



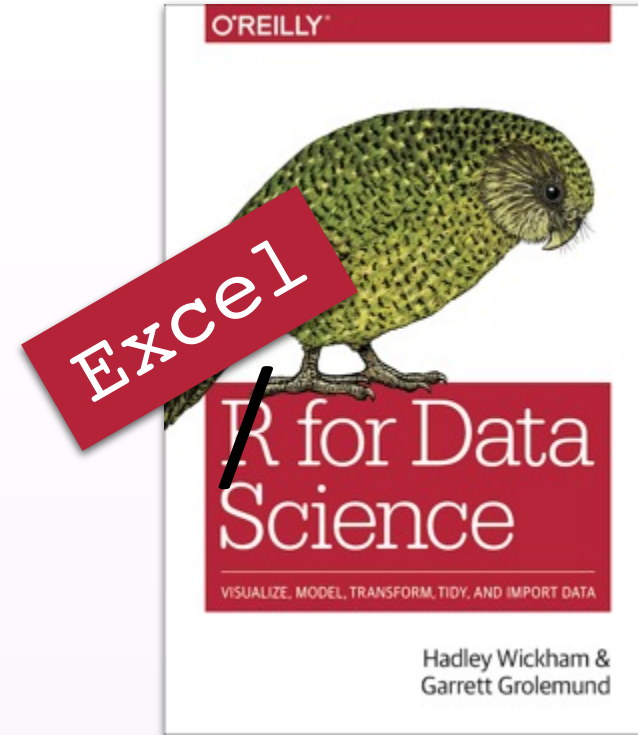
# Scaling Spreadsheets with R

Nathan Stephens

October 2021

# Why do we use Excel?

- Wrangle
- Visualize
- Transform
- Analyze
- Communicate insights about your data

