Overview. Models estimated by `xt, re` commands (e.g. `xtreg, re` and `xtlogit, re`) can also often be estimated by `me` (mixed effect) commands (e.g. `mixed`, `melogit`). There are many types of data where either type of command will work – but these aren’t necessarily panel data. For example, you might have a sample of schools, and within each school you have a sample of students. The latter might be more appropriately referred to as a multilevel data set. Quoting verbatim from the Stata 14.2 manual,

> Mixed-effects models are characterized as containing both fixed effects and random effects. The fixed effects are analogous to standard regression coefficients and are estimated directly. The random effects are not directly estimated (although they may be obtained postestimation) but are summarized according to their estimated variances and covariances. Random effects may take the form of either random intercepts or random coefficients, and the grouping structure of the data may consist of multiple levels of nested groups. As such, mixed-effects models are also known in the literature as multilevel models and hierarchical models. Mixed-effects commands fit mixed-effects models for a variety of distributions of the response conditional on normally distributed random effects.

A key thing to realize is that, in a panel or multilevel dataset, observations in the same cluster are correlated because they share common cluster-level random effects. Put another way, cases within a cluster are generally not independent of each other. The responses an individual gives at one point in time will not be unrelated to the responses given at another time. Students within a school will tend to be more similar than students from different schools. Failure to take into account the fact that cases within a cluster are not independent of each other and share common cluster-level random effects can distort parameter estimates and standard errors.

There are various reasons you might prefer `me` commands over `xt, re` commands.

- Commands like `mixed` and `melogit` can estimate much more complicated random effects models than can be done with `xtreg, re` and `xtlogit, re`. I am going to keep things simple and just talk about random effects at the grouping level, e.g. what would be the panelid in an `xt` data set. Much more complicated examples are available in the Stata Help files and in the `me` manual.
- You can have more levels in the `me` commands, e.g. you could have schools, students within schools, and multiple records for each student (e.g. exam performances across time). I will give an example like that for `melogit`.
- Unlike `xtreg` and `xtlogit` you can use the `svy:` prefix with `me` commands.
I will discuss linear models and logistic models in the rest of this handout.

**Linear Mixed Effects Models – 2 Levels.** `xtreg` random effects models can also be estimated using the `mixed` command in Stata.

The following is copied verbatim from pp. 357 & 367 of the Stata 14.2 manual entry for the `mixed` command.

```
mixed fits linear mixed-effects models. These models are also known as multilevel models or hierarchical linear models. The overall error distribution of the linear mixed-effects model is assumed to be Gaussian, and heteroskedasticity and correlations within lowest-level groups also may be modeled.

Linear mixed models are models containing both fixed effects and random effects. They are a generalization of linear regression allowing for the inclusion of random deviations (effects) other than those associated with the overall error term. In matrix notation,

\[ y = X\beta + Zu + \epsilon \]  

where \( y \) is the \( n \times 1 \) vector of responses, \( X \) is an \( n \times p \) design/covariate matrix for the fixed effects \( \beta \), and \( Z \) is the \( n \times q \) design/covariate matrix for the random effects \( u \). The \( n \times 1 \) vector of errors \( \epsilon \) is assumed to be multivariate normal with mean 0 and variance matrix \( \sigma^2 \mathbf{R} \).

The fixed portion of (1), \( X\beta \), is analogous to the linear predictor from a standard OLS regression model with \( \beta \) being the regression coefficients to be estimated. For the random portion of (1), \( Zu + \epsilon \), we assume that \( u \) has variance–covariance matrix \( \mathbf{G} \) and that \( u \) is orthogonal to \( \epsilon \) so that

\[ \text{Var} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ \epsilon \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 \mathbf{R} \end{bmatrix} \]

The random effects \( u \) are not directly estimated (although they may be predicted), but instead are characterized by the elements of \( \mathbf{G} \), known as variance components, that are estimated along with the overall residual variance \( \sigma^2 \) and the residual-variance parameters that are contained within \( \mathbf{R} \).

The general forms of the design matrices \( X \) and \( Z \) allow estimation for a broad class of linear models: blocked designs, split-plot designs, growth curves, multilevel or hierarchical designs, etc. They also allow a flexible method of modeling within-cluster correlation. Subjects within the same cluster can be correlated as a result of a shared random intercept, or through a shared random slope on (say) age, or both. The general specification of \( \mathbf{G} \) also provides additional flexibility—the random intercept and random slope could themselves be modeled as independent, or correlated, or independent with equal variances, and so forth. The general structure of \( \mathbf{R} \) also allows for residual errors to be heteroskedastic and correlated, and allows flexibility in exactly how these characteristics can be modeled.
```

