stata.com

st_macroexpand() — Expand Stata macros in string

Syntax Description Remarks and examples Conformability
Diagnostics Also see

Syntax

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<tr>
<th>string scalar</th>
<th>st_macroexpand(string scalar s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>real scalar</td>
<td>_st_macroexpand(S, string scalar s)</td>
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Note: the type of $S$ does not matter; it is replaced and becomes a string scalar.

Description

st_macroexpand($s$) returns $s$ with any quoted or dollar sign–prefixed macros expanded.

_st_macroexpand($S$, $s$) places in $S$ the contents of $s$ with any quoted or dollar sign–prefixed macros expanded and returns a Stata return code (it returns 0 if all went well).

Remarks and examples

Be careful coding string literals containing quoted or prefixed macros because macros are also expanded at compile time. For instance, consider

```stata
s = st_macroexpand("regress 'varlist'")
```

'varlist' will be substituted with its value at compile time. What you probably want is

```stata
s = st_macroexpand("regress " + "'" + "varlist" + "'")
```

Conformability

st_macroexpand($s$):

- $s$: 1 × 1
- result: 1 × 1

_st_macroexpand($S$, $s$):

- input:
  - $s$: 1 × 1
- output:
  - $S$: 1 × 1
  - result: 1 × 1
Diagnostics

`st_macroexpand(s)` aborts with error if `s` is too long (exceedingly unlikely) or if macro expansion fails (also unlikely).

`_st_macroexpand(S, s)` aborts with error if `s` is too long.

Also see

[M-4] `stata` — Stata interface functions