

dynamic tags — Dynamic tags for Markdown documents

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Description

Dynamic tags are instructions used by Stata's dynamic documents commands, [dyndoc](#) and [dyntext](#), to perform certain actions, such as run a block of Stata code, insert the result of a Stata expression in text, export a Stata graph to an image file and include a link to the image file, etc.

Remarks

Remarks are presented under the following headings:

Descriptions of dynamic tags
Version control
Execute and include output from a block of Stata code
Include strings and values of scalar expressions in text
Export and include a Stata graph
Include a text file
Disable dynamic text processing
Skip contents based on condition
Remove contents

Descriptions of dynamic tags

Here is a list of available dynamic tags and a short description for each. The tag may be abbreviated; the minimum abbreviation is indicated by the underlined letters.

Dynamic tags	Description
<< <u>dd_version</u> >>	specify the minimum version required to convert the dynamic document
<<dd_do>>	execute a block of Stata code and optionally include its output
<</dd_do>>	end <<dd_do>>
<< <u>dd_display</u> >>	include output of Stata expression as shown by Stata's <code>display</code> command
<< <u>dd_graph</u> >>	export a Stata graph and include a link to the file
<< <u>dd_ignore</u> >>	disable processing of dynamic tags except <<dd_remove>>
<</dd_ignore>>	end <<dd_ignore>>
<< <u>dd_include</u> >>	include the contents of a text file
<< <u>dd_remove</u> >>	remove the following text until <</dd_remove>> is specified
<</dd_remove>>	end <<dd_remove>>
<<dd_skip_if>>	skip text based on condition
<<dd_skip_else>>	skip text based on condition
<<dd_skip_end>>	end <<dd_skip_if>> block

Some tags must start at the beginning of a line, and the text in the same line after the tag is simply ignored. Other tags can be written in the middle of a line. The following table lists the required position in text for all tags.

Dynamic tags	Description
<code><<dd_version>></code>	beginning of a line, recommended at the start of a file
<code><<dd_do>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><</dd_do>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><<dd_display>></code>	within a line
<code><<dd_graph>></code>	within a line
<code><<dd_ignore>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><</dd_ignore>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><<dd_include>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><<dd_remove>></code>	within a line
<code><</dd_remove>></code>	within a line
<code><<dd_skip_if>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><<dd_skip_else>></code>	beginning of a line
<code><<dd_skip_end>></code>	beginning of a line

Tags can have attributes. Attributes are modifiers of a tag's behavior. Attributes can be repeated, and the last one will take effect. For example, if you specify `<<dd_do: commands nocommands>>`, the commands will not be displayed because the attribute `nocommands` supersedes the previously specified attribute `commands`. This is useful when you experiment with behavior of attributes for the best output. Some attributes have values; for example, `graphname()` requires the name of the graph to be exported. If a tag has only one attribute and that attribute requires a value, then the attribute name is omitted and only the value is required; for example, `dd_version` tag is used as `<<dd_version: an integer number>>`.

Version control

```
<<dd_version: version_number>>
```

The `<<dd_version>>` tag specifies the minimum version required to convert the source file. The version number is independent of Stata's `version` command. The tag must be at the beginning of a new line. We recommend that the tag be placed at the beginning of the *srcfile*.

The current version is 1, and it is introduced as of the release of Stata 15. The current version number is also stored in `c(dyndoc_version)`.

Execute and include output from a block of Stata code

```
<<dd_do: attribute>>
block of Stata code ...
<</dd_do>>
```

The `<<dd_do>>` tag runs the block of Stata code, replacing the lines between `<<dd_do>>` and `<</dd_do>>` with Stata output. Both the start tag `<<dd_do>>` and the end tag `<</dd_do>>` must be at the beginning of new lines.

<i>attribute</i>	Description
<code>quietly</code>	suppress all output
<code>nocommands</code>	suppress printing of command
<code>nooutput</code>	suppress command output
<code>noprompt</code>	suppress the dot prompt

Include strings and values of scalar expressions in text

```
<<dd_display: display_directive>>
```

The `<<dd_display>>` tag executes Stata's `display` command and then replaces the tag with its output. The tag cannot contain a line break or `>>`. Use `>>` instead if you need to include `>>` in the *display_directive*.

The `<<dd_display>>` tag can be used multiple times inside a line of text. For example, we want to display the circumference of a circle of radius 1 up to the two digits after the decimal. Instead of computing the number and then copying and pasting the result into the text, we can write

```
2*1*<<dd_display:%4.2f c(pi)>> = <<dd_display:%4.2f 2*1*c(pi)>>
```

which produces

```
2*1*3.14 = 6.28
```

Export and include a Stata graph

```
<<dd_graph: attribute>>
```

The `<<dd_graph>>` tag exports a Stata graph and then includes a link to the exported image file in the target file.

