



Remote data access by means of PanelWhiz

For users of the Establishment Panel or the LIAB who have a PanelWhiz licence there is the possibility to submit the program codes which were generated by means of PanelWhiz and to incorporate them into the remote data access.

PanelWhiz is a database with which panel datasets can be generated rapidly and with little effort (Haisken-DeNew/Hahn, 2006). The FDZ offers their users the possibility to integrate the programs which were generated by means of PanelWhiz into the remote data access. To use this service, however, it is necessary to have a licence for PanelWhiz (www.PanelWhiz.eu). The following sections briefly explain how PanelWhiz works and what should be borne in mind concerning the remote data access.

Generating the panel:

After opening PanelWhiz via Stata and selecting the Establishment Panel, there are two possible strategies for the selection of variables for generating a panel dataset.

1. Selection by waves:

On the project page the variables can be selected by wave via the menu item “*select a wave*”. Each wave is given a letter, according to the specifications of the dataset. The 1993 wave is assigned the letter “a”, corresponding to each variable in this wave. The 1994 wave is assigned the letter “b”, and so on. If the required information can be found in several waves, the inclusion of the variable need to be done only once and not for every wave. It is irrelevant in which wave the variable is incorporated.

2. Selection by keywords:

Alternatively, the variables can be selected directly using the “*keyword index*”. This is an alphabetical list of keywords (e.g. personnel selection) for which PanelWhiz lists specific items from all waves. By clicking on a variable, it is added to the panel dataset. The use of the keywords is particularly suitable for datasets which have already been generated, in order to supplement individual variables or to obtain detailed information rapidly on additional variables, such as the variable which marks a cross-section.

The 1994 and 1995 waves contain additional variables for new establishments in the IAB Establishment Panel. These are marked with a “z” after the wave letter in the data (e.g. bz076) and can therefore also be identified in PanelWhiz.

After the items have been selected, the dataset to be generated is stored in a project.

Additional aids for generating the dataset

PanelWhiz provides users with the following helpful information on the individual items, when selecting by wave.

- S** Summary of variables (N, Mean, Std, Min. and Max.)
- K** Kernel density function (distribution of the variables)
- N** Metadata (item labels, item correspondence, category)
- w, p** Plug-in information
- i** illustrates the development of the variables during the course of the panel
- X** Deletion of variables which have already been removed

Retrieving/storing the generated dataset:

Via the “*Project Page*” button the main template of PanelWhiz can be accessed, and via [*VIEW OPTIONS*] the selected items can be checked again and the project can be stored. It is also possible to add further items at a later point in time.

With the command “*Plugins*” [*RemoveALL/IncludeALL*] the users can adopt or change the data correspondence which was done by PanelWhiz for their research purposes. Plugins take into consideration the circumstance that individual items are subject to changes over the waves of the IAB Establishment Panel (e.g. number of response categories). They can be checked by the w, p commands (see table).

The period of the panel dataset can be modified by the command “*Pref[erences]s*”. Also language modifications (german/english) can be done in this section. Additionally you can choose whether you want to do the data preparation for the Establishment Panel or the LIAB.

When the data have finally been compiled, the defined panel dataset can be generated via the menu item “[*Do retrieval now!*]”.

Retrieved Data Page

Finally, the “*Retrieved Data Page*” is displayed. All generated documents and the dataset are listed here. The panel dataset is saved under “*Data Files*” and can be exported into other processing programs if necessary. In the case of the IAB Establishment Panel/LIAB, it is the test data which are integrated into PanelWhiz. It is therefore not possible to analyse the contents of the panel dataset which was generated by PanelWhiz. However, PanelWhiz stores the Stata do-file with which the panel dataset was generated under “*Documentation Files*”. This dofile has to be sent to the FDZ so that the panel dataset can be generated with the original data. The dataset which was generated on the PC, serves the researcher as a test dataset for further analysis. The logfile that was created and further comments can also be found under “*Documentation Files*”. Particular reference should be made to the “*acknowledge.smcl-file*”, which contains the required citation for PanelWhiz.

Adjustments for the remote data access of the FDZ

Before the dofiles created by PanelWhiz can be sent to the FDZ, some adjustments need to be made in order that the remote data access can be guaranteed to run smoothly. The dofiles which were generated with the aid of PanelWhiz need to be given names in accordance with the FDZ guidelines for remote data access (e.g. 1_Panelretrival.do, 1a_plugins.do).

Path adjustment: in order for the remote data access to be able to be processed automatically in the FDZ, the path or rather the globals in the dofile have to be adjusted in the following way. First of all, the location from which PanelWhiz receives its information needs to be adjusted. This is the orig folder. Please also take care that both the project and the end dataset are stored in the "data" folder. Accordingly the log-file should be stored in the "log" folder.

Example of an adjusted do-file: 1_Panelerstellung.do

```

global          iabbb "orig";
global          proj  "data";
global          fstem "test";

                /* -----( system settings and globals )----- */;

global          temp  "${proj}/tmp";
capture        mkdir "${proj}", public;
capture        mkdir "${temp}", public;

log             using "log/1_Panelerstellung", text replace;

```

The global fstem defines if the data preparation is done for the Establishment Panel or the LIAB. If you want to generate your panel data for the Establishment Panel the global has to contain "test". For working with the LIAB the global has to contain "LIAB_2007_estab_". This selection can be already done in the Panelwhiz template via the menu item "*Preferences*s" (see p.2). Please also keep in mind to change the storage location for the generated panel dataset at the end of the do-file and to adjust the name of the plugin-file.

```

                /* -----( Creating RAW Long File )----- */;

sort           idnum   year;
save           "data/Panel", replace;

                /* -----( Running Plugins )----- */;

run            "prog\1a_plugins.do";

                /* -----( Creating Long File )----- */;

sort           idnum   year;
save           "data/Panel", replace;
desc:

```

The adjusted dofile for the panel generation, like the other dofiles, also has to be integrated into the master file. The dofile which PanelWhiz generates for the selected plugins does not have to be integrated into the master file, because it is opened in the do-file for the panel generation. When creating the master file, the setting of the amount of memory must be taken into consideration. PanelWhiz requires 300m. Furthermore, an additional adopath "X:\datasetup" needs to be listed. When working during on-site-use at the FDZ and during subsequent remote data access, this adopath does not have to be adopted in the master file.

Example of the master file:

```
clear
set mem 300m
set more off

adopath+ prog
adopath+ "X:\datasetup"

cd ..

**Erstellen des Panels:
do prog\1_Panelerstellung.do"
```

Selection of the language:

The language of the labels chosen in PanelWhiz can be identified by the command label lang EN/ label lang DE after the capture of each wave. For remote data access you have to change this command to label lang en/ label lang de.

Note:

When generating the panel, it is expressly advised to use the original questionnaires additionally as an aid. The questionnaires can be downloaded from our homepage under http://fdz.iab.de/de/FDZ_Establishment_Data/IAB_Establishment_Panel/IAB_Establishment_Panel_Working_Tools.aspx

Further information:

Haisken-DeNew, John P. and Markus Hahn (2006): „PanelWhiz: A Flexible Modularized Stata Interface for Accessing Large Scale Panel Data Sets" www.PanelWhiz.eu

source: http://doku.iab.de/fdz/iabb/Anleitung_PanelWhiz_e