

Going From SAS/PC to SAS Enterprise Guide®? - BI-08

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Abstract

SAS Enterprise Guide software allows users to do the following:

1. Create projects which consist of one or more SAS programs.
2. Visualize the interaction and flow between these programs.
3. Create complex charts/graphs more easily.

Introduction

When developing SAS program code and/or applications, seeing the 'big picture' can be very helpful in lining up programming objectives with business objectives. SAS Enterprise Guide® gives you this benefit with minimal setup..

Step One – Confirm Installation

The installation of the SAS Enterprise Guide® software is usually accomplished either by the SAS Administrator or IT personnel. The installation itself is quick. As usual with any Windows application, once it is complete, the SAS Enterprise Guide® icon appears on your computer's desktop as well as an entry in the Windows Start Up menu. Click on the icon to confirm that the SAS Enterprise Guide® program was installed.



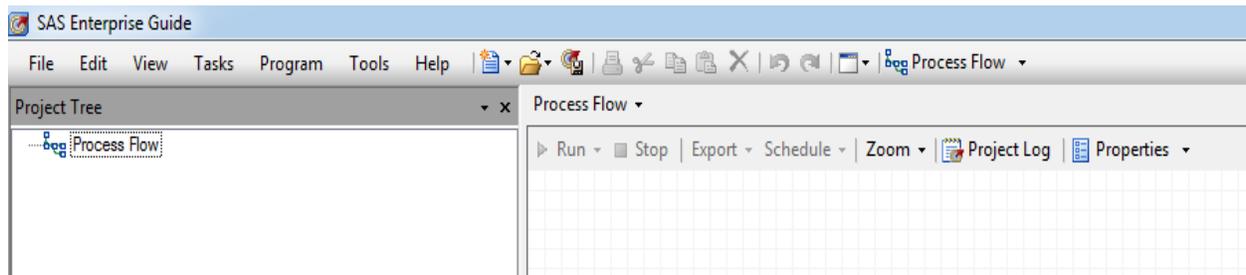
If you are running Windows 7, it would be helpful to attach the icon to the system tray.

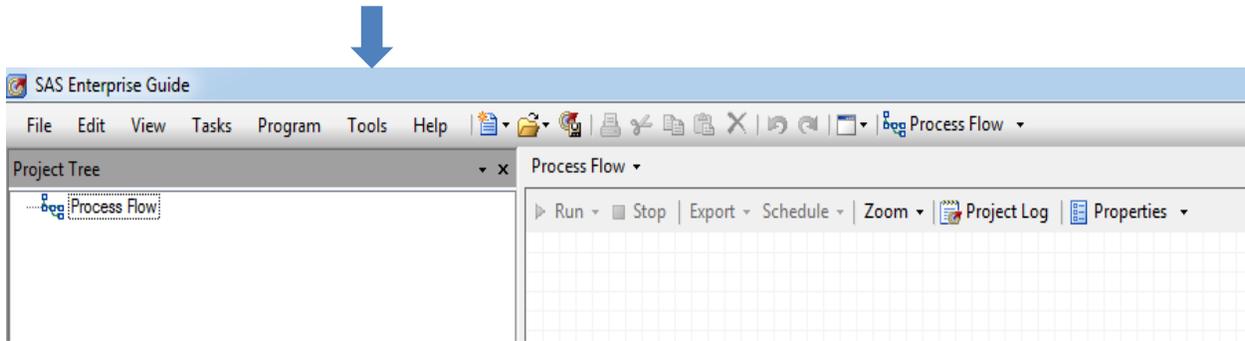


Yes, even with SAS Enterprise Guide®, you can still use SAS/PC.

Step Two – Initializing Options

By clicking on the SAS Enterprise Guide® icon, the program comes up looking like this:





The Tools Menu will help you set up SAS Enterprise Guide® for your use.

