This manual is for GNU PSPP version 1.2.0, software for statistical analysis.

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Appendix F  GNU Free Documentation License . 137
1 Introduction

This manual is a guide to PSPP internals. Its intended audience is developers who wish to modify or extend PSPP’s capabilities. The use of PSPP is documented in a separate manual. See Section “Introduction” in PSPP Users Guide.

This manual is both a tutorial and a reference manual for PSPP developers. It is ultimately intended to cover everything that developers who wish to implement new PSPP statistical procedures and other commands should know. It is currently incomplete, partly because existing developers have not yet spent enough time on writing, and partly because the interfaces not yet documented are not yet mature enough to making documenting them worthwhile.

PSPP developers should have some familiarity with the basics of PSPP from a user’s perspective. This manual attempts to refer to the PSPP user manual’s descriptions of concepts that PSPP users should find familiar at the time of their first reference. However, it is probably a good idea to at least skim the PSPP manual before reading this one, if you are not already familiar with PSPP.
2 Basic Concepts

This chapter introduces basic data structures and other concepts needed for developing in PSPP.

2.1 Values

The unit of data in PSPP is a value. Values are classified by type and width. The type of a value is either numeric or string (sometimes called alphanumeric). The width of a string value ranges from 1 to MAX_STRING bytes. The width of a numeric value is artificially defined to be 0; thus, the type of a value can be inferred from its width.

Some support is provided for working with value types and widths, in data/val-type.h:

int MAX_STRING [Macro]
Maximum width of a string value, in bytes, currently 32,767.

bool val_type_is_valid (enum val_type val_type) [Function]
Returns true if val_type is a valid value type, that is, either VAL_NUMERIC or VAL_STRING. Useful for assertions.

enum val_type val_type_from_width (int width) [Function]
Returns VAL_NUMERIC if width is 0 and thus represents the width of a numeric value, otherwise VAL_STRING to indicate that width is the width of a string value.

The following subsections describe how values of each type are represented.

2.1.1 Numeric Values

A value known to be numeric at compile time is represented as a double. PSPP provides three values of double for special purposes, defined in data/val-type.h:

double SYSMIS [Macro]
The system-missing value, used to represent a datum whose true value is unknown, such as a survey question that was not answered by the respondent, or undefined, such as the result of division by zero. PSPP propagates the system-missing value through calculations and compensates for missing values in statistical analyses. See Section “Missing Observations” in PSPP Users Guide, for a PSPP user’s view of missing values.

PSPP currently defines SYSMIS as -DBL_MAX, that is, the greatest finite negative value of double. It is best not to depend on this definition, because PSPP may transition to using an IEEE NaN (not a number) instead at some point in the future.

double LOWEST [Macro]
double HIGHEST [Macro]
The greatest finite negative (except for SYSMIS) and positive values of double, respectively. These values do not ordinarily appear in user data files. Instead, they are used to implement endpoints of open-ended ranges that are occasionally permitted in PSPP syntax, e.g. 5 THRU HI as a range of missing values (see Section “MISSING VALUES” in PSPP Users Guide).
2.1.2 String Values
A value known at compile time to have string type is represented as an array of char. String values do not necessarily represent readable text strings and may contain arbitrary 8-bit data, including null bytes, control codes, and bytes with the high bit set. Thus, string values are not null-terminated strings, but rather opaque arrays of bytes.

SYSMIS, LOWEST, and HIGHEST have no equivalents as string values. Usually, PSPP fills an unknown or undefined string values with spaces, but PSPP does not treat such a string as a special case when it processes it later.

MAX_STRING, the maximum length of a string value, is defined in data/val-type.h.

2.1.3 Runtime Typed Values
When a value’s type is only known at runtime, it is often represented as a union value, defined in data/value.h. A union value does not identify the type or width of the data it contains. Code that works with union values must therefore have external knowledge of its content, often through the type and width of a struct variable (see Section 2.5 [Variables], page 18).

union value has one member that clients are permitted to access directly, a double named ‘f’ that stores the content of a numeric union value. It has other members that store the content of string union value, but client code should use accessor functions instead of referring to these directly.

PSPP provides some functions for working with union values. The most useful are described below. To use these functions, recall that a numeric value has a width of 0.

void value_init (union value *value, int width) [Function]
Initializes value as a value of the given width. After initialization, the data in value are indeterminate; the caller is responsible for storing initial data in it.

void value_destroy (union value *value, int width) [Function]
Frees auxiliary storage associated with value, which must have the given width.

bool value_needs_init (int width) [Function]
For some widths, value_init and value_destroy do not actually do anything, because no additional storage is needed beyond the size of union value. This function returns true if width is such a width, which case there is no actual need to call those functions. This can be a useful optimization if a large number of union values of such a width are to be initialized or destroyed.
This function returns false if value_init and value_destroy are actually required for the given width.

double value_num (const union value *value) [Function]
Returns the numeric value in value, which must have been initialized as a numeric value. Equivalent to value->f.

const char * value_str (const union value *value, int width) [Function]
Returns the string value in value, which must have been initialized with positive width width. The string returned is not null-terminated. Only width bytes of returned data may be accessed.
The two different functions exist only for `const`-correctness. Otherwise they are identical.

It is important that `width` be the correct value that was passed to `value_init`. Passing a smaller or larger value (e.g. because that number of bytes will be accessed) will not always work and should be avoided.

```c
void value_copy (union value *dst, const union value *src, int width)    [Function]
Copies the contents of union value src to dst. Both dst and src must have been initialized with the specified width.
```

```c
void value_set_missing (union value *value, int width)    [Function]
Sets value to SYSMIS if it is numeric or to all spaces if it is alphanumeric, according to width. value must have been initialized with the specified width.
```

```c
bool value_is_resizable (const union value *value, int old_width, int new_width)    [Function]
Determines whether value, which must have been initialized with the specified old_width, may be resized to new_width. Resizing is possible if the following criteria are met. First, old_width and new_width must be both numeric or both string widths. Second, if new_width is a short string width and less than old_width, resizing is allowed only if bytes new_width through old_width in value contain only spaces.

These rules are part of those used by mv_is_resizable and val_labs_can_set_width.
```

```c
void value_resize (union value *value, int old_width, int new_width)    [Function]
Resizes value from old_width to new_width, which must be allowed by the rules stated above. value must have been initialized with the specified old_width before calling this function. After resizing, value has width new_width.

If new_width is greater than old_width, value will be padded on the right with spaces to the new width. If new_width is less than old_width, the rightmost bytes of value are truncated.
```

```c
bool value_equal (const union value *a, const union value *b, int width)    [Function]
Compares of a and b, which must both have width width. Returns true if their contents are the same, false if they differ.
```

```c
int value_compare_3way (const union value *a, const union value *b, int width)    [Function]
Compares of a and b, which must both have width width. Returns -1 if a is less than b, 0 if they are equal, or 1 if a is greater than b.

Numeric values are compared numerically, with SYSMIS comparing less than any real number. String values are compared lexicographically byte-by-byte.
size_t value_hash (const union value *value, int width, unsigned int basis)
Computes and returns a hash of value, which must have the specified width. The value in basis is folded into the hash.

2.2 Input and Output Formats
Input and output formats specify how to convert data fields to and from data values (see Section “Input and Output Formats” in PSPP Users Guide). PSPP uses struct fmt_spec to represent input and output formats.

Function prototypes and other declarations related to formats are in the <data/format.h> header.

struct fmt_spec
An input or output format, with the following members:

enum fmt_type type
The format type (see below).

int w
Field width, in bytes. The width of numeric fields is always between 1 and 40 bytes, and the width of string fields is always between 1 and 65534 bytes. However, many individual types of formats place stricter limits on field width (see [fmt_max_input_width], page 7, [fmt_max_output_width], page 7).

int d
Number of decimal places, in character positions. For format types that do not allow decimal places to be specified, this value must be 0. Format types that do allow decimal places have type-specific and often width-specific restrictions on d (see [fmt_max_input_decimals], page 7, [fmt_max_output_decimals], page 7).

enum fmt_type
An enumerated type representing an input or output format type. Each PSPP input and output format has a corresponding enumeration constant prefixed by ‘FMT’: FMT_F, FMT_COMMA, FMT_DOT, and so on.

The following sections describe functions for manipulating formats and the data in fields represented by formats.

2.2.1 Constructing and Verifying Formats
These functions construct struct fmt_specs and verify that they are valid.

struct fmt_spec fmt_for_input (enum fmt_type type, int w, int d) [Function]
struct fmt_spec fmt_for_output (enum fmt_type type, int w, int d) [Function]
Constructs a struct fmt_spec with the given type, w, and d, asserts that the result is a valid input (or output) format, and returns it.
struct fmt_spec fmt_for_output_from_input (const struct fmt_spec *input)  
Given input, which must be a valid input format, returns the equivalent output format. See Section “Input and Output Formats” in PSPP Users Guide, for the rules for converting input formats into output formats.

struct fmt_spec fmt_default_for_width (int width)  
Returns the default output format for a variable of the given width. For a numeric variable, this is F8.2 format; for a string variable, it is the A format of the given width.

The following functions check whether a struct fmt_spec is valid for various uses and return true if so, false otherwise. When any of them returns false, it also outputs an explanatory error message using msg. To suppress error output, enclose a call to one of these functions by a msg_disable/msg_enable pair.

bool fmt_check (const struct fmt_spec *format, bool for_input)  
bool fmt_check_input (const struct fmt_spec *format)  
bool fmt_check_output (const struct fmt_spec *format)  
Checks whether format is a valid input format (for fmt_check_input, or fmt_check if for_input) or output format (for fmt_check_output, or fmt_check if not for_input).

bool fmt_check_type_compat (const struct fmt_spec *format, enum val_type type)  
Checks whether format matches the value type type, that is, if type is VAL_NUMERIC and format is a numeric format or type is VAL_STRING and format is a string format.

bool fmt_check_width_compat (const struct fmt_spec *format, int width)  
Checks whether format may be used as an output format for a value of the given width.

fmt_var_width, described in the following section, can be also be used to determine the value width needed by a format.

2.2.2 Format Utility Functions

These functions work with struct fmt_specs.

int fmt_var_width (const struct fmt_spec *format)  
Returns the width for values associated with format. If format is a numeric format, the width is 0; if format is an A format, then the width format->w; otherwise, format is an AHEX format and its width is format->w / 2.

char *fmt_to_string (const struct fmt_spec *format, char s[FMT_STRING_LEN_MAX + 1])  
Converts format to a human-readable format specifier in s and returns s. format need not be a valid input or output format specifier, e.g. it is allowed to have an excess width or decimal places. In particular, if format has decimals, they are included in the output string, even if format’s type does not allow decimals, to allow accurately presenting incorrect formats to the user.
bool fmt_equal (const struct fmt_spec *a, const struct fmt_spec *b)  
   [Function]
   Compares a and b memberwise and returns true if they are identical, false otherwise.
   format need not be a valid input or output format specifier.

void fmt_resize (struct fmt_spec *fmt, int width)  
   [Function]
   Sets the width of fmt to a valid format for a union value of size width.

2.2.3 Obtaining Properties of Format Types

These functions work with enum fmt_types instead of the higher-level struct fmt_specs.
Their primary purpose is to report properties of each possible format type, which in turn
allows clients to abstract away many of the details of the very heterogeneous requirements
of each format type.

The first group of functions works with format type names.

const char *fmt_name (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]
   Returns the name for the given type, e.g. "COMMA" for FMT_COMMA.

bool fmt_from_name (const char *name, enum fmt_type *type)  
   [Function]
   Tries to find the enum fmt_type associated with name. If successful, sets *type to
   the type and returns true; otherwise, returns false without modifying *type.

The functions below query basic limits on width and decimal places for each kind of
format.

bool fmt_takes_decimals (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]
   Returns true if a format of the given type is allowed to have a nonzero number of
decimal places (the d member of struct fmt_spec), false if not.

int fmt_min_input_width (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]

int fmt_max_input_width (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]

int fmt_min_output_width (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]

int fmt_max_output_width (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]
   Returns the minimum or maximum width (the w member of struct fmt_spec) al-
   lowed for an input or output format of the specified type.

int fmt_max_input_decimals (enum fmt_type type, int width)  
   [Function]

int fmt_max_output_decimals (enum fmt_type type, int width)  
   [Function]
   Returns the maximum number of decimal places allowed for an input or output for-
   mat, respectively, of the given type and width. Returns 0 if the specified type does
   not allow any decimal places or if width is too narrow to allow decimal places.

int fmt_step_width (enum fmt_type type)  
   [Function]
   Returns the “width step” for a struct fmt_spec of the given type. A struct fmt_-
   spec’s width must be a multiple of its type’s width step. Most format types have a
   width step of 1, so that their formats' widths may be any integer within the valid
   range, but hexadecimal numeric formats and AHEX string formats have a width step
   of 2.

   These functions allow clients to broadly determine how each kind of input or output
   format behaves.
bool fmt_is_string (enum fmt_type type) [Function]
bool fmt_is_numeric (enum fmt_type type) [Function]

Returns true if type is a format for numeric or string values, respectively, false otherwise.

enum fmt_category fmt_get_category (enum fmt_type type) [Function]
Returns the category within which type falls.

enum fmt_category [Enumeration]
A group of format types. Format type categories correspond to the input and output categories described in the PSPP user documentation (see Section “Input and Output Formats” in PSPP Users Guide).
Each format is in exactly one category. The categories have bitwise disjoint values to make it easy to test whether a format type is in one of multiple categories, e.g.

    if (fmt_get_category (type) & (FMT_CAT_DATE | FMT_CAT_TIME))
    {
        /* ...type is a date or time format... */
    }

The format categories are:

FMT_CAT_BASIC
    Basic numeric formats.
FMT_CAT_CUSTOM
    Custom currency formats.
FMT_CAT_LEGACY
    Legacy numeric formats.
FMT_CAT_BINARY
    Binary formats.
FMT_CAT_HEXDECIMAL
    Hexadecimal formats.
FMT_CAT_DATE
    Date formats.
FMT_CAT_TIME
    Time formats.
FMT_CAT_DATE_COMPONENT
    Date component formats.
FMT_CAT_STRING
    String formats.

The PSPP input and output routines use the following pair of functions to convert enum fmt_types to and from the separate set of codes used in system and portable files:

int fmt_to_io (enum fmt_type type) [Function]
Returns the format code used in system and portable files that corresponds to type.
bool fmt_from_io (int io, enum fmt_type *type)  
Converts io, a format code used in system and portable files, into a enum fmt_type in *type. Returns true if successful, false if io is not valid.

These functions reflect the relationship between input and output formats.

enum fmt_type fmt_input_to_output (enum fmt_type type)  
Returns the output format type that is used by default by DATA LIST and other input procedures when type is specified as an input format. The conversion from input format to output format is more complicated than simply changing the format. See [fmt_for_output_from_input], page 6, for a function that performs the entire conversion.

bool fmt_usable_for_input (enum fmt_type type)  
Returns true if type may be used as an input format type, false otherwise. The custom currency formats, in particular, may be used for output but not for input.

All format types are valid for output.

The final group of format type property functions obtain human-readable templates that illustrate the formats graphically.

const char *fmt_date_template (enum fmt_type type)  
Returns a formatting template for type, which must be a date or time format type. These formats are used by data_in and data_out to guide parsing and formatting date and time data.

char *fmt_dollar_template (const struct fmt_spec *format)  
Returns a string of the form $#,###.## according to format, which must be of type FMT_DOLLAR. The caller must free the string with free.

2.2.4 Numeric Formatting Styles
Each of the basic numeric formats (F, E, COMMA, DOT, DOLLAR, PCT) and custom currency formats (CCA, CCB, CCC, CCD, CCE) has an associated numeric formatting style, represented by struct fmt_number_style. Input and output conversion of formats that have numeric styles is determined mainly by the style, although the formatting rules have special cases that are not represented within the style.

struct fmt_number_style  
A structure type with the following members:

struct substring neg_prefix  
struct substring prefix  
struct substring suffix  
struct substring neg_suffix

A set of strings used a prefix to negative numbers, a prefix to every number, a suffix to every number, and a suffix to negative numbers, respectively. Each of these strings is no more than FMT_STYLE_AFFIX_MAX bytes (currently 16) bytes in length. These strings must be freed with ss_dealloc when no longer needed.
decimal The character used as a decimal point. It must be either ‘.’ or ‘,’.

grouping The character used for grouping digits to the left of the decimal point. It may be ‘.’ or ‘,’ in which case it must not be equal to decimal, or it may be set to 0 to disable grouping.

The following functions are provided for working with numeric formatting styles.

- **void fmt_number_style_init (struct fmt_number_style *style)** [Function]
  Initialises a struct fmt_number_style with all of the prefixes and suffixes set to the empty string, ‘.’ as the decimal point character, and grouping disables.

- **void fmt_number_style_destroy (struct fmt_number_style *style)** [Function]
  Destroys style, freeing its storage.

- **struct fmt_number_style *fmt_create (void)** [Function]
  A function which creates an array of all the styles used by pspp, and calls fmt_number_style_init on each of them.

- **void fmt_done (struct fmt_number_style *styles)** [Function]
  A wrapper function which takes an array of struct fmt_number_style, calls fmt_number_style_destroy on each of them, and then frees the array.

- **int fmt_affix_width (const struct fmt_number_style *style)** [Function]
  Returns the total length of style’s prefix and suffix.

- **int fmt_neg_affix_width (const struct fmt_number_style *style)** [Function]
  Returns the total length of style’s neg_prefix and neg_suffix.

PSPP maintains a global set of number styles for each of the basic numeric formats and custom currency formats. The following functions work with these global styles:

- **const struct fmt_number_style * fmt_get_style (enum fmt_type type)** [Function]
  Returns the numeric style for the given format type.

- **const char * fmt_name (enum fmt_type type)** [Function]
  Returns the name of the given format type.

### 2.2.5 Formatted Data Input and Output

These functions provide the ability to convert data fields into union values and vice versa.

- **bool data_in (struct substring input, const char *encoding, enum fmt_type type, int implied_decimals, int first_column, const struct dictionary *dict, union value *output, int width)** [Function]
  Parses input as a field containing data in the given format type. The resulting value is stored in output, which the caller must have initialized with the given width. For consistency, width must be 0 if type is a numeric format type and greater than 0 if type is a string format type. encoding should be set to indicate the character encoding of input. dict must be a pointer to the dictionary with which output is associated.
If input is the empty string (with length 0), output is set to the value set on SET BLANKS (see Section “SET BLANKS” in PSPP Users Guide) for a numeric value, or to all spaces for a string value. This applies regardless of the usual parsing requirements for type.

If implied_decimals is greater than zero, then the numeric result is shifted right by implied_decimals decimal places if input does not contain a decimal point character or an exponent. Only certain numeric format types support implied decimal places; for string formats and other numeric formats, implied_decimals has no effect. DATA LIST FIXED is the primary user of this feature (see Section “DATA LIST FIXED” in PSPP Users Guide). Other callers should generally specify 0 for implied_decimals, to disable this feature.

When input contains invalid input data, data_in outputs a message using msg. If first_column is nonzero, it is included in any such error message as the 1-based column number of the start of the field. The last column in the field is calculated as first_column + input – 1. To suppress error output, enclose the call to data_in by calls to msg_disable and msg_enable.

This function returns true on success, false if a message was output (even if suppressed). Overflow and underflow provoke warnings but are not propagated to the caller as errors.

This function is declared in data/data-in.h.

```c
char * data_out (const union value *input, const struct fmt_spec *format) [Function]
```

```c
char * data_out_legacy (const union value *input, const char *encoding, const struct fmt_spec *format) [Function]
```

Converts the data pointed to by input into a string value, which will be encoded in UTF-8, according to output format specifier format. Format must be a valid output format. The width of input is inferred from format using an algorithm equivalent to fmt_var_width.

When input contains data that cannot be represented in the given format, data_out may output a message using msg, although the current implementation does not consistently do so. To suppress error output, enclose the call to data_out by calls to msg_disable and msg_enable.

This function is declared in data/data-out.h.

### 2.3 User-Missing Values

In addition to the system-missing value for numeric values, each variable has a set of user-missing values (see Section “MISSING VALUES” in PSPP Users Guide). A set of user-missing values is represented by struct missing_values.

It is rarely necessary to interact directly with a struct missing_values object. Instead, the most common operation, querying whether a particular value is a missing value for a given variable, is most conveniently executed through functions on struct variable. See Section 2.5.3 [Variable Missing Values], page 20, for details.
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A `struct missing_values` is essentially a set of `union values` that have a common value width (see Section 2.1 [Values], page 2). For a set of missing values associated with a variable (the common case), the set’s width is the same as the variable’s width.

Function prototypes and other declarations related to missing values are declared in `data/missing-values.h`.

```c
struct missing_values
```

Opaque type that represents a set of missing values.

The contents of a set of missing values is subject to some restrictions. Regardless of width, a set of missing values is allowed to be empty. A set of numeric missing values may contain up to three discrete numeric values, or a range of numeric values (which includes both ends of the range), or a range plus one discrete numeric value. A set of string missing values may contain up to three discrete string values (with the same width as the set), but ranges are not supported.

In addition, values in string missing values wider than `MV_MAX_STRING` bytes may contain non-space characters only in their first `MV_MAX_STRING` bytes; all the bytes after the first `MV_MAX_STRING` must be spaces. See [mv_is_acceptable], page 15, for a function that tests a value against these constraints.

```c
int MV_MAX_STRING
```

Number of bytes in a string missing value that are not required to be spaces. The current value is 8, a value which is fixed by the system file format. In PSPP we could easily eliminate this restriction, but doing so would also require us to extend the system file format in an incompatible way, which we consider a bad tradeoff.

The most often useful functions for missing values are those for testing whether a given value is missing, described in the following section. Several other functions for creating, inspecting, and modifying `struct missing_values` objects are described afterward, but these functions are much more rarely useful.

### 2.3.1 Testing for Missing Values

The most often useful functions for missing values are those for testing whether a given value is missing, described here. However, using one of the corresponding missing value testing functions for variables can be even easier (see Section 2.5.3 [Variable Missing Values], page 20).

```c
bool mv_is_value_missing (const struct missing_values *mv, const union value *value, enum mv_class class)
bool mv_is_num_missing (const struct missing_values *mv, double value, enum mv_class class)
bool mv_is_str_missing (const struct missing_values *mv, const char value[], enum mv_class class)
```

Tests whether `value` is in one of the categories of missing values given by `class`. Returns true if so, false otherwise.

`mv` determines the width of `value` and provides the set of user-missing values to test. The only difference among these functions in the form in which `value` is provided, so you may use whichever function is most convenient.
The `class` argument determines the exact kinds of missing values that the functions test for:

```c
enum mv_class
{
    MV_USER,  // Returns true if value is in the set of user-missing values given by mv.
    MV_SYSTEM, // Returns true if value is system-missing. (If mv represents a set of string values, then value is never system-missing.)
    MV_ANY,  // MV_USER | MV_SYSTEM
    MV_USER | MV_SYSTEM
    Returns true if value is user-missing or system-missing.
    MV_NONE, // Always returns false, that is, value is never considered missing.
};
```

### 2.3.2 Creation and Destruction

These functions create and destroy `struct missing_values` objects.

```c
void mv_init (struct missing_values *mv, int width)  // Function
    Initializes mv as a set of user-missing values. The set is initially empty. Any values added to it must have the specified width.

void mv_destroy (struct missing_values *mv)  // Function
    Destroys mv, which must not be referred to again.

void mv_copy (struct missing_values *mv, const struct missing_values *old)  // Function
    Initializes mv as a copy of the existing set of user-missing values old.

void mv_clear (struct missing_values *mv)  // Function
    Empties the user-missing value set mv, retaining its existing width.
```

### 2.3.3 Changing User-Missing Value Set Width

A few PSPP language constructs copy sets of user-missing values from one variable to another. When the source and target variables have the same width, this is simple. But when the target variable’s width might be different from the source variable’s, it takes a little more work. The functions described here can help.

In fact, it is usually unnecessary to call these functions directly. Most of the time `var_set_missing_values`, which uses `mv_resize` internally to resize the new set of missing values to the required width, may be used instead. See `var_set_missing_values`, page 20, for more information.

```c
bool mv_is_resizable (const struct missing_values *mv, int new_width)  // Function
    Tests whether mv’s width may be changed to new_width using mv_resize. Returns true if it is allowed, false otherwise.
```

If `mv` contains any missing values, then it may be resized only if each missing value may be resized, as determined by `value_is_resizable` (see `value_is_resizable`, page 4).
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void mv_resize (struct missing_values *mv, int width)  [Function]
Changes mv’s width to width. mv and width must satisfy the constraints explained above.
When a string missing value set’s width is increased, each user-missing value is padded on the right with spaces to the new width.

2.3.4 Inspecting User-Missing Value Sets

These functions inspect the properties and contents of struct missing_values objects.

The first set of functions inspects the discrete values that sets of user-missing values may contain:

bool mv_is_empty (const struct missing_values *mv)  [Function]
Returns true if mv contains no user-missing values, false if it contains at least one user-missing value (either a discrete value or a numeric range).

int mv_get_width (const struct missing_values *mv)  [Function]
Returns the width of the user-missing values that mv represents.

int mv_n_values (const struct missing_values *mv)  [Function]
Returns the number of discrete user-missing values included in mv. The return value will be between 0 and 3. For sets of numeric user-missing values that include a range, the return value will be 0 or 1.

bool mv_has_value (const struct missing_values *mv)  [Function]
Returns true if mv has at least one discrete user-missing values, that is, if mv_n_values would return nonzero for mv.

const union value * mv_get_value (const struct missing_values *mv, int index)  [Function]
Returns the discrete user-missing value in mv with the given index. The caller must not modify or free the returned value or refer to it after modifying or freeing mv. The index must be less than the number of discrete user-missing values in mv, as reported by mv_n_values.

The second set of functions inspects the single range of values that numeric sets of user-missing values may contain:

bool mv_has_range (const struct missing_values *mv)  [Function]
Returns true if mv includes a range, false otherwise.

void mv_get_range (const struct missing_values *mv, double *low, double *high)  [Function]
Stores the low endpoint of mv’s range in *low and the high endpoint of the range in *high. mv must include a range.

2.3.5 Modifying User-Missing Value Sets

These functions modify the contents of struct missing_values objects.

The next set of functions applies to all sets of user-missing values:
bool mv_add_value (struct missing_values *mv, const union value *value)  
bool mv_add_str (struct missing_values *mv, const char value[])  
bool mv_add_num (struct missing_values *mv, double value)  
Attempts to add the given discrete value to set of user-missing values mv. value must have the same width as mv. Returns true if value was successfully added, false if the set could not accept any more discrete values or if value is not an acceptable user-missing value (see mv_is_acceptable below).

These functions are equivalent, except for the form in which value is provided, so you may use whichever function is most convenient.

void mv_pop_value (struct missing_values *mv, union value *value)  
Removes a discrete value from mv (which must contain at least one discrete value) and stores it in value.

bool mv_replace_value (struct missing_values *mv, const union value *value, int index)  
Attempts to replace the discrete value with the given index in mv (which must contain at least index + 1 discrete values) by value. Returns true if successful, false if value is not an acceptable user-missing value (see mv_is_acceptable below).

bool mv_is_acceptable (const union value *value, int width)  
Returns true if value, which must have the specified width, may be added to a missing value set of the same width, false if it cannot. As described above, all numeric values and string values of width MV_MAX_STRING or less may be added, but string value of greater width may be added only if bytes beyond the first MV_MAX_STRING are all spaces.

The second set of functions applies only to numeric sets of user-missing values:

bool mv_add_range (struct missing_values *mv, double low, double high)  
Attempts to add a numeric range covering low...high (inclusive on both ends) to mv, which must be a numeric set of user-missing values. Returns true if the range is successful added, false on failure. Fails if mv already contains a range, or if mv contains more than one discrete value, or if low > high.

void mv_pop_range (struct missing_values *mv, double *low, double high)  
Given mv, which must be a numeric set of user-missing values that contains a range, removes that range from mv and stores its low endpoint in *low and its high endpoint in *high.

2.4 Value Labels

Each variable has a set of value labels (see Section “VALUE LABELS” in PSPP Users Guide), represented as struct val_labs. A struct val_labs is essentially a map from union values to strings. All of the values in a set of value labels have the same width,
which for a set of value labels owned by a variable (the common case) is the same as its variable.

Sets of value labels may contain any number of entries.

It is rarely necessary to interact directly with a `struct val_labs` object. Instead, the most common operation, looking up the label for a value of a given variable, can be conveniently executed through functions on `struct variable`. See Section 2.5.4 [Variable Value Labels], page 20, for details.

Function prototypes and other declarations related to missing values are declared in `data/value-labels.h`.

