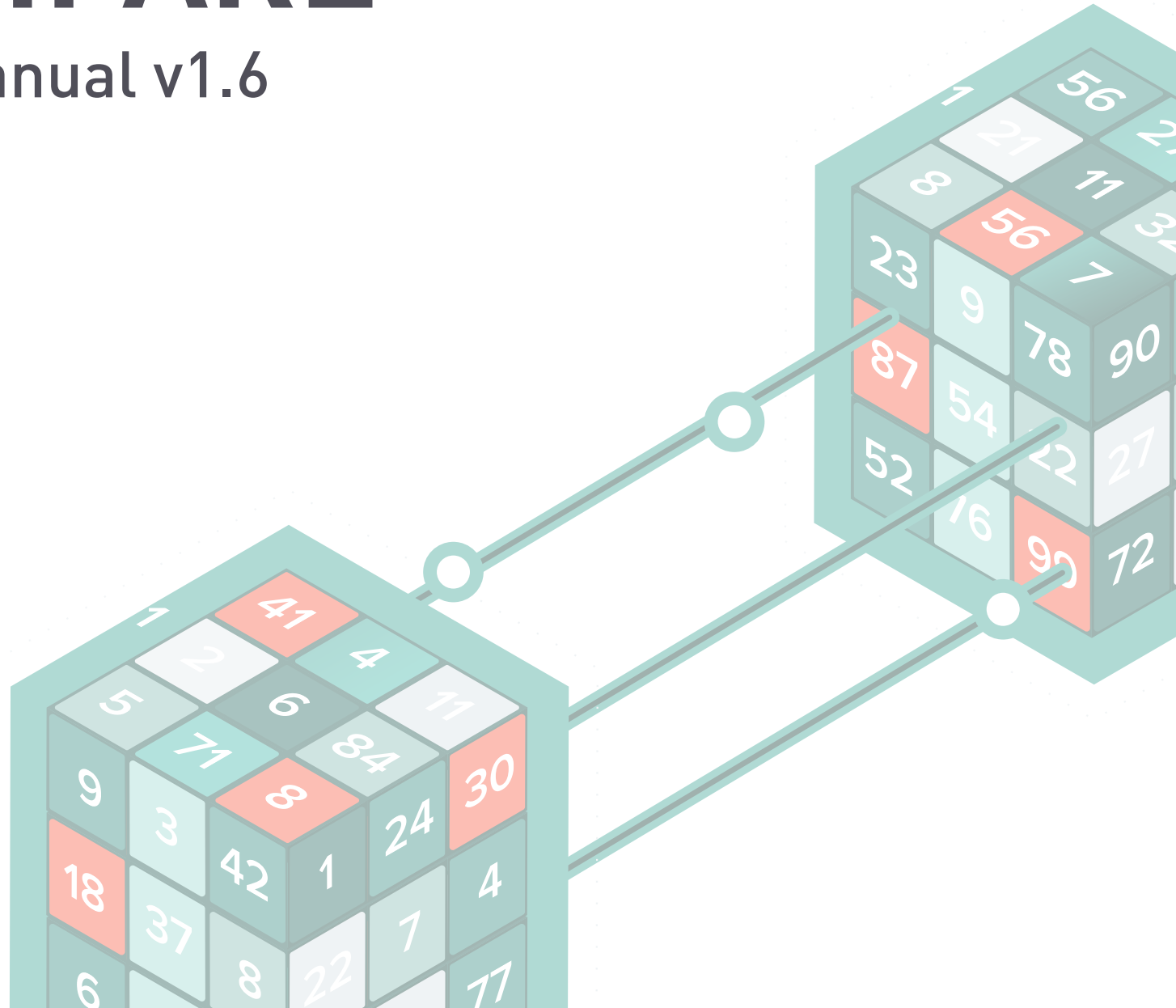




PERFECTXL COMPARE

User Manual v1.6

10/10/2023

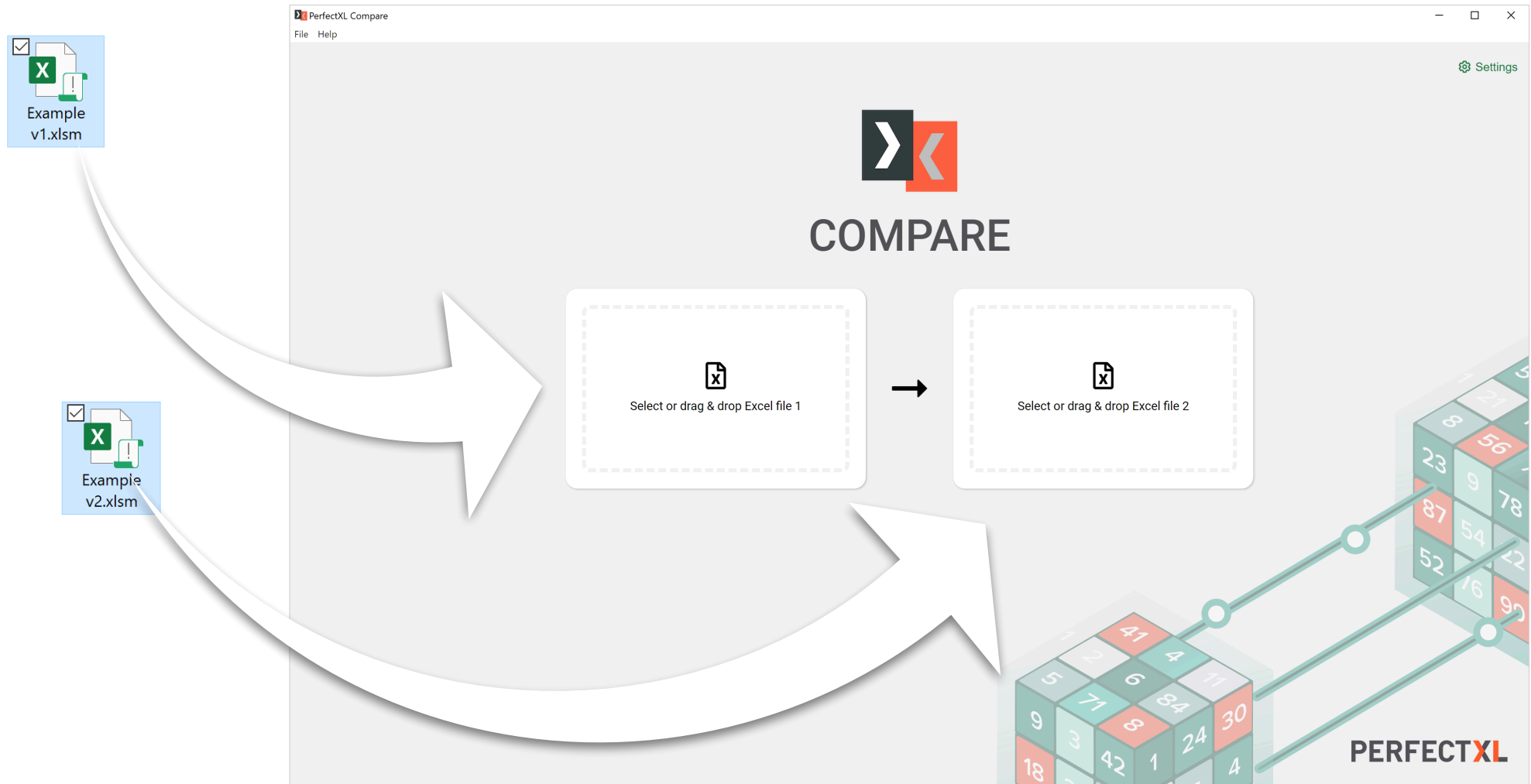




PERFECTXL Suite

Getting started

Drag two versions of a spreadsheet into PerfectXL Compare to find out how they differ.



Overview

Differences between two versions are presented as differences in either data, formulas, structure or VBA.

