Introduction to Stata

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• Have you heard about Stata?

What is Stata?

- Statistical software
- Has a user interface and code
- Most statistical methods are implemented
- It's licensed software, so it's not free

Why Stata?

- User interface: means users do not need to know how to write code
- It is great for mixed models, survey data analysis, etc
- Can be used for reproducible work via do files
- Researchers can contribute their modules: there's even a Stata journal

Main components

- Data browser
 - View your data
 - Can edit but not recommended
 - Help files: very detailed and interconnected
 - Can import data from many file types
 - Intuitive menu
 - Console: shows the latest code
 - Log: shows the latest results
 - do file editor: make your work reproducible

Are you ready to start using Stata?

First, type the following command (or copy paste it)

sysuse autos

What do you get?

sysuse autos

```
. sysuse autos
file "autos.dta" not found
r(601);
end of do-file
r(601);
```

So, what went wrong?

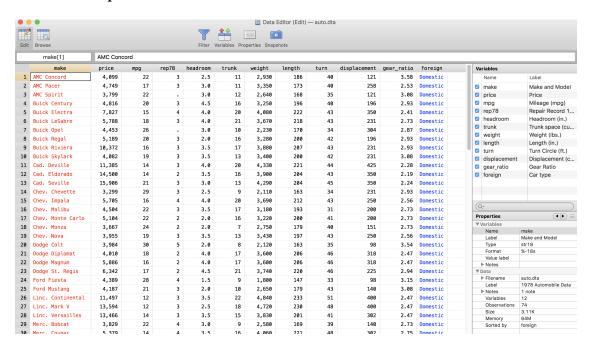
Lets see if the error message gives us a hint as to what could have gone wrong.

The filename you specified cannot be found. Perhaps you mistyped the name, or it may be on another CDor directory.

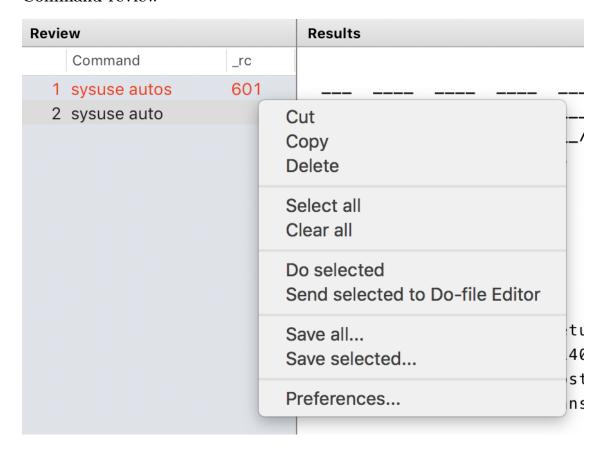
Ohh, it could be that we incorrectly typed the name! Try this next:

sysuse auto

Now lets explore the data



Command review



Basic syntax

What do you want to do?

- Described by an action
- Think of it as a **verb**
- For example, load a data set included in Stata with sysuse

What are you going to use for that action?

- That's the actual data that you will use
- Think of it as the **subject**
- For example, the auto data set

Keep track of your work

- Do you remember all the options in a user interface you used 6 months ago?
- It's important to keep track of your work!
- Useful when learning so you can revisit what you did: see what worked, what didn't
- Two main options in Stata: log files and do files

Log files

These files keep track of everything:

- The commands you used
- The commands that specify what you did with the user interface
- The output you generated: tables, results
- They do not save images

Start a log for our session

Example log file



name: <unnamed>

log: /Users/lcollado/Desktop/prueba.smcl

log type: smcl

opened on: 23 Dec 2016, 17:39:21

. tab foreign

Cum.	Percent	Freq.	Car type	
70.27 100.00	70.27 29.73	52 22	Domestic Foreign	
	100.00	74	Total	

