

Session Recap

Session Topic: SAS Visual Analytics Designer
Session Date: 08SEP14
Recording: <http://support.sas.com/training/us/lw/lwrecord.hspl?date=08Sep14&cocode=19884>

This session recap includes the Q&A from the session. Additional information and links to more detailed content are included.

Don't forget to [register](#) for additional Ask the Expert: SAS Visual Analytics sessions.

SAS Visual Analytics Toolkit	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Product Overview ▪ Getting Started Resources ▪ Try the software yourself ▪ Community ▪ Free Video Tutorials ▪ Documentation ▪ Training

Question:	<i>Other than the obvious, what is the difference between the three map objects?</i>	
Answer:	<p>By obvious I assume you mean how geographic locations are shown as bubbles, markers, and colored regions. As for the differences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Geo Bubble Map enables you to assign measures to the Size, Color, and Data Tip Values roles. You can also animate the map based on the values of a date variable. • The Geo Coordinate Map enables you to assign multiple measures that will be displayed as data tips. • The Geo Region Map enables you to assign measures for the Color and Data Tip Values roles. 	
Additional Information:	Geo Region maps do not support custom geography data items.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Gallery of Report Objects: Geo Maps • User's Guide: Working with Geo Maps 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Geo Map Report Object • Animate Graphs and Maps 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Than a Map: Location Analysis with SAS Visual Analytics • Discussion: Coordinates for Geo Map

Question:	<i>Can I view my reports in Excel?</i>	
Answer:	If you have the SAS Add-In for Microsoft Excel, you can view your SAS Visual Analytics reports in Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and even Outlook.	
Additional Information:	SAS Enterprise Guide also enables you to view your SAS Visual Analytics reports.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAS Add-In for Microsoft Office Help: Working with Reports • SAS Enterprise Guide Help: Working with Results: Working with Reports 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating SAS Office Analytics with SAS Visual Analytics 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share Your SAS Visual Analytics Reports with SAS Office Analytics • Everyday Visual Analytics

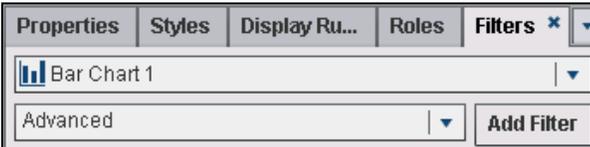
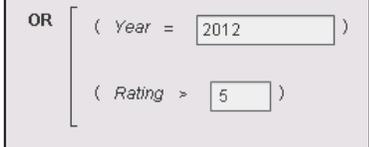
Question:	<i>What's the difference between the Designer and the Explorer?</i>	
Answer:	The Explorer helps you learn about your data by visualizing it in different ways. The Designer enables you to present your findings in a report that you can view and interact with from several types of clients.	
Additional Information:	Clients for viewing reports include the SAS Visual Analytics Viewer and the SAS Mobile BI app for iPad and Android tablets. You can also view your reports using other SAS applications such as SAS Enterprise Guide and the SAS Add-In for Microsoft Office.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Exploring Data • User's Guide: Designing Reports 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration Basics • Report Basics 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forest and the Trees: See it All with SAS Visual Analytics Explorer • Get the Most Out of SAS Visual Analytics: Design Tips for Creating More Stunning Reports • Discussion: Explaining SAS Visual Analytics to Colleagues

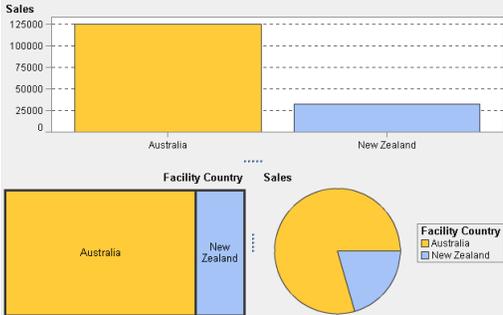
Question:	<i>I have got a report saved in the My Folder location. A colleague and I will both need to work on the report. How can I give him access to the My Folder location I use?</i>	
Answer:	Your My Folder location is created as a secure place that only you can access. By design, you won't be able to allow your colleague to have access to your My Folder location. Instead, use a SAS Folder that you can both access. If there isn't an already created folder that you can both access, contact your SAS administrator to request one.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Administration Guide: Working with SAS Folders 	 Videos	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAS Visual Analytics: Managing User Permissions

