



CALL FOR PAPERS

2024 Italian Stata Conference

Florence, 9-10 May 2024

The 2024 edition of the **Italian Stata Conference** will take place in Florence on the 9th-10th May at [Villa La Stella](#).

Each year the conference offers participants an unique opportunity, for interdisciplinary exchange through both the presentation of new community user written commands and applied work developed in Stata. The meeting will open with an “Invited Speaker” session by Mehmet Mehmetoglu (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) and Sergio Venturini (Catholic University of Sacred Heart-Cremona) and will be followed by a series of User and StataCorp presentations, providing participants the opportunity to:

***MEET** researchers from different disciplinary areas **DISCOVER** new applications highlighting Stata 18’s potential capabilities for applied research **EXCHANGE** new community written routines developed for Stata and **INTERACT** directly with statisticians from StataCorp.*

This year we are particularly looking for new user community contributed commands focusing on:

- new estimation methods;
- Stata’s connectivity to external applications, such as Python, R or Java;
- reporting tools for the creation of dynamic dashboards or automatic internet publishing;
- data visualization.

Applied research in Biostatistics, Education, Epidemiology, Social and Political Sciences is also extremely welcome.

The second day of the conference will be dedicated to the following training course: **Structural Equation Modelling with Partial Least Squares using Stata** held by Sergio Venturini and Mehmet Mehmetoglu.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Stata users interested in participating in the 2024 conference are required to submit their proposals via email to the Scientific Committee at formazione@tstat.it by the **10.03.2024**. The accompanying mail should include the following information: the name of the author(s), affiliation, together with a current telephone contact, should we need to contact you.

Please note that presentations are “normally” 25 minutes long, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Longer presentations are also welcome, in such cases however, it would be appreciated if authors could also indicate an estimated presentation time in their email.

Authors selected for presentation by the Scientific Committee will be contacted directly by the **22.03.2024**. The final version of the presentation should be submitted by the **30.04.2024**.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Una-Louise Bell, TStat - TStat Training | **Rino Bellocco**, University of Milano-Bicocca
Giovanni Capelli, Istituto Superiore di Sanità | **Giovanni Cerulli**, IRCRES-CNR | **Maurizio Pisati**, University of Milano-Bicocca

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INTRODUCTION TO PARTIAL LEAST SQUARES STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELLING (PLS-SEM) USING STATA

PLS-SEM, also referred to as partial least squares path modelling, is an alternative approach to SEM which is being increasingly used in social sciences, psychology, business administration and marketing. PLS-SEM can be viewed as a component-based SEM alternative to the covariance-based structural equation modelling, which can be described as a factor-based SEM technique. As such, the PLS-SEM approach provides researchers with a multivariate statistical technique that can readily be used to estimate exploratory or/and complex SEM models. Although there are several stand-alone specialized PLS-SEM software packages available, this course introduces participants to the PLS-SEM methodology through the user-written Stata package, **plssem**, developed by the course instructors.

The course is of particular interest to researchers and professional working in social sciences, psychology, business administration, marketing and management. Due to its introductory nature, it is however, also accessible to individuals, regardless of their respective disciplines or fields, who need to acquire the requisite toolset to apply the PLS-SEM methodology to their own data. During the course, theoretical concepts are reinforced by applied case study examples, in which the course tutor discusses current research issues, highlighting potential pitfalls and the advantages of individual techniques.

COURSE OUTLINE

- **Session I:** Structural equation modeling (SEM) and different approaches to SEM; PLS-SEM versus CB-SEM;
- **Session II:** Specification of a PLS-SEM model; reflective and formative constructs;
- **Session III:** Assessment of the results of a PLS-SEM analysis; construct and discriminant validity; goodness-of-fit; path coefficients interpretation;
- **Session IV:** Advanced issues in PLS-SEM; mediation analysis; multi-group analysis; higher-order constructs.

Participants are expected to have previously followed a basic course in statistics. More specifically, a working knowledge of linear regression analysis is required. Previous exposure to Stata or other statistical software packages would also be an advantage.

The maximum number of participants permitted will be restricted to 15.

REGISTRATION

The conference will be held at [Villa La Stella](#), Via Iacopone da Todi, 12, Florence on the **9th and 10th May 2024**.

	Conference	Option 1 (1 night, Conference)	Conference / Course	Option 2 (2 nights, Conference / Course)
Full-time Undergraduate, Masters, Ph.D Students	€ 65	€ 145	€ 245	€ 405
Others	€ 95	€ 175	€ 375	€ 535

- All participation fees are subject to VAT (applied at the current Italian rate of 22%);
- Conference fees include: coffee breaks, lunch, course materials and a temporary licence of Stata for those participants attending the training course. We have also organized a limited number of single rooms (on a Bed and Breakfast basis) at Villa La Stella for those wishing also to stay in the complex. Accommodation will be given on a first come, first serve basis;
- Individuals interested in participating in the 2024 Italian Stata Conference should return their duly completed [registration forms](#) to the conference organizers by the **30.04.2024** at the very latest.

FUNDING FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

TStat is delighted to sponsor, via our project "[Investing in Young Researchers](#)", TWO full-time Ph.D. students from any of the countries for which TStat is the official Stata Distributor. Sponsorship covers both the first day of the conference and the training course (including Bed and Breakfast accommodation). Travel expenses are however, to be paid by the participant.

To apply for sponsorship, please send your curriculum vitae to formazione@tstat.it.

