

Econometrics Toolbox™

Release Notes

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Econometrics Toolbox™ Release Notes

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Summary by Version

This table provides quick access to what's new in each version. For clarification, see "Using Release Notes" on page 1.

Version (Release)	New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Latest Version V1.0 (R2008b) Econometrics Toolbox™ Software	Yes Details	No	No	Printable Release Notes: PDF Current product documentation
V2.4 (R2008a) GARCH Toolbox™ Software	Yes Details	No	No	No
V2.3.2 (R2007b) GARCH Toolbox Software	Yes Details	No	No	No
V2.3.1 (R2007a) GARCH Toolbox Software	No	No	No	No
V2.3 (R2006b) GARCH Toolbox Software	Yes Details	No	No	No
V2.2 (R2006a) GARCH Toolbox Software	Yes Details	No	No	No
V2.1 (R14SP3) GARCH Toolbox Software	Yes Details	Yes Summary	No	No

Using Release Notes

Use release notes when upgrading to a newer version to learn about:

- New features
- Changes
- Potential impact on your existing files and practices

Review the release notes for other MathWorks™ products required for this product (for example, MATLAB® or Simulink®) for enhancements, bugs, and compatibility considerations that also might impact you.

If you are upgrading from a software version other than the most recent one, review the release notes for all interim versions, not just for the version you are installing. For example, when upgrading from V1.0 to V1.2, review the release notes for V1.1 and V1.2.

What's in the Release Notes

New Features and Changes

- New functionality
- Changes to existing functionality

Version Compatibility Considerations

When a new feature or change introduces a reported incompatibility between versions, the **Compatibility Considerations** subsection explains the impact.

Compatibility issues reported after the product is released appear under Bug Reports at the MathWorks Web site. Bug fixes can sometimes result in incompatibilities, so you should also review the fixed bugs in Bug Reports for any compatibility impact.

Fixed Bugs and Known Problems

The MathWorks offers a user-searchable Bug Reports database so you can view Bug Reports. The development team updates this database at release time and as more information becomes available. This includes provisions for any known workarounds or file replacements. Information is available

for bugs existing in or fixed in Release 14SP2 or later. Information is not available for all bugs in earlier releases.

Access Bug Reports using your MathWorks Account.

Version 1.0 (R2008b) Econometrics Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V1.0 (R2008b).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	No	No	Printable Release Notes: PDF Current product documentation

New features and changes follow.

- “Multivariate VAR, VARX, and VARMA Models” on page 4
- “Heston Stochastic Volatility Models” on page 5

Multivariate VAR, VARX, and VARMA Models

A new suite of functions, listed in the following table, adds support for multivariate VAR, VARX, and VARMA models.

Function	Description
vgxar	Convert VARMA specification into a pure vector autoregressive (VAR) model
vgxcount	Count restricted and unrestricted parameters in VAR or VARX models
vgxdisp	Display VGX model parameters and standard errors in different formats
vgxget	Get multivariate time-series specification parameters
vgxinfer	Infer innovations of a VGX process
vgxloglik	Compute conditional log-likelihoods of VGX process
vgxma	Convert VARMA specification into a pure vector moving average (VMA) model

Function	Description
vgxplot	Plot multivariate time series process
vgxpred	Generate transient response of VGX process during a specified forecast period
vgxproc	Generate a VGX process from an innovations process
vgxqual	Determine if a VGX process is stable and invertible
vgxset	Set or modify multivariate time-series specification parameters
vgxsim	Simulate VGX processes
vgxvarx	Solve VAR or VARX model using maximum likelihood estimation

Heston Stochastic Volatility Models

The new heston function adds support for Heston stochastic volatility models to the SDE engine.

Version 2.4 (R2008a) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V2.4 (R2008a).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	No	No	Printable Release Notes: PDF Current product documentation

New features and changes follow:

Monte Carlo Simulation of Stochastic Differential Equations

The GARCH Toolbox software now allows you to model dependent financial and economic variables, such as interest rates and equity prices, via Monte Carlo simulation of multivariate diffusion processes. For more information, see “Stochastic Differential Equations” in the GARCH Toolbox documentation.

