Northeastern University College of Computer and Information Science

CS1100: Computer Science and Its Applications

Excel Basics

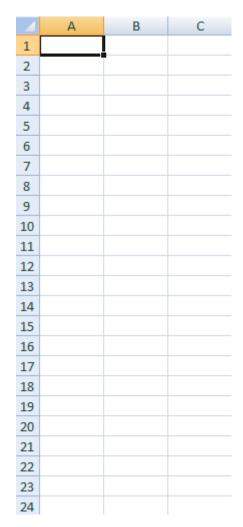
Modified from originals created by Martin Schedlbauer, Peter Douglass and Peter Golbus

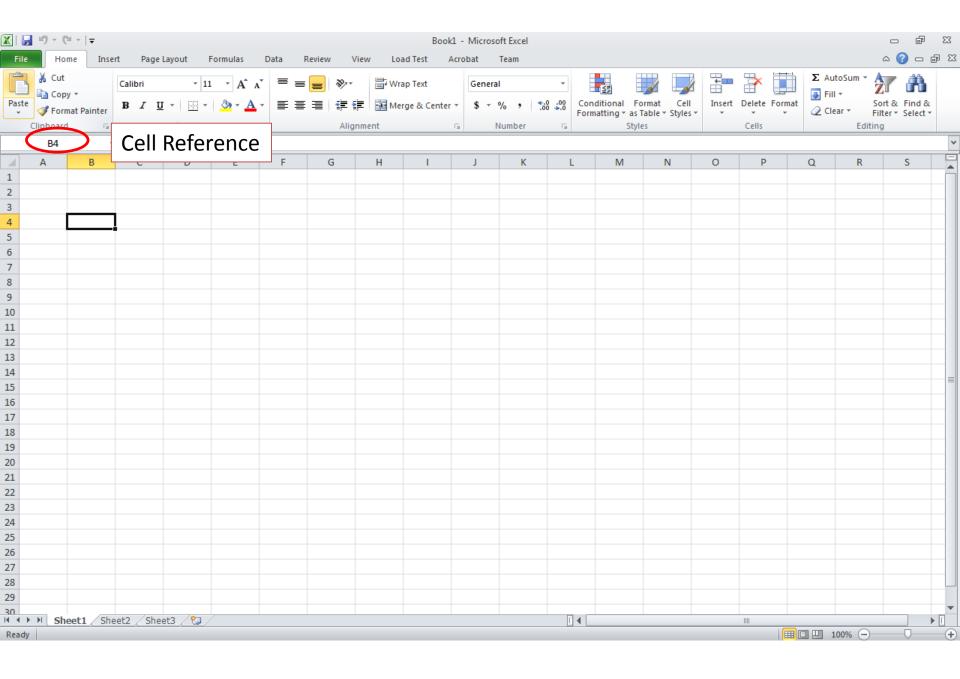
Spreadsheets

- Spreadsheets are among the most useful technical business applications.
- Principally used for calculations and manipulation of tabular data.
- Common spreadsheet applications:
 - Microsoft Excel
 - Google Spreadsheet

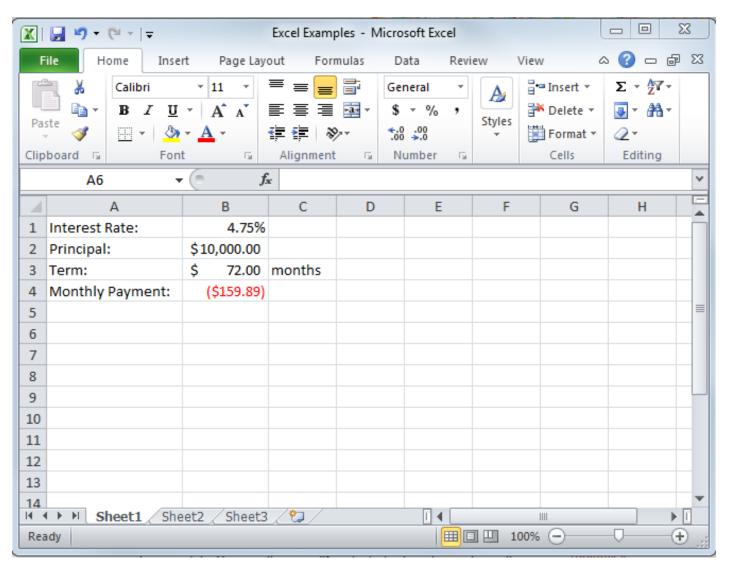
Spreadsheet Layout

- Tabular layout arranged in rows and columns.
 - Columns are labeled with letters
 - Rows are labeled with numbers
- Cells are at the intersection of rows and columns
 - Example cell reference: A3, C9
- Cells can contain:
 - Numbers, dates, text, or other data
 - Formulas using functions and cell references

