About this document

This document is intended as a handy reference for the user of MLwiN commands; it has been designed to fit on two sides so it can easily be printed and put on the wall, or otherwise kept handy. It thus contains only a small fraction of the commands available in MLwiN, and provides a brief description of the function of each, rather than proper documentation. For fuller documentation of MLwiN's commands, see the Command Manual and the Manual Supplement to v2.1.

The first side, 'Understanding commands', is intended to help the user in interpreting commands in a macro written by somebody else, or in interpreting commands generated by MLwiN that they will see in the **Command interface** if they untick the **user** box. It therefore contains quite a few commands that the user is unlikely to need themselves, but which are produced by MLwiN when the user uses the GUI. It is hoped that this will allow the user to identify these as commands that they can ignore, and to find among those in the Command interface the ones that they are interested in. For this reason, the description for some of these commands just mentions that they will be issued by MLwiN in certain contexts and does not describe what they actually do; the interested user can refer to the documentation.

The second side, 'Using commands', is intended to help the user to discover which command is needed to perform the action they want to perform. It is of course much easier to look up a command in the Command manual and find out what it does than to look up an action in the Command manual and find out what command performs that action. It is hoped that the information here will make this easier. There are of course many more MLwiN commands that are not featured here. Another way to find out what command performs a given action is to perform that action using the GUI, then untick the **user** box in the **Command interface**. For a very small number of commands (e.g. PICK) this is not possible since there is no way to perform the action in the GUI; but this will work for everything that can be done using the GUI.

Since this is intended only as a quick reference guide, and is certainly not meant to provide documentation for the commands, each command (on both sides) is followed by an indication of where the best documentation for that command can be found.

Command Dictionary begins on next page

MLwiN Quick Reference Command Dictionary

Understanding commands

ADDT	add an explanatory variable	S
BATCh	iterate till convergence or stop after 1 iteration	C,S
CALC	calculate	C
CENT	specify centring used or not for explanatory variables	S
CLEAr	erase model set up in Equations window	C
CODE	create a repeating sequence	C
DOFFs	specify variable to use for denominator or offsets	S
ECHO	display output from commands in macros or not	C
EDIT	change value in individual cell(s) of column	C
ENDLoop	marks end of loop in a macro	C
ERASe	delete contents of column	C
ESTM	like Estimates button in Equations window	S
EXPA	like + and - buttons in Equations window	S
FPATh	generated by MLwiN at start of session	C
GALLfilter	generated by MLwiN at start of session	C
GENErate	create a sequence	C
GIND	specify graph display number and dataset number	C
GTAB	specify graph trellis (also called by MLwiN when redrawing graph)	C
GTYP	specify plot type	C
GXCO	specify x variable for graph	C
GYCO	specify y variable for graph	C
IDEN	specify level identifier variable	C
INDE	show single or multiple subscripts in Equations window	S
JOIN	join columns, boxes or values into one column	C
LFUN	specify link function for discrete response model	S
LIKE	calculate likelihood (during model fitting)	C
LINEa	like Nonlinear button in Equations window	S
LOOP	mark start of a loop in a macro	C
MAXIt	specify maximum number of iterations when running model	C
MCMC	run model using MCMC	C
MCOMp	display model comparison table	S
MONI	issued during estimation	C
MSTOre	store model in model comparison table	S
MWIPe	erase all models from model comparison table	S
NAME	rename a column	C
NEXT	like More button at top of MLwiN	C,S
NMVA	like Name button in Equations window	S
NOTAtion	simple or general notation in Equations window	S
NRANdom	generate Normal random variable	C
OBEY	perform the commands in a specified macro	C
OFFSets	issued during estimation	C
PAUSe	pause macro & return control to user	C
PICK	capture value from particular cell of column	C
POSTfile	generated by MLwiN at start of session	C
PREFile	generated by MLwiN at start of session	C
PRINt	display value stored in a box	C
PRIOr	generated by MLwiN at start of session	C
PUT	create a constant vector	C
RDISt	specify distribution of response	S
RESP	specify the response variable	C
RSPSs	open SPSS worksheet	S
RSTAta	open Stata worksheet	S
SETV	add a random effect	C
SORT	sort (some) columns according to values in others	C
STARt	run model using (R)IGLS	S
SWITch	conditional statement in macro	C
TRACk	generated by MLwiN at start of session	
WSET	refresh windows	S
ZRET	open .wsz worksheet	S
ZSAV	save as .wsz worksheet	S

S = best documentation in Manual Supplement for v2.10 http://www.cmm.bristol.ac.uk/MLwiN/download/manuals.shtml;
C = best documentation in Command Manual http://www.cmm.bristol.ac.uk/MLwiN/download/manuals.shtml;

MLwiN Quick Reference Command Dictionary

Using commands

Model specification

Delete model	CLEAr	C
Specify response	RESP	C
Specify level IDs	IDEN	C
Add covariate	ADDT	S
Centre covariate	CENT	S
Add random effect	SETV	C

Discrete response models

Response distribution	RDISt	S
Create multinomial response	MNOM	C
Link function	LFUN	S
Denominator	DOFFs	S
Offsets	DOFFs	S
MQL/PQL setting	LINE	S
Common coefficients	RPAT	C

Equations window

Button	Command	
Name	NMVA	S
+	EXPA	S
-	EXPA	S
Add Term	ADDT	S
Estimates	ESTM	S
Nonlinear	LINE	S
Clear	CLEAr	C
Notation	{ NOTA	S
	INDE	S
Responses	MVAR	C
Store	MSTO	S

Running models

Iterate till convergence	BATCh	C,S
Max number iterations	MAXI	C
Run using (R)IGLS	STARt	S
More	NEXT	C,S
Run using MCMC	MCMC	C

Storing models

Store model	MSTO	S
Compare models	MCOMp	S
Erase some models	MERA	S
Erase all models	MWIPe	S

Models

Macros

Call macro	OBEY	C
Display output of commands in macros	ECHO	C
Pause macro & return control to user	PAUSe	C
Comment (ignore line)	NOTE	C
Create loop of commands	LOOP and ENDLoop	C
Conditional statements	SWITch, CASE, LEAVe, ENDS	C
Display value stored in a box	PRINt	C

Macros

Editing data

Delete contents of column	ERASe	C
Join into one column	JOIN	C
Get single value from column	PICK	C
Change single value in column	EDIT	C
Display value stored in a box	PRINt	C

Creating variables

(Re)name variable	NAME	C
As function of other variables	CALC	C
Create sequence	GENE	C
Create repeating sequence	CODE	C
Create constant variable	PUT	C
Create Normal random variable	NRAN	C

Data manipulation

Sort data	SORT	C
Select according to values of another variable	CHOO	C
Omit according to values of another variable	OMIT	C
Expand data to 1 row per L1 unit	MERG	C
Contract L2 variable to 1 row per L2 unit	TAKE	C
Recode	CHAN	C
Toggle Categorical	CATN	F

Data Manipulation

C = best documentation in Command Manual http://www.cmm.bristol.ac.uk/MLwiN/download/manuals.shtml;
S = best documentation in Manual Supplement http://www.cmm.bristol.ac.uk/MLwiN/download/manuals.shtml;
F = best documentation in FAQs http://www.cmm.bristol.ac.uk/MLwiN/tech-support/support-faqs/index.shtml