PerfectXL Compare

File Help

Export Settings

Example v1.xlsm

File size	18.57 KB
Last modified	5/27/2022, 11:11:45 AM
Last modified by	Willem-Jan Meerkerk
Auto calculate	On
Workbook protection	Disabled

Example v2.xlsm

File size	29.88 KB
Last modified	5/27/2022, 11:52:59 AM
Last modified by	Willem-Jan Meerkerk
Auto calculate	On
Workbook protection	Disabled

Summary Worksheets VBA modules Differences

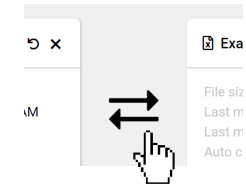
Total differences: 16 ⓘ

Comparison mode: Smart Ⓢ

	+ Insertions	⚡ Edits	× Deletions
Data	2	1	1
Formula	1	1	0
Structure	1	3	0
VBA	4	2	0

Metadata such as the file's age and author are shown here. These are only visible on the Summary tab.

✕ Clear files to start a new comparison
↻ Refresh comparison (after files have changed for instance)



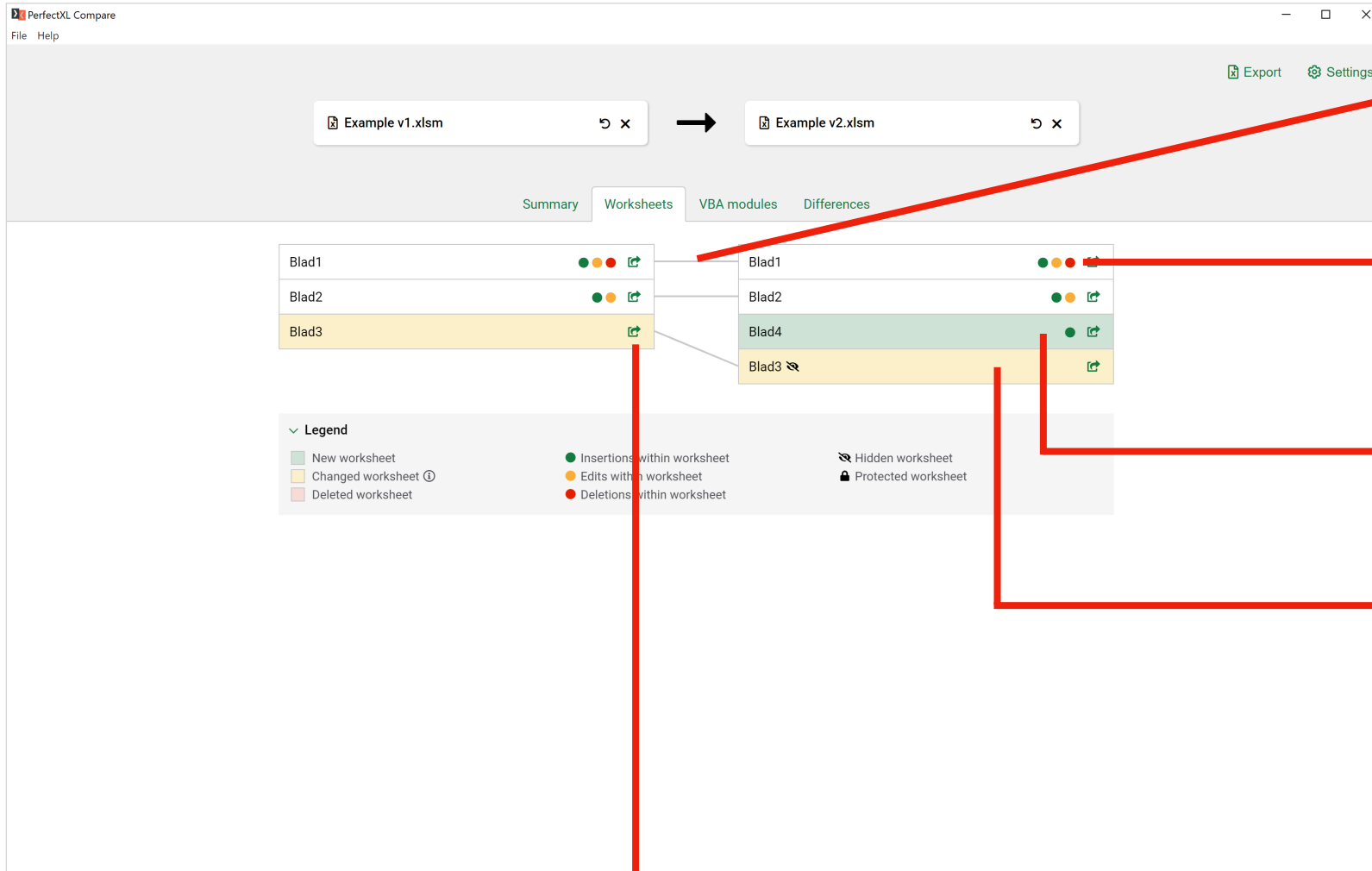
Left vs. right

Click on the arrow between the spreadsheets to swap left and right. The order is interpreted as follows:

