

# Chapter 1. Introduction

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## What is EViews?

EViews provides sophisticated data analysis, regression, and forecasting tools on Windows-based computers. With EViews you can quickly develop a statistical relation from your data and then use the relation to forecast future values of the data. Areas where EViews can be useful include: scientific data analysis and evaluation, financial analysis, macroeconomic forecasting, simulation, sales forecasting, and cost analysis.

EViews is a new version of a set of tools for manipulating time series data originally developed in the Time Series Processor software for large computers. The immediate predecessor of EViews was MicroTSP, first released in 1981. Though EViews was developed by economists and most of its uses are in economics, there is nothing in its design that limits its usefulness to economic time series. Even quite large cross-section projects can be handled in EViews.

EViews provides convenient visual ways to enter data series from the keyboard or from disk files, to create new series from existing ones, to display and print series, and to carry out statistical analysis of the relationships among series.

EViews takes advantage of the visual features of modern Windows software. You can use your mouse to guide the operation with standard Windows menus and dialogs. Results appear in windows and can be manipulated with standard Windows techniques.

Alternatively, you may use EViews' powerful command and batch processing language. You can enter and edit commands in the command window. You can create and store the commands in programs that document your research project for later execution.

## Installing and Running EViews

Your copy of EViews 6 is distributed on a single CD-ROM. Installation is straightforward—simply insert your CD-ROM disc into a drive, wait briefly while the disc spins-up and the setup program launches, and then simply follow the prompts. If the disc does not spin-up, navigate to the drive using Windows Explorer, then click on the Setup icon.

We have also provided more detailed installation instructions in a separate sheet that you should have received with your EViews package. If you did not receive this sheet, please contact our office, or see our website: [www.eviews.com](http://www.eviews.com).

## Windows Basics

In this section, we provide a brief discussion of some useful techniques, concepts, and conventions that we will use in this manual. We urge those who desire more detail to obtain one of the many good books on Windows.

### The Mouse

EViews uses both buttons of the standard Windows mouse. Unless otherwise specified, when we say that you should *click* on an item, we mean a single click of the left mouse-button. *Double click* means to click the left mouse-button twice in rapid succession. We will often refer to *dragging* with the mouse; this means that you should click and hold the left mouse-button down while moving the mouse.

### Window Control

As you work, you may find that you wish to change the size of a window or temporarily move a window out of the way. Alternatively, a window may not be large enough to display all of your output, so that you want to move within the window in order to see relevant items. Windows provides you with methods for performing each of these tasks.

#### Changing the Active Window

When working in Windows, you may find that you have a number of open windows on your screen. The *active* (top-most) *window* is easily identified since its title bar will generally differ (in color and/or intensity) from the inactive windows. You can make a window active by clicking anywhere in the window, or by clicking on the word **Window** in the main menu, and selecting the window by clicking on its name.

#### Scrolling

Windows provides both horizontal and vertical *scroll bars* so that you can view information which does not fit inside the window (when all of the information in a window fits inside the viewable area, the scroll bars will be hidden).

The scroll box indicates the overall relative position of the window and the data. Here, the vertical scroll box is near the bottom, indicating that the window is showing





























































