

What's New

Overview

There are several enhancements to the Macro Language Facility including a new automatic macro variable, new comparison operators, new SAS system options, new macro statements, new functions, and a new option for the %MACRO statement.

Note:

- This section describes the features of the SAS Macro Facility that are new or enhanced since SAS 8.2.
- z/OS is the successor to the OS/390 operating system. SAS 9.1 is supported on both OS/390 and z/OS operating systems and, throughout this document, any reference to z/OS also applies to OS/390, unless otherwise stated.

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New Automatic Macro Variable

- To take advantage of the new parallel-processing abilities in SAS, the new read-only automatic macro variable, &SYSNCPU, contains the current number of CPUs that SAS can use during the current SAS session. See “SYSNCPU Automatic Macro Variable” on page 286.

New Comparison Operators

- The IN mnemonic operator is a binary comparison operator similar to that of the DATA step, except that the operand on the right side is simply a list of values and is not enclosed in parentheses. The IN operator compares the value of the operand on the left side against the list of values in the operand on the right side. See Chapter 6, “Macro Expressions,” on page 67.
- You can use the # character as an alternate spelling for the IN operator.

New SAS System Options

These are the new macro system options:

- The MPRINTNEST system option enables the macro nesting information to be displayed in the MPRINT output in the SAS log. See “MPRINTNEST System Option” on page 219.
- The MLOGICNEST system option enables the macro nesting information to be displayed in the MLOGIC output in the SAS log. See “MLOGICNEST System Option” on page 215.
- The MINDELIMITER system option specifies the character to be used as the delimiter within a list of values for the macro IN operator. See “MINDELIMITER= System Option” on page 212.
- The MCOMPILENOTE system option specifies that a NOTE be issued to the SAS log when the compilation of a macro is completed. See “MCOMPILENOTE System Option” on page 208.
- The MAUTOLOCDISPLAY system option specifies that the source location of the autocall macro be displayed in the SAS log when the autocall macro is invoked. See “MAUTOLOCDISPLAY System Option” on page 207.

New Macro Statements

- The %ABORT statement stops the macro that is executing along with the current DATA step, SAS job, or SAS session. See “%ABORT Statement” on page 163.
- The %RETURN statement execution causes normal termination of the currently executing macro. See “%RETURN Statement” on page 234.
- The %COPY statement copies specified items from a SAS macro library. See “%COPY Statement” on page 172.

New Macro Functions

- The %SYMEXIST function returns an indication of the existence of a macro variable. See “%SYMEXIST Function” on page 248.
- The %SYMGLOBL function returns an indication as to whether a macro variable is global in scope. See “%SYMGLOBL Function” on page 254.
- The %SYMLOCAL function returns an indication as to whether a macro variable is local in scope. See “%SYMLOCAL Function” on page 256.

New Option for the %MACRO Statement

- SOURCE is a new option that is issued in the %MACRO statement. When used with the existing STORE option, the SOURCE option combines and stores the source of the compiled macro with the compiled macro code as an entry in a SAS catalog in a permanent SAS data library. See “%MACRO Statement” on page 202.