# Loops

A loop in Stata means that you can condense repetitive code. This is particularly helpful for avoiding making typos and mistakes.

You can loop through scalar numbers:

forvalues i = 1/3 {

di “`i’”

}

In this case then Stata interprets the `I’ as macro variable. Remember that Stata takes the macro and interpolates it into your code:

forvalues i = 1/3 {

di “Iteration #`i’”

}

Why is this useful? Lets say that we had three regression specifications:

local spec1 = “weight”

local spec2 = “`spec1’ length”

local spec3 = “`spec2’ turn”

forvalues I = 1/3 {

reg mpg `spec`i’’

}