000.00
	February	\$25,000.00
	March	\$49,000.00
	April	\$24,000.00

Note that the members in the output data are the same for both queries. It is the date values that are different. The table values in the first data set reflect sales values for All Dealers, even if the dealers are not displayed. It is when the SECURITY\_SUBSET option is applied in the second data table that the sales values reflect only dealer Smith.

### Default Member and the All Member

Every dimension for a cube has a default member. That member is implicitly used if no other members of that dimension are explicitly selected in a cube query. In addition, if you don't have permission to see the default member, then the default member will be the first member in the permission condition set. Usually, the All member of a dimension is also the default member.

*Note:* The All member (parent of the highest level node in the cube) is a system-generated member. It does not have a corresponding column in the underlying data table.

### Virtual Members and Security Totals

Virtual members are associated with those records that have missing values in one or more columns. The values associated with virtual members will be included in the roll-up for security totals if you have permission conditions set to see the virtual parent of the virtual member.

For example, here is a sample data set.

DISTRICT			
REGION			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	
.	.	30	5
Atlantic	.	10	35
Atlantic	Eastern US	5	.
Atlantic	Great Britain	12	.
Atlantic	France	8	.
Atlantic	Spain	5	.
Pacific	.	-5	30
Pacific	Western US	8	.
Pacific	Japan	12	.
Pacific	Korea	10	.

In this data set, if the user has a permission conditions to see the following:

```
{[salesregion].[all regions],
[salesregion].[all regions].[atlantic],
[salesregion].[all regions].[atlantic].children}
```

then the value for the [salesregion].[all regions] member would include records from rows 1 through 6.

Here is a possible query of that data:

```
SELECT
    measures on 0,
    salesregion.members on 1
FROM nonleaf
```

Here is the resulting data from that query:

	sum of actual
all regions	70
atlantic	40
eastern us	5
great britain	12
france	8
spain	5

These are the values that you will see when the permission condition is set and the SECURITY\_SUBSET option is set to YES. Note that if the permission condition is set, but the SECURITY\_SUBSET option is not set, then the values will be different.



## Chapter 3

# MDX Usage Examples

---

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## Basic Examples

### Basic MDX queries

This topic shows several basic MDX queries. For detailed information about the MDX functions used in these examples see [“Basic MDX Queries and Syntax” on page 6](#) and [“MDX Functions” on page 51](#).

The data that is used in these simple examples is from a company that sells various makes and models of cars. The company needs to report sales figures for different months.

Example of a simple two-dimensional query:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].[all date].[march], [date].[all date].[april] } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

Example of how you can flip the rows and columns:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] } ON ROWS,
    { [date].[all date].[march], [date].[all date].[april] } ON COLUMNS
FROM mddbcars
```

Example of selecting a different measure (sales\_n) to be the default:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].[all date].[march], [date].[all date].[april] } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
WHERE ([measures].[sales_n])
```

Example of using ":" to get a range of members:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].[all date].[january] : [date].[all date].[april] } ON _ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

Example of the .MEMBERS function:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

example of the .CHILDREN function:

```
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[ford].children } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

Example of selecting more than one dimension in a tuple:

```
SELECT
    { ( [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [measures].[sales_sum] ),
```



```

        ( [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [measures].[sales_n] ),
        ( [cars].[all cars].[ford], [measures].[sales_sum] ),
        ( [cars].[all cars].[ford], [measures].[sales_n] )
    } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars

```

Example of how the CROSSJOIN function makes tuple combinations for you:

```

SELECT
    { CROSSJOIN ( { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] },
                  { [measures].[sales_sum], [measures].[sales_n] } )
    } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars

```

Example of using the NON\_EMPTY keyword to discard the row with no sales:

```

SELECT
    { CROSSJOIN ( { [cars].[all cars].[chevy], [cars].[all cars].[ford] },
                  { [measures].[sales_sum], [measures].[sales_n] } )
    } ON COLUMNS,
    NONEMPTY { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars

```

## Additional Basic Examples

Example of a basic two-dimension table:

```

SELECT { [time].[all yqm] } ON
COLUMNS ,
{ [geography].[global].[all global] } ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]

```

Example of a basic two-dimension table with an analysis variable (Measures):

```

SELECT { [time].[all yqm] } ON COLUMNS ,
{ [geography].[global].[all global] } ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]
WHERE [measures].[total_retail_pricesum]

```

Example of a basic two-dimension table with specific columns selected within the same level:

```

SELECT { [time].[all
yqm].[2001] , [time].[all yqm].[2002] } ON COLUMNS ,
{ [geography].[global].[all global] } ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]
WHERE [measures].[total_retail_pricesum]

```

Example of a basic two-dimension table with specific rows selected within the same level:

```

SELECT { [time].[all yqm].[2001] ,
[time].[all yqm].[2002] } ON COLUMNS ,
{ [geography].[global].[all global].[europe] ,
[geography].[global].[all global].[asia] } ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]
WHERE [measures].[total_retail_pricesum]

```

**Joins and Extractions for Queries Examples**

Example of the CROSSJOIN function:

```
SELECT
{CROSSJOIN({[yqm].[all yqm]},
{[measures].[actualsalessum]})} ON COLUMNS,
{[geography].[all geography]} ON ROWS
FROM [booksnall]
```

Example of the UNION function:

```
SELECT { union([yqm].[all
yqm].[1999],
[yqm].[all yqm].[2000],all)} ON COLUMNS, {
[geography].[all geography] } ON ROWS
FROM [booksnall]
WHERE [measures].[predictedsalessum]
```

Example of the EXCEPT function as a query:

```
SELECT
{except({[yqm].[qtr].members},
{([yqm].[all yqm].[1998].[1]): ([yqm].[all yqm].[2001].[1])})} ON COLUMNS,
{[geography].[all geography]} ON ROWS
FROM
[booksnall]
```

Example of the EXTRACT function:

```
SELECT {extract ({([yqm].[all
yqm].[1998]),
([yqm].[all yqm].[2000])},time )} ON COLUMNS,
{[geography].[all geography]} ON ROWS
FROM [booksnall]
```

**Examples of Displaying Multiple Dimensions on Columns and Eliminating Empty Cells**

Example of displaying a measure as a column by using the CROSSJOIN function:

```
SELECT
CROSSJOIN ([time].[yqm].[year_id].members ,
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum]) ON COLUMNS,
{[geography].[global].[all global].children } ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]
```

Example of eliminating empty values by using the NON EMPTY function (in the previous example there are several missing values for Year and Regions):

```
SELECT
NONEMPTY (CROSSJOIN ([time].[yqm].[all yqm].children ,
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum])) ON COLUMNS,
NONEMPTY({[geography].[global].[all global].children }) ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]
```

Example of using a second CROSSJOIN to combine all three values:

```

SELECT
non_empty(CROSSJOIN(CROSSJOIN ([time].[yqm].[all yqm].children ,
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum]),{[demographics].[all demographics].
female} )) ON COLUMNS,
non_empty({[geography].[global].[all global].children }) ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]

```

Example of executing the previous step with one function and adding a third set:

*Note:* The number controls which columns are viewed as well as the crossjoins.

