

intro — Introduction and advice

[Contents](#)

[Description](#)

[Remarks and examples](#)

[Reference](#)

[Also see](#)

Contents

[M-1] Entry Description

Introductory material

first Introduction and first session

interactive Using Mata interactively

ado Using Mata with ado-files

help Obtaining help in Stata

How Mata works & finding examples

how How Mata works

source Viewing the source code

Special topics

returnedargs Function arguments used to return results

naming Advice on naming functions and variables

limits Limits and memory utilization

tolerance Use and specification of tolerances

permutation An aside on permutation matrices and vectors

LAPACK The LAPACK linear-algebra routines

Description

This section provides an introduction to Mata along with reference material common to all sections.

Remarks and examples

stata.com

The most important entry in this section is [M-1] **first**. Also see [M-6] **Glossary**.

The Stata commands `putmata` and `getmata` are useful for moving data from Stata to Mata and back again; see [D] **putmata**.

Those looking for a textbook-like introduction to Mata may want to consider [Baum \(2016\)](#), particularly chapters 13 and 14.

Reference

Baum, C. F. 2016. *An Introduction to Stata Programming*. 2nd ed. College Station, TX: Stata Press.

Also see

[M-0] **intro** — Introduction to the Mata manual

[D] **putmata** — Put Stata variables into Mata and vice versa