

## ▼ General notes (not prioritized)

## ▼ Output

- I would advocate for less-heavily edited versions of Stata output, if only because if anyone works along with the book they'll need more time to compare results and to figure out if they are doing what they should. Also, taking out the dividing lines between headers and the body of the output often makes the output more cryptic and harder to read. Perhaps it would be possible to please your editor and keep the page count down by removing the lines of hyphens before and after each chunk of computer output. The computer output is already clearly computer output because of the fixed-width font and dark-blue font color, so the dividing lines could be cut to save space.
- Along this line, up through page 309, all computer output is a blue/purple color. After page 309, it is black. Using the same color throughout would be good. Using something other than black could be good, also.

## ▼ Commands

- All the `ci` and `cii` commands in the book are out of date as of Stata 14.1. The commands now have sub-commands so that it is easier to see what is being computed.
- You use the command `correlate` throughout the book. The command `pwcorr` is a better command to use, because it does more than `correlate`.

## ▼ Dialog boxes

- It would be nice if you mentioned that it is possible to use Stata via dialog box for most tasks.
- For all the immediate tests that you use (`ttesti`, `cii`, etc.), it would seem useful to point out that they are far easier to use by using dialog boxes instead of commands. Commands using positional parameters are unfriendly and hard to remember and use.

## ▼ Datasets

- It would be nice if your datasets were better documented, meaning that there were useful variable labels and perhaps notes about the sources of the datasets. A case in point is the `Students.dta` dataset, where many of the variables have two-letter abbreviations whose meanings are unknown, and many of the variables are still strings, which makes them useable for only tabular analyses.
- It would be nice if it were easier to get to the Stata datasets. It certainly is possible to `use` the datasets via the URL, but this is kind of clunky. It would be nice if there were a package set up to download all the files to users' computers. Please see the separate `stata.toc` and `datasets.pkg` files, and take a look at `help usersite` for more info. If you wanted to be fancy, you could even have a separate `pkg` file for each chapter, even if datasets are used in multiple chapters.

## ▼ General

- It would be nice if were easier to know what output came from what dataset. Right now it takes some effort to figure out which dataset is being used to produce each chunk, making it very difficult for readers to work along with what you are doing in the narrative.
- The URL given in exercise 1.11 is incorrect; I got a 404 when trying to go to it.
- There are other comments which were made directly on the document. Please see [agresti\\_20160103\\_markup.pdf](#).

## ▼ Manuals

- The introduction to Stata appendix refers people to URLs for looking at Stata's manuals. While this allows explicit instructions, it would be more useful to tell people that they have all the PDF documentation on their computers already, and then tell them how to access it either via the **Help** menu item (slow) or by clicking on the first entry in the help file (fast). This way they will get the manual entry associated with their version of Stata, so that if Stata releases a major upgrade (Stata 15, say), your book will still reference the proper references.

▼ Pages to look at:

- 70: It would be simpler to try  
`tabstat violent, stats(p25 p50 p75)`  
to get the result that you'd like. The `tabstat` command is (in many ways) the generalization of `summarize`.
- 110: OK
- 112: OK
- 152: The command used is out-of-date in Stata 14.1. It should be  
`cii proportions 1200 396, wald`
- 161: OK
- 162: The output is fine, but it seems to go around 2 corners: first the data have to be summarized and then the numbers have to be retyped to get the result. It would seem useful to put in a footnote about -- and then use the paired t-test directly:  
`use Anorexia_CB`  
`ttest after == before.`  
This would match up better with the R example.
- 163 (histogram): It seems that there is a strange format set for the `change` variable. If the format were left as the default of `%9.0g` (or were `%5.1f`) there wouldn't be so much false precision on the x axis.
- 173: `cii` out of date. Also, though it probably would complicate the presentation, would it be worth mentioning that Stata gives a warning that the lower level was 'clipped'?
- 183: OK
- 200: OK
- 204: It might help to mention that the output was edited.
- 205: OK
- 211: OK
- 232: OK, but odd
- 235: OK
- 253: OK
- 257: OK, though truncated
- 265: OK, though with strange edits
- 303: Ok, though hard to find the dataset to match output
- 322: OK

- 357: Graph has placeholder: "((use Fig 9.12 in soc4))"
- 364: OK, though truncated
- 464: It seems odd to truncate the width of the output, though I guess this is because the page width is so narrow. Also: The `pwcorr` command is better to use than `corr`, because `pwcorr` allows more computations, such as significance levels.
- 497: Pretty highly edited, including extra indentation. Cutting out the dividing lines makes the table less readable.
- 502: Same comment as for p 497.
- 634: Rather than giving the dummy variables cryptic one-letter names, why not give them informative names? It would make the output clearer.
- 640: Cutting out the dividing line under the header makes the table confusing.
- 641: Same comments as for p 634
- 648: Cutting the dividing line between the predictor variables and the cutpoints makes the table less readable.
- 652: Including the dividing line is worthwhile, but I'm confused by the output. The name of the dependent variable (`response`) should match the name above the model output, but does not (`afterlife`).

▼ Introduction to Stata (pp 723–725):

- You start your introduction to the SPSS section by saying that SPSS uses menus and dialogs to make things easy. Stata does the same—there are dialogs for most every command in Stata.
- This appears to be less of an introduction to Stata than a lookup reference for the methods used in the body of the book. If this is the purpose of the appendix, it would be clearer to change the name of the appendix to something like 'Stata commands used in this text'. If the purpose is to have a true introduction to Stata, it would more valuable to give people a thought process for using the package and work through a series of related and common steps: opening a dataset, creating some variables, saving the modified dataset, doing some exploratory analysis, estimating a model, and looking at some postestimation results such as predictions or diagnostics.
- There is a lot of use of `fweight` in the introduction. This seems to be outdated to me. Datasets of counts are something I haven't seen in practice for years, but perhaps your experience is different.