

Welcome!

Critical Skills for Analytics Professionals

MORS Certificate

Giving the Data a Voice





Agenda

Who I am

Data Preparation

Design Principles Overview

Data Visualization

Practice



Disclaimer

The view and opinions expressed or implied in this Section are those of the Instructor and should not be construed to carry the official sanction of or positions of the Sponsors or MORS.



Walt DeGrange

- CANA
 - Senior Director of Analytics
- Education
 - Vanderbilt University (BE-EE)
 - Naval Postgraduate School (MS-OR)
- 21 years Navy Supply Corps Officer
- Teaching
 - Naval Postgraduate School Faculty
 - University of Arkansas MSOM-MSEM
 - NC State MBA Advisor







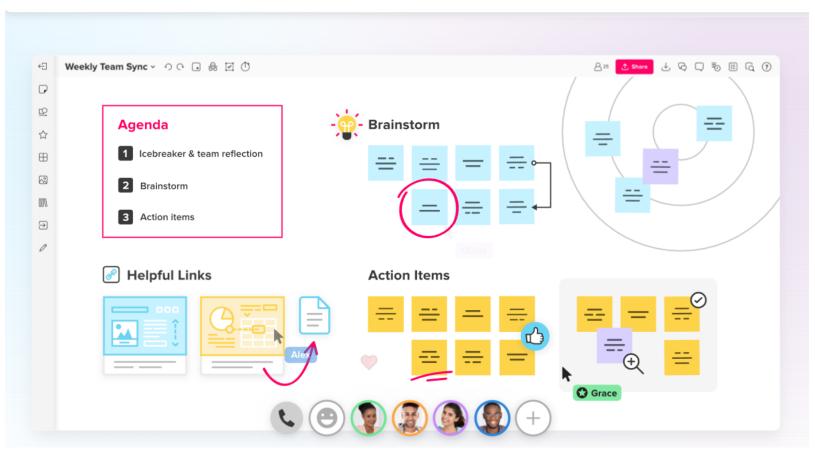
Administration

- Breaks
- Rules of Engagement
 - MURAL
 - Questions

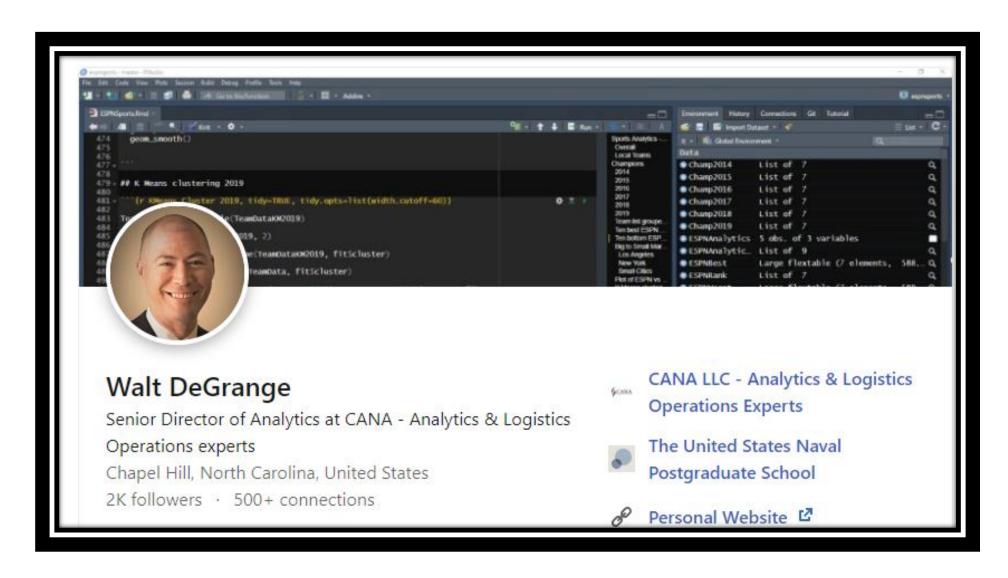


MURAL











Data Preparation

MORS CSAP
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Walt DeGrange



Agenda

The Data

► Instruction

Tidy Data

- ► Instruction
- Guided practice

Exploring Data with Traditional Excel

- ► Instruction
- Guided practice / check for understanding
- ► Independent Practice & Assessment



