### Job tools

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<https://www.spsstools.net/en/KO-spssmacros>

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*Instruments facilitating work.* Macros that are not connected with specific analysis or processing but rather serve to speed up various kind of job through syntax. One of them is an alternative to “SPSS Production Facility”, accelerating production of tables etc.

# MACRO !KO\_INTLACE: INTERLACING OF LISTS

Version 1, Nov 2006. Tested on SPSS Statistics 11.5, 13, 15, 26.

If in Syntax window you specify two or more lists of some elements for this macro (i.e., for example, variable names or labels quoted, or numbers), the macro will interlace the elements of the lists, so you will get one list where the 1st elements of the input lists will go first, then the 2nd their elements will go, and so forth. For example, three lists (the lists should be separated by tilde, ~): X1 X2 ~ Y1 Y2 ~ Z1 Z2 will be interlaced by the macro into the list: X1 Y1 Z1 X2 Y2 Z2. The resultant list – you may request to send it to Output Viewer window (regime “print in output”), or may request to insert it to a SPSS command, to the place where the input lists were (regime “insert in command”). Let us clarify both regimes of run.

Run in regime “print in output”.

!KO\_intlace (PRINT) x1 x2 x3 x4 ~ y1 y2 y3 y4.

* The macro call is carried out as a command.
* After the macro’s name, keyword PRINT must follow, parentherized and capitalized.
* Then the lists of elements go, lists separated by tilde.
* By default, the width of the output will be 132 bytes. If some elements (say, variable labels) are longer than 132 bytes, specify number that is greater than 132 but not greater than 255, immediately after the word PRINT, for example: (PRINT 250) – in this case elements up to 250 bytes long will be able to print in Output Viewer. You can indicate any number from 80 to 255.
* In the example presented, the macro will output in Viewer: x1 y1 x2 y2 x3 y3 x4 y4.

Run in regime “insert in command”.

variable labels !KO\_intlace v1 v2 v3 ~ "v1-label" "v2-label" "v3-label"; v4 "ZZZZZ".

* The macro call is carried out within an SPSS command (in this instance – inside command VARIABLE LABELS).
* The macro’s name may stand within this command in any place where the user needs – the macro will insert the interlaced list in that place.
* Immediately after the macro’s name, lists of elements go, lists separated by tilde.
* The lists must be separated from the subsequent syntax of the SPSS command – if there are any – by semicolon (;). In the example presented, V4 “ZZZZ” is the continuation of VARIABLE LABELS command, and not part of a list by the macro.
* In the example presented, the command will be executed in this form, as the result of the macro’s job:

variable labels v1 “v1-label” v2 “v2-label” v3 “v3-label” v4 “ZZZZ”.

Lists do not have to consist of the same number of elements. In the following example the macro interlaces lists consisting of different number of elements.

EXAMPLE 1.

!KO\_intlace (PRINT) var1 var2 var3 var4 ~ ///.

* Result: var1 / var2 / var3 / var4

*Quotes and apostrophes (single quotes)*. The macro treats differently when an element is taken in usual quotes and when it is surrounded by apostrophes. The macro leaves quotes as the element’s part, but it removes apostrophes around the element at output[[1]](#footnote-1). So use single quotes by apostrophes in order not to divide some elements at interlacing – that is, keep them as if a single element only at the time of interlacing, - like the following example shows.

EXAMPLE 2.

recode !KO\_intlace var1 '/var2 var3' ~ '(3=1) (else=2)' '(3=sysmis)'.

* Result: recode var1 (3=1) (else=2) /var2 var3 (3=sysmis).

If the combined length of all the lists is large, you may need to set SET MITERATE (tuning of the number of macroiterations in SPSS Statistics) on a larger value. SPSS informs when macroiterations are not enough (by default, their number is preset to 1000).

EXAMPLE 3.

set miterate 5000.

!KO\_intlace (PRINT 80) city name company phone ~

s1 s4 s5 s7.1 s7.2 s7.3 ~

q1 q1.4$ q2 q3.1 q3.2 q3.3 q3.4 q3.5 q3.6 q3.7$ ~

q4.1 q4.2 q4.3 q4.4 q4.6$ ~

q5 q6 q6.4$ q7 q8 q8cat ~

q9.1 q9.2 q9.3 q9.4 q10 q10.4$ ~

q11.1 q11.2 q11.3 q11.4 q11.5 q11.6 q11.7 q11.8 q11.9 ~

q12.1 q12.2 q13 q14.1 q14.2 q14.3 q14.1$ q14.5$ ~

q15 q15cat q16 q17 ~

q18.1 q18.2 q18.3 q18.4 q18.5 q18.6.

* Result:

city s1 q1 q4.1 q5 q9.1 q11.1 q12.1 q15 q18.1 name s4 q1.4$ q4.2 q6 q9.2 q11.2

q12.2 q15cat q18.2 company s5 q2 q4.3 q6.4$ q9.3 q11.3 q13 q16 q18.3 phone s7.1

q3.1 q4.4 q7 q9.4 q11.4 q14.1 q17 q18.4 s7.2 q3.2 q4.6$ q8 q10 q11.5 q14.2 q18.5

s7.3 q3.3 q8cat q10.4$ q11.6 q14.3 q18.6 q3.4 q11.7 q14.1$ q3.5 q11.8 q14.5$

q3.6 q11.9 q3.7$

In order the macro to work, you must have some data in the working dataset.

# MACRO !KO\_JOB: PRODUCTION OF STEREOTYPIC JOBS

Version 2, May 2007 (Version 1, Apr 2001)

TO COME LATER

1. The macro removes all and any apostrophes, therefore use in labels some other symbol as a part of a word, for example, write Richard`s instead of Richard’s. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)