Informatica®

Informatica® Cloud Data Integration

SAS Connector

Informatica Cloud Data Integration SAS Connector
April 2024

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Table of Contents

Preface 5

Informatica Resources 5

- Informatica Documentation 5
- Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services web site 5
- Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services Communities 5
- Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services Marketplace 5
- Data Integration connector documentation 6
- Informatica Knowledge Base 6
- Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services Trust Center 6
- Informatica Global Customer Support 6

Chapter 1: Introduction to SAS Connector 7

SAS Connector assets 7

SAS Connector architecture 7

Administration of SAS Connector 8

Installing the Communication component 8

- Installing the Communication component on Windows 8
- Installing the Communication component on UNIX 9

Configuring the Communication component 9

- Configuring the Communication component on Windows 10
- Configuring the Communication component on UNIX 10

Starting the Communication component on Windows 11

Starting the Communication component on UNIX 12

Chapter 2: SAS connections 13

SAS connection properties 13

Chapter 3: Mappings and mapping tasks with SAS 14

Data filters 14

Load Types 14

SAS sources in mappings 15

SAS targets in mappings 16

Appendix A: Data type and formats 18

Character data 18

Numeric Data 18

Date, Time, and Datetime data 18

Appendix B: SPI Server configuration parameters 19

Index **20**

Preface

Use the SAS Connector to learn how to read from or write to SAS by using Cloud Data Integration. Learn to create a SAS connection and develop and run mappings and mapping tasks in Cloud Data Integration.

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction to SAS Connector

SAS Connector provides connectivity between Cloud Data Integration and SAS.

You can use SAS Connector to connect to SAS from Data Integration. Use SAS Connector to read data from and write data to SAS. You can use a SAS object as a source and a target in mapping tasks and mappings.

You can switch the mapping to advanced mode to include transformations and functions that enable advanced functionality.

Note: This connector is developed by Informatica partners, third-party system integrators, or customers. You can look up the Product Availability Matrix or Informatica Marketplace for more information.

SAS Connector assets

Create assets in Data Integration to integrate data using SAS Connector.

You can perform insert, append, and upsert operations on a SAS target.

When you use SAS Connector, you can include the following Data Integration assets:

- Mapping
- Mapping task

For more information about configuring assets and transformations, see *Mappings*, *Transformations*, and *Tasks* in the Data Integration documentation.

SAS Connector architecture

The central component of the architecture for SAS Connector is the Communication component, which is also known as the SPI Server. The SPI Server is a multithreaded TCP/IP listener service. It is installed on the machine that runs SAS and handles requests from the Secure Agent.

When you use the SAS Connector to import SAS objects, the Secure Agent requests the metadata from the SPI Server. The SPI Server starts an SPI session to retrieve the information from SAS and then passes this information to the Secure Agent.

When you run a mapping that contains a SAS source or target, the Secure Agent starts a session with the SPI Server. The SPI Server accesses SAS data and passes it back to the Secure Agent for processing the data.

Administration of SAS Connector

Before you use SAS Connector, you must complete the following prerequisite tasks:

- Install the Secure Agent on the same network as the SAS environment.
- Install the Communication component (SPI Server) on the machine where SAS is installed.

Installing the Communication component

Install the Communication component on the machine that runs the SAS environment that you want to connect to.

Installing the Communication component on Windows

On Windows, the Communication component runs as a Windows service.

To install the Communication component on Windows, perform the following steps:

1. Run `setup.exe` from the following location: `<DownloadLocation>\Win32\setup.exe`
2. Click **Yes** to install PowerExchange for SAS.

   The **Welcome** window appears.
3. Click **Next** and select a directory when you want to install the Communication component.

   Click **Browse** to find a directory or use the default directory.
4. Click **Next**, select **SAS Communication Component**, and click **Next**.
5. Select a Start menu folder for program shortcuts and click **Next**.

   A confirmation page appears.
6. Click **Install**.

