

Visual Basics for Applications (VBA)

What is VBA?

- used to extend Office applications
- you can perform almost any operation using VBA that you can do with a mouse or keyboard in all Office applications
- VBA is most-commonly used for automating repetitive tasks
- VBA also allows you to add new features to any of the Office applications

When to use VBA? Benefits of VBA

1. Automating repetitive tasks
2. Extend user interaction: the ability to add new features to any Office application can mean you can cater to the users' needs more seamlessly
3. Interacting between multiple Office applications
4. Provides a new way of doing common tasks: because VBA has the ability to replicate keyboard/mouse commands, you can use it to do any task.

Important Properties

- the language uses objects, and objects are sent instructions for interaction in the application
- important VBA methods:
 - Application.ActiveDocument.Save : allows you to save a document
 - Application.ActiveDocument.SaveAs (<new name>) : allows you to save a document under a different name.
 - Application.ActiveSheet.Range(<cell id>).Select : select a cell in the document
 - Application.Selection.Value = <new value> : set the value of the cell to a value
- Visual Basic Editor: the editor used to code in VBA
 - you must enable the developer tab in order to be able to use this editor.
- Macros: gives you access to VBA subroutines
 - allow you to create custom functions
 - note: you cannot save macro code as it could be a potential security issue

Sources/important links:

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/office/vba/library-reference/concepts/getting-started-with-vba-in-office>

<https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/excel/study/excel-vba/>