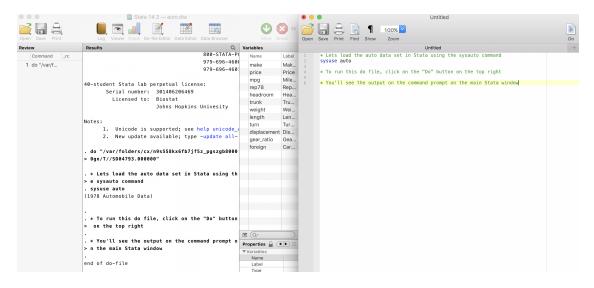
. graph bar foreign

. exit

Do files

- These files contain commands only
- They are an executive summary of what you did
- Great for analyses you want to share
- You can include comments describing the logic of what you are doing
- ullet You can execute them to run commands
- \bullet Cleaner than log files.
- Open the do file and paste the command to load the auto data set.

Example do file



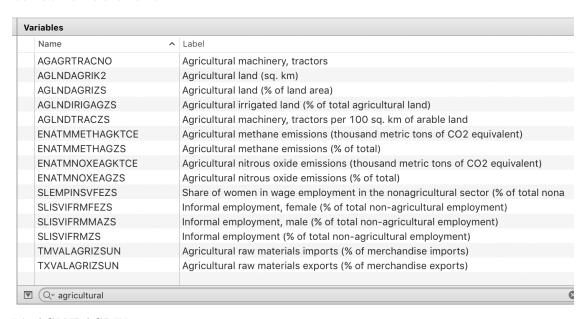
Exercise

Use the Afghanistan data from the Worldbank and make a plot of the agricultural land (in squared kilometers). Start by loading the data!

No cheating!!!

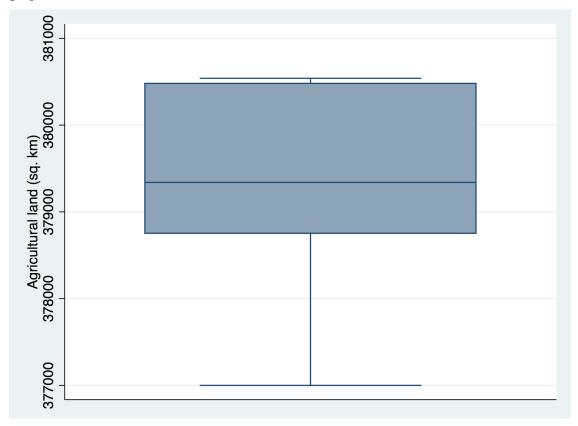
Don't look at the next slides! Try first!

What variable is it?

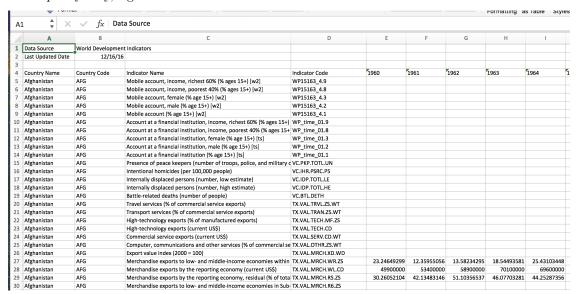


It's AGLNDAGRIK2

use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear
graph box AGLNDAGRIK2



Looks pretty easy, right? Just 2 lines of code.



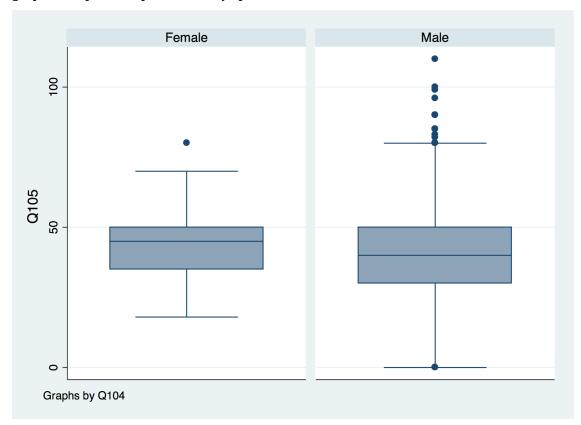
The original data was a bit more messy! Transforming it to something we can use is called *data cleaning* or *data tidying*.