```c
struct val_labs
    Opaque type that represents a set of value labels.

The most often useful function for value labels is `val_labs_find`, for looking up the label associated with a value.

```c
char * val_labs_find (const struct val_labs *val_labs, union value value)
    Looks in val_labs for a label for the given value. Returns the label, if one is found, or a null pointer otherwise.
```

Several other functions for working with value labels are described in the following section, but these are more rarely useful.

### 2.4.1 Creation and Destruction

These functions create and destroy `struct val_labs` objects.

```c
struct val_labs * val_labs_create (int width)
    Creates and returns an initially empty set of value labels with the given width.

struct val_labs * val_labs_clone (const struct val_labs *val_labs)
    Creates and returns a set of value labels whose width and contents are the same as those of var_labs.

void val_labs_clear (struct val_labs *var_labs)
    Deletes all value labels from var_labs.

void val_labs_destroy (struct val_labs *var_labs)
    Destroys var_labs, which must not be referenced again.
```

### 2.4.2 Value Labels Properties

These functions inspect and manipulate basic properties of `struct val_labs` objects.

```c
size_t val_labs_count (const struct val_labs *val_labs)
    Returns the number of value labels in val_labs.
```
bool val_labs_can_set_width (const struct val_labs *val_labs, int new_width)  
Tests whether val_labs's width may be changed to new_width using val_labs_set_width. Returns true if it is allowed, false otherwise.

A set of value labels may be resized to a given width only if each value in it may be resized to that width, as determined by value_is_resizable (see [value_is_resizable], page 4).

void val_labs_set_width (struct val_labs *val_labs, int new_width)  
Changes the width of val_labs's values to new_width, which must be a valid new width as determined by val_labs_can_set_width.

2.4.3 Adding and Removing Labels
These functions add and remove value labels from a struct val_labs object.

bool val_labs_add (struct val_labs *val_labs, union value value, const char *label)  
Adds label to in var_labs as a label for value, which must have the same width as the set of value labels. Returns true if successful, false if value already has a label.

void val_labs_replace (struct val_labs *val_labs, union value value, const char *label)  
Adds label to in var_labs as a label for value, which must have the same width as the set of value labels. If value already has a label in var_labs, it is replaced.

bool val_labs_remove (struct val_labs *val_labs, union value value)  
Removes from val_labs any label for value, which must have the same width as the set of value labels. Returns true if a label was removed, false otherwise.

2.4.4 Iterating through Value Labels
These functions allow iteration through the set of value labels represented by a struct val_labs object. They may be used in the context of a for loop:

struct val_labs val_labs;
const struct val_lab *vl;

...

for (vl = val_labs_first (val_labs); vl != NULL; 
    vl = val_labs_next (val_labs, vl))
{
    ...do something with vl...
}

Value labels should not be added or deleted from a struct val_labs as it is undergoing iteration.
const struct val_lab * val_labs_first (const struct val_labs *val_labs)  
Returns the first value label in var_labs, if it contains at least one value label, or a null pointer if it does not contain any value labels.

const struct val_lab * val_labs_next (const struct val_labs *val_labs, const struct val_labs_iterator **vl)  
Returns the value label in var_labs following vl, if vl is not the last value label in val_labs, or a null pointer if there are no value labels following vl.

const struct val_lab ** val_labs_sorted (const struct val_labs *val_labs)  
Allocates and returns an array of pointers to value labels, which are sorted in increasing order by value. The array has val_labs_count (val_labs) elements. The caller is responsible for freeing the array with free (but must not free any of the struct val_lab elements that the array points to).

The iteration functions above work with pointers to struct val_lab which is an opaque data structure that users of struct val_labs must not modify or free directly. The following functions work with objects of this type:

const union value * val_lab_get_value (const struct val_lab *vl)  
Returns the value of value label vl. The caller must not modify or free the returned value. (To achieve a similar result, remove the value label with val_labs_remove, then add the new value with val_labs_add.)

The width of the returned value cannot be determined directly from vl. It may be obtained by calling val_labs_get_width on the struct val_labs that vl is in.

const char * val_lab_get_label (const struct val_lab *vl)  
Returns the label in vl as a null-terminated string. The caller must not modify or free the returned string. (Use val_labs_replace to change a value label.)

2.5 Variables

A PSPP variable is represented by struct variable, an opaque type declared in data/variable.h along with related declarations. See Section “Variables” in PSPP Users Guide, for a description of PSPP variables from a user perspective.

PSPP is unusual among computer languages in that, by itself, a PSPP variable does not have a value. Instead, a variable in PSPP takes on a value only in the context of a case, which supplies one value for each variable in a set of variables (see Section 2.8 [Cases], page 37). The set of variables in a case, in turn, are ordinarily part of a dictionary (see Section 2.6 [Dictionaries], page 30).

Every variable has several attributes, most of which correspond directly to one of the variable attributes visible to PSPP users (see Section “Attributes” in PSPP Users Guide).

The following sections describe variable-related functions and macros.
2.5.1 Variable Name

A variable name is a string between 1 and ID_MAX_LEN bytes long that satisfies the rules for PSPP identifiers (see Section “Tokens” in PSPP Users Guide). Variable names are mixed-case and treated case-insensitively.

int ID_MAX_LEN
Maximum length of a variable name, in bytes, currently 64.

Only one commonly useful function relates to variable names:

const char * var_get_name (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns var’s variable name as a C string.

A few other functions are much more rarely used. Some of these functions are used internally by the dictionary implementation:

void var_set_name (struct variable *var, const char *new_name) [Function]
Changes the name of var to new_name, which must be a “plausible” name as defined below.

This function cannot be applied to a variable that is part of a dictionary. Use dict_rename_var instead (see Section 2.6.5 [Dictionary Renaming Variables], page 33).

e num dict_class var_get_dict_class (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns the dictionary class of var’s name (see Section 2.5.9 [Dictionary Class], page 25).

2.5.2 Variable Type and Width

A variable’s type and width are the type and width of its values (see Section 2.1 [Values], page 2).

enum val_type var_get_type (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns the type of variable var.

int var_get_width (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns the width of variable var.

void var_set_width (struct variable *var, int width) [Function]
Sets the width of variable var to width. The width of a variable should not normally be changed after the variable is created, so this function is rarely used. This function cannot be applied to a variable that is part of a dictionary.

bool var_is_numeric (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns true if var is a numeric variable, false otherwise.

bool var_is_alpha (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns true if var is an alphanumeric (string) variable, false otherwise.
2.5.3 Variable Missing Values

A numeric or short string variable may have a set of user-missing values (see Section “MISSING VALUES” in PSPP Users Guide), represented as a struct missing_values (see Section 2.3 [User-Missing Values], page 11).

The most frequent operation on a variable’s missing values is to query whether a value is user- or system-missing:

bool var_is_value_missing (const struct variable *var, const union value *value, enum mv_class class) [Function]

bool var_is_num_missing (const struct variable *var, double value, enum mv_class class) [Function]

bool var_is_str_missing (const struct variable *var, const char value[], enum mv_class class) [Function]

Tests whether value is a missing value of the given class for variable var and returns true if so, false otherwise. var_is_num_missing may only be applied to numeric variables; var_is_str_missing may only be applied to string variables. value must have been initialized with the same width as var.

var_is_type_missing (var, value, class) is equivalent to mv_is_type_missing (var_get_missing_values (var), value, class).

In addition, a few functions are provided to work more directly with a variable’s struct missing_values:

const struct missing_values * var_get_missing_values (const struct variable *var) [Function]

Returns the struct missing_values associated with var. The caller must not modify the returned structure. The return value is always non-null.

void var_set_missing_values (struct variable *var, const struct missing_values *miss) [Function]

Changes var’s missing values to a copy of miss, or if miss is a null pointer, clears var’s missing values. If miss is non-null, it must have the same width as var or be resizable to var’s width (see [mv_resize], page 14). The caller retains ownership of miss.

void var_clear_missing_values (struct variable *var) [Function]

Clears var’s missing values. Equivalent to var_set_missing_values (var, NULL).

bool var_has_missing_values (const struct variable *var) [Function]

Returns true if var has any missing values, false if it has none. Equivalent to mv_is_empty (var_get_missing_values (var)).

2.5.4 Variable Value Labels

A numeric or short string variable may have a set of value labels (see Section “VALUE LABELS” in PSPP Users Guide), represented as a struct val_labs (see Section 2.4 [Value Labels], page 15). The most commonly useful functions for value labels return the value label associated with a value:
const char * var_lookup_value_label (const struct variable *var, const union value *value)  
Looks for a label for value in var’s set of value labels. value must have the same width as var. Returns the label if one exists, otherwise a null pointer.

void var_append_value_name (const struct variable *var, const union value *value, struct string *str)  
Looks for a label for value in var’s set of value labels. value must have the same width as var. If a label exists, it will be appended to the string pointed to by str. Otherwise, it formats value using var’s print format (see Section 2.2 [Input and Output Formats], page 5) and appends the formatted string.

The underlying struct val_labs structure may also be accessed directly using the functions described below.

bool var_has_value_labels (const struct variable *var)  
Returns true if var has at least one value label, false otherwise.

const struct val_labs * var_get_value_labels (const struct variable *var)  
Returns the struct val_labs associated with var. If var has no value labels, then the return value may or may not be a null pointer.

The variable retains ownership of the returned struct val_labs, which the caller must not attempt to modify.

void var_set_value_labels (struct variable *var, const struct val_labs *val_labs)  
Replaces var’s value labels by a copy of val_labs. The caller retains ownership of val_labs. If val_labs is a null pointer, then var’s value labels, if any, are deleted.

void var_clear_value_labels (struct variable *var)  
Deletes var’s value labels. Equivalent to var_set_value_labels (var, NULL).

A final group of functions offers shorthands for operations that would otherwise require getting the value labels from a variable, copying them, modifying them, and then setting the modified value labels into the variable (making a second copy):

bool var_add_value_label (struct variable *var, const union value *value, const char *label)  
Attempts to add a copy of label as a label for value for the given var. value must have the same width as var. If value already has a label, then the old label is retained. Returns true if a label is added, false if there was an existing label for value. Either way, the caller retains ownership of value and label.

void var_replace_value_label (struct variable *var, const union value *value, const char *label)  
Attempts to add a copy of label as a label for value for the given var. value must have the same width as var. If value already has a label, then label replaces the old label. Either way, the caller retains ownership of value and label.
2.5.5 Variable Print and Write Formats

Each variable has an associated pair of output formats, called its print format and write format. See Section “Input and Output Formats” in PSPP Users Guide, for an introduction to formats. See Section 2.2 [Input and Output Formats], page 5, for a developer’s description of format representation.

The print format is used to convert a variable’s data values to strings for human-readable output. The write format is used similarly for machine-readable output, primarily by the WRITE transformation (see Section “WRITE” in PSPP Users Guide). Most often a variable’s print and write formats are the same.

A newly created variable by default has format F8.2 if it is numeric or an A format with the same width as the variable if it is string. Many creators of variables override these defaults.

Both the print format and write format are output formats. Input formats are not part of struct variable. Instead, input programs and transformations keep track of variable input formats themselves.

The following functions work with variable print and write formats.

- `const struct fmt_spec * var_get_print_format (const struct variable *var)`
  Returns var’s print format.
- `const struct fmt_spec * var_get_write_format (const struct variable *var)`
  Returns var’s write format.
- `void var_set_print_format (struct variable *var, const struct fmt_spec *format)`
  Sets var’s print format.
- `void var_set_write_format (struct variable *var, const struct fmt_spec *format)`
  Sets var’s write format.
- `void var_set_both_formats (struct variable *var, const struct fmt_spec *format)`
  Sets var’s print and write formats.

2.5.6 Variable Labels

A variable label is a string that describes a variable. Variable labels may contain spaces and punctuation not allowed in variable names. See Section “VARIABLE LABELS” in PSPP Users Guide, for a user-level description of variable labels.

The most commonly useful functions for variable labels are those to retrieve a variable’s label:

- `const char * var_to_string (const struct variable *var)`
  Returns var’s variable label, if it has one, otherwise var’s name. In either case the caller must not attempt to modify or free the returned string.
  This function is useful for user output.
- `const char * var_get_label (const struct variable *var)`
  Returns var’s variable label, if it has one, or a null pointer otherwise.
A few other variable label functions are also provided:

```c
void var_set_label (struct variable *var, const char *label) [Function]
Sets var’s variable label to a copy of label, or removes any label from var if label
is a null pointer or contains only spaces. Leading and trailing spaces are removed from
the variable label and its remaining content is truncated at 255 bytes.

void var_clear_label (struct variable *var) [Function]
Removes any variable label from var.

bool var_has_label (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns true if var has a variable label, false otherwise.
```

### 2.5.7 GUI Attributes

These functions and types access and set attributes that are mainly used by graphical user interfaces. Their values are also stored in and retrieved from system files (but not portable files).

The first group of functions relate to the measurement level of numeric data. New variables are assigned a nominal level of measurement by default.

```c
enum measure
Measurement level. Available values are:

MEASURE_NOMINAL
Numeric data values are arbitrary. Arithmetic operations and numerical
comparisons of such data are not meaningful.

MEASURE_ORDINAL
Numeric data values indicate progression along a rank order. Arbitrary
arithmetic operations such as addition are not meaningful on such data,
but inequality comparisons (less, greater, etc.) have straightforward in-
terpretations.

MEASURE_SCALE
Ratios, sums, etc. of numeric data values have meaningful interpretations.

PSPP does not have a separate category for interval data, which would naturally fall
between the ordinal and scale measurement levels.
```

```c
bool measure_is_valid (enum measure measure) [Function]
Returns true if measure is a valid level of measurement, that is, if it is one of the
enum measure constants listed above, and false otherwise.

enum measure var_get_measure (const struct variable *var) [Function]
void var_set_measure (struct variable *var, enum measure
measure) [Function]
Gets or sets var’s measurement level.
```

The following set of functions relates to the width of on-screen columns used for displaying variable data in a graphical user interface environment. The unit of measurement is the width of a character. For proportionally spaced fonts, this is based on the average width of a character.
The final group of functions work with the justification of data when it is displayed in on-screen columns. New variables are by default right-justified.

**2.5.8 Variable Leave Status**

Commonly, most or all data in a case come from an input file, read with a command such as DATA LIST or GET, but data can also be generated with transformations such as COMPUTE. In the latter case the question of a datum’s “initial value” can arise. For example, the value of a piece of generated data can recursively depend on its own value:

```
COMPUTE X = X + 1.
```

Another situation where the initial value of a variable arises is when its value is not set at all for some cases, e.g. below, Y is set only for the first 10 cases:

```
DO IF #CASENUM <= 10.
+ COMPUTE Y = 1.
END IF.
```

By default, the initial value of a datum in either of these situations is the system-missing value for numeric values and spaces for string values. This means that, above, X would be system-missing and that Y would be 1 for the first 10 cases and system-missing for the remainder.

PSPP also supports retaining the value of a variable from one case to another, using the LEAVE command (see Section “LEAVE” in PSPP Users Guide). The initial value of such a variable is 0 if it is numeric and spaces if it is a string. If the command ‘LEAVE X Y’ is appended to the above example, then X would have value 1 in the first case and increase by 1 in every succeeding case, and Y would have value 1 for the first 10 cases and 0 for later cases.

The LEAVE command has no effect on data that comes from an input file or whose values do not depend on a variable’s initial value.
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The value of scratch variables (see Section “Scratch Variables” in PSPP Users Guide) are always left from one case to another.

The following functions work with a variable’s leave status.

\begin{verbatim}
bool var_get_leave (const struct variable *var)    \[Function\]
  Returns true if \texttt{var}’s value is to be retained from case to case, false if it is reinitialized to system-missing or spaces.

void var_set_leave (struct variable *var, bool leave) \[Function\]
  If \texttt{leave} is true, marks \texttt{var} to be left from case to case; if \texttt{leave} is false, marks \texttt{var} to be reinitialized for each case.

  If \texttt{var} is a scratch variable, \texttt{leave} must be true.

bool var_must_leave (const struct variable *var) \[Function\]
  Returns true if \texttt{var} must be left from case to case, that is, if \texttt{var} is a scratch variable.
\end{verbatim}

\subsection*{2.5.9 Dictionary Class}

Occasionally it is useful to classify variables into dictionary classes based on their names. Dictionary classes are represented by \texttt{enum dict_class}. This type and other declarations for dictionary classes are in the \texttt{<data/dict-class.h>} header.

\begin{verbatim}
enum dict_class 
  The dictionary classes are:

  DC_ORDINARY  
    An ordinary variable, one whose name does not begin with ‘$’ or ‘#’.

  DC_SYSTEM    
    A system variable, one whose name begins with ‘$’. See Section “System Variables” in PSPP Users Guide.

  DC_SCRATCH   
    A scratch variable, one whose name begins with ‘#’. See Section “Scratch Variables” in PSPP Users Guide.

  The values for dictionary classes are bitwise disjoint, which allows them to be used in bit-masks. An extra enumeration constant DC_ALL, whose value is the bitwise-or of all of the above constants, is provided to aid in this purpose.

  One example use of dictionary classes arises in connection with PSPP syntax that uses \texttt{a TO b} to name the variables in a dictionary from \texttt{a} to \texttt{b} (see Section “Sets of Variables” in PSPP Users Guide). This syntax requires \texttt{a} and \texttt{b} to be in the same dictionary class. It limits the variables that it includes to those in that dictionary class.

  The following functions relate to dictionary classes.

  \begin{verbatim}
  enum dict_class dict_class_from_id (const char *name) \[Function\]
    Returns the “dictionary class” for the given variable \texttt{name}, by looking at its first letter.
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
const char * dict_class_to_name (enum dict_class dict_class)  [Function]
Returns a name for the given dict_class as an adjective, e.g. "scratch".

This function should probably not be used in new code as it can lead to difficulties for internationalization.

2.5.10 Variable Creation and Destruction

Only rarely should PSPP code create or destroy variables directly. Ordinarily, variables are created within a dictionary and destroying by individual deletion from the dictionary or by destroying the entire dictionary at once. The functions here enable the exceptional case, of creation and destruction of variables that are not associated with any dictionary. These functions are used internally in the dictionary implementation.

struct variable * var_create (const char *name, int width)  [Function]
Creates and returns a new variable with the given name and width. The new variable is not part of any dictionary. Use dict_create_var, instead, to create a variable in a dictionary (see Section 2.6.2 [Dictionary Creating Variables], page 31).

name should be a valid variable name and must be a “plausible” variable name (see Section 2.5.1 [Variable Name], page 19). width must be between 0 and MAX_STRING, inclusive (see Section 2.1 [Values], page 2).

The new variable has no user-missing values, value labels, or variable label. Numeric variables initially have F8.2 print and write formats, right-justified display alignment, and scale level of measurement. String variables are created with A print and write formats, left-justified display alignment, and nominal level of measurement. The initial display width is determined by var_default_display_width (see var_default_display_width, page 24).

The new variable initially has no short name (see Section 2.5.11 [Variable Short Names], page 27) and no auxiliary data (see Section 2.5.13 [Variable Auxiliary Data], page 28).

struct variable * var_clone (const struct variable *old_var)  [Function]
Creates and returns a new variable with the same attributes as old_var, with a few exceptions. First, the new variable is not part of any dictionary, regardless of whether old_var was in a dictionary. Use dict_clone_var, instead, to add a clone of a variable to a dictionary.

Second, the new variable is not given any short name, even if old_var had a short name. This is because the new variable is likely to be immediately renamed, in which case the short name would be incorrect (see Section 2.5.11 [Variable Short Names], page 27).

Finally, old_var’s auxiliary data, if any, is not copied to the new variable (see Section 2.5.13 [Variable Auxiliary Data], page 28).

void var_destroy (struct variable *var)  [Function]
Destroys var and frees all associated storage, including its auxiliary data, if any. var must not be part of a dictionary. To delete a variable from a dictionary and destroy it, use dict_delete_var (see Section 2.6.3 [Dictionary Deleting Variables], page 32).
2.5.11 Variable Short Names

PSPP variable names may be up to 64 (ID_MAX_LEN) bytes long. The system and portable file formats, however, were designed when variable names were limited to 8 bytes in length. Since then, the system file format has been augmented with an extension record that explains how the 8-byte short names map to full-length names (see Section B.11 [Long Variable Names Record], page 69), but the short names are still present. Thus, the continued presence of the short names is more or less invisible to PSPP users, but every variable in a system file still has a short name that must be unique.

PSPP can generate unique short names for variables based on their full names at the time it creates the data file. If all variables’ full names are unique in their first 8 bytes, then the short names are simply prefixes of the full names; otherwise, PSPP changes them so that they are unique.

By itself this algorithm interoperates well with other software that can read system files, as long as that software understands the extension record that maps short names to long names. When the other software does not understand the extension record, it can produce surprising results. Consider a situation where PSPP reads a system file that contains two variables named RANKINGSCORE, then the user adds a new variable named RANKINGSTATUS, then saves the modified data as a new system file. A program that does not understand long names would then see one of these variables under the name RANKINGS—either one, depending on the algorithm’s details—and the other under a different name. The effect could be very confusing: by adding a new and apparently unrelated variable in PSPP, the user effectively renamed the existing variable.

To counteract this potential problem, every struct variable may have a short name. A variable created by the system or portable file reader receives the short name from that data file. When a variable with a short name is written to a system or portable file, that variable receives priority over other long names whose names begin with the same 8 bytes but which were not read from a data file under that short name.

Variables not created by the system or portable file reader have no short name by default.

A variable with a full name of 8 bytes or less in length has absolute priority for that name when the variable is written to a system file, even over a second variable with that assigned short name.

PSPP does not enforce uniqueness of short names, although the short names read from any given data file will always be unique. If two variables with the same short name are written to a single data file, neither one receives priority.

The following macros and functions relate to short names.

**SHORT_NAME_LEN** [Macro]
Maximum length of a short name, in bytes. Its value is 8.

**const char * var_get_short_name (const struct variable *var)** [Function]
Returns var’s short name, or a null pointer if var has not been assigned a short name.

**void var_set_short_name (struct variable *var, const char *short_name)** [Function]
Sets var’s short name to short_name, or removes var’s short name if short_name is a null pointer. If it is non-null, then short_name must be a plausible name for a variable. The name will be truncated to 8 bytes in length and converted to all-uppercase.
2.5.12 Variable Relationships

Variables have close relationships with dictionaries (see Section 2.6 [Dictionaries], page 30) and cases (see Section 2.8 [Cases], page 37). A variable is usually a member of some dictionary, and a case is often used to store data for the set of variables in a dictionary.

These functions report on these relationships. They may be applied only to variables that are in a dictionary.

```c
size_t var_get_dict_index (const struct variable *var)           [Function]
Returns var's index within its dictionary. The first variable in a dictionary has index
0, the next variable index 1, and so on.
The dictionary index can be influenced using dictionary functions such as
dict_reorder_var (see [dict_reorder_var], page 32).
```

```c
size_t var_get_case_index (const struct variable *var)           [Function]
Returns var's index within a case. The case index is an index into an array of union
value large enough to contain all the data in the dictionary.
The returned case index can be used to access the value of var within a case for
its dictionary, as in e.g. case_data_idx (case, var_get_case_index (var)), but
ordinarily it is more convenient to use the data access functions that do variable-to-
index translation internally, as in e.g. case_data (case, var).
```

2.5.13 Variable Auxiliary Data

Each struct variable can have a single pointer to auxiliary data of type void *. These
functions manipulate a variable's auxiliary data.

Use of auxiliary data is discouraged because of its lack of flexibility. Only one client can
make use of auxiliary data on a given variable at any time, even though many clients could
usefully associate data with a variable.

To prevent multiple clients from attempting to use a variable's single auxiliary data field
at the same time, we adopt the convention that use of auxiliary data in the active dataset
dictionary is restricted to the currently executing command. In particular, transformations
must not attach auxiliary data to a variable in the active dataset in the expectation that it
can be used later when the active dataset is read and the transformation is executed. To
help enforce this restriction, auxiliary data is deleted from all variables in the active dataset
dictionary after the execution of each PSPP command.

This convention for safe use of auxiliary data applies only to the active dataset dictionary.
Rules for other dictionaries may be established separately.

Auxiliary data should be replaced by a more flexible mechanism at some point, but no
replacement mechanism has been designed or implemented so far.

