

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 94

STATISTICS USING MIDAS: DATA ANALYSIS OVER THE INTERNET PHASE II

This Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II project, a follow-on to Project No. 79, completed the development and implementation of a *Multivariate Interactive Data Analysis System* (MIDAS) to provide broad access to interactive data analysis, via the Internet, of 145 premier health and social science databases containing over 150,000 variables from seven of Sociometrics' national data archives. MIDAS includes search and retrieval programming and highly organized variable-level and study-level links to several thousand pages of supporting documentation, e.g., original instruments, codebooks, User's Guides, and methodology reports. An integrated javascript interface allows users to quickly, easily, and inexpensively interact with the system through Java-enabled Internet browsers. Online data analytic procedures include weighted and unweighted frequencies, percentiles, and measures of dispersion and central tendency, as well as two-way and n -way tables with measures of association, comparison of means (2-group and ANOVA) and correlations, and the calculation of complex variance estimations. Users are able to define case subsets, recodes, or aggregations for analysis, and then produce output which can be downloaded or printed. Custom dataset download is also available. MIDAS includes a fast statistical engine, state-of-the-art interface, and "portable document format" files to ensure data analytic speed and comprehensive usability. MIDAS is integrated with many Socionet features, e.g., Verity search and secure commercial transactions. Beta test panels assessed and improved all features.

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