

## Description

Automation (formerly known as OLE Automation) is a communication mechanism between Microsoft Windows applications. It provides an infrastructure whereby Windows applications (automation clients) can access and manipulate functions and properties implemented in another application (automation server). A Stata Automation object exposes internal Stata methods and properties so that Windows programmers can write automation clients to directly use the services provided by Stata.

## Remarks and examples

A Stata Automation object is most useful for situations that require the greatest flexibility to interact with Stata from community-contributed applications. A Stata Automation object enables users to directly access Stata macros, scalars, stored results, and dataset information in ways besides the usual log files.

For documentation on using a Stata Automation object, see <https://www.stata.com/automation/>.

Note that the standard Stata end-user license agreement (EULA) does not permit Stata to be used as an embedded engine in a production setting. If you wish to use Stata in such a manner, please contact StataCorp at [service@stata.com](mailto:service@stata.com).

## Also see

**[P] plugin** — Load a plugin

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