The following functions work with variable auxiliary data.

```c
void * var_get_aux (const struct variable *var)                  [Function]
Returns var's auxiliary data, or a null pointer if none has been assigned.
```
void * var_attach_aux (const struct variable *var, void *aux, void (*aux_dtor) (struct variable *)) [Function]
Sets var’s auxiliary data to aux, which must not be null. var must not already have auxiliary data.
Before var’s auxiliary data is cleared by var_clear_aux, aux_dtor, if non-null, will be called with var as its argument. It should free any storage associated with aux, if necessary. var_dtor_free may be appropriate for use as aux_dtor:

void var_dtor_free (struct variable *var) [Function]
Frees var’s auxiliary data by calling free.

void var_clear_aux (struct variable *var) [Function]
Removes auxiliary data, if any, from var, first calling the destructor passed to var_attach_aux, if one was provided.
Use dict_clear_aux to remove auxiliary data from every variable in a dictionary.

void * var_detach_aux (struct variable *var) [Function]
Removes auxiliary data, if any, from var, and returns it. Returns a null pointer if var had no auxiliary data.
Any destructor passed to var_attach_aux is not called, so the caller is responsible for freeing storage associated with the returned auxiliary data.

2.5.14 Variable Categorical Values
Some statistical procedures require a list of all the values that a categorical variable takes on. Arranging such a list requires making a pass through the data, so PSPP caches categorical values in struct variable.

When variable auxiliary data is revamped to support multiple clients as described in the previous section, categorical values are an obvious candidate. The form in which they are currently supported is inelegant.

Categorical values are not robust against changes in the data. That is, there is currently no way to detect that a transformation has changed data values, meaning that categorical values lists for the changed variables must be recomputed. PSPP is in fact in need of a general-purpose caching and cache-invalidation mechanism, but none has yet been designed and built.

The following functions work with cached categorical values.

struct cat_vals * var_get_obs_vals (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns var’s set of categorical values. Yields undefined behavior if var does not have any categorical values.

void var_set_obs_vals (const struct variable *var, struct cat_vals *cat_vals) [Function]
Destroys var’s categorical values, if any, and replaces them by cat_vals, ownership of which is transferred to var. If cat_vals is a null pointer, then var’s categorical values are cleared.

bool var_has_obs_vals (const struct variable *var) [Function]
Returns true if var has a set of categorical values, false otherwise.
2.6 Dictionaries

Each data file in memory or on disk has an associated dictionary, whose primary purpose is to describe the data in the file. See Section “Variables” in PSPP Users Guide, for a PSPP user’s view of a dictionary.

A data file stored in a PSPP format, either as a system or portable file, has a representation of its dictionary embedded in it. Other kinds of data files are usually not self-describing enough to construct a dictionary unassisted, so the dictionaries for these files must be specified explicitly with PSPP commands such as DATA LIST.

The most important content of a dictionary is an array of variables, which must have unique names. A dictionary also conceptually contains a mapping from each of its variables to a location within a case (see Section 2.8 [Cases], page 37), although in fact these mappings are stored within individual variables.

System variables are not members of any dictionary (see Section “System Variables” in PSPP Users Guide).

Dictionaries are represented by struct dictionary. Declarations related to dictionaries are in the <data/dictionary.h> header.

The following sections describe functions for use with dictionaries.

2.6.1 Accessing Variables

The most common operations on a dictionary simply retrieve a struct variable * of an individual variable based on its name or position.

```
struct variable * dict_lookup_var (const struct dictionary *dict, const char *name)  
struct variable * dict_lookup_var_assert (const struct dictionary *dict, const char *name)
```

Looks up and returns the variable with the given name within dict. Name lookup is not case-sensitive.

`dict_lookup_var` returns a null pointer if `dict` does not contain a variable named `name`. `dict_lookup_var_assert` asserts that such a variable exists.

```
struct variable * dict_get_var (const struct dictionary *dict, size_t position)
```

Returns the variable at the given position in `dict`. `position` must be less than the number of variables in `dict` (see below).

```
size_t dict_get_var_cnt (const struct dictionary *dict)
```

Returns the number of variables in `dict`.

Another pair of functions allows retrieving a number of variables at once. These functions are more rarely useful.

```
void dict_get_vars (const struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable ***vars, size_t *cnt, enum dict_class exclude)
void dict_get_vars Mutable (const struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable ***vars, size_t *cnt, enum dict_class exclude)
```

Retrieves all of the variables in `dict`, in their original order, except that any variables in the dictionary classes specified `exclude`, if any, are excluded (see Section 2.5.9
Pointers to the variables are stored in an array allocated with malloc, and a pointer to the first element of this array is stored in *vars. The caller is responsible for freeing this memory when it is no longer needed. The number of variables retrieved is stored in *cnt.

The presence or absence of DC_SYSTEM in exclude has no effect, because dictionaries never include system variables.

One additional function is available. This function is most often used in assertions, but it is not restricted to such use.

bool dict_contains_var (const struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable *var)

Tests whether var is one of the variables in dict. Returns true if so, false otherwise.

### 2.6.2 Creating Variables

These functions create a new variable and insert it into a dictionary in a single step.

There is no provision for inserting an already created variable into a dictionary. There is no reason that such a function could not be written, but so far there has been no need for one.

The names provided to one of these functions should be valid variable names and must be plausible variable names.

If a variable with the same name already exists in the dictionary, the non-assert variants of these functions return a null pointer, without modifying the dictionary. The assert variants, on the other hand, assert that no duplicate name exists.

A variable may be in only one dictionary at any given time.

struct variable * dict_create_var (struct dictionary *dict, const char *name, int width)

struct variable * dict_create_var_assert (struct dictionary *dict, const char *name, int width)

Creates a new variable with the given name and width, as if through a call to var_create with those arguments (see [var_create], page 26), appends the new variable to dict’s array of variables, and returns the new variable.

struct variable * dict_clone_var (struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable *old_var)

struct variable * dict_clone_var_assert (struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable *old_var)

Creates a new variable as a clone of var, inserts the new variable into dict, and returns the new variable. Other properties of the new variable are copied from old_var, except for those not copied by var_clone (see [var_clone], page 26).

var does not need to be a member of any dictionary.
struct variable * dict_clone_var_as (struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable *old_var, const char *name) [Function]

struct variable * dict_clone_var_as_assert (struct dictionary *dict, const struct variable *old_var, const char *name) [Function]

These functions are similar to dict_clone_var and dict_clone_var_assert, respectively, except that the new variable is named name instead of keeping old_var’s name.

2.6.3 Deleting Variables

These functions remove variables from a dictionary’s array of variables. They also destroy the removed variables and free their associated storage.

Deleting a variable to which there might be external pointers is a bad idea. In particular, deleting variables from the active dataset dictionary is a risky proposition, because transformations can retain references to arbitrary variables. Therefore, no variable should be deleted from the active dataset dictionary when any transformations are active, because those transformations might reference the variable to be deleted. The safest time to delete a variable is just after a procedure has been executed, as done by DELETE VARIABLES.

Deleting a variable automatically removes references to that variable from elsewhere in the dictionary as a weighting variable, filter variable, SPLIT FILE variable, or member of a vector.

No functions are provided for removing a variable from a dictionary without destroying that variable. As with insertion of an existing variable, there is no reason that this could not be implemented, but so far there has been no need.

void dict_delete_var (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var) [Function]

Deletes var from dict, of which it must be a member.

void dict_delete_vars (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *const *vars, size_t count) [Function]

Deletes the count variables in array vars from dict. All of the variables in vars must be members of dict. No variable may be included in vars more than once.

void dict_delete_consecutive_vars (struct dictionary *dict, size_t idx, size_t count) [Function]

Deletes the variables in sequential positions idx...idx + count (exclusive) from dict, which must contain at least idx + count variables.

void dict_delete_scratch_vars (struct dictionary *dict) [Function]

Deletes all scratch variables from dict.

2.6.4 Changing Variable Order

The variables in a dictionary are stored in an array. These functions change the order of a dictionary’s array of variables without changing which variables are in the dictionary.
void dict_reorder_var (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var, size_t new_index)  
Moves var, which must be in dict, so that it is at position new_index in dict’s array of variables. Other variables in dict, if any, retain their relative positions. new_index must be less than the number of variables in dict.

void dict_reorder_vars (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable **new_order, size_t count)  
Moves the count variables in new_order to the beginning of dict’s array of variables in the specified order. Other variables in dict, if any, retain their relative positions. All of the variables in new_order must be in dict. No duplicates are allowed within new_order, which means that count must be no greater than the number of variables in dict.

2.6.5 Renaming Variables

These functions change the names of variables within a dictionary. The var_set_name function (see var_set_name, page 19) cannot be applied directly to a variable that is in a dictionary, because struct dictionary contains an index by name that var_set_name would not update. The following functions take care to update the index as well. They also ensure that variable renaming does not cause a dictionary to contain a duplicate variable name.

void dict_rename_var (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var, const char *new_name)  
Changes the name of var, which must be in dict, to new_name. A variable named new_name must not already be in dict, unless new_name is the same as var’s current name.

bool dict_rename_vars (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable **vars, const char **new_names, size_t count, char **err_name)  
Renames each of the count variables in vars to the name in the corresponding position of new_names. If the renaming would result in a duplicate variable name, returns false and stores one of the names that would be be duplicated into *err_name, if err_name is non-null. Otherwise, the renaming is successful, and true is returned.

2.6.6 Weight Variable

A data set’s cases may optionally be weighted by the value of a numeric variable. See Section “WEIGHT” in PSPP Users Guide, for a user view of weight variables.

The weight variable is written to and read from system and portable files.

The most commonly useful function related to weighting is a convenience function to retrieve a weighting value from a case.

double dict_get_case_weight (const struct dictionary *dict, const struct ccase *case, bool *warn_on_invalid)  
Retrieves and returns the value of the weighting variable specified by dict from case. Returns 1.0 if dict has no weighting variable.
Returns 0.0 if c’s weight value is user- or system-missing, zero, or negative. In such a case, if warn_on_invalid is non-null and *warn_on_invalid is true, dict_get_case_weight also issues an error message and sets *warn_on_invalid to false. To disable error reporting, pass a null pointer or a pointer to false as warn_on_invalid or use a msg_disable/msg_enable pair.

The dictionary also has a pair of functions for getting and setting the weight variable.

**struct variable * dict_get_weight (const struct dictionary *dict)**

Returns dict’s current weighting variable, or a null pointer if the dictionary does not have a weighting variable.

**void dict_set_weight (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var)**

Sets dict’s weighting variable to var. If var is non-null, it must be a numeric variable in dict. If var is null, then dict’s weighting variable, if any, is cleared.

### 2.6.7 Filter Variable

When the active dataset is read by a procedure, cases can be excluded from analysis based on the values of a filter variable. See Section “FILTER” in *PSPP Users Guide*, for a user view of filtering.

These functions store and retrieve the filter variable. They are rarely useful, because the data analysis framework automatically excludes from analysis the cases that should be filtered.

**struct variable * dict_get_filter (const struct dictionary *dict)**

Returns dict’s current filter variable, or a null pointer if the dictionary does not have a filter variable.

**void dict_set_filter (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var)**

Sets dict’s filter variable to var. If var is non-null, it must be a numeric variable in dict. If var is null, then dict’s filter variable, if any, is cleared.

### 2.6.8 Case Limit

The limit on cases analyzed by a procedure, set by the N OF CASES command (see Section “N OF CASES” in *PSPP Users Guide*), is stored as part of the dictionary. The dictionary does not, on the other hand, play any role in enforcing the case limit (a job done by data analysis framework code).

A case limit of 0 means that the number of cases is not limited.

These functions are rarely useful, because the data analysis framework automatically excludes from analysis any cases beyond the limit.

**casenumber dict_get_case_limit (const struct dictionary *dict)**

Returns the current case limit for dict.
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void dict_set_case_limit (struct dictionary *dict, casenumber limit)  
Sets dict’s case limit to limit.

2.6.9 Split Variables

The user may use the SPLIT FILE command (see Section “SPLIT FILE” in PSPP Users Guide) to select a set of variables on which to split the active dataset into groups of cases to be analyzed independently in each statistical procedure. The set of split variables is stored as part of the dictionary, although the effect on data analysis is implemented by each individual statistical procedure.

Split variables may be numeric or short or long string variables.

The most useful functions for split variables are those to retrieve them. Even these functions are rarely useful directly: for the purpose of breaking cases into groups based on the values of the split variables, it is usually easier to use casegrouper_create_splits.

const struct variable *const * dict_get_split_vars (const struct dictionary *dict)  
Returns a pointer to an array of pointers to split variables. If and only if there are no split variables, returns a null pointer. The caller must not modify or free the returned array.

size_t dict_get_split_cnt (const struct dictionary *dict)  
Returns the number of split variables.

The following functions are also available for working with split variables.

void dict_set_split_vars (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *const *vars, size_t cnt)  
Sets dict’s split variables to the cnt variables in vars. If cnt is 0, then dict will not have any split variables. The caller retains ownership of vars.

void dict_unset_split_var (struct dictionary *dict, struct variable *var)  
Removes var, which must be a variable in dict, from dict’s split of split variables.

2.6.10 File Label

A dictionary may optionally have an associated string that describes its contents, called its file label. The user may set the file label with the FILE LABEL command (see Section “FILE LABEL” in PSPP Users Guide).

These functions set and retrieve the file label.

const char * dict_get_label (const struct dictionary *dict)  
Returns dict’s file label. If dict does not have a label, returns a null pointer.

void dict_set_label (struct dictionary *dict, const char *label)  
Sets dict’s label to label. If label is non-null, then its content, truncated to at most 60 bytes, becomes the new file label. If label is null, then dict’s label is removed.

The caller retains ownership of label.
2.6.11 Documents

A dictionary may include an arbitrary number of lines of explanatory text, called the dictionary’s documents. For compatibility, document lines have a fixed width, and lines that are not exactly this width are truncated or padded with spaces as necessary to bring them to the correct width.

PSPP users can use the DOCUMENT (see Section “DOCUMENT” in PSPP Users Guide), ADD DOCUMENT (see Section “ADD DOCUMENT” in PSPP Users Guide), and DROP DOCUMENTS (see Section “DROP DOCUMENTS” in PSPP Users Guide) commands to manipulate documents.

```c
#include <psppdictionary.h>
```

```c
int DOC_LINE_LENGTH
```

The fixed length of a document line, in bytes, defined to 80.

The following functions work with whole sets of documents. They accept or return sets of documents formatted as null-terminated strings that are an exact multiple of DOC_LINE_LENGTH bytes in length.

```c
const char * dict_get_documents (const struct dictionary *dict) [Function]
```

Returns the documents in `dict`, or a null pointer if `dict` has no documents.

```c
void dict_set_documents (struct dictionary *dict, const char *new_documents) [Function]
```

Sets `dict`’s documents to `new_documents`. If `new_documents` is a null pointer or an empty string, then `dict`’s documents are cleared. The caller retains ownership of `new_documents`.

```c
void dict_clear_documents (struct dictionary *dict) [Function]
```

Clears the documents from `dict`.

The following functions work with individual lines in a dictionary’s set of documents.

```c
void dict_add_document_line (struct dictionary *dict, const char *content) [Function]
```

Appends `content` to the documents in `dict`. The text in `content` will be truncated or padded with spaces as necessary to make it exactly DOC_LINE_LENGTH bytes long. The caller retains ownership of `content`.

If `content` is over DOC_LINE_LENGTH, this function also issues a warning using `msg`. To suppress the warning, enclose a call to one of this function in a `msg_disable/msg_enable` pair.

```c
size_t dict_get_document_line_cnt (const struct dictionary *dict) [Function]
```

Returns the number of line of documents in `dict`. If the dictionary contains no documents, returns 0.

```c
void dict_get_document_line (const struct dictionary *dict, size_t idx, struct string *content) [Function]
```

Replaces the text in `content` (which must already have been initialized by the caller) by the document line in `dict` numbered `idx`, which must be less than the number of lines of documents in `dict`. Any trailing white space in the document line is trimmed, so that `content` will have a length between 0 and DOC_LINE_LENGTH.
2.7 Coding Conventions

Every `.c` file should have `#include <config.h>` as its first non-comment line. No `.h` file should include `config.h`.

This section needs to be finished.

2.8 Cases

This section needs to be written.

2.9 Data Sets

This section needs to be written.

2.10 Pools

This section needs to be written.
3 Parsing Command Syntax
4 Processing Data

Developer's Guide

Proposed outline:

* Introduction
* Basic concepts
** Data sets
** Variables
** Dictionaries
** Coding conventions
** Pools
* Syntax parsing
* Data processing
** Reading data
*** Casereaders generalities
*** Casereaders from data files
*** Casereaders from the active dataset
*** Other casereaders
** Writing data
*** Casewriters generally
*** Casewriters to data files
*** Modifying the active dataset
**** Modifying cases obtained from active dataset casereaders has no real effect
**** Transformations; procedures that transform
** Transforming data
*** Sorting and merging
*** Filtering
*** Grouping
**** Ordering and interaction of filtering and grouping
*** Multiple passes over data
*** Counting cases and case weights
** Best practices
*** Multiple passes with filters versus single pass with loops
*** Sequential versus random access
*** Managing memory
*** Passing cases around
*** Renaming casereaders
*** Avoiding excessive buffering
*** Propagating errors
*** Avoid static/global data
*** Don’t worry about null filters, groups, etc.
*** Be aware of reference counting semantics for cases
5 Presenting Output
6 Internationalisation

Internationalisation in pspp is complicated. The most annoying aspect is that of character-encoding. This chapter attempts to describe the problems and current ways in which they are addressed.

6.1 The working locales

Pspp has three “working” locales:

- The locale of the user interface.
- The locale of the output.
- The locale of the data. Only the character encoding is relevant.

Each of these locales may, at different times take separate (or identical) values. So for example, a French statistician can use pspp to prepare a report in the English language, using a datafile which has been created by a Japanese researcher hence uses a Japanese character set.

It’s rarely, if ever, necessary to interrogate the system to find out the values of the 3 locales. However it’s important to be aware of the source (destination) locale when reading (writing) string data. When transferring data between a source and a destination, the appropriate recoding must be performed.

6.1.1 The user interface locale

This is the locale which is visible to the person using pspp. Error messages and confidence indications are written in this locale. For example “Cannot open file” will be written in the user interface locale.

This locale is set from the environment of the user who starts pspp or from the system locale if not set.

6.1.2 The output locale

This locale is the one that should be visible to the person reading a report generated by pspp. Non-data related strings (Eg: “Page number”, “Standard Deviation” etc.) will appear in this locale.

6.1.3 The data locale

This locale is the one associated with the data being analysed with pspp. The only important aspect of this locale is the character encoding. The dictionary pertaining to the data contains a field denoting the encoding. Any string data stored in a union value will be encoded in the dictionary’s character set.

6.2 System files

*.sav files contain a field which is supposed to identify the encoding of the data they contain (see Section B.6 [Machine Integer Info Record], page 63). However, many files produced by early versions of spss set this to “2” (ASCII) regardless of the encoding of the data.

It might also be desirable for the LC_COLLATE category to be used for the purposes of sorting data.

---

1 It might also be desirable for the LC_COLLATE category to be used for the purposes of sorting data.
Later versions contain an additional record (see Section B.13 [Character Encoding Record], page 71) describing the encoding. When a system file is read, the dictionary’s encoding is set using information gleaned from the system file. If the encoding cannot be determined or would be unreliable, then it remains unset.

6.3 GUI

The psppire graphic user interface is written using the Gtk+ api, for which all strings must be encoded in UTF8. All strings passed to the GTK+/GLib library functions (except for filenames) must be UTF-8 encoded otherwise errors will occur. Thus, for the purposes of the programming psppire, the user interface locale should be assumed to be UTF8, even if setlocale and/or nl_langinfo indicates otherwise.

6.3.1 Filenames

The GLib API has some special functions for dealing with filenames. Strings returned from functions like gtk_file_chooser_dialog_get_name are not, in general, encoded in UTF8, but in “filename” encoding. If that filename is passed to another GLib function which expects a filename, no conversion is necessary. If it’s passed to a function for the purposes of displaying it (e.g. in a window’s title-bar) it must be converted to UTF8 — there is a special function for this: g_file_path_to_display_name or g_file_path_basename. If however, a filename needs to be passed outside of GTK+/GLib (for example to fopen) it must be converted to the local system encoding.

6.4 Existing locale handling functions

The major aspect of locale handling which the programmer has to consider is that of character encoding.

The following function is used to recode strings:

```
char * recode_string (const char *to, const char *from, const char *text, int len);
```

Converts the string `text`, which is encoded in `from` to a new string encoded in `to` encoding. If `len` is not -1, then it must be the number of bytes in `text`. It is the caller’s responsibility to free the returned string when no longer required.

In order to minimise the number of conversions required, and to simplify design, PSPP attempts to store all internal strings in UTF8 encoding. Thus, when reading system and portable files (or any other data source), the following items are immediately converted to UTF8 encoding:

- Variable names
- Variable labels
- Value labels

Conversely, when writing system files, these are converted back to the encoding of that system file.

String data stored in union values are left in their original encoding. These will be converted by the data_in/data_out functions.
6.5 Quirks

For historical reasons, not all locale handling follows posix conventions. This makes it difficult (impossible?) to elegantly handle the issues. For example, it would make sense for the gui’s datasheet to display numbers formatted according to the LC\_NUMERIC category of the data locale. Instead however there is the data\_out function (see Section 2.2.3 [Obtaining Properties of Format Types], page 7) which uses the settings\_get\_decimal\_char function instead of the decimal separator of the locale. Similarly, formatting of monetary values is displayed in a pspp/spss specific fashion instead of using the LC\_MONETARY category.
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Appendix A  Portable File Format

These days, most computers use the same internal data formats for integer and floating-point data, if one ignores little differences like big- versus little-endian byte ordering. However, occasionally it is necessary to exchange data between systems with incompatible data formats. This is what portable files are designed to do.

Please note: This information is gleaned from examination of ASCII-formatted portable files only, so some of it may be incorrect for portable files formatted in EBCDIC or other character sets.

A.1 Portable File Characters

Portable files are arranged as a series of lines of 80 characters each. Each line is terminated by a carriage-return, line-feed sequence ("new-lines"). New-lines are only used to avoid line length limits imposed by some OSes; they are not meaningful.

Most lines in portable files are exactly 80 characters long. The only exception is a line that ends in one or more spaces, in which the spaces may optionally be omitted. Thus, a portable file reader must act as though a line shorter than 80 characters is padded to that length with spaces.

The file must be terminated with a ‘Z’ character. In addition, if the final line in the file does not have exactly 80 characters, then it is padded on the right with ‘Z’ characters. (The file contents may be in any character set; the file contains a description of its own character set, as explained in the next section. Therefore, the ‘Z’ character is not necessarily an ASCII ‘Z’.)

For the rest of the description of the portable file format, new-lines and the trailing ‘Z’s will be ignored, as if they did not exist, because they are not an important part of understanding the file contents.

A.2 Portable File Structure

Every portable file consists of the following records, in sequence:

- File header.
- Version and date info.
- Product identification.
- Author identification (optional).
- Subproduct identification (optional).
- Variable count.
- Case weight variable (optional).
- Variables. Each variable record may optionally be followed by a missing value record and a variable label record.
- Value labels (optional).
- Documents (optional).
- Data.
Most records are identified by a single-character tag code. The file header and version info record do not have a tag.

Other than these single-character codes, there are three types of fields in a portable file: floating-point, integer, and string. Floating-point fields have the following format:

- Zero or more leading spaces.
- Optional asterisk (‘*’), which indicates a missing value. The asterisk must be followed by a single character, generally a period (‘.’), but it appears that other characters may also be possible. This completes the specification of a missing value.
- Optional minus sign (‘-’) to indicate a negative number.
- A whole number, consisting of one or more base-30 digits: ‘0’ through ‘9’ plus capital letters ‘A’ through ‘T’.
- Optional fraction, consisting of a radix point (‘.’) followed by one or more base-30 digits.
- Optional exponent, consisting of a plus or minus sign (‘+’ or ‘-’) followed by one or more base-30 digits.
- A forward slash (‘/’).

Integer fields take a form identical to floating-point fields, but they may not contain a fraction.

String fields take the form of a integer field having value $n$, followed by exactly $n$ characters, which are the string content.

A.3 Portable File Header

Every portable file begins with a 464-byte header, consisting of a 200-byte collection of vanity splash strings, followed by a 256-byte character set translation table, followed by an 8-byte tag string.

The 200-byte segment is divided into five 40-byte sections, each of which represents the string charset SPSS PORT FILE in a different character set encoding, where charset is the name of the character set used in the file, e.g. ASCII or EBCDIC. Each string is padded on the right with spaces in its respective character set.

It appears that these strings exist only to inform those who might view the file on a screen, and that they are not parsed by SPSS products. Thus, they can be safely ignored. For those interested, the strings are supposed to be in the following character sets, in the specified order: EBCDIC, 7-bit ASCII, CDC 6-bit ASCII, 6-bit ASCII, Honeywell 6-bit ASCII.

The 256-byte segment describes a mapping from the character set used in the portable file to an arbitrary character set having characters at the following positions:

0–60

Control characters. Not important enough to describe in full here.

61–63

Reserved.

64–73

Digits ‘0’ through ‘9’.
Appendix A: Portable File Format

74–99

Capital letters ‘A’ through ‘Z’.

100–125

Lowercase letters ‘a’ through ‘z’.

126

Space.

127–130

Symbols .<(+

131

Solid vertical pipe.

132–142

Symbols &[]!$*);^-/

143

Broken vertical pipe.

144–150

Symbols ,%_?’:

151

British pound symbol.

152–155

Symbols @’=".

156

Less than or equal symbol.

157

Empty box.

158

Plus or minus.

159

Filled box.

160

Degree symbol.

161

Dagger.

162

Symbol ‘--’.

163

En dash.
Lower left corner box draw.

Upper left corner box draw.

Greater than or equal symbol.

Superscript ‘0’ through ‘9’.

Lower right corner box draw.

Upper right corner box draw.

Not equal symbol.

Em dash.

Superscript ‘(‘.

Superscript ‘)’.

Horizontal dagger (?)..

Symbols ‘{\}'

Cents symbol.

Centered dot, or bullet.

Reserved.

Symbols that are not defined in a particular character set are set to the same value as symbol 64; i.e., to ‘0’.