```

SELECT
NONEMPTY CROSSJOIN ([time].[all
yqm].children,[measures].[total_retail_pricesum],
{[demographics].[all demographics].female},3) ON COLUMNS,
NONEMPTY({[geography].[global].[all global].children }) ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar]

```

Example of the COALESCE EMPTY function:

```

WITH MEMBER
[measures].[quantity_nomiss] as 'COALESCE EMPTY
(measures.[quantitysum], 0)'

```

---

## Calculated Member Examples

Example of the WITH MEMBER statement:

```

WITH MEMBER [measures].[target_difference] AS
' [measures].[actualsalessum] - [measures].[predictedsalessum] '
SELECT
CROSSJOIN([yqm].[all yqm].[2000],
{ [measures].[actualsalessum],
[measures].[predictedsalessum],
[measures].[target_difference] }) ON COLUMNS ,

{ [geography].[all geography].[mexico],
[geography].[all geography].[canada] } ON ROWS

FROM [booksnall]

```

Example of the WITH MEMBER statement and Format:

```

WITH MEMBER [measures].[target_difference] AS
' [measures].[actualsalessum] - [measures].[predictedsalessum] ' ,
format_string="dollar20.2"

```

Example of the CREATE GLOBAL MEMBER statement:

```

CREATE GLOBAL MEMBER
[booksnall].[measures].[percentage_increase] AS
' ([measures].[actualsalessum] - [measures].[predictedsalessum]) /
[measures].[actualsalessum] ',
format_string="Percent8.2"

```

Example of the DEFINE MEMBER statement:

```

DEFINE MEMBER
[booksnall].[Measures].[Percentage_Increase] AS

```

```
'([Measures].[ActualSalesSUM] - [Measures].[PredictedSalesSUM])/
[Measures].[ActualSalesSUM]' ,
format_string="Percent8.2"
```

Example of defining a member with a dimension other than Measures:

```
WITH MEMBER [geography].[all geography].[non usa]
AS
'SUM({[geography].[all geography].[canada],[geography].[
all geography].[mexico]})'

SELECT {CROSSJOIN({[time].[yqm].[all yqm]}, {[measures].
actualsalessum})} ON COLUMNS ,
{[geography].[all geography].[u.s.a],[geography].[all geography].
[non usa]} ON ROWS
FROM
[booksnall]
```

Example of the DROP MEMBER statement:

```
DROP MEMBER
[booksnall].[measures].[percentage_increase]
```

---

## Query-Calculated Member Examples

### Example Data

The data that is used in these examples is from a company that sells various makes and models of cars. The company needs to report on sales figures for different months.

### Example 1

This query creates a calculation for the average price of a car. The average price of a car is calculated by dividing the sales\_sum by the count (sales\_n). The query returns the sales\_sum, sales\_n, and the average price for March and April.

```
WITH
  MEMBER [measures].[avg price] AS
  '[measures].[sales_sum] / [measures].[sales_n]'
SELECT
  { [measures].[sales_sum] , [measures].[sales_n], [measures].[avg price] }
  ON COLUMNS,
  { [date].[all date].[march], [date].[all date].[april] } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.1** Query Results

Date	Sales_sum	Sales_n	Avg Price
March	\$59,000.00	4	14750
April	\$34,000.00	3	11333.33

## Example 2

This query has the same calculation that was created in example 1. This time the calculation is put in the slicer instead of an axis. In this query, the types of cars that were sold are on the column and the months that the cars were sold are on the rows. The value in the cells is the average price of the car for that month.

```
WITH
    MEMBER [measures].[avg price] as '[measures].[sales_sum] /
[measures].[sales_n] '
SELECT
    { [cars].[car].members } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
WHERE ([measures].[avg price])
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.2** Query Results

Date	Chevy	Chrysler	Ford	Toyota
All date	13500	20000	12285.71	8444.45
January		20000	10000	8000
February		20000		11000
March	17000		14000	
April	10000		12000	
May			10000	4000

## Example 3

This query adds the values of the Chevy, Chrysler, and Ford cars and combines them into one calculation called US. The query shows the sales SUM for the U.S. cars and the Toyota for January through May.

```
WITH
    MEMBER [cars].[all cars].[us] AS '
        SUM( { [cars].[all cars].[chevy],
                [cars].[all cars].[chrysler],
                [cars].[all cars].[ford]
              } ) '
SELECT
    { [cars].[all cars].[us], [cars].[all cars].[toyota] } ON COLUMNS,
    { [date].members } ON ROWS
FROM mddbcars
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.3** Query Results

Date	U.S.	Toyota
All Date	\$153,000.00	\$76,000.00
January	\$ 30,000.00	\$24,000.00
February	\$ 20,000.00	\$44,000.00
March	\$ 59,000.00	
April	\$ 34,000.00	
May	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00

---

## Session-Level Calculated Member Examples

### Example Data

The data that is used in these examples is from a company that sells electronics and outdoor and sporting goods equipment.

### Example 1

This example creates the session-level calculated member called `avg_price` in the sales cube on the Measures dimension. This calculated measure shows the average price:

```
create session
  member [sales].[measures].[avg_price] as
    '[Measures].[total] / [Measures].[qty]'
```

Nothing is returned when you create a session-level calculated member.

### Example 2

This example uses the session-level calculated member called “`avg_price`.” It shows the quantity, total, and average price of goods sold from 1998 through 2000.

```
SELECT
  {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total],
  [measures].[avg_price]} ON COLUMNS,
  {[time].[all time].children} ON ROWS
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.4** Query Results

Year	Qty	Total	Average Price
1998	440,852	10,782,352.94	24.4579880322648
1999	539,433	14,080,419.58	26.1022584454418
2000	32,267	859,108.83	26.6249986053863

**Example 3**

This example uses the session-level calculated member called “avg\_price.” It shows the quantity, total, and average price of goods sold in different customer regions.

```
SELECT
    {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total],
    [measures].[avg_price]} ON COLUMNS,
    {[customer].[all customer].children} ON ROWS
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.5** Query Results

Region	Qty	Total	Average Price
Central	157,659	3,942,290.26	25.0051710336866
Mid-Atlantic	79,555	2,011,008.77	25.2782197222048
Midwest	259,759	6,614,999.09	25.4659091311562
Mountains	32,768	838,064.62	25.5757025146485
Northeast	143,934	3,658,452.99	25.4175732627454
South-Central	64,943	1,662,479.79	25.5990605607995
Southeast	122,888	3,134,589.55	25.5076944046611
West	151,046	3,859,996.28	25.5551042728705

**Example 4**

This example uses the session-level calculated member called “avg\_price.” It shows the quantity, total, and average price of goods sold in the different product groups.

```
SELECT
    {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total],
    [measures].[avg_price]} On COLUMNS,
```

```

    { [product].[all product].children } ON ROWS
FROM sales

```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.6** Query Results

Product	Qty	Total	Average Price
Doing	191,321	4,850,302.26	25.3516459771797
Electronics	330,977	8,426,846.64	25.4605203382712
Health & Fitness	185,909	4,717,790.80	25.3768822380842
Outdoor & Sporting	304,345	7,726,941.65	25.3887583170415

## Drill-Down Examples

### Example Data

The data that is used in these examples is from a company that sells electronics and outdoor and sporting goods equipment.

