

# Data Processing

## with Stata 15 Cheat Sheet

For more info see Stata's reference manual ([stata.com](http://stata.com))

### Useful Shortcuts

- F2** — keyboard buttons describe data
- Ctrl + 9** open a new .do file
- Ctrl + 8** open the data editor
- Ctrl + D** highlight text in .do file, then ctrl + d executes it in the command line
- clear** delete data in memory

### AT COMMAND PROMPT

- PgUp** **PgDn** scroll through previous commands
- Tab** autocompletes variable name after typing part
- cls** clear the console (where results are displayed)

### Set up

- pwd** print current (working) directory
- cd** "C:\Program Files (x86)\Stata13" change working directory
- dir** display filenames in working directory
- dir \*.dta** List all Stata data in working directory
- capture log close** close the log on any existing do files
- log using "myDoFile.txt", replace** create a new log file to record your work and results
- search mdesc** find the package mdesc to install
- ssc install mdesc** install the package mdesc; needs to be done once
- underlined parts are shortcuts — use "capture" or "cap"*
- packages contain extra commands that expand Stata's toolkit*

### Import Data

- sysuse auto, clear** load system data (Auto data)
- use "yourStataFile.dta", clear** load a dataset from the current directory
- import excel "yourSpreadsheet.xlsx", /\*** **sheet("Sheet1") cellrange(A2:H11) firstrow** import an Excel spreadsheet
- import delimited "yourFile.csv", /\*** **rowrange(2:11) colrange(1:8) varnames(2)** import a .csv file
- webuse set** "https://github.com/GeoCenter/StataTraining/raw/master/Day2/Data" **webuse** "wb\_indicators\_long" set web-based directory and load data from the web
- for many examples, we use the auto dataset.*
- frequently used commands are highlighted in yellow*

### Basic Syntax

All Stata commands have the same format (syntax):

**[by varlist1:]** **command** **[varlist2]** **[=exp]** **[if exp]** **[in range]** **[weight]** **[using filename]** **[,options]**

apply the **command** across each unique combination of variables in **varlist1**

function: what are you going to **do** to **varlists**?

column to apply **command** to

save output as a new variable

condition: only apply the function **if** something is true

apply to specific rows

apply weights

pull data from a file (if not loaded)

special options for **command**

In this example, we want a **detailed** summary with stats like kurtosis, plus mean and median

bysort rep78 : summarize price if foreign == 0 & price <= 9000, detail

To find out more about any command – like what options it takes – type **help command**

### Basic Data Operations

**Arithmetic**

**+** add (numbers) combine (strings)

**-** subtract

**\*** multiply

**/** divide

**^** raise to a power

**Logic**

**&** and

**!** or **~** not

**|** or

**==** tests if something is equal

**=** assigns a value to a variable

**<** less than

**<=** less than or equal to

**>** greater than

**>=** greater or equal to

**if foreign != 1 & price >= 10000**

make	foreign	price
Chevy Colt	0	3,984
Buick Riviera	0	10,372
Honda Civic	1	4,499
Volvo 260	1	11,995

**if foreign != 1 | price >= 10000**

make	foreign	price
Chevy Colt	0	3,984
Buick Riviera	0	10,372
Honda Civic	1	4,499
Volvo 260	1	11,995

### Explore Data

#### VIEW DATA ORGANIZATION

**describe** make price display variable type, format, and any value/variable labels

**count** number of rows (observations)

**count if price > 5000** Can be combined with logic

**ds, has(type string)** search for variable types, variable name, or variable label

**lookfor "in."** search for variable types, variable name, or variable label

**isid** mpg check if mpg uniquely identifies the data

#### SEE DATA DISTRIBUTION

**codebook** make price overview of variable type, stats, number of missing/unique values

**summarize** make price mpg print summary statistics (mean, stdev, min, max) for variables

**inspect** mpg show histogram of data, number of missing or zero observations

**histogram** mpg, **frequency** plot a histogram of the distribution of a variable

#### BROWSE OBSERVATIONS WITHIN THE DATA

**browse** or **Ctrl + 8** open the data editor

**list** make price **if** price > 10000 & **!missing**(price) **clist** ... (compact form)

**display** price[4] display the 4th observation in price; only works on single values

**gsort** price mpg (ascending) **gsort -price -mpg** (descending)

**duplicates report** finds all duplicate values in each variable

**levelsof** rep78 display the unique values for rep78

**assert** price!=. verify truth of claim

*Missing values are treated as the largest positive number. To exclude missing values, ask whether the value is less than "."*

