

FOSE1025 — Scientific Computing

Week 8 Lecture 1: Transforming Data

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Programme

- 1 Dates
- 2 Long and Wide Formats

Reading

- These notes
- Readings listed in iLearn — Week 8

Programme

1 Dates

- Dates in Excel
- Dates in MATLAB

2 Long and Wide Formats

Processing Dates

(This part belongs to “cleaning data,” really ...)

- Dates come in many formats, we need to make sure they are in the format we need.
 - dd/mm/yyyy (Australia)
 - dd.mm.yyyy (Germany)
 - mm/dd/yyyy (USA)
 - yyyy/mm/dd (Japan)
 - ...
- If input manually, check if there are errors!
 - 24 Maye 2020

What might we want to do with dates?

- Sort by date
- Group (or plot) by month, by year, etc
- Determine the time elapsed between two dates or times

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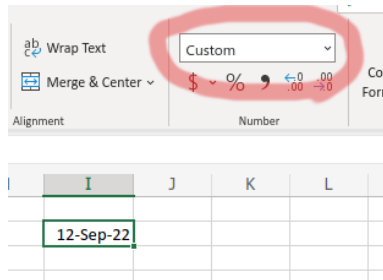
Excel Dates and Times Are Numbers



Internally, Excel stores dates and times as numbers. These are called “serial numbers” and they represent the number of days since a specific date: 1st January 1900.

Demonstration 1

Type **12 Sep 2022** in an Excel cell and observe how it shows the date (see screenshot). Change the cell format to “Number”. You will see that the cell now displays the number **44816.00**.



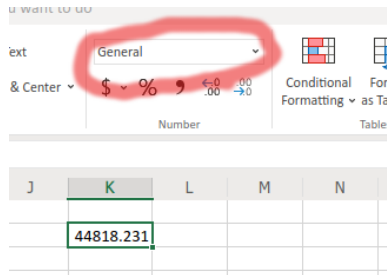
Excel Dates and Times Are Numbers



Internally, Excel stores dates and times as numbers. These are called “serial numbers” and they represent the number of days since a specific date: 1st January 1900.

Demonstration 2

Type the number **44818.231** in an Excel cell and change the format to “Short Date”. You will see the date **9/14/2022**. Change the format now to “Time.” You will see the time **5:32:38 AM**.



Useful Excel Functions to Manipulate Dates and Times

Creating Dates and Times

`DATE(year,month,day)`: Create a date from numbers.

`TIME(hours,minutes,seconds)`: Create a time from numbers.

`DATE(year,month,day) + TIME(hours,minutes, seconds)`: Create a date with time.

Useful Excel Functions to Manipulate Dates and Times

From Dates and Times to Text

`TEXT(serial_number,pattern)`

Represent a date as text using a specific pattern. For example, if cell A1 has the formula `=DATE(2020,12,23) + TIME(21,35,12)`:

`TEXT(A1, "dd/mm/yy")` returns the text "23/12/20".

`TEXT(A1, "dd/mm/yyyy hh:mm")` returns the text "23/12/2020 21:35".

`TEXT(A1, "dd mmm yyyy hh:mm:ss")` returns the text "23 Dec 2020 21:35:12" (notice the three "m"?).

`TEXT(A1, "dd mmmm yyyy hh:mm AM/PM")` returns the text "23 December 2020 09:35 pm" (now there are four "m").

Useful Excel Functions to Manipulate Dates and Times

From Text to Dates and Times

DATEVALUE(text)

Convert text into a serial number that represents the date. This function does not convert times, only dates.

DATEVALUE("12 May 2021") returns the number 44328.

DATEVALUE("12 May 2021 3:15pm") returns the same number 44328.

VALUE(text)

Convert text into a serial number that represents the date and time.

VALUE("12 May 2021") returns the number 44328.

VALUE("12 May 2021 3:15pm") returns the same number 44328.64.

Exercise: Dates in Different Formats

Ch-03.xlsx from <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/excel-2016-cleaning-up-your-data>

- 1 What formula would you type in cell B2?
- 2 What formula would you type in cell D2?

	A	B	C	D
1	Month Year	=DATE(Year, Month, Day)	Year Month	=DATE(Year, Month, Day)
2	10 2016		2016 10	
3	4 2016		2016 4	
4	5 2016		2016 5	
5	9 2015		2015 9	
6	10 2016		2016 10	
7	6 2016		2016 6	
8	4 2015		2015 4	
9	5 2016		2016 5	
10	1 2016		2016 1	
11	12 2015		2015 12	
12	12 2015		2015 10	
13	11 2015		2015 11	
14	8 2016		2016 8	
15	11 2016		2016 11	
16	8 2015		2015 8	
17	8 2015		2015 8	

Exercise: Mixed date formats in one column

Create a blank Excel worksheet, import this CSV file, and normalise the dates so that they appear as in the screenshot.