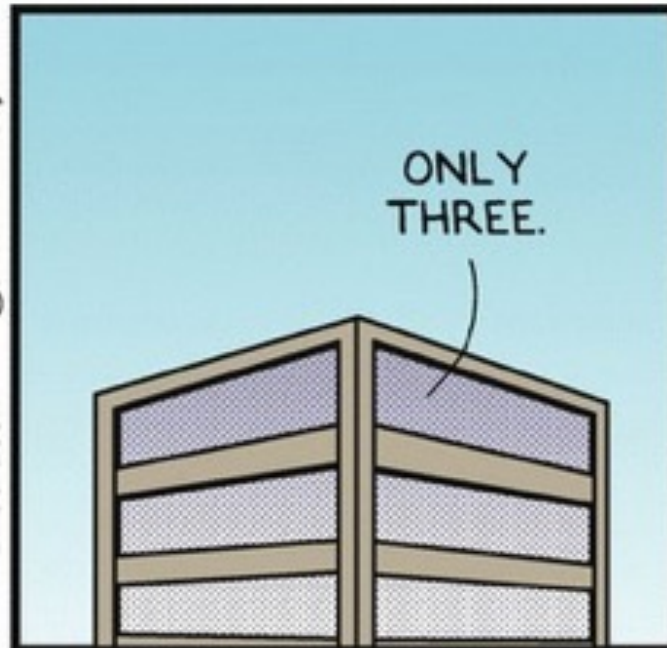


# [A few] Problems using Excel

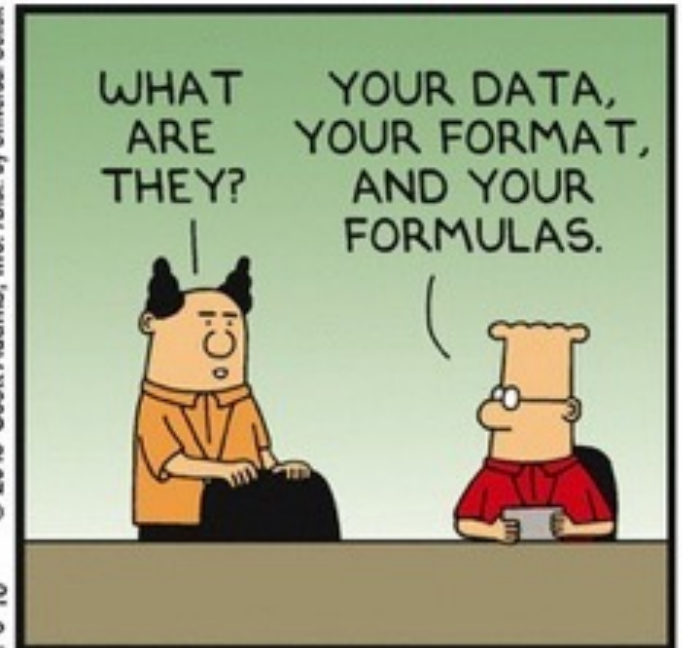
Wednesday January 06, 2016 *Three Problems With Spreadsheet*



