

COMP1022Q
Introduction to Computing with Excel VBA

Working with a Range of Cells

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Outcomes

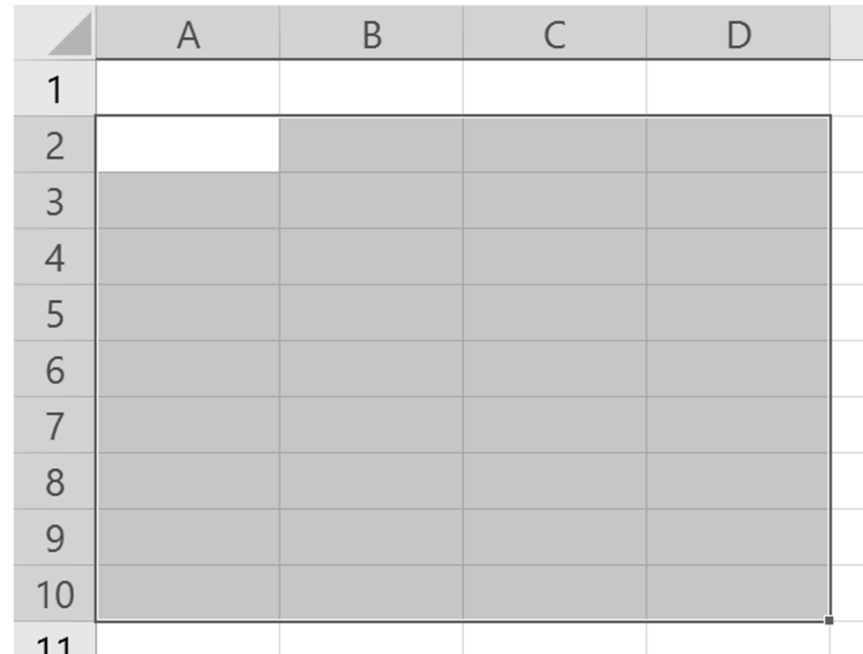
- After completing this presentation, you are expected to be able to:
 1. Read the location and size of a range of cells
 2. Use `ActiveCell` and `Selection` to get information about the currently selected cells

Using a Range of Cells

- You can put a range of cells in a variable like this:

```
Dim MyCells As Range  
Set MyCells = Range("A2:D10")
```

- Then you can get lots of useful information from the variable (MyCells, or whatever the variable name is) such as the width and height of the area



The image shows an Excel spreadsheet with columns A, B, C, and D, and rows 1 through 11. The range A2:D10 is highlighted in grey, representing the range assigned to the variable MyCells in the code above.

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

Useful Properties of the Range Object

- Here's some of the things you can get:

MyCells.Row

- The topmost row of the region

MyCells.Rows.Count

- The number of selected rows

MyCells.Column

- The leftmost column of the region

MyCells.Columns.Count

- The number of selected columns

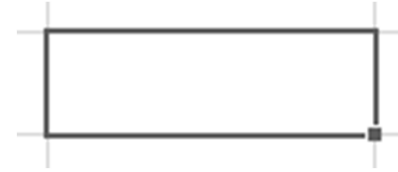
Example Results

```
Dim MyCells As Range  
Set MyCells =  
    Range("A2:D10")
```

- `MyCells.Row = 2`
 - The range object starts at row 2
- `MyCells.Column = 1`
 - The range object starts at column A
- `MyCells.Rows.Count = 9`
 - The range object contains 9 rows (2 to 10)
- `MyCells.Columns.Count = 4`
 - The range object contains 4 columns (A to D)

