

# Using Python in a Stata estimation command

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## Part I

## Why use Python in Stata?

## 1 Why use Python in Stata?

## Why use Python in Stata?

- Stata has many commands doing data science
- Many data science and numerical methods have been implemented in Python but not (yet) in Stata
- We want to use methods coded in Python in Stata

#### What kind of method?

- Some parts of data science are methods for data management, graphical analysis, statistical estimation, and prediction
- In this talk, I focus on statistical estimation

#### Do today

- Write a Stata command that estimates the mean and stores an estimate of its VCE
- Rewrite this command using Python to do the numerical computations

## Stata's estimation/post estimation framework

- After a Stata estimation command you can
  - Use test or testnl to do a Wald test of a hypothesis
  - Use predict to predict observation-level functions of the estimated parameters and the data
  - Use margins to estimate average-partial effects
  - Use estat post-estimation tests and inference
  - Other cool things

#### A mean example

```
sysuse auto
(1978 Automobile Data)
. mean mpg rep78
Mean estimation
                                   Number of obs =
                                                              69
                                           [95% Conf. Interval]
                     Mean
                            Std. Err.
                 21.28986
                             .7062326
                                           19.88059
                                                        22.69912
                 3.405797
                             .1191738
                                           3.167989
                                                        3.643605
```

```
. test (mpg=20) (rep78=3)
( 1)  mpg = 20
( 2)  rep78 = 3
        F( 2, 68) = 5.92
              Prob > F = 0.0043
```

#### A mean example

#### A mean example

Wald test statistic of the q-dimensional hypothesis that  $\widehat{\beta} = \beta_0$  is

$$w = (\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}_0)(\mathbf{V})^{-1}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}_0)$$

where

- V is the VCE
- The F-statistic version is f = (1/q)w

```
. matrix bhat = e(b)
. matrix b0 = (20, 3)
. matrix vhat = e(V)
. matrix c = bhat-b0
. matrix f = (1/2)*c*invsym(vhat)*c'
. scalar f = f[1,1]
. scalar d1 = 2
. scalar d2 = e(N)-1
. display "F is " scalar(f)
F is 5.9215615
. display "p is " Ftail(scalar(d1), scalar(d2), scalar(f))
p is .00425821
```

## Bring in the Python

- Using Python interactively
- sfi (Stata Function Interface) module has classes that make Stata and Python talk to each other See https://www.stata.com/python/api16/Data.html
- · importing Matrix class to get started

#### **Bring in the Python**

- The Python session is persistent
- Persistence is good for simple interactive examples
- Persistence is not good when writing commands for users
  - The \_\_main\_\_ module belongs to users
  - Programmers should never destroy anything or leave behind anything in \_\_main\_\_

## Create numpy arrays

- · Work in do files
- Python is also persistent (\_\_main\_\_) between do files

```
python:
from sfi import Matrix
import numpy as np
b = Matrix.get('e(b)')
V = Matrix.get('e(V)')
b = np.array(b,dtype='float64')
V = np.array(V,dtype='float64')
print(b)
print(V)
end
```

#### numpy arrays

```
. do np1.do
. python:

>>> from sfi import Matrix
>>> import numpy as np
>>> b = Matrix.get('e(b)')
>>> V = Matrix.get('e(V)')
>>> b = np.array(b,dtype='float64')
>>> print(b)
[[21.28985507 3.4057971 ]]
>>> print(V)
[[0.49876447 0.03386276]
[[0.03386276 0.0142024 ]]
>>> end

python (type end to exit)

python (type end to exit)
```

end of do-file

#### Calculate the Wald statistic

```
python:
from sfi import Matrix, Scalar
import numpy as np
from scipy.stats import f
bh = Matrix.get('e(b)')
Vh = Matrix.get('e(V)')
bh = np.array(b,dtype='float64')
Vh = np.array(V,dtype='float64')
b0 = np.array(C,dtype='float64')
c = bh - b0
Vi = np.linalg.inv(Vh)
```

```
pl = np.matmul(Vi,np.transpose(c))
fv = (1/2)*np.matmul(c,pl)
dl = 2
d2 = Scalar.getValue('e(N)') - 1
p = f.sf(fv, dl, d2)
print(fv)
print(p)
```