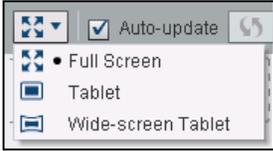
Question:	<i>In my report, I've got a crosstab table set up to show sales information. I've also set up drop-down lists for limiting the data shown in the table to a selected manager or employee, but they aren't working correctly. When I select a manager, the employee drop-down still shows employees for all managers and I want to see only the employees for the selected manager. How can I fix the drop-down lists so that I'll see only employees for the selected manager?</i>	
Answer:	You'll want to set up an interaction between the drop-down list for the manager and the drop-down list for the employee. And then you'll also want to set up interactions from both drop-down lists to the crosstab object. After you do that, the drop-down lists and crosstab table should work the way you want.	
Additional Information:	The control objects need to be placed on the report canvas, not in the section prompt area, in order to establish links.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Interactions 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User Interactions and Links in a Report 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get the Most Out of SAS Visual Analytics: Design Tips for Creating More Stunning Reports

Question:	<i>I've got a report already created for my product sales data and it's working great. Now I've got to create almost the same report but using supplier cost data. Is there any way I can reuse my existing report with this different data table?</i>	
Answer:	There are several ways to reuse the existing report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can make a copy of the first report and then change the data source to the supplier cost data. You'd change the data source by using the Change Data Source selection from the options menu on the Data tab. Data items that are not in the new data source will be removed from any report objects, so this method works best if the data items have the same name in the new table. • You can import report objects from the original report into a new report that uses the new data source. That way you can select just some of report objects from the original report and not have to use them all. You'll still have to fix an imported report object that's using a data item that's not in the new data source. 	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Data Sources in Reports • User' Guide: Base a New Report on Report Objects Imported from One or More Existing Reports 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Multi-Section Report and Import Report Objects 	 Technical Papers

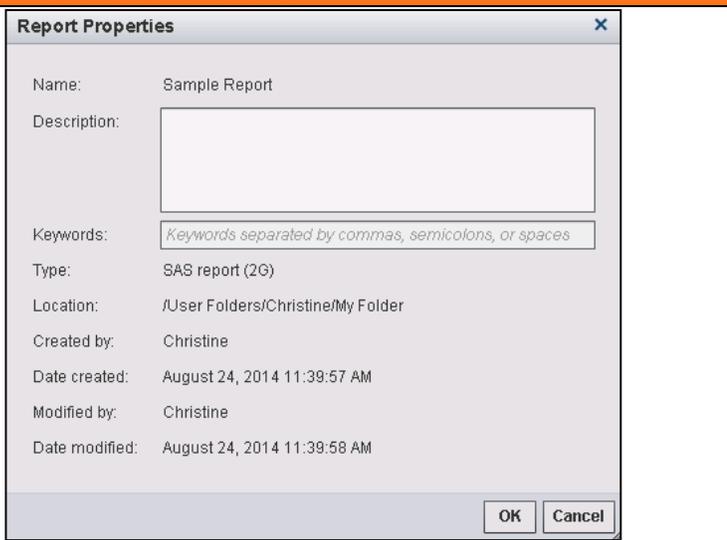
Question:	<i>I want to filter all of my report objects the same way, including those in another section. What's the best way to do this?</i>	
Answer:	You can use the Options button on the Data pane to create a data source filter. Data source filters subset the data for all objects in all report sections.	
Additional Information:	An added benefit of using a data source filter is that a data source filter updates the cardinality values that appear on the Data tab.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Data Source Filters in a Report • User's Guide: About Report Filters 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report Basics 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>I know that I can easily filter a report object by multiple data items, but both filter conditions must be met. Is there any way to create a filter where either condition can be met? An example is "year=2014 or rating>5".</i>	
Answer:	You can create this type of report object filter by creating an advanced filter. With the report object selected, click the Filters tab in the right pane. Verify that Advanced is selected in the drop-down list and click Add Filter . Use the OR selection from the Boolean operators category when building your filter.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Advanced Filters • User's Guide: About Report Filters 	 Videos	 Technical Papers