### Example 1

This example drills down on the electronics and outdoor and sporting goods members from the family level.

```

SELECT
    { [measures].[qty] } on 0,
    drilldownlevel
    (
        { [product].[all product].[electronics],
          [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting]
        },
        [product].[family]
    ) on 1
FROM sales

```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.7** Query Results

Item	Qty
Electronics	330,977
Auto Electronics	13,862
Computers, Peripherals	78,263



Item	Qty
Digital Photography	9,008
Home Audio	38,925
Personal Electronics	31,979
Phones	59,964
Portable Audio	27,645
TV, DVD, Video	47,725
Video Games	23,606
Outdoor & Sporting	304,345
Bikes, Scooters	45,297
Camping, Hiking	63,362
Exercise, Fitness	50,700
Golf	41,467
Outdoor Gear	52,305
Sports Equipment	51,214

## Example 2

This example drills down on the electronics and outdoor and sporting goods members to the family level, but it shows only the top two members at each level based on the value of Qty.

```
SELECT
  {[measures].[qty]} on 0,
  drilldownleveltop
  (
    {[product].[all product].[electronics],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting]
    },
    2,
    [product].[family],
    [measures].[qty]
  ) on 1
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.8** Query Results

Item	Qty
Electronics	330,977
Computers, Peripherals	78,263
Phones	59,964
Outdoor & Sporting	304,345
Camping, Hiking	63,362
Outdoor Gear	52,305

**Example 3**

This example drills down on the electronics and outdoor and sporting goods members to the family level, but it shows only the bottom two members at each level based on the value of Qty.

```
SELECT
    {[measures].[qty]} on 0,
    drilldownlevelbottom
    (
        {[product].[all product].[electronics],
        [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting]
        },
        2,
        [product].[family],
        [measures].[qty]
    ) on 1
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.9** Query Results

Item	Qty
Electronics	330,977
Digital Photography	9,008
Auto Electronics	13,862
Outdoor & Sporting	304,345
Golf	41,467
Bikes, Scooters	45,297

**Example 4**

This example drills up to the members of the set that are below the category level. It returns only those members that are at the category level or higher.

```
SELECT
  {[measures].[qty]} on 0,
  drilluplevel
  (
    {[product].[all product].[electronics].[computers, peripherals],
     [product].[all product].[electronics].[tv, dvd, video],
     [product].[all product].[electronics].[video games].[gameplace],
     [product].[all product].[electronics].[video games].[play guy
color].[caller],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting].[bikes, scooters].[kids'
bikes],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor &
sporting].[golf].[clubs].[designed],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting].[sports equipment],
     [product].[all product].[outdoor & sporting].[sports
equipment].[baseball]
    },
    [product].[category]
  ) on 1
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.10** Query Results

Item	Qty
Computers, Peripherals	78,263
TV, DVD, Video	47,725
Outdoor & Sporting	304,345
Sports Equipment	51,214

---

## Session-Named Set Examples

**Example Data**

The data that is used in these examples is from a company that sells electronics and outdoor and sporting goods equipment.

**Example 1**

This example creates the session-named set called “prod in SE” in the sales cube. This named set shows the crossing of the product family with the customer members in the Southeast.

```
CREATE
SESSION
  set sales.[prod in se] as '
    CROSSJOIN
    (
      [customer].[all customer].[southeast].children,
      [product].[family].members
    ) '
```

Nothing is returned when you create a session-named set.

**Example 2**

This example creates the session-named set called “prod in NE” in the sales cube. This named set shows the crossing of the product family with the customer members in the Northeast.

```
CREATE
SESSION
  set sales.[prod in ne] as '
    CROSSJOIN
    (
      [customer].[all customer].[northeast].children,
      [product].[family].members
    ) '
```

Nothing is returned when you create a session-level named set.

**Example 3**

This example uses the session-named set called “prod in SE.” It shows the quantity and total sales for products that customers in the Southeast purchased.

```
SELECT
  {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total]} ON COLUMNS,
  [prod in se] ON ROWS
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.11** Query Results

State	Product	Qty	Total
FL	Doing	21,091	550,672.41
FL	Electronics	31,056	794,730.61
FL	Health & Fitness	16,321	415,708.57

State	Product	Qty	Total
FL	Outdoor & Sporting	30,065	742,907.85
GA	Doing	1,907	44,360.08
GA	Electronics	2,316	61,577.03
GA	Health & Fitness	1,318	35,589.84
GA	Outdoor & Sporting	2,458	68,438.03
NC	Doing	235	5,404.65
NC	Electronics	3,727	101,688.42
NC	Health & Fitness	1,228	31,310.45
NC	Outdoor & Sporting	835	21,312.83
SC	Doing 1	,266	31,596.69
SC	Electronics	2,646	66,565.97
SC	Health & Fitness	3,483	89,633.82
SC	Outdoor & Sporting	2,936	73,092.30

### Example 4

This example uses the session-named set called “prod in NE.” It shows the quantity and total sales for products that customers in the Northeast purchased.

```
SELECT
    {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total]} ON COLUMNS,
    [prod in ne] ON ROWS
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.12** Query Results

State	Product	Qty	Total
CT	Doing	844	20,961.12
CT	Electronics	2,659	69,540.52
CT	Health & Fitness	969	22,995.63
CT	Outdoor & Sporting	2,569	61,528.35
MA	Doing	7,918	206,472.36

State	Product	Qty	Total
MA	Electronics	11,184	281,371.34
MA	Health & Fitness	4,339	105,356.59
MA	Outdoor & Sporting	10,076	250,323.21
ME	Doing	1,362	35,151.55
ME	Electronics	4,496	110,153.94
ME	Health & Fitness	2,218	58,342.02
ME	Outdoor & Sporting	3,014	79,426.68
NH	Doing	141	4,207.76
NH	Electronics	466	10,750.48
NH	Health & Fitness	1,095	26,158.29
NH	Outdoor & Sporting	603	14,893.73
NY	Doing	17,493	435,513.26
NY	Electronics	29,246	759,166.44
NY	Health & Fitness	13,880	347,481.77
NY	Outdoor & Sporting	26,714	692,416.36
RI	Doing	265	6,437.18
RI	Electronics	833	22,723.54
RI	Health & Fitness	693	17,760.85
RI	Outdoor & Sporting	857	19,320.02

### Example 5

This example uses both of the session-named sets called “prod in NE” and “prod in SE”. It shows the quantity and total sales for products that customers in the Northeast and the Southeast purchased.