The 8-byte tag string consists of the exact characters SPSSPORT in the portable file’s character set, which can be used to verify that the file is indeed a portable file.
A.4 Version and Date Info Record

This record does not have a tag code. It has the following structure:

- A single character identifying the file format version. The letter A represents version 0, and so on.
- An 8-character string field giving the file creation date in the format YYYYMMDD.
- A 6-character string field giving the file creation time in the format HHMMSS.

A.5 Identification Records

The product identification record has tag code ‘1’. It consists of a single string field giving the name of the product that wrote the portable file.

The author identification record has tag code ‘2’. It is optional. If present, it consists of a single string field giving the name of the person who caused the portable file to be written.

The subproduct identification record has tag code ‘3’. It is optional. If present, it consists of a single string field giving additional information on the product that wrote the portable file.

A.6 Variable Count Record

The variable count record has tag code ‘4’. It consists of a single integer field giving the number of variables in the file dictionary.

A.7 Precision Record

The precision record has tag code ‘5’. It consists of a single integer field specifying the maximum number of base-30 digits used in data in the file.

A.8 Case Weight Variable Record

The case weight variable record is optional. If it is present, it indicates the variable used for weighting cases; if it is absent, cases are unweighted. It has tag code ‘6’. It consists of a single string field that names the weighting variable.

A.9 Variable Records

Each variable record represents a single variable. Variable records have tag code ‘7’. They have the following structure:

- Width (integer). This is 0 for a numeric variable, and a number between 1 and 255 for a string variable.
- Name (string). 1–8 characters long. Must be in all capitals.
  A few portable files that contain duplicate variable names have been spotted in the wild. PSPP handles these by renaming the duplicates with numeric extensions: var_1, var_2, and so on.
- Print format. This is a set of three integer fields:
  - Format type (see Section B.3 [Variable Record], page 59).
Appendix A: Portable File Format

− Format width. 1–40.
− Number of decimal places. 1–40.

A few portable files with invalid format types or formats that are not of the appropriate width for their variables have been spotted in the wild. PSPP assigns a default F or A format to a variable with an invalid format.

• Write format. Same structure as the print format described above.

Each variable record can optionally be followed by a missing value record, which has tag code ‘8’. A missing value record has one field, the missing value itself (a floating-point or string, as appropriate). Up to three of these missing value records can be used.

There is also a record for missing value ranges, which has tag code ‘B’. It is followed by two fields representing the range, which are floating-point or string as appropriate. If a missing value range is present, it may be followed by a single missing value record.

Tag codes ‘9’ and ‘A’ represent LO THRU x and x THRU HI ranges, respectively. Each is followed by a single field representing x. If one of the ranges is present, it may be followed by a single missing value record.

In addition, each variable record can optionally be followed by a variable label record, which has tag code ‘C’. A variable label record has one field, the variable label itself (string).

A.10 Value Label Records

Value label records have tag code ‘D’. They have the following format:

• Variable count (integer).

• List of variables (strings). The variable count specifies the number in the list. Variables are specified by their names. All variables must be of the same type (numeric or string), but string variables do not necessarily have the same width.

• Label count (integer).

• List of (value, label) tuples. The label count specifies the number of tuples. Each tuple consists of a value, which is numeric or string as appropriate to the variables, followed by a label (string).

A few portable files that specify duplicate value labels, that is, two different labels for a single value of a single variable, have been spotted in the wild. PSPP uses the last value label specified in these cases.

A.11 Document Record

One document record may optionally follow the value label record. The document record consists of tag code ‘E’, following by the number of document lines as an integer, followed by that number of strings, each of which represents one document line. Document lines must be 80 bytes long or shorter.

A.12 Portable File Data

The data record has tag code ‘F’. There is only one tag for all the data; thus, all the data must follow the dictionary. The data is terminated by the end-of-file marker ‘Z’, which is not valid as the beginning of a data element.
Data elements are output in the same order as the variable records describing them. String variables are output as string fields, and numeric variables are output as floating-point fields.
Appendix B System File Format

A system file encapsulates a set of cases and dictionary information that describes how they may be interpreted. This chapter describes the format of a system file.

System files use four data types: 8-bit characters, 32-bit integers, 64-bit integers, and 64-bit floating points, called here `char`, `int32`, `int64`, and `flt64`, respectively. Data is not necessarily aligned on a word or double-word boundary: the long variable name record (see Section B.11 [Long Variable Names Record], page 69) and very long string records (see Section B.12 [Very Long String Record], page 70) have arbitrary byte length and can therefore cause all data coming after them in the file to be misaligned.

Integer data in system files may be big-endian or little-endian. A reader may detect the endianness of a system file by examining `layout_code` in the file header record (see `[layout_code]`, page 57).

Floating-point data in system files may nominally be in IEEE 754, IBM, or VAX formats. A reader may detect the floating-point format in use by examining `bias` in the file header record (see `[bias]`, page 58).

PSPP detects big-endian and little-endian integer formats in system files and translates as necessary. PSPP also detects the floating-point format in use, as well as the endianness of IEEE 754 floating-point numbers, and translates as needed. However, only IEEE 754 numbers with the same endianness as integer data in the same file have actually been observed in system files, and it is likely that other formats are obsolete or were never used.

System files use a few floating point values for special purposes:

- **SYSMIS** The system-missing value is represented by the largest possible negative number in the floating point format (`-DBL_MAX`).
- **HIGHEST** HIGHEST is used as the high end of a missing value range with an unbounded maximum. It is represented by the largest possible positive number (`DBL_MAX`).
- **LOWEST** LOWEST is used as the low end of a missing value range with an unbounded minimum. It was originally represented by the second-largest negative number (in IEEE 754 format, `0xffeffffffffffffe`). System files written by SPSS 21 and later instead use the largest negative number (`-DBL_MAX`), the same value as SYSMIS. This does not lead to ambiguity because LOWEST appears in system files only in missing value ranges, which never contain SYSMIS.

System files may use most character encodings based on an 8-bit unit. UTF-16 and UTF-32, based on wider units, appear to be unacceptable. `rec_type` in the file header record is sufficient to distinguish between ASCII and EBCDIC based encodings. The best way to determine the specific encoding in use is to consult the character encoding record (see Section B.13 [Character Encoding Record], page 71), if present, and failing that the `character_code` in the machine integer info record (see Section B.6 [Machine Integer Info Record], page 63). The same encoding should be used for the dictionary and the data in the file, although it is possible to artificially synthesize files that use different encodings (see Section B.13 [Character Encoding Record], page 71).


### Appendix B: System File Format

#### B.1 System File Record Structure

System files are divided into records with the following format:

```c
int32 type;
char data[];
```

This header does not identify the length of the `data` or any information about what it contains, so the system file reader must understand the format of `data` based on `type`. However, records with type 7, called `extension records`, have a stricter format:

```c
int32 type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;
char data[size * count];
```

```c
int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. This value identifies a particular kind of extension record.
int32 size;
    The size of each piece of data that follows the header, in bytes. Known extension records use 1, 4, or 8, for `char`, `int32`, and `flt64` format data, respectively.
int32 count;
    The number of pieces of data that follow the header.
char data[size * count];
    Data, whose format and interpretation depend on the subtype.
```

An extension record contains exactly `size * count` bytes of data, which allows a reader that does not understand an extension record to skip it. Extension records provide only nonessential information, so this allows for files written by newer software to preserve backward compatibility with older or less capable readers.

Records in a system file must appear in the following order:

- File header record.
- Variable records.
- All pairs of value labels records and value label variables records, if present.
- Document record, if present.
- Extension (type 7) records, in ascending numerical order of their subtypes.

System files written by SPSS include at most one of each kind of extension record. This is generally true of system files written by other software as well, with known exceptions noted below in the individual sections about each type of record.

- Dictionary termination record.
- Data record.

We advise authors of programs that read system files to tolerate format variations. Various kinds of misformatting and corruption have been observed in system files written by SPSS and other software alike. In particular, because extension records provide nonessential
information, it is generally better to ignore an extension record entirely than to refuse to read a system file.

The following sections describe the known kinds of records.

### B.2 File Header Record

A system file begins with the file header, with the following format:

```c
char rec_type[4];
char prod_name[60];
int32 layout_code;
int32 nominal_case_size;
int32 compression;
int32 weight_index;
int32 ncases;
flt64 bias;
char creation_date[9];
char creation_time[8];
char file_label[64];
char padding[3];
```

**char rec_type[4];**

Record type code, either ‘$FL2’ for system files with uncompressed data or data compressed with simple bytecode compression, or ‘$FL3’ for system files with ZLIB compressed data.

This is truly a character field that uses the character encoding as other strings. Thus, in a file with an ASCII-based character encoding this field contains 24 46 4c 32 or 24 46 4c 33, and in a file with an EBCDIC-based encoding this field contains 5b c6 d3 f2. (No EBCDIC-based ZLIB-compressed files have been observed.)

**char prod_name[60];**

Product identification string. This always begins with the characters ‘@(#) SPSS DATA FILE’. PSPP uses the remaining characters to give its version and the operating system name; for example, ‘GNU pspp 0.1.4 - sparc-sun-solaris2.5.2’. The string is truncated if it would be longer than 60 characters; otherwise it is padded on the right with spaces.

The product name field allow readers to behave differently based on quirks in the way that particular software writes system files. See Section B.4 [Value Labels Records], page 62, for the detail of the quirk that the PSPP system file reader tolerates in files written by ReadStat, which has [https://github.com/WizardMac/ReadStat](https://github.com/WizardMac/ReadStat) in prod_name.

**int32 layout_code;**

Normally set to 2, although a few system files have been spotted in the wild with a value of 3 here. PSPP use this value to determine the file’s integer endianness (see Appendix B [System File Format], page 55).
int32 nominal_case_size;
Number of data elements per case. This is the number of variables, except that
long string variables add extra data elements (one for every 8 characters after
the first 8). However, string variables do not contribute to this value beyond
the first 255 bytes. Further, some software always writes -1 or 0 in this field.
In general, it is unsafe for systems reading system files to rely upon this value.

int32 compression;
Set to 0 if the data in the file is not compressed, 1 if the data is compressed
with simple bytecode compression, 2 if the data is ZLIB compressed. This field
has value 2 if and only if rec_type is ‘$FL3’.

int32 weight_index;
If one of the variables in the data set is used as a weighting variable, set to
the dictionary index of that variable, plus 1 (see [Dictionary Index], page 59).
Otherwise, set to 0.

int32 ncases;
Set to the number of cases in the file if it is known, or -1 otherwise.
In the general case it is not possible to determine the number of cases that will
be output to a system file at the time that the header is written. The way that
this is dealt with is by writing the entire system file, including the header, then
seeking back to the beginning of the file and writing just the ncases field. For
files in which this is not valid, the seek operation fails. In this case, ncases
remains -1.

flt64 bias;
Compression bias, ordinarily set to 100. Only integers between 1 - bias and
251 - bias can be compressed.
By assuming that its value is 100, PSPP uses bias to determine the file’s
floating-point format and endianness (see Appendix B [System File Format],
page 55). If the compression bias is not 100, PSPP cannot auto-detect the
floating-point format and assumes that it is IEEE 754 format with the same
endianness as the system file’s integers, which is correct for all known system
files.

char creation_date[9];
Date of creation of the system file, in ‘dd mmm yy’ format, with the month as
standard English abbreviations, using an initial capital letter and following with
lowercase. If the date is not available then this field is arbitrarily set to ‘01 Jan
70’.

char creation_time[8];
Time of creation of the system file, in ‘hh:mm:ss’ format and using 24-hour
time. If the time is not available then this field is arbitrarily set to ‘00:00:00’.

char file_label[64];
File label declared by the user, if any (see Section “FILE LABEL” in PSPP
A product that identifies itself as VOXCO INTERVIEWER 4.3 uses CR-only line
ends in this field, rather than the more usual LF-only or CR LF line ends.
Appendix B: System File Format

char padding[3];
    Ignored padding bytes to make the structure a multiple of 32 bits in length.
    Set to zeros.

B.3 Variable Record

There must be one variable record for each numeric variable and each string variable with
width 8 bytes or less. String variables wider than 8 bytes have one variable record for each 8
bytes, rounding up. The first variable record for a long string specifies the variable’s correct
dictionary information. Subsequent variable records for a long string are filled with dummy
information: a type of -1, no variable label or missing values, print and write formats that
are ignored, and an empty string as name. A few system files have been encountered that
include a variable label on dummy variable records, so readers should take care to parse
dummy variable records in the same way as other variable records.

The dictionary index of a variable is its offset in the set of variable records, including
dummy variable records for long string variables. The first variable record has a dictionary
index of 0, the second has a dictionary index of 1, and so on.

The system file format does not directly support string variables wider than 255 bytes.
Such very long string variables are represented by a number of narrower string variables.
See Section B.12 [Very Long String Record], page 70, for details.

A system file should contain at least one variable and thus at least one variable record,
but system files have been observed in the wild without any variables (thus, no data either).

int32    rec_type;
int32    type;
int32    has_var_label;
int32    n_missing_values;
int32    print;
int32    write;
char     name[8];

  /* Present only if has_var_label is 1. */
  int32    label_len;
  char     label[];

  /* Present only if n_missing_values is nonzero. */
  flt64    missing_values[];

int32 rec_type;
    Record type code. Always set to 2.

int32 type;
    Variable type code. Set to 0 for a numeric variable. For a short string variable
    or the first part of a long string variable, this is set to the width of the string.
    For the second and subsequent parts of a long string variable, set to -1, and the
    remaining fields in the structure are ignored.

int32 has_var_label;
    If this variable has a variable label, set to 1; otherwise, set to 0.
int32 n_missing_values;
If the variable has no missing values, set to 0. If the variable has one, two, or three discrete missing values, set to 1, 2, or 3, respectively. If the variable has a range for missing variables, set to -2; if the variable has a range for missing variables plus a single discrete value, set to -3.
A long string variable always has the value 0 here. A separate record indicates missing values for long string variables (see Section B.15 [Long String Missing Values Record], page 73).

int32 print;
Print format for this variable. See below.

int32 write;
Write format for this variable. See below.

char name[8];
Variable name. The variable name must begin with a capital letter or the at-sign (@). Subsequent characters may also be digits, octothorpes (#), dollar signs ($), underscores (_), or full stops (.). The variable name is padded on the right with spaces.
The ‘name’ fields should be unique within a system file. System files written by SPSS that contain very long string variables with similar names sometimes contain duplicate names that are later eliminated by resolving the very long string names (see Section B.12 [Very Long String Record], page 70). PSPP handles duplicates by assigning them new, unique names.

int32 label_len;
This field is present only if has_var_label is set to 1. It is set to the length, in characters, of the variable label. The documented maximum length varies from 120 to 255 based on SPSS version, but some files have been seen with longer labels. PSPP accepts labels of any length.

char label[];
This field is present only if has_var_label is set to 1. It has length label_len, rounded up to the nearest multiple of 32 bits. The first label_len characters are the variable’s variable label.

flt64 missing_values[];
This field is present only if n_missing_values is nonzero. It has the same number of 8-byte elements as the absolute value of n_missing_values. Each element is interpreted as a number for numeric variables (with HIGHEST and LOWEST indicated as described in the chapter introduction). For string variables of width less than 8 bytes, elements are right-padded with spaces; for string variables wider than 8 bytes, only the first 8 bytes of each missing value are specified, with the remainder implicitly all spaces.
For discrete missing values, each element represents one missing value. When a range is present, the first element denotes the minimum value in the range, and the second element denotes the maximum value in the range. When a range plus a value are present, the third element denotes the additional discrete missing value.
The **print** and **write** members of `sysfile_variable` are output formats coded into **int32** types. The least-significant byte of the **int32** represents the number of decimal places, and the next two bytes in order of increasing significance represent field width and format type, respectively. The most-significant byte is not used and should be set to zero.

Format types are defined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Not used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AHEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>COMMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>DOLLAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>IB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>PIBHEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>PIB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>PK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>RB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>RBHEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Not used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Not used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Not used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Not used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>DATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>TIME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>DATETIME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>ADATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>JDATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>DTIME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>WKDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>MOYR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>QYR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>WKYR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>PCT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>DOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>CCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>CCB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>CCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>CCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>CCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>EDATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A few system files have been observed in the wild with invalid write fields, in particular with value 0. Readers should probably treat invalid print or write fields as some default format.

B.4 Value Labels Records

The value label records documented in this section are used for numeric and short string variables only. Long string variables may have value labels, but their value labels are recorded using a different record type (see Section B.14 [Long String Value Labels Record], page 72).

ReadStat (see Section B.2 [File Header Record], page 57) writes value labels that label a single value more than once. In more detail, it emits value labels whose values are longer than string variables’ widths, that are identical in the actual width of the variable, e.g. labels for values ABC123 and ABC456 for a string variable with width 3. For files written by this software, PSPP ignores such labels.

The value label record has the following format:

```c
int32 rec_type;
int32 label_count;

/* Repeated label_cnt times. */
char value[8];
char label_len;
char label[];
```

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 3.

int32 label_count;
Number of value labels present in this record.

The remaining fields are repeated count times. Each repetition specifies one value label.

char value[8];
A numeric value or a short string value padded as necessary to 8 bytes in length. Its type and width cannot be determined until the following value label variables record (see below) is read.

char label_len;
The label’s length, in bytes. The documented maximum length varies from 60 to 120 based on SPSS version. PSPP supports value labels up to 255 bytes long.

char label[];
label_len bytes of the actual label, followed by up to 7 bytes of padding to bring label and label_len together to a multiple of 8 bytes in length.
The value label record is always immediately followed by a value label variables record with the following format:

```c
int32    rec_type;
int32    var_count;
int32    vars[];
```

- `int32 rec_type;`  
  Record type. Always set to 4.

- `int32 var_count;`  
  Number of variables that the associated value labels from the value label record are to be applied.

- `int32 vars[];`  
  A list of dictionary indexes of variables to which to apply the value labels (see [Dictionary Index], page 59). There are `var_count` elements. String variables wider than 8 bytes may not be specified in this list.

### B.5 Document Record

The document record, if present, has the following format:

```c
int32    rec_type;
int32    n_lines;
char     lines[][80];
```

- `int32 rec_type;`  
  Record type. Always set to 6.

- `int32 n_lines;`  
  Number of lines of documents present. This should be greater than zero, but ReadStats writes system files with zero `n_lines`.

- `char lines[][80];`  
  Document lines. The number of elements is defined by `n_lines`. Lines shorter than 80 characters are padded on the right with spaces.

### B.6 Machine Integer Info Record

The integer info record, if present, has the following format:

```c
/* Header. */
int32    rec_type;
int32    subtype;
int32    size;
int32    count;

/* Data. */
int32    version_major;
int32    version_minor;
int32    version_revision;
int32    machine_code;
```
Appendix B: System File Format

int32 floating_point_rep;
int32 compression_code;
int32 endianness;
int32 character_code;

int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Always set to 3.

int32 size;
    Size of each piece of data in the data part, in bytes. Always set to 4.

int32 count;
    Number of pieces of data in the data part. Always set to 8.

int32 version_major;
    PSPP major version number. In version x.y.z, this is x.

int32 version_minor;
    PSPP minor version number. In version x.y.z, this is y.

int32 version_revision;
    PSPP version revision number. In version x.y.z, this is z.

int32 machine_code;
    Machine code. PSPP always set this field to value to -1, but other values may appear.

int32 floating_point_rep;
    Floating point representation code. For IEEE 754 systems this is 1. IBM 370 sets this to 2, and DEC VAX E to 3.

int32 compression_code;
    Compression code. Always set to 1, regardless of whether or how the file is compressed.

int32 endianness;
    Machine endianness. 1 indicates big-endian, 2 indicates little-endian.

int32 character_code;
    Character code. The following values have been actually observed in system files:

1       EBCDIC.
2       7-bit ASCII.
1250    The windows-1250 code page for Central European and Eastern European languages.
1252    The windows-1252 code page for Western European languages.
28591   ISO 8859-1.
65001   UTF-8.
The following additional values are known to be defined:

3 8-bit “ASCII”.
4 DEC Kanji.

Other Windows code page numbers are known to be generally valid.
Old versions of SPSS for Unix and Windows always wrote value 2 in this field, regardless of the encoding in use. Newer versions also write the character encoding as a string (see Section B.13 [Character Encoding Record], page 71).

B.7 Machine Floating-Point Info Record

The floating-point info record, if present, has the following format:

    /* Header. */
    int32  rec_type;
    int32  subtype;
    int32  size;
    int32  count;

    /* Data. */
    flt64  sysmis;
    flt64  highest;
    flt64  lowest;

int32  rec_type;
       Record type. Always set to 7.
int32  subtype;
       Record subtype. Always set to 4.
int32  size;
       Size of each piece of data in the data part, in bytes. Always set to 8.
int32  count;
       Number of pieces of data in the data part. Always set to 3.

flt64  sysmis;
flt64  highest;
flt64  lowest;

The system missing value, the value used for HIGHEST in missing values, and the value used for LOWEST in missing values, respectively. See Appendix B [System File Format], page 55, for more information.

The SPSSWriter library in PHP, which identifies itself as FOM SPSS 1.0.0 in the file header record prod_name field, writes unexpected values to these fields, but it uses the same values consistently throughout the rest of the file.

B.8 Multiple Response Sets Records

The system file format has two different types of records that represent multiple response sets (see Section “MRSETS” in PSPP Users Guide). The first type of record describes
multiple response sets that can be understood by SPSS before version 14. The second type of record, with a closely related format, is used for multiple dichotomy sets that use the CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES feature added in version 14.

```c
/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Exactly count bytes of data. */
char mrsets[];

int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Set to 7 for records that describe multiple response sets understood by SPSS before version 14, or to 19 for records that describe dichotomy sets that use the CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES feature added in version 14.
int32 size;
    The size of each element in the mrsets member. Always set to 1.
int32 count;
    The total number of bytes in mrsets.
char mrsets[];
    Zero or more line feeds (byte 0x0a), followed by a series of multiple response sets, each of which consists of the following:
    • The set’s name (an identifier that begins with ‘$’), in mixed upper and lower case.
    • An equals sign (=).
    • ‘C’ for a multiple category set, ‘D’ for a multiple dichotomy set with CATEGORYLABELS=VARLABELS, or ‘E’ for a multiple dichotomy set with CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES.
    • For a multiple dichotomy set with CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES, a space, followed by a number expressed as decimal digits, followed by a space. If LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL was specified on MRSETS, then the number is 11; otherwise it is 1.\footnote{This part of the format may not be fully understood, because only a single example of each possibility has been examined.}
    • For either kind of multiple dichotomy set, the counted value, as a positive integer count specified as decimal digits, followed by a space, followed by as many string bytes as specified in the count. If the set contains numeric variables, the string consists of the counted integer value expressed as decimal digits. If the set contains string variables, the string contains the counted string value. Either way, the string may be padded on the right
```
with spaces (older versions of SPSS seem to always pad to a width of 8 bytes; newer versions don’t).

- A space.
- The multiple response set’s label, using the same format as for the counted value for multiple dichotomy sets. A string of length 0 means that the set does not have a label. A string of length 0 is also written if LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL was specified.
- A space.
- The short names of the variables in the set, converted to lowercase, each separated from the previous by a single space.

Even though a multiple response set must have at least two variables, some system files contain multiple response sets with no variables or one variable. The source and meaning of these multiple response sets is unknown. (Perhaps they arise from creating a multiple response set then deleting all the variables that it contains?)

- One line feed (byte 0x0a). Sometimes multiple, even hundreds, of line feeds are present.

Example: Given appropriate variable definitions, consider the following MRSETS command:

```
MRSETS /MCGROUP NAME=$a LABEL='my mcgroup' VARIABLES=a b c
/MDGROUP NAME=$b VARIABLES=g e f d VALUE=55
/MDGROUP NAME=$c LABEL='mdgroup #2' VARIABLES=h i j VALUE='Yes'
/MDGROUP NAME=$d LABEL='third mdgroup' CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES
 VARIABLES=k l m VALUE=34
/MDGROUP NAME=$e CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL
 VARIABLES=n o p VALUE='choice'.
```

The above would generate the following multiple response set record of subtype 7:

```
$a=C 10 my mcgroup a b c
$b=D2 55 0 g e f d
$c=D3 Yes 10 mdgroup #2 h i j
```

It would also generate the following multiple response set record with subtype 19:

```
$d=E 1 2 34 13 third mdgroup k l m
$e=E 11 6 choice 0 n o p
```

### B.9 Extra Product Info Record

This optional record appears to contain a text string that describes the program that wrote the file and the source of the data. (This is redundant with the file label and product info found in the file header record.)

```c
/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;
```
/* Exactly count bytes of data. */
char info[];

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
Record subtype. Always set to 10.

int32 size;
The size of each element in the info member. Always set to 1.

int32 count;
The total number of bytes in info.

char info[];
A text string. A product that identifies itself as VOXCO INTERVIEWER 4.3 uses CR-only line ends in this field, rather than the more usual LF-only or CR LF line ends.

B.10 Variable Display Parameter Record

The variable display parameter record, if present, has the following format:

/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;

int32 subtype;

int32 size;

int32 count;

/* Repeated count times. */
int32 measure;

int32 width; /* Not always present. */

int32 alignment;

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
Record subtype. Always set to 11.

int32 size;
The size of int32. Always set to 4.

int32 count;
The number of sets of variable display parameters (ordinarily the number of variables in the dictionary), times 2 or 3.

The remaining members are repeated count times, in the same order as the variable records. No element corresponds to variable records that continue long string variables. The meanings of these members are as follows:

int32 measure;
The measurement type of the variable:
1 Nominal Scale
2 Ordinal Scale
3 Continuous Scale

SPSS sometimes writes a measure of 0. PSPP interprets this as nominal scale.

```
int32 width;
    The width of the display column for the variable in characters.
    This field is present if count is 3 times the number of variables in the dictionary.
    It is omitted if count is 2 times the number of variables.
```

```
int32 alignment;
    The alignment of the variable for display purposes:
    0 Left aligned
    1 Right aligned
    2 Centre aligned
```

### B.11 Long Variable Names Record

If present, the long variable names record has the following format:

```
/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Exactly count bytes of data. */
char var_name_pairs[];
```

```
int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Always set to 13.
int32 size;
    The size of each element in the var_name_pairs member. Always set to 1.
int32 count;
    The total number of bytes in var_name_pairs.
```

```
char var_name_pairs[];
    A list of key-value tuples, where key is the name of a variable, and value is
    its long variable name. The key field is at most 8 bytes long and must match
    the name of a variable which appears in the variable record (see Section B.3
    [Variable Record], page 59). The value field is at most 64 bytes long. The key
    and value fields are separated by a '=' byte. Each tuple is separated by a byte
    whose value is 09. There is no trailing separator following the last tuple. The
    total length is count bytes.
```
B.12 Very Long String Record

Old versions of SPSS limited string variables to a width of 255 bytes. For backward compatibility with these older versions, the system file format represents a string longer than 255 bytes, called a very long string, as a collection of strings no longer than 255 bytes each. The strings concatenated to make a very long string are called its segments; for consistency, variables other than very long strings are considered to have a single segment.