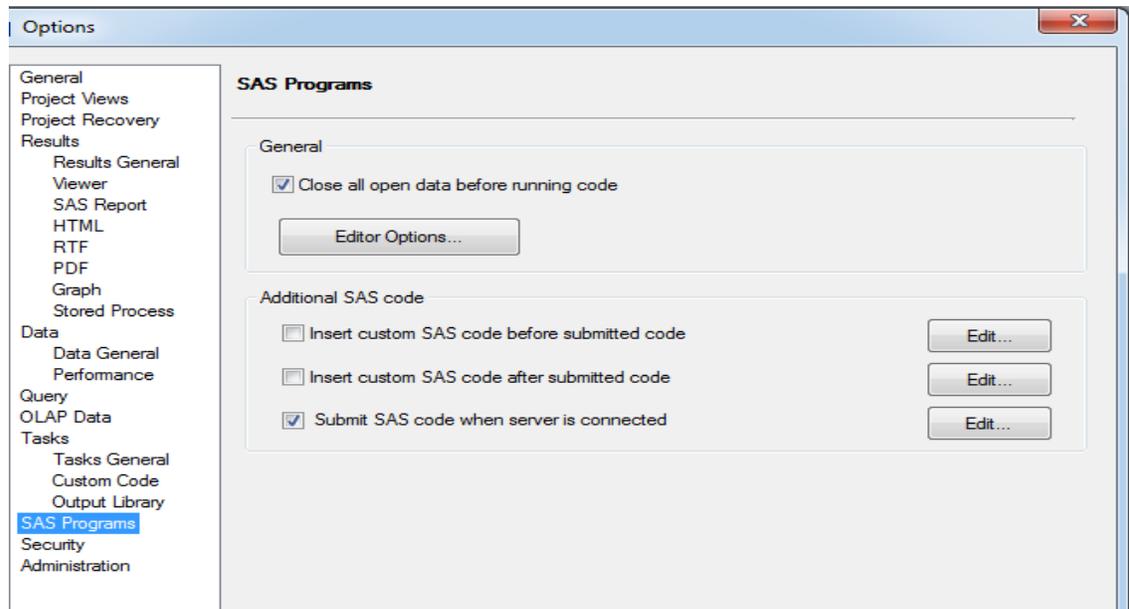
Note the following:

1. Unless configured, SAS Enterprise Guide will not automatically execute your autoexec at startup.
2. SAS Enterprise Guide does not support the use of X commands so they must be deleted.

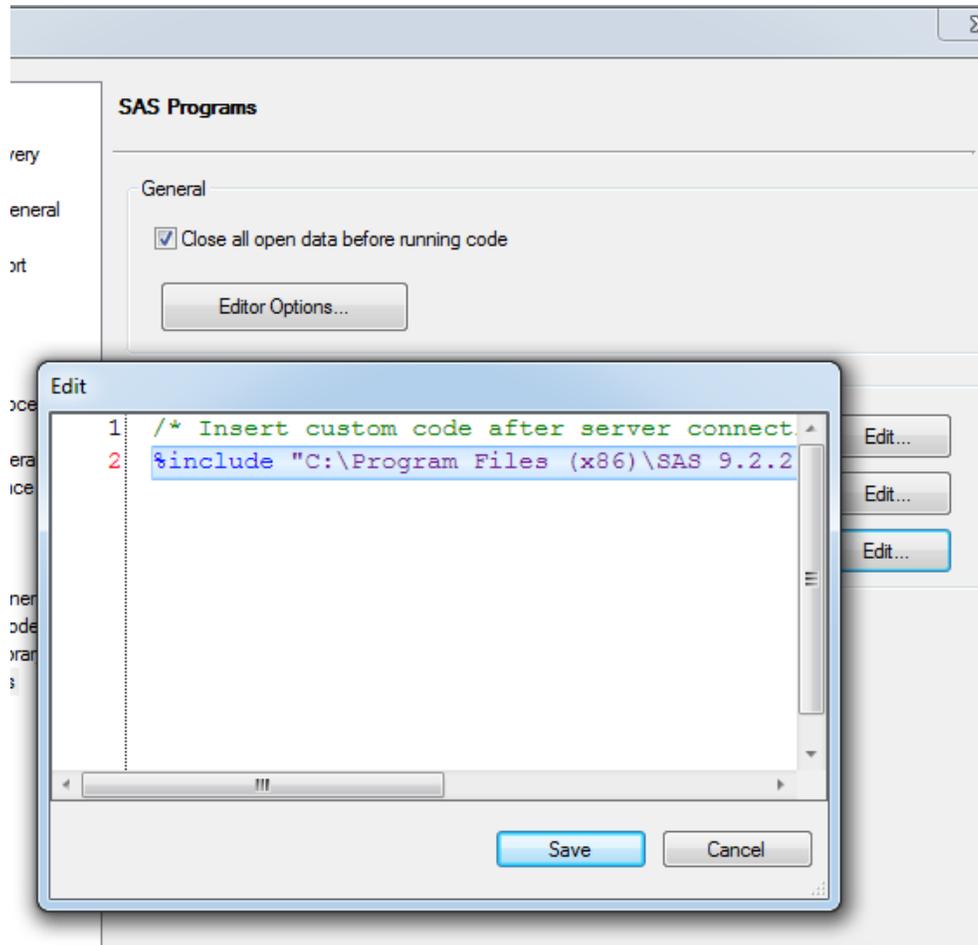
Your first SAS Enterprise Guide project will involve loading your present SAS PC autoexec into a new program contained within your new project. Here is how to do this:

1. Select File --->Open ---> Program
2. Copy your SAS PC autoexec contents to this program.
3. When your project is saved, this program will be saved as part of the project. However, it is also recommended that you save the program to your C:\ drive (Select Save ---> Save As...) and give it a name like autoexec_eg. Also, if SAS is running on Unix, your Unix password for server access is contained in the autoexec so future password changes are confined to one location.

You can also configure SAS Enterprise Guide to automatically run your autoexec_eg file at startup by selecting: Tools ---> Options ----> SAS Programs



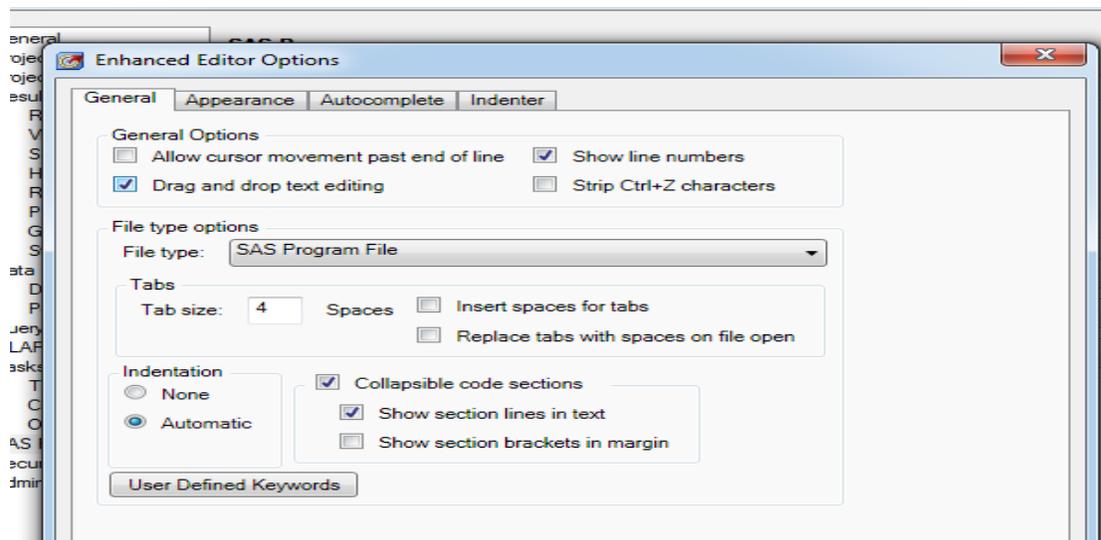
Click on box next to 'Submit SAS code when server is connected' (as shown). To the right of this selection, click on Edit... and the following Edit window will appear:



As seen in the above Edit window, enter an include command containing the fully qualified file path for your autoexec_eg file, which would look like the following:
`%include "C:\Program Files (x86)\SAS 9.2.2.3\SASFoundation\9.2\autoexec_eg.sas";`

Click on 'Save'