Here is how you can use `mixed` to replicate results from `xtreg, re`. Estimates differ slightly because different algorithms are being used. We also compare the results with what you get if you just use OLS regression instead.

Allison (starting on p. 7 of his book) gives an example using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. This subset of the data set has 581 children who were interviewed in 1990, 1992, and
1994. Variables with a t subscript were measured at each of the three points in time. Variables without a t subscript do not vary across time. Variables used in this example include

- id is the subject id number and is the same across each wave of the survey
- anti\_t is Antisocial behavior (scale ranges from 0 to 6)
- self\_t – Self esteem (scale ranges from 6 to 24)
- pov\_t – coded 1 if family is in poverty, 0 otherwise
- black is coded 1 if the child is black, 0 otherwise
- hispanic is coded 1 if the child is Hispanic, 0 otherwise
- childage is child’s age in 1990
- married is coded 1 if the child’s mother was currently married in 1990, 0 otherwise
- gender is coded 1 if the child is female, 0 if male
- momage is the mother’s age at birth of child
- momwork is coded 1 if the mother was employed in 1990, 0 otherwise

The data used here have already been converted into long format.

```
use https://www3.nd.edu/~rwilliam statafiles/nlsyxt.dta, clear
* Two level linear model, preceded by single-level OLS regression model
reg anti self pov i.year i.black i.hispanic childage i.married i.gender momage i.momwork
```

```
Source |       SS           df       MS      Number of obs   =     1,743
-------------+----------------------------------   F(11, 1731)     =     15.16
Model |   380.85789        11  34.6234446   Prob > F        =    0.0000
Residual |  3952.25743     1,731  2.28322208   R-squared       =    0.0879
-------------+----------------------------------   Adj R-squared   =    0.0821
Total |  4333.11532     1,742  2.48743704   Root MSE        =     1.511

------------------------------------------------------------------------------
anti |      Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
self |  -.0741425   .0109632    -6.76   0.000     -.095645   -.0526401
pov |   .4354025   .0855275     5.09   0.000     .2676544    .6031505
| year |
   92 |   .0521538   .0887138     0.59   0.557    -.1218437    .2261512
   94 |   .2255775   .0888639     2.54   0.011     .0512854    .3998694
1.black |   .1678622   .0881839     1.90   0.057    -.0050959    .3408204
1.hispanic |  -.2483772   .0948717    -2.62   0.009    -.4344523   -.0623021
childage |   .087056    .0622121     1.40   0.162    -.0349628    .2090747
1.married |  -.0888875   .0872272    -1.02   0.308    -.2599689    .0821949
1.gender |  -.4950259   .0728886    -6.79   0.000    -.6379850   -.3520668
momage |  -.166933    .0173463    -9.66   0.000    -.2017153    .0686551
1.momwork |   .2120961   .0800071     2.65   0.008     .0551754    .3690168
   _cons |   2.675312   .7689554     3.48   0.001     1.167132    4.183491
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

`. est store reg`
**2 level linear model**