#### Calculate the Wald statistic

```
. do np2.do
. python:

>>> from sfi import Matrix, Scalar
>>> import numpy as np
>>> from scipy.stats import f
>>> bh = Matrix.get('e(b)')
>>> Vh = Matrix.get('e(V)')
>>> bh = np.array(b,dtype='float64')
>>> b0 = np.array(v,dtype='float64')
>>> b0 = np.array([20, 3])
>>> c = bh - b0
>>> Vi = np.linalg.inv(Vh)
>>> p1 = np.matmul(Vi,np.transpose(c))
>>> fv = (1/2)*np.matmul(c,p1)
>>> d1 = 2
>>> d2 = Scalar.getValue('e(N)') - 1
>>> p = f.sf(fv, d1, d2)
>>> print(fv)
[[5.92156154]]
>>> print(p)
[[0.00425821]]
>>> end
```

end of do-file

## Part II

## **Back to Stata**

## 2 Back to Stata

## How to store stuff in Stata

- Scope
  - local: within a .do or .ado file
  - global: anywhere in a current session
- Store a dataset in variables
  - variables names and contents are global
- Store a matrix in a matrix
  - . matrix b = (1, 2, 3)
  - matrix names and contents are global
- Store a scalar in a scalar
  - . scalar a = invnorm(.975)

- scalar names and contents are global
- Store lists, string scalars and numeric scalars in macros

#### Macros are a way of storing and retrieving values

- Scope
  - local: within a .do or .ado file
  - global: anywhere in a current session
- Store lists, string scalars and numeric scalars in macros
- See my blog post

## Programming an estimation command in Stata: Where to store your stuff

```
https://t.co/TIJqkSScvc
for another introduction to macros
```

## **Storing stuff in Macros**

Macros store information as strings

- local macros are local
- global macros are global
- There are three syntaxes for storing information in macros

```
local lclname = exp
global gblname = exp
local lclname "string"
global gblname "string"
local lclname : extended_fcn
global gblname : extended_fcn
```

## Retrieving stuff stored in macros

- Everywhere a punctuated macro name appears, its contents are substituted for the macro name.
  - The names of local macros are punctuated by enclosing them between single left quotes (') and single right quotes (')
  - The names of global macros are punctuated by preceding them with a dollar sign (\$).

#### **Examples of local macros**

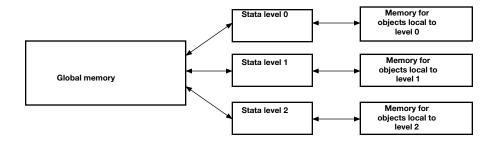
```
. local value = invnorm(.975)
. display "punctuating value yields `value'"
punctuating value yields 1.959963984540054
. local vlist "y x1 x2"
. display "punctuating vlist yields `vlist'"
punctuating vlist yields y x1 x2
. local cnt : word count y x1 x2
. display "punctuating cnt yields `cnt'"
punctuating cnt yields 3
```

#### **Examples of global macros**

```
. global value = invnorm(.975)
. display "punctuating value yields $value" punctuating value yields 1.959963984540054
. global vlist "y x1 x2"
. display "punctuating vlist yields $vlist" punctuating vlist yields y x1 x2
. global cnt : word count y x1 x2
. display "punctuating cnt yields $cnt" punctuating cnt yields 3
```

#### Levels of Stata

• The notion that there are levels of Stata can help explain the difference between global boxes and local boxes



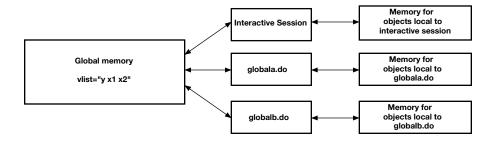
## Global macros are accessible across do-files

- · In the main do-file we define a global macro and then execute another do-file to do the work
- The work do-file can access the information stored in the global macro by the main do-file

#### Globals are global example

#### A global macro in global memory

• Global macros live in global memory



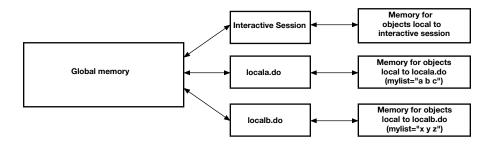
#### Local macros are local

- Each do-file has a separate name space local macros
- · Each do-file can have a local macro calls, say mylist, and they not interfere with each other