- **Insertions** are things only present in the righthand file.
- **Deletions** are things only present in the lefthand file.
- **Edits** are things that are present in the left and right file but are different in both. Shifted content because of insertions or deletions are taken into account.

Worksheet and structure differences



Compare differences in worksheets between spreadsheets. Added or deleted sheets, as well as changes in the order, protection and visibility of worksheets. Click any worksheet to get a detailed view of the differences.




Lines connect corresponding worksheets
This also works if worksheets have been renamed

Changes inside worksheets
For example edits in formulas or cell values

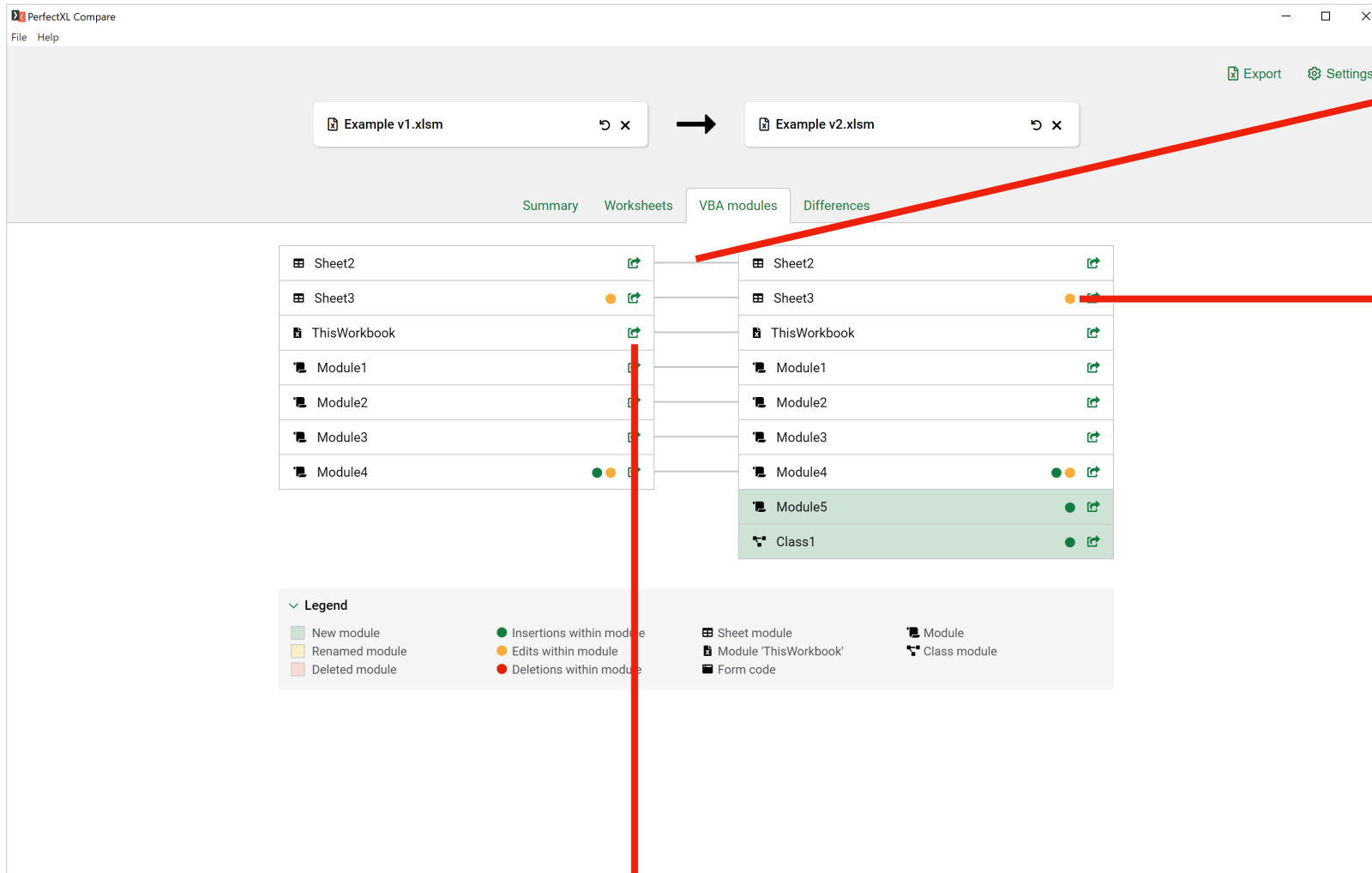
Structure changes
A **green** or **red** background indicates the addition or deletion of the worksheet in question.

