

## frunalias — Change storage type of alias variables

[Description](#)[Quick start](#)[Syntax](#)[Remarks and examples](#)[Also see](#)

## Description

`frunalias` changes the storage type of alias variables identified in *varlist* to that of the variable they reference in another frame. If *varlist* is not specified, then all alias variables are changed.

`frunalias` ignores variables that do not have storage type `alias`.

## Quick start

Recast alias variables `v1`, `v2`, and `v3` to be copies of the variables they reference in another frame

```
frunalias v1 v2 v3
```

Recast all alias variables in the current dataset

```
frunalias
```

## Syntax

```
frunalias [varlist]
```

## Remarks and examples

stata.com

If `x` is an alias variable, linked to a *type* variable in another frame, then

```
frunalias x
```

will recast `x` to be a *type* variable. This effectively makes `x` a copy of the variable from the linked frame.

The following commands change the values in variables they operate on, so by their very nature, they cannot work with alias variables: `cross`, `dyngen`, `fillin`, the `icd` suite of commands, `recode`, `reshape`, `stack`, `xpose`, the `mi` suite of commands, and `snapspan`.

The error message they produce, when they detect alias variables, will mention using `frunalias` to work around this restriction.

```
. xpose, clear
alias variables not allowed
  Alias variables detected: var1 and var2.
  You could use command frunalias to recast these variables to avoid this
  error message.
r(109);
```

As this message indicates, we could now type

```
frunalias var1 var2
```

to make a copy of `var1` and `var2` in the current frame. Then we can proceed with the `xpose` command.

### Also see

[D] **fralias** — Alias variables from linked frames

[D] **frlink** — Link frames

[D] **frames intro** — Introduction to frames

[D] **merge** — Merge datasets

[M-5] **st\_addalias()** — Add alias variable to current Stata dataset

[M-5] **st\_isalias()** — Properties of alias variable

Stata, Stata Press, and Mata are registered trademarks of StataCorp LLC. Stata and Stata Press are registered trademarks with the World Intellectual Property Organization of the United Nations. Other brand and product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies. Copyright © 1985–2023 StataCorp LLC, College Station, TX, USA. All rights reserved.

