Sas Sugi Papers

Summing with SAS®

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ABSTRACT

This paper reviews methods used to sum data, including horizontal summation (summing data across variables), vertical summation (summing data across observations), and cumulative summation (summing data across both observations and variables to create running totals). Techniques include the addition operator, the SUM function, PROC PRINT, PROC MEANS, PROC SQL, the RETAIN statement, FIRST./LAST. processing, and the SUM statement. Special attention is paid to how SAS® handles missing values in each technique.

INTRODUCTION

Summing data seems like a simple concept, but there are actually many complexities. Depending on the data set and the analysis question, one should use different methods. This paper presents four analysis questions involving summation and answers them using the most appropriate SAS technique.

SAMPLE DATA SET

Below is a data set, FINANCIALS, that contains weekly revenue and cost information for two branches of a toy store in the weeks around Christmas. The two branches (LOCATION) are Boston and New York. Revenue comes from three different product lines: toys (REV1), games (REV2), and books (REV3). There is also one cost variable (COSTS). DATE indicates the start date of each holiday week.

location	date	rev1	rev2	rev3	costs
Boston	12/15/2006	$500	$150	$300	-$200
Boston	12/22/2006	$300	$500	$200	-$200
Boston	12/29/2006	$100	$200	$50	-$200
Boston	1/6/2007	$100	$100	$150	-$200
New York	12/15/2006	.	$600	$400	-$400
New York	12/22/2006	$700	$600	$250	-$400
New York	12/29/2006	$200	$300	$100	-$400
New York	1/6/2007	$50	$100	$50	-$400
	1/6/2007	$950	$1,600	$800	-$1,600

Note that this data set has missing values for two variables: REV1 and LOCATION. In these data, a missing value of REV1 means that there was no revenue from toys in that week (i.e., a value of missing is equivalent to a value of zero, so the value is not, in fact, "missing"). On the other hand, the observation with missing data for LOCATION does not look like good data. It seems to be a total of the revenues and costs of the New York branch over the four holiday weeks that was included in this data set by accident. This paper describes how to deal with both good and bad missing data so as to avoid unexpected results.

ANALYSIS QUESTIONS

The owner of the toy store is interested in determining whether certain locations or certain product lines are more profitable than others. This paper will demonstrate various summation techniques in SAS to answer the following analysis questions:

1. What is the weekly profit for each branch?
2. How much revenue did each product line bring in during the holiday period (and did this differ by branch)?
3. How much profit did each branch earn during the holiday period, in dollars and as a percentage of total profits?
4. What is the cumulative profit to date of this company by branch at each week?

HORIZONTAL SUMMATION

Sas Sugi Papers are a unique and traditional form of paper that has been cherished for centuries, originating from the Japanese culture. Known for their distinct texture, durability, and aesthetic appeal, these papers have become an integral part of Japanese arts and crafts, serving multiple purposes from calligraphy to bookbinding and beyond. This article delves into the history, production, characteristics, uses, and the cultural significance of Sas Sugi papers, providing a comprehensive overview of this fascinating material.

History of Sas Sugi Papers

The history of Sas Sugi papers can be traced back to ancient Japan, where paper-making techniques were introduced from China in the 7th century. The

use of natural fibers, particularly the bark of trees, was a common practice in early Japanese paper-making. Sas Sugi, specifically, is made from the bark of the indigenous sugi (cedar) tree, which is abundant in Japan.

Over the centuries, the methods and techniques for producing Sas Sugi papers have evolved, influenced by regional practices and the demands of artisans. The paper gained prominence during the Edo period (1603–1868), when the appreciation for traditional crafts flourished. Artisans began to recognize the unique qualities of Sas Sugi papers, leading to their widespread use in various artistic and functional applications.

Production Process

The production of Sas Sugi papers is a meticulous process that requires skill and patience. The following steps outline the traditional method of making this unique paper:

1. Harvesting the Sugi Bark

– The first step involves carefully harvesting the bark of the sugi tree. Artisans select mature trees, ensuring that the bark is stripped in a way that does not harm the tree's health.
– The bark is collected during specific seasons when it is most pliable, typically in the spring or early summer.

2. Soaking and Cleaning

– After harvesting, the bark is soaked in water to soften it. This process may take several hours to a few days, depending on the thickness of the bark.
– Once softened, the bark is cleaned to remove any impurities, such as dirt, moss, or other organic materials.

