

# Isoplot/Ex Version 4

## What is *Isoplot 4*

*Isoplot 4* is an add-in program for Microsoft *Excel 2007* only. For all other *Excel* versions, you will need *Isoplot 3.7*. *Isoplot* provides tools for the manipulation and plotting of radiogenic-isotope data, especially U-Pb,  $^{230}\text{Th}$ - $^{234}\text{U}$ - $^{238}\text{U}$  and Ar-Ar.

## NOTE:

*Excel 2007* is a much less-capable platform than *Excel 2003* for VBA add-ins such as *Isoplot*, requiring many compromises in coding and user interface to run *Isoplot* at all, and, for many uses, exacts a significant penalty in speed. Thus even if you already have a copy of *Excel 2007* installed on your computer, I urge you to find a copy of *Excel 2003* install that version on your computer as well, and use *Isoplot 3.7*. There is no problem in having both versions of *Excel* operating on the same computer at the same time.


## What does *Isoplot 4* Require?

An English version of *Excel 2007* whose installation includes all of the Visual Basic (VBA) modules. Almost any computer with Windows should be sufficient.

## Obtaining *Isoplot 4*

Contact Ken Ludwig directly via email, at [kludwig@bgc.org](mailto:kludwig@bgc.org). There is no charge – *but please read the manual.*

## Installing *Isoplot4.xlam*

1. (Only if your computer has ever had an older version of *Isoplot* installed) )Do a complete search of your computer's hard disk(s) for all earlier versions of *Isoplot* (i.e. search for *Isoplot\*.xlam*). Delete, rename, or move to a newly-created folder all of these files.
1. Put *Isoplot4.xlam* in the folder of your choice.
2. Click on the  icon at the upper left of the *Excel* window, then click on the *Excel Options* button at the bottom the the resulting drop-down.
3. Click *Add-Ins* on the next drop-down.
4. Click Go on the next drop-down.
5. If the correct *Isoplot 4* add-in appears in the resulting Add-Ins box, select it. Otherwise, click *Browse* and navigate to the folder containing the latest *Isoplot 4*. Click OK.
6. Click the *Add Ins* tab on *Excel*'s main menu-bar to see the *Isoplot* toolbars.
7. ***Read The Manual.***

## **Installation Problems**

If you encounter error messages such as “Compile error in ...” or “Can’t find project or library” when you first install and invoke *Isoplot*, the cause is usually one of the below:

Incomplete installation of *Excel*: Try a complete re-install of *Excel* from the CD, *making sure to specify that all of the Visual Basic modules are installed*.

No default printer selected: See point 5 above.

## **Bugs, Comments, and Suggestions**

Just send an Email to [kludwig@bgc.org](mailto:kludwig@bgc.org) . You'll be helping more users than just yourself.