st_updata() — Determine or set data-have-changed flag

Syntax

\[ \text{real scalar } \text{st_updata()} \]

\[ \text{void } \text{st_updata}(\text{real scalar value}) \]

Description

\text{st_updata()} \text{ returns 0 if the data in memory have not changed since they were last saved and returns 1 otherwise.}

\text{st_updata(value)} \text{ sets the data-have-changed flag to 0 if value } = 0 \text{ and 1 otherwise.}

Remarks and examples

Stata’s \text{describe} command (see \text{[D] describe}) reports whether the data have changed since they were last saved. Stata’s \text{use} command (see \text{[D] use}) refuses to load a new dataset if the data currently in memory have not been saved since they were last changed. Other components of Stata also react to the data-have-changed flag. \text{st_updata()} \text{ allows you to respect that same flag.}

Moreover, even when Mata does set the flag, it might do so inappropriately, because the logic of your program fooled Mata. For instance, perhaps you added a variable and later dropped it. In such cases, the appropriate code is

\begin{verbatim}
    priorupdatavalue = st_updata()
    ...  
    st_updata(priorupdatavalue)
\end{verbatim}
Conformability

\[ \text{st\_update()} \]

\[ \text{result: } 1 \times 1 \]

\[ \text{st\_update(value)} \]

\[ \text{value: } 1 \times 1 \]
\[ \text{result: } \text{void} \]

Diagnostics

None.

Also see

[M-4] stata — Stata interface functions