```stata
xtreg anti self pov i.year i.black i.hispanic childage i.married i.gender momage i.momwork, re
```

|                | Coef. | Std. Err. | z     | P>|z| | [95% Conf. Interval] |
|----------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----|----------------------|
| anti           |       |           |       |     |                      |
| self           | -.0620586 | .009518 | -6.52 | 0.000 | -.0807135 -.0434036 |
| pov            | .246818 | .0804041 | 3.07  | 0.002 | .0892288 .4044072   |
| year 92        | .0473322 | .0587008 | 0.81  | 0.420 | -.0677193 .1623836  |
| year 94        | .2163669 | .0588738 | 3.68  | 0.000 | .1009763 .3317575   |
| 1.black        | .2268535 | .1255617 | 1.81  | 0.071 | -.019243 .4729499   |
| 1.hispanic     | -.2181591 | .1380795 | -1.58 | 0.114 | -.48879 .0524718    |
| childage       | .0884583 | .0909947 | 0.97  | 0.331 | -.089888 .2668047   |
| 1.married      | -.049499 | .1262863 | -0.39 | 0.702 | -.1970156 .1980176  |
| 1.gender       | -.4834304 | .1064056 | -4.54 | 0.000 | -.6919815 .2748793  |
| momage         | -.0219284 | .0252608 | -0.87 | 0.385 | -.0714386 .0275818  |
| 1.momwork      | .2612145 | .1145722 | 2.28  | 0.023 | .0366571 .485772    |
| _cons          | 2.531237 | 1.094669 | 2.31  | 0.021 | .3857254 4.676749   |

| sigma_u        | 1.1355938 |           |       |     |                      |
| sigma_e        | .99707353 |           |       |     |                      |
| rho            | .56467881 |           |       |     | (fraction of variance due to u_i) |

```

```
. est store xtreg
```

---

**Random-effects GLS regression**

- Number of obs = 1,743
- Number of groups = 581

**R-sq:**
- within = 0.0320
- between = 0.1067
- overall = 0.0853

- Wald chi2(11) = 104.53
- Prob > chi2 = 0.0000
Performing EM optimization:

Performing gradient-based optimization:

Iteration 0:   log likelihood = -2927.1991
Iteration 1:   log likelihood = -2927.1991

Computing standard errors:

Mixed-effects ML regression
Group variable: id

|                  | Coef.    | Std. Err. | z     | P>|z|     | [95% Conf. Interval] |
|------------------|----------|-----------|-------|---------|----------------------|
| self             | -.0620764| .0094874  | -6.54 | 0.000   | -.0806715 to -.0434814|
| pov              | .2471376 | .080136   | 3.08  | 0.002   | .0900739 to .4042013 |
| year 92          | .0473396 | .0585299  | 0.81  | 0.419   | -.0673769 to .162056 |
| year 94          | .2163811 | .0587023  | 3.69  | 0.000   | .1013267 to .3314355 |
| 1.black          | .2267537 | .1249996  | 1.81  | 0.070   | -.018241 to .4717483 |
| 1.hispanic       | -.2182088| .1374561  | -1.59 | 0.112   | -.4876177 to .0512001 |
| childage         | .0884559 | .0905831  | 0.98  | 0.329   | -.0890837 to .2659956 |
| 1.married        | -.0495647| .1257172  | -0.39 | 0.708   | -.295966 to .1968365 |
| 1.gender         | -.4834488| .1059246  | -4.56 | 0.000   | -.6910572 to -.2758405 |
| momage           | -.0219197| .0251467  | -0.87 | 0.391   | -.0712064 to .0273669 |
| 1.momwork        | .2611318 | .1140581  | 2.32  | 0.022   | .037582 to .4846816  |
| _cons            | 2.531431 | 1.08976   | 2.32  | 0.020   | .3955417 to 4.667321  |