```
SELECT
    {[measures].[qty], [measures].[total]} ON COLUMNS,
    {[prod in ne], [prod in se]} ON ROWS
FROM sales
```

Here is the resulting output:

**Table 3.13** Query Results

State	Product	Qty	Total
CT	Doing	844	20,961.12
CT	Electronics	2,659	69,540.52
CT	Health & Fitness	969	22,995.63
CT	Outdoor & Sporting	2,569	61,528.35
MA	Doing	7,918	206,472.36
MA	Electronics	11,184	281,371.34
MA	Health & Fitness	4,339	105,356.59
MA	Outdoor & Sporting	10,076	250,323.21
ME	Doing	1,362	35,151.55
ME	Electronics	4,496	110,153.94
ME	Health & Fitness	2,218	58,342.02
ME	Outdoor & Sporting	3,014	79,426.68
NH	Doing	141	4,207.76
NH	Electronics	466	10,750.48
NH	Health & Fitness	1,095	26,158.29
NH	Outdoor & Sporting	603	14,893.73
NY	Doing	17,493	435,513.26
NY	Electronics	29,246	759,166.44
NY	Health & Fitness	13,880	347,481.77
NY	Outdoor & Sporting	26,714	692,416.36
RI	Doing	265	6,437.18
RI	Electronics	833	22,723.54
RI	Health & Fitness	693	17,760.85
RI	Outdoor & Sporting	857	19,320.02
FL	Doing	21,091	550,672.41

State	Product	Qty	Total
FL	Electronics	31,056	794,730.61
FL	Health & Fitness	16,321	415,708.57
FL	Outdoor & Sporting	30,065	742,907.85
GA	Doing	1,907	44,360.08
GA	Electronics	2,316	61,577.03
GA	Health & Fitness	1,318	35,589.84
GA	Outdoor & Sporting	2,458	68,438.03
NC	Doing	235	5,404.65
NC	Electronics	3,727	101,688.42
NC	Health & Fitness	1,228	31,310.45
NC	Outdoor & Sporting	835	21,312.83
SC	Doing	1,266	31,596.69
SC	Electronics	2,646	66,565.97
SC	Health & Fitness	3,483	89,633.82
SC	Outdoor & Sporting	2,936	73,092.30

### Example 6

This example removes (drops) the session-named set called “prod in SE” in the sales cube.

```
DROP SET
sales.[prod in SE]
```

Nothing is returned when you drop a session-named set.

### Example 7

This example removes (drops) the session-named set called “prod in NE” in the sales cube.

```
DROP SET
[sales].[prod in NE]
```

Nothing is returned when you drop a session-named set.



### ***Additional Named Set Examples***

Example of a session set using SQL pass-through and CREATE SET:

```
proc sql;
  connect to olap (host=host-name port=port-number
    user="userid" pass="password");
  execute
  (
    create set booksnall.threeyears as
    { [YQM].[All YQM].[1999] : [YQM].[All YQM].[2001] }
  ) by olap;
  create table temp as select * from connection to olap
  (
    SELECT threeyears ON COLUMNS ,
      { [products].[all products].[books] } ON ROWS
    FROM [booksnall]
  );
  disconnect from olap;
quit;
```

Example of how to drop a set by using DROP SET:

```
proc sql;
  connect to olap (host=host-name port=port-number user="userid"
    pass="password");
  execute
  (
    DROP SET booksnall.threeyears
  ) by olap;