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

Using ActiveCell



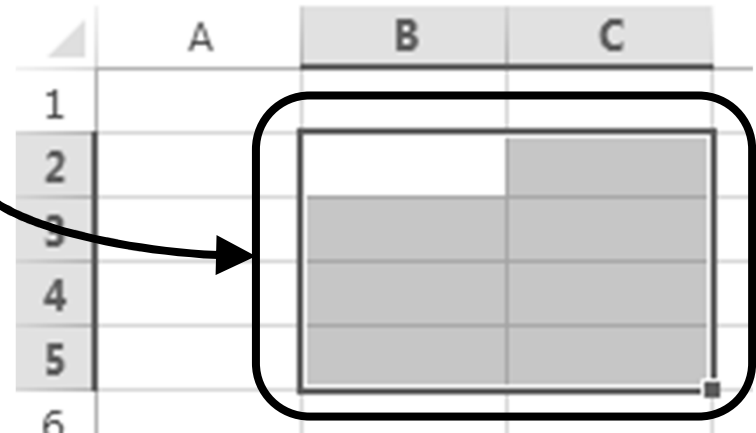
- In VBA, you can use `ActiveCell` to get the currently selected cell
- For example, you can read the content of the currently selected cell using this code:

```
Dim CurrentValue As String  
CurrentValue = ActiveCell.Value
```

- However, `ActiveCell` represents a single cell only
- If you select more than one cell you will not be able to use `ActiveCell` to get all of them

Rectangular Selection of Cells

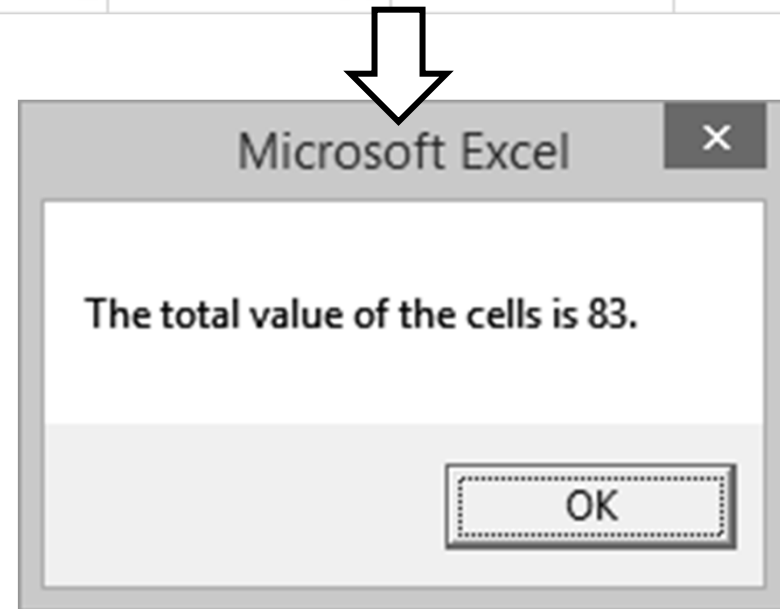
- You can select a rectangular region of cells in a worksheet
- You can get the information of the selected region using `Selection`, which is a `Range` object with the currently selected cells
- Then, to get information about the selected cells, you can use the same techniques we looked at a couple of slides ago



Reading the Values in a Selection 1/2

- For example, you can use a nested loop to sum the values of all selected cells and show the result in a message box:

	A	B	C	D
6		22	1	2
7	1	33	2	3
8	1	44	4	6
9	1	55	3	5
10	1	66		



Reading the Values in a Selection 2/2

- Here is the code:

```
Sum = 0
For Row = Selection.Row To _
    Selection.Row + _
    Selection.Rows.Count - 1 } Loop
                             through
                             the rows
Loop through
the columns
    For Col = Selection.Column To _
        Selection.Column + _
        Selection.Columns.Count - 1
        Sum = Sum + Cells(Row, Col).Value
    Next Col
Next Row

MsgBox "The total value of the cells is " & _
    Sum & "."
```

Using a For Each Loop

- Alternatively, you can use a for each loop:

```
Sum = 0
```

```
For Each Cell In Selection
```

```
    Sum = Sum + Cell.Value
```

```
Next Cell
```

} Loop through all
the selected cells

```
MsgBox "The total value of the cells is " & _  
    Sum & "."
```

- The code looks much simpler now although you do not have the row and column values like before (but you can use `Cell.Row` and `Cell.Column`)