A very long string with a width of \( w \) has \( n = (w + 251) / 252 \) segments, that is, one segment for every 252 bytes of width, rounding up. It would be logical, then, for each of the segments except the last to have a width of 252 and the last segment to have the remainder, but this is not the case. In fact, each segment except the last has a width of 255 bytes. The last segment has width \( w - (n - 1) * 252 \); some versions of SPSS make it slightly wider, but not wide enough to make the last segment require another 8 bytes of data.

Data is packed tightly into segments of a very long string, 255 bytes per segment. Because 255 bytes of segment data are allocated for every 252 bytes of the very long string’s width (approximately), some unused space is left over at the end of the allocated segments. Data in unused space is ignored.

Example: Consider a very long string of width 20,000. Such a very long string has 20,000 / 252 = 80 (rounding up) segments. The first 79 segments have width 255; the last segment has width 20,000 - 79 * 252 = 92 or slightly wider (up to 96 bytes, the next multiple of 8). The very long string’s data is actually stored in the 19,890 bytes in the first 78 segments, plus the first 110 bytes of the 79th segment (19,890 + 110 = 20,000). The remaining 145 bytes of the 79th segment and all 92 bytes of the 80th segment are unused.

The very long string record explains how to stitch together segments to obtain very long string data. For each of the very long string variables in the dictionary, it specifies the name of its first segment’s variable and the very long string variable’s actual width. The remaining segments immediately follow the named variable in the system file’s dictionary.

The very long string record, which is present only if the system file contains very long string variables, has the following format:

```c
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

char string_lengths[];
```

/* Header. */

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
Record subtype. Always set to 14.

int32 size;
The size of each element in the string_lengths member. Always set to 1.

int32 count;
The total number of bytes in string_lengths.
A list of key–value tuples, where key is the name of a variable, and value is its length. The key field is at most 8 bytes long and must match the name of a variable which appears in the variable record (see Section B.3 [Variable Record], page 59). The value field is exactly 5 bytes long. It is a zero-padded, ASCII-encoded string that is the length of the variable. The key and value fields are separated by a ‘=’ byte. Tuples are delimited by a two-byte sequence \{00, 09\}. After the last tuple, there may be a single byte 00, or \{00, 09\}. The total length is count bytes.

### B.13 Character Encoding Record

This record, if present, indicates the character encoding for string data, long variable names, variable labels, value labels and other strings in the file.

```c
/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Exactly count bytes of data. */
char encoding[];
int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Always set to 20.
int32 size;
    The size of each element in the encoding member. Always set to 1.
int32 count;
    The total number of bytes in encoding.
char encoding[];
    The name of the character encoding. Normally this will be an official IANA character set name or alias. See http://www.iana.org/assignments/character-sets. Character set names are not case-sensitive, but SPSS appears to write them in all-uppercase.

This record is not present in files generated by older software. See also the character_code field in the machine integer info record (see [character-code], page 64).

When the character encoding record and the machine integer info record are both present, all system files observed in practice indicate the same character encoding, e.g. 1252 as character_code and windows-1252 as encoding, 65001 and UTF-8, etc.

If, for testing purposes, a file is crafted with different character_code and encoding, it seems that character_code controls the encoding for all strings in the system file before the dictionary termination record, including strings in data (e.g. string missing values), and encoding controls the encoding for strings following the dictionary termination record.
B.14 Long String Value Labels Record

This record, if present, specifies value labels for long string variables.

/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Repeated up to exactly count bytes. */
int32 var_name_len;
char var_name[];
int32 var_width;
int32 n_labels;
long_string_label labels[];

int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 7.
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Always set to 21.
int32 size;
    Always set to 1.
int32 count;
    The number of bytes following the header until the next header.
int32 var_name_len;
char var_name[];
    The number of bytes in the name of the variable that has long string value
    labels, plus the variable name itself, which consists of exactly var_name_len
    bytes. The variable name is not padded to any particular boundary, nor is it
    null-terminated.
int32 var_width;
    The width of the variable, in bytes, which will be between 9 and 32767.
int32 n_labels;
long_string_label labels[];
    The long string labels themselves. The labels array contains exactly n_labels
    elements, each of which has the following substructure:
    int32 value_len;
    char value[];
    int32 label_len;
    char label[];

int32 value_len;
char value[];
    The string value being labeled. value_len is the number of bytes
    in value; it is equal to var_width. The value array is not padded
    or null-terminated.
int32 label_len;
char label[];
The label for the string value. label_len, which must be between 0 and 120, is the number of bytes in label. The label array is not padded or null-terminated.

B.15 Long String Missing Values Record

This record, if present, specifies missing values for long string variables.

/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Repeated up to exactly count bytes. */
int32 var_name_len;
char var_name[];
char n_missing_values;
long_string_missing_value values[];

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
Record subtype. Always set to 22.

int32 size;
Always set to 1.

int32 count;
The number of bytes following the header until the next header.

int32 var_name_len;
char var_name[];
The number of bytes in the name of the long string variable that has missing values, plus the variable name itself, which consists of exactly var_name_len bytes. The variable name is not padded to any particular boundary, nor is it null-terminated.

char n_missing_values;
The number of missing values, either 1, 2, or 3. (This is, unusually, a single byte instead of a 32-bit number.)

long_string_missing_value values[];
The missing values themselves. This array contains exactly n_missing_values elements, each of which has the following substructure:

int32 value_len;
char value[];
int32 value_len;
The length of the missing value string, in bytes. This value should be 8, because long string variables are at least 8 bytes wide (by definition), only the first 8 bytes of a long string variable’s missing values are allowed to be non-spaces, and any spaces within the first 8 bytes are included in the missing value here.

char value[];
The missing value string, exactly value_len bytes, without any padding or null terminator.

B.16 Data File and Variable Attributes Records
The data file and variable attributes records represent custom attributes for the system file or for individual variables in the system file, as defined on the DATAFILE ATTRIBUTE (see Section “DATAFILE ATTRIBUTE” in PSPP Users Guide) and VARIABLE ATTRIBUTE commands (see Section “VARIABLE ATTRIBUTE” in PSPP Users Guide), respectively.

/* Header. */
int32 rec_type;
int32 subtype;
int32 size;
int32 count;

/* Exactly count bytes of data. */
char attributes[];

int32 rec_type;
Record type. Always set to 7.

int32 subtype;
Record subtype. Always set to 17 for a data file attribute record or to 18 for a variable attributes record.

int32 size;
The size of each element in the attributes member. Always set to 1.

int32 count;
The total number of bytes in attributes.

char attributes[];
The attributes, in a text-based format.
In record subtype 17, this field contains a single attribute set. An attribute set is a sequence of one or more attributes concatenated together. Each attribute consists of a name, which has the same syntax as a variable name, followed by, inside parentheses, a sequence of one or more values. Each value consists of a string enclosed in single quotes (‘) followed by a line feed (byte 0x0a). A value may contain single quote characters, which are not themselves escaped or quoted or required to be present in pairs. There is no apparent way to embed a line feed in a value. There is no distinction between an attribute with a single value and an attribute array with one element.
In record subtype 18, this field contains a sequence of one or more variable attribute sets. If more than one variable attribute set is present, each one after the first is delimited from the previous by /. Each variable attribute set consists of a long variable name, followed by :, followed by an attribute set with the same syntax as on record subtype 17.

System files written by Stata 14.1/-savespss- 1.77 by S.Radyakin may include multiple records with subtype 18, one per variable that has variable attributes.

The total length is count bytes.

Example

A system file produced with the following VARIABLE ATTRIBUTE commands in effect:

```plaintext
  VARIABLE ATTRIBUTE VARIABLES=dummy ATTRIBUTE=fred[1]('23') fred[2]('34').
  VARIABLE ATTRIBUTE VARIABLES=dummy ATTRIBUTE=bert('123').
```

will contain a variable attribute record with the following contents:

```plaintext
  0000 07 00 00 00 12 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 22 00 00 00 |............"...|
  0010 64 75 6d 6d 79 3a 66 72 65 64 28 27 32 33 27 0a  |dummy:fred('23'.|
  0020 27 34 27 0a 29 62 65 72 74 28 27 31 32 33 27  |'34'.)bert('123'|
  0030 0a 29 |.) |
```

B.16.1 Variable Roles

A variable’s role is represented as an attribute named $@Role. This attribute has a single element whose values and their meanings are:

0  Input. This, the default, is the most common role.
1  Output.
2  Both.
3  None.
4  Partition.
5  Split.

B.17 Extended Number of Cases Record

The file header record expresses the number of cases in the system file as an int32 (see Section B.2 [File Header Record], page 57). This record allows the number of cases in the system file to be expressed as a 64-bit number.

```plaintext
  int32  rec_type;
  int32  subtype;
  int32  size;
  int32  count;
  int64  unknown;
  int64  ncases64;

  int32  rec_type;
      Record type. Always set to 7.
```
int32 subtype;
    Record subtype. Always set to 16.
int32 size;
    Size of each element. Always set to 8.
int32 count;
    Number of pieces of data in the data part. Alway set to 2.
int64 unknown;
    Meaning unknown. Always set to 1.
int64 ncases64;
    Number of cases in the file as a 64-bit integer. Presumably this could be -1 to
    indicate that the number of cases is unknown, for the same reason as ncases
    in the file header record, but this has not been observed in the wild.

B.18 Other Informational Records

This chapter documents many specific types of extension records are documented here, but
others are known to exist. PSPP ignores unknown extension records when reading system
files.

The following extension record subtypes have also been observed, with the following
believed meanings:

5       A set of grouped variables (according to Aapi Hämäläinen).
6       Date info, probably related to USE (according to Aapi Hämäläinen).
12      A UUID in the format described in RFC 4122. Only two examples observed,
         both written by SPSS 13, and in each case the UUID contained both upper and
         lower case.
24      XML that describes how data in the file should be displayed on-screen.

B.19 Dictionary Termination Record

The dictionary termination record separates all other records from the data records.

int32 rec_type;
int32 filler;

int32 rec_type;
    Record type. Always set to 999.
int32 filler;
    Ignored padding. Should be set to 0.

B.20 Data Record

The data record must follow all other records in the system file. Every system file must
have a data record that specifies data for at least one case. The format of the data record
varies depending on the value of compression in the file header record:
Appendix B: System File Format

0: no compression

Data is arranged as a series of 8-byte elements. Each element corresponds to the variable declared in the respective variable record (see Section B.3 [Variable Record], page 59). Numeric values are given in f64 format; string values are literal characters string, padded on the right when necessary to fill out 8-byte units.

1: bytecode compression

The first 8 bytes of the data record is divided into a series of 1-byte command codes. These codes have meanings as described below:

0  Ignored. If the program writing the system file accumulates compressed data in blocks of fixed length, 0 bytes can be used to pad out extra bytes remaining at the end of a fixed-size block.

1 through 251  A number with value code - bias, where code is the value of the compression code and bias is the variable bias from the file header. For example, code 105 with bias 100.0 (the normal value) indicates a numeric variable of value 5.

A code of 0 (after subtracting the bias) in a string field encodes null bytes. This is unusual, since a string field normally encodes text data, but it exists in real system files.

252  End of file. This code may or may not appear at the end of the data stream. PSPP always outputs this code but its use is not required.

253  A numeric or string value that is not compressible. The value is stored in the 8 bytes following the current block of command bytes. If this value appears twice in a block of command bytes, then it indicates the second group of 8 bytes following the command bytes, and so on.

254  An 8-byte string value that is all spaces.

255  The system-missing value.

The end of the 8-byte group of bytecodes is followed by any 8-byte blocks of non-compressible values indicated by code 253. After that follows another 8-byte group of bytecodes, then those bytecodes’ non-compressible values. The pattern repeats to the end of the file or a code with value 252.

2: ZLIB compression

The data record consists of the following, in order:

- ZLIB data header, 24 bytes long.
- One or more variable-length blocks of ZLIB compressed data.
- ZLIB data trailer, with a 24-byte fixed header plus an additional 24 bytes for each preceding ZLIB compressed data block.

The ZLIB data header has the following format:

```
int64 zheader_ofs;
```
The offset, in bytes, of the beginning of this structure within the system file.

The offset, in bytes, of the first byte of the ZLIB data trailer.

The number of bytes in the ZLIB data trailer. This and the previous field sum to the size of the system file in bytes.

The data header is followed by \((\text{ztrailer ofs} - 24) / 24\) ZLIB compressed data blocks. Each ZLIB compressed data block begins with a ZLIB header as specified in RFC 1950, e.g. hex bytes 78 01 (the only header yet observed in practice). Each block decompresses to a fixed number of bytes (in practice only 0x3ff000-byte blocks have been observed), except that the last block of data may be shorter. The last ZLIB compressed data block gends just before offset \text{ztrailer ofs}.

The result of ZLIB decompression is bytecode compressed data as described above for compression format 1.

The ZLIB data trailer begins with the following 24-byte fixed header:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \text{int64} & \quad \text{bias}; \\
    \text{int64} & \quad \text{zero}; \\
    \text{int32} & \quad \text{block size}; \\
    \text{int32} & \quad \text{n blocks};
\end{align*}
\]

The compression bias as a negative integer, e.g. if \text{bias} in the file header record is 100.0, then \text{int bias} is \(-100\) (this is the only value yet observed in practice).

Always observed to be zero.

The number of bytes in each ZLIB compressed data block, except possibly the last, following decompression. Only 0x3ff000 has been observed so far.

The number of ZLIB compressed data blocks, always exactly \((\text{ztrailer ofs} - 24) / 24\).

The fixed header is followed by \text{n blocks} 24-byte ZLIB data block descriptors, each of which describes the compressed data block corresponding to its offset. Each block descriptor has the following format:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \text{int64} & \quad \text{uncompressed ofs}; \\
    \text{int64} & \quad \text{compressed ofs};
\end{align*}
\]
int32 uncompressed_size;
int32 compressed_size;

int64 uncompressed_ofs;
   The offset, in bytes, that this block of data would have in a similar system file that uses compression format 1. This is zheader_ofs in the first block descriptor, and in each succeeding block descriptor it is the sum of the previous descriptor's uncompressed_ofs and uncompressed_size.

int64 compressed_ofs;
   The offset, in bytes, of the actual beginning of this compressed data block. This is zheader_ofs + 24 in the first block descriptor, and in each succeeding block descriptor it is the sum of the previous descriptor's compressed_ofs and compressed_size. The final block descriptor's compressed_ofs and compressed_size sum to ztrailer_ofs.

int32 uncompressed_size;
   The number of bytes in this data block, after decompression. This is block_size in every data block except the last, which may be smaller.

int32 compressed_size;
   The number of bytes in this data block, as stored compressed in this system file.
Appendix C SPSS/PC+ System File Format

SPSS/PC+, first released in 1984, was a simplified version of SPSS for IBM PC and compatible computers. It used a data file format related to the one described in the previous chapter, but simplified and incompatible. The SPSS/PC+ software became obsolete in the 1990s, so files in this format are rarely encountered today. Nevertheless, for completeness, and because it is not very difficult, it seems worthwhile to support at least reading these files. This chapter documents this format, based on examination of a corpus of about 60 files from a variety of sources.

System files use four data types: 8-bit characters, 16-bit unsigned integers, 32-bit unsigned integers, and 64-bit floating points, called here `char`, `uint16`, `uint32`, and `flt64`, respectively. Data is not necessarily aligned on a word or double-word boundary.

SPSS/PC+ ran only on IBM PC and compatible computers. Therefore, values in these files are always in little-endian byte order. Floating-point numbers are always in IEEE 754 format.

SPSS/PC+ system files represent the system-missing value as \(-1.66e308\), or `f5 1e 26 02 8a 8c ed ff` expressed as hexadecimal. (This is an unusual choice: it is close to, but not equal to, the largest negative 64-bit IEEE 754, which is about \(-1.8e308\).)

Text in SPSS/PC+ system file is encoded in ASCII-based 8-bit MS DOS codepages. The corpus used for investigating the format were all ASCII-only.

An SPSS/PC+ system file begins with the following 256-byte directory:

```c
uint32 two;
uint32 zero;
struct {
    uint32 ofs;
    uint32 len;
} records[15];
char filename[128];
```  
Always set to 2 and 0, respectively.
These fields could be used as a signature for the file format, but the `product` field in record 0 seems more likely to be unique (see Section C.1 [Record 0 Main Header Record], page 81).

```c
struct { ... } records[15];
```  
Each of the elements in this array identifies a record in the system file. The `ofs` is a byte offset, from the beginning of the file, that identifies the start of the record. `len` specifies the length of the record, in bytes. Many records are optional or not used. If a record is not present, `ofs` and `len` for that record are both are zero.

```c
char filename[128];
```  
In most files in the corpus, this field is entirely filled with spaces. In one file, it contains a file name, followed by a null bytes, followed by spaces to fill the remainder of the field. The meaning is unknown.
The following sections describe the contents of each record, identified by the index into the \texttt{records} array.

### C.1 Record 0: Main Header Record

All files in the corpus have this record at offset 0x100 with length 0xb0 (but readers should find this record, like the others, via the \texttt{records} table in the directory). Its format is:

\begin{verbatim}
uint16 one0;
char product[62];
flt64 sysmis;
uint32 zero0;
uint32 zero1;
uint16 one1;
uint16 compressed;
uint16 nominal_case_size;
uint16 n_cases0;
uint16 weight_index;
uint16 zero2;
uint16 n_cases1;
uint16 zero3;
char creation_date[8];
char creation_time[8];
char label[64];
uint16 one0;
uint16 one1;
    Always set to 1.
uint32 zero0;
uint32 zero1;
uint16 zero2;
uint16 zero3;
    Always set to 0.

It seems likely that one of these variables is set to 1 if weighting is enabled, but none of the files in the corpus is weighted.

char product[62];
    Name of the program that created the file. Only the following unique values have been observed, in each case padded on the right with spaces:
    DESPSS/PC+ System File Written by Data Entry II
    PCSPSS SYSTEM FILE. IBM PC DOS, SPSS/PC+
    PCSPSS SYSTEM FILE. IBM PC DOS, SPSS/PC+ V3.0
    PCSPSS SYSTEM FILE. IBM PC DOS, SPSS for Windows

Thus, it is reasonable to use the presence of the string ‘SPSS’ at offset 0x104 as a simple test for an SPSS/PC+ data file.

flt64 sysmis;
    The system-missing value, as described previously (see Appendix C [SPSS/PC+ System File Format], page 80).
\end{verbatim}

uint16 compressed;
    Set to 0 if the data in the file is not compressed, 1 if the data is compressed
    with simple bytecode compression.

uint16 nominal_case_size;
    Number of data elements per case. This is the number of variables, except that
    long string variables add extra data elements (one for every 8 bytes after the
    first 8). String variables in SPSS/PC+ system files are limited to 255 bytes.

uint16 n_cases0;
uint16 n_cases1;
    The number of cases in the data record. Both values are the same. Some files in
    the corpus contain data for the number of cases noted here, followed by garbage
    that somewhat resembles data.

uint16 weight_index;
    0, if the file is unweighted, otherwise a 1-based index into the data record of
    the weighting variable, e.g. 4 for the first variable after the 3 system-defined
    variables.

char creation_date[8];
    The date that the file was created, in ‘mm/dd/yy’ format. Single-digit days and
    months are not prefixed by zeros. The string is padded with spaces on right or
    left or both, e.g. ‘_2/4/93_’, ‘10/5/87_’, and ‘_1/11/88’ (with ‘_’ standing in
    for a space) are all actual examples from the corpus.

char creation_time[8];
    The time that the file was created, in ‘HH:MM:SS’ format. Single-digit hours are
    padded on a left with a space. Minutes and seconds are always written as two
digits.

char file_label[64];
    File label declared by the user, if any (see Section “FILE LABEL” in PSPP

C.2 Record 1: Variables Record

The variables record most commonly starts at offset 0x1b0, but it can
be placed elsewhere. The record contains instances of the following 32-byte structure:

    uint32            value_label_start;
    uint32            value_label_end;
    uint32            var_label_ofs;
    uint32            format;
    char              name[8];
    union {
        flt64           f;
        char            s[8];
    } missing;

    The number of instances is the nominal_case_size specified in the main header record.
    There is one instance for each numeric variable and each string variable with width 8 bytes
or less. String variables wider than 8 bytes have one instance for each 8 bytes, rounding up. The first instance for a long string specifies the variable’s correct dictionary information. Subsequent instances for a long string are generally filled with all-zero bytes, although the missing field contains the numeric system-missing value, and some writers also fill in var_label_ofs, format, and name, sometimes filling the latter with the numeric system-missing value rather than a text string. Regardless of the values used, readers should ignore the contents of these additional instances for long strings.

```c
uint32 value_label_start;
uint32 value_label_end;
```

For a variable with value labels, these specify offsets into the label record of the start and end of this variable’s value labels, respectively. See Section C.3 [Record 2 Labels Record], page 84, for more information.

For a variable without any value labels, these are both zero.

A long string variable may not have value labels.

```c
uint32 var_label_ofs;
```

For a variable with a variable label, this specifies an offset into the label record. See Section C.3 [Record 2 Labels Record], page 84, for more information.

For a variable without a variable label, this is zero.

```c
uint32 format;
```

The variable’s output format, in the same format used in system files. See [System File Output Formats], page 61, for details. SPSS/PC+ system files only use format types 5 (F, for numeric variables) and 1 (A, for string variables).

```c
char name[8];
```

The variable’s name, padded on the right with spaces.

```c
union { ... } missing;
```

A user-missing value. For numeric variables, missing.f is the variable’s user-missing value. For string variables, missing.s is a string missing value. A variable without a user-missing value is indicated with missing.f set to the system-missing value, even for string variables (!). A Long string variable may not have a missing value.

In addition to the user-defined variables, every SPSS/PC+ system file contains, as its first three variables, the following system-defined variables, in the following order. The system-defined variables have no variable label, value labels, or missing values.

```c
$CASENUM
```

A numeric variable with format F8.0. Most of the time this is a sequence number, starting with 1 for the first case and counting up for each subsequent case. Some files skip over values, which probably reflects cases that were deleted.