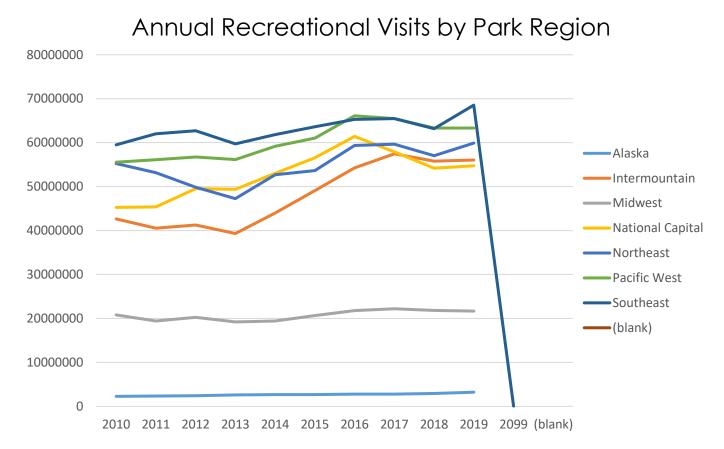
Case Study National Parks

- ► National park visitors by year
- ► Data fields:
 - **Year**
 - ► National park name
 - Region
 - ➤ State
 - ▶ Visitors
 - ► Visit Type





► What underlying issues impact this graph?





Common data issues

- ► Improperly stored data
- Duplicate records
- Outliers
- Missing data
- ► Invalid entries





Tidy data

- Each variable must have its own column
- Each observation must have its own row
- Each value must have its own cell

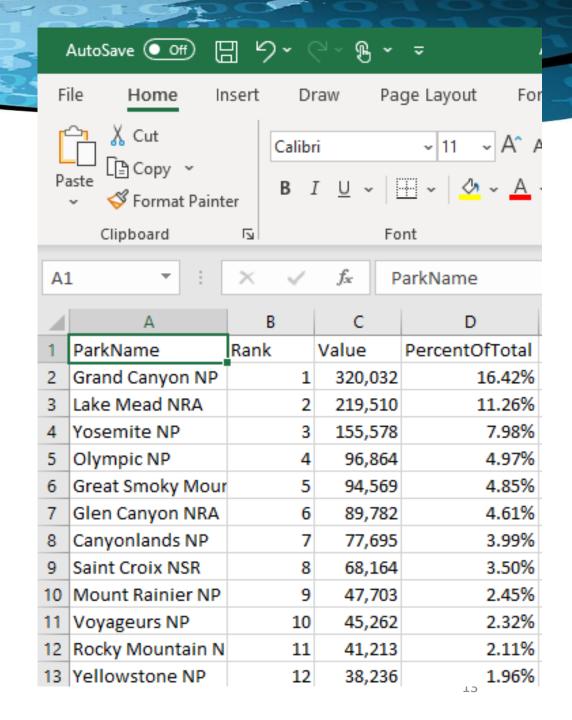
For Excel, this means the first row is the header / list of field names and each row underneath is a record / observation

- No blank rows
- ► No merged cells



This data is tidy

- Each variable has its own column
- Each observation has its own row
- Each value has its own cell





Tidy or untidy?

4	Α	В	С
1	Camper	Paid?	Dietary Restrictions
2	Elmo	Yes - \$5.00	
3	Big Bird	No	
4	Oscar	Yes - \$3.00	Trash only



Tidy or untidy?

religion	<\$10k	\$10-20k	\$20-30k	\$30–40k	\$40-50k	\$50-75k
Agnostic	27	34	60	81	76	137
Atheist	12	27	37	52	35	70
Buddhist	27	21	30	34	33	58
Catholic	418	617	732	670	638	1116
Don't know/refused	15	14	15	11	10	35
Evangelical Prot	575	869	1064	982	881	1486
Hindu	1	9	7	9	11	34
Historically Black Prot	228	244	236	238	197	223
Jehovah's Witness	20	27	24	24	21	30
Jewish	19	19	25	25	30	95

Table 4: The first ten rows of data on income and religion from the Pew Forum. Three columns, \$75–100k, \$100–150k and >150k, have been omitted.