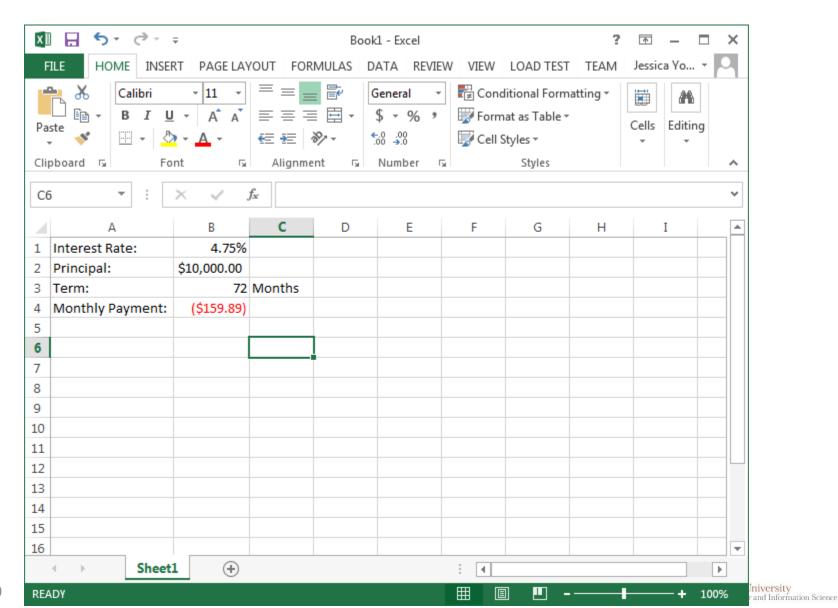




Microsoft Excel 2010



Microsoft Excel 2013



Cell Ranges

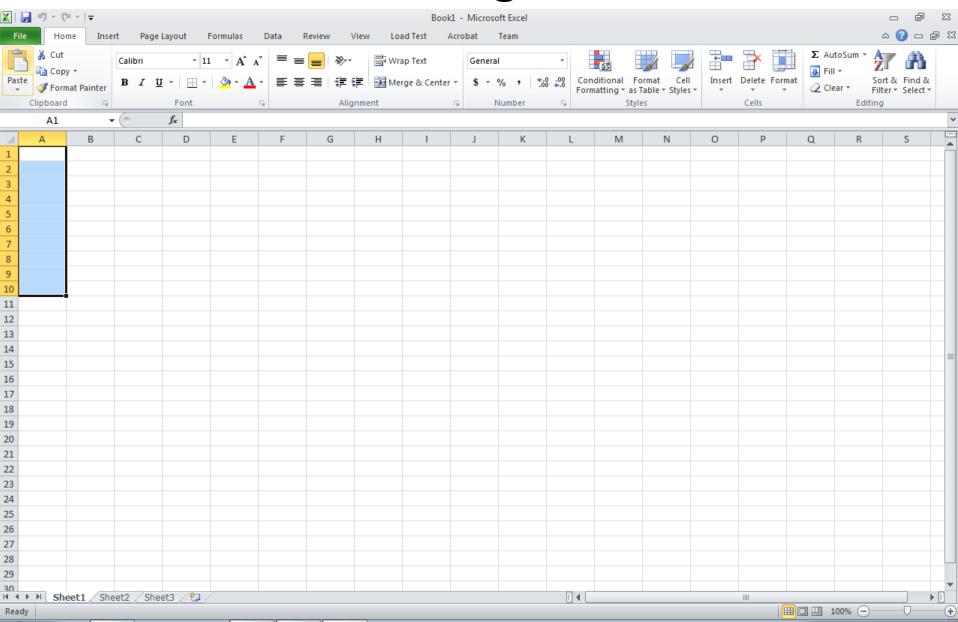
Many functions require cell ranges:

– Column Range: A1:A10

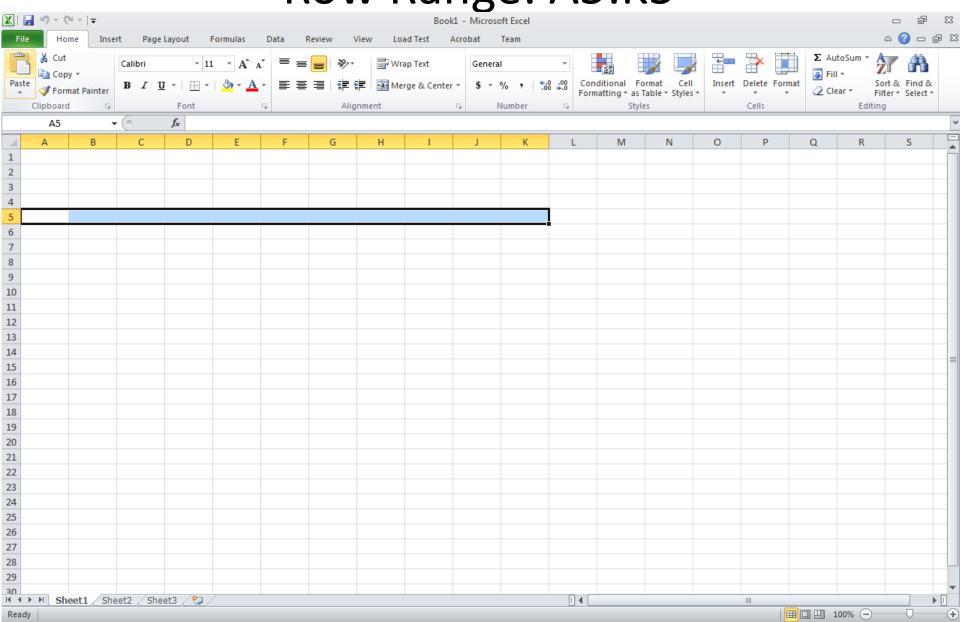
– Row Range: A5:K5

– Matrix: A1:C5

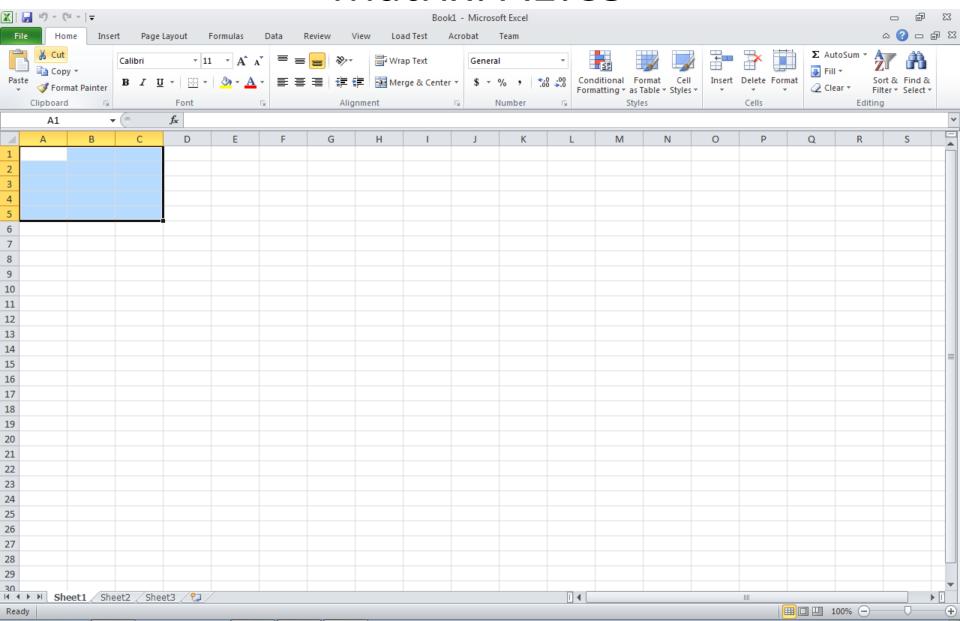
Column Range: A1:A10



Row Range: A5:K5



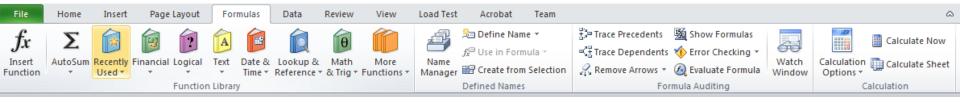
Matrix: A1:C5

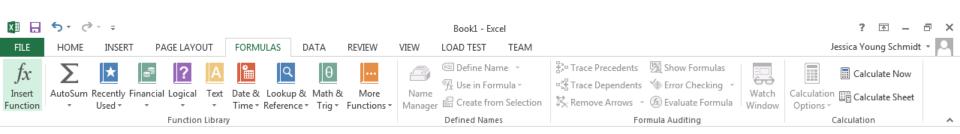


Functions

- Excel provide thousands of functions to build spreadsheet models:
 - Financial, e.g., pmt, irr, fv, db
 - Aggregation, e.g., sum, count, average
 - Text, e.g., left, mid, trim
 - Date & Time, e.g., today, time, second
 - Lookup, e.g., choose, vlookup, match
 - Logical, e.g., if, not, or
 - Statistical, e.g., median, correl
 - Engineering, e.g., bessel, imlog
 - Trigonometric, e.g., sin, tan, acos

Function Library

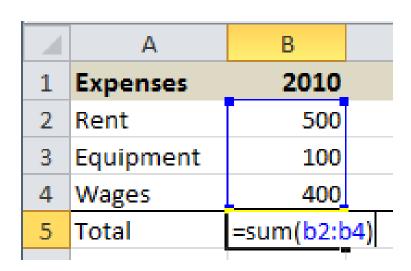




Entering Formulas and Functions

=sum(b2:b4)

- To enter formulas and functions:
 - start entry with =
- Example:



Cell References in Functions

- Most functions require parameters.
- To keep your model flexible and correct even when the data changes, only use cell references in functions.

1	А	В	
1	Interest Rate:	0.0475	
2	Principal:	10000	
3	Term:	72	
4	Monthly Payment:	=PMT(B1/12,B3,B2)	
_			

PMT function

This article describes the formula syntax and usage of the PMT function in Microsoft Excel.

Description

Calculates the payment for a loan based on constant payments and a constant interest rate.

		А	В
Syntax	1	Interest Rate:	0.0475
	2	Principal:	10000
PMT(rate, nper, pv, [fv], [type])	3	Term:	72
	4	Monthly Payment:	=PMT(B1/12,B3,B2)

NOTE For a more complete description of the arguments in PMT, see the PV function.

The PMT function syntax has the following arguments:

- Rate Required. The interest rate for the loan.
- Nper Required. The total number of payments for the loan.
- Pv Required. The present value, or the total amount that a series of future payments is worth now; also known as the principal.
- Fv Optional. The future value, or a cash balance you want to attain after the last payment is made. If fv is omitted, it is assumed to be 0 (zero), that is, the future value of a loan is 0.
- Type Optional. The number 0 (zero) or 1 and indicates when payments are due.

