

**spmatrix import** — Import weighting matrix from text file[Description](#)  
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## Description

`spmatrix import` reads files created by `spmatrix export`.

## Quick start

Create spatial weighting matrix `Wme` by importing file `wmat.txt`  
`spmatrix import Wme using wmat.txt`

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## Syntax

```
spmatrix import spmatname using filename [ , replace ]
```

*spmatname* will be the name of the weighting matrix that is created.

*filename* is the name of a file with or without the default `.txt` suffix.

## Option

`replace` specifies that weighting matrix *spmatname* in memory be overwritten if it already exists.

## Remarks and examples

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`spmatrix import` reads files written in a particular text-file format. The format is described in [\[SP\] spmatrix export](#). Such a file might be named `contig.txt`. To read the file and store the matrix in `Sp` spatial weighting matrix `Wcontig`, type

```
. spmatrix import Wcontig using contig.txt
```

or

```
. spmatrix import Wcontig using contig
```

The file extension `.txt` is assumed.

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The file is read and stored as is. Presumably, the user who created the matrix normalized it, but if not, you can normalize it by typing

```
. spmatrix normalize Wcontig
```

By default, `spmatrix normalize` uses spectral normalization, but you can specify a different normalization using the `normalize()` option. See [\[SP\] `spmatrix normalize`](#).

### Also see

[\[SP\] `spmatrix`](#) — Categorical guide to the `spmatrix` command

[\[SP\] `spmatrix export`](#) — Export weighting matrix to text file

[\[SP\] `spmatrix normalize`](#) — Normalize weighting matrix

[\[SP\] `Intro`](#) — Introduction to spatial data and SAR models