Dilbert.com @ScottAdamsSays

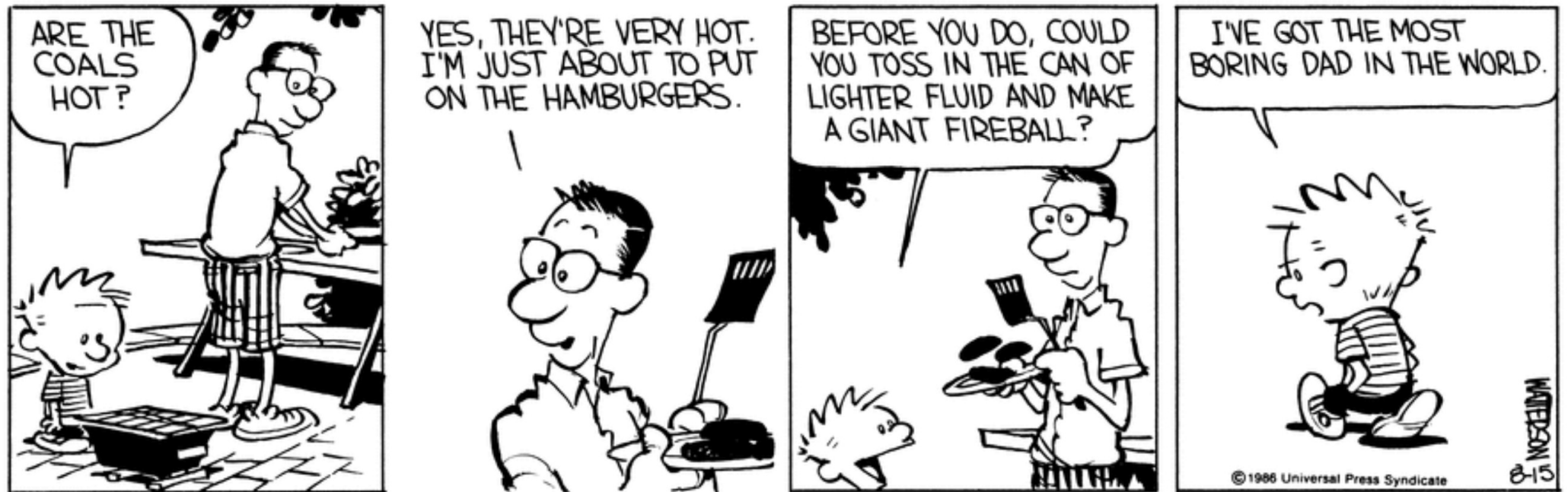


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# Problem 1: File size

Excel handles kilobytes and megabytes comfortably





# Hard limits in Excel

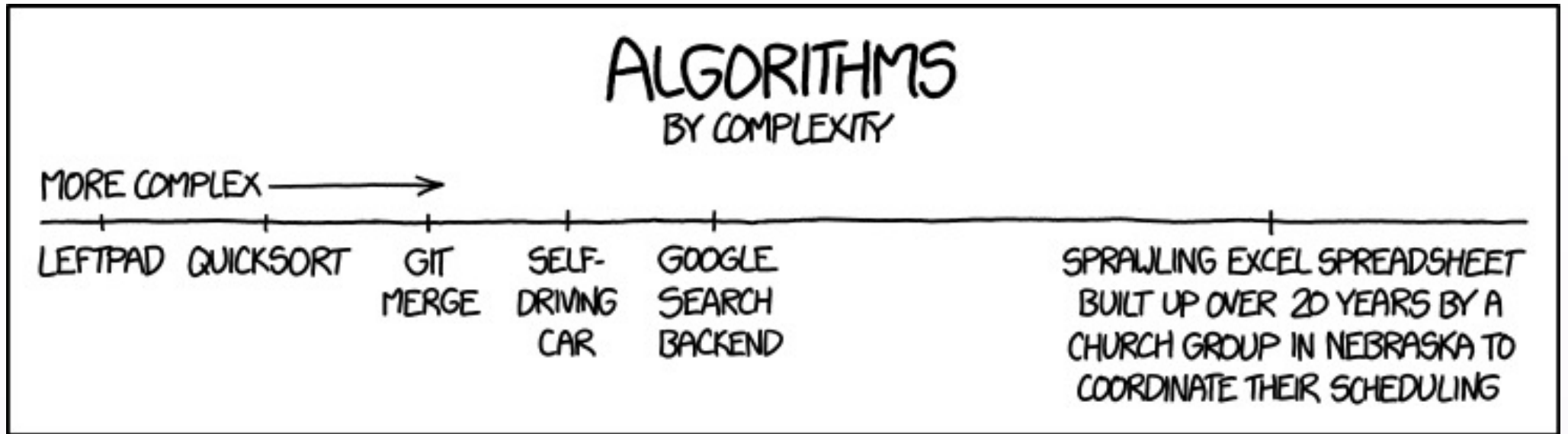
- Maximum rows: 1,048,576
- Maximum columns: 16,384



## Memory limitations

1's Mb	10's Mb	100's Mb	1's Gb	10's Gb	100's Gb
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# Problem 2: Complexity



# Workbook Design

Complexity



Example	Simple Workbook	Complex Workbook
<b>Data sources</b>	Single	Multiple
<b>Analytics</b>	Summary statistics	Advanced algorithms
<b>Data updates</b>	Static or none	Dynamic
<b>Formulas and Functions</b>	One or two arguments	Multi-line and nested
<b>Advanced tools</b>	Single drop-down list or none	Scripts
<b>Pivot Tables and Charts</b>	One or two	Several
<b>Spreadsheets</b>	Few (less than a dozen)	Many (more than a dozen)