```c
$DATE
```

A string variable with format A8. Same format (including varying padding) as the creation_date field in the main header record (see Section C.1 [Record 0 Main Header Record], page 81). The actual date can differ from creation_date and from record to record. This may reflect when individual cases were added or updated.
$\text{WEIGHT} \quad$ A numeric variable with format F8.2. This represents the case's weight; SPSS/PC+ files do not have a user-defined weighting variable. If weighting has not been enabled, every case has value 1.0.

### C.3 Record 2: Labels Record

The labels record holds value labels and variable labels. Unlike the other records, it is not meant to be read directly and sequentially. Instead, this record must be interpreted one piece at a time, by following pointers from the variables record.

The `value_label_start`, `value_label_end`, and `var_label_ofs` fields in a variable record are all offsets relative to the beginning of the labels record, with an additional 7-byte offset. That is, if the labels record starts at byte offset `labels_ofs` and a variable has a given `var_label_ofs`, then the variable label begins at byte offset `labels_ofs + var_label_ofs + 7` in the file.

A variable label, starting at the offset indicated by `var_label_ofs`, consists of a one-byte length followed by the specified number of bytes of the variable label string, like this:

```
uint8 length;
char s[length];
```

A set of value labels, extending from `value_label_start` to `value_label_end` (exclusive), consists of a numeric or string value followed by a string in the format just described. String values are padded on the right with spaces to fill the 8-byte field, like this:

```
union {
  flt64 f;
  char s[8];
} value;
```

uint8 length;
char s[length];

The labels record begins with a pair of uint32 values. The first of these is always 3. The second is between 8 and 16 less than the number of bytes in the record. Neither value is important for interpreting the file.

### C.4 Record 3: Data Record

The format of the data record varies depending on the value of `compressed` in the file header record:

0: no compression

Data is arranged as a series of 8-byte elements, one per variable instance variable in the variable record (see Section C.2 [Record 1 Variables Record], page 82). Numeric values are given in flt64 format; string values are literal characters string, padded on the right with spaces when necessary to fill out 8-byte units.

1: bytecode compression

The first 8 bytes of the data record is divided into a series of 1-byte command codes. These codes have meanings as described below:

0 The system-missing value.
A numeric or string value that is not compressible. The value is stored in the 8 bytes following the current block of command bytes. If this value appears twice in a block of command bytes, then it indicates the second group of 8 bytes following the command bytes, and so on.

2 through 255
A number with value \( \text{code} - 100 \), where \( \text{code} \) is the value of the compression code. For example, code 105 indicates a numeric variable of value 5.

The end of the 8-byte group of bytecodes is followed by any 8-byte blocks of non-compressible values indicated by code 1. After that follows another 8-byte group of bytecodes, then those bytecodes’ non-compressible values. The pattern repeats up to the number of cases specified by the main header record have been seen.

The corpus does not contain any files with command codes 2 through 95, so it is possible that some of these codes are used for special purposes.

Cases of data often, but not always, fill the entire data record. Readers should stop reading after the number of cases specified in the main header record. Otherwise, readers may try to interpret garbage following the data as additional cases.

### C.5 Records 4 and 5: Data Entry

Records 4 and 5 appear to be related to SPSS/PC+ Data Entry.
Appendix D  SPSS Viewer File Format

SPSS Viewer or .spv files, here called SPV files, are written by SPSS 16 and later to represent the contents of its output editor. This chapter documents the format, based on examination of a corpus of about 500 files from a variety of sources. This description is detailed enough to read SPV files, but probably not enough to write them.

SPSS 15 and earlier versions use a completely different output format based on the Microsoft Compound Document Format. This format is not documented here.

An SPV file is a Zip archive that can be read with `zipinfo` and `unzip` and similar programs. The final member in the Zip archive is a file named `META-INF/MANIFEST.MF`. This structure makes SPV files resemble Java “JAR” files (and ODF files), but whereas a JAR manifest contains a sequence of colon-delimited key/value pairs, an SPV manifest contains the string `allowPivoting=true`, without a new-line. (This string may be the best way to identify an SPV file; it is invariant across the corpus.)

The rest of the members in an SPV file's Zip archive fall into two categories: structure and detail members. Structure member names begin with `outputViewernnnnnnnnnn`, where each `n` is a decimal digit, and end with `.xml`, and often include the string `_heading` in between. Each of these members represents some kind of output item (a table, a heading, a block of text, etc.) or a group of them. The member whose output goes at the beginning of the document is numbered 0, the next member in the output is numbered 1, and so on.

Structure members contain XML. This XML is sometimes self-contained, but it often references detail members in the Zip archive, which are named as follows:

`prefix_table.xml` and `prefix_tableData.bin`
`prefix_lightTableData.bin`

The structure of a table plus its data. Older SPV files pair a `prefix_table.xml` file that describes the table’s structure with a binary `prefix_tableData.bin` file that gives its data. Newer SPV files (the majority of those in the corpus) instead include a single `prefix_lightTableData.bin` file that incorporates both into a single binary format.

`prefix_warning.xml` and `prefix_warningData.bin`
`prefix_lightWarningData.bin`

Same format used for tables, with a different name.

`prefix_notes.xml` and `prefix_notesData.bin`
`prefix_lightNotesData.bin`

Same format used for tables, with a different name.

`prefix_chartData.bin` and `prefix_chart.xml`

The structure of a chart plus its data. Charts do not have a “light” format.

`prefix_pmml.scf`
`prefix_stats.scf`
`prefix_model.xml`

Not yet investigated. The corpus contains few examples.

The `prefix` in the names of the detail members is typically an 11-digit decimal number that increases for each item, tending to skip values. Older SPV files use different naming
conventions. Structure member refer to detail members by name, and so their exact names do not matter to readers as long as they are unique.

D.1 Structure Member Format

A structure member lays out the high-level structure for a group of output items such as heading, tables, and charts. Structure members do not include the details of tables and charts but instead refer to them by their member names.

Structure members’ XML files claim conformance with a collection of XML Schemas. These schemas are distributed, under a nonfree license, with SPSS binaries. Fortunately, the schemas are not necessary to understand the structure members. The schemas can even be deceptive because they document elements and attributes that are not in the corpus and do not document elements and attributes that are commonly found in the corpus.

Structure members use a different XML namespace for each schema, but these namespaces are not entirely consistent. In some SPV files, for example, the viewer-tree schema is associated with namespace ‘http://xml.spss.com/spss/viewer-tree’ and in others with ‘http://xml.spss.com/spss/viewer/viewer-tree’ (note the additional viewer/). Under either name, the schema URIs are not resolvable to obtain the schemas themselves.

One may ignore all of the above in interpreting a structure member. The actual XML has a simple and straightforward form that does not require a reader to take schemas or namespaces into account. A structure member’s root is heading element, which contains heading or container elements (or a mix), forming a tree. In turn, container holds a label and one more child, usually text or table.

The following diagram shows the hierarchy within an SPV structure member more precisely. Names represent elements and <text> and <cdata> represent plain text and CDATA, respectively. Edges point from parent to child. Unlabeled edges indicate that the child appears exactly once; edges labeled with *, zero or more times; edges labeled with ?, zero or one times. Where possible, child elements are shown in the order they actually appear within a parent element.
The elements found in structure members are documented below. For each element, we note the possible parent elements and the element’s contents. The contents are specified as pseudo-regular expressions with the following conventions:

text XML text content.
CDATA XML CDATA content.
element The named element.
(...) Grouping multiple elements.
[x] An optional x.
a | b A choice between a and b.
x* Zero or more x.

The following example shows the contents of a typical structure member for a DESCRIPTIVES procedure. A real structure member is not indented. This example also omits most attributes, all XML namespace information, and the CSS from the embedded HTML:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<heading>
  <label>Output</label>
  <heading commandName="Descriptives">
    <label>Descriptives</label>
    <container>
      <label>Title</label>
      <text commandName="Descriptives" type="title">
        <html lang="en">
          <![CDATA[<head><style type="text/css">...</style></head><BR>Descriptives]]>
        </html>
      </text>
    </container>
    <container visibility="hidden">
      <label>Notes</label>
      <table commandName="Descriptives" subType="Notes" type="note">
        <tableStructure>
          <dataPath>00000000001_lightNotesData.bin</dataPath>
        </tableStructure>
      </table>
    </container>
  </container>
</heading>
```

```xml
<container>
  <label>Descriptive Statistics</label>
  <table commandName="Descriptives" subType="Descriptive Statistics" type="table">
    <tableStructure>
      <dataPath>00000000002_lightTableData.bin</dataPath>
    </tableStructure>
  </table>
</container>
```
D.1.1 The heading Element
Parent: Document root or heading
Contents: pageSetup? label (container | heading)*

The root of a structure member is a heading, which represents a section of output beginning with a title (the label) and ordinarily followed by content containers or further nested (sub)-sections of output. Unlike heading elements in HTML and other common document formats, which precede the content that they head, heading contains the elements that appear below the heading.

The document root heading, only, may also contain a pageSetup element.

The following attributes have been observed on both document root and nested heading elements.

creator-version [Optional]
The version of the software that created this SPV file. A string of the form xxyyzzww represents software version xx.yy.zz ww, e.g. 21000001 is version 21.0.0.1. Trailing pairs of zeros are sometimes omitted, so that 21, 210000, and 21000000 are all version 21.0.0.0 (and the corpus contains all three of those forms).

The following attributes have been observed on document root heading elements only:

creator [Optional]
The directory in the file system of the software that created this SPV file.

creation-date-time [Optional]
The date and time at which the SPV file was written, in a locale-specific format, e.g. Friday, May 16, 2014 6:47:37 PM PDT or luned 17 marzo 2014 3.15.48 CET or even Friday, December 5, 2014 5:00:19 o’clock PM EST.

lockReader [Optional]
Whether a reader should be allowed to edit the output. The possible values are true and false, but the corpus only contains false.

schemaLocation [Optional]
This is actually an XML Namespace attribute. A reader may ignore it.

The following attributes have been observed only on nested heading elements:

commandName [Required]
The locale-invariant name of the command that produced the output, e.g. Frequencies, T-Test, Non Par Corr.

visibility [Optional]
To what degree the output represented by the element is visible. The only observed value is collapsed.
locale  
The locale used for output, in Windows format, which is similar to the format used in Unix with the underscore replaced by a hyphen, e.g. en-US, en-GB, el-GR, sr-Cyrl-RS.

olang  
The output language, e.g. en, it, es, de, pt-BR.

D.1.2 The label Element
Parent: heading or container
Contents: text

Every heading and container holds a label as its first child. The root heading in a structure member always contains the string “Output”. Otherwise, the text in label describes what it labels, often by naming the statistical procedure that was executed, e.g. “Frequencies” or “T-Test”. Labels are often very generic, especially within a container, e.g. “Title” or “Warnings” or “Notes”. Label text is localized according to the output language, e.g. in Italian a frequency table procedure is labeled “Frequenze”.

The corpus contains a few examples of empty labels, ones that contain no text.

This element has no attributes.

D.1.3 The container Element
Parent: heading
Contents: label (table | text | graph | model)

A container serves to label a table or a text item.

This element has the following attributes.

visibility  
Either visible or hidden, this indicates whether the container’s content is displayed.

text-align  
Presumably indicates the alignment of text within the container. The only observed value is left. Observed with nested table and text elements.

width  
The width of the container in the form npx, e.g. 1097px.

D.1.4 The text Element (Inside container)
Parent: container
Contents: html

This text element is nested inside a container. There is a different text element that is nested inside a pageParagraph.

This element has the following attributes.

type  
One of title, log, or text.
**commandName**  
[Optional]  
As on the **heading** element. For output not specific to a command, this is simply log. The corpus contains one example of where **commandName** is present but set to the empty string.

**creator-version**  
[Optional]  
As on the **heading** element.

### D.1.5 The html Element

Parent: **text**  
Contents: CDATA  
The CDATA contains an HTML document. In some cases, the document starts with `<html>` and ends with `</html>`; in others the **html** element is implied. Generally the HTML includes a **head** element with a CSS stylesheet. The HTML body often begins with `<BR>`. The actual content ranges from trivial to simple: just discarding the CSS and tags yields readable results.

This element has the following attributes.

**lang**  
[Required]  
This always contains `en` in the corpus.

### D.1.6 The table Element

Parent: **container**  
Contents: **tableStructure**  
This element has the following attributes.

**commandName**  
[Required]  
As on the **heading** element.

**type**  
[Required]  
One of table, note, or warning.

**subType**  
[Required]  
The locale-invariant name for the particular kind of output that this table represents in the procedure. This can be the same as **commandName** e.g. **Frequencies**, or different, e.g. **Case Processing Summary**. Generic subtypes **Notes** and **Warnings** are often used.

**tableId**  
[Required]  
A number that uniquely identifies the table within the SPV file, typically a large negative number such as `-4147135649387905023`.

**creator-version**  
[Optional]  
As on the **heading** element. In the corpus, this is only present for version 21 and up and always includes all 8 digits.

### D.1.7 The tableStructure Element

Parent: **table**  
Contents: **dataPath**  
This element has no attributes.
D.1.8 The graph Element

Parent: container
Contents: dataPath? path

This element represents a graph. The dataPath and path elements name the Zip members that give the details of the graph. Normally, both elements are present; there is only one counterexample in the corpus.

D.1.9 The model Element

Parent: container
Contents: (ViZml? path) | (pmmlContainerPath statsContainerPath)

This element represents a model. The dataPath and path elements name the Zip members that give the details of the model. Normally, both elements are present; there is only one counterexample in the corpus.

The details are unexplored. The ViZml element contains base-64 encoded text, that decodes to a binary format with some embedded text strings, and path names an Zip member that contains XML. Alternatively, pmmlContainerPath and statsContainerPath name Zip members with .scf extension.

D.1.10 The dataPath and path Elements

Parent: tableStructure or graph or model
Contents: text

These element contain the name of the Zip members that hold details for a container. For tables:

- When a “light” format is used, only dataPath is present, and it names a .bin member of the Zip file that has light in its name, e.g. 000000001437_lightTableData.bin (see Section D.2 [SPV Light Detail Member Format], page 95).

- When the legacy format is used, both are present. In this case, dataPath names a Zip member with a legacy binary format that contains relevant data (see Section D.3 [SPV Legacy Detail Member Binary Format], page 109), and path names a Zip member that uses an XML format (see Section D.4 [SPV Legacy Detail Member XML Format], page 111).

Graphs normally follow the legacy approach described above. The corpus contains one example of a graph with path but not dataPath. The reason is unexplored.

Models use path but not dataPath. See Section D.1.8 [SPV Structure graph Element], page 93, for more information.

These elements have no attributes.

D.1.11 The pageSetup Element

Parent: heading
Contents: pageHeader pageFooter

This element has the following attributes.

initial-page-number [Required]
Always 1.
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D.1.12 The pageHeader and pageFooter Elements

Parent: pageSetup
Contents: pageParagraph*

This element has no attributes.

D.1.13 The pageParagraph Element

Parent: pageHeader or pageFooter
Contents: text

Text to go at the top or bottom of a page, respectively.

This element has no attributes.

D.1.14 The text Element (Inside pageParagraph)

Parent: pageParagraph
Contents: CDATA?

This text element is nested inside a pageParagraph. There is a different text element that is nested inside a container.

The element is either empty, or contains CDATA that holds almost-XHTML text: in the corpus, either an html or p element. It is almost-XHTML because the html element designates the default namespace as 'http://xml.spss.com/spss/viewer/viewer-tree' instead of an XHTML namespace, and because the CDATA can contain substitution variables: &[Page] for the page number and &[PageTitle] for the page title.

Typical contents (indented for clarity):

```xml
<html xmlns="http://xml.spss.com/spss/viewer/viewer-tree">
<head></head>
<body>

<p style="text-align:right; margin-top: 0">Page &[Page]</p>
```

This element has the following attributes.

**type**

Always text.

## D.2 Light Detail Member Format

This section describes the format of “light” detail .bin members. These members have a binary format which we describe here in terms of a context-free grammar using the following conventions:

NonTerminal \( \Rightarrow \ldots \)

Nonterminals have CamelCaps names, and \( \Rightarrow \) indicates a production. The right-hand side of a production is often broken across multiple lines. Break points are chosen for aesthetics only and have no semantic significance.

- **00, 01, \ldots, ff.**
  - A bytes with a fixed value, written as a pair of hexadecimal digits.
- **i0, i1, \ldots, i9, i10, i11, \ldots**
- **b0, b1, \ldots, b9, b10, b11, \ldots**
  - A 32-bit integer in little-endian or big-endian byte order, respectively, with a fixed value, written in decimal, prefixed by ‘i’.
- **byte**
  - A byte.
- **bool**
  - A byte with value 0 or 1.
- **int16 be16**
  - A 16-bit integer in little-endian or big-endian byte order, respectively.
- **int be32**
  - A 32-bit integer in little-endian or big-endian byte order, respectively.
- **int64 be64**
  - A 64-bit integer in little-endian or big-endian byte order, respectively.
- **double**
  - A 64-bit IEEE floating-point number.
- **float**
  - A 32-bit IEEE floating-point number.
- **string bestring**
  - A 32-bit integer, in little-endian or big-endian byte order, respectively, followed by the specified number of bytes of character data. (The encoding is indicated by the Formats nonterminal.)
- **x?**
  - x is optional, e.g. 00? is an optional zero byte.
- **x*n**
  - x is repeated n times, e.g. byte*10 for ten arbitrary bytes.
- **x[name]**
  - Gives x the specified name. Names are used in textual explanations. They are also used, also bracketed, to indicate counts, e.g. int[n] byte*[n] for a 32-bit integer followed by the specified number of arbitrary bytes.
Either $a$ or $b$.

Parentheses are used for grouping to make precedence clear, especially in the presence of $\mid$, e.g. in 00 (01 | 02 | 03) 00.

A 32-bit integer that indicates the number of bytes in $x$, followed by $x$ itself.

In a version 1 .bin member, $x$; in version 3, nothing. (The .bin header indicates the version.)

In a version 3 .bin member, $x$; in version 1, nothing.

Little-endian byte order is far more common in this format, but a few pieces of the format use big-endian byte order.

A “light” detail member .bin consists of a number of sections concatenated together, terminated by a byte 01:

```
LightMember ⇒
  Header Title
  Caption Footnotes
  Fonts Borders PrintSettings TableSettings Formats
  Dimensions Data
  01
```

The following sections go into more detail.

### D.2.1 Header

An SPV light member begins with a 39-byte header:

```
Header ⇒
  01 00
  (i1 | i3)[version]
  bool
  bool[show-numeric-markers]
  bool[rotate-inner-column-labels]
  bool[rotate-outer-row-labels]
  int
  int[min-column-width] int[max-column-width]
  int[min-row-width] int[max-row-width]
  int64[table-id]
```

`version` is a version number that affects the interpretation of some of the other data in the member. We will refer to “version 1” and “version 3” later on and use v1(…) and v3(…) for version-specific formatting (as described previously).

If `show-numeric-markers` is 1, footnote markers are shown as numbers, starting from 1; otherwise, they are shown as letters, starting from ‘a’.

If `rotate-inner-column-labels` is 1, then column labels closest to the data are rotated to be vertical; otherwise, they are shown in the normal way.
If `rotate-outer-row-labels` is 1, then row labels farthest from the data are rotated to be vertical; otherwise, they are shown in the normal way.

`table-id` is a binary version of the `tableId` attribute in the structure member that refers to the detail member. For example, if `tableId` is `-4122591256483201023`, then `table-id` would be `0xc6c99d183b300001`.

`min-column-width` is the minimum width that a column will be assigned automatically. `max-column-width` is the maximum width that a column will be assigned to accommodate a long column label. `min-row-width` and `max-row-width` are a similar range for the width of row labels. All of these measurements are in 1/96 inch units.

The meaning of the other variable parts of the header is not known.

### D.2.2 Title

```
Title ⇒
 Value[title1] 01?
 Value[c] 01? 31
 Value[title2] 01?
```

The Title, which follows the Header, specifies the pivot table’s title twice, as `title1` and `title2`. In the corpus, they are always the same.

Whereas the Value in `title1` and in `title2` are appropriate for presentation, and localized to the user's language, `c` is in English, sometimes less specific, and sometimes less well formatted. For example, for a frequency table, `title1` and `title2` name the variable and `c` is simply “Frequencies”.

### D.2.3 Caption

```
Caption ⇒ Caption1 Caption2
 Caption1 ⇒ 31 Value | 58
 Caption2 ⇒ 31 Value | 58
```

The Caption, if present, is shown below the table. `Caption2` is normally present. `Caption1` is only rarely nonempty; it might reflect user editing of the caption.

### D.2.4 Footnotes

```
Footnotes ⇒ int[n] Footnote*[n]
 Footnote ⇒ Value[text] (58 | 31 Value[marker]) byte*4
```

Each footnote has `text` and an optional customer `marker` (such as ‘*’).

### D.2.5 Fonts
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Fonts ⇒ 00 Font*8
Font ⇒
  byte[index] 31
  int[halign] int[valign]
  string[fgcolor] string[bgcolor]
  byte[alternate] string[altfg] string[altbg]
  v3(int[left-margin] int[right-margin] int[top-margin] int[bottom-margin])

Each Font represents the font style for a different element, in the following order: title, caption, footer, corner, column labels, row labels, data, and layers.

index is the 1-based index of the Font, i.e. 1 for the first Font, through 8 for the final Font.

typeface is the string name of the font. In the corpus, this is SansSerif in over 99% of instances and Times New Roman in the rest.

size is the size of the font, in points. The most common size in the corpus is 12 points.

style is a bit mask. Bit 0 (with value 1) is set for bold, bit 1 (with value 2) is set for italic.

underline is 1 if the font is underlined, 0 otherwise.

halign specifies horizontal alignment: 0 for center, 2 for left, 4 for right, 61453 for decimal, 64173 for mixed. Mixed alignment varies according to type: string data is left-justified, numbers and most other formats are right-justified.

valign specifies vertical alignment: 0 for center, 1 for top, 3 for bottom.

fgcolor and bgcolor are the foreground color and background color, respectively. In the corpus, these are always #000000 and #ffffff, respectively.

alternate is 01 if rows should alternate colors, 00 if all rows should be the same color. When alternate is 01, altfg and altbg specify the colors for the alternate rows.

left-margin, right-margin, top-margin, and bottom-margin are measured in multiples of 1/96 inch.

D.2.6 Borders

Borders ⇒
  b1[endianness]
  be32[n-borders] Border*[n-borders]
  bool[show-grid-lines]
  00 00 00

Border ⇒
  be32[border-type]
  be32[stroke-type]
  be32[color]

The Borders reflect how borders between regions are drawn.

The fixed value of endianness can be used to validate the endianness.
show-grid-lines is 1 to draw grid lines, otherwise 0.

Each Border describes one kind of border. n-borders seems to always be 19. Each border-type appears once (although in an unpredictable order) and correspond to the following borders:

0 Title.
1...4 Left, top, right, and bottom outer frame.
5...8 Left, top, right, and bottom inner frame.
9, 10 Left and top of data area.
11, 12 Horizontal and vertical dimension rows.
13, 14 Horizontal and vertical dimension columns.
15, 16 Horizontal and vertical category rows.
17, 18 Horizontal and vertical category columns.

stroke-type describes how a border is drawn, as one of:

0 No line.
1 Solid line.
2 Dashed line.
3 Thick line.
4 Thin line.
5 Double line.

color is an RGB color. Bits 24–31 are alpha, bits 16–23 are red, 8–15 are green, 0–7 are blue. An alpha of 255 indicates an opaque color, therefore opaque black is 0xff000000.

D.2.7 Print Settings

```
PrintSettings ⇒
  b1[endian]
  bool[all-layers]
  bool[paginate-layers]
  bool[fit-width]
  bool[fit-length]
  bool[top-continuation]
  bool[bottom-continuation]
  be32[n-orphan-lines]
  bestring[continuation-string]
```

The PrintSettings reflect settings for printing. The fixed value of endian can be used to validate the endianness.

all-layers is 1 to print all layers, 0 to print only the visible layers.
paginate-layers is 1 to print each layer at the start of a new page, 0 otherwise. (This setting is honored only all-layers is 1, since otherwise only one layer is printed.)

fit-width and fit-length control whether the table is shrunk to fit within a page’s width or length, respectively.

n-orphan-lines is the minimum number of rows or columns to put in one part of a table that is broken across pages.

If top-continuation is 1, then continuation-string is printed at the top of a page when a table is broken across pages for printing; similarly for bottom-continuation and the bottom of a page. Usually, continuation-string is empty.

D.2.8 Table Settings

```plaintext
TableSettings ⇒
    be32[endian]
    be32
    be32[current-layer]
    bool[omit-empty]
    bool[show-row-labels-in-corner]
    bool[show-alphabetic-markers]
    bool[footnote-marker-position]
    v3(
        byte
        count(
            Breakpoints[row-breaks] Breakpoints[column-breaks]
            Keeps[row-keeps] Keeps[column-keeps]
            PointKeeps[row-keeps] PointKeeps[column-keeps]
        )
        bestring[notes]
        bestring[table-look]
        00...
    )

Breakpoints ⇒ be32[n-breaks] be32*[n-breaks]

Keeps ⇒ be32[n-keeps] Keep*n-keeps
Keep ⇒ be32[offset] be[n]

PointKeeps ⇒ be32[n-point-keeps] PointKeep*n-point-keeps
PointKeep ⇒ be32[offset] be32 be32
```

The TableSettings reflect display settings. The fixed value of endian can be used to validate the endianness.

current-layer is the displayed layer.

If omit-empty is 1, empty rows or columns (ones with nothing in any cell) are hidden; otherwise, they are shown.
If `show-row-labels-in-corner` is 1, then row labels are shown in the upper left corner; otherwise, they are shown nested.

If `show-alphabetic-markers` is 1, markers are shown as letters (e.g. ‘a’, ‘b’, ‘c’, . . .); otherwise, they are shown as numbers starting from 1.

When `footnote-marker-position` is 1, footnote markers are shown as superscripts, otherwise as subscripts.

The Breakpoints are rows or columns after which there is a page break; for example, a row break of 1 requests a page break after the second row. Usually no breakpoints are specified, indicating that page breaks should be selected automatically.

The Keeps are ranges of rows or columns to be kept together without a page break; for example, a row Keep with `offset` 1 and `n` 10 requests that the 10 rows starting with the second row be kept together. Usually no Keeps are specified.

The PointKeeps seem to be generated automatically based on user-specified Keeps. They seem to indicate a conversion from rows or columns to pixel or point offsets.

`notes` is a text string that contains user-specified notes. It is displayed when the user hovers the cursor over the table, like “alt text” on a webpage. It is not printed. It is usually empty.

`table-look` is the name of a SPSS “TableLook” table style, such as “Default” or “Academic”; it is often empty.

TableSettings ends with an arbitrary number of null bytes.

### D.2.9 Formats
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Formats ⇒
   int[n-widths] int*[n-widths]
   string[encoding]
   int[current-layer]
   bool[digit-grouping] bool[leading-zero] bool
   int[epoch]
   byte[decimal] byte[grouping]
   CustomCurrency
count(
   v1(X0?)
   v3(count(X1 count(X2)) count(X3))
)

X0 ⇒
   byte*14
   string[command] string[command-local]
   string[language] string[charset] string[locale]
   bool 00 bool bool
   int[epoch]
   byte[decimal] byte[grouping]
   CustomCurrency
   byte[missing] bool

X1 ⇒
   byte*2
   byte[lang]
   byte[variable-mode]
   byte[value-mode]
   int*2
   00*17
   bool
   01

X2 ⇒
   int[n-heights] int*[n-heights]
   int[n-style-map] BlankMap*[n-style-map]
   int[n-styles] StylePair*[n-styles]
   count((i0 i0)?)

StyleMap ⇒ int64[cell-index] int16[style-index]

X3 ⇒
   01 00 (03 | 04) 00 00 00
   string[command] string[command-local]
   string[language] string[charset] string[locale]
   bool 00 bool bool
   int[epoch]
   byte[decimal] byte[grouping]
   double[small] 01
   (string[dataset] string[datafile] i0 int[date] i0)?
   CustomCurrency
   byte[missing] bool (i2000000 i0)?

CustomCurrency ⇒ int[n-ccs] string*[n-ccs]
If \textit{n-widths} is nonzero, then the accompanying integers are column widths as manually adjusted by the user. (Row heights are computed automatically based on the widths.)

\textit{encoding} is a character encoding, usually a Windows code page such as \texttt{en-US.windows-1252} or \texttt{it-IT.windows-1252}. The rest of the character strings in the member use this encoding. The encoding string is itself encoded in US-ASCII.

\textit{epoch} is the year that starts the epoch. A 2-digit year is interpreted as belonging to the 100 years beginning at the epoch. The default epoch year is 69 years prior to the current year; thus, in 2017 this field by default contains 1948. In the corpus, \textit{epoch} ranges from 1943 to 1948, plus some contain -1.

\textit{decimal} is the decimal point character. The observed values are ‘.’ and ‘,’.

\textit{grouping} is the grouping character. Usually, it is ‘,’ if \textit{decimal} is ‘.’, and vice versa. Other observed values are ‘’ (apostrophe), ‘ ’ (space), and zero (presumably indicating that digits should not be grouped).

\textit{command} describes the statistical procedure that generated the output, in English. It is not necessarily the literal syntax name of the procedure: for example, NPAR TESTS becomes “Nonparametric Tests.” \textit{command-local} is the procedure’s name, translated into the output language; it is often empty and, when it is not, sometimes the same as \textit{command}.

\textit{dataset} is the name of the dataset analyzed to produce the output, e.g. \texttt{DataSet1}, and \textit{datafile} the name of the file it was read from, e.g. \texttt{C:\Users\foo\bar.sav}. The latter is sometimes the empty string.

\textit{date} is a date, as seconds since the epoch, i.e. since January 1, 1970. Pivot tables within an SPV files often have dates a few minutes apart, so this is probably a creation date for the tables rather than for the file.

Sometimes \textit{dataset}, \textit{datafile}, and \textit{date} are present and other times they are absent. The reader can distinguish by assuming that they are present and then checking whether the presumptive \textit{dataset} contains a null byte (a valid string never will).

\textit{n-ccs} is observed as either 0 or 5. When it is 5, the following strings are CCA through CCE format strings. See Section “Custom Currency Formats” in \textit{PSPP}. Most commonly these are all ‘,,,’ but other strings occur.