SET TYPE EQUAL TO	IF PAYMENTS ARE DUE
0 or omitted	At the end of the period
1	At the beginning of the period

Copying Cells

- To copy cells:
 - CTRL+C to copy and CTRL+V to paste or
 - Use cell dragging
- Cell references are automatically adjusted when copied.
- Cell references can be locked \$.
 - \$A1:\$A5 is not adjusted when column copied
 - A\$1:C\$1 is not adjusted when row copied
 - \$A\$1 is never adjusted when copied

Examples1

Copying Formula

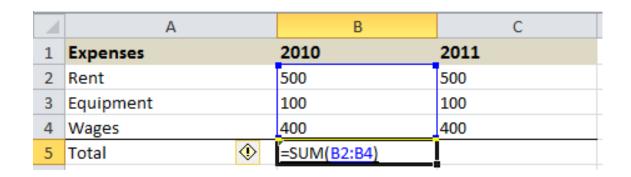
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Copying Formulas

- Relative cell references adjust when copying:
 - Columns references adjust when copying across columns
 - Row references adjust when copying across rows
- Generally, the adjustment is desirable, but sometimes it is not:
 - Lock cell references by making them absolute references
 - Use \$ before row and/or columns for locking

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Demo: Copying Formulas



1	Α	В	С
1	Expenses	2010	2011
2	Rent	500	500
3	Equipment	100	100
4	Wages	400	400
5	Total	=SUM(B2:B4)	=SUM(C2:C4)

 Notice what happens to the cell references when copying from row to row or column to column.

Click to watch video demonstration

Anchors and Cell Dragging

- Formulas can be copied to adjacent cells by dragging.
- Dragging changes cell references.
- Usually this is what you want, but sometimes it breaks your formulas.
- Anchors (\$) stop cell references from changing.
- But when do you use them?

When to Anchor

- Manually rewrite your formula in the cell to the right and the cell below the original cell.
- Compare the *letters* in the original formula to the letters in the formula to the *right*.
- If a letter didn't change, put a \$ before it in the original cell.

When to Anchor

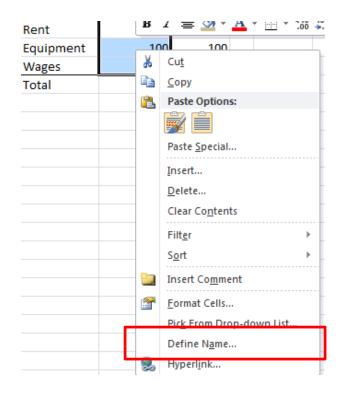
- Manually rewrite your formula in the cell to the right and the cell below the original cell.
- Compare the *numbers* in the original formula to the letters in the formula to *below*.
- If a number didn't change, put a \$ before it in the original cell.

Examples1

Wrong Referencing

Named Ranges

- To make your formulas easier to read, use named cell ranges.
- To create a named range:
 - Highlight cells to include in named range
 - Click right mouse button on any cell in the selected range for context menu
 - Choose "Define Name..." and provide name
- Note: named ranges are never adjusted when row or column copied, i.e. both cells and columns are automatically anchored in named ranges.



Click here to watch demonstration...

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Named Ranges in Functions

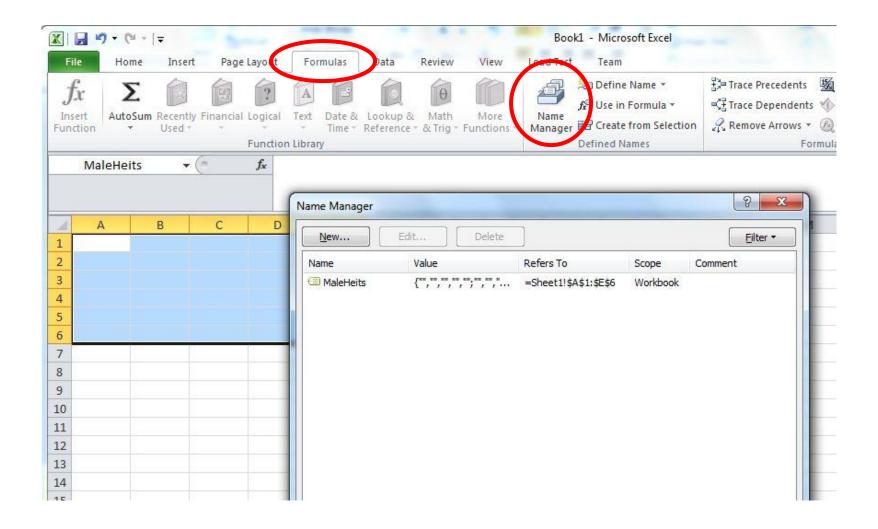
 Named ranges can make function parameters easier to understand:

	Α	В
1	Interest Rate:	0.0475
2	Principal:	10000
3	Term:	72
4	Monthly Payment:	=PMT(InterestRate/12,TermInMonths,Principal)

Managing Named Ranges

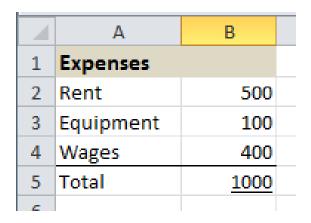
- To manage (delete, edit, rename, etc) named ranges
 - In the Formulas ribbon
 - Click on Name Manager

Managing Named Ranges



Showing Formulas

 To show the formulas in your spreadsheet, press CTRL+~.