Version 2.3.2 (R2007b) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V2.3.2 (R2007b).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	No	No	Printable Release Notes: PDF Current product documentation

New features and changes follow:

Changes to `garchsim`

The `garchsim` function previously allowed you to specify the `State` argument as either a scalar or a time series matrix of standardized, independent, identically distributed disturbances to drive the output Innovations in a time series process. The `State` argument must now be a time series matrix. See the `State` input argument on the `garchsim` reference page for more information.

Version 2.3.1 (R2007a) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V2.3.1 (R2007a).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
No	No	No	Printable Release Notes: PDF Current product documentation

There are no new features or changes in this version.

Version 2.3 (R2006b) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V2.3 (R2006b).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	No	No	No

New features and changes follow:

- “Data Preprocessing” on page 9
- “Demos” on page 9

Data Preprocessing

A new Hodrick-Prescott filter, `hpfilter`, separates time series into trend and cyclical components

Demos

A new demo uses the `hpfilter` function to reproduce the results in Hodrick and Prescott’s original paper on U.S. business cycles

Version 2.2 (R2006a) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features in V2.2 (R2006a).

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	No	No	No

New features and changes follow:

- “User’s Guide” on page 10
- “Statistical Functions” on page 10

User’s Guide

A new chapter in the *GARCH Toolbox User’s Guide* explains how to conduct Dickey-Fuller and Phillips-Perron unit root tests with the new statistical functions in the toolbox.

Statistical Functions

Version 2.2 of the GARCH Toolbox software has six new functions. All of them support the ability to conduct univariate unit root tests on time series data. Three functions support augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root tests. The remaining three support Phillips-Perron unit root tests.

Dickey-Fuller Unit Root Tests

Function	Purpose
dfARDTest	Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test based on AR model with drift.
dfARTest	Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test based on zero drift AR model.
dfTSTest	Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test based on trend stationary AR model.

Phillips-Perron Unit Root Tests

Function	Purpose
ppARDTest	Phillips-Perron unit root test based on AR(1) model with drift.
ppARTest	Phillips-Perron unit root test based on zero drift AR(1) model.
ppTSTest	Phillips-Perron unit root test based on trend stationary AR(1) model.

Version 2.1 (R14SP3) GARCH Toolbox Software

This table summarizes what's new in V2.1 (R14SP3):

New Features and Changes	Version Compatibility Considerations	Fixed Bugs and Known Problems	Related Documentation at Web Site
Yes Details below	Yes Summary	No bug fixes	No

New features and changes follow:

Changes to `garchsim`

A change introduced in V2.1 of the GARCH Toolbox software concerns user-specified noise processes. The `garchsim` function now allows you to provide a time series matrix of standardized, i.i.d. disturbances to drive the output Innovations in a time series process. In previous versions, you could only provide a state that was used to generate a random noise process. See the `State` input argument on the `garchsim` reference page for more information.

Compatibility Considerations

`garchsim` argument `Is` renamed. In V2.1, the `garchsim` argument `Seed` is renamed to `State` for consistency with the MATLAB `rand` and `randn` functions. The name change, in itself, introduces no backward incompatibilities. The following topic explains a related change.

`garchsim` defaults to current random number generator state. In V2.0.1 of the GARCH Toolbox software, the `garchsim` function used the initial random number generator state, 0, if you did not specify a value for the `Seed` argument. The `Seed` argument corresponded to the `rand` and `randn` state value.

In V2.1, if you do not specify a value for the `State` (formerly `Seed`) argument, `garchsim` uses the current state of `rand` and `randn`, rather than the initial state. Use the commands `s = rand('state')` and `s = randn('state')` to determine the current state of these random number generators. For more information, see the `rand` and `randn` reference pages.

Compatibility Summary for Econometrics Toolbox Software

This table summarizes new features and changes that might cause incompatibilities when you upgrade from an earlier version, or when you use files on multiple versions.

Version (Release)	New Features and Changes with Version Compatibility Impact
Latest Version Econometrics Toolbox Software V1.0 (R2008b)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.4 (R2008a)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.3.2 (R2007b)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.3.1 (R2007a)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.3 (R2006b)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.2 (R2006a)	None
GARCH Toolbox Software V2.1 (R14SP3)	See the Compatibility Considerations subheading for each of these new features and changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Changes to garchsim” on page 12