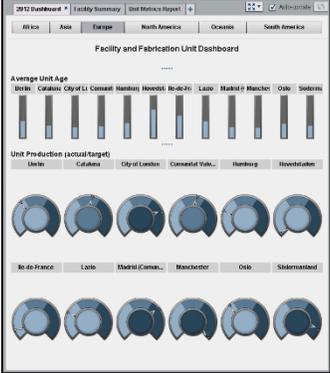
Question:	<i>I have a pie chart, bar graph, and treemap that all show the same values such as country. How can I make the countries the same color in all of the graphs and have it automatically apply to new graphs in the same report?</i>	
Answer:	You can accomplish this by creating a report level display rule. Click the Display Rules tab in the right pane, select the report from the drop-down list at the top of the tab, and click New to create a new display rule. Add each country value to the rule and set the desired color.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Add Report-Level Display Rules • User's Guide: Overview of Display Rules 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Display Rules 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usage Note: Support for display rules on specific report objects in SAS Visual Analytics Designer

Question:	<i>Why would I want to use the full screen report view instead of the tablet report view?</i>	
Answer:	The report view selection enables you to choose from Full Screen, Tablet, and Wide-screen Tablet. The default is Full Screen and enables your report to take up all of the available space in a browser window. Selecting one of the other choices enables you to design your report with a specific tablet size in mind to make sure that the report displays the way that you want it to when viewing it on a tablet.	
Additional Information:	<p>You can change the report view for the current report by selecting Report View from the View menu or by using the Aspect ratio button in the upper right corner of the report workspace.</p>  <p>You can also use the Preferences window to set the report view that you want to use as the default for new reports.</p>	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Choose a Report View • User's Guide: Specifying Your Preferences for the Designer 	 Videos	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>Can you describe how comments work?</i>	
Answer:	Sure. Comments are a great way to add information to a report as well as to collaborate with your colleagues. You can add and interact with report comments in the Designer and from the Object Inspector on the Home Page. When using the SAS Visual Analytics Viewer or the Mobile BI app, you can create, view, and interact with report comments and you can also create, view, and interact with report object comments. You can add new comments, reply to existing comments, and even attach files to your comments.	
Additional Information:	Report object comments cannot be added, changed, or viewed using the Designer or the Object Inspector on the Home Page.	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Add Comments to a Report • User's Guide: Add Comments to Objects on the Home Page • User's Guide: Add Comments to a Report in the Viewer 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Export the Data Used in Report Objects and Collaborate Using Comments • Get Started with the SAS Visual Analytics Home Page 	 Technical Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: SAS VA and comments limitations

Question:	<i>I see description and keyword fields when I look at the report on the Home Page, but it always says "(not available)". How can I set these values?</i>	
Answer:	When you save a report, you select the SAS Folders location and enter a report name. You can add a description and keywords by selecting File ⇒ Report Properties in the Designer.	
Additional Information:	You can also customize the Open window to show additional fields such as Description and Keywords. Right-click the column headings on the right side of the Open window and select Customize . Select the fields that you want to display and click OK . 	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: View Report Properties 	 Videos	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>I would like to know if there are GEO maps for APAC values for a particular country, and can we display bubbles that include Lat/Long values?</i>	
Answer:	We have Geographical Lookup Table Values for SAS Visual Analytics 6.3 and 6.4. You can find them on support.sas.com. Select the link below: http://support.sas.com/rnd/datavisualization/va63geo/va63LookupValues.html If the Lat/Long values are included in your data items, you can add these measures as a data tip value using the Roles tab in the right pane.	
Additional Information:	We also have Country and Region Subdivision Lookup Table Values on support.sas.com as well. http://support.sas.com/rnd/datavisualization/va63geo/subdivs.html	
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Geo Maps 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Geo Map Report Object 	 Technical Papers