# Why scale spreadsheets with R?

- R can handle far more data than Excel

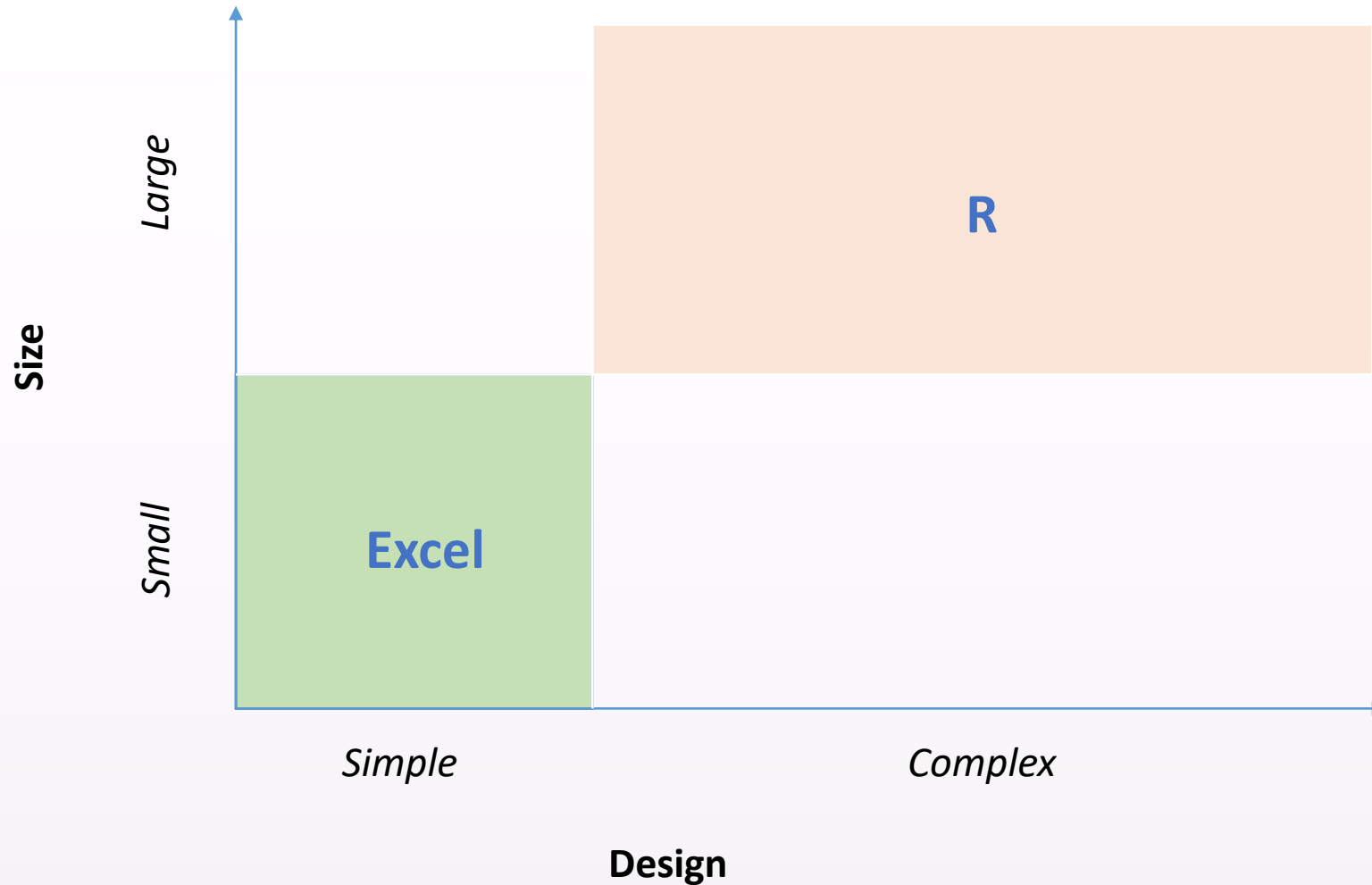
	1's Mb	10's Mb	100's Mb	1's Gb	10's Gb	100's Gb
Excel						
R						