### Change Data Types

Stata has 6 data types, and data can also be missing:

**no data** **true/false** **words** **numbers**

**missing** **byte** **string** **int** **long** **float** **double**

To convert between numbers & strings:

**gen** foreignString = **string**(foreign) "1"

**tostring** foreign, **gen**(foreignString) "1"

**decode** foreign, **gen**(foreignString) "foreign"

**gen** foreignNumeric = **real**(foreignString) "1"

**destring** foreignString, **gen**(foreignNumeric) "1"

**encode** foreignString, **gen**(foreignNumeric) "foreign"

**recast double** mpg generic way to convert between types

### Summarize Data

**tabulate** rep78, **mi** **gen**(repairRecord) include missing values create binary variable for every rep78 value in a new variable, repairRecord

**tabulate** rep78 foreign, **mi** one-way table: number of rows with each value of rep78

**tabulate** rep78 foreign, **mi** two-way table: cross-tabulate number of observations for each combination of rep78 and foreign

**bysort** rep78: **tabulate** foreign for each value of rep78, apply the command tabulate foreign

**tabstat** price weight mpg, **by**(foreign) **stat**(mean sd n) create compact table of summary statistics displays stats formats numbers for all data

**table** foreign, **contents**(mean price sd price) **f**(%9.2fc) **row** create a flexible table of summary statistics

**collapse** (mean) price (max) mpg, **by**(foreign) – replaces data calculate mean price & max mpg by car type (foreign)

### Create New Variables

**generate** mpgSq = mpg^2 **gen** byte lowPr = price < 4000 create a new variable. Useful also for creating binary variables based on a condition (**generate** byte)

**generate** id = **\_n** **bysort** rep78: **gen** repairIdx = **\_n** **\_n** creates a running index of observations in a group

**generate** totRows = **\_N** **bysort** rep78: **gen** repairTot = **\_N** **\_N** creates a running count of the total observations per group

**pctile** mpg Quartile = mpg, **nq** = 4 create quartiles of the mpg data

**egen** meanPrice = **mean**(price), **by**(foreign) calculate mean price for each group in foreign see **help egen** for more options



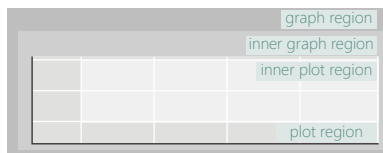




# Plotting in Stata 15

## Customizing Appearance

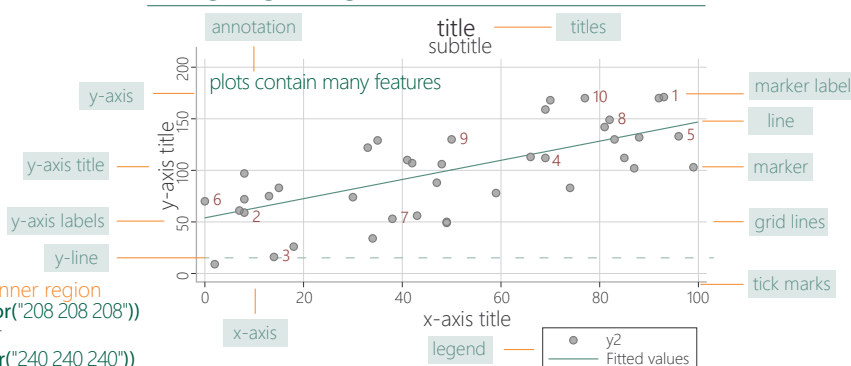
For more info see Stata's reference manual ([stata.com](http://stata.com))



`scatter price mpg, graphregion(fcolor("192 192 192") ifcolor("208 208 208"))`  
 specify the fill of the background in RGB or with a Stata color

`scatter price mpg, plotregion(fcolor("224 224 224") ifcolor("240 240 240"))`  
 specify the fill of the plot background in RGB or with a Stata color

