

# Testing MarkDoc Package

E. F. Haghish

Medical Biometry and Medical Informatics, University of Freiburg  
haghish@imbi.uni-freiburg.de

## Introduction to MarkDoc (heading 1)

**MarkDoc** package provides a convenient way to write dynamic document within Stata dofile editor. Before starting, remember that there are a few things that *you must absolutely avoid* while using MarkDoc.

1. Use only one markup language. While you are writing with *Markdown* you may also use *HTML* tags, but **avoid** *LaTeX* in combination of *HTML* or *Markdown*.
2. Only use English letters. Any unusual character (Chinese, French, or special characters) should be avoided.
3. Please make sure you that you have the **permission to write and remove files** in your current working directory. Especially if you are a **Microsoft Windows** user. Ideally, you should be the adminster of your system or at least, you should be able to run Stata as an administrator or superuser. Also pay attention to your current working directory.

## Using Markdown (heading 2)

Writing with *Markdown* syntax allows you to add text and graphs to *smcl* logfile and export it to a editable document format. I will demonstrate the process by using the **auto.dta** dataset.

### Get started with MarkDoc (heading 3)

I will open the dataset, list a few observations, and export a graph. Then I will export the log file to *HTML* format.

. quietly sysuse auto, clear

. list in 1/5

1.	make AMC Concord	price 4,099	mpg 22	rep78 3	headroom 2.5	trunk 11	weight 2,930
	length 186	turn 40	displa~t 121	gear_r-o 3.58	foreign Domestic		
2.	make AMC Pacer	price 4,749	mpg 17	rep78 3	headroom 3.0	trunk 11	weight 3,350
	length 173	turn 40	displa~t 258	gear_r-o 2.53	foreign Domestic		
3.	make AMC Spirit	price 3,799	mpg 22	rep78 .	headroom 3.0	trunk 12	weight 2,640
	length 168	turn 35	displa~t 121	gear_r-o 3.08	foreign Domestic		
4.	make Buick Century	price 4,816	mpg 20	rep78 3	headroom 4.5	trunk 16	weight 3,250
	length 196	turn 40	displa~t 196	gear_r-o 2.93	foreign Domestic		
5.	make Buick Electra	price 7,827	mpg 15	rep78 4	headroom 4.0	trunk 20	weight 4,080
	length	turn	displa~t	gear_r-o	foreign		

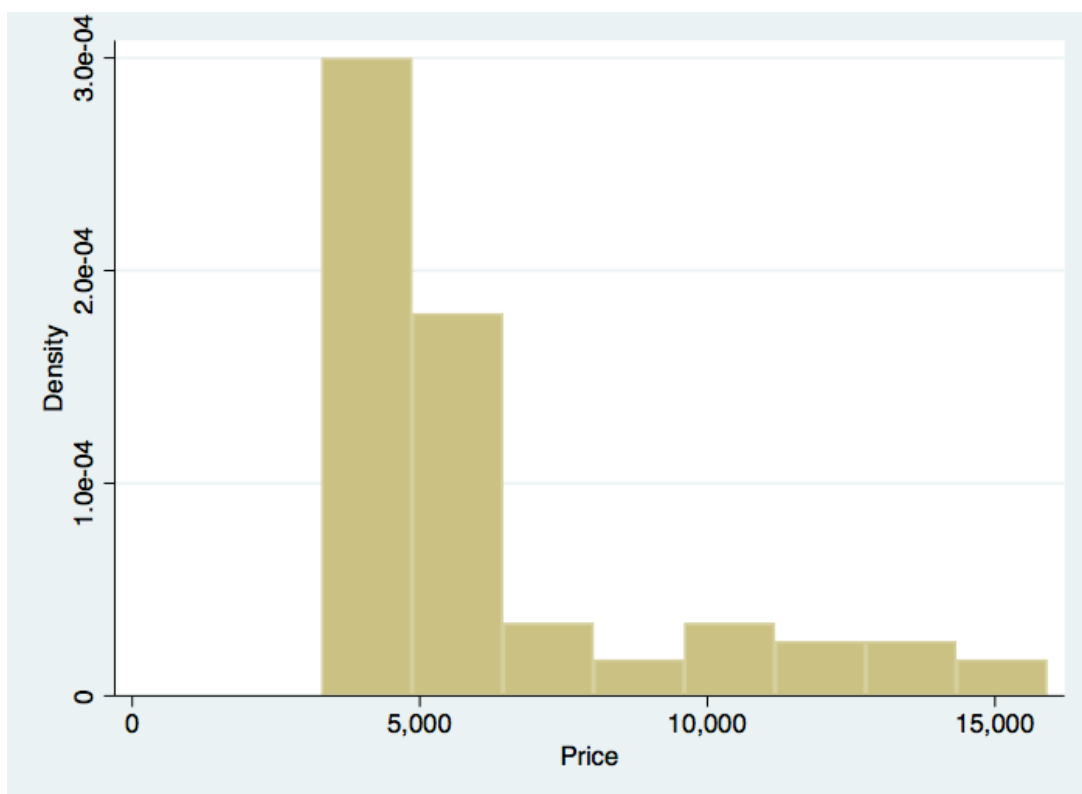
	222		43		350		2.41		Domestic	
+-----+-----+-----+-----+										

```
. histogram price
    (bin=8, start=3291, width=1576.875)

. graph export graph.png, replace width(350)
    (file graph.png written in PNG format)
```

## Adding a graph using Markdown

In order to add a graph using Markdown, I export the graph in PNG format. You can explain the graph in the brackets and define the file path in parentheses using Markdown syntax. Note that Markdown format cannot resize the figure and it will include it at its full size. Therefore, when you write with Markdown you should resize the graphs. Of course, if you write with *LaTeX* or *HTML* you will be able to do anything you wish! But *Markdown* is convertible to any format and thus is the preferred markup language for writing dynamic documents. In addition, it is a very minimalistic language. And perhaps that's what makes it so good, because it does not include numerous rules and tags to learn, compared to *HTML* and *LaTeX*. It's simple, easy to learn, and appealing to use.



## Writing Dynamic Text

The `txt` command can be used to write dynamic text in MarkDoc. To do so, put the value that you want to print in a Macro and then explain it using the `txt` command. Or instead, I use the stored values that Stata returns after particular commands by typing **return list**.

In the example below, I use the `summarize` command, and print the `r(N)`, `r(mean)`, `r(sd)`, `r(min)`, and `r(max)` which are returned after the **summarize** command.

```
. summarize price
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
-----+-----					
price	74	6165.257	2949.496	3291	15906

The dataset used for this analysis includes 74 observations for the **price** variable, with mean of 6

165.256756756757 and SD of 2949.495884768919. The price of cars' ranged from 3291 to 15906.

. regress price mpg

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs	=	74
Model	139449474	1	139449474	F(1, 72)	=	20.26
Residual	495615923	72	6883554.48	Prob > F	=	0.0000
				R-squared	=	0.2196
				Adj R-squared	=	0.2087
Total	635065396	73	8699525.97	Root MSE	=	2623.7

price	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
mpg	-238.8943	53.07669	-4.50	0.000	-344.7008 -133.0879
_cons	11253.06	1170.813	9.61	0.000	8919.088 13587.03

[You will find more information in this regard on my website.](#) You can also [Follow The Package Updates On TWITTER!](#)

E. F. Haghish Center for Medical Biometry and Medical Informatics University of Freiburg, Germany  
*haghish@imbi.uni-freiburg.de*