Stata syntax: options

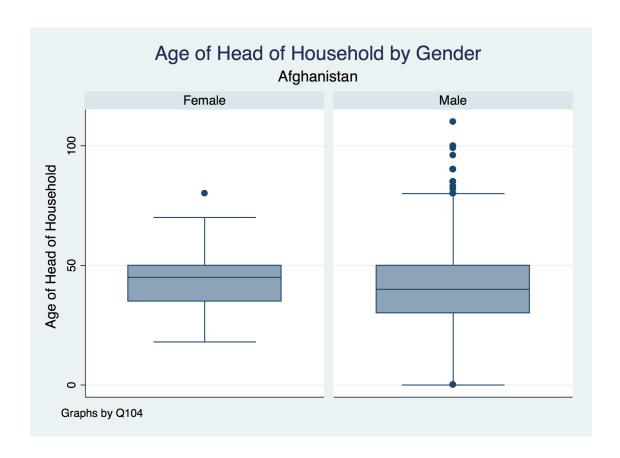
- Many Stata commands have options that give us more fine tuned control over what we want to do
- You can find them also via the user interface: many are checkboxes
- Think of options as adjectives
- Examples: title of a graph, which data to use, colors
- They normally come after a comma
- You can find the options in the Stata help

Options example

use "HH Listing.dta" graph box q105 if q103 == 1, by(q104)



```
graph box q105 if q103 == 1,ytitle(Age of Head of Household)/*
   */ by(, title(Age of Head of Household by Gender) /*
   */ subtitle(Afghanistan)) by(q104)
```



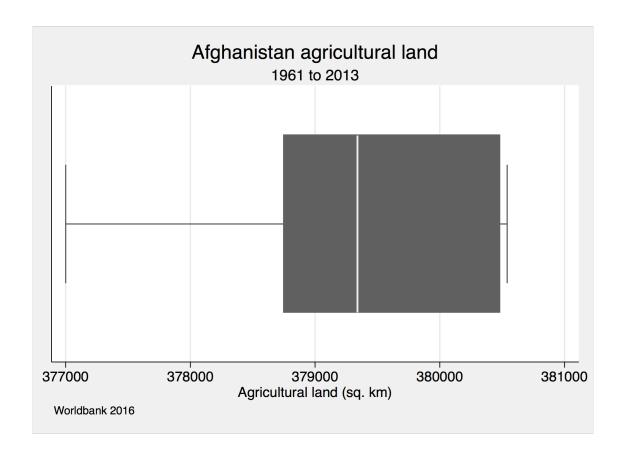
Stata help

- It comes in two shapes: help pages for commands and PDF documents
- Help pages are more direct
- Sometimes it's easier to scroll down to the examples section
- The help pages are interconnected, so use the hyperlinks
- Check out the help page for graph box: help graph box

Exercise continued

Improve the plot you made earlier as if you were to show the distribution of the agricultural land of Afghanistan in the media (news) or a journal.

```
graph hbox AGLNDAGRIK2, title(Afghanistan agricultural land) /*
    */ subtitle(1961 to 2013) note(Worldbank 2016) scheme(sj)
```



See all the entries for a variable: list

list AGLNDAGRIK2

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear (Written by R. \,\,
```

. list AGLNDAGRIK2

```
| AGLNDA~2 |
1. |
2. |
      377000 |
3. |
       377600 |
       378100 |
5. | 378730 |
   |----|
6. l
      378750 |
       379130 |
      379790 |
8. |
9. | 379800 |
10. | 379960 |
   |----|
11. | 380060 |
```

