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KIX: A plug-in for aggregating chain linked indices

Topic 2 – Learning more from what we already know

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Introduction

As opposed to fixed base indices, aggregating chain-linked index series is anything but trivial. Yet, some of the most prominent macroeconomic indicators, such as national accounts or harmonised consumer prices, are constructed as Laspeyres-type chain-linked indices. Chain-linking also has implications for seasonal adjustment, whenever aggregates are indirectly seasonally adjusted from directly adjusted components. The JDemetra+ plugin “KIX” (“KettenIndex” – German for chain-linked index) has been designed to facilitate the handling of this index type. It offers addition and subtraction of two or more chain-linked time series as well as the computation of contributions of growth, for both “annual overlap” and “monthly/quarterly overlap” type indices, which are the most common index variants. The plugin features an intuitive and user-friendly interface and includes a comprehensive technical documentation.