

Disclaimer

I'm not a native speaker but I'm doing my best.

If I say something that may be interpreted as either negative or positive (e.g. a joke vs. an offense) I always, always, mean the positive.

A SAS Code Hidden in Plain Sight

Paper 189-2023

Bartosz Jabłoński

yabwon

✉ yabwon@gmail.com
[linkedin.com/in/yabwon](https://www.linkedin.com/in/yabwon)

October 31st - November 2nd, 2023
WUSS Conference, San Diego



San Diego



Takeda
Pharmaceutical

www.takeda.com



Experis

Manpower Group

www.experis.com



www.polsug.com
#PolSUG

The Question

"Is there any way you can run a code, without seeing the program ? I am asking if needed to share the code with someone, we can add options to not display the source code to the log, but can there be any restrictions on the program, like password protected?"

Anamaria Dinu,
June 24th, 2021,
at sasensei discussion group

The Question

"Is there any way you can run a program? I am asking if not someone, we can add options to the log, but can there be a program, like password protection?"

Does it run? Just leave it alone.



**Writing a Code that
Nobody Else Can Read**
The Definitive Guide

ONLY?

by %@#&\$!%&#&!#%

the
ch
e code
e

anamaria Dinu,
June 24th, 2021,
discussion group

The Quote

"If you know the system well enough, you can do things that aren't supposed to be possible."

Linus Torvalds

The Code

"Good programming presentation should contain a code snippet and a joke, but it's essential to tell which is which."

Konstanty Junosza-Szaniawski

Macros

```
%macro notSecretMacro(question) ;  
  data _null_;  
    x = 42;  
    put "The answer for &question. is: " x;  
  run;  
%mend;
```

```
%macro secretMacro(question) / SECURE ;  
  data _null_;  
    x = rank("*");  
    put "The answer for &question. is: " x;  
  run;  
%mend;
```

Functions

```
proc FCMP outlib=work.notSecret.p;  
  function notSecret(question $);  
    x = 42;  
    return(x);  
  endsub;  
run;  
  
proc FCMP outlib=work.secret.p ENCRYPT ;  
  function secret(question $);  
    x = rank("*");  
    return(x);  
  endsub;  
run;
```

Challenge

```
proc FCMP outlib = work.secretFunction.p ENCRYPT ;  
  function secretFunction();  
    %macro littleSecretMacro(question) / SECURE ;  
      data _null_;  
        x = rank("*");  
        put "The answer for &question. is: " x;  
      run;  
    %mend;  
  endsub;  
run;
```

Challenge

```
proc FCMP outlib = work.secretFunction.p ENCRYPT ;  
  function secretFunction();  
    %macro littleSecretMacro(question) / SECURE ;  
      data _null_;  
        x = rank("*");  
        put "The answer for &question. is: " x;  
      run;  
    %mend;  
  endsub;  
run;
```

How to solve this task?

Challenge

```
proc FCMP outlib = work.secretFunction.p ENCRYPT ;  
  function secretFunction();  
    %macro littleSecretMacro(question) / SECURE ;  
      data _null_;  
        x = rank("*");  
        put "The answer for &question. is: " x;  
      run;  
    %mend;  
  endsub;  
run;
```

How to solve this task?

```
data _null_;  
  rc = RESOLVE();  
run;
```

The Code

```
proc FCMP outlib = work.gsm.secure ENCRYPT ;  
  function generateMacro() $;  
    rc = RESOLVE('  
      %macro ultimateSecretMacro(question) / SECURE ;  
        data _null_;  
          x = rank("*");  
          put "Dear user, the answer for &question. is: " x;  
          put "So long, and thanks for all the fish!";  
        run;  
      %mend;  
    ');  
    return (rc);  
  endsub;  
run;
```

The Code (fixing limitations)

```

proc FCMP outlib = work.gsm.secure ENCRYPT ;
  function generateFinalMacro() $;
    rc = RESOLVE('
      %macro finalUltimateSecretMacro(question) / SECURE ;
        %local rc;
        %let rc = %sysfunc(doSubL(%str(
          options ps=min nonotes nomprint nosymbolgen nomlogic nosource;
          data _null_;
            x = rank("*");
            put "Dear user, the answer for &question. is: " x;
            put "So long, and thanks for all the fish!";
          run;
        )));
      %mend;
    ');
  return (rc);
endsub;
run;

```

Is there a SAS package
for this job?

Of course there is!

The GSM package..





github.com/yabwon/SAS_PACKAGES



github.com/SASPAC/gsm

Big thanks to Anamaria Dinu and Lex Jansen who inspired me with the idea.

Thanks to Kathryn McLawhorn from SAS Tech support for clarifications.

- Bartosz Jabłoński, "A SAS code hidden in a plain sight", WUSS 2023 Proceedings (Paper 189-2023, to be published).
- Bartosz Jabłoński, "SAS packages - the way to share (a how to) - extended", SAS GF 2020 Proceedings (updated version as of October 2023), https://github.com/yabwon/SAS_PACKAGES/tree/master/SPF/Documentation
- Bartosz Jabłoński, GSM packages documentation, (as of October 2023), <https://github.com/SASPAC/gsm>
- Ian Whitlock, "The RESOLVE Function - What Is It Good For?", NESUG 1998 Proceedings, <https://www.lexjansen.com/nesug/nesug98/code/p088.pdf>
- Rick Langston, "Submitting SAS Code On The Side", SAS Global Forum 2013 Proceedings, 032-2013, <https://support.sas.com/resources/papers/proceedings13/032-2013.pdf>
- Quentin McMullen, "A Close Look at How DOSUBL Handles Macro Variable Scope", SAS Global Forum 2020 Proceedings, 4958-2020, <https://support.sas.com/resources/papers/proceedings13/032-2013.pdf>

dziękuję

The background of the slide features a black silhouette of the San Diego skyline, including various skyscrapers and a prominent tower. To the left of the skyline are two blue palm trees. The word 'San Diego' is written in a white, cursive script across the bottom of the skyline.

San Diego