Stata 7

Stata 7 is now shipping. Many of you have already upgraded, but in case you missed our earlier announcements, here are some of the highlights of Stata 7:

- Cluster analysis, including partitioning and hierarchical methods, a host of similarity measures, and the ability to program new methods
- Nested logit
- New panel data estimators, including Arellano-Bond, autoregression, instrumental variables, and more
- New survival analysis methods, including frailties/heterogeneity, continuously time varying covariates, stratification, SMR ratios, and more
- Marginal effects and elasticities for almost all estimators
- Receiver operating characteristics (ROC) curves and analysis
- Linear constraints for maximum likelihood estimators
- Many enhancements to GLMs
- New output markup language that improves the look of output
- Windowed interface for Unix
- Internet search for user-written commands
- Long variable names – 32 characters
- Sort stability for all commands
- Line styles for graphs
- 8 to 12% faster

These are just the highlights, Stata 7 has many more new features. You can see the details by pointing your web browser at www.stata.com and clicking on “New Release”.

Special pricing on upgrades is still available through February 28th.
The Stata NetCourses™ have been well-received by participants as is reflected in the following remarks:

• “I thought the material was excellent. I was also impressed by the opportunity the students had to ask questions and the efforts made by the Course Leaders to answer them regardless of how complicated the question.”

• “I thought the NetCourse was superior because of the quality of the notes and the emphasis on intuition.”

• “The NetCourses are simply great.”

All four NetCourses will begin on March 30 and will continue through May 11, with the exception of NC-152, which has an additional week for discussion. A brief summary of the upcoming NetCourses is listed below. For more details on how NetCourses work and for course syllabi, visit www.stata.com/info/products/netcourse.

### Preliminary program, user group meeting

**Session 1, 12 March 2001, 0900-1030**
**Estimation and fitting**

*Fitting Generalized Estimating Equation (GEE) regression models in Stata*
Nicholas Horton, Boston University School of Public Health

*The Quadratic Assignment Procedure (QAP)*
William Simpson, Harvard Business School

*The normal mixture decomposition*
Stanislav Kolenikov, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Session 2, 12 March 2001, 1100-1200**
**Model testing**

*Post-estimation commands for regression models for categorical and count outcomes*
Jeremy Freese, University of Wisconsin
J. Scott Long, University of Indiana

*Testing for omitted variables*
Jeroen Weesie, Utrecht University

**Session 3, 12 March 2001, 1330-1500**
**Survey and multilevel data analysis**

*Computing variances from data with complex sampling designs: A comparison of Stata and SPSS*
Alicia C. Dowd, Univ. Mass. Boston, Graduate College of Education
Michael B. Duggan, Suffolk University

*svytabs: A program for producing complex survey tables*
Michael Blasnik, Blasnik & Associates

*Simple cases of multilevel models*
Rich Goldstein

**Session 4, 12 March 2001, 1530-1715**
**Longitudinal data analysis**

*Date and time tags for filenames in WinXX*
Harriet E. Griesinger, Wellesley Child Care Research Partnership

*Efficient management of multi-frequency panel data with Stata*
Christopher F. Baum, Boston College

*Challenges of creating and working with cross-year-family-individual files: An example from the PSID dataset*
Petia Petrova, Boston College

*Analysis of longitudinal data in Stata, Splus and SAS*
Rino Bellisco, Karolinska Institute

**Session 5, 13 March 2001, 0900-1030**
**Assorted topics**

*Stata teaching tools*
Phil Ender, UCLA Department of Education

*Three-valued logic operations in Stata*
David Kantor, Johns Hopkins University, Institute for Policy Studies

**Session 6, 13 March 2001, 1100-1200**
**Econometric analysis of panel data in Stata**

*Analyzing panel data in Stata: An extended example*
David Drukker, Stata Corporation

**Session 7, 13 March 2001, 1330-1500**
**Report to users**
William W. Gould, Stata Corporation

**Session 8, 13 March 2001, 1530-1700**
**Wishes and grumbles**
Christopher F. Baum (moderator), Boston College and RePEc

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### From the Stata Bookstore

**Applied Logistic Regression (2nd Edition)**

The second edition of *Applied Logistic Regression*, by David W. Hosmer and Stanley Lemeshow, provides an excellent updated reference to the advances in methodology in logistic regression that have taken place over the last ten years.

While the first edition has served as one of the few comprehensive treatments of logistic regression available, the second edition introduces many enhancements in the areas of assessing model fit, estimation using data from complex survey samples, regression models for multinomial data, ordinal data, and data with correlated responses. In addition, consideration is now given to exact tests and sample size calculations.

Many of the analyses in the book were performed in Stata and can be replicated in Stata with data from the text. The data are available for download from ftp://ftp.wiley.com/public/sci_tech_med/logistic. In particular, Stata’s `svylogit` command can be used for fitting logistic regression models with survey data.

Additional information on this book, as well as others, can be found in the Stata Bookstore at www.stata.com/bookstore/. You may order books from the Bookstore website or by using the enclosed order form.

