Description

goto *label* causes control to pass to the statement following *label* :. *label* may be any name up to eight characters long.

Syntax

> *label* : . . .
>
> > . . .
> >
> > goto *label*

where *label* : may occur before or after the goto and must be a valid Stata name.

Remarks and examples

These days, good style is to avoid using goto.

goto is useful when translating a FORTRAN program, such as

```
      A = 4.0e0/3.0e0
10 B = A - 1.0e0
      C = B + B + B
      EPS = DABS(C - 1.0e0)
      if (EPS.EQ.0.0e0) GOTO 10
```

The Mata translation is

```
          a = 4/3
s10:    b = a - 1
          c = b + b + b
          eps = abs(c-1)
          if (eps==0) goto s10
```

although

```
a = 4/3
do {
    b = a - 1
    c = b + b + b
    eps = abs(c - 1)
} while (eps==0)
```

is more readable.

Reference

Gould, W. W. 2005. Mata Matters: Translating Fortran. *Stata Journal* 5: 421–441.

Also see

[M-2] **break** — Break out of for, while, or do loop

[M-2] **continue** — Continue with next iteration of for, while, or do loop

[M-2] **do** — do … while (exp)

[M-2] **for** — for (exp1; exp2; exp3) stmt

[M-2] **while** — while (exp) stmt

[M-2] **Intro** — Language definition