

Assignment 1

due at the beginning of class on 10 February 2006 (Friday, 3pm)

In textbook (3rd edition): questions

1.5, 1.6 (for help with Excel see below)

2.2, 2.3, 2.4

2.8 (optional), 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.16

If you can't answer one of the questions, write down where you got stuck.

Information on using Excel

If you are not familiar with doing scattergrams in Excel, this gets you started with "Table1-2":

- * Go into Excel, type in the data or go FILE, OPEN, find the file on the CD that comes with the book, "Table1-2.xls" in the Excel_EViews folder (double-click). In my spreadsheet, the actual data appear in rows/columns A6 through D27.
- * Click on an empty cell, for example F10. Go to top menu, INSERT, CHART.
- * In "standard types," choose (X,Y) SCATTER, choose sub-type if you like (I sometimes just leave it as dots, and sometimes choose to connect the dots with a straight line). NEXT.
- * From here on, there are many different possibilities. The simplest one is to type "a6:d27" (without the quotation marks) into the "Data range" line, click "column." If you click on the tab "Series" you can enter a name for each series (you can also enter series individually here, which I avoided by using the "Data range" line) --- enter the name for the first series (for example, "CPI," without the quotation marks, then click on "Series 2," enter name for that.... NEXT.
- * In the next window that comes up I usually choose the tab "gridlines" and get rid of the gridlines, but you can do more stuff there if you like. NEXT. FINISH.
- * If you click on the chart you can move it while you keep the mouse button down. You can also make it larger vertically or horizontally by pulling at the points around the edge that appear if you click on the chart once.
- * To me, the legend and the numbers on the axis are too large, so I move the pointer (mouse) to the legend (and then to each axis), right click, FORMAT..., FONT, then change the font to 8 and unclick "Auto scale." OK.
- * I change the size of the inner chart by clicking on it once, then pulling at the edge.
- * I move the legend around, and out of the way, by simply dragging it.
- * I don't like the gray background, so I right click on the gray area, FORMAT PLOT AREA, and in the Area part of the window choose white.
- * I don't know why the chart goes from 1975-2000 when all I need is 1980-1996, so I right click on the horizontal axis, FORMAT AXIS, SCALE, and change stuff there, including the major units. The vertical axis shows decimals, which I don't need, so I right-click on the vertical axis, FORMAT AXIS, NUMBER, choose Decimal places: 0.
- * The third series seems all zero, so I right-click on it (so that most points change their appearance a bit), FORMAT DATA SERIES, AXIS, choose "secondary axis" (now the right-hand side axis applies to the third series).
- * If I want to get rid of one of the data series: right click the chart somewhere around the middle, SOURCE DATA, tab SERIES, REMOVE.
- * Right-clicking on one of the series in the charts, FORMAT DATA SERIES, a lot of options come up, including changing color, shape of dots, etc. If left-click on one of the series twice, only one or two dots change color, then when do right-click, FORMAT DATA SERIES, can get rid of line between these two points only.