1	А	В	
1	Expenses		
2	Rent	500	
3	Equipment	100	
4	Wages	400	
5	Total	=SUM(B2:B4)	
-			

Formatting

- Formatting changes the way values are displayed, but does not change the actual value being used in functions.
- Common formatting options:
 - Currency values
 - Time and date values
 - Numeric formats and decimal points
 - Percent

Demo: Formatting

4	А	В	С
1	Interest Rate:	0.0475	
2	Principal:	10000	
3	Term:	72	months
4	Monthly Payment:	-159.8922446	

Unformatted values

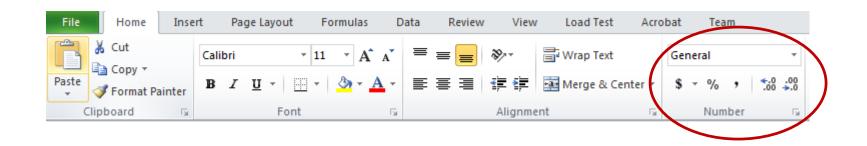
1	Α	В	С
1	Interest Rate:	4.75%	Percent
2	Principal:	\$ 10,000.00	Currency
3	Term:	72	months
4	Monthly Payment:	\$ (159.89)	Accounting

Formatted values

Click here to watch demonstration...

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Formatting





Conditional Formatting

 Conditional formatting allows the application of specified formatting only when certain conditions are met.

On the Home tab, in the Styles group, click the arrow next to

Conditional Formatting

Stock	Opening	Closing	Change
DNDN	5.88	6.02	0.14
FB	27.77	28.76	0.99
MSFT	27.25	26.74	-0.51
BAC	11.96	12.11	0.15



Format

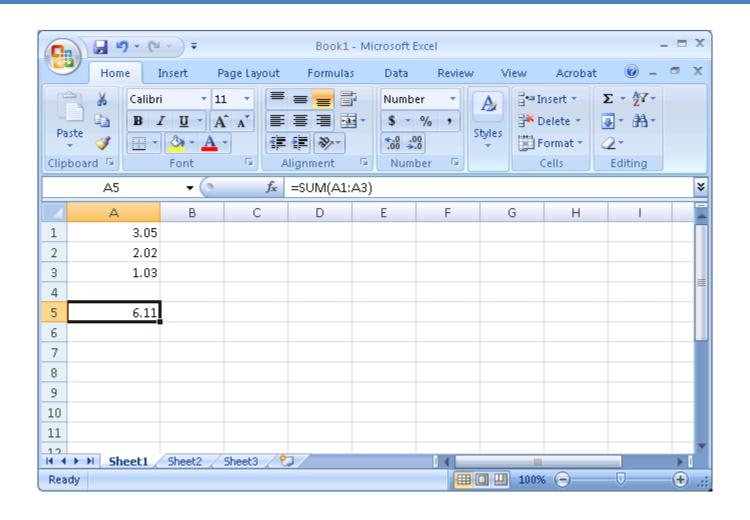
Styles

as Table * Styles *

Rounding

- Rounding actually changes the value by rounding up or down to some specified accuracy.
- The rounded value is copied to another cell.
- To round, use the ROUND() function:
 - =ROUND(A1,2)
 - =ROUNDUP(A1,2)

Formatting Example



Look Carefully at the Formatting Example

It appears to say that the sum of

3.05

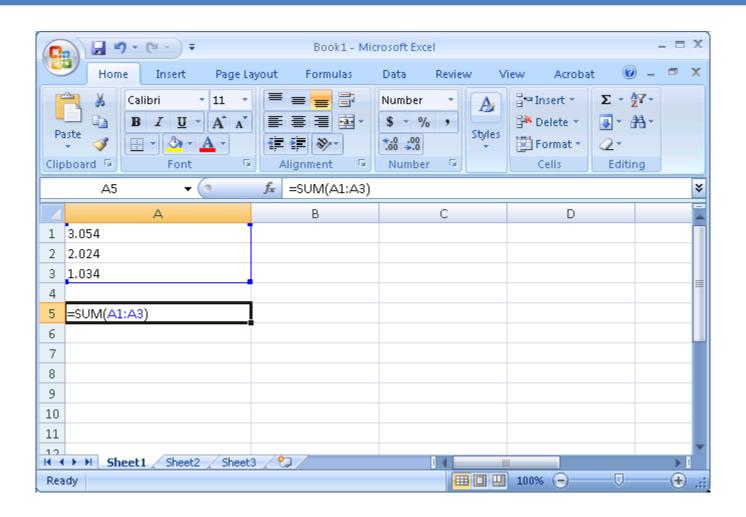
2.02

1.03

is 6.11

- That is not mathematically correct!
- The next slide shows what is actually in each cell. (Control / ~)