A **yellow** background marks a difference in the name, visibility or protection of the worksheet. (Further indicated by the symbols  and .)

 Click this symbol to open to the respective worksheet in Excel

VBA differences

See how VBA differs between spreadsheets. An overview of differences in forms, class modules, sheet modules, or generic modules is given here. Click any module to view changes line-by-line.



Lines connect corresponding modules
This also works if modules have been renamed

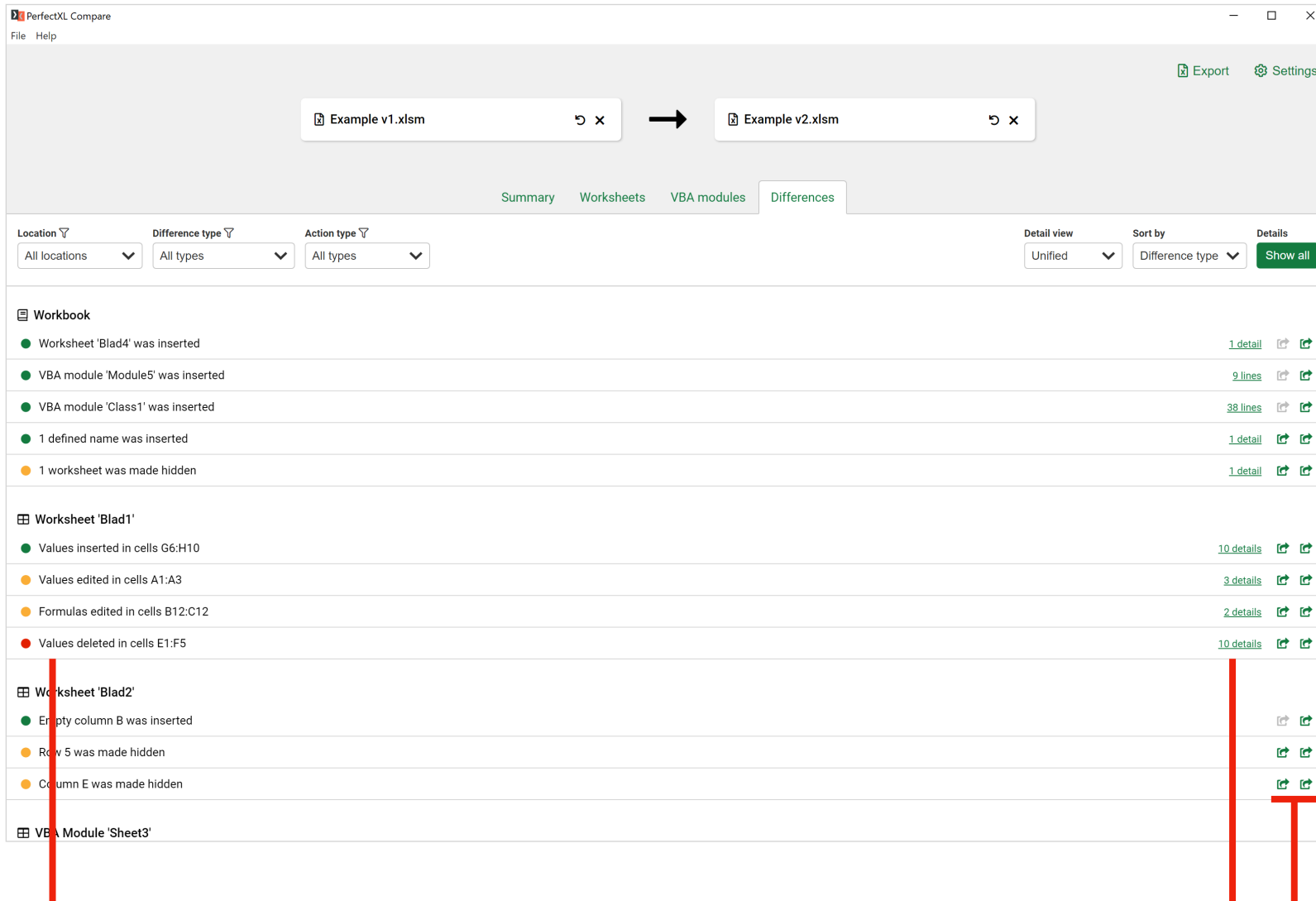
●●● Code edits

Module differences
A green or red background indicates the addition or deletion of the module in question. A yellow background indicates a module has been renamed.

🔗 Click this symbol to open the module in the VBE (Excel's VBA Editor)

Delving into details

A comprehensive list of everything that's different between two versions of a spreadsheet.



Filter by:

- **Location**
For example: only changes within a single worksheet
- **Difference type**
For example: only changes in formulas
- **Action type**
For example: only things that were deleted

Sort by:

- **Difference type**
Still categorized by location
- **Rows, columns**
A change in B20 comes before a change in A24
- **Columns, rows**
A change in A24 comes before a change in B20

A single difference in human terms

Click to further inspect what's changed
For example: expand a newly added column to reveal the cells inside this column