   The **Communication Component Setup Wizard** appears.
7. Click **Next**.
8. On the **SPI Server Configuration** page, enter the following information, and click **OK**:

Property	Description
Port Number	TCP/IP port number for the SPI Server listener process.
Log File Path	Absolute path to the log file. Default is `C:\PowerExchange for SAS`
SAS Pre Post Code	Defines if SAS exits are allowed. Default is No.
Application Path	Absolute path to the SAS executables. Default is `C:\Program Files\SAS\sas.exe`

Property	Description
Working Directory Path	Directory path for the SAS working environment. Default is `C:\testdata`
Autoexec Name	Name of the autoexec file. Default is `autoexec.sas`.

9. Click the **Users** button to add, edit, or delete users, or to change user attributes.
10. Click **OK**.
11. Review the license agreement and click **Yes**.

    The Communication component is installed.

Installing the Communication component on UNIX

Install the Communication component with a user account that has authorization to start SAS and to access the SAS data that you want to read or write. SAS Connector uses the user account to access the SAS data.

To install the Communication component on UNIX, perform the following steps:

1. Enter sh install.sh at the prompt.
2. Enter the path to the Secure Agent installation directory.
3. Select a directory where you want to install the Communication component.
4. Follow the instructions and select **Install SAS Communication Component**.

   The Communication component is installed.

The following libraries are installed with the SPI Server binaries:

- `libicuuc.<ext>.34`
- `libicui18n.<ext>.34`
- `libicudata.<ext>.34`

where `<ext>` stands for the shared library extension for the UNIX operating system that you use. For example, `libicuuc.so.34` applies to the Linux operating system.

Include these libraries in the system library path by using one of the following options:

- Add the SPI Server installation directory to the library search path.
  For example, *export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/home/PowerExchange'ForSAS:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH*
- Copy the library files to a directory that exists in the library search path.
  For example, */usr/local/lib*

Configuring the Communication component

To configure the Communication component, use the SPI Server configuration tool to maintain the configuration files.

The configuration file is located in the directory when you installed the Communication component.

Configuring the Communication component on Windows

To start the configuration tool on Windows, use the SPI Server Configuration in the Start menu. Use the SPI Server Configuration tool to configure the TCP/IP port where the SPI Server listens, the location of the SPI Server log file, and the SPI Server users and passwords.

You must also configure the SAS environment.

- Working Directory Path: Enter the directory from which SAS runs.
- Autoexec Name: Enter the file name that SAS uses as the initialization file.

In the SAS initialization file, you can assign SAS libraries or libnames that must be accessible by the Secure Agent to access the SAS metadata and the SAS data.

The following snippet shows a sample SAS autoexec file: xe "SAS autoexec file:

```
/*
  Sample SAS autoexec file
*/
LIBNAME whdata 'W:\data\saswhdata' ;
LIBNAME oltp   'W:\data\sales\2008Q1' ;
```

For more information about the LIBNAME syntax and options, see the SAS documentation.

User administration on Windows

You can add or remove users and change the user password or the user administrator property.

Perform the following steps for the user administration on Windows:

1. Click **Users** in the configuration page.
2. Enter the changes in the **User Administration** dialog box.
3. Click **Close**.

Configuring the Communication component on UNIX

To start the configuration tool on UNIX, perform the following steps:

1. At the shell prompt, navigate to the SPI Server installation directory.
2. Enter `./spiconfig`.
3. Select an option that you want to change.

   The configuration tool prompts you for a new value.
4. Select **Users** to enter the user administration details.

Configuring the SAS autoexec file

Use the SAS autoexec file named `autoexec.sas` to configure the SAS environment.

Session and user identification

The name of the SPI Server user who accesses the SAS environment is passed to the environment where SAS runs.

The values of this property can thus be used for conditional initialization logic in the SAS autoexec script.

The following system variable provides the user name to the SAS process:

System Variable	Available	Description
TBPC_USER_NAME	client/server	Name of the connected SPI Server user.