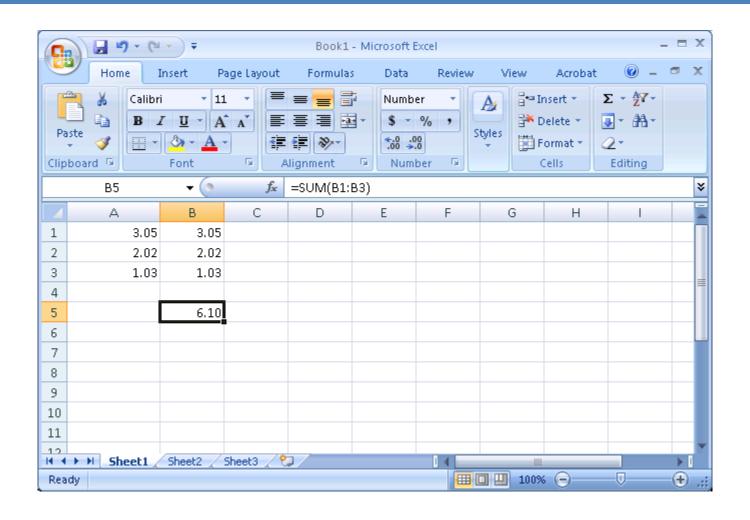
Formatting Example with Control / ~



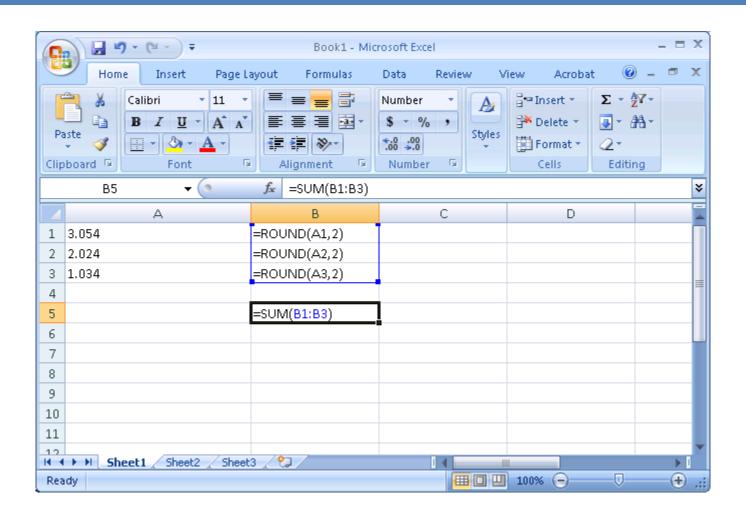
What happened?

- What happened is that the cells in column 'A' were formatted to show only 2 digits after the decimal point.
- However, the numbers in column 'A' actually had more than 2 digits after the decimal point. The last digits were "hidden".
- Hiding some of the digits can yield results that appear to be wrong.

Rounding Example



Rounding Example with Control / ~



Rounding Example

- The addition in column 'B' is now mathematically correct.
- The value that appears in cell B5 is in fact the sum of the numbers appearing in cells B1:B3

Warning!

- The values displayed by a computer application are often not the values that are used inside that application.
- If you need a value that has only a certain number of digits after the decimal place, you must *round* that value, not merely *format* it.
- Excel: ROUND(Range, Decimal Places)

Bottom Line

- If a computer's arithmetic appears incorrect, it is may be a formatting / rounding error.
- Excel: fix these errors with the ROUND function.

Hiding Columns or Rows

- To make spreadsheets easier to read, you may wish to hide rows or columns that contain auxiliary (or supporting) values or temporary calculations.
- Right-Click on the row or column header and select "Hide".

Click here to watch demonstration...

The **IF** Function

- The IF function allows a cell to be filled with one of two possible values.
- General form of IF:

```
=IF(condition, value_if_true, value_if_false)
```

• Example:

1	А	В	Cell B4 is eith
1	Tax Exempt?	Yes	exempt or the
2	Sales Tax:	5.65%	multiplied by
3	Order Total:	\$100.00	
4	Tax Due:	=IF(B1="	Yes",0,B2*B3)

Cell B4 is either \$0 if the customer is tax exempt or the tax due is the order total multiplied by the tax rate.

Taking a Closer Look at IF

1	Α	В
1	Tax Exempt?	Yes
2	Sales Tax:	5.65%
3	Order Total:	\$100.00
4	Tax Due:	

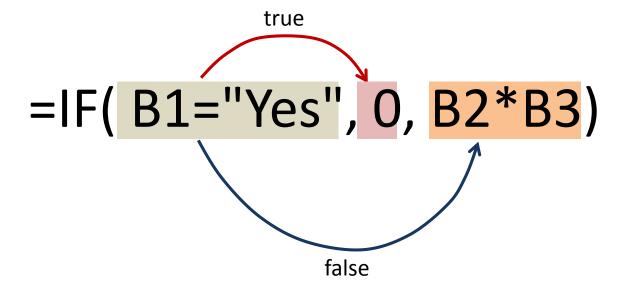
If so, then cell *B4* will be filled with the value 0

Does cell *B1* contain "Yes"?

=IF(B1="Yes", 0, B2*B3)

If not, then cell *B4* will be filled with the result of the formula *B2*B3*

A Closer Look at the Statement



Examples1

• IF practice

How Does IF Work?

