

Review of *The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata*, by J. Scott Long

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Abstract. This article reviews *The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata*, by J. Scott Long.

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1 Introduction

The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata (Long 2008) is a must read for every Stata user. The book defines a simple description. It is not a substitute for Stata's own reference manuals on data management or programming, but most readers will keep *Workflow* handy as a reference book for when they cannot remember how to do something. It is a great supplemental book for statistics courses precisely because such courses rarely spend much time on the topics this book covers—topics that students need to know to be effective Stata users. *Workflow* is a reflection of what a senior scholar has learned about what happens as we move from raw data to a published report.

Workflow presents many guidelines and few readers will agree with all of them. Many of the guidelines may seem obvious to experienced users, but this is only because they were learned the hard way. For example, on page 143 Long writes, “Never change a variable unless you give it a new name.” Those of us who have, on occasion, ignored this advice learned its importance when a pivotal variable was irreparably destroyed. I fear that some beginning Stata users who read such guidelines are likely to ignore them. Long minimizes this risk by showing the likely consequences of ignoring many of his guidelines. Seeing the damage that can be done by ignoring his advice encourages closer attention to all the guidelines.

How the book is best used depends on the reader. My beginning graduate students will be told to read the entire book and to reread the relevant sections before asking me to solve a problem. (Think of how often you have had to explain a loop to a beginning student, one-on-one.) Whoever has the responsibility of organizing, cleaning, and managing datasets for a project should read the entire book and, hopefully, follow many of the guidelines. Data analysts who are working on a project that has a well-managed dataset can read the book selectively but will learn to appreciate the critical role of the data manager and will learn why they should not always do what is quickest for their own particular purpose. Experienced Stata programmers and data managers

Data Analysis Using Stata Long

Michael Seilmaier



Data Analysis Using Stata Long:

The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata J. Scott Long, 2008-12-10 The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata by J Scott Long is an essential productivity tool for data analysts Long presents lessons gained from his experience and demonstrates how to design and implement efficient workflows for both one person projects and team projects After introducing workflows and explaining how a better workflow can make it easier to work with data Long describes planning organizing and documenting your work He then introduces how to write and debug Stata do files and how to use local and global macros After a discussion of conventions that greatly simplify data analysis the author covers cleaning analyzing and protecting data [A Gentle Introduction to Stata, Second Edition](#) Alan C. Acock, 2008-09-03 A Gentle Introduction to Stata Second Edition is aimed at new Stata users who want to become proficient in Stata After reading this introductory text new users will not only be able to use Stata well but also learn new aspects of Stata easily Acock assumes that the user is not familiar with any statistical software This assumption of a blank slate is central to the structure and contents of the book Acock starts with the basics for example the portion of the book that deals with data management begins with a careful and detailed example of turning survey data on paper into a Stata ready dataset on the computer When explaining how to go about basic exploratory statistical procedures Acock includes notes that should help the reader develop good work habits This mixture of explaining good Stata habits and good statistical habits continues throughout the book Acock is quite careful to teach the reader all aspects of using Stata He covers data management good work habits including the use of basic do files basic exploratory statistics including graphical displays and analyses using the standard array of basic statistical tools correlation linear and logistic regression and parametric and nonparametric tests of location and dispersion Acock teaches Stata commands by using the menus and dialog boxes while still stressing the value of do files In this way he ensures that all types of users can build good work habits Each chapter has exercises that the motivated reader can use to reinforce the material The tone of the book is friendly and conversational without ever being glib or condescending Important asides and notes about terminology are set off in boxes which makes the text easy to read without any convoluted twists or forward referencing Rather than splitting topics by their Stata implementation Acock chose to arrange the topics as they would be in a basic statistics textbook graphics and postestimation are woven into the material in a natural fashion Real datasets such as the General Social Surveys from 2002 and 2006 are used throughout the book The focus of the book is especially helpful for those in psychology and the social sciences because the presentation of basic statistical modeling is supplemented with discussions of effect sizes and standardized coefficients Various selection criteria such as semipartial correlations are discussed for model selection The second edition of the book has been updated to reflect new features in Stata 10 and includes a new chapter on the use of factor analysis to develop valid reliable scale measures Publisher's website *Applied Statistics for the Social and Health Sciences* Rachel A. Gordon, 2012-07-26 Applied Statistics for the Social and Health

Sciences provides graduate students in the social and health sciences with the basic skills that they need to estimate interpret present and publish statistical models using contemporary standards The book targets the social and health science branches such as human development public health sociology psychology education and social work in which students bring a wide range of mathematical skills and have a wide range of methodological affinities For these students a successful course in statistics will not only offer statistical content but will also help them develop an appreciation for how statistical techniques might answer some of the research questions of interest to them This book is for use in a two semester graduate course sequence covering basic univariate and bivariate statistics and regression models for nominal and ordinal outcomes in addition to covering ordinary least squares regression Key features of the book include interweaving the teaching of statistical concepts with examples developed for the course from publicly available social science data or drawn from the literature thorough integration of teaching statistical theory with teaching data processing and analysis teaching of both SAS and Stata side by side and use of chapter exercises in which students practice programming and interpretation on the same data set and course exercises in which students can choose their own research questions and data set This book is for a two semester course For a one semester course see <http://www.routledge.com/9780415991544>