```
12.
        380360 |
13. |
        380460 |
        380480 |
14.
15. |
        380480 |
    |----|
16. |
        380480 |
17. |
        380480 |
18. |
        380500 |
19. |
        380500 |
20. |
        380490 |
21. |
        380490 |
22. |
        380530 |
23. |
        380540 |
24. |
        380540 |
25. |
        380540 |
26. |
        380540 |
27. |
        380540 |
28. |
        380450 |
29. |
        380400 |
30. |
        380400 |
    |----|
31. |
        380400 |
32. |
        380300 |
33. |
        380300 |
34. |
        379340 |
35. |
        378130 |
    |----|
36. |
        377530 |
37. |
        377520 |
38. |
        377900 |
39. |
        378670 |
        377530 |
40. |
41. |
        377530 |
42.
        377530
43. |
        377530 |
44. |
        379100 |
45. l
        379110 |
   |----|
46. l
        379100 |
47.
        379100 |
48. I
        379100 |
49. |
        379100 |
50. |
        379100 |
    |----|
51. |
        379100 |
52. |
        379100 |
53. |
        379100 |
        379100 |
54. |
55. |
    |----|
56. |
```

```
57. | . |
codebook: main information
codebook AGLNDAGRIK2
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear
(Written by R.
. codebook AGLNDAGRIK2
______
AGLNDAGRIK2
              type: numeric (double)
              range: [377000,380540] units: 10
       unique values: 28
                                        missing .: 4/57
              mean: 379405
           std. dev: 1110.28

    10%
    25%
    50%
    75%
    90%

    377530
    378750
    379340
    380480
    380530

         percentiles: 10%
summarize: univariate statistical summary
summarize AGLNDAGRIK2
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear
(Written by R.
. summarize AGLNDAGRIK2
   Variable | Obs Mean Std. Dev. Min Max
                 53 379404.5 1110.278 377000
AGLNDAGRIK2 |
                                                     380540
summarize AGLNDAGRIK2, detail
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear
```

Agricultural

(Written by R.)

. summarize AGLNDAGRIK2, detail

Agricultural land (sq. km)

	Percentiles	Smallest		
1%	377000	377000		
5%	377530	377520		
10%	377530	377530	Obs	53
25%	378750	377530	Sum of Wgt.	53
50%	379340		Mean	379404.5
		Largest	Std. Dev.	1110.278
75%	380480	380540		
90%	380530	380540	Variance	1232718
95%	380540	380540	Skewness	5865218
99%	380540	380540	Kurtosis	2.045356

describe: similar to codebook

describe AGLNDAGRIK2

```
. use arg\_worldbank\_2016.dta, clear (Written by R. )
```

. describe AGLNDAGRIK2

variable name	storage type	1 0	value label	variable label
AGLNDAGRIK2	double	%9.0g		Agricultural land (sq. km)

tabulate: make a table

tabulate AGLNDAGRIK2

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear (Written by R. \,\,
```

. tabulate AGLNDAGRIK2

Agricultura | l land (sq. |

km)	<u>.</u>	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
377000	1	1	1.89	1.89
377520		1	1.89	3.77
377530		5	9.43	13.21
377600		1	1.89	15.09
377900		1	1.89	16.98

378100	1	1	1.89	18.87
378130		1	1.89	20.75
378670		1	1.89	22.64
378730		1	1.89	24.53
378750		1	1.89	26.42
379100		10	18.87	45.28
379110		1	1.89	47.17
379130		1	1.89	49.06
379340		1	1.89	50.94
379790		1	1.89	52.83
379800		1	1.89	54.72
379960		1	1.89	56.60
380060		1	1.89	58.49
380300		2	3.77	62.26
380360		1	1.89	64.15
380400		3	5.66	69.81
380450	1	1	1.89	71.70
380460	1	1	1.89	73.58
380480		4	7.55	81.13
380490		2	3.77	84.91
380500		2	3.77	88.68
380530		1	1.89	90.57
380540	1	5	9.43	100.00
Total		53	100.00	

