

1. Introduction

Stata is a modern and general command-driven package for statistical analysis, data management, and graphics. Versions are available for PC/DOS/Windows, Mac, and Unix. This document briefly reviews some key elements of the program, reproduces a sample session, and finishes with a table describing some of the more important Stata commands. This document was produced to help introduce Stata on the Athena operating environment, therefore the operating system I am assuming is Unix.

1. Starting Stata

In an xterm window type the following:

```
add stata
xstata
```

This will fire up the graphical interface for Stata. If, instead of typing `xstata` you type `stata`, you will get a purely command-line interface.

1.1 Entering and editing commands

Commands are entered and edited via the keyboard. Previous commands are saved in a buffer and can be restored for editing. In addition, the GUI contains a window labeled “review” which records the recent commands you have entered. Once having entered a command, you may go to the Review Window and double-click on any command to run it again. Single-clicking on the command brings that command into the Command Window for editing and execution.

¹This document was heavily cribbed from a similar one created by Jeroen Wessie, Department of Sociology, Utrecht University.