You can use the SAS function sysget() to retrieve system variables.

For example:

```
/* Store system variables into SAS macro variables: */

usrname = sysget("TBPC_USER_NAME");

/* Use the SAS macro variables to code logic: */

.............

.............

/* End of logic */
```

When the Secure Agent initiates a connection to the SAS machine, the system variables that are unavailable for client connections contain no meaningful information. The system variable values default to `"_NONE_"`.

Reading SAS character columns with binary zeros

SAS supports binary zero bytes in character columns. However, the Cloud Data Integration does not support characters with binary zeros. You can replace binary zeros with NULL characters before passing data to Cloud Data Integration.

To replace binary zeros with NULL characters, assign the macro variable CHCKNLLS in the SAS autoexec file. Add the following line in the SAS autoexec file:

```
%let CHCKNLLS=YES;
```

Removing leading spaces in text fields

Secure Agent removes the leading spaces in text fields in a SAS source and trims the leading spaces when you write to a SAS target.

You can add the following statement to the SAS autoexec file to remove leading spaces:

```
%let TRMLDSPC=YES;
```

Starting the Communication component on Windows

On Windows, the SPI Server runs as a Windows service called Informatica SPI Server.

You can start and stop this service in the following ways:

- Set Startup type to manual. Start and stop the service by using the Windows Service Manager.
- Set Startup type to automatic. The service starts automatically when you start the Windows system.
- Use a Windows command line or script file. To start, enter the following command: `net start "SPI Server"`. To stop, enter the following command: `net stop "SPI Server"`.

Starting the Communication component on UNIX

On UNIX, the SPI Server is an executable that runs as a daemon process.

To start the SPI Server, navigate to the directory in which you installed the SPI Server and enter the following command:

```
spiserver
```

Check the SPI Server log file to make sure that the server started successfully. For more information about the location of the log file, see "Configuring the Communication component" on page 9

To stop the SPI Server, enter the following command:

```
spiserver stop <host> <portnumber> <administrator name> <password>
```

You can build an initialization script to start the SPI Server automatically when the system starts. For more information, see your system documentation.

Note: If the SPI Server does not shut down normally, it might not restart. If this issue occurs, remove the SPI Server lock file in the SPI Server working directory, and then restart the SPI Server.

CHAPTER 2

SAS connections

Create a connection to read data from SAS objects and write data to SAS objects. You can use SAS connections in mappings and mapping tasks.

SAS connection properties

When you create a SAS connection, you must configure the connection properties.

The following table describes the SAS connection properties:

Property	Description
Name	The name of the connection. The name is not case sensitive and must be unique within the domain. You can change this property after you create the connection. The name cannot exceed 128 characters, contain spaces, or contain the following special characters:~ ` ! $ % ^ & * ( ) - + = { [}] | \ : ; " ' < , > . ? /
Description	Optional. The description of the connection. The description cannot exceed 4,000 characters.
Type	The **SAS** connection type.
Runtime Environment	Name of the runtime environment where you want to run the tasks. Specify a Secure Agent runtime environment.
Host	Host name of the machine that runs the SPI Server.
Port	Port number of the machine that runs the SPI Server.
User Name	User name specified in the SPI Server configuration.
Password	Password for the user.

CHAPTER 3

Mappings and mapping tasks with SAS

Use the Data Integration Mapping Designer to create a mapping. In advanced mode, the Mapping Designer updates the mapping canvas to include transformations and functions that enable advanced functionality.

Data filters

You can create simple or advanced data filters. You can also create a set of data filters for each object included in a mapping task. Each set of data filters act independently of the other sets.

Simple data filters

You can create one or more simple data filters. When you create multiple simple data filters, the associated task creates an AND operator between the filters and loads rows that apply to all simple data filters.

Advanced data filters

You can create an advanced data filter to create complex expressions that use AND, OR, or nested conditions. The expression that you enter becomes the WHERE clause in the query used to retrieve records from the source.