  disconnect from olap;
quit;
```



## Appendix 1

# MDX Functions

---

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---

## Dimension Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

**Dimension**

returns a dimension that contains a specified member, level, or hierarchy.  
`<Member>.Dimension<Level>.Dimension<Hierarchy>.Dimension`

**Dimensions**

returns a dimension that is specified by a numeric or string expression.  
`Dimensions(<Numeric Expression>)Dimensions(<String Expression>)`

---

## Hierarchy Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

**Hierarchy**

returns a hierarchy that contains a specified member or level.  
`<Member>.Hierarchy<Level>.Hierarchy`

---

## Level Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

### Level

returns the level of a member. **<Member>.Level**

### Levels

returns levels that are specified by a numeric or string expression.

**<Dimension>.Levels (<NumericExpression>) Levels (<StringExpression>)**

---

## Logical Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

### IsEmpty

returns TRUE if the evaluated expression is an empty cell value. Otherwise, FALSE is returned. **IsEmpty (<Value Expression>)**

### IS

returns TRUE if two compared objects are equivalent. Otherwise, FALSE is returned. **<Object 1>IS Null<Object 1>IS <Object 2>**

### IsAncestor

returns TRUE if a specified member is an ancestor of another specified member. Otherwise, FALSE is returned. **IsAncestor (<Member1>, <Member2>)**

### IsLeaf

returns TRUE if a specified member is a leaf member. Otherwise, FALSE is returned. **IsLeaf (<Member>)**

### IsSibling

returns TRUE if a specified member is a sibling of another specified member. Otherwise, FALSE is returned. **IsSibling (<Member1>, <Member2>)**

---

## Member Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

### Ancestor

returns the ancestor of a member at a specified level or distance. **Ancestor (<Member>, <Level>) Ancestor (<Member>, <Numeric Expression>)**

### ClosingPeriod

returns the last sibling among the descendants of a member to a specified level. **ClosingPeriod ([<Level> [, <Member>]])**

**Cousin**

returns the child member with the same relative position under its parent member as the specified child member. **Cousin (<Member1>,<Member2>)**

**CurrentMember**

returns the current member of a dimension or hierarchy during an iteration over a set of members of that dimension or hierarchy.

**<Dimension>.CurrentMember<Hierarchy>.CurrentMember**

**DataMember**

returns a system-generated data member that is associated with a non-leaf member of a dimension. **<Member>.DataMember**

**DefaultMember**

returns the default member of a dimension or hierarchy.

**<Dimension>.DefaultMember<Hierarchy>.DefaultMember**

**FirstChild**

returns the first child of a specified member. **<Member>.FirstChild**

**FirstSibling**

returns the first child of the parent of a specified member.

**<Member>.FirstSibling**

**Item**

returns a member from a specified tuple. Alternatively, it returns a tuple from a set.

**<Tuple>.Item(<Index>)**

*Note:* If a tuple is returned, then it is a tuple function, not a member function.

**Lag**

returns a member that is located at a specified number of positions before a designated member at the same level as that member. **<Member>.Lag(<Numeric Expression>)**

**LastChild**

returns the last child of a specified member. **<Member>.LastChild**

**LastSibling**

returns the last child of the parent of a specified member.

**<Member>.LastSibling**

**Lead**

returns a member that is located at a specified number of positions before a designated member at the same level as that member. **<Member>.Lead(<Numeric Expression>)**

**NextMember**

returns the next member of the level that contains the specified member.

**<Member>.NextMember**

**OpeningPeriod**

returns the first sibling among the descendants of a specified member at the specified level. **OpeningPeriod([<Level>[,<Member>]])**

**ParallelPeriod**

returns a member at the level of the specified member that is in the same relative position under its ancestor at the specified

level. **ParallelPeriod([<Level>[,Numeric Expression>[,<Member>]])**

**Parent**

returns the parent of a member. **<Member>.Parent**

**PrevMember**

returns the previous member at the level of the specified member.

**<Member>.PrevMember**

**StrToMember**

returns a member from a string expression in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX)

format. **StrToMember(<String Expression>)**

## Numeric Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

**Aggregate**

returns a calculated value by using the appropriate aggregate function, which is based on the aggregation type of the member. **Aggregate(<Set[, <Numeric Expression>])**

**Avg**

returns the average value of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set.

**Avg(<Set>[, <Numeric Expression>])** Example: The following example shows a moving average across all dimensions of

**time.Avg(time.currentmember.lag (if(time.currentmember.level is time.month\_num,2, if(time.currentmember.level is time.quarter,1,0))) :time.currentmember, measures.[total\_retail\_pricesum])** The Total\_Retail\_PriceSUM is included in the following query to see the difference between the moving average and the total retail price.**SELECT { [measures].[movingaverage], [measures].[total\_retail\_pricesum] } ON COLUMNS , {[time].[yqm].[all yqm].children } ON ROWS FROM [orionstar]**

**CoalesceEmpty**

returns a coalesced value. This value is derived when an empty cell value is coalesced to a number or string. **CoalesceEmpty(<Numeric Expression>[, <Numeric Expression>])**

**Correlation**

returns the correlation of two series that are evaluated over a set.

**Correlation(<Set>[, <Numeric Expression>[, <Numeric Expression>])**

**Count**

depending on the collection, returns the number of items in a collection.

**<Dimension> | <Hierarchy>.Levels.Count<Tuple>.Count<Set>.CountCount(<Set>[, ExcludeEmpty | IncludeEmpty])**

**Covariance**

returns the population covariance of two series that are evaluated over a set by using the biased population formula. **Covariance(<Set>[, <Numeric Expression>[, <Numeric Expression>])**

**CovarianceN**

returns the sample covariance of two series that are evaluated over a set by using the unbiased population formula. **CovarianceN(<Set>[, <Numeric Expression>[, <Numeric Expression>])**

**DistinctCount**

returns the number of distinct, non-empty tuples in a set.

**DistinctCount** (<Set>)

**IIf**

returns one of two numeric or string values that are determined by a logical test.

**IIF** (<Logical Expression>, <Numeric Expression1>, <Numeric Expression2>)

*Note:* If a string is returned, then it is a string function, not a numeric function.

**LinRegIntercept**

calculates the linear regression of a set and returns the value of b in the regression

line  $y = ax + b$ . **LinRegIntercept** (<Set>, <Numeric

**Expression**> [, <NumericExpression>])

**LinRegPoint**

calculates the linear regression of a set and returns the value of y in the regression

line  $y = ax + b$ .

**LinRegPoint** (<NumericExpression>, <Set>, <NumericExpression> [, <Numeric Expression>])

**LinRegR2**

calculates the linear regression of a set and returns  $R^2$  (the coefficient of determination). (**Set**, **Numeric Expression** [, **Numeric Expression**])

**LinRegSlope**

calculates the linear regression of a set and returns the value of a in the regression

line  $y = ax + b$ .

**LinRegSlope** (<Set>, <NumericExpression> [, <NumericExpression>])

**LinRegVariance**

calculates the linear regression of a set and returns the variance associated with the regression line  $y = ax + b$ . (**Set**, **Numeric Expression** [, **Numeric Expression**])

**Expression**])

**Max**

returns the maximum value of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set.

**Max** (<Set> [, <Numeric Expression>])

**Median**

returns the median value of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set.

**Median** (<Set> [, <Numeric Expression>])

**Min**

returns the minimum value of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set.

**Min** (<Set> [, <Numeric Expression>])

**Ordinal**

returns the zero-based ordinal value that is associated with a level.

<Level>.Ordinal

**Range**

returns the range, which is the difference between the maximum and minimum value of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set. **Range** (<Set> [, <Numeric

**Expression**>])

**Rank**

returns the one-based rank of a specified tuple in a specified set.

**Rank** (<Tuple>, <set> [, <Calc Expression>])

**RollupChildren**

returns a value that is generated by rolling up the values of the children of a specified member by using the specified unary operator.

**RollupChildren(<Member>,<String Expression>)**

**Stdev**

using the unbiased population formula, returns the sample standard deviation of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set. **Stdev(<set>[,<Numeric Expression>])**

**StdevP**

using the biased population formula, returns the population standard deviation of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set. **StdevP(<set>[,<Numeric Expression>])**

**StrToValue**

returns a value from a string expression. **StrToValue(<StringExpression>)**

**Sum**

returns the sum of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set.

**Sum(<Set>[,<Numeric Expression>])**

**Value**

returns the value of a measure. **<Member>.Value**

**Var**

using the unbiased population formula, returns the sample variance of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set. **Var(<Set>[,<Numeric Expression>])**

**VarP**

using the biased population formula, returns the population variance of a numeric expression that is evaluated over a set. **VarP(<Set>[,<Numeric Expression>])**

---

## Set Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

**AddCalculatedMembers**

returns a set that includes calculated members that meet the criteria of a given set definition (by default, calculated members are not returned by set functions).

**AddCalculatedMembers(<Set>)** Example: **WITH MEMBER [geography].[geography].[all geography].[u.s.a].[north u.s.a] AS 'SUM( {[geography].[geography].[all geography].[u.s.a].[north central], [geography].[geography].[all geography].[u.s.a].[north east], [geography].[geography].[all geography].[u.s.a].[north west]})' SELECT [Measures].ActualSalesSUM ON COLUMNS, AddCalculatedMembers({ [geography].[geography].[All geography].[u.s.a].[north central]}) ON ROWS FROM [booksnall]**

**AllMembers**

returns a set that contains all members of the specified dimension, hierarchy, or level, including calculated members.

**<Dimension>.AllMembers<Hierarchy>.AllMembers<Level>.AllMembers**  
The following example references all levels and members below a specific level



using AllMembers Function. You can include calculated Members (set function).  
**SELECT** {[time].AllMembers} **ON COLUMNS** , {[geography].[global].[all global].[europe]} **ON ROWS FROM** [orionstar]  
**WHERE** [measures].[total\_retail\_pricesum] **SELECT** {[measures].AllMembers} **ON COLUMNS** , [geography].[global].[all global].[europe] **on ROWS FROM** [orionstar]

### Ancestors

returns the set of ancestors of a member to a specified level or distance. This includes or excludes ancestors at other levels. Here is the syntax for the Ancestors function:  
**Ancestors**(<member>,[<level>[,<anc\_flags>]])

**Ancestors**(<member>,<distance>[,<anc\_flags>]) The following example shows retrieving the Ancestor at a particular level:  
**WITH MEMBER** [measures].[product family sales] **AS** ' (ancestor([product].currentmember,[product].[product family]),[measures].[unit sales]) ' **SELECT** {[measures].[unit sales],[measures].[product family sales]} **ON COLUMNS**, {[product].members} **ON ROWS FROM** [sales]

### Level

returns the set of ancestors of a member that are specified by <Member> to the level that is specified by <Level>. Optionally, the set is modified by a flag that is specified in <Anc\_flags>. **Ancestors**(<member>,[<level>[,<Anc\_flags>]])

If no <Level> or <Anc\_flags> arguments are specified, then the function behaves as in the following syntax: **Ancestors**(<member>,<member>.Level,SELF\_BEFORE\_AFTER)

### Distance

returns the set of ancestors of a member. The set of ancestors is specified by <member> and is <distance> steps away in the hierarchy. Optionally, the set is modified by a flag that is specified in <Anc\_flags>. Specifying a <Distance> of 0 returns a set consisting only of the member that is specified in <Member>. **Ancestors**(<member>,<distance>[,<Anc\_flags>])

**Table A1.1** Ancestor Flag Options

Options	Value Returned
AFTER	Returns ancestor members from all levels between <Level> and <Member>, including <Member> itself, but not member(s) found at <Level>.
BEFORE	Returns ancestor members from all levels above <Level>.
BEFORE_AND_AFTER	Returns ancestor members from all levels above the level of <Member> except members from <Level>.
ROOT	Returns the root-level member. This flag is the opposite of the LEAVES flag for the Descendants function.

Options	Value Returned
SELF (default)	Returns ancestor members from <Level> only. Includes <Member>, if and only if <Level> that is specified is the level of <Member>.
SELF_AND_AFTER	Returns ancestor members from <Level> and all levels below <Level>, down to and including <Member>.
SELF_AND_BEFORE	Returns ancestor members from <Level> and all levels between and above <Member>.
SELF_BEFORE_AFTER	Returns ancestor members from all levels above the level of <Member>, including <Member> and member(s) at <Level>.

*Note:* By default, only members at the specified level or distance are included. This function corresponds to an <Anc\_flags> value of SELF. By changing the value of <Anc\_flags>, you can include or exclude ancestors at the specified level or distance, the ancestors before or the ancestors after the specified level or distance (until the root node), as well as all requests of the root ancestor or ancestors regardless of the specified level or distance.

Assuming that the levels in the Location dimension are named in a hierarchical order, an example of levels would be All, Countries, States, Counties, and Cities.

**Table A1.2** Ancestor Expressions and Returned Values

Expressions	Value Returned
Ancestors (USA)	All members
Ancestors (Wake, Counties)	USA
Ancestors (Wake, Counties, SELF)	USA
Ancestors (Wake, States, BEFORE)	USA, All
Ancestors (Wake, Counties, AFTER)	Wake (includes member itself), North Carolina
Ancestors (Raleigh, States, BEFORE_AND_AFTER)	Raleigh, Wake, USA, All members
Ancestors (Raleigh, States, SELF_BEFORE_AFTER)	Raleigh, Wake, NC, USA, All members
Ancestors (NC, Counties, Root)	All members
Ancestors (Wake, 1)	North Carolina
Ancestors (Wake, 2, SELF_BEFORE_AFTER)	Wake, NC, USA, All members

**Ascendants**

returns all ancestors of the specified member up through the root level, including the member itself. **Ascendants** (<Member>) Example: The following example shows retrieving the member at the specific level above and the current member dynamically using the Ascendants function (set function). **SELECT**