Random-effects Parameters
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Std. Err.</th>
<th>[95% Conf. Interval]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>var(_cons)</td>
<td>1.282674</td>
<td>.0960323 to 1.107612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>var(Residual)</td>
<td>.9928691</td>
<td>.0412577 to .9152108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LR test vs. linear model: chibar2(01) = 518.98  Prob >= chibar2 = 0.0000

est store mixed

lrtest mixed reg, force

Likelihood-ratio test:  LR chi2(2) = 518.98  Prob > chi2 = 0.0000
At the bottom of the mixed output, you see:\[ \text{LR test vs. linear model: chibar2(01) = 518.98.} \] This is the same as the\[ \text{lrtest} \] of the mixed model versus the OLS regression model. If the test statistic were not significant, it would mean that it was ok to use OLS regression.

```
. esttab reg xtreg mixed, nobaselevels mtitles

------------------------------------------------------------
(1)             (2)             (3)
reg           xtreg           mixed
------------------------------------------------------------
main
self              -0.0741***      -0.0621***      -0.0621***
       (-6.76)         (-6.52)         (-6.54)
pov                 0.435***        0.247**         0.247**
       (5.09)          (3.07)          (3.08)
92.year            0.0522          0.0473          0.0473
       (0.59)          (0.81)          (0.81)
94.year             0.226*          0.216***        0.216***
       (2.54)          (3.68)          (3.69)
1.black             0.168           0.227           0.227
       (1.90)          (1.81)          (1.81)
1.hispanic         -0.248**        -0.218           -0.218
       (-2.62)         (-1.58)         (-1.59)
childage           0.0871          0.0885          0.0885
       (1.40)          (0.97)          (0.98)
1.married          -0.0889         -0.0495         -0.0496
       (-1.02)         (-0.39)         (-0.39)
1.gender           -0.495***       -0.483***       -0.483***
       (-6.79)         (-4.54)         (-4.56)
momage             -0.0167         -0.0219         -0.0219
       (-0.96)         (-0.87)         (-0.87)
1.momwork          0.212**         0.261*          0.261*
       (2.65)          (2.28)          (2.29)
_cons               2.675***        2.531*          2.531*
       (3.48)          (2.31)          (2.32)
------------------------------------------------------------
lns1_1_1
     _cons                                               0.124***
       (3.33)
------------------------------------------------------------
lnsig_e
     _cons                                            -0.00358
       (-0.17)
------------------------------------------------------------
N                    1743            1743            1743
------------------------------------------------------------
t statistics in parentheses
* p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001
```
As you can see, the mixed and xtreg regression coefficients are virtually identical. Using OLS regression would cause some effects to be mis-estimated, especially poverty. Among other things, the multilevel model shows us that higher self-esteem tends to reduce anti-social behavior while being in poverty tends to increase it. Also girls have lower levels of anti-social behavior while anti-social behavior tends to be a little higher for those children with working mothers.

**Logistic Mixed Effects Models – 2 Levels.** xtlogit random effects models can also be estimated using the melogit command in Stata. At least for simpler models, the procedures are very similar to what you do with mixed.

Here is an example from Allison’s 2009 book *Fixed Effects Regression Models*. Data are from the National Longitudinal Study of Youth (NLSY). The data set has 1151 teenage girls who were interviewed annually for 5 years beginning in 1979. The data have already been reshaped and xtset so they can be used for panel data analysis. That is, each of the 1151 cases has 5 different records, one for each year of the study. The variables are

- **id** is the subject id number and is the same across each wave of the survey
- **year** is the year the data were collected in. 1 = 1979, 2 = 1980, etc.
- **pov** is coded 1 if the subject was in poverty during that time period, 0 otherwise.
- **age** is the age at the first interview.
- **black** is coded 1 if the respondent is black, 0 otherwise.
- **mother** is coded 1 if the respondent currently has at least 1 child, 0 otherwise.
- **spouse** is coded 1 if the respondent is currently living with a spouse, 0 otherwise.
- **school** is coded 1 if the respondent is currently in school, 0 otherwise.
- **hours** is the hours worked during the week of the survey.

