Description

This entry describes this manual and what has changed since Stata 12.

Remarks and examples

In this manual, you will find

- matrix-manipulation commands, which are available from the Stata command line and for ado-programming (for advanced matrix functions and a complete matrix programming language, see the *Mata Reference Manual* )
- commands for programming Stata, and
- commands and discussions of interest to programmers.

This manual is referred to as [P] in cross-references and is organized alphabetically.

If you are new to Stata’s programming commands, we recommend that you first read the chapter about programming Stata in the *User's Guide*; see [U] 18 Programming Stata. After you read that chapter, we recommend that you read the following sections from this manual:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[P] <strong>program</strong></td>
<td>Define and manipulate programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[P] <strong>sortpreserve</strong></td>
<td>Sorting within programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[P] <strong>byable</strong></td>
<td>Making programs byable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[P] <strong>macro</strong></td>
<td>Macro definition and manipulation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You may also find the subject table of contents helpful; it immediately follows the table of contents.

We also recommend the Stata NetCourses®. At the time this introduction was written, our current offerings of Stata programming NetCourses included

- NC-151 Introduction to Stata programming
- NC-152 Advanced Stata programming

You can learn more about NetCourses and view the current offerings of NetCourses by visiting http://www.stata.com/netcourse/.


What’s new

For a complete list of all the new features in Stata 13, see [U] 1.3 What’s new.

References

Baum, C. F. 2009. An Introduction to Stata Programming. College Station, TX: Stata Press.


Also see

[U] 18 Programming Stata
[U] 1.3 What’s new
[R] intro — Introduction to base reference manual