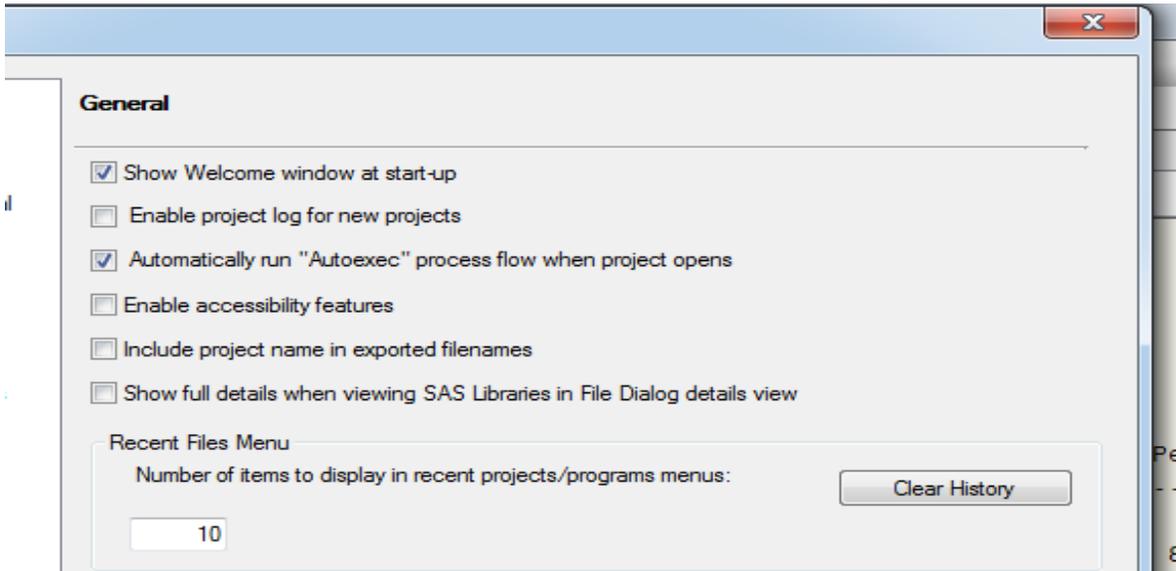
Now let's take a look at some Enhanced Editor Options.



I prefer showing line numbers so I've chosen that option. You may pick and chose through the many options available on the tabs.

Click 'Okay' after you've selected your Editor options.

Now select Tools ---> Options ---> General, and look under "Recent Files Menu" (as seen below):

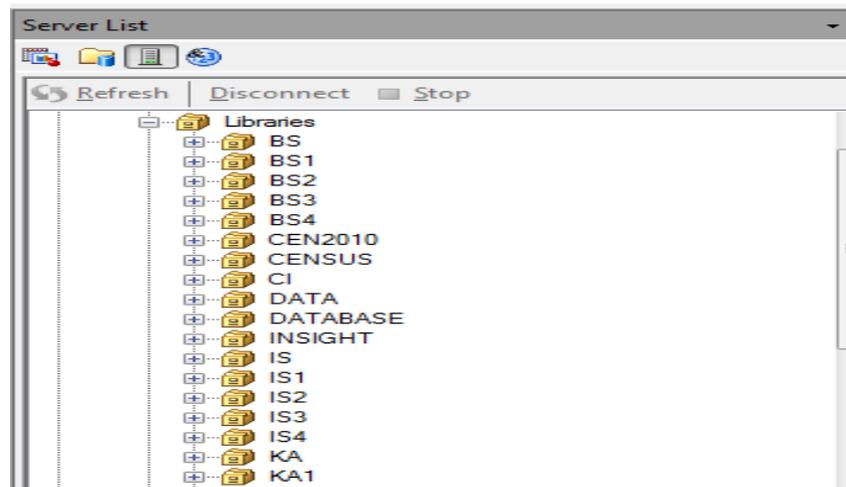


You may want to increase the number of items to display from the default (which I believe is 6).

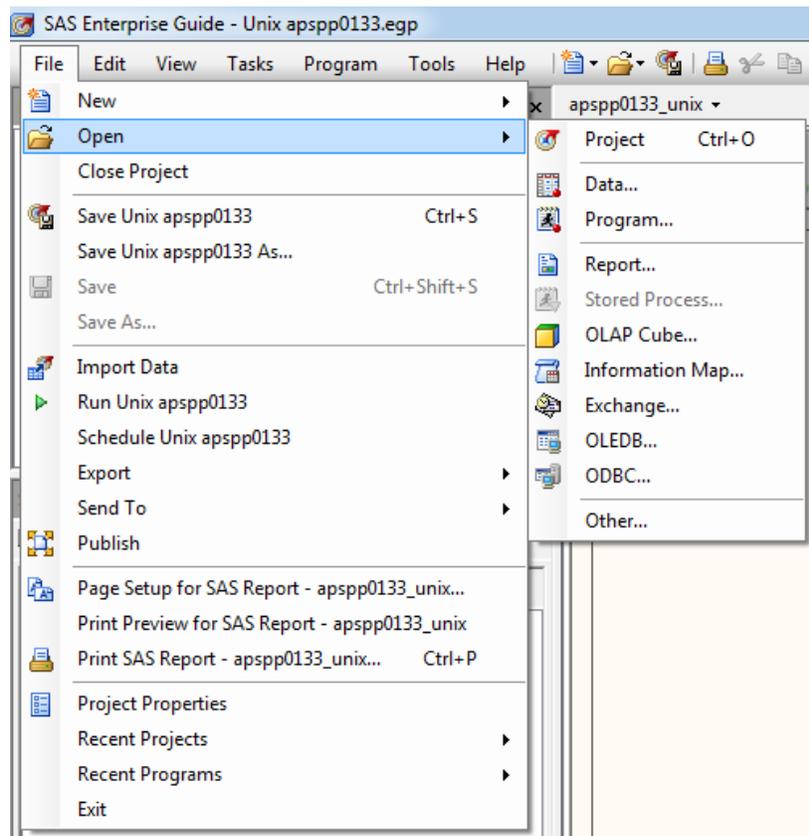
Try selecting View ---> Server List, and then expand your Libraries folder (this may take a minute or two).

