How to use the "Express Selection" feature in the Data Query?

Express Selection has similar functionality as Basic Selection in Data Query menu with the exception that codes are entered directly or can be selected from lookup tables.

In the Express Selection, however, there are two additional optional features, Step 0 and Step 3. The former allows for loading saved queries and the latter saves the selected query and enables notification. For further details on enabling notification see the following article on Query profile notification. Note that both optional features are available only to Comtrade subscribers.
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Notes:

- The empty value in the text box is considered as "All" value. It applies for Trade Flow as well. If you don't select anything, it will be considered as 'All'.
- Each item could be saved to favorites by clicking the appropriate button.

**Classification**: Choose the appropriate classification for the commodities. For further explanation of which classification to use please see article 10149 in Comtrade Knowledge Base. In general, use older classifications (SITC, Rev. 1 and SITC, Rev. 2) to obtain long time-series and use the recent classification (HS2002 and HS1996) for more detailed information.

In the main selection, Step 1., enter **Commodities, Reporters, Partners, Years** and **Trade Flow** codes. See below for wildcard usage and definitions:

**Commodities:**

1. Options **AG1, AG2, AG3, AG4, AG5** and **AG6**. These options will give you respectively all 1-digit codes (AG1), all 2-digit codes (AG2), etcetera. Therefore, Option AG2 is equivalent to option DD of the Comtrade For Windows application.

2. Option **LF**. LF stands for Leaf. This option will give you in case of the SITC classification all the basic 4- or 5-digit commodity codes.

3. Option **?**. You can use the question mark as a position holder. This means that if you ask ‘??’ this would be equivalent to AG2 and ??? is equivalent to AG3. Furthermore, you have the possibility of requesting, for instance, 27?? which is equivalent to asking 2701, 2702, 2703, 2704 to 2799 (if those commodity codes would all exist). Therefore, the question mark gives you a lot of flexibility in requesting commodity codes. Moreover, please note that you can ask as many codes with question marks as you like (in CFW you could only use one wildcard at a time).

4. Option *****. The star ‘*’ means "all possible codes". For instance, 27* means all codes starting with 27, which would be 27, 2701, 270111, 2702, 270211, etcetera.

It is also possible to type in the commodity and country by name. For the following query see the figure below. The query would include:

Commodities = petroleum
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Reporter = China
Partner = World
Year = 2004

Step 0. Load Saved Query (optional)

Step 1. Select Classification
- SITC Rev.1
- SITC Rev.2
- SITC Rev.3
- HS1992
- HS1996
- HS2002
- BEC

Step 2. Enter Commodities, Reporters, Partners, Years and Select Trade Flow

Basic Items
- Enter Commodity Codes / Text
  Special Codes: A/M, AG0, AG1, ..., AG6 (aggregate level) and LF (leaf).
  Use - to exclude. Wild characters: * (Any string of zero or more characters) and ? (Any single character)
- Enter Reporters Codes / Text
  Separated by comma. Special code: All. Minus sign is not applicable.
- Enter Partners Codes / Text
  Separated by comma. Special code: All. Minus sign is not applicable.
- Enter Years
  Separated by comma. Special code: All. Minus sign is not applicable.
- Select Trade Flow
  Exports figures always include Re-exports; Re-exports should be used only to distinguish between Domestic exports and Re-exports.
  - Import
  - Export
  - Re-Export
  - Re-Import

Advanced Items

Step 3. Save Query (optional)

Enter query name and set notification option

Enable Notification: No
Enable AutoBatch: No
Update Type: Incremental
In the Advanced Items Tab, there are two additional options: Filter Trade Value and Sort Order. For a detailed explanation on this feature see [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/Aggregation-Option-in-Basic-Express-Selection](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/Aggregation-Option-in-Basic-Express-Selection).

The default is All Trade Values and the result is sorted in the following sequence: **Year, Trade Flow, Reporter, Commodity, and Trade Value**. See picture below:

![Trade Knowledgebase](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/50051/How-to-use-the-Express-Selection-feature-in-the-Data-Query)