

What's New with SDA?

Tom Piazza
CSM Program and Survey Research Center
University of California, Berkeley
(piazza@csm.berkeley.edu)

1. SDA ARCHIVER

- **Purpose:**
 - Make life easier for data archivists
 - Reduce need to execute command-line programs
 - Easier to train people to set up SDA datasets
 - Eventually allow individual users to set up their own datasets
- **Try it out**

Set up your own dataset in SDA on the Berkeley server using the new SDA Archiver procedure.

The URL is: http://sda.berkeley.edu:8080/sda_archiver

User Name: archivist

Password: 4websda

(This password will work at least until the end of June.)

- **What you need to set up a dataset in SDA:**
 1. **ASCII data file, with variables in fixed columns**

(Maximum size is currently 50 MB, when using the SDA Archiver)
 2. **SDA DDL file (metadata file)**

If you have a DDI XML file, you can convert it to an SDA DDL file by using the online DDItoDDL Conversion Service at <http://sda.berkeley.edu:8080/DdiReaderWebApp>

If you only have SAS, SPSS, and Stata data definition files, you can download the XCONVERT program at: <http://sda.berkeley.edu/ddi/tools/xconvert.html>

This program can produce either a DDI file or a DDL file. However, note that you will not have the text of questions (which are not included in SAS/SPSS/Stata files) unless you add them to the DDL file.

3. List of variables for the codebook, with headings inserted

If you do not have a variable list that includes headings, the Archiver will start you off with a simple list of variables, and you can add headings by using Notepad.

- **Quick Demonstration Using SDA Test Files**

- Download three small files:
 - [sdadata.txt](#) -- Data file
 - [sdaddl.txt](#) -- DDL file
 - [varlist.txt](#) -- Variable list
 - Start up the SDA Archiver: http://sda.berkeley.edu:8080/sda_archiver
-

2. NEW INTERFACE

- **Key Features**

- Selection of programs, variables, and options all on one screen
- No longer necessary to type variable names
- Description of each variable readily available

- **Datasets You Can Analyze With the New Interface**

- Go to: <http://sda.berkeley.edu/test22.html>
-

This summary page is currently located at: <http://sda.berkeley.edu/present/iassist06>

For information on obtaining SDA software, go to: <http://sda.berkeley.edu/info/GetSDA.html>

The SDA home page is at: <http://sda.berkeley.edu>
