

**spmatrix save** — Save spatial weighting matrix to file

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## Description

`spmatrix save` saves the specified spatial weighting matrix to disk. You can later load the matrix using `spmatrix use`.

`spmatname` is saved to disk but is not dropped from memory. If you wish to eliminate the matrix from memory, see [SP] [spmatrix drop](#).

## Quick start

Save spatial weighting matrix *W* in file `w.stswm`

```
spmatrix save W using w.stswm
```

## Menu

Statistics > Spatial autoregressive models

## Syntax

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

*spmatname* is the name of an existing weighting matrix.

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

## Option

`replace` specifies that *filename* be overwritten if it already exists.

## Remarks and examples

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Saving spatial weighting matrices in files allows you to use them from one session to the next.

It is easy to lose track of which files contain which matrices. It can be useful to set the weighting matrix's note as a reminder:

```
. spmatrix note Wme: inverse-distance first-order contiguity matrix
. spmatrix save Wme using wme
  (matrix Wme saved in file wme.stswm)
```

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`spmatrix use` will display the note when it loads the file:

```
. spmatrix use W1 using wme
(inverse-distance first-order contiguity matrix)
```

The name you specify when you use the matrix is not required to match the name you used when you saved it.

### Also see

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

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

[SP] [spmatrix use](#) — Load spatial weighting matrix from file

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