\textit{missing} is the character used to indicate that a cell contains a missing value. It is always observed as ‘.’.

\section*{D.2.10 Dimensions}

A pivot table presents multidimensional data. A Dimension identifies the categories associated with each dimension.
Appendix D: SPSS Viewer File Format

**Dimensions**

\[
\text{Dimensions} \Rightarrow \text{int}[\text{n-dims}] \quad \text{Dimension*}[\text{n-dims}]
\]

**Dimension**

\[
\text{Dimension} \Rightarrow \text{Value}[\text{name}] \quad \text{DimProperties int}[\text{n-categories}] \quad \text{Category*}[\text{n-categories}]
\]

**DimProperties**

\[
\text{DimProperties} \Rightarrow \\
\text{byte}[d1] \\
(00 | 01 | 02)[d2] \\
(i0 | i2)[d3] \\
\text{bool}[	ext{show-dim-label}] \\
\text{bool}[	ext{hide-all-labels}] \\
01 \text{ int}[\text{dim-index}]
\]

- **name** is the name of the dimension, e.g. Variables, Statistics, or a variable name.

  The meanings of \(d1\), \(d2\), and \(d3\) are unknown. \(d1\) is usually 0 but many other values have been observed.

  If \text{show-dim-label} is 01, the pivot table displays a label for the dimension itself. Because usually the group and category labels are enough explanation, it is usually 00.

  If \text{hide-all-labels} is 01, the pivot table omits all labels for the dimension, including group and category labels. It is usually 00. When \text{hide-all-labels} is 01, \text{show-dim-label} is ignored.

  \(\text{dim-index}\) is usually the 0-based index of the dimension, e.g. 0 for the first dimension, 1 for the second, and so on. Sometimes it is -1. There is no visible difference.

**D.2.11 Categories**

Categories are arranged in a tree. Only the leaf nodes in the tree are really categories; the others just serve as grouping constructs.

\[
\text{Category} \Rightarrow \text{Value}[\text{name}] \quad (\text{Leaf} \mid \text{Group})
\]

**Leaf**

\[
\text{Leaf} \Rightarrow 00 \ 00 \ 00 \ i2 \ \text{int}[\text{cat-index}] \ i0
\]

**Group**

\[
\text{Group} \Rightarrow \\
\text{bool}[	ext{merge}] \ 00 \ 01 \ (i0 \mid i2)[\text{data}] \\
\text{i-1 int}[\text{n-subcategories}] \quad \text{Category*}[\text{n-subcategories}]
\]

- **name** is the name of the category (or group).

  A Leaf represents a leaf category. The Leaf’s \text{cat-index} is a nonnegative integer less than \text{n-categories} in the Dimension in which the Category is nested (directly or indirectly). These categories represent the original order in which the categories were sorted; if the user sorted or rearranged the categories, then the order of categories in the file reflects that without changing the \text{cat-index} values.

  A Group is a group of nested categories. Usually a Group contains at least one Category, so that \text{n-subcategories} is positive, but a few Groups with \text{n-subcategories} 0 has been observed.

  If a Group’s \text{merge} is 00, the most common value, then the group is really a distinct group that should be represented as such in the visual representation and user interface. If \text{merge} is 01, the categories in this group should be shown and treated as if they were direct children of the group’s containing group (or if it has no parent group, then direct children of
the dimension), and this group’s name is irrelevant and should not be displayed. (Merged
groups can be nested!)

A Group’s data appears to be i2 when all of the categories within a group are leaf
categories that directly represent data values for a variable (e.g. in a frequency table or
crosstabulation, a group of values in a variable being tabulated) and i0 otherwise.

D.2.12 Data

The final part of an SPV light member contains the actual data.

Data ⇒
  int[layers] int[rows] int[columns] int*[n-dimensions]
  int[n-data] Datum*[n-data]
Datum ⇒ int64[index] v1(00?) Value

The values of n-layers, n-rows, and n-columns each specifies the number of dimensions
displayed in layers, rows, and columns, respectively. Any of them may be zero. Their
values sum to n-dimensions from Dimensions (see Section D.2.10 [SPV Light Member
Dimensions], page 103).

The n-dimensions integers are a permutation of the 0-based dimension numbers. The
first n-layers integers specify each of the dimensions represented by layers, the next n-rows
integers specify the dimensions represented by rows, and the final n-columns integers specify
the dimensions represented by columns. When there is more than one dimension of a given
kind, the inner dimensions are given first.

The format of a Datum varies slightly from version 1 to version 3: in version 1 it allows
for an extra optional 00 byte.

A Datum consists of an index and a Value. Suppose there are d dimensions and dimen-
sion i, 0 ≤ i < d, has n_i categories. Consider the datum at coordinates x_i, 0 ≤ i < d, and
note that 0 ≤ x_i < n_i. Then the index is calculated by the following algorithm:

let index = 0
for each i from 0 to d - 1:
  index = (n_i × index) + x_i

For example, suppose there are 3 dimensions with 3, 4, and 5 categories, respectively.
The datum at coordinates (1, 2, 3) has index 5 × (4 × (3 × 0 + 1) + 2) + 3 = 33. Within a
given dimension, the index is the cat-index in a Leaf.

D.2.13 Value

Value is used throughout the SPV light member format. It boils down to a number or a
string.
| Value ⇒ 00? 00? 00? 00? RawValue |
| RawValue ⇒ |
| 01 ValueMod int[format] double[x] |
| 02 ValueMod int[format] double[x] |
| string[varname] string[vallab] (01 | 02 | 03) |
| 03 string[local] ValueMod string[id] string[c] bool[type] |
| 04 ValueMod int[format] string[vallab] string[varname] |
| (01 | 02 | 03) string[s] |
| 05 ValueMod string[varname] string[varlabel] (01 | 02 | 03) |
| ValueMod string[format] int[n-args] Argument*[n-args] |

*Argument ⇒*

| i0 Value |
| int[x] i0 Value*[x+1] /* x > 0 */ |

There are several possible encodings, which one can distinguish by the first nonzero byte in the encoding.

01 The numeric value \( x \), intended to be presented to the user formatted according to \textit{format}, which is in the format described for system files. See [System File Output Formats], page 61, for details. Most commonly, \textit{format} has width 40 (the maximum).

An \( x \) with the maximum negative double value \(-\text{DBL\_MAX}\) represents the system-missing value SYSMIS. (HIGHEST and LOWEST have not been observed.) See Appendix B [System File Format], page 55, for more about these special values.

02 Similar to 01, with the additional information that \( x \) is a value of variable \textit{varname} and has value label \textit{vallab}. Both \textit{varname} and \textit{vallab} can be the empty string, the latter very commonly.

The meaning of the final byte is unknown. Possibly it is connected to whether the value or the label should be displayed.

03 A text string, in two forms: \textit{c} is in English, and sometimes abbreviated or obscure, and \textit{local} is localized to the user’s locale. In an English-language locale, the two strings are often the same, and in the cases where they differ, \textit{local} is more appropriate for a user interface, e.g. \textit{c} of “Not a PnP table for MCN...” versus \textit{local} of “Computed only for a PnP table, where P must be greater than 1.”

\textit{c} and \textit{local} are always either both empty or both nonempty.

\textit{id} is a brief identifying string whose form seems to resemble a programming language identifier, e.g. \textit{cumulative\_percent} or \textit{factor\_14}. It is not unique.

\textit{type} is 00 for text taken from user input, such as syntax fragment, expressions, file names, data set names, and 01 for fixed text strings such as names of procedures or statistics. In the former case, \textit{id} is always the empty string; in the latter case, \textit{id} is still sometimes empty.

04 The string value \( s \), intended to be presented to the user formatted according to \textit{format}. The format for a string is not too interesting, and the corpus contains many clearly invalid formats like A16.39 or A255.127 or A134.1, so readers should probably ignore the format entirely.
s is a value of variable varname and has value label vallab. varname is never empty but vallab is commonly empty.
The meaning of the final byte is unknown.

05 Variable varname, which is rarely observed as empty in the corpus, with variable label varlabel, which is often empty.
The meaning of the final byte is unknown.

31 or 58 (These bytes begin a ValueMod.) A format string, analogous to printf, followed by one or more Arguments, each of which has one or more values. The format string uses the following syntax:

\% \: \[ \] 
Each of these expands to the character following ‘\’, to escape characters that have special meaning in format strings. These are effective inside and outside the [...] syntax forms described below.

\n Expands to a new-line, inside or outside the [...] forms described below.

^i Expands to a formatted version of argument i, which must have only a single value. For example, ^1 expands to the first argument’s value.

[:a:]i Expands a for each of the values in i. a should contain one or more ^j conversions, which are drawn from the values for argument i in order. Some examples from the corpus:

[:^1:]1 All of the values for the first argument, concatenated.

[:^1\n:]1 Expands to the values for the first argument, each followed by a new-line.

[:^1 = ^2:]2 Expands to x = y where x is the second argument’s first value and y is its second value. (This would be used only if the argument has two values. If there were more values, the second and third values would be directly concatenated, which would look funny.)

[a:b:]i This extends the previous form so that the first values are expanded using a and later values are expanded using b. For an unknown reason, within a the ^j conversions are instead written as %j. Some examples from the corpus:

[%1:*^1:]1 Expands to all of the values for the first argument, separated by ‘*’. 
Given appropriate values for the first argument, expands to \( X = 1, Y = 2, Z = 3 \).

Given appropriate values, expands to 1, 2, 3.

The format string is localized to the user’s locale.

**D.2.14 ValueMod**

A ValueMod can specify special modifications to a Value.

```
ValueMod ⇒
   31 i0 (i0 | i1 string[subscript])
   v1(00 (i1 | i2) 00 00 int 00 00)
   v3(count(FormatString StylePair))
   | 31 int[n-refs] int16*[n-refs] Format
   | 58

Format ⇒ 00 00 count(FormatString Style 58)
FormatString ⇒ count((count((i0 58)?) 58 | 31 string)?)

StylePair ⇒
   (31 Style | 58)
   (31 Style2 | 58)

Style ⇒
   bool[bold] bool[italic] bool[underline] bool[show]
   string[fgcolor] string[bgcolor]
   string[typeface] byte[size]

Style2 ⇒
   int[halign] int[valign] double[offset]
   int16[left-margin] int16[right-margin]
   int16[top-margin] int16[bottom-margin]
```

A ValueMod that begins with “31 i0” specifies a string to append to the main text of the Value, as a subscript. The subscript text is a brief indicator, e.g. ‘a’ or ‘a,b’, with its meaning indicated by the table caption. In this usage, subscripts are similar to footnotes. One apparent difference is that a Value can only reference one footnote but a subscript can list more than one letter.

A ValueMod that begins with 31 followed by a nonzero “int” specifies a footnote or footnotes that the Value references. Footnote markers are shown appended to the main text of the Value, as superscripts.

The Format, if present, is a format string for substitutions using the syntax explained previously. It appears to be an English-language version of the localized format string in the Value in which the Format is nested.
Style and Style2, if present, change the style for this individual Value. bold, italic, and underline control the particular style. fgcolor and bgcolor are strings, such as #ffffff. The size is a font size in units of 1/96 inch.

halign is 0 for center, 2 for left, 4 for right, 6 for decimal, 0xffffffff for mixed. For decimal alignment, offset is the decimal point's offset from the right side of the cell, in units of 1/72 inch.

valign specifies vertical alignment: 0 for center, 1 for top, 3 for bottom.

left-margin, right-margin, top-margin, and bottom-margin are in units of 1/72 inch.

D.3 Legacy Detail Member Binary Format

Whereas the light binary format represents everything about a given pivot table, the legacy binary format conceptually consists of a number of named sources, each of which consists of a number of named variables, each of which is a 1-dimensional array of numbers or strings or a mix. Thus, the legacy binary member format is quite simple.

This section uses the same context-free grammar notation as in the previous section, with the following additions:

vAF(x) In a version 0xaf legacy member, x; in other versions, nothing. (The legacy member header indicates the version; see below.)

vB0(x) In a version 0xb0 legacy member, x; in other versions, nothing.

A legacy detail member .bin has the following overall format:

LegacyBinary ⇒
  00 byte[version] int16[n-sources] int[member-size]
  Metadata*[n-sources] Data*[n-sources]

version is a version number that affects the interpretation of some of the other data in the member. Versions 0xaf and 0xb0 are known. We will refer to “version 0xaf” and “version 0xb0” members later on.

A legacy member consists of n-sources data sources, each of which has Metadata and Data.

member-size is the size of the legacy binary member, in bytes.

The following sections go into more detail.

D.3.1 Metadata

Metadata ⇒
  int[n-data] int[n-variables] int[offset]
  vAF(byte*32[source-name])
  vB0(byte*64[source-name] int[x])

A data source has n-variables variables, each with n-data data values.
**source-name** is a 32- or 64-byte string padded on the right with zero bytes. The names that appear in the corpus are very generic: usually tableData for pivot table data or source0 for chart data.

A given Metadata’s **offset** is the offset, in bytes, from the beginning of the member to the start of the corresponding Data. This allows programs to skip to the beginning of the data for a particular source; it is also important to determine whether a source includes any string data (see Section D.3.2 [SPV Legacy Member Data], page 110).

The meaning of **x** in version 0xb0 is unknown.

**D.3.2 Data**

```
Data ⇒ NumericData*[n-variables] StringData?
NumericData ⇒ byte*288[variable-name] double*[n-data]
```

Data follow the Metadata in the legacy binary format, with sources in the same order. Each NumericSeries begins with a **variable-name** that generally indicates its role in the pivot table, e.g. “cell”, “cellFormat”, “dimension0categories”, “dimension0group0”, followed by the numeric data, one double per datum. A double with the maximum negative double -DBL_MAX represents the system-missing value SYSMIS.

```
StringData ⇒ i1 string[source-name] Pairs Labels
Pairs ⇒ int[n-string-vars] PairSeries*[n-string-vars]
PairVar ⇒ string[pair-var-name] int[n-pairs] Pair*[n-pairs]
Pair ⇒ int[i] int[j]
Labels ⇒ int[n-labels] Label*[n-labels]
Label ⇒ int[frequency] int[s]
```

A source may include a mix of numeric and string data values. When a source includes any string data, the data values that are strings are set to SYSMIS in the NumericData, and StringData follows the NumericData. A source that contains no string data omits the StringData. To reliably determine whether a source includes StringData, the reader should check whether the offset following the NumericData is the offset of the next source, as indicated by its Metadata (or the end of the member, in the case of the last source).

StringData repeats the name of the source (from Metadata).

The string data overlays the numeric data. **n-string-vars** is the number of variables in the source that include string data. More precisely, it is the 1-based index of the last variable in the source that includes any string data; thus, it would be 4 if there are 5 variables and only the fourth one includes string data.

Each PairVar consists a sequence of 0 or more Pair nonterminals, each of which maps from a 0-based index within variable **i** to a 0-based label index **j**, e.g. pair **i** = 2, **j** = 3, means that the third data value (with value SYSMIS) is to be replaced by the string of the fourth Label.
The labels themselves follow the pairs. The valuable part of each label is the string $s$. Each label also includes a frequency that reports the number of pairs that reference it (although this is not useful).

## D.4 Legacy Detail Member XML Format

This format is still under investigation.

The design of the detail XML format is not what one would end up with for describing pivot tables. This is because it is a special case of a much more general format (“visualization XML” or “VizML”) that can describe a wide range of visualizations. Most of this generality is overkill for tables, and so we end up with a funny subset of a general-purpose format.

The important elements of the detail XML format are:

- **Variables.** Variables in detail XML roughly correspond to the dimensions in a light detail member. There is one variable for each dimension, plus one variable for each level of labeling along an axis.

  The bulk of variables are defined with `sourceVariable` elements. The data for these variables comes from the associated `tableData.bin` member. Some variables are defined, with `derivedVariable` elements, as a constant or in terms of a mapping function from a source variable.

- **Assignment of variables to axes.** A variable can appear as columns, or rows, or layers. The `faceting` element and its sub-elements describe this assignment.

All elements have an optional id attribute. In practice many elements are assigned id attributes that are never referenced.

### D.4.1 The `visualization` Element

**Parent:** Document root  
**Contents:**
- `extension?`  
- `userSource`  
- `(sourceVariable | derivedVariable)+`  
- `graph`  
- `labelFrame+`  
- `container?`  
- `style+`  
- `layerController?`

This element has the following attributes.

- **creator**  
  The version of the software that created this SPV file, as a string of the form `xxyyzz`, which represents software version $xx.yy.zz$, e.g. 160001 is version 16.0.1. The corpus includes major versions 16 through 19.

- **date**  
  The date on which the file was created, as a string of the form `YYYY-MM-DD`.
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lang
The locale used for output, in Windows format, which is similar to the format used in Unix with the underscore replaced by a hyphen, e.g. en-US, en-GB, el-GR, sr-Cyril-RS.

name
The title of the pivot table, localized to the output language.

style
The id of a style element (see Section D.4.11 [SPV Detail style Element], page 129). This is the base style for the entire pivot table. In every example in the corpus, the value is visualizationStyle and the corresponding style element has no attributes other than id.

type
A floating-point number. The meaning is unknown.

version
The visualization schema version number. In the corpus, the value is one of 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, and 2.8.

D.4.2 The userSource Element
Parent: visualization
Contents:
This element has the following attributes.

missing
Always listwise.

D.4.3 The sourceVariable Element
Parent: visualization
Contents: extension* (format | stringFormat)?
This element defines a variable whose values can be used elsewhere in the visualization. It ties this element’s id to a variable from the tableData.bin member that corresponds to this .xml.
This element has the following attributes.

categorical
Always set to true.

source
Always set to tableData, the source-name in the corresponding tableData.bin member (see Section D.3.1 [SPV Legacy Member Metadata], page 109).

sourceName
The name of a variable within the source, the variable-name in the corresponding tableData.bin member (see Section D.3.2 [SPV Legacy Member Data], page 110).
dependsOn  
   The variable-name of a variable linked to this one, so that a viewer can work with them together. For a group variable, this is the name of the corresponding categorical variable.

label  
   The variable label, if any

labelVariable  
   The variable-name of a variable whose string values correspond one-to-one with the values of this variable and are suitable for use as value labels.

D.4.4 The derivedVariable Element

Parent: visualization
Contents: extension* (format | stringFormat valueMapEntry*)

Like sourceVariable, this element defines a variable whose values can be used elsewhere in the visualization. Instead of being read from a data source, the variable’s data are defined by a mathematical expression.

This element has the following attributes.

categorical  
   Always set to true.

value  
   An expression that defines the variable’s value. In theory this could be an arbitrary expression in terms of constants, functions, and other variables, e.g. (var1 + var2)/2.
   In practice, the corpus contains only the following forms of expressions:

constant(number)
constant(variable)
   A constant. The meaning when a variable is named is unknown. Sometimes the “variable name” has spaces in it.

map(variable)
   Transforms the values in the named variable using the valueMapEntrys contained within the element.

dependsOn  
   The variable-name of a variable linked to this one, so that a viewer can work with them together. For a group variable, this is the name of the corresponding categorical variable.

D.4.4.1 The valueMapEntry Element

Parent: derivedVariable
Contents: empty

A valueMapEntry element defines a mapping from one or more values of a source expression to a target value. (In the corpus, the source expression is always just the name of a variable.) Each target value requires a separate valueMapEntry. If multiple source values map to the same target value, they can be combined or separate.

valueMapEntry has the following attributes.
from [Required]
A source value, or multiple source values separated by semicolons, e.g. 0 or 13;14;15;16.

to [Required]
The target value.

D.4.5 The extension Element
This is a general-purpose “extension” element. Readers that don’t understand a given extension should be able to safely ignore it. The attributes on this element, and their meanings, vary based on the context. Each known usage is described separately below. The current extensions use attributes exclusively, without any nested elements.

visualization Parent Element
With visualization as its parent element, extension has the following attributes.

numRows [Optional]
An integer that presumably defines the number of rows in the displayed pivot table.

showGridline [Optional]
Always set to false in the corpus.

minWidthSet [Optional]
maxWidthSet [Optional]
Always set to true in the corpus.

container Parent Element
With container as its parent element, extension has the following attributes.

combinedFootnotes [Required]
Always set to true in the corpus.

sourceVariable and derivedVariable Parent Element
With sourceVariable or derivedVariable as its parent element, extension has the following attributes. A given parent element often contains several extension elements that specify the meaning of the source data’s variables or sources, e.g.

<extension from="0" helpId="corrected_model"/>
<extension from="3" helpId="error"/>
<extension from="4" helpId="total_9"/>
<extension from="5" helpId="corrected_total"/>

from [Required]
An integer or a name like “dimension0”.

helpId [Required]
An identifier.
D.4.6 The graph Element

Parent: visualization
Contents: location+ coordinates faceting facetLayout interval

Graph has the following attributes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cellStyle</td>
<td>[Required]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>style</td>
<td>[Required]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each of these is the id of a style element (see Section D.4.11 [SPV Detail style Element], page 129). The former is the default style for individual cells, the latter for the entire table.

D.4.7 The location Element

Parent: graph
Contents: empty

Each instance of this element specifies where some part of the table frame is located. All the examples in the corpus have four instances of this element, one for each of the parts height, width, left, and top. Some examples in the corpus add a fifth for part bottom, even though it is not clear how all of top, bottom, and height can be honored at the same time. In any case, location seems to have little importance in representing tables; a reader can safely ignore it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>part</td>
<td>[Required]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>method</td>
<td>[Required]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of height, width, top, bottom, or left. Presumably right is acceptable as well but the corpus contains no examples.

How the location is determined:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sizeToContent</td>
<td>Based on the natural size of the table. Observed only for parts height and width.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attach</td>
<td>Based on the location specified in target. Observed only for parts top and bottom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fixed</td>
<td>Using the value in value. Observed only for parts top, bottom, and left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same</td>
<td>Same as the specified target. Observed only for part left.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>min</td>
<td>[Optional]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum size. Only observed with value 100pt. Only observed for part width.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>target</td>
<td>[Dependent]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required when method is attach or same, not observed otherwise. This is the ID of an element to attach to. Observed with the ID of title, footnote, graph, and other elements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>value</td>
<td>[Dependent]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required when method is fixed, not observed otherwise. Observed values are 0%, 0px, 1px, and 3px on parts top and left, and 100% on part bottom.
D.4.8 The coordinates Element

Parent: graph
Contents: empty

This element is always present and always empty, with no attributes (except id).

D.4.9 The faceting Element

Parent: graph
Contents: cross layer*

The faceting element describes the row, column, and layer structure of the table. Its cross child determines the row and column structure, and each layer child (if any) represents a layer.

faceting has no attributes (other than id).

The cross Element

Parent: faceting
Contents: nest nest

The cross element describes the row and column structure of the table. It has exactly two nest children, the first of which describes the table’s rows and the second the table’s columns.

cross has no attributes (other than id).

The nest Element

Parent: cross
Contents: variableReference+

A given nest usually consists of one or more dimensions, each of which is represented by variableReference child elements. Minimally, a dimension has two variableReference children, one for the categories, one for the data, e.g.:

```
<nest>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0"/>
</nest>
```

Groups of categories introduce additional variable references, e.g.,

```
<nest>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0group0"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0"/>
</nest>
```

Grouping can be hierarchical, e.g.

```
<nest>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0group1"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0group0"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0"/>
</nest>
```
XXX what are group maps?

```xml
<nest id="nest_1973">
  <variableReference ref="dimension1categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1group1map"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1group0map"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1"/>
</nest>

<nest>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0group0map"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0"/>
</nest>
```

A *nest* can contain multiple dimensions:

```xml
<nest>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1group0"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension1"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0categories"/>
  <variableReference ref="dimension0"/>
</nest>
```

One *nest* within a given *cross* may have no dimensions, in which case it still has one *variableReference* child, which references a *derivedVariable* whose *value* attribute is *constant(0)*. In the corpus, such a *derivedVariable* has *row* or *column*, respectively, as its *id*.

A *nest* has no attributes (other than *id*).

### The *variableReference* Element

- **Parent:** nest
- **Contents:** empty

  *variableReference* has one attribute.

  **ref** [Required]

  The id of a *sourceVariable* or *derivedVariable* element.

### The *layer* Element

- **Parent:** faceting
- **Contents:** empty

  Each layer is represented by a pair of *layer* elements. The first of this pair is for a category variable, the second for the data variable, e.g.:

  ```xml
  <layer value="0" variable="dimension0categories" visible="true"/>
  <layer value="dimension0" variable="dimension0" visible="false"/>
  ```

  *layer* has the following attributes.

  **variable** [Required]

  The id of a *sourceVariable* or *derivedVariable* element.
**Appendix D: SPSS Viewer File Format**

**value**

The value to select. For a category variable, this is always 0; for a data variable, it is the same as the variable attribute.

**visible**

Whether the layer is visible. Generally, category layers are visible and data layers are not, but sometimes this attribute is omitted.

**method**

When present, this is always nest.

**D.4.10 The facetLayout Element**

Parent: graph

Contents: tableLayout facetLevel+ setCellProperties*

**The tableLayout Element**

Parent: facetLayout

Contents: empty

**verticalTitlesInCorner**

Always set to true.

**style**

The id of a style element.

**fitCells**

Always set to ticks.

**The facetLevel Element**

Parent: facetLayout

Contents: axis

Each facetLevel describes a variableReference or layer, and a table has one facetLevel element for each such element. For example, an SPV detail member that contains four variableReference elements and two layer elements will contain six facetLevel elements.

In the corpus, facetLevel elements and the elements that they describe are always in the same order. The correspondence may also be observed in two other ways. First, one may use the level attribute, described below. Second, in the corpus, a facetLevel always has an id that is the same as the id of the element it describes with .facetLevel appended. One should not formally rely on this, of course, but it is usefully indicative.

**level**

A 1-based index into the variableReference and layer elements, e.g. a facetLayout with a level of 1 describes the first variableReference in the SPV detail member, and in a member with four variableReference elements, a facetLayout with a level of 5 describes the first layer in the member.

**gap**

Always observed as 0pt.
The axis Element

Parent: facetLevel
Contents: label? majorTicks

**style** [Attribute]

The id of a style element.

The label Element

Parent: axis or labelFrame
Contents: text+ | descriptionGroup

This element represents a label on some aspect of the table. For example, the table's title is a label.

The contents of the label can be one or more text elements or a descriptionGroup.