### ANATOMY OF A PLOT



### SYMBOLS

**SYNTAX**

**marker**  
 arguments for the plot objects (in green) go in the options portion of these commands (in orange)  
 for example:  
`scatter price mpg, xline(20, lwidth(vthick))`

**COLOR**

**mcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill and stroke of the marker in RGB or with a Stata color

**mfcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill of the marker

**SIZE / THICKNESS**

**msize(medium)** specify the marker size:

	ehuge		medlarge
	vhuge		medium
	huge		medsmall
	vlarge		small
	large		vsmall
			tiny
			vtiny

**APPEARANCE**

**msymbol(Dh)** specify the marker symbol:

	O		D		T		S
	o		d		t		s
	Oh		Dh		Th		Sh
	oh		dh		th		sh
	+		X		p		none
					i		

**POSITION**

**jitter(#)**  
 randomly displace the markers

**jitterseed(#)**  
 set seed

### LINE / BORDERS

**line**  
 arguments for the plot lines (in green) go in the options portion of these commands (in orange)  
 for example:  
`scatter price mpg, xline(20, lwidth(vthick))`

**lcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the stroke color of the line or border

**mlcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill and stroke of the marker in RGB or with a Stata color

**tlcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill of the marker

**glcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill of the marker

**lwidth(medthick)** specify the thickness (stroke) of a line:

	vwthick		medthin
	vthick		thin
	thick		vthin
	medthick		vvthin
	medium		none

**line** **axes** **lpattern(dash)** specify the line pattern

**grid lines** **glpattern(dash)**

	solid		longdash		longdash_dot
	dash		shortdash		shortdash_dot
	dot		dash_dot		blank

**axes** **noline** **axes** **off** no axis/labels

**tick marks** **noticks** **tick marks** **length(2)**

**grid lines** **nogrid** **nogmin** **nogmax**

**tick marks** **xlabel(#10, tposition(crossing))**  
 number of tick marks, position (outside | crossing | inside)

### TEXT

**marker label**  
 arguments for the plot text (in green) go in the options portion of these commands (in orange)  
 for example:  
`scatter price mpg, xline(20, lwidth(vthick))`

**color("145 168 208")**  
 specify the color of the text

**mlabcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill and stroke of the marker in RGB or with a Stata color

**labcolor("145 168 208")**  
 specify the fill of the marker

**adjust transparency by adding %**  
`mcolor("145 168 208 %20")`

**size(medsmall)** specify the size of the text:

**marker label** **mlabsize(medsmall)**

**axis labels** **labsize(medsmall)**

**Text**  
 arguments for the plot text (in green) go in the options portion of these commands (in orange)  
 for example:  
`scatter price mpg, xline(20, lwidth(vthick))`

**vhuge** **Text** **medsmall**

**huge** **Text** **small**

**vlarge** **Text** **vsmall**

**large** **Text** **tiny**

**medlarge** **Text** **half\_tiny**

**medium** **Text** **third\_tiny**

**minuscule** **Text** **quater\_tiny**

**marker label** **mlabel(foreign)**  
 label the points with the values of the foreign variable

**axis labels** **noticks**  
 no axis labels

**axis labels** **format(%12.2f)**  
 change the format of the axis labels

**legend** **off**  
 turn off legend

**legend** **label(# "label")**  
 change legend label text

**marker label** **mlabposition(5)**  
 label location relative to marker (clock position: 0 – 12)

## Apply Themes

Schemes are sets of graphical parameters, so you don't have to specify the look of the graphs every time.