- **IF** does not perform any calculation, it simply fills a cell with one of two values.
- The values can be:
 - literals (actual numbers or text), e.g., 0
 - results of functions or formulas
 - empty cells ("") are two double-quotes
 - some cell reference, e.g., B2

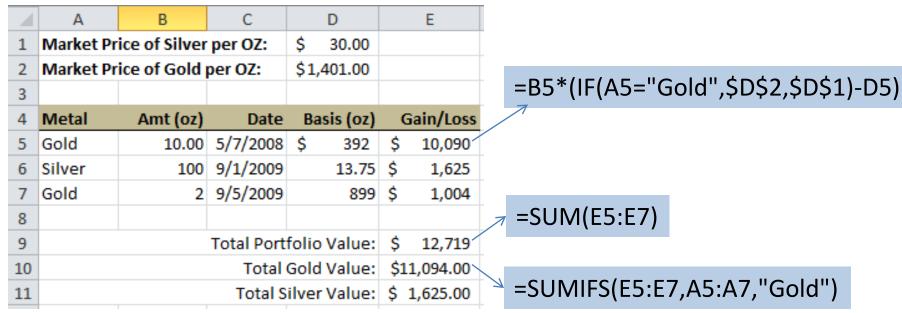
The **IF** Condition

- The IF condition is a logical expression, I.E. it evaluates to true or false.
- Examples:
 - equality (=)
 - less than (<) or less than or equal (<=)</p>
 - greater than (>) or greater than or equal (>=)
- Complex conditions can be built with the AND and OR functions.

A Complete Spreadsheet Model

 Spreadsheet to calculate the market value of a precious metals portfolio.

SUMIFS(sum_range, criteria_range1, criteria1)



SUMIFS

- Adds the cells in a range that meet multiple criteria.
- SUMIFS (sum range, criteria rangel, criterial, [criteria \overline{r} ange2, criteria $\overline{2}$], ...)
- The SUMIFS function syntax has the following :
 - sum_range Required. One or more cells to sum, including numbers or names, ranges, or cell references that contain numbers. Blank and text values are ignored.
 - criteria_range1 Required. The first range in which to evaluate the associated criteria.
 - criteria1 Required. The criteria in the form of a number, expression, cell reference, or text that define which cells in the *criteria_range1* argument will be added.
 - criteria_range2, criteria2, ... Optional. Additional ranges and their associated criteria.

Excel Basics

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Filtering Data

An alternative way of summing data.

1	Α	В	С		D	Е		F		G	
1	Market Price of Silver per OZ:		\$	30.00							
2	Market Price of Gold per OZ:		\$1,401.00		=IF(\$ <i>F</i>		\$A5=F	45=F\$4,\$E5,0			
3											
4	Metal Amt (oz) Date		Ba	asis (oz)) Gain/Loss		Gold			Silver	
5	Gold	10.00	5/7/2008	\$	392	\$	10,090	\$	10,090	\$	-
6	Silver	100	9/1/2009		13.75	\$	1,625	\$	-	\$	1,625
7	Gold	2	9/5/2009		899	\$	1,004	\$	1,004	\$	-
8											
9	Total Portfolio Value:					\$	12,719	\$	11,094	\$	1,625
	=SUM(F5:F7)										

Examples1

portolio1

AVERAGE

- A 1 100 2 90 3 98 4 95 5 87 6 7 94
- Returns the average (arithmetic mean) of the arguments.
- AVERAGE (number1, [number2], ...)
- The AVERAGE function syntax has the following arguments:
 - Number1 Required. The first number, cell reference, or range for which you want the average.
 - Number2, ... Optional. Additional numbers, cell references or ranges for which you want the average, up to a maximum of 255.

COUNT

	1	100
	2	90
	3	98
	4	95
COUNT(A1:A5)	5	87
COUNT(AT.A3)	6	
	7	→ 5

- The COUNT function counts the number of cells that contain numbers, and counts numbers within the list of arguments. Use the COUNT function to get the number of entries in a number field that is in a range or array of numbers.
- COUNT(value1, [value2], ...)
- The COUNT function syntax has the following arguments:
 - value1 Required. The first item, cell reference, or range within which you want to count numbers.
 - value2, ... Optional. Up to 255 additional items, cell references, or ranges within which you want to count numbers.
- Note The arguments can contain or refer to a variety of different types of data, but only numbers are counted.

STDEV.S

1 100 2 90 3 98 4 95 5 87 6 7 5.43139

- Estimates standard deviation based on a sample (ignores logical values and text in the sample).
- The standard deviation is a measure of how widely values are dispersed from the average value (the mean).
- STDEV.S(number1,[number2],...])
- The STDEV.S function syntax has the following:
 - Number1 Required. The first number argument corresponding to a sample of a population. You can also use a single array or a reference to an array instead of arguments separated by commas.
 - Number2, ... Optional. Number arguments 2 to 254 corresponding to a sample of a population. You can also use a single array or a reference to an array instead of arguments separated by commas.

COUNTIF

- COUNTIF allows you to display the number of cells in a range whose values meets specific criteria.
- The syntax of the COUNTIF function is: COUNTIF(range,criteria) ... where range is a group of cells, and criteria is the value a cell must have to be counted.
- The default operator for criteria is "equals" and should not be specified.
- Operators (>, <, >=, <=, <> and =) must be enclosed in quotation marks and <> means "not equal".

