

My professor gave me a copy of a SAS dataset and I have no idea how to access it.

First, don't panic. All will be well. Identify where the file is. It will most probably have the following extension '.sas7bdat'. This is a SAS data set. For this example we will say that this file is called 'one' and is located on a floppy disk (A:\one.sas7bdat). To access this file type this in your program editor window, type

```
libname homework 'A:\';  
proc contents data=homework.one; run;
```

This is telling SAS that there is a permanent library called 'homework' and it is located on the A drive. Anytime you want to access that file just type in that libname statement.

Now, the temporary library comes into play when you are creating new datasets that you are not interested in keeping. In the example below I create a data set from the 'one.sas7bdat' file.

```
data test;  
set homework.one;  
if sex =2 then output;
```

Here you just created a file that only has female respondents in it called 'test'. It is located in the temporary library called 'work'. When you shut down SAS that dataset is cleared away. If you decide you want to keep the dataset with just female in it then you need to modify the code;

```
data homework.test;  
set homework.one;  
if sex=2 then output;
```