You will see all of your autoexec defined libraries. If you expand a library, you will get the list of tables or files. However you can't right click on a table name to get a list of the table's fields. Instead you have to run a Proc Contents. For instance, for the ad_type table:

```
RSUBMIT; Proc Contents data=database.ad_type; run; ENDRSUBMIT;
```



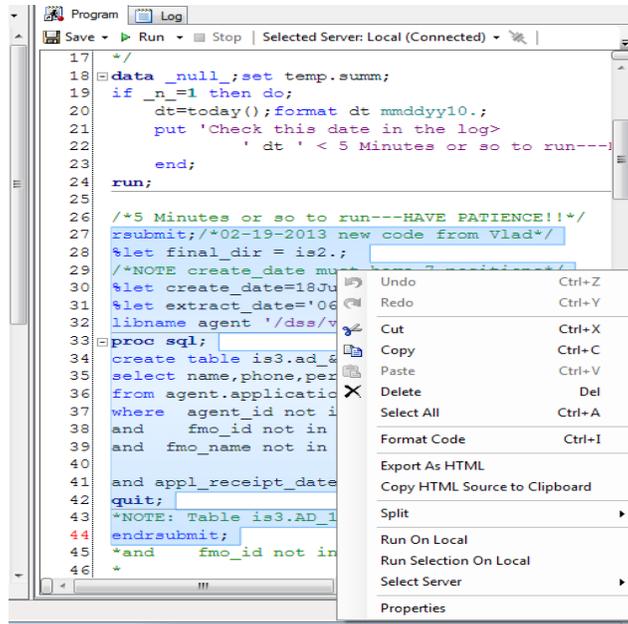
The File Menu works the same as you'd expect. However now you have a choice of programs or projects. A project may consist of one or more programs.



Step Three – Familiarizing Yourself by Learning the Basics

You can run a highlighted segment of your program just as you would do on SAS PC. To accomplish this, do the following:

1. Highlight the segment of code within your program.
2. Right click within the highlighted segment.
3. Select "Run Selection on <server>"

