

Saving Datasets in *Stata 9* Format While Using *Stata 10*

PROBLEM: How to save datasets in *Stata 9* format while using *Stata 10*

Suppose you are working at a computer that is running *Stata 10* – e.g., the computers in the QED Computer Classroom, Dunning 350 – and you want to save a dataset you are creating so that it can be read by an earlier release of *Stata* such as *Stata 9*. The computers in MC B111 have *Stata 9*, not *Stata 10*, installed. Any *Stata 9* dataset can be read by *Stata 10*, but *Stata 10* datasets cannot be read by *Stata 9*.

SOLUTION: The *Stata 10* **saveold** command

The *Stata 10* **saveold** command saves the dataset currently in memory on disk as a *Stata*-format dataset in *Stata 9* (or *Stata 8*) format.

Suppose you are working in *Stata 10* and have in memory the dataset **auto1.dta** in *Stata 10* format.

- To save on disk the dataset **auto1.dta** in *Stata 9* format and give that *Stata 9* dataset the filename **auto1_Stata9.dta**, enter in the Command window either of the following two **saveold** commands:

```
saveold auto1_Stata9
saveold auto1_Stata9, replace
```

Note that inclusion of the **replace** option in the second **saveold** command above means that if the current *Stata* working directory already contains an existing file named **auto1_Stata1.dta**, that file will be overwritten and replaced with the contents of the dataset currently in memory.

The *Stata 9* format dataset **auto1_Stata9.dta** created with *Stata 10* by the foregoing **saveold** command can be read using *Stata 9*.

- For more detailed information on the *Stata 10* **saveold** command, enter in the Command window either of the following two commands:

```
help save
help saveold
```