Wickham, H. (2014). Tidy Data. Journal of Statistical Software, 59(10), 1 - 23. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.18637/jss.v059.i10



Wide to long

row	a	b	c	
A	1	4	7	
В	2	5	8	
\mathbf{C}	3	6	9	
(a) Raw data				

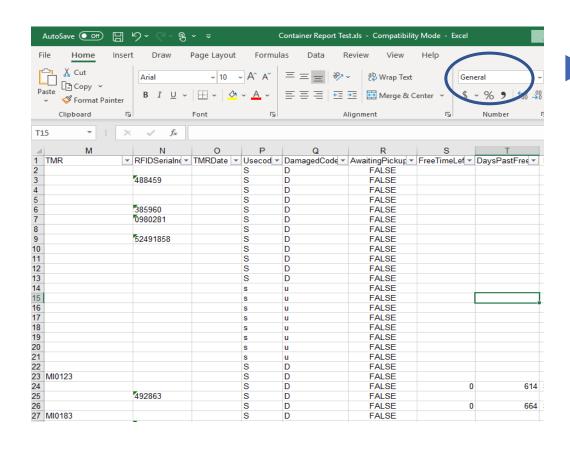
row	column	value
A	a	1
В	\mathbf{a}	2
\mathbf{C}	\mathbf{a}	3
\mathbf{A}	b	4
В	b	5
\mathbf{C}	b	6
\mathbf{A}	\mathbf{c}	7
В	\mathbf{c}	8
\mathbf{C}	c	9

(b) Molten data

Wickham, H. (2014). Tidy Data. Journal of Statistical Software, 59(10), 1 - 23. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.18637/jss.v059.i10



Check how your data is stored



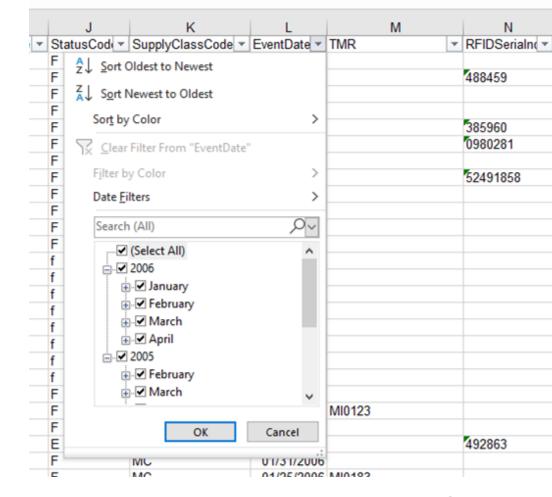
Make sure numbers are properly stored as numbers, and that ID values & serial numbers are stored as text where appropriate



Data exploration

Get a sense of the range of values in a column with the Excel Sort & Filter tool



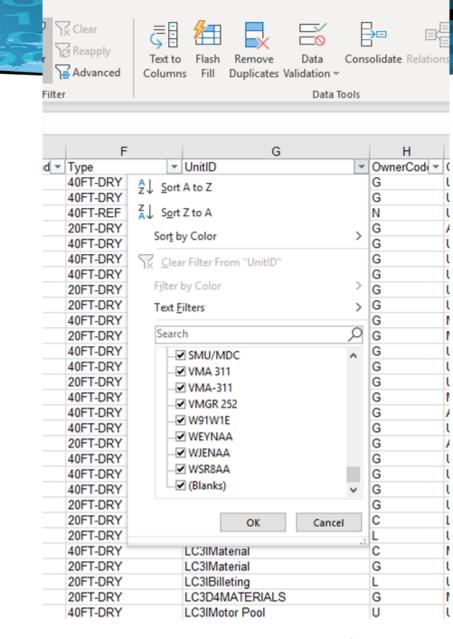


Sign in



Data exploration

Sort & Filter also quickly identifies presence of missing values and invalid levels in categorical data

