Title

> **graph describe —** Describe contents of graph in memory or on disk

Syntax

> <u>graph</u> <u>des</u>cribe [*name*]

name	Description
simplename	name of graph in memory
filename.gph	name of graph on disk
"*filename*"	name of graph on disk

If *name* is not specified, the graph currently displayed in the Graph window is described.

Menu

Graphics > Manage graphs > Describe graph

Description

graph describe describes the contents of a graph in memory or a graph stored on disk.

Remarks and examples

See [G-2] **graph manipulation** for an introduction to the graph manipulation commands.

graph describe describes the contents of a graph, which may be stored in memory or on disk. Without arguments, the graph stored in memory named Graph is described:

```
. use http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/auto
(1978 Automobile Data)

. scatter mpg weight
  (graph omitted)

. graph describe
```

Graph stored in memory

```
      name:  Graph
    format:  live
   created:  9 May 2013 14:26:12
    scheme:  default
      size:  4 x 5.5
  dta file:  auto.dta dated 13 Apr 2013 17:45
   command:  twoway scatter mpg weight
```

In the above, the size is reported as *ysize* × *xsize*, not the other way around.

When you type a name ending in `.gph`, the disk file is described:

```
. graph save myfile
. graph describe myfile.gph
```

myfile.gph stored on disk

```
       name:  myfile.gph
     format:  live
    created:  9 May 2013 14:26:12
     scheme:  default
       size:  4 x 5.5
   dta file:  auto.dta dated 13 Apr 2013 17:45
    command:  twoway scatter mpg weight
```

If the file is saved in `asis` format—see [G-4] **concept: gph files**—only the name and format are listed:

```
. graph save picture, asis
. graph describe picture.gph
```

picture.gph stored on disk

```
       name:  picture.gph
     format:  asis
```

Stored results

graph describe stores the following in r():

Macros
   r(fn)   *filename* or *filename*.gph
   r(ft)   "old", "asis", or "live"

and, if r(ft)=="live",

Macros
   r(command)   command
   r(family)   subcommand; twoway, matrix, bar, dot, box, or pie
   r(command_date)   date on which command was run
   r(command_time)   time at which command was run

   r(scheme)   scheme name
   r(ysize)   ysize() value
   r(xsize)   xsize() value

   r(dtafile)   .dta file in memory at command_time
   r(dtafile_date)   .dta file date

Any of r(command), ..., r(dtafile_date) may be undefined, so refer to contents by using macro quoting.

Also see

[G-2] **graph manipulation** — Graph manipulation commands

[G-2] **graph dir** — List names of graphs in memory and on disk