View in Excel the location of the difference in the left or right file respectively.

Examining cell and formula changes

To examine precise changes in cells and formulas, expand differences in the list to reveal their details.

PerfectXL Compare

File Help

Export Settings

Example v1.xlsm → Example v2.xlsm

Summary Worksheets VBA modules Differences

Location: All locations | Difference type: All types | Action type: All types

Detail view: Side by side | Sort by: Difference type | Details: Show all

- Workbook
 - Worksheet 'Blad4' was inserted (1 detail)
 - VBA module 'Module5' was inserted (9 lines)
 - VBA module 'Class1' was inserted (38 lines)
 - 1 defined name was inserted (1 detail)
 - 1 worksheet was made hidden (1 detail)
- Worksheet 'Blad1'
 - Values inserted in cells G6:H10 (10 details)
 - Values edited in cells A1:A3 (3 details)
 - Formulas edited in cells B12:C12 (2 details)
 - Formula edit: Blad1!B12, =SUM(B1:B10) → =AVERAGE(B1:B10)
 - Formula edit: Blad1!C12, =SUM(C1:C10) → =SUM(C1:C9)
 - Values deleted in cells E1:F5 (10 details)
- Worksheet 'Blad2'
 - Empty column B was inserted
 - Row 5 was made hidden

Reveal all details at once

Detail view

Unified

Choose a unified detail view to see changes inline

This works for formulas, cell values and VBA code

=SUMAVERAGE(B1:B10)

=SUM(C1:G10C9)

Situation in the left file

Situation in the right file

Examining line changes in VBA

To examine precise changes in cells and formulas, expand differences in the list to reveal their details.