```
{Ascendants([time].[all yqm].[2002])} ON COLUMNS ,
{Descendants([geography].[global].[all global],2)} ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar] WHERE [measures].[total_retail_pricesum]
```

**Axis**

returns a set that is defined in an axis. Axis (0) pertains to row members, where Axis (1) pertains to column members. **Axis** (<Numeric Expression>) Example:

```
Axis (0) Axis (1)
```

*Note:* The Axis function is not allowed in session- or global-named sets or calculations.

**BottomCount**

returns a specified number of items from the bottom of a set.

```
BottomCount(<Set>,<Count>[,<Numeric Expression>[,<True |
False>]])
```

Example: The following example shows displaying the bottom 5 products in the Clothes product category for 2002Q4 using the BottomCount function. **SELECT**

```
{[time].[yqm].[all yqm].[2002].[2002q4]} ON COLUMNS ,
{BottomCount([product].[all product].[clothes & shoes].
[clothes].
children ,5,[measures].[total_retail_pricesum])} ON ROWS
FROM [orionstar] WHERE [measures].[Total_retail_pricesum]
```

*Note:* The True|False flag is for including duplicates. If it is set to TRUE, then any member that has the same value as the last member will also be returned. If it is set to FALSE, then it will work as it always did. The default value for the flag is FALSE.

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**BottomPercent**

sorts a set and returns the specified number of bottommost elements whose cumulative total is at least a specified percentage.

```
(<Set>,<Percentage>[,<Numeric Expression>])
```

Example: The following example shows displaying the bottom 25% of Clothes Items in the Product Category for 2002 using the BottomPercent function. **SELECT**

```
{[time].[yqm].[all yqm].[2002]} ON COLUMNS ,
{BottomPercent([product].[all product].[clothes & shoes].
[clothes].children ,25,[measures].[total_retail_pricesum])} ON ROWS FROM [orionstar] WHERE
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum]
```

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**BottomSum**

sorts a set by using a numeric expression and returns the specified number of bottommost elements whose sum is at least a specified value.

```
(<Set>,<Value>[,<Numeric Expression>])
```

Example: The following example shows obtaining the items that have a cumulative total below the specified amount using BottomSum function. **SELECT** {[time].[yqm].[all yqm].[2002]} ON COLUMNS , {BottomSum([product].