Regression Models for Categorical, Count, and Related Variables John P. Hoffmann, 2016-08-16 Social science and behavioral science students and researchers are often confronted with data that are categorical count a phenomenon or have been collected over time Sociologists examining the likelihood of interracial marriage political scientists studying voting behavior criminologists counting the number of offenses people commit health scientists studying the number of suicides across neighborhoods and psychologists modeling mental health treatment success are all interested in outcomes that are not continuous Instead they must measure and analyze these events and phenomena in a discrete manner This book provides an introduction and overview of several statistical models designed for these types of outcomes all presented with the assumption that the reader has only a good working knowledge of elementary algebra and has taken introductory statistics and linear regression analysis Numerous examples from the social sciences demonstrate the practical applications of these models The chapters address logistic and probit models including those designed for ordinal and nominal variables regular and zero inflated Poisson and negative binomial models event history models models for longitudinal data multilevel models and data reduction techniques such as principal components and factor analysis Each chapter discusses how to utilize the models and test their assumptions with the statistical software Stata and also includes exercise sets so readers can practice using these techniques Appendices show how to estimate the models in SAS SPSS and R provide a review of regression assumptions using simulations and discuss missing data A companion website includes downloadable versions of all the data sets used in the book

A Practical Guide to Using Panel Data Simonetta Longhi, Alita Nandi, 2014-12-01 This timely thoughtful book provides a clear introduction to using panel data in research It describes the different types of panel datasets commonly used

for empirical analysis and how to use them for cross sectional panel and event history analysis Longhi and Nandi then guide the reader through the data management and estimation process including the interpretation of the results and the preparation of the final output tables Using existing data sets and structured as hands on exercises each chapter engages with practical issues associated with using data in research These include Data cleaning Data preparation Computation of descriptive statistics Using sample weights Choosing and implementing the right estimator Interpreting results Preparing final output tables Graphical representation Written by experienced authors this exciting textbook provides the practical tools needed to use panel data in research

Applied Regression Models in the Social Sciences Dudley L. Poston, Jr, Eugenia Conde, Layton M. Field, 2023-08-17 This accessible and practical textbook gives students the perfect guide to the use of regression models in testing and evaluating hypotheses dealing with social relationships A range of statistical methods suited to a wide variety of dependent variables is explained which will allow students to read understand and interpret complex statistical analyses of social data Each chapter contains example applications using relevant statistical methods in both Stata and R giving students direct experience of applying their knowledge A full suite of online resources including statistical command files datasets and results files homework assignments class discussion topics PowerPoint slides and exam questions supports the student to work independently with the data and the instructor to deliver the most effective possible course This is the ideal textbook for advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students taking courses in applied social statistics

Logistic Regression Models Joseph M. Hilbe, 2009-05-11 Logistic Regression Models presents an overview of the full range of logistic models including binary proportional ordered partially ordered and unordered categorical response regression procedures Other topics discussed include panel survey skewed penalized and exact logistic models The text illustrates how to apply the various models to

Regression Analysis for the Social Sciences Rachel A. Gordon, 2010 The book provides graduate students in the social sciences with the basic skills that they need to estimate interpret present and publish basic regression models using contemporary standards Key features of the book include interweaving the teaching of statistical concepts with examples developed for the course from publicly available social science data or drawn from the literature thorough integration of teaching statistical theory with teaching data processing and analysis teaching of both SAS and Stata side by side and use of chapter exercises in which students practice programming

Statistics with Stata Lawrence C. Hamilton, 2003 Stata is high powered data analysis software This handbook was designed to bridge the gap between textbooks and Stata's own documentation In this intermediate role STATISTICS WITH STATA uses easy to follow tutorials to demonstrate how to use Stata to accomplish some of the most common statistical tasks While the Stata's user documentation is over 3000 pages this tidy manual is less than 350 pages and introduces students and practitioners to both basic and advanced features of Stata

Computational Econometrics Charles G. Renfro, 2004 This publication contains a substantial amount of detail about the broad history of the development of

econometric software based on the personal recollections of many people For economists the computer has increasingly become the primary applied research tool and it is software that makes the computer work *Data Management Using Stata* Michael N. Mitchell,2010-05-24 Using simple language and illustrative examples this book comprehensively covers data management tasks that bridge the gap between raw data and statistical analysis Rather than focus on clusters of commands the author takes a modular approach that enables readers to quickly identify and implement the necessary task without having to access background information first Each section in the chapters presents a self contained lesson that illustrates a particular data management task via examples such as creating data variables and automating error checking The text also discusses common pitfalls and how to avoid them and provides strategic data management advice Ideal for both beginning statisticians and experienced users this handy book helps readers solve problems and learn comprehensive data management skills Home Pages ,2008 American Journal of Public Health ,2009 Statistics with Stata 5 Lawrence C. Hamilton,1998 Provides step by step instructions and tutorials for using Stata 5 This popular statistical software is favored particularly for doing social and economic research Anyone using or considering using Stata 5 to do statistical analysis will appreciate the real world examples Hamilton supplies This package is one of the most powerful most advanced data analysis packages available to the commercial or student market *Data Analysis Using Stata* Ulrich Kohler (Dr. phil.),Frauke Kreuter,2005-06-15 This book provides a comprehensive introduction to Stata with an emphasis on data management linear regression logistic modeling and using programs to automate repetitive tasks Using data from a longitudinal study of private households in Germany the book presents many examples from the social sciences to bring beginners up to speed on the use of Stata BACK COVER **Balancing Comfort** Vorapat Inkarojrit,2005 *Journal of Economic Literature* ,2004

Statistical Tutor Data Analysis for Social Scientists Lawrence C. Hamilton,1996-05-06 This handbook is accompanied by the StataQuest software for Windows StataQuest is a professionally developed statistical software with enough capability to be used in any beginning or intermediate statistics course It is also ideal for courses in research methods Examples and step by step instructions for using the StataQuest software are tailored to the needs of students in a statistics for Sociology or Political Science course *Journal of Economic and Social Measurement* ,2003 Southern Economic Journal ,1927

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