Similar to before, we estimate models using logit, xtlogit, and melogit, and note the similarities and differences between them.
. * 2 level logit models, preceded by single-level logit model
. use https://www3.nd.edu/~rwilliam/statafiles/teenpovxt, clear

. logit pov i.mother i.spouse i.school hours i.year i.black age, nolog

Logistic regression                             Number of obs     =      5,755
LR chi2(10)       =     490.47
Prob > chi2       =     0.0000
Log likelihood = -3567.5752                     Pseudo R2         =     0.0643
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
pov |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
1.mother |   .9122333   .0852721    10.70   0.000     .7451031    1.079364
1.spouse |  -1.169479   .1174809    -9.95   0.000    -1.399737   -.9392206
1.school |  -.3099841   .0778067    -3.98   0.000    -.4624824   -.1574859
hours |  -.0254242   .0023527   -10.81   0.000    -.0300355    -.020813

| year |
2  |   .2132299   .0888648    2.40   0.016     .0390581    .3874017
3  |   .1310815   .0916184    1.43   0.153    -.0484873    .3106504
4  |   .1277693   .0947098    1.35   0.177    -.0578586    .3133972
5  |   .0207599   .0994805    0.21   0.835    -.1742183     .215738

| 1.black |   .4848109   .0586833    8.26   0.000     .3697937     .599828
| age    |  -.0717551   .028906   -2.48   0.013    -.1284097    -.0151004
| _cons  |   .5472223   .4735445    1.16   0.248    -.3809071    1.475353
------------------------------------------------------------------------------

. est store logit
. xtlogit pov i.mother i.spouse i.school hours i.year i.black age, re nolog

Random-effects logistic regression                          Number of obs =  5,755
Group variable: id                                        Number of groups =  1,151
Random effects u_i ~ Gaussian                            Obs per group:
Integration method: mvaghermite                            min =  5
Integration pts. =  12                                    avg =  5.0
                                                                 max =  5
Log likelihood = -3403.7655                               Wald chi2(10) =  266.60
Prob > chi2 =  0.0000

------------------------------------------------------------------------------
pov |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
    1.mother |   1.009877    .118372     8.53   0.000     .7778724    1.241882
   1.spouse |  -1.171833   .1512544    -7.75   0.000    -1.468286   -.8753802
  1.school |  -.1145721   .0990775    -1.16   0.248    -.3087604    .0796163
   hours |  -.0259014   .0028771    -9.00   0.000    -.0315403   -.0202624
   year |  
      2  |   .2830958   .1000437     2.83   0.005     .0870138    .4791778
      3  |   .213423   .1040523     2.05   0.040     .0094842    .4173618
      4  |   .2415184   .1090094     2.22   0.027     .0278639     .455173
      5  |   .1447937   .1161395     1.25   0.212    -.0828355     .372423
   1.black |   .6093942   .0975653     6.25   0.000     .4181698    .8006186
    age |  -.0627952   .0472163    -1.33   0.184    -.1553373     .029747
   _cons |  -.0045847   .7620829    -0.01   0.995    -1.498248     1.48907
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
/lnsig2u |   .3086358   .1008833                      .1109083    .5063634
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
sigma_u |   1.166862   .0588584                                   1.057021    1.288117
    rho |   .2927197   .0208864                                   .2535175    .3352612
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
LR test of rho=0:  chibar2(01) = 327.62                  Prob >= chibar2 =  0.000

. est store xtlogit
. melogit pov i.mother i.spouse i.school hours i.year i.black age || id:, nolog