### USING A SAVED THEME

`twoway scatter mpg price, scheme(customTheme)`

**help scheme entries**  
 see all options for setting scheme properties

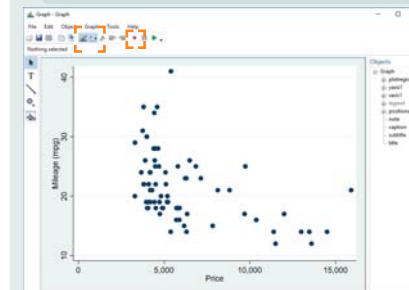
**adopath ++ "~/<location>/StataThemes"**  
 set path of the folder (StataThemes) where custom .scheme files are saved

**set scheme customTheme, permanently**  
 change the theme

**net inst brewscheme, from("https://wbuchanan.github.io/brewscheme/")** replace  
 install William Buchanan's package to generate custom schemes and color palettes (including ColorBrewer)

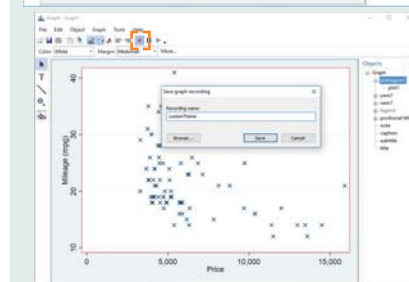
### USING THE GRAPH EDITOR

`twoway scatter mpg price, play(graphEditorTheme)`



Select the Graph Editor

Click Record



Double click on symbols and areas on plot, or regions on sidebar to customize

Unclick Record

Save theme as a .grec file

## Save Plots

**graph twoway scatter y x, saving("myPlot.gph")** replace  
 save the graph when drawing

**graph save "myPlot.gph", replace**  
 save current graph to disk

**graph combine plot1.gph plot2.gph...**  
 combine 2+ saved graphs into a single plot

**graph export "myPlot.pdf", as(.pdf)**  
 export the current graph as an image file

see options to set size and resolution

# Data Analysis with Stata 15 Cheat Sheet

For more info see Stata's reference manual ([stata.com](http://www.stata.com))  
Results are stored as either **r**-class or **e**-class. See [Programming Cheat Sheet](#)

## Summarize Data

Examples use `auto.dta` (`sysuse auto, clear`) unless otherwise noted

**univar** price mpg, **boxplot**

calculate univariate summary, with box-and-whiskers plot

**stem** mpg

return stem-and-leaf display of mpg

**summarize** price mpg, **detail**

frequently used commands are highlighted in yellow

calculate a variety of univariate summary statistics

**ci** mean mpg price, **level**(99)

for Stata 13: `ci mpg price, level(99)`

compute standard errors and confidence intervals

**correlate** mpg price

return correlation or covariance matrix

**pwcorr** price mpg weight, **star**(0.05)

return all pairwise correlation coefficients with sig. levels

**mean** price mpg

estimates of means, including standard errors

**proportion** rep78 foreign

estimates of proportions, including standard errors for categories identified in varlist

**ratio**

estimates of ratio, including standard errors

**total** price

estimates of totals, including standard errors

## Statistical Tests

**tabulate** foreign rep78, **chi2** **exact** **expected**

tabulate foreign and repair record and return  $\chi^2$  and Fisher's exact statistic alongside the expected values

**ttest** mpg, **by**(foreign)

estimate t test on equality of means for mpg by foreign

**prtest** foreign == 0.5

one-sample test of proportions

**ksmirnov** mpg, **by**(foreign) **exact**

Kolmogorov-Smirnov equality-of-distributions test

**ranksum** mpg, **by**(foreign)

equality tests on unmatched data (independent samples)

**anova** systolic drug

**webuse** systolic, **clear**

analysis of variance and covariance

**pwmean** mpg, **over**(rep78) **pveffects** **mcompare**(tukey)

estimate pairwise comparisons of means with equal variances include multiple comparison adjustment

## Estimation with Categorical & Factor Variables

CONTINUOUS VARIABLES

measure something

CATEGORICAL VARIABLES

identify a group to which an observations belongs

INDICATOR VARIABLES

denote whether something is true or false

OPERATOR

i.