The screenshot shows the PerfectXL Compare interface. At the top, two file tabs are visible: 'Example v1.xlsm' and 'Example v2.xlsm'. Below the tabs, there are navigation buttons for 'Summary', 'Worksheets', 'VBA modules', and 'Differences'. The 'Differences' tab is active, showing a list of changes. The first three items are: 'Empty column B was inserted', 'Row 5 was made hidden', and 'Column E was made hidden'. Below these, under 'VBA Module 'Sheet3'', there is a change: 'VBA code edited at line 1 to 9'. This change is expanded, showing a side-by-side comparison of VBA code. The left side (red background) shows the original code from 'Example v1.xlsm', and the right side (green background) shows the modified code from 'Example v2.xlsm'. The code on the right includes a new timestamp insertion. Below the code comparison, there are three red vertical lines pointing to the code blocks. At the bottom, there are more changes listed for 'VBA Module 'Module4'' and a 'Legend' section.

PerfectXL Compare
File Help

Export Settings

Example v1.xlsm → Example v2.xlsm

Summary Worksheets VBA modules Differences

Location: All locations | Difference type: All types | Action type: All types | Detail view: Side by side | Sort by: Difference type | Details: Show all

- Empty column B was inserted
- Row 5 was made hidden
- Column E was made hidden

VBA Module 'Sheet3'

- VBA code edited at line 1 to 9

```
1 Private Sub Worksheet_SelectionChange(ByVal Target As Range)
2 Cells.Interior.ColorIndex = xlNone
3 With ActiveCell
4 .EntireRow.Interior.Color = RGB(248, 203, 173)
5 .EntireColumn.Interior.Color = RGB(180, 198, 231)
6 End With

```

```
1 This code will insert a timestamp in the adjacent cell
2 Private Sub Worksheet_Change(ByVal Target As Range)
3 On Error GoTo Handler
4 If Target.Column = 1 And Target.Value <> "" Then
5 Application.EnableEvents = False
6 Target.Offset(0, 1) = Format(Now(), "dd-mm-yyyy hh:mm:ss")
7 Application.EnableEvents = True
8 End If
9 Handler:

```

VBA Module 'Module4'

- VBA code edited at line 5
- VBA code inserted at line 9
- VBA code inserted at line 11 to 18


