12-13-2023 Townhall Q&A

1. **Q- Does the data transfer from SAS to Hive still default on all character variable lengths to 255?**

   A- When reading data into SAS from Hive, the Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) driver currently defaults to 255 on anything that is varchar or string-type. This is a known issue, and we are working on a few different things to try and get it resolved and to create workarounds. Currently, we are testing a configuration that the Databricks team provided to determine if that will resolve that issue. We are also adding other solutions like adding a new parameter to the selected dataset macro that will allow users to be able to pass specific links and formats to the dataset to which they are writing.

2. **Q- Can you go through the process/code changes needed to write a table from a CASLIB to our Hive schema?**

   A- There is a new [macro](#) that you can use to write out a CAS table that exists in a CASLIB to a HIVE table within the schema. You can also sign up for our [office hours](#) regarding the Ambari decommission and we can walk you through this new macro or any other questions or concerns you may have.

3. **Q- Do you have an example on how to create a new schema or a new data table in Databricks?**

   A- You will not be able to create a new schema. If you need a new schema, please fill out the [Data Access Request](#) form. Creating a new table within an existing schema can be done with Databricks notebook using a SQL language or Python. There are examples in the notebooks that were demoed in Data Camp and available to everybody with read access onto Databricks. To access the notebooks from Data Camp, visit:

   o Databricks Workspace > cdr-pda-qdas > Data Camp - Fall 2023 (R Demo Notebook)
   o Databricks Workspace > cdr-pda-qdas > Data Camp - Fall 2023 (Introduction to Python)
   o Databricks Workspace > cdr-pda-qdas > Data Camp - Fall 2023 (Python for SAS Programmers)
   o Databricks Workspace > cdr-pda-qdas > Data Camp - Fall 2023 (datacamp-ml-example)

4. **Q- Will data in our workbench or schema be archived after 13 months?**

   A- It will be archived after they have not been accessed for at least 13 months, not from the date they were created. The Portal feature will allow for direct retrieval, however there are restore times involved when retrieving from deep storage. Nothing is being archived at this point.

5. **Q- Will a simple read, such as PROC CONTENTS in SAS Viya, be considered an access that will reset the 13-month archive timeline for a given dataset?**

   A- Accessing or opening a file would set a time stamp that would have a newer access date. We would need to test it to confirm.

6. **Q- Multiple members of our team have Databricks (DBX) and/or SAS Viya roles in HARP but cannot access the Data & Analytics (D&A) Portal. What would be the next steps to gain access?**

   A- Submit a Help Desk ticket. If no one from your group can access the D&A Portal there may be something incorrect with the organization setup.