Title: *Applied Logistic Regression*  
(Second edition)  
Authors: David W. Hosmer, Jr. and Stanley Lemeshow  
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.  
Copyright: 2000  
ISBN: 0-471-35632-8  
Pages: 373; hardcover  
Price: $84.75

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### Latest NetCourse™ schedule

The Stata NetCourses™ have been well-received by participants as is reflected in the following remarks:

- “I thought the material was excellent. I was also impressed by the opportunity the students had to ask questions and the efforts made by the Course Leaders to answer them regardless of how complicated the question.”
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An enrollment form for the four upcoming NetCourses has been enclosed with the Stata News. You can also enroll online at www.stata.com/info/products/netcourse/enrollment.html.

**NC-101. Introduction to Stata**

NC-101 is designed to take smart, knowledgeable people and turn them into proficient interactive users of Stata. The course covers not just the obvious such as getting data into Stata, but also covers lots of detailed techniques and tricks to make you a powerful Stata user. From web update features and match-merging to using by groups and explicit subscripting, many of Stata’s key concepts are explored.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction to Stata</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stata 7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date offered</strong></td>
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<td>March 30 – May 11</td>
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<td><strong>Course Leaders</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pete Huckelba and Allen McDowell</td>
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<td><strong>Enrollment Deadline</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Price</strong></td>
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**NC-151. Introduction to Stata programming**

NC-151 is intended for all Stata users. Through a combination of lectures, example applications, and carefully chosen problems, the course addresses the full range of methods and techniques necessary to be most productive in the Stata environment. Beginning with effective ways to organize both simple and complicated analyses in Stata, NetCourse 151 then moves into programming elements that can be used to work more efficiently. Key programming topics include macro processing, program flow of control, using do-files, programming ado-files, Monte-Carlo simulations, and bootstrapped standard errors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction to Stata programming</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
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<td>Stata 7; basic knowledge of using Stata interactively</td>
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<td>March 30 – May 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Leaders</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon Driver and Allen McDowell</td>
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**NC-152. Advanced Stata programming**

The goal of NC-152 is to turn knowledgeable Stata programmers into Stata programming masters. It is assumed that you know what needs programming and to some extent how. Now, you want to add your own commands to Stata and learn to produce professional-level tools for use by you and others.

NC-152 teaches you how to create and debug new commands that are indistinguishable from the commands in Stata. You will learn how to parse both standard and nonstandard Stata syntax using the intuitive `syntax` command, how to manage and process saved results, how to process by groups, and more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advanced Stata programming</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stata 7; NC-151 or equivalent knowledge</td>
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<td>March 30 – May 18</td>
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<td><strong>Course Leaders</strong></td>
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<td>Jeff Pitblado and Allen McDowell</td>
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</table>

**NC-631. Introduction to Survival Analysis with Stata**

NC-631 is intended for biostatisticians and others who use Stata to perform survival analysis. Being given by William Gould and Roberto Gutierrez—the same people who designed and wrote Stata’s `st` system—the course begins with an introduction of survival-analysis concepts and then covers the use of nonparametric methods to describe and analyze survival data and the estimation of parametric and semiparametric (Cox) survival models.

The emphasis is on applying concepts and the Stata software to real-world problems from the biostatistical and economics realms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction to Survival Analysis with Stata</th>
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<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
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Generalized Linear Models and Extensions

James Hardin and Joseph Hilbe provide a comprehensive new text on General Linear Models (GLMs) that serves as the perfect companion text to Stata’s newly updated \texttt{glm} command now available with Stata 7. Included in the text are extensive treatments of the several variance estimators in \texttt{glm}, such as the outer product of the gradient (OPG), sandwich, unbiased sandwich, jackknife, bootstrap, and HAC estimators. Several model fit diagnostics and model test statistics are also given. The examples in the text are performed exclusively using Stata. This new text is currently in press and will be available in late February or early March. Orders may be placed now.

Title: Generalized Linear Models and Extensions
Authors: James Hardin and Joseph Hilbe
Publisher: StataPress
Copyright: 2001
ISBN: 1-881228-60-6
Pages: 250; paperback
Price: $45.00

7th annual UK Stata user group meeting announcement and call for papers

The 7th annual UK Stata user group meeting will be held on the 14th and 15th May 2001 at the Royal Statistical Society in London. The scientific organizers of the meeting are Bianca De Stavola, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and Stephen Jenkins, University of Essex; in conjunction with Timberlake Consultants, the UK distributors of Stata.

When: 14th and 15th of May 2001
Where: Royal Statistical Society, London
Invited: All are welcome to attend
More info: www.stata.com/support/meeting/7uk/

Please send contribution submissions to either Bianca De Stavola (Bianca.Stavola@lshtm.ac.uk) or Stephen Jenkins (stephenj@essex.ac.uk) as soon as possible, and by the end of February 2001 at the latest.

Coming soon from Stata Press

Generalized Linear Models and Extensions

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www.stata.com/support/bookstore/generalized.html