

Where do the titles or footnotes go when using PROC SGPLOT in ODS PDF?

Julie Liu, Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA

ABSTRACT

Normally people would think titles and/or footnotes are shown, by default, in the ODS statistical graphics procedures (SG procedures), such as PROC SGPLOT, provided that they are not turned off. However, when using these procedures with the ODS PDF statement, this is surprisingly untrue. Interestingly, by adding ODS LAYOUT statement, magically those titles or footnotes pop out in the output! Also, placing TITLE or FOOTNOTE statements before or after ODS LAYOUT shows different results. This presentation will use examples to demonstrate the results.

INTRODUCTION

In a statistical analysis and reporting environment, a clear presentation of analysis data and graphs is essential. Not only are the data themselves informative, but also, proper titles and/or footnotes help clearly communicate the results of the analysis to data consumers. Fortunately, SAS provides a number of tools to present results; one of the most popular tools is ODS, due to its functionality.

ODS stands for Output Delivery System, which produces SAS procedures and DATA step output with a wide range of formatting options that can output to many different destinations, such as HTML, RTF, PDF, and so on. For example, if you choose PDF as the destination, then by using the ODS PDF statement, it produces a PDF output.

Other than providing formatting options and different destinations, ODS has included a list of statistical graphics procedures (SG procedures):

- SGPLOT
- SGPANEL
- SGSCATTER
- SGRENDER
- SGDESIGN

These graphics procedures use ODS destination statements to control where the output goes and how it looks.

In most SAS environments, employing the TITLE or FOOTNOTE statements will generate titles or footnotes in the results. However, this is untrue when using ODS PDF to display ODS statistical graphics procedures results, despite using the statements above, one is unable to generate the titles and footnotes.

How do we fix this?

The magic statement is ODS LAYOUT. The ODS LAYOUT statement is in preproduction and experimental for SAS 9.0 through SAS 9.3. However, it is in production starting with SAS 9.4. This paper will demonstrate how using ODS PDF and PROC SGPLOT with ODS LAYOUT, produces graphs with titles and footnotes. The examples below are based on UNIX SAS 9.4.

EXAMPLES

The following examples use ODS PDF to output graphs using PROC SGPLOT with a title and a footnote. We will show what happens to the title and the footnote in the following scenarios:

1. Single Page Output
 - a. Without ODS LAYOUT
 - b. With ODS LAYOUT positioned in a particular order within the code
2. Multiple Page Output
 - a. With ODS LAYOUT positioned in a particular order within the code

EXAMPLE 1A – WITHOUT ODS LAYOUT

Result – No matter where the TITLE and FOOTNOTE statements are located in the code, no title or footnote will be seen in the output.

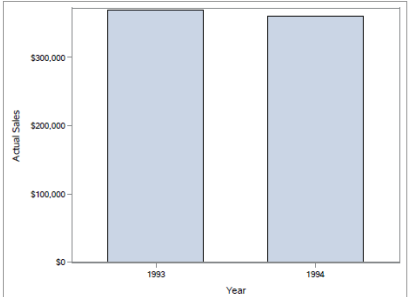
Code	Output
<pre> /* no title and footnote will be in the output file */ ods listing close; ods pdf file="&output_loc./example1a.pdf"; title; footnote; title1 "title1"; footnote1 "footnote1"; proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=actual barwidth=0.6; run; ods pdf close; ods listing; </pre>	

Table 1. Without ODS LAYOUT**EXAMPLE 1B – WITH ODS LAYOUT PLACED AFTER TITLE AND FOOTNOTE**

Result – the title and the footnote are shown.

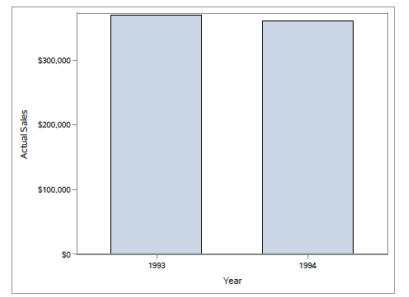
Code	Output
<pre> /* title and footnote will be in the output file */ ods listing close; ods pdf file="&output_loc./example1b.pdf"; title; footnote; title1 "title1"; footnote1 "footnote1"; ods layout start; proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=actual barwidth=0.6; run; ods layout end; ods pdf close; ods listing; </pre>	

Table 2. With ODS LAYOUT Placed After TITLE and FOOTNOTE

ODS LAYOUT should be placed after TITLE and FOOTNOTE in order to display them in the PDF file. If they are placed in any other positions in the code, such as Position 1 in the Table 2 sample code, the title and the footnote will not be seen in the PDF output file.

From Example 1a and 1b, we can summarize that in order to display titles and/or footnotes to the ODS PDF destination with SG procedures, ODS LAYOUT has to be used after the TITLE/FOOTNOTE statements.

EXAMPLE 2A – WITH ODS LAYOUT POSITIONED IN A PARTICULAR ORDER WITHIN THE CODE FOR A MULTIPLE PAGE OUTPUT.

Let's look at several scenarios where TITLE and FOOTNOTE statements are in different places in the code. Of note: we added the STARTPAGE option to control outputting graphs to multiple pages.

Scenario A – Follow the rule defined in Example1b where ODS LAYOUT is placed *after* TITLE and FOOTNOTE for each page.