DESCRIPTION

specify indicators

ib.

specify base indicator

fvset

command to change base

c.

treat variable as continuous

o.

omit a variable or indicator

#

specify interactions

##

specify factorial interactions

## Declare Data

By declaring data type, you enable Stata to apply data munging and analysis functions specific to certain data types

### TIME SERIES

**webuse** sunspot, **clear**

**tsset** time, **yearly**

declare sunspot data to be yearly time series

**tsreport**

report time series aspects of a dataset

**generate** lag\_spot = L1.spot

create a new variable of annual lags of sun spots

**tsline** spot

plot time series of sunspots

**arima** spot, **ar**(1/2)

estimate an auto-regressive model with 2 lags

### TIME SERIES OPERATORS

L. lag  $x_{t-1}$

L2. 2-period lag  $x_{t-2}$

F. lead  $x_{t+1}$

F2. 2-period lead  $x_{t+2}$

D. difference  $x_t - x_{t-1}$

D2. difference of difference  $x_t - x_{t-1} - (x_{t-1} - x_{t-2})$

S. seasonal difference  $x_t - x_{t-12}$

S2. lag-2 (seasonal difference)  $x_t - x_{t-2}$

### USEFUL ADD-INS

**tscollapse**

compact time series into means, sums and end-of-period values

**carryforward**

carry non-missing values forward from one obs. to the next

**tsspell**

identify spells or runs in time series

### SURVIVAL ANALYSIS

**webuse** drugtr, **clear**

**stset** studytime, **failure**(died)

declare survey design for a dataset

**stsum**

summarize survival-time data

**stcox** drug age

estimate a Cox proportional hazard model

### PANEL / LONGITUDINAL

**webuse** nlswork, **clear**

**xtset** id year

declare national longitudinal data to be a panel

**xtdescribe**

report panel aspects of a dataset

**xtsum** hours

summarize hours worked, decomposing standard deviation into between and within components

**xtline** ln\_wage if id <= 22, **tlabel**(#3)

plot panel data as a line plot

**xtreg** ln\_w c.age##c.age ttl\_exp, **fe** **vce**(robust)

estimate a fixed-effects model with robust standard errors

### SURVEY DATA

**webuse** nhanes2b, **clear**

**svyset** psuid [**pweight** = finalwgt], **strata**(stratid)

declare survey design for a dataset

**svydescribe**

report survey data details

**svy**: mean age, **over**(sex)

estimate a population mean for each subpopulation

**svy**, **subpop**(rural): mean age

estimate a population mean for rural areas

**svy**: tabulate sex heartatk

report two-way table with tests of independence

**svy**: reg zinc c.age##c.age female weight rural

estimate a regression using survey weights

## 1 Estimate Models

stores results as **e**-class

**regress** price mpg weight, **vce**(robust)

estimate ordinary least squares (OLS) model on mpg weight and foreign, apply robust standard errors

**regress** price mpg weight if foreign == 0, **vce**(cluster rep78)

regress price only on domestic cars, cluster standard errors

**reg** price mpg weight, **genwt**(reg\_wt)

estimate robust regression to eliminate outliers

**probit** foreign turn price, **vce**(robust)

estimate probit regression with robust standard errors

**logit** foreign headroom mpg, **or**

estimate logistic regression and report odds ratios

**bootstrap**, **reps**(100): **regress** mpg /\*

\*/ weight gear foreign

estimate regression with bootstrapping

**jackknife** r(mean), **double**: **sum** mpg

jackknife standard error of sample mean

### ADDITIONAL MODELS

**pca** ← built-in Stata command

principal components analysis

**factor**

factor analysis

**poisson** \* **nbreg**

count outcomes

**tobit**

censored data

**ivregress**

instrumental variables

**diff**

difference-in-difference

**rd**

regression discontinuity

**xtabond**

dynamic panel estimator

**teffects** **psmatch**

propensity score matching

**synth**

synthetic control analysis

**oaxaca**

Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition

## 2 Diagnostics

some are inappropriate with robust SEs

**estat** **hettest**

test for heteroskedasticity

**oystest**

test for omitted variable bias

**vif**

report variance inflation factor

**dfbeta**(length)

calculate measure of influence

Type help regress postestimation plots for additional diagnostic plots

**rvfplot**, **yline**(0)

plot residuals against fitted values

**avplots**

plot all partial-regression leverage plots in one graph

## 3 Postestimation

commands that use a fitted model

**regress** price headroom length

Used in all postestimation examples

**display** \_b[length]

return coefficient estimate or standard error for mpg

**display** \_se[length]

return most recent regression model

**margins**, **dydx**(length)

returns e-class information when post option is used

return the estimated marginal effect for mpg

**margins**, **eyex**(length)

return the estimated elasticity for price

**predict** yhat if **e**(sample)

create predictions for sample on which model was fit

**predict** double resid, **residuals**

calculate residuals based on last fit model

**test** headroom = 0

test linear hypotheses that headroom estimate equals zero

**lincom** headroom - length

test linear combination of estimates (headroom = length)

