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Better Hashing in SAS® 9.2

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ABSTRACT

The DATA step hash object is one of the most versatile new features of Base SAS® programming. Since its introduction in SAS® 9, we have numerous accounts from users where the hash object has drastically reduced data processing time for complex data join operations. Based on feedback, we have further enhanced the hash object. For SAS® 9.2, we introduce the ability to store duplicate keys in a hash object and have added a find frequency counter. In this paper, we leverage the duplicate key capability to implement true SQL-like joins as well as partial-key look-ups. In addition, we explore uses for the find frequency counter. Go beyond SAS® 9.1 and see why hashing in SAS 9.2 improves how you join data.

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