Pivot tables are featured in Microsoft Excel as the preferred method for summarizing and subsetting large amounts of data. Excel’s trademark pivot tables are referred to as PivotTables.

Previously, an R user who wished to analyze a given Excel PivotTable in R would be required to export the complete data to R and manually create a table within R itself. Given that the desired result already exists within Excel, this exercise consumes time and introduces potential transfer error.

We have added to RExcel the functionality of automatically selecting and exporting a PivotTable from Excel to R. This action creates within R an object of class structable, with a name assigned by the user via dialog box. With this capability we can directly display an Excel pivot table using the mosaic plot in the vcd package or barchart in the lattice package.

References