# Programming with Stata 15 Cheat Sheet

For more info see Stata's reference manual (stata.com)

## 1 Scalars both r- and e-class results contain scalars

**scalar** x1 = 3  
create a scalar x1 storing the number 3  
**scalar** a1 = "I am a string scalar"  
create a scalar a1 storing a string

Scalars can hold numeric values or arbitrarily long strings

## 2 Matrices e-class results are stored as matrices

**matrix** a = (4\ 5\ 6)  
create a 3 x 1 matrix  
**matrix** b = (7, 8, 9)  
create a 1 x 3 matrix  
**matrix** d = b' transpose matrix b; store in d  
**matrix** ad1 = a \ d  
row bind matrices  
**matrix** ad2 = a , d  
column bind matrices  
**matselrc** b x, c(1 3) findit matselrc  
select columns 1 & 3 of matrix b & store in new matrix x  
**mat2txt**, **matrix**(ad1) **saving**(textfile.txt) **replace**  
export a matrix to a text file ssc install mat2txt

### DISPLAYING & DELETING BUILDING BLOCKS

**[scalar | matrix | macro | estimates] [list | drop] b**  
list contents of object b or drop (delete) object b  
**[scalar | matrix | macro | estimates] dir**  
list all defined objects for that class

**matrix list** b list contents of matrix b  
**matrix dir** list all matrices  
**scalar drop** x1 delete scalar x1

## 3 Macros public or private variables storing text

**GLOBALS** available through Stata sessions **PUBLIC**

**global** pathdata "C:/Users/SantasLittleHelper/Stata"  
define a global variable called pathdata  
**cd \$pathdata** — add a \$ before calling a global macro  
change working directory by calling global macro  
**global** myGlobal price mpg length  
**summarize** \$myGlobal  
summarize price mpg length using global

**LOCALS** available only in programs, loops, or .do files **PRIVATE**

**local** myLocal price mpg length  
create local variable called myLocal with the strings price mpg and length  
**summarize** `myLocal' add a ` before and a ' after local macro name to call  
summarize contents of local myLocal  
**levelsof** rep78, **local**(levels)  
create a sorted list of distinct values of rep78, store results in a local macro called levels  
**local** varLab: **variable label** foreign can also do with value labels  
store the variable label for foreign in the local varLab

**TEMPVARS & TEMPFILES** special locals for loops/programs

**tempvar** temp1 — initialize a new temporary variable called temp1  
**generate** `temp1' = mpg^2 — save squared mpg values in temp1  
**summarize** `temp1' — summarize the temporary variable temp1  
**tempfile** myAuto create a temporary file to be used within a program see also tempname  
**save** `myAuto'

## Building Blocks basic components of programming

R- AND E-CLASS: Stata stores calculation results in two\* main classes:

**r** return results from general commands such as **summarize** or **tabulate** **e** return results from estimation commands such as **regress** or **mean**

To assign values to individual variables use:

- 1 SCALARS **r** individual numbers or strings
  - 2 MATRICES **e** rectangular array of quantities or expressions
  - 3 MACROS **e** pointers that store text (global or local)
- \* there's also s- and n-class

## 4 Access & Save Stored r- and e-class Objects

Many Stata commands store results in types of lists. To access these, use **return** or **ereturn** commands. Stored results can be scalars, macros, matrices or functions.

**summarize** price, detail  
**r** **return** list  
returns a list of scalars

scalars:  
r(N) = 74  
r(mean) = 6165.25...  
r(Var) = 86995225.97...  
r(sd) = 2949.49...  
...

