

Re: Enlighten me – Mac vs. PC processing speeds

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Mac/microsoft.public.mac.office.excel/2008-02/msg00609.html>

- *From:* c1802362@xxxxxxx
 - *Date:* Mon, 25 Feb 2008 18:30:21 -0800 (PST)
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On Feb 25, 9:02 pm, Jim Gordon MVP <goldke...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

c1802...@xxxxxxx wrote:

Can anyone enlighten me on the fundamental difference why the same VBA code runs at such different speeds on Macs vs. PCs?

Here's an example. I wrote some code months ago on my PC at work (Dell 1.73GHz/504 mB RAM/Windows XP). The task involved transposing 4000+ data records from a columnar listing to a tabulated format. The source data was comprised of column A which listed the label name of each field in the record. Column B carried the corresponding data for each field. Between each record there was a blank cell, so each record's field labels were repeated in column A. The only other nuance was that each record did not carry the same number of fields, so I had to code the macro to read to the end of each record in column B before copying and transposing it to the table. I accomplished this by creating a loop that read the data in each field into an array until it reached a blank cell, then created another loop to write out the array to the table. On the PC it took about 2 minutes 30 seconds to complete the task.

I took the code home to run the same file on my Mac (iMac G5 1.8 GHz/ 1GB RAM/OS X 10.5). It took more than 8 hours to run the same code!

A few weeks ago, I recoded the macro to make the task more efficient. This time around I used 'Range(ActiveCell, ActiveCell.End(xlDown)).Select' to grab the entire record at once before transposing it to the table. Now the PC version runs in under 3 seconds. The Mac takes 2 minutes and 20 seconds.

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Can someone explain what is inherent in the Mac that doesn't allow it to process code as fast as the PC?

Art

Hi Art,

If you go into the Visual Basic Editor (VBE) and step through the code by pressing F8, are there any particular commands or operations that take a long time to execute?

If so, can you post the offending code snippet here? Sometimes people know alternative methods that can be faster and they can post their suggestions in the newsgroup.

–Jim

—

Jim Gordon
Mac MVP

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Jim,

Yes, I've done the step through, including using the watch window, and putting msgbox pop ups where appropriate (that's generally how I confirm my code is doing what I want)

there was nothing that was obvious to me. If you want, I'll post the code tomorrow after I bring it home from work,

Art

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