

# Stata Markdown Tutorial

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## Overview

Here are some notes and examples for using Stata Markdown from German Rodriguez. For instructions on installation and dependencies, refer to the Stata Markdown website.

I give examples of some things we might want to do in social science related projects.

## Markdown

Markdown is a simple markup language that, through Pandoc, can be rendered in a variety of formats, including pdf (via tex), html, or docx. If you are used to writing latex or html, then markdown will be easy, since it admits a lot of the syntax used in those languages.

There are lots of cheatsheets out there, such as:

<https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/wiki/Markdown-Cheatsheet>

Lots of things are done very simply in Markdown. E.g., here is a numbered list:

1. Foo
2. Foo 2
3. Foo 3

The header of this document is a YAML header for Markdown, which contains meta instructions for the Markdown->Pandoc compilation.

## Workflow

The way I work is to type into this document and then compile by running the requisite commands that I have put into a separate .do file called “stata-

markdown-example-do.do”. That way, I can load the various compilation options (that is, the options to the `markstat` function in a way that I can easily recall them later. Using the `do` button in the Stata `.do` file editor gives me one button compilation. I also have my commands to set the working directory and also load in dependencies (e.g., the `stata.sty` file needed to compile to PDF).

I may also have another Stata `.do` file that I use as a scratch pad for working out the kinks of the Stata code that I then insert as code chunks into this document.

## “Simple Script” Example

Here we replicate the simple example from German Rodriguez’s “Simple Script” example, tweaking a few things to make some additional points.

First, we read the fuel efficiency data that is shipped with Stata:

```
. sysuse auto, clear  
(1978 Automobile Data)
```

To study how fuel efficiency depends on weight it is useful to transform the dependent variable from “miles per gallon” to “gallons per 100 miles”:

```
. gen gphm = 100/mpg
```

We can then plot the relationship. We will run this code in a manner that is not echoed in the resulting output file (PDF, docx, etc.).

## Regression table

Something that we frequently need to do is to report regression tables. We can use the `esttab` function in Stata and insert its output here:

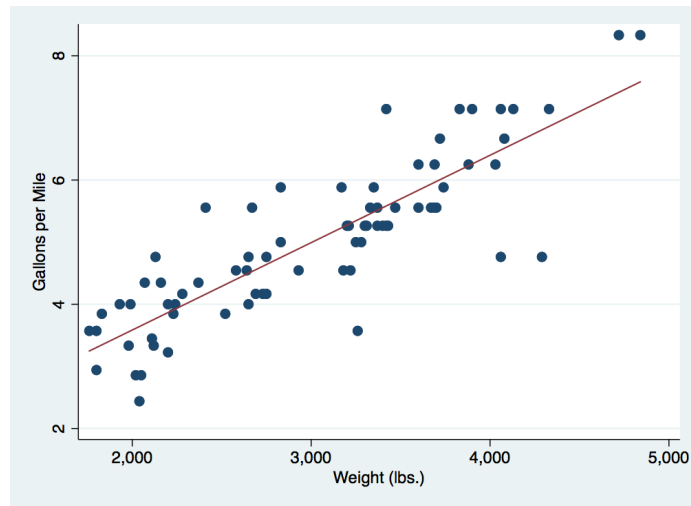


Figure 1: Fuel Efficiency

(1)	
	gphm
Weight (lbs.)	0.00*** (0.00)
Constant	0.77* (0.33)
Observations	74
r2	0.73

Standard errors in parentheses

\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

(If you look at the Stata Markdown .stmd file, you will see that I used tex commands to insert the regression table and center it.)