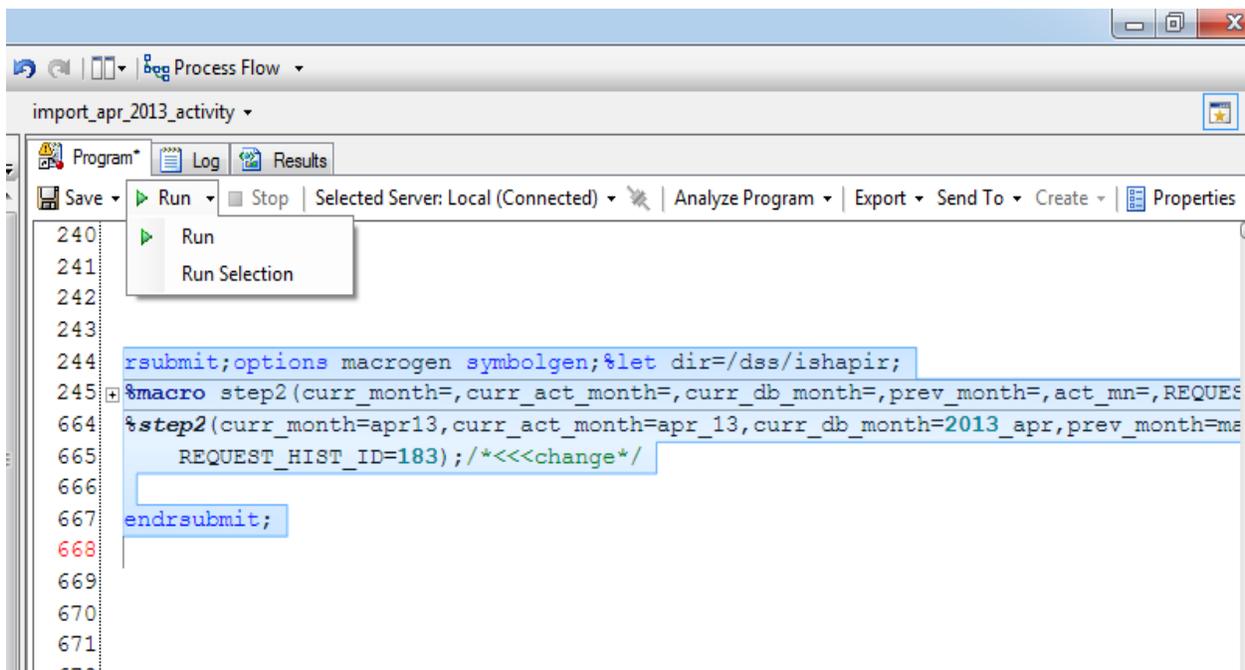


Once a Run is started, the very lower left of the screen gives you an idea of what part of the program (or process) is running.

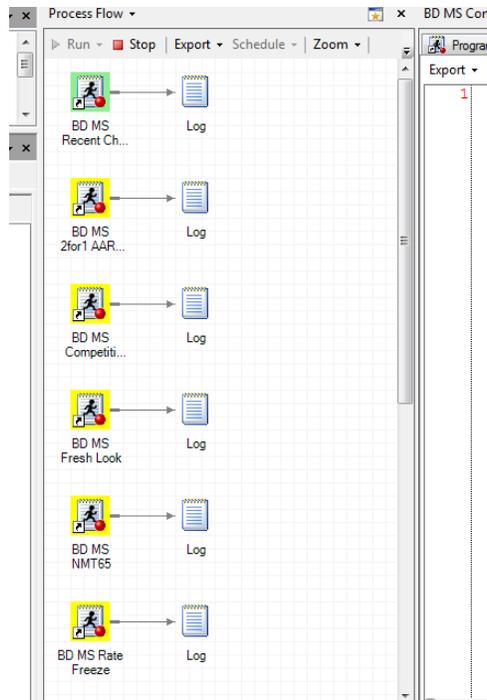
NOTE: If the selection is an RSUBMIT, then the selection should include an ENDRSUBMIT. I have experienced 'unusual results' (or lack thereof) if this is not done.

Another way to run a highlighted segment of code is to do the following:

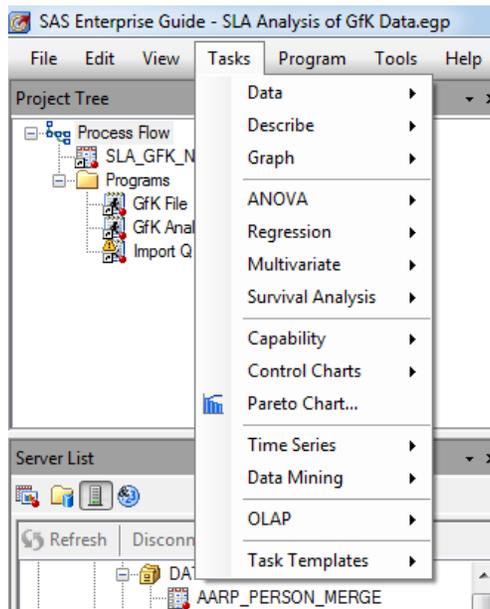
1. Highlight the code segment.
2. Select Run (by clicking the tiny black triangle next to Run) ---> Run Selection (as shown below)



If you wish to run an individual process flow and not the entire project, then one way to do this is the following: From the Project Tree, right click on the process flow and select Run <process flow>.



Selecting Tasks from the dropdown menu gives a list of tasks (as seen below):



CONCLUSIONS

Make note of the fully qualified folder where you've stored your autoexec for EG. You will need to maintain this program. You may want to back up your autoexec as well.

Make note of the fully qualified folder where the SAS Enterprise Guide® projects are being stored. You may want to back up these project files once in a while.

When submitting a piece of code to the remote server, select the RSUBMIT; through the ENDRSUBMIT;

Live Long and SAS Prosper!

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I am a telecommuter