

Creating SAS XPORT files and Using XPORT files from Stata¹

StatTransfer is no longer available on the CSDA's Linux system.² This help document will illustrate how to convert data files between SAS and Stata. SAS Institute (Cary, NC) has developed software (an XPORT engine) that allows data sets to be moved across platforms. Many other applications, such as SPSS, Stata, and R, can also read SAS XPORT files. Once the data conversion is complete, it is highly recommended to compare the data content, variables attributes or descriptive statistics between the two different data formats to avoid potential errors that may occur during the conversion process.

To create a SAS XPORT file from a SAS dataset:

```
/**alias the library reference where the SAS dataset(s) is located***/
LIBNAME mylib '/tmp';

/** alias the library reference where the portable file is located***/
LIBNAME sasxpt XPORT '/tmp/outdata/portable.xpt';

/**copy one or more SAS datasets in the IN library reference (i.e., myjob) to the OUT library reference (i.e., sasxpt).
PROC COPY IN=mylib OUT=sasxpt;

/**specify only the file 'myjob' should be included in the transport file portable.xpt***/
SELECT myjob;
RUN;
```

To import a SAS XPORT file to Stata:

```
* Change to the directory where the XPORT file is located
cd /tmp/outdata

* Use the SAS XPORT file
fdause "portable.xpt"

* Describe the data content
codebook

* Save the data in Stata format
save mydata.dta, replace
```

¹ This help document is created on December 3, 2012, by Hui-shien Tsao

² StatTransfer remains available on CSDA's computing lab machines.