Load Types

When you use SAS Connector, you can write data by using full, append, or update else insert load type.

You can write data to a SAS target by using one of the following load types:

Full

By default, SAS Connector uses full load when writing to a SAS data set. When you use full load, a SAS data set is created from the output, which overrides any existing data set. All attributes defined for the target definition is applied to the SAS data set, including indexes and (in)formats.

Append

When you configure an append load, the service appends the mapping output to an existing SAS data set. If the layout of the target definition and the existing SAS data set do not match, an error occurs in the SAS processing. You can view the error in the log file.

Update Else Insert

To update row values by an identifying key, choose the Update Else Insert Load. You must define a proper key for the existing SAS dataset where you want to write the data.

SAS sources in mappings

To read data from SAS, configure a SAS object as a Source transformation in a mapping.

Specify the name and description of the SAS source. Configure the source, query options, and advanced properties for the source object.

The following table describes the source properties that you can configure for a SAS source:

Property	Description
Connection	Name of the SAS source connection. Select a source connection, or click **New Parameter** to define a new parameter for the source connection.
Source Type	Type of the SAS source objects available. Select **Single Object**. You cannot read data from multiple objects or parameterize the object.
Object	Name of the SAS source object.
Filter	Configure a simple filter or an advanced filter to remove rows at the source. You can improve efficiency by filtering early in the data flow. A simple filter includes a field name, operator, and value. Use an advanced filter to define a more complex filter condition, which can include multiple conditions using the AND or OR logical operators.

The following table describes the advanced properties that you can configure for a SAS source:

Property	Description
Trace	Indicates whether the SAS Connector must toggle verbose logging.
Compress	Compresses the data into the SAS datasets.
PreSASCode	Specifies a SAS Macro or a SAS `%include` statement to be executed before the Secure Agent reads data from the SAS source object. Ensure that the SPI Server is configured to allow the execution of SAS exits. To invoke a SAS Macro, you must define the SAS Macro in the `autoexec.sas` file in the SPI Server configuration.
PostSASCode	Specifies a SAS Macro or a SAS `%include` statement to be executed after the Secure Agent reads data from the SAS source object. Ensure that the SPI Server is configured to allow the execution of SAS exits. To invoke a SAS Macro, you must define the SAS Macro in the `autoexec.sas` file in the SPI Server configuration.
Table Name	The name of the SAS table where you want to write the data.
Library Name	The library name associated with the SAS table.

SAS targets in mappings

To write data to a SAS target, configure a SAS object as aTarget transformation in a mapping.

Specify the name and description of the SAS target. Configure the target and advanced properties for the target object.

The following table describes the target properties that you can configure for a SAS target:

Property	Description
Connection	Name of the SAS connection.
Target Type	Type of the SAS target objects available. You can write data to a single SAS target object. You cannot write data to multiple objects or parameterize the object.
Object	Name of the SAS target object.
Operation	Not applicable for SAS connector.

The following table describes the advanced properties that you can configure for a SAS target:

Property	Description
Load Type	Specifies the operation to write data to SAS objects. You can select one of the following operations: - Full - Append - Update Else Insert
Trace	Indicates whether the SAS Connector must toggle verbose logging.
Compress	Compresses the data into the SAS datasets.
PreSASCode	Specifies a SAS Macro or a SAS `%include` statement to be executed before the Secure Agent writes data into the SAS target object. Ensure that the SPI Server is configured to allow the execution of SAS exits. To invoke a SAS Macro, you must define the SAS Macro in the `autoexec.sas` file in the SPI Server configuration.
PostSASCode	Specifies a SAS Macro or a SAS `%include` statement to be executed after the Secure Agent writes data into the SAS target object. Ensure that the SPI Server is configured to allow the execution of SAS exits. To invoke a SAS Macro, you must define the SAS Macro in the `autoexec.sas` file in the SPI Server configuration.
Table Name	The name of the SAS table where you want to write the data.
Library Name	The library name associated with the SAS table.