<i>attribute</i>	Description
<code>saving(filename)</code>	export graph to <i>filename</i>
<code>replace</code>	replace the file if it already exists
<code>graphname(name)</code>	name of graph to be exported
<code>svg</code>	export graph as SVG
<code>png</code>	export graph as PNG
<code>pdf</code>	export graph as PDF
<code>eps</code>	export graph as EPS
<code>ps</code>	export graph as PS
<code>html</code>	output an HTML link
<code>markdown</code>	output a Markdown link; default is <code>html</code>
<code>pathonly</code>	output the path of the file; default is <code>html</code>
<code>alt(text)</code>	alternative text for the graph; ignored if <code>pathonly</code> in effect
<code>height(#)</code>	height in pixels of the graph in HTML; ignored if <code>markdown</code> or <code>pathonly</code> in effect
<code>width(#)</code>	width in pixels of the graph in HTML; ignored if <code>markdown</code> or <code>pathonly</code> in effect
<code>relative</code>	use file path relative to the <i>targetfile</i> path specified in <code>dyndoc</code> or <code>dyntext</code> ; this is the default
<code>absolute</code>	use absolute path in the link; default is <code>relative</code>
<code>basepath(path)</code>	use <i>path</i> as base directory where graph files will be exported; default is the current working directory if it is not specified
<code>nourlencode</code>	do not encode the path to a percent-encoded URL; ignored if <code>html</code> or <code>markdown</code> in effect

If `graphname(name)` is not specified, the topmost graph is used. You can use the default name “Graph” to export the graph without the name.

For paths specified in the `saving()` or `basepath()` attributes, a single backslash (\) is interpreted as an escape character rather than as the directory separator character. When working on Windows, we recommend using a forward slash (/) as the directory separator character (for example, `C:/mypath/myfile`), or you must use a double backslash (for example, `C:\\mypath\\myfile`).

If `saving(filename)` is not specified, a filename will be constructed based on the graph name.

If none of `.svg`, `.png`, or `.pdf` is specified, the `saving(filename)` is checked first; if the name specified in `saving(filename)` has the extension of `.svg`, `.png`, or `.pdf`, then the graph will be exported in the format corresponding to the extension. For example, the dynamic tag

```
<<dd_graph:saving(gr1.png) graphname(gr1)>>
```

produces

```

```

Otherwise, the type `.svg` will be used as in

```
<<dd_graph:saving(gr1.pgg) graphname(gr1)>>
```

which produces

```

```

If `markdown` is specified, a Markdown link will be produced. For example, the dynamic tag

```
<<dd_graph:saving(gr1.svg) graphname(gr1) markdown>>
```

produces

```

```

You may use `pathonly` if you want an HTML link with more attributes than `html` or `markdown` can provide or if you want to use the path in a different target file type such as `LATEX`.

By default, the path is outputted as a percent-encoded URL. For example, the dynamic tag

```
<<dd_graph:saving("gr 1.svg") graphname(gr1) pathonly>>
```

produces

```
gr%201.svg
```

You may use `nourlencode` to disable the encoding process as in

```
"<<dd_graph:saving("gr 1.svg") graphname(gr1) pathonly nourlencode>>"
```

which produces

```
"gr 1.svg"
```

The `<<dd_graph>>` tag can be used inside a line of text.

Include a text file

```
<<dd_include: filename>>
```

The `<<dd_include>>` tag replaces the tag with the contents of the specified text file. The text file is included as is. The tag must be at the beginning of a new line.

Disable dynamic text processing

```
<<dd_ignore>> and <</dd_ignore>>
```

The `<<dd_ignore>>` tag causes `dyntext` and `dyndoc` to ignore the dynamic tag processing, starting from the next line until the line right before a `<</dd_ignore>>` tag. Both the beginning and ending tags must be at the beginning of a line. The only tag it does not affect is the `<<dd_remove>>` tag.

Skip contents based on condition

```
<<dd_skip_if: Stata expression>>
lines of text ...
<<dd_skip_end>>
```

or

```
<<dd_skip_if: Stata expression>>
lines of text ...
<<dd_skip_else>>
lines of text ...
<<dd_skip_end>>
```

`<<dd_skip_if: Stata expression>>` evaluates the *Stata expression*; if it evaluates to true (anything but 0), the lines before the next `<<dd_skip_end>>` are skipped. If there is a `<<dd_skip_else>>`, the lines before `<<dd_skip_else>>` are skipped, and the lines between `<<dd_skip_else>>` and `<<dd_skip_end>>` are processed as usual.

If the Stata expression evaluates to false (0), the lines before the next `<<dd_skip_end>>` are not skipped. If there is a `<<dd_skip_else>>`, the lines before `<<dd_skip_else>>` are not skipped, and the lines between `<<dd_skip_else>>` and `<<dd_skip_end>>` are skipped.

Remove contents

```
... <<dd_remove>>text to remove ...  
lines of text to remove ...  
text to remove ... <</dd_remove>> ...
```

The `<<dd_remove>>` and `<</dd_remove>>` tags remove all the contents between the two tags from the resulting target file. The tags can be used inside a line of text.

`<<dd_remove>>` is a postprocessing tag, which means it is processed after all other tags.

Also see

[P] [dyndoc](#) — Convert dynamic Markdown document to an HTML file

[P] [dyntext](#) — Process Stata dynamic tags in text file

[P] [markdown](#) — Convert Markdown document to an HTML file