

Creating and Using Transport Files in SAS and SPSS¹

It is often necessary to take special steps to use files created on one platform on another platform. And, data sets available from other sources are often transport files, so that they can be used on a variety of platforms. This document will show how to create and use transport files. Check SAS documentation, [Moving and Accessing SAS Files across Operating Environments](#) for more information.

Use caution when translating between programs and platforms. You may find that you lose numeric precision. (Because of this, selections may not work without taking steps to correct the problem. A value of 1 looks like 1, but it is really approximately 1.) Check Ns and means if possible. Files created by these processes are BINARY - not ASCII.

SAS

SAS has two methods of creating (and reading) transport files. Change file names, etc, so that they match the files you want to read and write.

1. Creating file using PROC CPORT

```
* cport sas. Create a file for transportation with proc cport ;
* Files may be transferred via ftp, file binary, lrecl 80 ;
* All SAS files in the library will be included in the cport file;
filename cported 'd:\transport\file1_9.cpt';
libname mylib 'd:\transport\saslib' ;
proc cport library = mylib file = cported ; run ;
```

2. Import file using PROC CPORT

```
** cimport sas. Import files created by proc cport ;
** if this doesn't work, try xport.sas ;
** for files created with xport engine ;
* transferred via ftp, file binary. ;
filename cported 'd:\transport\file1_9.cpt';
libname mylib 'd:\transport\saslib2\';
proc cimport infile= cported library= mylib ; run ;
```

3. Creating file using XPORT

```
* xportout.sas, Create an export file;
* All files in the library will be put into the file unless ;
* a selection is made. Use "binary" for FTP. ;
libname library 'd:\transport\saslib' ;
libname tranfile xport 'd:\transport\file1_9.xpt';
proc copy in= library out = tranfile ;
** IF all files are not needed, use select command to get only ONE systems file. ;
select file9 ; run ;
```

4. Reading file using XPORT

```
* xportin.sas - Read a file created a file using XPORT engine ;
* transferred to unix via ftp, file binary. ;
libname library 'd:\transport\saslib' ;
libname tranfile xport 'd:\transport\file1_9.xpt';
* To restore all data files in the library: ;
proc copy in = tranfile out = library memtype = data ; run ;
* or, for a single file: ;
data library.file9; set tranfile.file9 ; run;
```

¹Prepared by Patty Glynn, University of Washington, 7/18/02 C:\all\help\helpnew\transport.wpd.