Property	Description
Index Name (For Update Strategy)	Name of the index that defines the composite key to be used when the load type is Update Else Insert. **Note:** This property is applicable only when you select Update Else Insert as the load type.
Forward Rejected Rows	Not applicable for SAS Connector.

APPENDIX A

Data type and formats

SAS stores data that uses numeric and character data types. You can specify additional data type information by using SAS formats. SAS formats determine how the data is represented.

Character data

The length attribute from SAS specifies the number of characters allowed in the column. The Secure Agent uses this value as the scale attribute in the data object definition.

Numeric Data

For numeric data, the Secure Agent uses the SAS format assigned to the column to determine the right precision and scale values.

For example, if the SAS format of a numeric column is 10.2, the column is represented using 10 positions in total, including a decimal point and two digits after the decimal point. This is translated to a precision of 9 and a scale of 2.

If no format is assigned to a numeric column, the Secure Agent assigns a default precision of 10 and scale of 0. This might not be adequate to hold the data. Adjust the precision and scale manually to get a definition for the column that is adequate to hold the data you expect for the column.

Date, Time, and Datetime data

All Date, Time and Datetime columns are represented in SAS by numeric columns.

The format of the column usually indicates the intended use of the numeric column, but supported formats differ between SAS releases and localized versions. For this reason, when importing a SAS object, the Secure Agent does not attempt to determine whether a numeric column should be interpreted as a Date value, Time value, or Datetime value. You must manually assign these data types in the **Field Mapping** tab. The required conversion is then done automatically.

APPENDIX B

SPI Server configuration parameters

The following table lists the SPI Server configuration parameters:

Section	Parameter	Description	Example
ServerConfig	Portnumber	TCP/IP port number for the SPI Server listener process.	11080
ServerConfig	SasAppPath	Full path to the SAS executable.	`c:\progs\sas\V8\sas.exe`
ServerConfig	SasWorkingDir	Directory path for the SAS working environment.	`d:\spi\work`
ServerConfig	SasAutoExec	Autoexec file that contains the library definitions.	autoexec.sas
ServerConfig	LogFile	Specifies the location of the server log file.	`d:\spi\spiserver.log`
ServerConfig	SasLogMax	Number of SAS log files stored by the server for reader sessions and writer sessions. Minimum is 12. Default is 256.	256
ServerConfig	SASPrePostCode	Allow SAS exits (Yes/No).	Yes
ServerConfig	SpiTimeout	Number of seconds that the SPI Server waits for SAS to start. Increase this value on very slow networks and when using a lengthy PreSAS command.	10
SpiUsers	<username>	Encrypted password.	89FD2A5347541028C9FA9A26A9057FF7
SpiAdmins	<username>	Encrypted password.	200CEB26807D6BF99FD6F4F0D1CA54D4

INDEX

A

Autoexec file
  configuring 10

C

Cloud Application Integration community
  URL 5
Cloud Developer community
  URL 5
configuring communication component
  on UNIX 9, 10, 12
  on Windows 8, 10, 11

D

data filters 14
Data Integration community
  URL 5

I

Informatica Global Customer Support
  contact information 6
Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services
  web site 5
installing communication component
  on UNIX 9, 10, 12
  on Windows 8, 10, 11

M

maintenance outages 6
mapping
  SAS sources 15
  SAS targets 16

P

PowerExchange for SAS installation
  communication component 8

S

SAS character columns
  reading binary zeroes 11
SAS connections
  overview 13
  properties 13
SAS connector
  supported tasks 7
SAS Connector
  administration 8
  architecture 7
  components 7
  description 7
SAS data types
  character data 18
  date 18
  datetime 18
  numeric data 18
  time 18
SPI Server
  configuration parameters 19
starting communication component
  on UNIX 9, 10, 12
starting the communication component
  on Windows 8, 10, 11
status
  Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services 6
system status 6

T

trust site
  description 6

U

upgrade notifications 6

W

web site 5