



Allocating SAS WORK Libraries Dynamically in SAS 9.2

With SAS 9.2 now you can easily allocate multiple I/O paths and distribute your WORK to different drives based on two criteria; RANDOM or Most Free Disk SPACE.

The construct is rather simple.

Instead of a directory path for the –WORK option; which allocates a location for SAS to create WORK related sessions as what we have been used to, a file path allows for selection of a single directory among multiple listing of such directories based on either RANDOM or least used SPACE.

The file contains the complete multiple paths constructed for distributing process loads and based on method chosen; Random or Space single location are chosen dynamically for a WORK SAS session.

Example:

Assuming we have three paths specifically created for distributing process loads:

```
/disk1/saswork  
/disk2/saswork  
/disk3/saswork
```

To dynamically distribute the process load so the WORK location is used based on least utilized SPACE a file workinfo was created and its path (assuming it is on /opt/sas) was given in the configuration file as:

```
-work /opt/sas/workinfo
```

The workinfo file itself looks like:

```
/disk1/saswork  
/disk2/saswork  
/disk3/saswork  
Method=space
```

Where **Method=<value>** specifies criteria to use for selecting the directory path. In this case the least used saswork will be used that is directory chosen with most free space.

Other method is to prescribe method=random for random selection, for example:

```
/disk1/saswork  
/disk2/saswork  
/disk3/saswork  
Method=random
```