#### Local macros are local

#### A local macro in level-specific memory

· Local macros live in level-specific memory



#### More macro tricks

• For more about local versus global macros, see my blog post

## Programming an estimation command in Stata: Global macros versus local macros

```
http://bit.ly/1ksYHrI
```

• Macro evaluation is recursive

```
. local macro1 "hello"
. display "`macro1'"
hello
. local i 1
. display "`macro`i''"
hello

forvalues
  forvalues Iname = #/# {
      commands referring to 'Iname'
}
```

```
// forvalues.do
 forvalues i = 1/3 {
        display "i is now `i'"
 }
. do forvalues
. // forvalues.do
. forvalues i = 1/3 {
. forvatues 1 = 1/3 {
2. display "i is now 'i'
3. }
i is now 1
i is now 2
i is now 3
end of do-file
 foreach
    foreach lname in list {
         commands referring to 'lname'
    foreach lname of local lmacname {
         commands referring to 'lname'
 foreach {f II}
 // foreach.do
 local vlist y x1 x2
 foreach v of local vlist {
        display "v is now `v'"
 }
. do foreach
2. 3. }
v is now y
v is now x1
v is now x2
end of do-file
 foreach III
 // foreach2.do
 local v "3"
 display "v is now `v'"
 local vlist y x1 x2
 foreach v of local vlist {
        display "v is now `v'"
 display "v is now |`v'|"
. do foreach2
. display "v is now `v'"
v is now 3
```

#### if

- The are two type of if in Stata
  - 1. command if exp

restricts the sample to those observations for which if *exp* is true and *command* works on the restricted sample

- . poisson accidents traffic tickets if male==1
- 2. In do files and ado files,

```
if exp {      commands }
```

will only execute commands if exp is true

## if II

#### Now that we can program ...

- Write a do file to estimate the mean of variable
- Write an ado command that estiamtes the mean of a variable

## summarize leaves results in r()

## summarize leaves results in r()

```
. do meanb
. // version 1.0.0 09Jun2019 (This comment is ignored by Stata)
. version 15
                   // version #.# fixes the version of Stata
. sysuse auto
(1978 Automobile Data)
. summarize price
   Variable
                            Mean
                                  Std. Dev.
            74 6165.257 2949.496 3291
     price
                   // summarize stores its results in r()
. return list
scalars:
               r(N) = 74
```

```
\begin{array}{rcl} r \left( sum\_w \right) &=& 74 \\ r \left( mean \right) &=& 6165.256756756757 \\ r \left( Var \right) &=& 8699525.974268788 \\ r \left( sd \right) &=& 2949.495884768919 \\ r \left( min \right) &=& 3291 \\ r \left( max \right) &=& 15906 \\ r \left( sum \right) &=& 456229 \\ . \\ \text{end of do-file} \end{array}
```

#### Using summarize to compute estimates

• We can use summarize to compute the sample-average estimator for the mean and its standard error

```
// version 1.0.0 09Jun2019 version 15 sysuse auto
local sum = r(sum)
local N = r(N)
local mu = (1/\N')*\sum'
generate double e2 = (price - \mu')^2
quietly summarize e2
local V = (1/((\N')*(\N'-1)))*r(sum)
display "muhat = "\mu'
display "sqrt(V) = "\sqrt(\V')
mean price
 quietly summarize price return list
. do meanc
. // version 1.0.0 09Jun2019 . version 15
   sysuse auto
(1978 Automobile Data)
. quietly summarize price
. return list
scalars:
                      r(N) = 74
r(sum_w) = 74
r(mean) = 6165.256756756757
r(Var) = 8699525.974268788
r(sd) = 2949.495884768919
                         r(min) = 3291

r(max) = 15906
                         r(sum) = 456229
                                = r(sum)
. local sum
. local N
                               = r(N)
                                = (1/`N') *`sum'
. local mu
. generate double e2 = (price - `mu')^2
. quietly summarize e2
                 = (1/((`N')*(`N'-1)))*r(sum)
. local V
. display "muhat = muhat = 6165.2568
                             = " `mu′
. display "sqrt(V) = " sqrt(`V') sqrt(V) = 342.87193
 . mean price
                                                                                               74
                                                     Number of obs =
Mean estimation
                                 Mean
                                           Std. Err.
                                                                   [95% Conf. Interval]
                           6165.257
                                            342.8719
                                                                  5481.914
                                                                                         6848.6
           price
```

## end of do-file

## 3 Programming an ado file

#### Syntax of Stata estimation commands

```
cmdname depvar varlist [weight] [if] [in][, options]
```

- Standard options
  - noconstant
  - vce(<u>r</u>obust)
  - vce(<u>cl</u>uster *clustervar*)
  - <u>l</u>evel(#)
- Maximize options
  - iterate(#)
  - from(init\_spec)
  - nrtolerance(#)
  - constraints(numlist)

#### **Examples of Stata estimation commands**

- regress lnwage educ momed daded neighqual, vce(robust)
- xtreg lnwage educ momed daded neighqual, vce(cluster id)
- var dlinvestment dlincome dlconsumpton, constraints(1 2) iterate(30)

## Make your command work like other commands

- Return results in e ()
- Display results in a standard output table
- test works automatically
- Make predict work with command
- margins uses your predict
- · Document your command
  - help file
  - Stata Journal article

#### Defining a new command

Putting the following code into a file called mymean.ado

program define mymean

end

defines the program mymean.