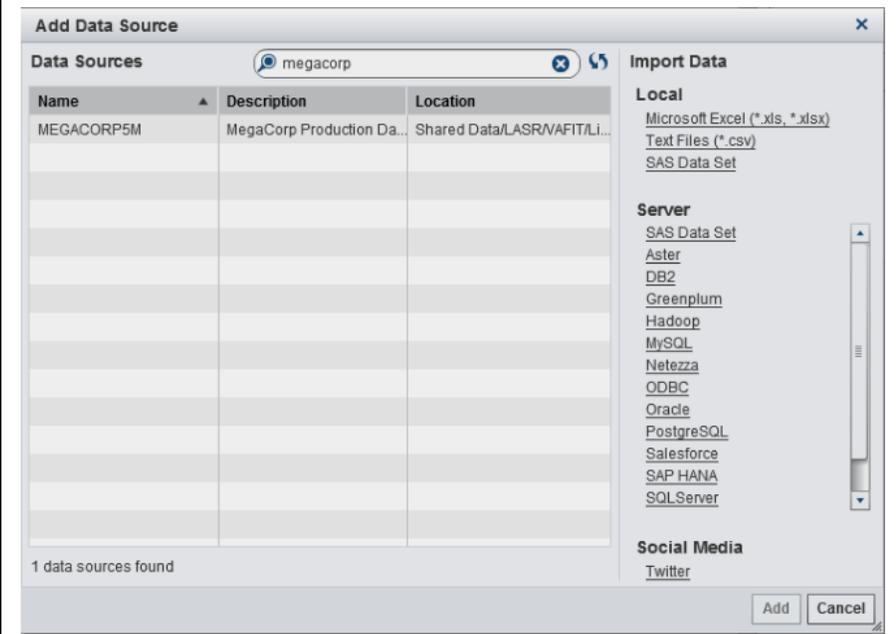
Question:	<i>How do I add a filter that will filter all objects in a section?</i>	
Answer:	You can create a section prompt. Simply drag a control object to the <i>Drop controls here to create a section prompt</i> . You would then populate the control object with the data item that you want to filter. When you select a value from the section prompt, all objects will be filtered based on your selection.	
Additional Information:	The 2012 Dashboard Section uses a button bar control object to filter all the gauges in the section.	
		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Working with Controls 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a control report object 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>Can I export these graphs as a PDF file or PNG file?</i>	
Answer:	There is currently not a way to export graphs to a PDF or PNG file. However, you can export the Data Used in the report object.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User's Guide: Exporting Data from Report Objects 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Export the Data Used in Report Objects 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>When should one create / use a new aggregated measure versus a new calculated item?</i>	
Answer:	The choice of an aggregated measure versus a calculated item depends on how you want or need to use the new measure. The calculated data item is defined by an expression, and this expression is evaluated for every row when this data item is used in a report. An example of this type might be a profit value. The data values will be summarized in the report based on the summarization property specified in the data panel for the new calculated data item. The aggregated measure is not calculated until the data item is placed on a report. One example of this is a Percent by group. After the aggregated measure is added to the report, the grouping values are used to determine how the aggregated values are evaluated.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Calculated Items in Reports 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Calculated Data Items • Create Aggregated Measures in Designer 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>In a demonstration, I saw the capability to link from one report section to another. As a part of this linking, the value of the bar in the bar chart that was selected was passed to the linked report. Does this type of linking take a lot to do?</i>	
Answer:	The actual linking setup is quite easy. Of course, the report has to include two or more sections, and the report objects need to be in place before the links can be established. To define the link, right-click the report object that you want to be the source of the link and select Add Link -> Section Link . In the Create Section Link window, you select the section in the report that you want to link to. Passing a parameter value is automatic with section links, you don't have to make any other connections. It is just that easy.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a Link 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report Enhancements 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>In a Geo Map report, can ZIP codes be used for the basis of mapping?</i>	
Answer:	One of the predefined set of Geo map values is the five-digit ZIP code. A column with the five-digit ZIP values must be loaded into the SAS LASR Analytic Server, but once there, the predefined coordinate values can be used for display on a map. Simply right-click the ZIP code column in the data panel, select Geography , and then US ZIP Codes to apply the predefined values. A new geographical data item will be available in the data panel. After the map is created, the ZIP code can be included as a part of the data tip for display purposes.	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a Geo Map 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a Geo Map Report Object 	 Technical Papers

Question:	<i>What are the different ways to load data into the environment?</i>	
Answer:	<p>There are many ways that an administrator might load data into the environment. For this answer, let's focus on the capability that might be available to an analyst working in the Designer. When the analyst selects from the Data tab, select a data source, and the Add Data Source window appears. If the analyst has provided the capability to load data directly to the SAS LASR Analytic Server from the Designer, then links are available on the right side of the Add Data Source window to Import Data, either Local data sources (SAS Data Sets, Excel worksheets, and so on), server data, or social media.</p>	
Additional Information:		
 Online Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import a Data Source for a Report 	 Videos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import Data in the Designer 	 Technical Papers

If you have any questions, please contact:

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