

## Re: Change Formula to use Named Range

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Excel/microsoft.public.excel.worksheet.functions/2004-08/1339.html>

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**From:** hgrove (foo\_at\_bar.net)

**Date:** 08/06/04

Date: Fri, 6 Aug 2004 11:40:26 -0700

QTE wrote...

>As you can see from the quoted extract below and  
>previously, my dynamic range is the same as the range in  
>my =SUM Formula. Why is this EXTREMELY UNCLEAR? . . .

Possibly because you obviously don't understand that

INDIRECT("\$M"&ROW()-9&" : \$M"&ROW())

is *\*NOT\** necessarily the same range as given by

=OFFSET('deptanalysis'!\$M\$9,2,0,COUNTA  
(deptanalysis'\$M:\$M),1)

Indeed, this would only ever be the case for formulas entered in cells in row 20 (the only time when ROW()-9 == \$M\$9 offset +2 rows) summing M11:M20 (since ROW()-9 to ROW() necessarily spans 10 rows, so if it started at row 11 it'd have to end at row 20), so there would also have to be exactly 10 nonblank cells in all of column M.

Reread Frank Kabe's last response to one of your earlier follow-ups: "yes you can replace this with a name but not with a name definition like your current one. Maybe you'll try to explain whyt you're trying to do?"

And how did you respond to Frank's question? "I would like to use a Named Range in the Formula to make the column and formula referencing more meaningful and transparent." Which, if it has any meaning at all, would mean that you wanted to make the column a variable. That's the premise under which I've been operating.

>You can see from the details given that the Dynamic Range  
>and SUM Range are the same in this instance and that the  
>latter is relevant to the former: if you bothered to  
>read, before SPOUTING OFF IN CAPITALS.

As pointed out above, only in very specific circumstances would the two derived ranges ever be the same. The extreme specificity of those circumstances led me to believe (\*STILL\* believe) that you're unclear how they're related. I'll put this in simple terms: do you want the range in a column specified elsewhere that runs from 9 rows above down to the row of the cell in which you'd use this formula, so

```
OFFSET(INDIRECT("RC1",0),-9,  
ColNumSpecifiedElsewhere-1,10,1)
```

or do you want the range from the column specified elsewhere beginning two rows below what's currently row 9 extending down from there by as many cells are nonblank in that column, so

```
OFFSET($A$9,2,ColNumSpecifiedElsewhere-1,  
COUNTA(OFFSET(INDIRECT("$A:$A"),0,  
ColNumSpecifiedElsewhere-1)),1)
```

??!

Your follow-ups HAVE NOT resolved this. Perhaps in your mind you believe they have, but you haven't exactly been showered with responses. Someone with a scrap of intelligence might figure that perhaps their own communication might just possibly be unclear to others.

*>If anything was EXTREMELY UNCLEAR it was your suggested  
>re-working of the Formula in the Name Refers To Box. It  
>was very clearly documented that it was the =SUM Formula  
>referencing Column "M" that I required to be replaced  
>with a Name.*

If you believe this, then PRECISELY what was wrong with Frank Kabel's original response, "why no use =SUM (Office)?" If you wanted to use column M as you had used in your definition of Office, then this would work (given the extremely specific circumstances listed above).

That seems not to have been what you wanted. Several more follow-up and responses later, you wrote:

"The current formula already starts in M11 (taking account of the Offset) with a height of the filled cells within M:M.

Can the column reference "M" be replaced with a Name? If so, how?

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Existing Formula:

```
=SUM(INDIRECT("$M"&ROW()-9&":$M"&ROW()))
```

Name Refers To Box:

```
=OFFSET('deptanalysis'!$M$9,2,0,COUNTA  
(deptanalysis'$M:$M),1)"
```

That's when Frank responded as I have previously quoted in this response. There's no obvious relationship between the OFFSET-generated range in your definition of Office and the INDIRECT-generated range in your SUM formula. They can refer to the same thing in one precise set of circumstances as already listed. If that set of circumstances would always hold, then simplicity would argue for defining Office as either

```
=OFFSET('deptanalysis'!$A$11,0,ColNum-1,10,1)
```

if you specify the column (M in your examples) using its column number, or

```
=OFFSET('deptanalysis'!$A$11,0,  
COLUMN(INDIRECT(ColLtr&"1"))-1,10,1)
```

if you specify the column using its column letter. Of course, you could also define Office as either

```
=INDIRECT("'"deptanalysis"!R[-9]C"&ColNum&":RC"&ColNum,0)
```

or

```
=INDIRECT("'"deptanalysis"!"&ColLtr&(ROW()-9)&":"  
&ColLtr&ROW())
```

Then you could use the formula

```
=SUM(Office)
```

as Frank originally proposed.

*>The reason for Rewriting yet again what I'd already  
>written was in your own words "JUST TO EXPLAIN THIS DARN  
>THING"! If you'd only taken the time to read the Posting.*

I've now read it several times through, and it's just as opaque as it was the first time through. At some point \*YOU\* need to realize that what may be clear to you is clear to \*only\* you.

*>Furthermore, If you do not have the temperament to assist  
>in a calm and measured manner, perhaps you should not*

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>*bother!*

I can respond to whatever I want. If you don't like it, tough. I enjoy trolling for idiots, so if I piss off the occasional idiot, so much the better. I'm not yet certain whether you qualify. Your next response should decide the matter one way or the other.