COUNTIF

• Example:

D6 ▼ (f _x					=COUNTIF(D2:D5, ">.2")			
4	Α	В	С	D		Е	F	
1	Stock	Opening	Closing	Cha	nge			
2	DNDN	5.88	6.02		0.14			
3	FB	27.77	28.76		0.99			
4	MSFT	27.25	26.74		-0.51			
5	BAC	11.96	12.11		0.15			
6					1			

Excel Basics

FLEXIBLE MODELS

Assume Data May Change!

- It is best practice to write your spreadsheets in such a way that they give correct results for given data, regardless of what that data might be, and not merely the correct results for a particular data set.
- If the data changes, the answer should be correct for the new data set.

Don't Duplicate Data!

- Since the given data for a problem may change, this data should appear as given data in one place only.
- If data given for a problem is repeated in many places, then changing that data will require changes in many places.
 - This can be a source of errors as well as a source of unnecessary work.

Building Flexible Models

- Don't use actual numbers of text in your formulas and functions, i.e., don't "hard code" values.
- To keep your model general and flexible when data change, use only cell references.

Inductively Defined Problems

- An inductively defined problem has 2 parts:
 - A set of starting conditions
 - A set of rules that describe how data changes from one step to the next.

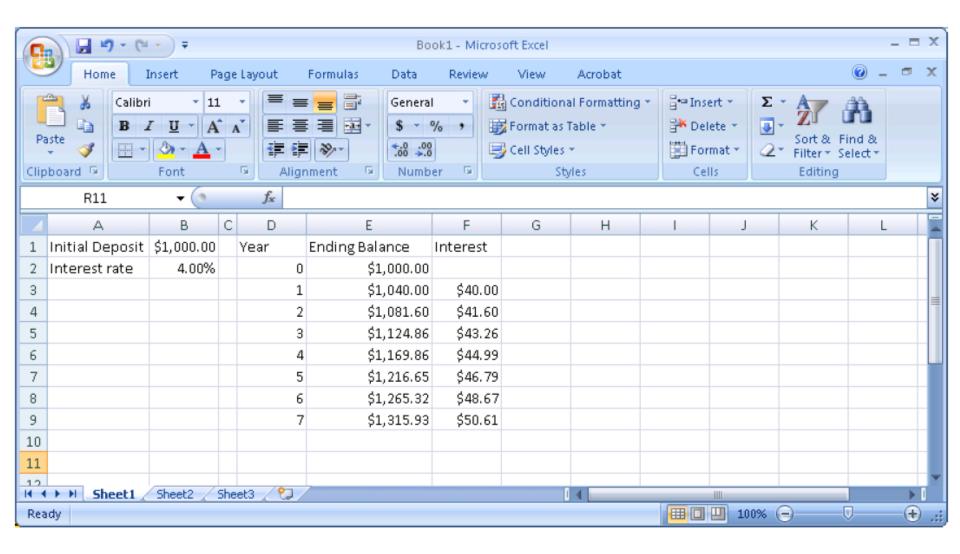
Inductively Defined Problems

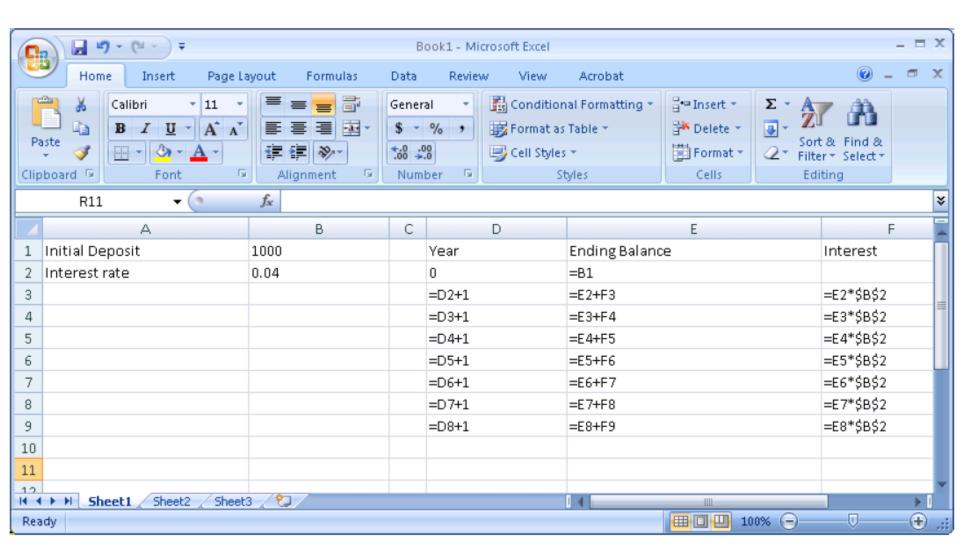
This is the starting condition

Example:

- You deposit \$1000 in a savings account
- At the end of each year, you receive 4% interest on the balance in your account.

This rule describes how data changes from one step to the next





Inductively Defined Problems

- The parameters of our problem appear separately from the calculations that model our problem (columns A and B).
- There is a special year 0 in our solution that serves as a place holder for our starting condition.
- The formulas for the data for each year other than year 0 are similar, differing only in the cells that they reference.