**style** [Attribute]

**textFrameStyle** [Optional]

Each of these is the id of a style element. style is the style of the label text, textFrameStyle the style for the frame around the label.

**purpose** [Optional]

The kind of entity being labeled, one of title, subTitle, layer, or footnote.

The descriptionGroup Element

Parent: label
Contents: (description | text)+

A descriptionGroup concatenates one or more elements to form a label. Each element can be a text element, which contains literal text, or a description element that substitutes a value or a variable name.

**target** [Attribute]

The id of an element being described. In the corpus, this is always faceting.

**separator** [Attribute]

A string to separate the description of multiple groups, if the target has more than one. In the corpus, this is always a new-line.

Typical contents for a descriptionGroup are a value by itself:

```xml
<description name="value"/>
```

or a variable and its value, separated by a colon:

```xml
<description name="variable"/><text>:</text><description name="value"/>
```

The description Element

Parent: descriptionGroup
Contents: empty

A description is like a macro that expands to some property of the target of its parent descriptionGroup.

**name** [Attribute]

The name of the property. Only variable and value appear in the corpus.
The majorTicks Element

Parent: axis
Contents: gridline?

labelAngle [Attribute]
length [Attribute]

Both always defined to 0.

style [Attribute]
tickFrameStyle [Attribute]

Each of these is the id of a style element. style is the style of the tick labels, tickFrameStyle the style for the frames around the labels.

The gridline Element

Parent: majorTicks
Contents: empty

Represents “gridlines,” which for a table represents the lines between the rows or columns of a table (XXX?).

style [Attribute]

The style for the gridline.

zOrder [Attribute]

Observed as a number between 28 and 31. Does not seem to be important.

The setCellProperties Element

Parent: facetLayout
Contents: setMetaData setStyle* setFormat+ union?

This element sets style properties of cells designated by the target attribute of its child elements, as further restricted by the optional union element if present. The target values often used, e.g. graph or labeling, actually affect every cell, so the union element is a useful restriction.

applyToConverse [Optional]

If present, always true. This appears to invert the meaning of the target of sub-elements: the selected cells are the ones not designated by target. This is confusing, given the additional restrictions of union, but in the corpus applyToConverse is never present along with union.

The setMetaData Element

Parent: setCellProperties
Contents: empty

This element is not known to have any visible effect.

target [Required]

The id of an element whose metadata is to be set. In the corpus, this is always graph, the id used for the graph element.
key [Required]
value [Required]

A key-value pair to set for the target.

In the corpus, key is `cellPropId` or, rarely, `diagProps`, and value is always the id of the parent `setCellProperties`.

**The setStyle Element**

Parent: `setCellProperties`
Contents: empty

This element associates a style with the target.

target [Required]
The id of an element whose style is to be set. In the corpus, this is always the id of an `interval`, `labeling`, or, rarely, `graph` element.

style [Required]
The id of a style element that identifies the style to set on the target.

**The setFormat Element**

Parent: `setCellProperties`
Contents:

```
 | format
 | numberFormat
 | stringFormat+
 | dateTimeFormat
```

This element sets the format of the target, “format” in this case meaning the SPSS print format for a variable.

The details of this element vary depending on the schema version, as declared in the root `visualization` element’s `version` attribute (see Section D.4.1 [SPV Detail visualization Element], page 111). In version 2.5 and earlier, `setFormat` contains one of a number of child elements that correspond to the different varieties of print formats. In version 2.7 and later, `setFormat` instead always contains a `format` element.

XXX reinvestigate the above claim about versions: it appears to be incorrect.

The `setFormat` element itself has the following attributes.

target [Required]
The id of an element whose style is to be set. In the corpus, this is always the id of an `majorTicks` or `labeling` element.

reset [Optional]
If this is `true`, this format overrides the target’s previous format. If it is `false`, the adds to the previous format. In the corpus this is always `true`. The default behavior is unknown.
D.4.10.1 The format Element

Parent: sourceVariable, derivedVariable, formatMapping, labeling, formatMapping, setFormat

Contents: (affix+ | relabel+)?

This element appears only in schema version 2.7 (see Section D.4.1 [SPV Detail visualization Element], page 111).

This element determines a format, equivalent to an SPSS print format.

Attributes for All Formats

These attributes apply to all kinds of formats. The most important of these attributes determines the high-level kind of formatting in use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>dateTime</th>
<th>elapsedTime</th>
<th>number</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>baseFormat</td>
<td>[Optional]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showYear</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yearAbbreviation</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showMonth</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>monthFormat</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showDay</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>opt</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dayPadding</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>opt</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dayOfMonthPadding</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dayType</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showHour</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>opt</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hourPadding</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showMinute</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minutePadding</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showSecond</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secondPadding</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Whether, in the corpus, other attributes are always present (“yes”), never present (“no”), or sometimes present (“opt”) depends on baseFormat:
showMillis no yes no no
minimumIntegerDigits no no yes no
maximumFractionDigits no yes yes no
minimumFractionDigits no yes yes no
useGrouping no opt yes no
scientific no no yes no
small no no opt no
suffix no no opt no
tryStringsAsNumbers no no no yes

errorCharacter [Attribute]
A character that replaces the formatted value when it cannot otherwise be represented in the given format. Always ‘*’.

Date and Time Attributes
These attributes are used with dateTime and elapsedTime formats or both.

separatorChars [Attribute]
Exactly four characters. In order, these are used for: decimal point, grouping, date separator, time separator. Always ‘.,-,:’.

mdyOrder [Attribute]
Within a date, the order of the days, months, and years. dayMonthYear is the only observed value, but one would expect that monthDayYear and yearMonthDay to be reasonable as well.

showYear [Attribute]
yearAbbreviation [Attribute]
Whether to include the year and, if so, whether the year should be shown abbreviated, that is, with only 2 digits. Each is true or false; only values of true and false, respectively, have been observed.

showMonth [Attribute]
monthFormat [Attribute]
Whether to include the month (true or false) and, if so, how to format it. monthFormat is one of the following:

long The full name of the month, e.g. in an English locale, September.
short The abbreviated name of the month, e.g. in an English locale, Sep.
number The number representing the month, e.g. 9 for September.
paddedNumber A two-digit number representing the month, e.g. 09 for September.

Only values of true and short, respectively, have been observed.
Appendix D: SPSS Viewer File Format

These attributes presumably control whether each field in the output is padded with spaces to its maximum width, but the details are not understood. The only observed value for any of these attributes is true.

These attributes presumably control whether each field is displayed in the output, but the details are not understood. The only observed value for any of these attributes is true.

This attribute is always month in the corpus, specifying that the day of the month is to be displayed; a value of year is supposed to indicate that the day of the year, where 1 is January 1, is to be displayed instead.

hourFormat, if present, is one of:

- AMPM The time is displayed with an am or pm suffix, e.g. 10:15pm.
- AS_24 The time is displayed in a 24-hour format, e.g. 22:15.
  This is the only value observed in the corpus.
- AS_12 The time is displayed in a 12-hour format, without distinguishing morning or evening, e.g. 10;15.

hourFormat is sometimes present for elapsedTime formats, which is confusing since a time duration does not have a concept of AM or PM. This might indicate a bug in the code that generated the XML in the corpus, or it might indicate that elapsedTime is sometimes used to format a time of day.

Numeric Attributes

These attributes are used for formats when baseFormat is number. Attributes maximumFractionDigits, and minimumFractionDigits, and useGrouping are also used when baseFormat is elapsedTime.

Minimum number of digits to display before the decimal point. Always observed as 0.

Maximum or minimum, respectively, number of digits to display after the decimal point. The observed values of each attribute range from 0 to 9.
Appendix D: SPSS Viewer File Format

useGrouping  [Attribute]
Whether to use the grouping character to group digits in large numbers. It would make sense for the grouping character to come from the separatorChars attribute, but that attribute is only present when baseFormat is dateTime or elapsedTime, in the corpus at least. Perhaps that is because this attribute has only been observed as false.

scientific  [Attribute]
This attribute controls when and whether the number is formatted in scientific notation. It takes the following values:

onlyForSmall
Use scientific notation only when the number's magnitude is smaller than the value of the small attribute.

whenNeeded
Use scientific notation when the number will not otherwise fit in the available space.

true
Always use scientific notation. Not observed in the corpus.

false
Never use scientific notation. A number that won't otherwise fit will be replaced by an error indication (see the errorCharacter attribute). Not observed in the corpus.

small  [Optional]
Only present when the scientific attribute is onlyForSmall, this is a numeric magnitude below which the number will be formatted in scientific notation. The values 0 and 0.0001 have been observed. The value 0 seems like a pathological choice, since no real number has a magnitude less than 0; perhaps in practice such a choice is equivalent to setting scientific to false.

prefix  [Optional]
suffix  [Optional]
 Specifies a prefix or a suffix to apply to the formatted number. Only suffix has been observed, with value ‘%’.

String Attributes
These attributes are used for formats when baseFormat is string.

tryStringsAsNumbers  [Attribute]
When this is true, it is supposed to indicate that string values should be parsed as numbers and then displayed according to numeric formatting rules. However, in the corpus it is always false.

D.4.10.2 The numberFormat Element
Parent: setFormat
Contents: affix+

This element appears only in schema version 2.5 and earlier (see Section D.4.1 [SPV Detail visualization Element], page 111). Possibly this element could also contain relabel elements in a more diverse corpus.
This element has the following attributes.

- `maximumFractionDigits` [Attribute]
- `minimumFractionDigits` [Attribute]
- `minimumIntegerDigits` [Attribute]
- `scientific` [Optional]
- `small` [Optional]
- `suffix` [Optional]
- `useGroupging` [Optional]

The syntax and meaning of these attributes is the same as on the `format` element for a numeric format. See Section D.4.10.1 [SPV Detail format Element], page 122.

### D.4.10.3 The `stringFormat` Element

**Parent:** `setFormat`

**Contents:** `(affix+ | relabel+)?`

This element appears only in schema version 2.5 and earlier (see Section D.4.1 [SPV Detail visualization Element], page 111).

This element has no attributes.

### D.4.10.4 The `dateTimeFormat` Element

**Parent:** `setFormat`

**Contents:** empty

This element appears only in schema version 2.5 and earlier (see Section D.4.1 [SPV Detail visualization Element], page 111). Possibly this element could also contain `affix` and `relabel` elements in a more diverse corpus.

The following attribute is required.

- `baseFormat` [Attribute]
  - Either `dateTime` or `time`.

When `baseFormat` is `dateTime`, the following attributes are available.

- `dayOfMonthPadding` [Attribute]
- `dayPadding` [Attribute]
- `dayType` [Attribute]
- `hourFormat` [Attribute]
- `hourPadding` [Attribute]
- `mdyOrder` [Attribute]
- `minutePadding` [Attribute]
- `monthFormat` [Attribute]
- `separatorChars` [Attribute]
- `showDay` [Attribute]
- `showHour` [Attribute]
- `showMinute` [Attribute]
- `showMonth` [Attribute]
- `showSecond` [Attribute]
- `showYear` [Attribute]
yearAbbreviation

The syntax and meaning of these attributes is the same as on the format element when that element’s baseFormat is dateTime. see Section D.4.10.1 [SPV Detail format Element], page 122.

When baseFormat is time, the following attributes are available.

hourFormat  [Attribute]
hourPadding  [Attribute]
minutePadding  [Attribute]
monthFormat  [Attribute]
separatorChars  [Attribute]
showDay  [Attribute]
showHour  [Attribute]
showMinute  [Attribute]
showMonth  [Attribute]
showSecond  [Attribute]
showYear  [Attribute]
yearAbbreviation  [Attribute]

The syntax and meaning of these attributes is the same as on the format element when that element’s baseFormat is elapsedTime. see Section D.4.10.1 [SPV Detail format Element], page 122.

D.4.10.5 The affix Element

Parent: format or numberFormat or stringFormat
Contents: empty

Possibly this element could have dateTimeFormat as a parent in a more diverse corpus.

This defines a suffix (or, theoretically, a prefix) for a formatted value. It is used to insert a reference to a footnote. It has the following attributes:

definesReference  [Attribute]

This specifies the footnote number as a natural number: 1 for the first footnote, 2 for the second, and so on.

position  [Attribute]

Position for the footnote label. Always superscript.

suffix  [Attribute]

Whether the affix is a suffix (true) or a prefix (false). Always true.

value  [Attribute]

The text of the suffix or prefix. Typically a letter, e.g. a for footnote 1, b for footnote 2, ... The corpus contains other values: *, **, and a few that begin with at least one comma: ,b, ,c, ,b, and ,,c.

D.4.10.6 The relabel Element

Parent: format or stringFormat
Contents: empty
Possibly this element could have numberFormat or dateTimeFormat as a parent in a more diverse corpus.

This specifies how to display a given value. It is used to implement value labels and to display the system-missing value in a human-readable way. It has the following attributes:

from  
- The value to map. In the corpus this is an integer or the system-missing value -1.797693134862316E300.

to  
- The string to display in place of the value of from. In the corpus this is a wide variety of value labels; the system-missing value is mapped to '.'.

D.4.10.7 The union Element
Parent: setCellProperties
Contents: intersect+

This element represents a set of cells, computed as the union of the sets represented by each of its children.

The intersect Element
Parent: union
Contents: where+ | intersectWhere?

This element represents a set of cells, computed as the intersection of the sets represented by each of its children.

Of the two possible children, in the corpus where is far more common, appearing thousands of times, whereas intersectWhere only appears 4 times.

Most intersect elements have two or more children.

The where Element
Parent: intersect
Contents: empty

This element represents the set of cells in which the value of a specified variable falls within a specified set.

variable  
- The id of a variable, e.g. dimension0categories or dimension0group0map.

include  
- A value, or multiple values separated by semicolons, e.g. 0 or 13;14;15;16.

The intersectWhere Element
Parent: intersect
Contents: empty

The meaning of this element is unknown.
variable
variable2

The meaning of these attributes is unknown. In the four examples in the corpus they always take the values \texttt{dimension2categories} and \texttt{dimension0categories}, respectively.

D.4.11 The style Element
TBD.
9 Encrypted File Wrappers

SPSS 21 and later can package multiple kinds of files inside an encrypted wrapper. The wrapper has a common format, regardless of the kind of the file that it contains.

**Warning:** The SPSS encryption wrapper is poorly designed. It is much cheaper and faster to decrypt a file encrypted this way than if a well designed alternative were used. If you must use this format, use a 10-byte randomly generated password.

9.1 Common Wrapper Format

This section describes the general format of an SPSS encrypted file wrapper. The following sections describe the details for each kind of encapsulated file.

An encrypted file wrapper begins with the following 36-byte header, where \( xxx \) identifies the type of file encapsulated, as described in the following sections:

```
 0000 1c 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 45 4e 43 52 59 50 54 45 |........ ENCRYPTE |
 0010 44 xx xx xx 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |Dxxx ............. |
 0020 00 00 00 00 |.....|
```

Following the fixed header is essentially the regular contents of the encapsulated file in its usual format, with each 16-byte block encrypted with AES-256 in ECB mode. Each type of encapsulated file is processed in a slightly different way before encryption, as described in the following sections. The AES-256 key is derived from a password in the following way:

1. Start from the literal password typed by the user. Truncate it to at most 10 bytes, then append as many null bytes as necessary until there are exactly 32 bytes. Call this password.

2. Let \( constant \) be the following 73-byte constant:

```
 0000 00 00 00 01 35 27 13 cc 53 a7 78 89 87 53 22 11  
 0010 d6 5b 31 58 dc fe 2e 7e 94 da 2f 00 cc 15 71 80 
 0020 0a 6c 63 53 00 38 c3 38 ac 22 f3 63 62 0e ce 85 
 0030 3f b8 07 4c 4e 2b 77 c7 21 f5 1a 80 1d 67 fb e1 
 0040 e1 83 07 d8 0d 00 00 01 00
```

3. Compute \( \text{CMAC-AES-256}(\text{password}, \text{constant}) \). Call the 16-byte result \( cmac \).

4. The 32-byte AES-256 key is \( cmac \mid \mid cmac \), that is, \( cmac \) repeated twice.

**Example**

Consider the password ‘pspp’. \( \text{password} \) is:

```
 0000 70 73 70 70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  | pspp .......... |
 0010 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |................ |
```

\( cmac \) is:

```
 0000 3e da 09 8e 66 04 d4 fd f9 63 0c 2c a8 6f b0 45 
```

The AES-256 key is:

```
 0000 3e da 09 8e 66 04 d4 fd f9 63 0c 2c a8 6f b0 45 
 0010 3e da 09 8e 66 04 d4 fd f9 63 0c 2c a8 6f b0 45
```
9.1.1 Encrypted System Files

An encrypted system file uses SAV as the identifier in its header.

Before encryption, a system file is appended with as many null bytes as needed (possibly zero) to make it a multiple of 16 bytes in length, so that it fits exactly in a series of AES blocks. (This implies that encrypted system files must always be compressed, because otherwise a system file with only a single variable might appear to have an extra case.)

9.1.2 Encrypted Syntax Files

An encrypted syntax file uses SPS as the identifier in its header.

Before encryption, a syntax file is prefixed with a line at the beginning of the form * Encoding: encoding., where encoding is the encoding used for the rest of the file, e.g. windows-1252. The syntax file is then appended with as many bytes with value 04 as needed (possibly zero) to make it a multiple of 16 bytes in length.

9.2 Password Encoding

SPSS also supports what it calls “encrypted passwords.” These are not encrypted. They are encoded with a simple, fixed scheme. An encoded password is always a multiple of 2 characters long, and never longer than 20 characters. The characters in an encoded password are always in the graphic ASCII range 33 through 126. Each successive pair of characters in the password encodes a single byte in the plaintext password.

Use the following algorithm to decode a pair of characters:
1. Let $a$ be the ASCII code of the first character, and $b$ be the ASCII code of the second character.
2. Let $ah$ be the most significant 4 bits of $a$. Find the line in the table below that has $ah$ on the left side. The right side of the line is a set of possible values for the most significant 4 bits of the decoded byte.
   
   $2 \Rightarrow 2367$
   $3 \Rightarrow 0145$
   $47 \Rightarrow 89cd$
   $56 \Rightarrow abef$

3. Let $bh$ be the most significant 4 bits of $b$. Find the line in the second table below that has $bh$ on the left side. The right side of the line is a set of possible values for the most significant 4 bits of the decoded byte. Together with the results of the previous step, only a single possibility is left.
   
   $2 \Rightarrow 139b$
   $3 \Rightarrow 028a$
   $47 \Rightarrow 46ce$
   $56 \Rightarrow 57df$

4. Let $al$ be the least significant 4 bits of $a$. Find the line in the table below that has $al$ on the left side. The right side of the line is a set of possible values for the least significant 4 bits of the decoded byte.

   $03cf \Rightarrow 0145$
   $12de \Rightarrow 2367$
   $478b \Rightarrow 89cd$
5. Let $bl$ be the least significant 4 bits of $b$. Find the line in the table below that has $bl$ on the left side. The right side of the line is a set of possible values for the least significant 4 bits of the decoded byte. Together with the results of the previous step, only a single possibility is left.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03cf</td>
<td>028a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12de</td>
<td>139b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>478b</td>
<td>46ce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>569a</td>
<td>57df</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example**

Consider the encoded character pair ‘-‘. $a$ is 0x2d and $b$ is 0x7c, so $ah$ is 2, $bh$ is 7, $al$ is 0xd, and $bl$ is 0xc. $ah$ means that the most significant four bits of the decoded character is 2, 3, 6, or 7, and $bh$ means that they are 4, 6, 0xc, or 0xe. The single possibility in common is 6, so the most significant four bits are 6. Similarly, $al$ means that the least significant four bits are 2, 3, 6, or 7, and $bl$ means they are 0, 2, 8, or 0xa, so the least significant four bits are 2. The decoded character is therefore 0x62, the letter ‘b’.
Appendix E  q2c Input Format

PSPP statistical procedures have a bizarre and somewhat irregular syntax. Despite this, a parser generator has been written that adequately addresses many of the possibilities and tries to provide hooks for the exceptional cases. This parser generator is named q2c.

E.1 Invoking q2c

$q2c$ input.q output.c

$q2c$ translates a `.q` file into a `.c` file. It takes exactly two command-line arguments, which are the input file name and output file name, respectively. $q2c$ does not accept any command-line options.

E.2 q2c Input Structure

$q2c$ input files are divided into two sections: the grammar rules and the supporting code. The grammar rules, which make up the first part of the input, are used to define the syntax of the statistical procedure to be parsed. The supporting code, following the grammar rules, are copied largely unchanged to the output file, except for certain escapes.

The most important lines in the grammar rules are used for defining procedure syntax. These lines can be prefixed with a dollar sign (`$`), which prevents Emacs' CC-mode from munging them. Besides this, a bang (`!`) at the beginning of a line causes the line, minus the bang, to be written verbatim to the output file (useful for comments). As a third special case, any line that begins with the exact characters `/* *INDENT` is ignored and not written to the output. This allows `.q` files to be processed through `indent` without being munged.

The syntax of the grammar rules themselves is given in the following sections.

The supporting code is passed into the output file largely unchanged. However, the following escapes are supported. Each escape must appear on a line by itself.

`/* (header) */`

Expands to a series of C `#include` directives which include the headers that are required for the parser generated by $q2c$.

`/* (decls scope) */`

Expands to C variable and data type declarations for the variables and enums input and output by the $q2c$ parser. `scope` must be either `local` or `global`. `local` causes the declarations to be output as function locals. `global` causes them to be declared as static module variables; thus, `global` is a bit of a misnomer.

`/* (parser) */`

Expands to the entire parser. Must be enclosed within a C function.

`/* (free) */`

Expands to a set of calls to the `free` function for variables declared by the parser. Only needs to be invoked if subcommands of type `string` are used in the grammar rules.
E.3 Grammar Rules

The grammar rules describe the format of the syntax that the parser generated by q2c will understand. The way that the grammar rules are included in q2c input file are described above.

The grammar rules are divided into tokens of the following types:

Identifier (ID)

An identifier token is a sequence of letters, digits, and underscores (’_’). Identifiers are not case-sensitive.

String (STRING)

String tokens are initiated by a double-quote character (’“’) and consist of all the characters between that double quote and the next double quote, which must be on the same line as the first. Within a string, a backslash can be used as a “literal escape”. The only reasons to use a literal escape are to include a double quote or a backslash within a string.

Special character

Other characters, other than white space, constitute tokens in themselves.

The syntax of the grammar rules is as follows:

```
grammar-rules ::= command-name opt-prefix : subcommands .
command-name ::= ID
opt-prefix ::= STRING
subcommands ::= subcommand
subcommands ::= subcommands ; subcommand
subcommand ::= default-opt arity-opt ID sbc-defn
default-opt ::= *
arity-opt ::= +
arity-opt ::= ^
sbc-defn ::= opt-prefix = specifiers
sbc-defn ::= [ ID ] = array-sbc
sbc-defn ::= opt-prefix = sbc-special-form
```

A subcommand that begins with an asterisk (’*’) is the default subcommand. The keyword used for the default subcommand can be omitted in the PSPP syntax file.

A plus sign (’+’) indicates that a subcommand can appear more than once. A caret (’^’) indicate that a subcommand must appear exactly once. A subcommand marked with neither character may appear once or not at all, but not more than once.
The subcommand name appears after the leading option characters.

There are three forms of subcommands. The first and most common form simply gives an equals sign (‘=’) and a list of specifiers, which can each be set to a single setting. The second form declares an array, which is a set of flags that can be individually turned on by the user. There are also several special forms that do not take a list of specifiers.

Arrays require an additional ID argument. This is used as a prefix, prepended to the variable names constructed from the specifiers. The other forms also allow an optional prefix to be specified.

```
array-sbc ::= alternatives
 ::= array-sbc , alternatives
alternatives ::= ID
 ::= alternatives | ID
```

An array subcommand is a set of Boolean values that can independently be turned on by the user, listed separated by commas (‘,’). If an value has more than one name then these names are separated by pipes (‘|’).

```
specifiers ::= specifier
 ::= specifiers , specifier
specifier ::= opt-id : settings
  opt-id ::= opt-id = ID
```

Ordinary subcommands (other than arrays and special forms) require a list of specifiers. Each specifier has an optional name and a list of settings. If the name is given then a correspondingly named variable will be used to store the user’s choice of setting. If no name is given then there is no way to tell which setting the user picked; in this case the settings should probably have values attached.

```
settings ::= setting
 ::= settings / setting
setting ::= setting-options ID setting-value
setting-options ::= *
 ::= !
 ::= * !
```

Individual settings are separated by forward slashes (‘/’). Each setting can be as little as an ID token, but options and values can optionally be included. The ‘*’ option means that, for this setting, the ID can be omitted. The ‘!’ option means that this option is the default for its specifier.

```
setting-value ::= ( setting-value-2 )
 ::= setting-value-2
setting-value-2 ::= setting-value-options setting-value-type : ID
setting-value-options ::= *
 setting-value-type ::= N
 ::= D
 ::= S
```
Settings may have values. If the value must be enclosed in parentheses, then enclose the value declaration in parentheses. Declare the setting type as ‘n’, ‘d’, or ‘s’ for integer, floating-point, or string type, respectively. The given ID is used to construct a variable name. If option ‘*’ is given, then the value is optional; otherwise it must be specified whenever the corresponding setting is specified.

\[
\text{sbc-special-form ::= VAR} \\
\quad ::= \text{VARLIST varlist-options} \\
\quad ::= \text{INTEGER opt-list} \\
\quad ::= \text{DOUBLE opt-list} \\
\quad ::= \text{PINT} \\
\quad ::= \text{STRING (the literal word STRING)} \\
\quad ::= \text{CUSTOM}
\]

\[
\text{varlist-options ::=} \\
\quad ::= ( \text{STRING} )
\]

\[
\text{opt-list ::=} \\
\quad ::= \text{LIST}
\]

The special forms are of the following types:

**VAR**

A single variable name.

**VARLIST**

A list of variables. If given, the string can be used to provide PV_\* options to the call to `parse_variables`.

**INTEGER**

A single integer value.

**INTEGER LIST**

A list of integers separated by spaces or commas.

**DOUBLE**

A single floating-point value.

**DOUBLE LIST**

A list of floating-point values.

**PINT**

A single positive integer value.

**STRING**

A string value.

**CUSTOM**

A custom function is used to parse this subcommand. The function must have prototype `int custom_name (void)`. It should return 0 on failure (when it has already issued an appropriate diagnostic), 1 on success, or 2 if it fails and the calling function should issue a syntax error on behalf of the custom handler.
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