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cline\_options — Options for connecting points with lines (subset of connect options)

Description Syntax Options Remarks and examples Also see

## **Description**

The *cline\_options* specify how points on a graph are to be connected.

In certain contexts (for example, scatter; see [G-2] graph twoway scatter), the lpattern(), lwidth(), lcolor(), and lstyle() options may be specified with a list of elements, with the first element applying to the first variable, the second element to the second variable, and so on. For information on specifying lists, see [G-4] stylelists.

# **Syntax**

cline_options	Description
<pre>connect(connectstyle)</pre>	how to connect points
<pre>lpattern(linepatternstyle)</pre>	line pattern (solid, dashed, etc.)
$\frac{1}{1}$ idth ( <i>linewidthstyle</i> )	thickness of line
<pre>lcolor(colorstyle)</pre>	color of line
<pre>lstyle(linestyle)</pre>	overall style of line
<pre>pstyle(pstyle)</pre>	overall plot style, including linestyle
<pre>recast(newplottype)</pre>	advanced; treat plot as newplottype

All options are *rightmost*; see [G-4] **concept: repeated options**.

Some plots do not allow recast().

## **Options**

connect(connectstyle) specifies whether points are to be connected and, if so, how the line connecting them is to be shaped; see [G-4] *connectstyle*. The line between each pair of points can connect them directly or in stairstep fashion.

lpattern(linepatternstyle), lwidth(linewidthstyle), lcolor(colorstyle), and lstyle(linestyle) determine the look of the line used to connect the points; see [G-4] concept: lines. Note the lpattern() option, which allows you to specify whether the line is solid, dashed, etc.; see [G-4] linepatternstyle for a list of line-pattern choices.

pstyle(pstyle) specifies the overall style of the plot, including not only the *linestyle*, but also all other settings for the look of the plot. Only the *linestyle* affects the look of line plots. See [G-4] pstyle for a list of available plot styles.

recast(newplottype) is an advanced option allowing the plot to be recast from one type to another,
for example, from a line plot to a scatterplot; see [G-3] advanced\_options. Most, but not all, plots
allow recast().

## Remarks and examples

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An important option among all the above is connect(), which determines whether and how the points are connected. The points need not be connected at all (connect(i)), which is scatter's default. Or the points might be connected by straight lines (connect(1)), which is line's default (and is available in scatter). connect(i) and connect(1) are commonly specified, but there are other possibilities such as connect(J), which connects in stairstep fashion and is appropriate for empirical distributions. See [G-4] connectstyle for a full list of your choices.

The remaining connect options specify how the line is to look: Is it solid or dashed? Is it red or green? How thick is it? Option lpattern() can be of great importance, especially when printing to a monochrome printer. For a general discussion of lines (which occur in many contexts other than connecting points), see [G-4] concept: lines.

### Also see

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    [G-4] concept: lines — Using lines
    [G-4] colorstyle — Choices for color
    [G-4] connectstyle — Choices for how points are connected
    [G-4] linepatternstyle — Choices for whether lines are solid, dashed, etc.
    [G-4] linestyle — Choices for overall look of lines
    [G-4] linewidthstyle — Choices for thickness of lines
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