tabulate: include missing observations

tabulate AGLNDAGRIK2, missing

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear (Written by R. \,\,
```

. tabulate AGLNDAGRIK2, missing

Agricultura | l land (sq. |

l land (sq.				
km)	1	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
377000	-+ 	 1	1.75	1.75
377520	İ	1	1.75	3.51
377530	1	5	8.77	12.28
377600	1	1	1.75	14.04
377900	1	1	1.75	15.79
378100	1	1	1.75	17.54
378130	1	1	1.75	19.30
378670	1	1	1.75	21.05
378730	1	1	1.75	22.81
378750	1	1	1.75	24.56
379100	1	10	17.54	42.11
379110	1	1	1.75	43.86
379130		1	1.75	45.61

379340	1	1	1.75	47.37
379790	1	1	1.75	49.12
379800	1	1	1.75	50.88
379960	1	1	1.75	52.63
380060	1	1	1.75	54.39
380300	1	2	3.51	57.89
380360	1	1	1.75	59.65
380400	1	3	5.26	64.91
380450	1	1	1.75	66.67
380460		1	1.75	68.42
380480		4	7.02	75.44
380490	1	2	3.51	78.95
380500	1	2	3.51	82.46
380530	1	1	1.75	84.21
380540	1	5	8.77	92.98
•	1	4	7.02	100.00
Total		57	100.00	

count number of observations

count if AGLNDAGRIK2 == .

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear (Written by R. \,\,
```

. count if AGLNDAGRIK2 == .
4

generate: create a new variable

generate agrilog = log10(AGLNDAGRIK2)

- . use $arg_worldbank_2016.dta$, clear (Written by R.)
- . generate agrilog = log10(AGLNDAGRIK2)
 (4 missing values generated)
- . summarize agrilog

Variable	l Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
agrilog	 53	5.579101	.001272	5.576341	5.5804

drop: delete variables

drop agrilog

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta, clear
(Written by R. )
. generate agrilog = log10(AGLNDAGRIK2)
(4 missing values generated)
. drop agrilog
```

You can use keep if the list of variables you want to retain is shorter than the list of variables you want to delete.

Tougher exercise

Calculate a t-test for a difference in means for the agricultural land between the even and the odd years. Tip: remember that in math the modulus 2 is 0 for even values and 1 for odd values.

```
. use arg_worldbank_2016.dta
(Written by R. )
. generate modulus = mod(Year, 2)
. label define moduluslabel 0 "Even" 1 "Odd"
. label values modulus moduluslabel
. ttest AGLNDAGRIK2, by(modulus)
```

Two-sample t test with equal variances

Group		Mean			[95% Conf.	Interval]
Even Odd	26	379436.2 379374.1	214.8517 220.2221		378993.7 378921.4	379878.6 379826.7
combined		379404.5	152.5084	1110.278	379098.5	379710.6
diff		62.07977	307.9249		-556.1052	680.2647
diff =		- mean(Odd)		degrees	t : of freedom :	0.2020
	iff < 0) = 0.5795		Ha: diff !=			iff > 0) = 0.4205

Some common complicated tasks

- Reshaping data sets: wide to long and viceversa
- Merging data sets: Stata ultimately wants you to get all the data you need in a single table
- Looping over a list to do a task
- Working with strings
- Working with dates: there are many different ways to specify time

Finding help

- Try using the user interface then check the code that results from your choices
- Use the help command or search the help (top right)
- Google: lots of goodies in older mailing list posts
- Check the UCLA Stata website

More information

- The Statistics with Stata by Lawrence Hamilton you already have!
- A quick rundown of the main commands in Stata by the UNC Caroline Population Center
- A recording of an introduction to Stata by Dr Marie Diener-West
- SPSS to Stata table
- UCLA Stata Starter Kit