```
[all product].[clothes & shoes].
[clothes].children ,6000000,[measures].[total_retail_
pricesum] ) } ON ROWS FROM [orionstar] WHERE
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum] WHERE
[measures].[total_retail_pricesum]
```

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

#### Children

returns the children of a member. **<Member>.Children**

#### Crossjoin

returns the cross-product of two sets. **Crossjoin(<Set1>,<Set2>)**

#### Descendants

returns the set of descendants of a member to a specified level or distance.

Optionally, this includes or excludes descendants at other levels. By default, only members at the specified level or distance are included.

**Descendants(<Member>,[<Level>[,<Desc\_flags>]])**

**Descendants(<Member>,<Distance>[,<Desc\_flags>])**

**Table A1.3** Descendants Flag Options

Options	Value Returned
AFTER	Returns descendant members from all levels that are subordinate to <Level>.
BEFORE	Returns descendant members from all levels between <Member> and <Level>, not including members from <Level>.
BEFORE_AND_AFTER	Returns descendant members from all levels that are subordinate to the level of <Member>, except members from <Level>.
LEAVES	Returns leaf descendant members between <Member> and <Level> or <Distance>. This flag is the opposite of the ROOT flag for the Ancestors function.
SELF (default)	Returns descendant members from <Level> only. Includes <Member>, only if <Level> is specified at the level of <Member>.
SELF_AND_AFTER	Returns descendant members from <Level> and all levels subordinate to <Level>.
SELF_AND_BEFORE	Returns descendant members from <Level> and all levels between <Member> and <Level>.
SELF_BEFORE_AFTER	Returns descendant members from all levels that are subordinate to the level of <Member>.

**Distinct**

returns a set by removing duplicate tuples from a specified set. Duplicates are eliminated from the tail. **Distinct** (<Set>)

**DrilldownLevel**

drills down to the members of a set one level below the lowest level that is represented in the set, or to one level below an optionally specified level of a member that is represented in the set. **DrilldownLevel** (<Set> [, {<Level> | , <Index>}])

**DrilldownLevelBottom**

drills down the members of a set to one level below the lowest level that is represented in the set, or to one level below an optionally specified level of a member that is represented in the set. However, instead of including all children for each member at the specified <Level>, only the bottom <Count> of children is returned, based on <Numeric

Expression>. **DrilldownLevelBottom** (<Set>, <Count> [, [<Level>] [, <Numeric Expression>]])

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**DrilldownLevelTop**

drills down the members of a set to one level below the lowest level that is represented in the set, or to one level below an optionally specified level of a member that is represented in the set. However, instead of including all children for each member at the specified <Level>, only the top <Count> of children is returned, based on <Numeric Expression>. **DrilldownLevelTop** (<Set>, <Count> [, [<Level>] [, <Numeric Expression>]])

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**DrilldownMember**

drills down to the members in a specified set that are present in a second specified set. **DrilldownMember** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, Recursive])

**DrilldownMemberBottom**

drills down to the members in a specified set that are present in a second specified set, therefore limiting the result set to a specified number of members.

**DrilldownMemberBottom** (<Set1>, <Set2>, <Count> [, [<Numeric Expression>] [, Recursive]])

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**DrilldownMemberTop**

drills to the members in a specified set that are present in a second specified set, therefore limiting the result set to a specified number of members.

**DrilldownMemberTop** (<Set1>, <Set2>, <Count> [, [<Numeric Expression>] [, Recursive]])

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**DrillupLevel**

removes all members in the set that are below the specified level. If the level is not given, then it determines the lowest level in the set and removes all members at that level. **DrillupLevel** (<Set> [, <Level>])

**DrillupMember**

drills to the members in a specified set that are present in a second specified set.

**DrillupMember** (<Set1>, <Set2>)

**Except**

locates the difference between two sets and optionally retains duplicates.

**Except** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, All])

**Extract**

returns a set of tuples from extracted dimension elements.

**Extract** (<Set>, <Dimension> [, <Dimension>...])

**Filter**

returns the set that results from filtering a specified set that is based on a search condition. **Filter** (<Set>, <Search Condition>)

**Generate**

applies a set to each member of another set and is joined to the resulting sets.

**Generate** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, All])

**Head**

returns the first specified number of elements in a set. **Head** (<Set> [, <Numeric Expression>])

**Hierarchize**

orders the members of a set in a hierarchy. **Hierarchize** (<Set>)

**Intersect**

returns the intersection of two input sets and optionally retains duplicates.

**Intersect** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, All])

**LastPeriods**

returns a set of members prior to and including a specified member.

**LastPeriods** (<Index> [, <Member>])

**Members**

returns the set of members in a dimension, level, or hierarchy.

<Dimension>.Members<Level>.Members<Hierarchy>.Members

**Mtd**

returns the set of members that consist of the descendants of the Month level ancestor of the specified member, including the specified member itself. This function is analogous to the PeriodsToDate() function with the level defined as Month. **Mtd** ([<Member>])

**NameToSet**

returns a set that contains a single member. The set is based on a string expression that contains a member name. **NameToSet** (<Member Name>)

**NonEmptyCrossjoin**

returns the cross-product of one or more sets as a set. This excludes empty tuples and tuples without associated fact table data.

**NonEmptyCrossjoin** (<Set1> [, <Set2>] [, <Set3>...] [, <Crossjoin Set Count>])

**Order**

arranges members of a specified set and optionally preserves or breaks the hierarchy.

**Order** (<Set> [, [<Numeric Expression>] [, BASC | BDESC]]) **Order** (<Set> [, [<String Expression>] [, BASC | BDESC]]) **Order** (<Set>, <Numeric Expression> [, ASC | DESC]) **Order** (<Set>, <String Expression> [, ASC | DESC])

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**PeriodsToDate**

returns the set of members that consist of the descendants of the ancestor of the specified member at the specified level, including the specified member itself.

**PeriodsToDate** ( [<Level> [, <Member>]] )

**Qtd**

returns the set of members that consist of the descendants of the Quarter level ancestor of the specified member, including the specified member itself. This function is analogous to the PeriodsToDate() function with the level defined as Quarter. **Qtd** ( [<Member>] )

**Siblings**

returns the siblings of a specified member, including the member itself.

**<Member>.Siblings**

**StripCalculatedMembers**

returns a set that is generated by removing calculated members from a specified set.

**StripCalculatedMembers** (<Set>)

**StrToSet**

returns a set that is constructed from a specified string expression in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) format. **StrToSet** (<String Expression>)

**Subset**

returns a subset of tuples from a specified set.

**Subset** (<Set>, <Start> [, <Count>] )

**Tail**

returns a subset from the end of a set. **Tail** (<Set> [, <Count>] )

**ToggleDrillState**

Toggles the drill state of members.

**ToggleDrillState** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, RECURSIVE] )

*Note:* In a graphical user interface, drilling up and down is often accomplished by double-clicking a label to expand or contract the information. Drilling down on a member causes the member's children to be returned; drilling up causes them to disappear from the results.

**TopCount**

returns a specified number of items from the topmost members of a specified set.

**TopCount** (<Set>, <Count> [, <Numeric Expression> [, <True|False>]] )

*Note:* The True|False flag is for including duplicates. If it is set to TRUE, then any member that has the same value as the last member will also be returned. If it is set to FALSE, then it will work as it always did. The default value for the flag is FALSE.

