

Re: Data Type question / Sort

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.programming/2004-08/4181.html>

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A long can store numbers in this range: 2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647

A double can store numbers in this range: $-1.79769313486231E308$ to $-4.94065645841247E-324$ for negative values and from $4.94065645841247E-324$ to $1.79769313486232E308$ for positive values. But only approximately 15 significant digits.

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Regards,

Tom Ogilvy

"Marston" <marston_gould@mac.com> wrote in message
news:4a0545c6.0408111645.2689633@posting.google.com...

> Hi

>

> I'm trying to prep some values for a multi-column sort in an array.

> The array contains something like 300,000 by 10 values

> I've seen quick sort routines that can sort on a single value, but not
> perform sorts within the initial sort.

>

> My idea was to concatenate all my values into a single value and then

> sort on it. The problem I'm facing is that my numbers would have to be

> on the order of $\sim 10E+18-1$ long

>

> The way the routine works is it looks at the numbers in each column

> whose length is fixed and never has a situation where there are

> leading zeros to cause problems.

>

> Col 1 Col 2 Col 3 Col 4 Col 5 Col 6

> Row x: aaa bbb cc dddd e fff

>

> I only need to arrange based on these 6 columns not the entire 10 in

> the array

>

> My problem is when I create a number like aaabbbccddddefff it appears

> to have

> problems with the "efff" portion. I checked each individual component

> (which I'm multiplying by some lnnnn where n is some number of zeros -

> and they all work fine, its just once I tried to add things. Its like

> it drops values off.

> I have the variables defined as Double which I thought would work.

>

> Any thoughts?