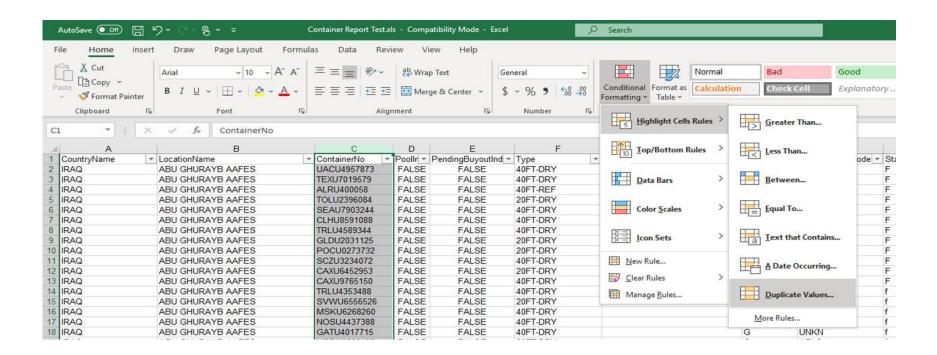


Search



Conditional formatting

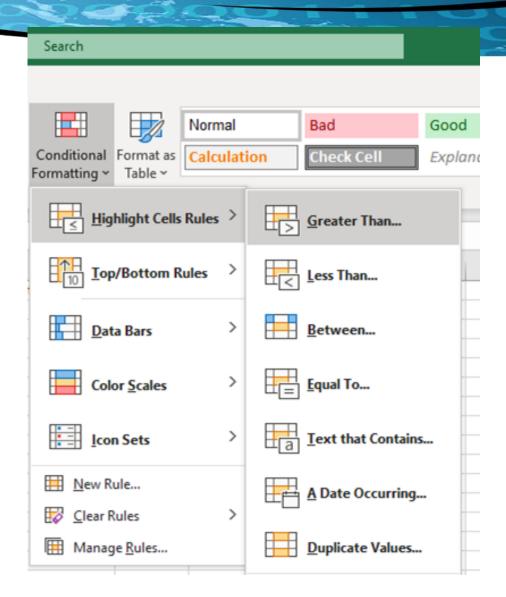
- Quickly scan for duplicated primary keys
 - Primary keys should uniquely identify a record





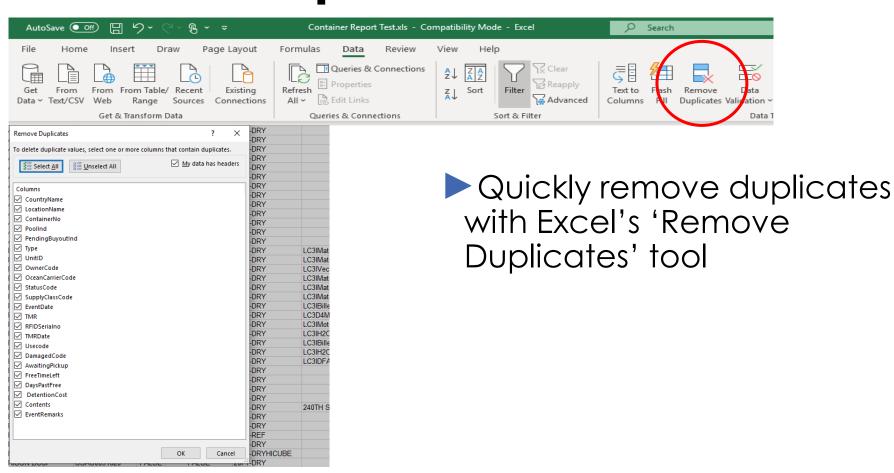
Data exploration

Highlight outliers and invalid numeric entries with conditional formatting



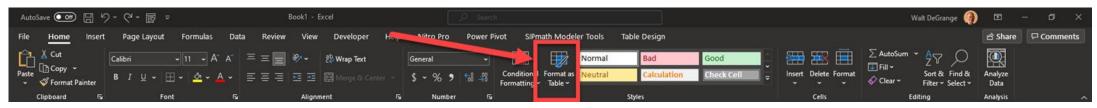


Remove duplicates





Functions to summarize data with Format as Table



- **►** SUM()
- ► COUNTA()
- ► MIN()
- **►** MAX()
- Range: Max()-Min()

- ► AVERAGE()
- MEDIAN()
- ► MODE()
- ► VAR()
- ► STDEV()



Learn More

- Alexander, M., Kusleika, R. and Walkenbach, J. **Excel 2019 Bible**. Wiley Press. 2018.
- Wickham, Hadley. Tidy data. Journal of Statistical Software 59.10 (2014): 1-23.