- Complex Workbook in Excel == Simple script in R

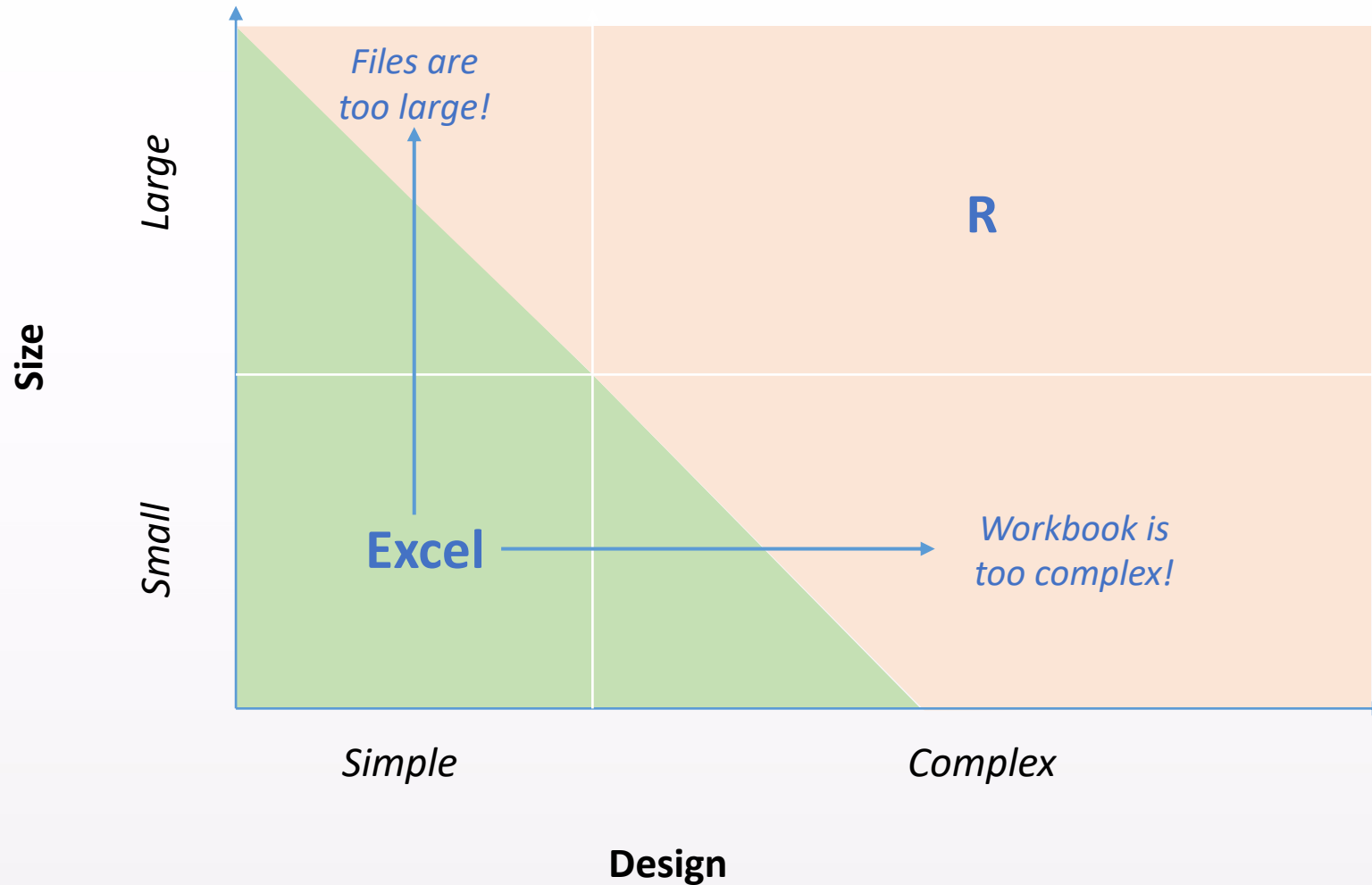
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# Scaling spreadsheets with R

