DataGen-for-Excel (Windows version)

DataGen is software designed for comprehending basic statistics. It allows you to enter data into an Excel spreadsheet and immediately see the statistics most commonly taught in introductory statistics classes. There is no interface to learn, no delay between entering data and seeing results. DataGen therefore makes the exploration of statistical relationships easy, informative, and (really) fun.

Starting DataGen-for-Excel

1. Your computer must be running Microsoft Excel (part of Microsoft Office), versions 2003, 2007, or 2010. (It might work with older versions as well—I just haven’t checked. If you do try older versions, please let me know what happens.)

2. Open DataGen-for-Excel.xlsm

3. You must be able and willing to enable Macros. Perhaps you will see a yellow bar across the top of the Excel spreadsheet, as shown here. If so, click Enable Content.

4. But perhaps your version of Excel has blocked macros entirely, so you don’t even get asked (as above). If that is the case, you will have to change your Excel security so as to allow you to enable macros. It is hard to give a blanket description of how to enable macros because of the variety of versions of Excel, operating systems, and platforms. Here’s a typical one, for Excel 2003 in Windows XP:
   - Launch Excel
   - Click Tools, then Options, then the Security tab
   - In the Macro Security section click Macro Security
   - Click the Security level tab
   - Set the Security Level to Medium (or Low, but I don’t recommend that). Then when Excel asks whether to allow Macros, say Yes or Enable.

(continued)
5. If you have been successful in enabling macros, you should see four windows: the Excel spreadsheet (green arrow) and three additional windows (red arrows).

6. If you do not see all four windows, you have NOT been successful in enabling macros and DataGen-for-Excel will NOT operate. Repeat steps 2-3. If you cannot see these windows, you cannot use DataGen-for-Excel.

Using DataGen-for-Excel

Enter some data into two columns of the DataGen spreadsheet (green arrow). Note that statistics automatically appear in the Descriptive Statistics and Statistics windows.

Every DataGen window has a Help button (note that all four arrows are pointing at one).

This version of DataGen-for-Excel is a brand new beta version. If you find bugs or things that don’t work the way you expected, please let me know at russ@unlv.nevada.edu. Please be as specific as possible about what version you are using (bottom right corner of the blue Statistics window) and you were doing when the bug appeared. Thanks!

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