[dates.csv](#)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Date	Name	Email	Consultati	Zoom			
2	Thursday, December 1, 2022	Diego Mol	diego.molla-ali	od@mq.edu.au				
3	Thursday, May 12, 2022	Charanya I	charanya.ramakrishnan	@mq.edu.au				
4	Friday, April 15, 2022	Urvashi K	urvashi.kh	Thu 11am	room 4RPD G02			
5	Wednesday, November 23, 2022	Munazza Z	munazza-z	Fri 21-1pm	https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85387376629			
6	Friday, May 13, 2022	Sepehr (S	sepehr.tor	Wed 10-1	room 4RPD G02			
7	Wednesday, November 23, 2022	Hubert Ha	hubert.ha	Thu 1-2pm	https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/83256626172			

Operating with Excel Dates



Extraction

The following commands extract parts of a date and time:

- YEAR, MONTH, DAY, HOUR, MINUTE, SECOND
- The result is a number, not a date (i.e. not a serial number)

Time difference

- The following command can be used to find the difference between two dates:
 - DATEDIF(date1, date2, "y") — difference in years
 - DATEDIF(date1, date2, "m") — difference in months
 - DATEDIF(date1, date2, "d") — difference in days
 - Again, the result is a number, not a date.
- If cells A2 and B2 contain dates, then:
 - B2 - A2 is the time difference in days (and fraction of days).

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Understanding Dates in MATLAB



<https://au.mathworks.com/help/matlab/date-and-time-operations.html>

- As with Excel, MATLAB has a specific data format for date-time.
- MATLAB's `datetime` allows one to create a date-time. It accepts several formats, including:
 - year, month, day
 - year, month, day, hour, minute, second

```
hello_date = datetime(2020, 7, 3, 18, 30, 23)
hello_date = datetime(2020, 7, 3)
```

MATLAB does not try to guess the meaning of each number.

They must be placed in the correct order. Compare these:

```
date1 = datetime(2020, 7, 3)
date2 = datetime(2020, 3, 7)
date3 = datetime(3, 7, 2020)
```


From Text to Dates and Back



- Sometimes we want to convert a string containing a date (and/or time) into MATLAB's date-time, or vice-versa.
- MATLAB's `datetime` can convert from text (and other types) to date.

```
t = datetime('21/09/2020')
```

- MATLAB's `string` converts from date (and other types) to text.

```
w_table.StringDate = string(w_table.Date,  
                             'MM/dd/yyyy')
```

Text Date Formats in MATLAB

<https://au.mathworks.com/help/matlab/ref/datetime.html#buhzxm1-Format>

- As with Excel, MATLAB allows to read and write dates using different formats.
- MATLAB formats are slightly different from Excel's formats.
- These formats can also be used when importing from CSV files.

Examples of Formats

Format	Example
dd-MMM-yyyy HH:mm:ss	01-Mar-2000 15:45:17
MM/dd/yyyy	03/01/2000
MM dd yy	03 01 00

Example: Importing shopping.csv



- The file shopping.csv represents dates using the day and month only, using a specific format of the form “1-Jan”, “2-Jan”, etc.
- In MATLAB, specify the datetime format “dd-MMM” in the “Date” column when you use the data import wizard.

The screenshot shows the MATLAB Data Import Wizard interface. The file 'shopping.csv' is selected. The 'Date' column is highlighted, and the format 'dd-MMM' is selected from the dropdown menu. A red circle highlights the 'dd-MMM' option in the dropdown menu. The 'Format Help' button is visible next to the dropdown.

	A	B	C	D
	Date	Buyer	Type	Amt
1	Text			
2	Number			\$50
3	Categorical			\$120
4	Datetime			\$10
5	Duration			+ 15 more
6	Set Type for All Selected Columns			
7	6-Jan	Kelly	Cafes	\$
8	7-Jan	Kelly	Books	\$129
9	7-Jan	Dad	Groceries	\$252

Programme

1 Dates

2 Long and Wide Formats

- Long and Wide Formats
- Introducing Pivot Tables

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 - Long and Wide Formats
 - Introducing Pivot Tables

Tables as 2D Data

- Remember that tables represent 2-dimensional information.
 - Rows indicate different records.
 - Columns indicate different types of data in the record.
- We can, for example, represent the work address (street, city, postcode, etc) of a group of people.

