Working with Dates

The last topic we'll discuss is dates.

Most statistical packages store dates as the number of time units since some reference time. In JMP, dates are stored as the number of seconds since midnight, January 1, 1904.

If you work with data that has variables for dates or times, you should use the correct date or time format for these columns.

For example, the Date column in the file Rejects.jmp is stored with the month/day/year format.

But there are many different date formats available.

Columns with date and time formats are stored as numeric data in JMP. This enables you to calculate elapsed times and extract information from the date columns.

For example, you can add a new column with a formula using the Year function to extract the year from a date column, or the Month function to extract the month.

You can also create formulas to apply these date functions, along with many other date and time functions, directly from the data table.

Note that, if you copy and paste data from another program, date and time columns might be formatted as character data. You can write a formula or a JSL script to convert these data to a date or time format, but this can get a little tricky.

However, if your data are imported from another program, like Microsoft Excel, data that are formatted as dates or times are usually formatted correctly in JMP.

For more information about working with dates and times in JMP, see the Read About It for this module.

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