## An ado that always computes the same thing

File mymean2/mymean.ado

#### Parsing Stata syntax

- Use the syntax command in your ado program to parse what it was passed
- In your ado program, syntax will parse the assorted pieces of Stata syntax passed to your command and store these items in local macros for you to manipulate.
- Example:
  - mymean needs to take a varlist

## Add syntax statement to mymean

File mymean 3/mymean.ado

```
. quietly cd mymean3
. program drop mymean
. mymean price
varlist contains price
muhat = 6165.2568
sqrt(V) = 342.87193
. quietly cd ..
```

• syntax can parse any standard Stata syntax

#### Put results into matrices b and V

File mymean 5/mymean.ado

```
*! version 5.0.0 09Jun2019

program define mymean

version 15

syntax varlist

quietly summarize 'varlist'
local sum = r(sum)
local N = r(N)
matrix b = r(N') * 'sum'
matrix colnames b = mu
capture drop e2
generate double e2 = ('varlist' - b[1,1])^2
quietly summarize e2
matrix V = (1/('N')*('N'-1)))*r(sum)
matrix colnames V = mu

matrix rownames V = mu

matrix list b
matrix list V
```

#### mymean now produces

## What type of varlist?

- syntax allows you to specify extentions or restrictions on the type of varlist allowed
  - You can extend the default to allow for time-series or factor-variable operators
  - You can restrict the number or type of variables allowed
- In the case hand, we want to restrict the variables to be numeric and we want only one variable specified

#### Restrict varlist

File mymean5a/mymean.ado

```
*! version 5.1.0 09Jun2019

program define mymean

version 15

syntax varlist(max=1 numeric)

quietly summarize `varlist'
local sum = r(sum)
local N = r(N)
matrix b = (1/`N')*`sum'
matrix colnames b = mu
capture drop e2
generate double e2 = (`varlist' - b[1,1])^2
quietly summarize e2
matrix V = 1/((`N')*(`N'-1)))*r(sum)
matrix colnames V = mu
matrix rownames V = mu
matrix list b
matrix list b
matrix list V
```

## mymean now produces

## **Tempnames**

- · Recall that variable, matrix and scalar names are global in Stata
- This implies that there are problems with our current version of mymean
  - mymean will overwrite any Stata matrices named b or V
  - mymean will drop any variable named e2 in the dataset
  - The locals sum and N are fine; they are local
- The solution is to use temporary names stored in local macros
- The Stata command tempname creates a list of local macros, each of which contains a name that is not used elsewhere
- The Stata command tempvar creates a list of local macros, each of which contains a name that is not used elsewhere

## File myean6/myregress.ado

```
*! version 6.0.0 09Jun2019

program define mymean

version 15

syntax varlist(max=1 numeric)

tempname b V
tempvar e2

quietly summarize `varlist'
local sum = r(sum)
local N = r(N)
matrix `olanes `b' = mu
generate double `e2' = ('varlist' - `b'[1,1])^2
quietly summarize `e2'
matrix `V' = (1/((`N')*(`N'-1)))*r(sum)
matrix colnames `V' = mu
matrix list `b'
matrix list `V'

end
```

## Example of mymean with tempnames

```
. quietly cd mymean6
. program drop mymean
. mymean price
symmetric __000000[1,1]
    mu
r1 6165.2568
symmetric __000001[1,1]
    mu
mu 117561.16
. quietly cd ..
```

- · Safe program
- · We cannot access our results
- Need to store the results somewhere

## 4 Making mymean an estimation command

#### Command classes in Stata

- All Stata commands are either e-class, r-class, s-class or n-class.
  - e-class commands return results in e()
  - r-class commands return results in r()
  - s-class commands return results in s()
  - n-class commands do not return results.
- By convention, Stata estimation commands are e-class commands

#### e-class commands

- · e-class commands return
  - e(b), the vector of parameter estimates
  - e(V), the VCE of e(b)
  - e(sample), a function that equals 1 if the observation is part of the estimation sample and 0 otherwise.
  - e(N), the number of observations in the sample

## File mymean 7 / mymean . ado

```
*! version 7.0.0 09Jun2019

program define mymean, eclass

version 15

syntax varlist(max=1 numeric)

tempname b V
tempvar e2

quietly summarize 'varlist'
local sum = r(sum)
local N = r(N)
matrix 'b' = (1/N')*`sum'
matrix colnames 'b' = mu
generate double 'e2' = ('varlist' - 'b'[1,1])^2
quietly summarize 'e2'
matrix 'V' = (1/(('N')*('N'-1)))*r(sum)
matrix colnames 'V' = mu
matrix rownames 'V' = mu
ereturn post 'b' 'V'
ereturn scalar N = 'N'
ereturn display

end
```