(file WorkAddresses.xlsx)

First Name	Last Name	Address	City	State	Post	Phone
Deane	Haag	9 Hamilton B	Sydney South	NSW	1235	02-9718-2944
Edelmira	Pedregon	50638 North	Bandy Creek	WA	6450	08-8484-3223
Andrew	Keks	51 Bridge Av	Carwarp	VIC	3494	03-5251-3153
Miesha	Decelles	457 St Sebas	Eltham	VIC	3095	03-5185-6258
Javier	Osmer	6 Ackerman	Doncaster Ea	VIC	3109	03-8369-6924
Kizzy	Stangle	8 W Lake St	Welbungin	WA	6477	08-1937-3980
Sharan	Wodicka	8454 6 17 M	Shenton Park	WA	6008	08-4712-2157
Novella	Fritch	5 Ellestad Dr	Girraween	NSW	2145	02-2612-1455
German	Dones	9 N Nevada	Woronora	NSW	2232	02-2393-3289
Robt	Blanck	790 E Wisco	Woodbury	TAS	7120	03-6517-9318
Rossana	Biler	60481 N Clar	Lee Point	NT	810	08-9855-2125

Tables as 3D, 4D ... ?

- How would you keep information about the work **and the home address**?
- What if one person has 15 different properties, how do you store the information for all people?
- A solution: Add one column that indicates the type of address.
- (Databases can encode this information more efficiently using relational tables but this is not the topic of this unit.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
	First Name	Last Name	Address Type	Address	City	State	Post	Phone	
1	Deane	Haag	Work	9 Hamilton B	Sydney South	NSW	1235	02-9718-2944	
2	Edelmira	Pedregon	Work	50638 North	Bandy Creek	WA	6450	08-8484-3223	
3	Andrew	Keks	Work	51 Bridge Av	Carwarp	VIC	3494	03-5251-3153	
4	Miesha	Decelles	Work	457 St Sebas	Eltham	VIC	3095	03-5185-6258	
5	Javier	Osmer	Work	6 Ackerman	Doncaster Ea	VIC	3109	03-8369-6924	
6	Kizzy	Stangle	Work	8 W Lake St	Welbungin	WA	6477	08-1937-3980	
7	Sharan	Wodicka	Work	8454 6 17 N	Shenton Park	WA	6008	08-4712-2157	
8	Novella	Fritch	Work	5 Ellestad Dr	Girraween	NSW	2145	02-2612-1455	
9	German	Dones	Work	9 N Nevada	Woronora	NSW	2232	02-2393-3289	
10	Robt	Blanck	Work	790 E Wisco	Woodbury	TAS	7120	03-6517-9318	
11	Rossana	Biler	Work	60481 N Clar	Lee Point	NT	810	08-9855-2125	
12	Deane	Haag	Home	302 N 10th S	Oakleigh Sou	VIC	3167	03-9085-5714	
13	Edelmira	Pedregon	Home	79346 Firest	Gununa	QLD	4871	07-1217-9907	
14	Andrew	Keks	Home	37564 Grace	Salamander	NSW	2317	02-9187-4769	
15	Miesha	Decelles	Home	470 W Irving	Bundaberg N	QLD	4670	07-3963-4469	
16	Javier	Osmer	Home	6 Jefferson S	Middleton	SA	5213	08-5236-2143	

Long and Wide Formats

- Most tables that we have seen in this unit so far are in a **wide format**.
 - Each column indicates a specific data: name, address, location, temperature, etc.
- For complex data we may want to use a **long format**.
 - One column indicates the type of data.
 - Another column (or columns) indicate the value.

File weather_data.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1		data	date	param	siteid	
2	1	0	1/1/03	Precipitation	ACRE	
3	2	0	2/1/03	Precipitation	Albert Lea	
4	3	11.3199997	3/1/03	Precipitation	Ames	
5	4	0	4/1/03	Precipitation	Antigo	
6	5	3.03999996	5/1/03	Precipitation	Appleton	
7	6	0.49000001	6/1/03	Precipitation	Arlington	
8	7	0	7/1/03	Precipitation	Bean & Beet	
9	8	0	8/1/03	Precipitation	Brookings	
10	9	0	9/1/03	Precipitation	Brownstown	

Processing Excel Tables in Long Format

The lecturer will demonstrate how to use filters and pivot tables to process Excel tables in long format. File: shopping.csv

- Many tables are expressed in long format for some columns.
- Excel does not have a specific tool to process these tables.
- You have seen how you can use filters to focus on specific values.
- You have also seen how you can use conditional functions to calculate values of one column based on the values of another column.
 - e.g. `=SUMIFS(D:D,C:C,"Fuel")` sums all values in column D such that the cell in column C has the value "Fuel").
- You can also use [pivot tables](#).