Mixed-effects logistic regression               Number of obs     =      5,755
Group variable:              id                 Number of groups  =      1,151
 Obs per group:
 min =          5
 avg =        5.0
 max =          5
Integration method: mvaghermite                 Integration pts.  =          7
Wald chi2(10)     =     266.64
Log likelihood = -3403.7637                     Prob > chi2       =     0.0000
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
pov |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
    1.mother |   1.009935   .1183721     8.53   0.000     .7779301     1.24194
    1.spouse |  -1.171859   .1512457    -7.75   0.000    -1.468295   -.8754231
    1.school |  -0.114617   .0990711    -1.16   0.247    -.3087927    .0795587
          hours |  -0.0259016   .0028769    -9.00   0.000    -.0315403   -.0202629
          year |
    2 |   .2830838   .1000419     2.83   0.005     .0870052    .4791624
    3 |   .2134042   .1040500     2.05   0.040       .00947    .4173385
    4 |   .2414921   .1090061     2.22   0.027      .027844    .4551401
    5 |   .144759   .1161351     1.25   0.213    -.0828617    .3723796
          age |  -0.0628037   .0472134    -1.33   0.183    -.1553403    .029733
          _cons |  -0.0045483   .7620352    -0.01   0.995    -.149811     1.489013
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
id           |                                      Wald chi2(10)  =     266.64
          var(_cons)|   1.361483   .1371712                      1.117513    1.658715
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
LR test vs. logistic model: chibar2(01) = 327.62      Prob >= chibar2 = 0.0000

. est store melogit
. lrtest melogit logit, force

Likelihood-ratio test                                 LR chi2(1)  =    327.62
(Assumption: logit nested in melogit)                 Prob > chi2 =    0.0000

Similar to before, melogit reports LR test vs. logistic model: chibar2(01) = 327.62. This is the same as the lrtest of the melogit vs logit models. This indicates that it would be a mistake to ignore the multilevel nature of the nature (i.e. assume cases were uncorrelated within clusters).

. * ln2sigu and var(_cons) are the same thing parameterized differently
. di exp(.309)
1.3620624

xtlogit reported ln2sigu equaled .309 while melogit reported var(cons) equaled 1.361483. These are actually the same number just parameterized differently, i.e. one is logged and the other is not.
**esttab logit xtlogit melogit, nobaselevels mtitles**

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(1)</th>
<th>(2)</th>
<th>(3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em><strong>pov</strong></em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.mother</td>
<td>0.912***</td>
<td>1.010***</td>
<td>1.010***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(10.70)</td>
<td>(8.53)</td>
<td>(8.53)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.spouse</td>
<td>-1.169***</td>
<td>-1.172***</td>
<td>-1.172***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(-9.95)</td>
<td>(-7.75)</td>
<td>(-7.75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>(1.16)</td>
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| lnsig2u  |
| _cons    | 0.309**    |
|          | (3.06)     |

| var(_cons[~]) |
| _cons       | 1.361***   |
|          | (9.93)     |

| N          | 5755       | 5755       | 5755       |

* t statistics in parentheses
* p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001

The **xtlogit** and **melogit** results are identical other than some very slight differences caused by using different algorithms. Both differ somewhat from the **logit** results, which ignore the multilevel nature of the data. Among other things the multilevel model results show that having a spouse and working more hours tend to reduce the likelihood of being in poverty, while having a child or being black tend to increase the likelihood.
Logistic Mixed Effects Models – 3 Levels. In the examples presented so far there has been no compelling reason to favor me commands over xt commands. All of these have involved two-level datasets. However the Stata 14 Mixed Effects manual gives several other interesting examples. Here we reproduce an example given for a three-level dataset (again, much of the following material is copied verbatim from the manual with a few little tweaks here and there). From p. 120 of the me manual

Rabe-Hesketh, Toulopoulou, and Murray (2001) analyzed data from a study measuring the cognitive ability of patients with schizophrenia compared with their relatives and control subjects. Cognitive ability was measured as the successful completion of the “Tower of London”, a computerized task, measured at three levels of difficulty. For all but one of the 226 subjects, there were three measurements (one for each difficulty level). Because patients’ relatives were also tested, a family identifier, family, was also recorded.