Results are replaced each time an r-class / e-class command is called

**mean** price  
**e** **ereturn** list  
returns list of scalars, macros, matrices and functions

scalars:  
e(df\_r) = 73  
e(N\_over) = 1  
e(N) = 73  
e(k\_eq) = 1  
e(rank) = 1

**generate** p\_mean = r(mean)  
create a new variable equal to average of price

**generate** meanN = e(N)  
create a new variable equal to obs. in estimation command

**preserve** create a temporary copy of active dataframe

**restore** restore temporary copy to point last preserved

set restore points to test code that changes data

### ACCESSING ESTIMATION RESULTS

After you run any estimation command, the results of the estimates are stored in a structure that you can save, view, compare, and export

**regress** price weight  
**estimates store** est1  
store previous estimation results est1 in memory

Use **estimates store** to compile results for later use

**eststo** est2: **regress** price weight mpg ssc install estout  
**eststo** est3: **regress** price weight mpg foreign  
estimate two regression models and store estimation results  
**estimates table** est1 est2 est3  
print a table of the two estimation results est1 and est2

### EXPORTING RESULTS

The **estout** and **outreg2** packages provide numerous, flexible options for making tables after estimation commands. See also **putexcel** and **putdocx** commands.

**esttab** est1 est2, se star(\* 0.10 \*\* 0.05 \*\*\* 0.01) label  
create summary table with standard errors and labels

**esttab** using "auto\_reg.txt", replace plain se  
export summary table to a text file, include standard errors

**outreg2** [est1 est2] using "auto\_reg2.txt", see replace  
export summary table to a text file using outreg2 syntax

## Additional Programming Resources

**bit.ly/statacode**

download all examples from this cheat sheet in a .do file

**adoupdate**

Update user-written .ado files

**adolist**

List/copy user-written .ado files ssc install adolist

**net install package, from** (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/username/repo/master)  
install a package from a Github repository

**https://github.com/andrewheiss/SublimeStataEnhanced**  
configure Sublime text for Stata 11-14

## Loops: Automate Repetitive Tasks

### ANATOMY OF A LOOP

see also **while**

Stata has three options for repeating commands over lists or values: **foreach**, **forvalues**, and **while**. Though each has a different first line, the syntax is consistent:

```
foreach x of varlist var1 var2 var3 {  
  ...  
}
```

objects to repeat over  
temporary variable used only within the loop  
requires local macro notation  
command 'x', option  
command(s) you want to repeat can be one line or many  
close brace must appear on final line by itself

### FOREACH: REPEAT COMMANDS OVER STRINGS, LISTS, OR VARIABLES

**foreach** x inof [local, global, varlist, newlist, numlist] {  
Stata commands referring to 'x'  
list types: objects over which the commands will be repeated

#### STRINGS

**foreach** x in auto.dta auto2.dta {  
sysuse "x", clear  
tab rep78, missing  
sysuse "auto2.dta", clear  
tab rep78, missing

#### LISTS

**foreach** x in "Dr. Nick" "Dr. Hibbert" {  
display length("Dr. Nick")  
display length("Dr. Hibbert")

When calling a command that takes a string, surround the macro name with quotes.

#### VARIABLES

**foreach** x in mpg weight {  
summarize x

must define list type

**foreach** x of varlist mpg weight {  
summarize x

• **foreach in** takes any list as an argument with elements separated by spaces  
• **foreach of** requires you to state the list type, which makes it faster

### FORVALUES: REPEAT COMMANDS OVER LISTS OF NUMBERS

**forvalues** i = 10(10)50 {  
display `i'

iterator  
numeric values over which loop will run

Use display command to show the iterator value at each step in the loop

**ITERATORS**  
i = 10/50 → 10, 11, 12, ...  
i = 10(10)50 → 10, 20, 30, ...  
i = 10 20 to 50 → 10, 20, 30, ...

### DEBUGGING CODE

**set trace on (off)**  
trace the execution of programs for error checking see also **capture** and **scalar \_rc**

### PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

sysuse auto, clear

**generate** car\_make = word(make, 1) — pull out the first word from the make variable  
**levelsof** car\_make, **local**(cmake) — calculate unique groups of car\_make and store in local cmake  
**local** i = 1  
**local** cmake\_len : word count `cmake' — store the length of local cmake in local cmake\_len  
**foreach** x of **local** cmake {  
display in yellow "Make group `i' is `x'"  
if `i' == `cmake\_len' {  
display "The total number of groups is `i'"  
}  
**local** i = ++i — increment iterator by one

tests the position of the iterator, executes contents in brackets when the condition is true