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Pivot Tables: A Motivational Example

(data from <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/excel-pivottables-for-beginners>)

- Find the total shopping in each category “Fuel”, etc, of file shopping.csv.
- Find the total shopping of each month.
- What shopping per month and per category??
- Pivot tables can help you generate data for all of above and more.

Date	Buyer	Type	Amt
1-Jan	Mom	Fuel	\$50
2-Jan	Mom	Groceries	\$120
3-Jan	Dad	Cafes	\$10
4-Jan	Dad	Fuel	\$40
4-Jan	Kelly	Groceries	\$129
5-Jan	Mom	Cafes	\$12
6-Jan	Kelly	Cafes	\$14

A Simple Pivot Table



Excel - shopping - Saved

Search (Alt + Q)

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Automate Help PivotTable Editing Share Comments Catch up

Functions Forms Table PivotTable Picture Shapes Office Add-ins Recommended Column Line Pie Bar Area Scatter Other Charts Hyperlink New Comment

84 fx Books

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	Buyer	(All)													
2															
3															
4	Sum of Amt	Column Labels													
5	Row Labels	Books	Cafes	Entertainment	Fuel	Groceries	Music	Restaurants	Grand Total						
6	Jan	169	36		271	209	2147	15	2847						
7	Feb	476	59		142	202	2820	15	3714						
8	Mar	160	48		51	329	2348	46	2519	5501					
9	Apr	418	34		307	100	2985	9	3299	7152					
10	May	96	63		240	288	2911	14	2136	5748					
11	Jun	38	145		309	198	2905	86	3352	7033					
12	Jul	60	33		722	228	2834	6	3419	7302					
13	Aug	79	38		143	138	3120	17	3651	7186					
14	Sep	61			163	2377	9	3783	6393						
15	Oct	39			165	3063	13	3492	6772						
16	Nov	67			927	117	2373	10	1030	4524					
17	Dec	328			2627	55	2786	9	5805						
18	Grand Total	1991	456		5739	2192	32669	249	26681	69977					
19															
20															
21															
22															

PivotTable Fields

Choose fields:

- ☐ Date
- ☒ Month
- ☒ Buyer
- ☒ Type
- ☒ Amt

Drag fields between areas below:

FILTERS
Buyer

COLUMNS
Type

ROWS
Month

VALUES
Sum of Amt

Calculation Mode: Automatic Workbook Statistics

Give Feedback to Microsoft

Anatomy of a Pivot Table

Filters

- What column to use to filter values.
- Only for columns with categorical data.

Rows

- What column to use in the rows of the pivot table.
- Only for columns with categorical data.

Columns

- What column to use in the columns of the pivot table.
- Only for columns with categorical data.

Values

- What value we want to aggregate.
- Only for columns with numerical data.

Pivot Tables that Convert from Long to Wide

Exercise 1 (weather_data.csv)

What is the average precipitation in Antigo?

- Using AVERAGEIFS
- Using a pivot table

Exercise 2 (weather_data.csv)

What is the March-2013 average precipitation in Antigo?

- Using AVERAGEIFS
- Using a pivot table

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1		data	date	param	siteid	
2	1	0	1/1/03	Precipitation	ACRE	
3	2	0	2/1/03	Precipitation	AlbertLea	
4	3	11.3199997	3/1/03	Precipitation	Ames	
5	4	0	4/1/03	Precipitation	Antigo	
6	5	3.03999996	5/1/03	Precipitation	Appleton	

Take-home Messages

- Both Excel and MATLAB have a specific data type that is used to represent Dates and times.
- Pay attention when importing files that do not use conventional date and time expressions. In those cases, Excel and MATLAB may guess the wrong format.
- Both Excel and MATLAB offer functions that can be used to create dates and convert dates to text.
- You need to understand the power of Excel's pivot tables.

What's Next

Monday: Labor Day

- There will be no classes on Monday 3 October.
 - The lecture will be recorded on Tuesday 4 October; there will be a special announcement with the details.
 - Students enrolled to a Monday SGTA class will be able to attend another SGTA class in the week. Attendance for students enrolled in a Monday SGTA class will not be compulsory, but they must submit by Sunday 9 October.
 - In-class test 3 will move to week 10.
-
- Week 9 lecture: Summarising, Visualising and Analysing Data.
 - You can find a practice in-class test 3 in iLearn. Complete it at your own time.