

Selecting data with XLSTAT

[demoSelect.xls](#)

Although the data selection with XLSTAT is very intuitive for MS Excel users, some of you who have been using other statistical software packages might not feel immediately at ease, because you need to realize how simple it is to work with XLSTAT. The following examples should help you save time and temper. The Excel workbook that has been used to build the following videos can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

Case 1: Column selection

The column selection is possible only if your dataset starts from the first row of the Excel sheet. It does not matter if the column or variable labels are stored on the first row, as the **Labels included** option displayed in most of the XLSTAT dialog boxes, allows you to specify it.

The following video allows you to view an example of a column selection with the "Regression" dialog box. At the end of the video you will be able to see that the charts generated by XLSTAT can be modified as any other Excel charts. To quickly select a column, just click on the name of the column, as you would do with Excel. XLSTAT automatically detects the end of the dataset: for each selected column: it won't take the whole column into account, but just the rows where your data are stored.

Note that multiple range selections are also possible. You will find more details on that subject in Case 3.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPiDJlnVdq8&feature=player_embedded

Case 2: Range selection

Use the range selection mode when your data do not start on the first row. Select the data with the mouse.

The following video allows you to view an example of a range selection with the **Comparing two samples** dialog box. A Student's test and a Fisher's test are computed to compare the mean and the variance of two samples. The two samples are selected separately with the mouse.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWtzMm8xC6s&feature=player_embedded

Note that multiple range selections are also possible. You will find more details on that subject in Case 3.

Case 3: Multiple range selection

Use multiple range selection when you want to remove some data - column(s) or row(s) - from the original dataset. Multiple selection applies to the column selection and the range selection modes. The example below has been recorded on the same dataset as the one used for the column selection mode tutorial. To do a multiple range selection, you need to press the **Ctrl** key of your keyboard while selecting the data with the mouse.

The following video allows you to view an example of a multiple range selection in the Quick column selection mode with the **Regression** dialog box. The X3 variable is not selected: we first selected the X1 and X2 variables by selecting columns B and C, then pressed the **Ctrl** key, and then clicked on the E column to add variable X4 to the selection.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqXiNM3wMyA&feature=player_embedded

Case 4: Keyboard shortcuts

For an unknown reason, the possibility to use the keyboard to select data is not available with the versions 2000 and 2002 of MS Excel. With Excel 97, you can very quickly select data, using the cursor keys (up, down, left, right) and the **Ctrl** and **Shift** keys. For example, to select a table for a Principal component analysis, all you need to do, is click with the mouse button on the cell at the top left corner of the table (or move to it with the cursor keys) then click on the **Shift and Ctrl** keys, then do one click on the right cursor, then one click on the down cursor, and you are done.

Note: With all Excel versions, you can use the Tab key to navigate in the dialog box and switch from one element to the other.

After the installation of recent updates of Excel 2000 and 2002 and the installation of XLSTAT, it is possible to use the keyboard shortcuts on these Excel versions.