

H2O intro — Introduction to integration with H2O**Description**

H2O is a scalable and distributed machine learning and predictive analytics platform. You can read more about H2O at <http://docs.h2o.ai/>.

We have been experimenting with connecting to H2O from official Stata. Typically, we keep such experiments in-house until either we fully flesh them out into something we release to users or we shelve them because they do not work out the way we wanted or our priorities have changed.

We think H2O is an interesting platform, and we want both our users and ourselves to be able to explore connecting to it from Stata. So, we are giving our users early access to our work, and we welcome any feedback. In addition to the connection we have enabled from official Stata, we expect to release some community-contributed packages, and we hope users will do the same.

The documentation for this experimental connection is available at <https://www.stata.com/h2o/h2o18/>

The main command used to interact with H2O is `_h2oframe`. Notice the underscore; this signifies that the command is intended more for programmatic use. For the most part, it does not return output or helpful error messages, and its syntax is intended more for programmers than end users. It can be used as an engine for wrappers that provide user-friendly output, error messages, and the like. What `_h2oframe` does provide is access to H2O along with stored results based on the actions that it performs.

Syntax and features are subject to change. Keep in mind that when `_h2oframe` provides access to a given feature of H2O, that feature is an H2O feature. Though it is accessed by a Stata command, what it does is up to H2O and is outside of Stata.

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