A Comparison of the Interfaces that use VDYP7 Core Modules

Background:

The VDYP7 Core Modules are utilized within four different User Interfaces: WinVDYP, VDYP7 Console, VDYP7 Growth Projection within VRIMS, and VDYP7 Attribute Adjustment (VDYP7_ADJUST). It should be noted that there are differences in how the modules operate within each of these interfaces, particularly within WinVDYP7, as outlined in the table below:

Comparison Table:

Interface application	Most common use	Data source and format	Mandatory reference year	Level of release and support	Output	Other considerations
WinVDYP7	A Windows based version for interactive prediction of individual stand yields (similar look and feel as VDYP6). Designed primarily to support VDYP7 demonstration and training.	Uses the Model Parameter Selection window with 5 sequential panes of information *(species, site, stand density, additional stand attributes, and report information).*	No	Readily available; fully supported	Produces a yield table for each single polygon. Can calculate the net merchantable volume for each polygon.	Reduced input control but quicker and easier application for users.
Console	For use by timber supply analysts to concurrently produce a number of polygon yield tables.	Requires eight text files in .csv *(comma separated values)* format. Also utilizes the SINDEX program to generate site productivity.	Yes	Readily available; fully supported.	Produces yield tables for multiple polygons.	Can be used with both adjusted and unadjusted inventories to generate yield tables.

Core module application	Most common use	Data source and format	Mandatory reference year	Level of release and support	Output	Other considerations
VDYP7 Growth Projection System in the VRIMS environment (Fully Automated)	Used to annually project the inventory for publication to the LRDW and used internally to project new updates to reference year in our operational database.	Automated Process.	Yes	Automated Process.	Produces growth projections for all forest cover polygons.	VRIMS applies the VDYP7 core modules in a fully automated process to: (i) project new data to reference year within the VRIMS operational database and (ii) to annually update existing projections of growth and volume attributes, for publication to the LRDW.
VDYP7 Attributute Adjustment (VDYP7_ADJUST is also known as VDYP7 Batch).	Used to facilitate statistical adjustment of photo-based forest inventories.*	Source datafiles are combined into a single .mdb or personal geo-database (pgdb) file which is then structured into Project Input Tables (PIT's).	Yes	Internal application only (limited user support); extremely slow to process.	Produces yield tables using the adjusted values, that can be used as the starting point for projection.	Software is not available external to the MFR. Current processing speed is extremely slow.

*the VDYP7 Attribute Adjustment interface invokes the following multi-step adjustment sequence:

1. The photo based inventory is projected to the year of ground sampling.
2. Resultant yields at the year of ground sampling are adjusted using ground sample information.
3. These adjusted inputs are used to predict additional attributes that serve as inputs into the optional VRIADJST core program.
4. These additional attributes are also adjusted.

Summary: IF, the identical data inputs are strictly controlled for each of the interfaces: **Console, VDYP7 in VRIMS, and VDYP7_ADJUST**, and the core and extended modules have been synchronised after any modifications, it is expected that the same outputs will be produced from all three. This cannot be replicated with the WinVDYP7 interface.