Result –Titles and footnotes will be appropriately displayed on each page.

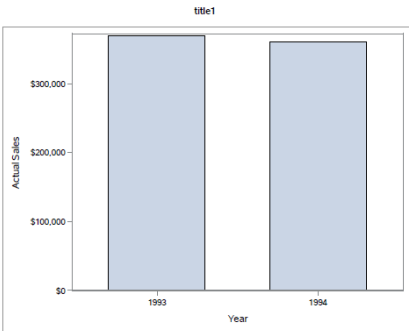
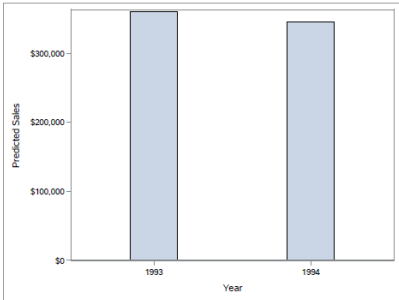
Code	Output
<pre>ods listing close; ods pdf file="&output_loc./example2a.pdf" startpage=never; /* first page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title1"; footnote1 "footnote1"; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* the first sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=actual barwidth=0.6; run; ods layout end; /* second page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title2"; footnote1 "footnote2"; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* the second sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=predict barwidth=0.3; run; ods layout end; ods pdf close; ods listing;</pre>	<p>Page1</p>  <p>footnote1</p> <p>Page 2</p>  <p>footnote2</p>

Table 3. ODS LAYOUT is placed after TITLE and FOOTNOTE for each page

Scenario B – ODS LAYOUT is placed after the TITLE and FOOTNOTE in the first page, however on the second page, ODS LAYOUT is placed before TITLE and FOOTNOTE.

Result – The title and footnote are not seen at all on the second page. They are only seen on the first page where we placed ODS LAYOUT after TITLE and FOOTNOTE. As such, this reinforces that the placement of ODS LAYOUT is important.

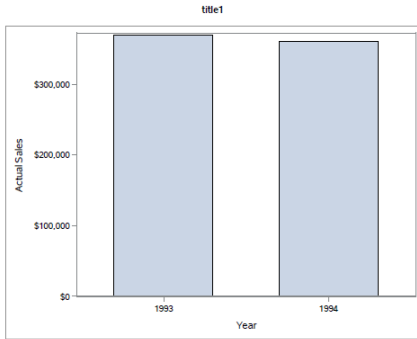
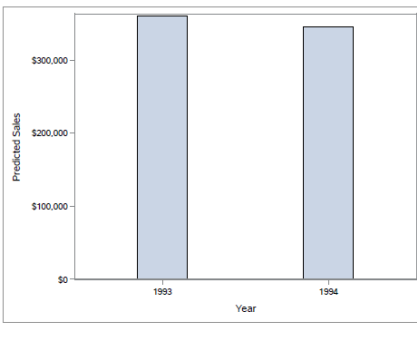
Code	Output
<pre>ods listing close; ods pdf file="&output_loc./example2b.pdf" startpage=never; /* first page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title1"; footnote1 "footnote1"; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* the first sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=actual barwidth=0.6; run; ods layout end; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* second page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title2"; footnote1 "footnote2"; /* the second sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=predict barwidth=0.3; run; ods layout end; ods pdf close; ods listing;</pre>	<p>Page1</p>  <p>title1</p> <p>Actual Sales</p> <p>Year</p> <p>footnote1</p> <p>Page 2</p>  <p>title1</p> <p>Predicted Sales</p> <p>Year</p> <p>footnote1</p>

Table 4. ODS LAYOUT is placed after the TITLE and FOOTNOTE in the first page and before the TITLE and FOOTNOTE in the second page

Scenario C – ODS LAYOUT is placed before the TITLE and FOOTNOTE in the first and second pages.

Result – The title and footnote do not display on the first page, instead, the first page's title and footnote show on the second page. This is not what is expected.

Code	Output
<pre>ods listing close; ods pdf file="&output_loc./example2c.pdf" startpage=never; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* first page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title1"; footnote1 "footnote1"; /* the first sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=actual barwidth=0.6; run; ods layout end; ods pdf startpage=now; ods layout start; /* second page title and footnote */ title; footnote; title1 "title2"; footnote1 "footnote2"; /* the second sgplot */ proc sgplot data=sashelp.prdsale; vbar year / response=predict barwidth=0.3; run; ods layout end; ods pdf close; ods listing;</pre>	<p>Page1</p>  <p>Page 2</p> 

Table 5. ODS LAYOUT is placed before TITLE and FOOTNOTE for each page

CONCLUSION

Contrary to people's perceptions that titles and/or footnotes are simple and easy to use, the usage in ODS PDF with SG procedure outputs is not straightforward. Fortunately with ODS LAYOUT placed in a particular position in the code, titles and/or footnotes are able to be displayed properly.

REFERENCES

Mays, Rich (2006). "ODS LAYOUT is like an Onion." Proceedings of SUGI 31. Available at <http://www2.sas.com/proceedings/sugi31/159-31.pdf>.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Your comments and questions are valued and encouraged. Contact the author at:

Julie Liu
Los Angeles Medical Center
Kaiser Permanente
4841 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323-783-7175
Julie.w.liu@kp.org

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