Inforum IT in 2014

Demonstrating the Collection, Compilation, and Presentation of Information

Ron Horst, Troy Wittek

1Inforum – Department of Economics
University of Maryland

Inforum World Conference 2014, Alexandria, VA
Outline

1. Introduction to G7
   - Introduction to G7
   - Inforum Web Site

2. Introductory Demonstration: Basic G
   - Workshop Demo 1

3. G7 and Excel Demonstration: Data Collection, Compilation, and Presentation
   - Recent Developments in G7
   - Workshop Demo 2

4. Other Demo Routines
   - Other Demos
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What is G7?

- Build and develop economic time series databases
  - Scalar, vector, and matrix data
- Review and summarize data
  - Build tables and graphs
- Estimate regression equations and other analysis
  - Linear and nonlinear regression
- Build macro and interindustry models
  - Prepare equations and data, evaluate and present results
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Related Work

  www.inforum.umd.edu/papers/TheCraft.html

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Inforum Web Site: Software

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- HTML (Available for browsing on web site)
- PDF (May be printed as book)
- Compiled Help (Integrated with G7)

- Dr. Clopper Almon’s The Craft of Economic Modeling
- Documentation for other software and resources
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The G7 Help files are available in a zipped archive. After downloading the zipped files, first right-click on the file icon, select Properties, and click Unblock. This must be done before extracting the zipped files. If you have trouble unblocking the file, see this blog post for help.

### Software Documentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online G7 Help Files</td>
<td>G7 7.3845 and later</td>
<td>August 29, 2014</td>
<td>Unblock the file, then extract to C:\PDG. See The Craft for recent developments</td>
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<td>Build</td>
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<td>February 12, 2001</td>
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Inforum Web Site: Update

- Work on a new Inforum web site is under way.
  
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- Many, but not all, main features are in place. Much will change.

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Inforum Web Site Update: Documentation

Software Documentation

Documentation files for many pieces of software maintained by Inforum are available below.

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  - Release Date: August 23, 2013

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- Starting G7 and running a script
- Load databases, perform calculations, graph data
- Workshop: Demonstration with G7
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- Improved Documentation
- Excel Interface Improvements
- Strings, Functions, and Keywords.
- Miscellaneous Improvements and Bug Fixes.
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- Controls for gridlines, cell borders, RGB color specification, conditional formatting.
- Printer control.
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- Read information from a spreadsheet
- Compile the data in G7 databases
- View data in G7
- Create formatted data tables and graphs in spreadsheet documents
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- GDP growth forecasts for 2014 have been revised a lot
- GDP growth estimates seem at odds with employment estimates
- We will assemble the sequence of GDP estimates to track their evolution
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GDP and Employment: August Estimate

![GDP and Employment Growth Graph](image)

- **GDP and Employment Growth**

  - Percentage Growth (%)

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GDP History and Forecasts: March and August

Blue Chip: Real GDP Growth

Percentage Growth (%)


March 2014  August 2014
GDP History and Forecasts: March and August

Real GDP Growth

Percentage Growth (%)

--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
0.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
1.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 |
2.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 4.0 |


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Inforum Web Site Update: EconData Archives

EconData Archive

This page contains an archive of G7 databanks made available by Inforum. Download and unzip the bank before using G7. Inforum's database and regression package, to access data.

Select a bank from the list below and click submit to see all available historical releases.

Select Bank:
- NIPA Annual
- NIPA Quarterly
- NIPA Monthly
- Short Term Energy Outlook
- Monthly Retail Trade Survey
- Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey
- EHE Seasonally Adjusted
- EHE Non-Seasonally Adjusted

NIPA Quarterly

Download
- Release Date: 2014-08-01
- First Period Covered: 1968 Q1
- Updated: 2014-08-01
- Last Period Covered: 2014 Q2

Download
- Release Date: 2014-05-30
- First Period Covered: 1969 Q1
- Updated: 2014-05-30
- Last Period Covered: 2014 Q1
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Additional Resources

- Basics of VAM Banks
- Basic String Commands
- Additional String Routines
- A Review of VAM Techniques
- Map industry detail from one sectoring scheme to another
- Demonstrate recursive function techniques by calculating the Fibonacci sequence
- Reviewing an Economic Forecast Balancing Matrices with Uncertain Totals
Additional Resources I

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www.inforum.umd.edu/software/software.html.

Author contact: horst@econ.umd.edu.