> Legend

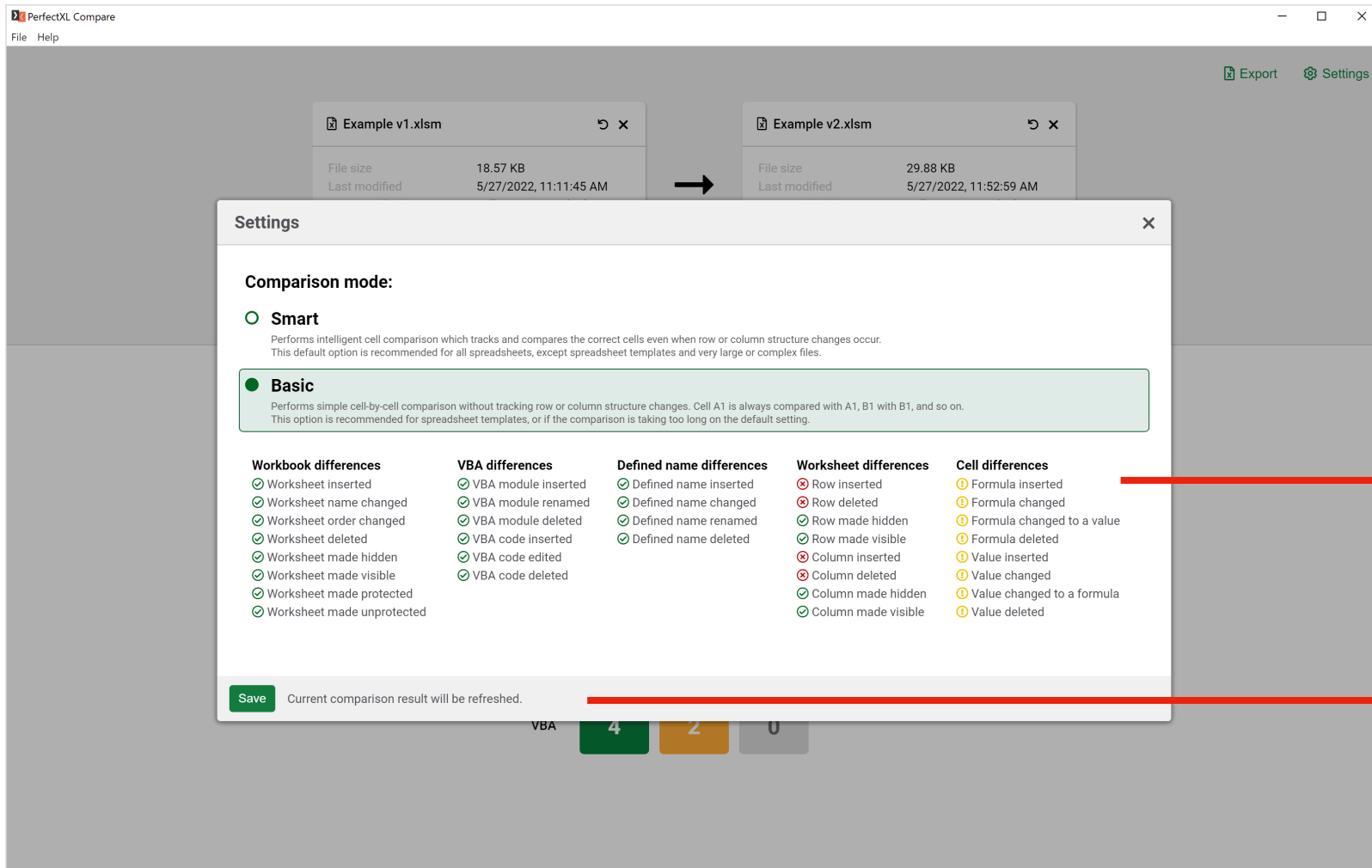
Situation in the left file

Situation in the right file

Open the VBA editor for the given module in the left or right file respectively.

Smart & basic comparison

By default, the comparison algorithm takes into account shifts that occur as a result of insertions and deletions. This drastically reduces the number of differences for spreadsheets that have seen structural changes. When a straightforward comparison is desired (always comparing A1 with A1, etc.), click  **Settings** at the top right corner and switch to 'Basic' mode.



Indication which differences apply to the chosen comparison mode.

Notification if the comparison will need to be refreshed

Export as Excel

Export all differences and details to a new Excel file.

The image shows the 'PerfectXL Compare' application window with the 'Export' button highlighted in a red box. Below it, an Excel spreadsheet titled 'PerfectXL Compare Export...' is displayed, showing a comparison result summary and a detailed table of differences.

PerfectXL COMPARE
10/10/2023 02:18:51

Version 1 Example v1.xlsm
File size: 18.57 KB
Last modified: 27/5/2022 11:11:45
Last modified by: Willem-Jan Meerkerk
Number of worksheets: 3

Version 2 Example v2.xlsm
File size: 29.88 KB
Last modified: 27/5/2022 11:52:59
Last modified by: Willem-Jan Meerkerk
Number of worksheets: 4

Total differences: 16
Total details: 100

ID	Type	Category	Location	Difference	Details
1	●	Data	Workbook	Worksheet 'Blad4' was inserted	2
2	●	VBA	Workbook	VBA module 'Module5' was inserted	10
3	●	VBA	Workbook	VBA module 'Class1' was inserted	39
4	●	Formula	Workbook	1 defined name was inserted	1
5	●	Structure	Workbook	1 worksheet was made hidden	1
6	●	Data	Blad1	Values inserted in cells G6:H10	10
7	●	Data	Blad1	Values edited in cells A1:A3	3
8	●	Formula	Blad1	Formulas edited in cells B12:C12	2
9	●	Data	Blad1	Values deleted in cells E1:F5	10
10	●	Structure	Blad2	Empty column B was inserted	1
11	●	Structure	Blad2	Row 5 was made hidden	1
12	●	Structure	Blad2	Column E was made hidden	1
13	●	VBA	Sheet3	VBA code edited at line 1 to 9	9
14	●	VBA	Module4	VBA code inserted at line 9	1
15	●	VBA	Module4	VBA code inserted at line 11 to 18	8
16	●	VBA	Module4	VBA code edited at line 5	1