#### eclass version of mymean

- quietly cd mymean7 program drop mymean mymean price

```
Coef.
                            Std. Err.
                                                 P>|z|
                                                            [95% Conf. Interval]
                 6165.257
                            342.8719
                                         17.98
                                                 0.000
                                                             5493.24
                                                                        6837.273
          mu
. ereturn list scalars:
                  e(N) = 74
macros:
e(properties) : "b V" matrices:
. quietly cd ..
```

#### if and in sample restrictions

- use syntax to parse the input to the command
- use marksample to create a temporary variable that identifies the sample

```
*! version 8.0.0 09Jun2019
program define mymean, eclass
version 15
          syntax varlist(max=1 numeric) [if] [in]
marksample touse
          tempname b V
          tempvar e2
quietly summarize `varlist' if `touse'==1
         ereturn post `b' `V', esample(`touse') ereturn scalar N = `N' ereturn scalar df_r = `N'-1 ereturn display
```

#### mymean with if restriction

```
. quietly cd mymean8
. program drop mymean
. mymean price if mpg>20
(38 missing values generated)
```

	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mu	5350.306	393.102	13.61	0.000	4552.266	6148.345

```
ereturn list
scalars:
                  e(N) = 36
e(df_r) = 35
e(properties) : "b V" matrices:
functions:
e(sample)
. mean price if mpg>20
Mean estimation
                                           Number of obs
                                    Std. Err.
```

<sup>[95%</sup> Conf. Interval] price 5350.306 393.102 4552.266

<sup>.</sup> quietly  $\operatorname{cd}\,\ldots$ 

## **Part III**

# **Python Stata programming**

## 5 Python Stata programming

```
*! version 1.0.0

program define pmean, eclass

version 16.0

tempname b

matrix 'b' = (1, 2, 3)

python: MyMeanWork ("'b'")

end

version 16.0

python:

from sfi import Matrix

import numpy as np

def MyMeanWork (bname ):

b = Matrix.get(bname)

b = np.array(b,dtype='float64')

b = b*b

Matrix.store(bname, b)
```

## Call a Python function from ado

```
. program drop _all
. cd pmean1
/Users/dmd/Dropbox/projects/talks/2019/uk19/cass/pythonp/tex/examples/pmean1
. pmean
__000000[1,3]
    cl    c2    c3
    rl    l    4    9
. cd ..
/Users/dmd/Dropbox/projects/talks/2019/uk19/cass/pythonp/tex/examples
```

```
= np.mean(data, axis=0)
                  = data - m
= np.transpose(E)
= np.matmul(Ep,E)
= (1/n)*(1/(n-1))*E2
            E2
            Matrix.store(bname, m)
Matrix.setRowNames(bname,['mean'])
             Matrix.setColNames(bname, vlist)
            Matrix.store(vname, E2)
Matrix.setRowNames(vname, vlist)
             Matrix.setColNames(vname, vlist)
             Scalar.setValue(nname.n)

    program drop _all
    cd pmean2
    /Users/dmd/Dropbox/projects/talks/2019/uk19/cass/pythonp/tex/examples/pmean2

. sysuse auto (1978 Automobile Data)
. pmean mpg rep78
                                   Coef.
                                                 Std. Err.
                                                                           t
                                                                                    P>|t|
                                                                                                      [95% Conf. Interval]
            mpg
rep78
                             21.28986
3.405797
                                                 .7062326
.1191738
                                                                      30.15
28.58
                                                                                    0.000
                                                                                                      19.88059
3.167989
                                                                                                                           22.69912
3.643605
. test (mpg=20) (
(1) mpg = 20
(2) rep78 = 3
F(2,
                            (rep78=3)
                                             5.92
0.0043
                             68) =
                     Prob > F =
. cd .. /Users/dmd/Dropbox/projects/talks/2019/uk19/cass/pythonp/tex/examples
 *! version 3.0.0
// compute mean using python
program define pmean, eclass
version 16.0
            syntax varlist(numeric) [if] [in]
marksample touse
            tempname b v N python: MyMeanWork("`varlist'", "`touse'", "`b'", "`v'", "`N'") ereturn post `b' `v', esample(`touse') ereturn scalar N = scalar(`N') ereturn scalar d_{\rm r} = scalar(`N')-1 ereturn display
 version 16.0
 python:
```