

Software Updates

st0399.1: Estimation of mean health care costs and incremental cost-effectiveness ratios with possibly censored data. S. Chen, J. Rolfes, and H. Zhao. *Stata Journal* 15: 698–711.

This update to the `hcost` command includes the following changes:

1. The running speed of the previous version of `hcost` is slow when there are many subjects. The program has been optimized, and it now substantially speeds up.
2. Previously, `hcost` may have produced an error message of “subscript invalid” if `l()` was very large. This has been fixed.
3. Additional data checking prior to analysis has been added to detect potential data errors, such as inconsistent survival time and death indicators within the same subject, the same subject ID appearing in different groups, and stop time for costs occurring after death time.
4. Previously, `hcost` prorated costs by L-truncated follow-up time only when start and stop time of costs were provided and stop time was larger than L. This updated version also prorates costs when the total costs are provided for each subject without start and stop times by assuming that costs are evenly distributed from 0 to the follow-up time.
5. Remarks have been added to the help file about the selection of the cost truncation limit L.

st0526.1: `cvcrand` and `cptest`: Commands for efficient design and analysis of cluster randomized trials using constrained randomization and permutation tests. J. A. Gallis, F. Li, H. Yu, and E. L. Turner. *Stata Journal* 18: 357–378.

The following updates have been made to `cvcrand` since the last time it was uploaded. First, we have removed the command’s dependence on the community-contributed `table1` package (Clayton 2013). Now, users can make their own summary tables using a command of their choice, such as `summtab` (Gallis 2019). Second, the constrained dataset is now automatically saved so that users cannot opt out of creating this dataset. This functionality was added because for clustered permutation test analysis, it is crucial that users have the constrained space available in dataset form. Finally, we have added a check of randomization validity (Bailey and Rowley 1987). When one constrains the randomization space, certain pairs of clusters may always (or usually) be allocated to the same arm or never (or rarely) be allocated to the same arm. Either scenario can lead to loss of randomization validity. The command `cvcrand` now provides with specification of the `validitycheck` option the summary statistics for the proportion of times in the constrained space that clusters are paired together and the proportion of times that they are not paired together to help users assess randomization validity.

st0574.1: gidm: A command for generalized inflated discrete models. Y. Xia, Y. Zhou, and T. Cai. *Stata Journal* 19: 698–718.

The `gidm` command has been updated with a change to the `missing` option of `m1`, which fixes possible convergence issues.

References

- Bailey, R. A., and C. A. Rowley. 1987. Valid randomization. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A* 410: 105–124. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1987.0030>.
- Clayton, P. 2013. `table1`: Stata module to create “table 1” of baseline characteristics for a manuscript. Statistical Software Components S457730, Department of Economics, Boston College. <https://ideas.repec.org/c/boc/bocode/s457730.html>.
- Gallis, J. A. 2019. `summtab`: Stata module to compute summary statistics overall and/or across levels of a categorical variable. Statistical Software Components S458471, Department of Economics, Boston College. <https://ideas.repec.org/c/boc/bocode/s458471.html>.

Announcements

2020 German Stata Conference

Date: Friday, June 5, 2020
Venue: Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main
Campus Ginnheimer
Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Scientific organizers: Johannes Giesecke
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Ulrich Kohler
Universität Potsdam
Alexander Schmidt-Catran
Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main
Logistics organizer: DPC Software GmbH
More information: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/germany20/>

2020 Stata Conference Philadelphia

Date: Thursday, July 30, and Friday, July 31, 2020
Location: Le Méridien Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Scientific organizers: Matias Cattaneo (chair)
Princeton University
Sean Beckett
Freddie Mac
Andrew Cucchiniara
University of Pennsylvania
Germán Rodríguez
Princeton University
Logistics organizer: StataCorp
More information: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/philadelphia20/>

2020 London Stata Conference

Date: Thursday, September 10, and Friday, September 11, 2020
Venue: Cass Business School
London, United Kingdom
Scientific organizers: Nicholas J. Cox
Durham University
Rachael Hughes
University of Bristol
Tim Morris
MRC CTU at UCL
Patrick Royston
MRC CTU at UCL
Logistics organizer: Timberlake Consultants
More information: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/uk20/>

2020 Northern European Stata Conference

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020
Venue: Oslo Cancer Cluster Innovation Park
Oslo, Norway
Scientific organizers: Tor Åge Myklebust (chair)
Cancer Registry of Norway
Bjarte Aagnes (chair)
Cancer Registry of Norway
Arne Risa Hole
University of Sheffield
Morten W. Fagerland
Oslo University Hospital
Øyvind N. Wiborg
University of Oslo and Oslo Metropolitan University
Peter Hedström
Linköping University
Anna L. V. Johansson
Karolinska Institutet and Cancer Registry of Norway
Logistics organizer: Metrika Consulting and the Institute of
Population-based Cancer Research at the
Cancer Registry of Norway
More information: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/northern-european20/>

2020 Italian Stata Conference

Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020
Venue: Milan, Italy
Scientific organizers: Una-Louise Bell
TStat S.r.l.
Rino Bellocco
*Università degli Studi di Milano–Bicocca and
Karolinska Institutet*
Giovanni Capelli
Università degli Studi di Cassino
Maurizio Pisati
Università degli Studi di Milano–Bicocca
Logistics organizer: TStat S.r.l.
More information: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/italy20/>

2020 Portugal Stata Conference: Proceedings available

Website: <https://www.stata.com/meeting/portugal20/>