. * 3 level logit model, preceded by single-level logit model
. webuse towerlondon, clear
   (Tower of London data)
. des
Contains data from http://www.stata-press.com/data/r14/towerlondon.dta
   obs:           677     Tower of London data
   vars:             5       31 May 2014 10:41
   size:         4,739     (_dta has notes)
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
variable name   type    format     label      variable label
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
family          int     %8.0g                 Family ID
subject         int     %9.0g                 Subject ID
dtlm            byte    %9.0g                 1 = task completed
difficulty      byte    %9.0g                 Level of difficulty: -1, 0, or 1
group           byte    %8.0g                 1: controls; 2: relatives; 3: schizophrenics
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Sorted by: family  subject
. fre group

   group -- 1: controls; 2: relatives; 3: schizophrenics
                          Freq.   Percent     Valid   Cum.
             +--------------------------------------------------
Valid       1 |     194   28.66     28.66    28.66
         2 |     294   43.43     43.43    72.08
         3 |     189   27.92     27.92   100.00
      Total |     677  100.00   100.00

Since each subject (except 1 of the controls) takes 3 tests, we see that the sample consists of 63 schizophrenics, 98 relatives, and 65 controls. (Later output will show that there are 118 families.)
We will list the records for three different families to provide a clearer feel for how the data set is structured.

```plaintext
. list if family == 1 | family == 3 | family == 60
```

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<th>subject</th>
<th>dtlm</th>
<th>diffic~y</th>
<th>group</th>
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<td>60</td>
<td>186</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

As we see, family 1 has 27 records. These records are produced by 9 different individuals (subject id #s 19, 20, 21, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75). All 9 individuals took all 3 versions of the Tower of London test. Three of the individuals were schizophrenics (group = 3) while the other 6 were other family members (group = 2). None of the individuals in this family were classified as controls.
By way of contrast, family 3 had 12 records produced by 4 individuals (subjects 17, 18, 66 and 68) all of whom took all three versions of the Tower of London test. Two were schizophrenic while the other two were other family members.

Family 60 only had 1 individual who had 3 records. The individual was classified as a control. Looking at the data set, there seem to be several families like this, i.e. it appears all the controls came from single-person families with no schizophrenics in them.

We will now do a logit and melogit analysis of the data. The syntax/ procedure is almost identical to before, except (a) there is no corresponding xtlogit command, and (b) individuals are nested within families so the syntax reflects that.

```
. logit dtlm difficulty i.group, nolog
Logistic regression                             Number of obs     =        677
LR chi2(3)        =     119.58
Prob > chi2       =     0.0000
Log likelihood = -313.89079                     Pseudo R2         =     0.1600
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
dtlm |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
difficulty |  -1.313382   .1409487    -9.32   0.000    -1.589636   -1.037127
  group 2  |  -.1396641   .2282452    -0.61   0.541    -.5870164    .3076883
  3  |  -.8313329   .2742339    -3.03   0.002    -1.368822   -.2938443
  _cons |  -1.160498   .1824503    -6.36   0.000    -1.518094   -.8029023
------------------------------------------------------------------------------

. est store logit

. melogit dtlm difficulty i.group || family: || subject:, nolog
Mixed-effects logistic regression               Number of obs     =        677
-------------------------------------------------------------
|     No. of       Observations per Group
Group Variable |     Groups    Minimum    Average    Maximum
----------------+--------------------------------------------
family |        118          2        5.7         27
subject |        226          2        3.0          3
-------------------------------------------------------------
Integration method: mvaghermite                 Integration pts.  =          7
Wald chi2(3)      =      74.90
Log likelihood = -305.12041                     Prob > chi2       =     0.0000
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
dtlm |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
---------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
difficulty |  -1.648505   .1932075    -8.53   0.000    -2.027185   -1.269826
  group 2  |  -.2486841   .3544076    -0.70   0.483    -.9433102     .445942
  3  |  -1.052306   .3999921    -2.63   0.009    -1.836276   -.2683357
  _cons |  -1.485863   .2848455    -5.22   0.000    -2.04415    -.9275762
```

Multilevel Models – Brief Overview
Not surprisingly, the more difficult the test, the less likely individuals are to complete it. Schizophrenics have more difficulty passing the tests than do controls or relatives. The likelihood ratio tests tell us that it would be a mistake to treat these cases as independent observations, and hence logit should not be used.