3. Pulping

– The cleaned bark is then boiled to break down the fibers, creating a pulp. This stage is crucial as it determines the texture and quality of the final paper.
– After boiling, the pulp is rinsed to remove any remaining chemicals or residues.

4. Sheet Formation

– The pulp is diluted with water and poured onto a flat surface or a traditional mold.
– Using a bamboo screen, artisans carefully spread the pulp into thin, even layers, controlling the thickness of the paper.

5. Pressing and Drying

- The formed sheets are pressed to remove excess water, followed by hanging or laying them flat to dry.
- Once dry, the sheets are carefully peeled off and may undergo additional processes like smoothing or trimming.

Characteristics of Sas Sugi Papers

Sas Sugi papers are renowned for several distinctive characteristics that set them apart from other types of paper. These features contribute to their appeal among artists, craftsmen, and collectors alike.

1. Texture and Appearance

- Sas Sugi papers have a unique texture that is often described as soft yet robust. The fibers from the sugi bark give the paper a slightly coarse surface, which enhances its tactile quality.
- The color of Sas Sugi papers ranges from creamy beige to light brown, often showcasing natural variations that add to their aesthetic charm.

2. Durability

- One of the standout features of Sas Sugi papers is their durability. The natural fibers used in the production process render the paper resistant to tearing and wear, making it suitable for various applications.
- When properly cared for, Sas Sugi papers can last for decades, retaining their quality and appearance.

3. Versatility

- Sas Sugi papers are versatile and can be used for an array of purposes, including:
- Calligraphy and painting
- Bookbinding and stationery
- Craft projects and origami
- Wrapping delicate gifts

4. Eco-Friendly

- The production of Sas Sugi papers is largely sustainable, as it utilizes natural materials and traditional methods. The emphasis on using tree bark rather than whole trees minimizes environmental impact.
- Additionally, the biodegradable nature of these papers makes them an eco-conscious choice for consumers and artists.

Uses of Sas Sugi Papers

The unique properties of Sas Sugi papers lend themselves to various artistic and functional uses. Below are some of the most popular applications:

1. Calligraphy

– The texture of Sas Sugi papers is ideal for calligraphy, as it holds ink well and allows for smooth strokes. Many calligraphers prefer this paper for its ability to showcase fine details and characters.

2. Painting

– Artists often use Sas Sugi papers for watercolor and ink painting. The absorbent nature of the paper allows colors to blend beautifully, creating stunning visual effects.

3. Bookbinding

– Sas Sugi papers are frequently employed in traditional bookbinding techniques. Their durability ensures that books can withstand frequent handling while maintaining their integrity.

4. Craft Projects

– The versatility of Sas Sugi papers makes them a favorite among crafters. From origami to scrapbooking, the unique appearance and texture can enhance various projects.

5. Gift Wrapping

– Many people use Sas Sugi papers for wrapping gifts, as they provide a beautiful and eco-friendly alternative to conventional wrapping papers.

Cultural Significance

Sas Sugi papers hold a special place in Japanese culture and heritage. Their production is not merely a craft but an art form that embodies the values of patience, precision, and respect for nature.

1. Connection to Nature

– The process of making Sas Sugi papers emphasizes a deep connection to

nature. Artisans appreciate the beauty and utility of the sugi tree, promoting a sense of harmony with the environment.

2. Preservation of Tradition

- The continued production of Sas Sugi papers helps preserve traditional Japanese paper-making techniques, ensuring that this cultural heritage is passed down to future generations.

3. Symbol of Artistry

- Sas Sugi papers are often regarded as a symbol of artistry and craftsmanship in Japan. They represent the dedication and skill of artisans who have honed their craft over generations.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Sas Sugi papers are a remarkable testament to the artistry and craftsmanship of Japanese culture. Their unique production process, distinctive characteristics, and versatile applications make them a treasured material for artists and crafters alike. As we continue to embrace sustainable practices and celebrate traditional crafts, Sas Sugi papers stand out as a beautiful and eco-friendly option that connects us to nature and our cultural heritage. Whether used for calligraphy, painting, or simply as a medium for creative expression, Sas Sugi papers remain an enduring symbol of Japanese artistry and innovation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are SAS Sugi papers?

SAS Sugi papers are scientific publications produced by the SAS Institute, focusing on statistical analysis and data management techniques.

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