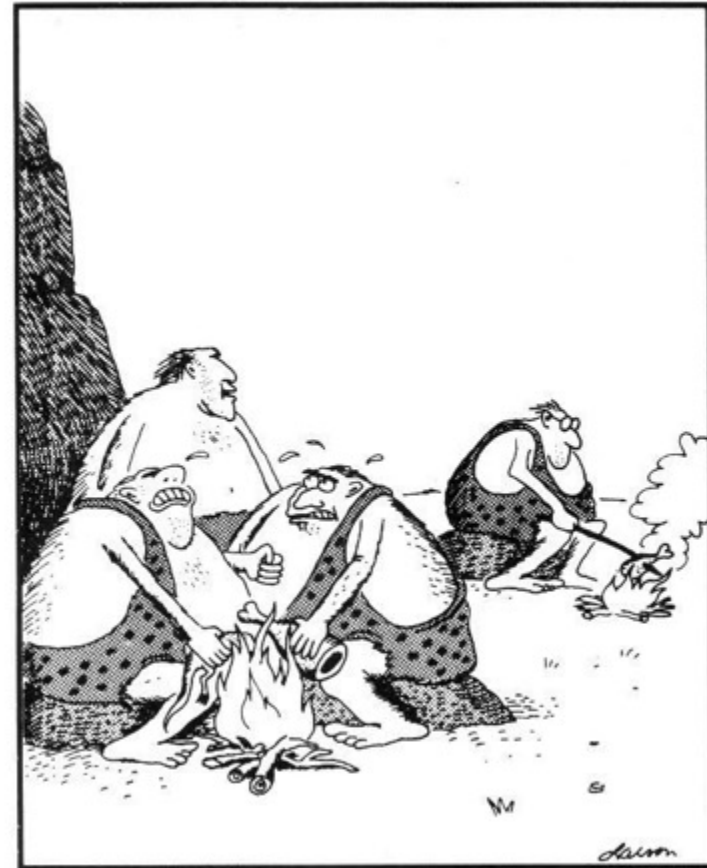


# Scaling spreadsheets with R



# How do you scale spreadsheets with R?

- By using powerful coding tools that make your work reproducible
- Communicating with Apps and Notebooks

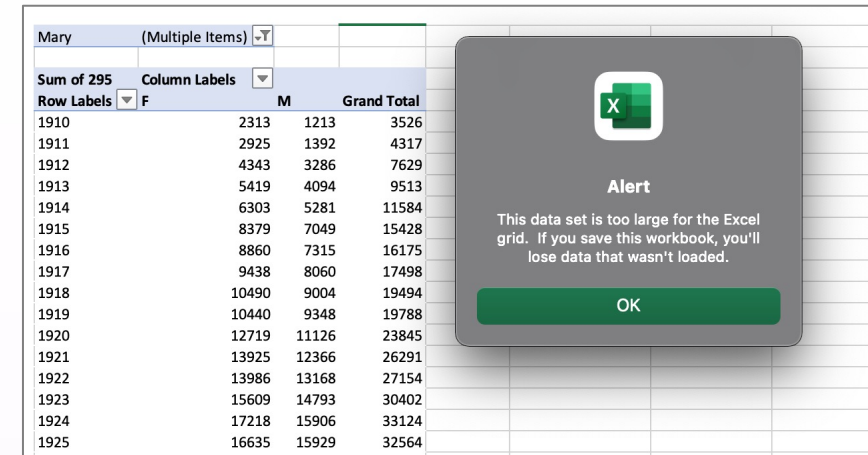


"Hey! Look what Zog do!"

# Two Demos

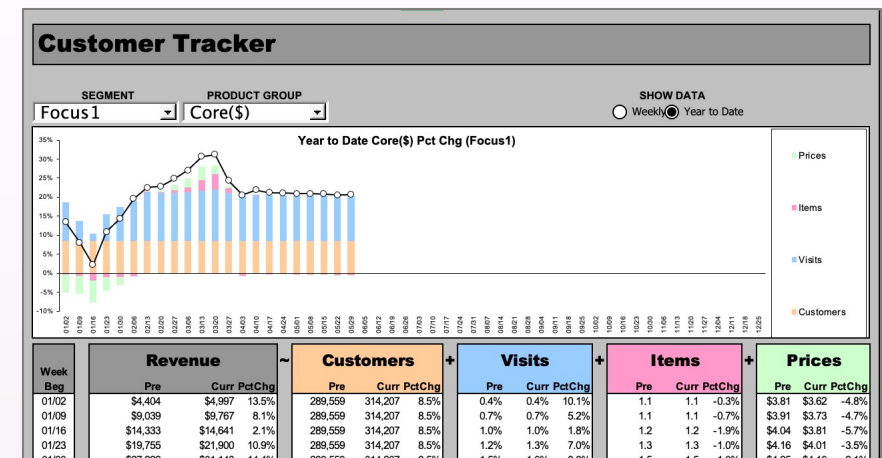
File is too large

- [US State Specific Baby Names](#)



Workbook is too complex

- [Customer Tracker](#)



# Summary

In data science, the source for all your results is

YOUR CODE

Not your report or presentation