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**TopPercent**

sorts a set and returns the topmost elements, whose cumulative total is at least a specified percentage. **TopPercent** (<Set>, <Percentage> [, <Numeric Expression>] )

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

**TopSum**

sorts a set and returns the topmost elements whose cumulative total is at least a specified value. **TopSum** (<Set>, <Value> [, <Numeric Expression>] )

*Note:* Constant numeric expressions should not be entered for this function.

#### Union

returns a set that is generated by the union of two sets. Optionally, duplicate members are retained. **Union** (<Set1>, <Set2> [, All] )

#### VisualTotals

returns a set that is generated by dynamically totaling child members in a specified set. A pattern for the name of the parent member in the result set is used.

**VisualTotals** (<Set>, <Pattern>)

#### Wtd

returns the set of members that consist of the descendants of the Week level ancestor of the specified member, including the specified member itself. This function is analogous to the PeriodsToDate() function with the level defined as Week.

**Wtd** ( [ <Member> ] )

#### Ytd

returns the set of members that consist of the descendants of the Year level ancestor of the specified member, including the specified member itself. This function is analogous to the PeriodsToDate() function with the level defined as Year.

**Ytd** ( [ <Member> ] )

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## String Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

#### CoalesceEmpty

coalesces an empty cell value to a number or string and returns the coalesced value.

**CoalesceEmpty** (<String Expression> [, <String Expression>] ...)

#### Generate

returns a concatenated string that is created by evaluating a string expression over a set. **Generate** (<Set>, <String Expression> [, <Delimiter>] )

#### IIf

returns one of two numeric or string values that are determined by a logical test.

**IIf** (<Logical Expression>, <String Expression1>, <String Expression2>)

*Note:* If a numeric value is returned, then it is a numeric function, not a string function.

#### MemberToStr

returns a string in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) format from a member.

**MemberToStr** (<Member>)

#### Name

returns the name of a level, dimension, member, or hierarchy.

<Level>.Name<Dimension>.Name<Member>.Name<Hierarchy>.Name

#### Properties

returns a string that contains a member property value.

<Member>.Properties (Caption) <Member>.Properties (Name) <Member>.Properties (UniqueName) <Member>.Properties (<String Expression>, <TRUE | FALSE>)

*Note:* The raw data associated with the property can be either numeric or character, depending on the property type. If the parameter is set to TRUE, then the



function returns the raw value for the property instead of the formatted value. If the parameter is set to FALSE, then the function returns the formatted string property. The default value is FALSE.

#### Put

returns a string that contains the formatted output based on a SAS format. **Put**(**<Numeric Expression>**,**<String Expression>**) **Put**(**<String Expression>**,**<String Expression>**)

#### SetToStr

constructs a string in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) format from a set. **SetToStr**(**<Set>**)

#### TupleToStr

returns a string in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) format from a specified tuple. **TupleToStr**(**<Tuple>**)

#### UniqueName

returns the unique name of a specified level, dimension, member, or hierarchy. **<Level>.UniqueName<Dimension>.UniqueName<Member>.UniqueName<Hierarchy>.UniqueName**

#### UserName

returns the domain name and user name of the current connection. **UserName**

#### <member>.member\_caption

returns the caption of the member. It is in non-standard MDX format.

#### <dimension>.caption

returns the caption of the member. It is in non-standard MDX format.

#### <hierarchy>.caption

returns the caption of the member. It is in non-standard MDX format.

#### <level>.caption

returns the caption of the member. It is in non-standard MDX format.

#### <member>.caption

returns the caption of the member. It is in non-standard MDX format.

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## Tuple Functions

The MDX functions that are listed here indicate their return type.

#### Current

returns the current tuple from a set during an iteration. **<Set>.Current**

#### Item

returns a member from a specified tuple. Alternatively, it returns a tuple from a set. **<Set>.Item(<Index>)**

*Note:* If a member is returned, then it is a member function, not a tuple function.

#### StrToTuple

constructs a tuple from a specified string expression in Multidimensional Expressions (MDX) format. **StrToTuple(<String expression>)**

## Miscellaneous Functions and Operators

**Table A1.4** *Miscellaneous Functions and Operators*

Function or Operator	Explanation
, (comma operator)	<p>An operator that is used to combine tuples to construct sets. For example:</p> <pre>{ [time]. [all time]. [2001]. [january], [time]. [all time]. [2001]. [February], [time]. [all time]. [2001]. [march] },</pre> <p>or to combine members to construct tuples such as</p> <pre>( [Time]. [January 2001], [Geography]. [U.S.A] )</pre>
: (colon operator)	<p>An operator that is used in part to construct sets and tuples. It replaces a series of comma operators. For example:</p> <pre>{ [Time]. [all Time]. [2001]. [January] : [Time]. [all Time]. [2001]. [March] }</pre>
{ } (braces)	The SET constructor operator.
* (asterisk operator)	<p>The alternative for CrossJoin. If you use a single operator, it is a direct replacement. You can nest CrossJoins by stringing additional operators and sets. For example, these expressions are equivalent:</p> <pre>A * B – CrossJoin( A, B ) A * B * C – CrossJoin (A, CrossJoin( B, C ) )</pre>
+ (plus operator for sets)	An alternative to union().
+ (plus operator for strings)	A concatenation of two strings.
/**/ (style comments)	<p>Cause the OLAP server to ignore anything between the initial token and final token. These comments can span lines. NOTE: these comments do NOT nest.</p>
// (style comments)	<p>Cause the OLAP server to ignore anything after the double slash until the end of the line. These comments can NOT span lines.</p>

Function or Operator	Explanation
-- (style comments)	<p>Cause the OLAP server to ignore anything after the double dash until the end of the line. These comments can NOT span lines.</p> <p>These are essentially the same as the double-slash comments.</p>
NON EMPTY	<p>When applied to an axis, causes the OLAP Server to post-process the results of the axis set and remove any tuples which have empty results.</p> <p>For the SAS OLAP Server, it works with CrossJoin to provide "Optimize NON EMPTY CrossJoin" performance improvements.</p>
<Set> AS aliasname	Creates an alias for an intermediate set. An intermediate set is one which is generated during the evaluation of an axis and has one or more functions operating on it.
Supports TRUE and FALSE	TRUE and FALSE conditional operators are supported in MDX queries
Call<UDF Name>	Executes a void returning user-defined function.
MAX SET SIZE	Limits the size of sets that the OLAP server creates. A value of 0 indicates there is no limit. The default is 1,000,000 components, where components are defined as the number of tuples in the set times the number of dimensions in each tuple. This function enables the administrator to control the system resources that are used by individual queries.



## Appendix 2

# Recommended Reading

Here is the recommended reading list for this title:

- SAS OLAP Server: User's Guide
- SAS Providers for OLE DB: Cookbook
- SAS Language Reference: Concepts
- SAS Language Reference: Dictionary
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Overview
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Data Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: System Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Application Server Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Security Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Web Application Administration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: 9.1.3 to 9.2 Migration Guide
- SAS Intelligence Platform: Desktop Application Administration Guide
- SAS Data Integration Studio: User's Guide
- SAS Web OLAP Viewer for Java: Help
- SAS OLAP Server Monitor Plug-In for SAS Management Console: Help
- SAS Management Console Main Application: Help
- SAS Companion that is specific to your operating environment

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