## **Libraries comparison**

	Aspose.Cells	Apache POI	EasyXLS
Support formats	<ul> <li>Microsoft Excel: XLS, XLSX, XLSB, XLT, XLTX, XLTM, XLSM, XML</li> <li>OpenOffice: ODS</li> <li>Text: CSV, TSV</li> <li>Web: HTML, MHTML</li> <li>Numbers: Apple's iWork office suite Numbers app documents</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Microsoft Excel: XLS, XLSX</li> <li>Document: DOC, DOCX</li> <li>Powerpoint: PPT, PPTX</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Microsoft Excel: XLS, XLSX, XLSM, XLSB, XML,</li> <li>Text: CSV, TXT</li> <li>Web: HTML</li> </ul>
Features	<ul> <li>Read, write and modify excel spreadsheets.</li> <li>Excel 2007/2010/2013 from different sources.</li> <li>Support for additional excel features: insert data, retrieve data from cells based on their datatype, detect Merged Cells, Find Value in Cells</li> <li>Read CSV File with Multiple Encodings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Read, write and modify excel spreadsheets.</li> <li>Support for additional excel features: working with Formulas, creating cell styles.</li> <li>Extract property sets of the MS-Office files.</li> <li>Read and write docx extension files of MS-Word.</li> <li>Read, create, and edit PowerPoint presentations.</li> <li>Read and write MS-Publisher files.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Convert some files (HTML, XML, CSV) to excel files</li> <li>Read/Write or edit Excel file</li> <li>Import, export, and format MS Excel</li> </ul>

Advantages	Support processing many files	<ul> <li>Open source (free to use)</li> <li>Provide many interfaces.</li> <li>Can work with very large spreadsheets but required less memory.</li> </ul>	Support multi programing languages (C#, C++, PHP, J#)
Disadvantages	<ul> <li>Only free for trial version</li> <li>Unpopular</li> <li>Limit number of opened files</li> <li>With free version, the output worksheet has evaluation watermark</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A more complex library than other libraries</li> <li>Must use specified interfaces for different format files.</li> <li>Compatibility is poor</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Must purchase to use all features</li> <li>Unpopular</li> <li>must use specified interfaces for different format files.</li> </ul>
Can open file with protected password	Yes  (use setPassword())  My team has run code successfully and reported in detail in Trello  Sprint 0 – Item 3.1	Yes  (Can open protected XLS file (org.apache.poi.hssf.record.crypt) And XLSX file (using org.apache.poi.poifs.crypt) Reference: click this)	No
License	Commercial References	Apache References	MIT References

## **Speed test**

	Aspose.Cell
Creating files	Scenario 1: Creating 50 XLS Files
_	Each Workbook contains five worksheets with 150*50 records in each worksheet
	Results from Scenario 1: 17.21s
	Create an XLS File
	The workbook contains a single worksheet with 10,000 * 30 records
	Scenario 2 Results: 7.51s
	Scenario 3 - Creating an XLS File
	The workbook contains five worksheets with 150 * 56 records in each worksheet
	Scenario 3 Results: 0.42
Editing/Updating existing Excel Files	Scenario 1 - Load a 10 MB XLS Template File
	The workbook contains 100 worksheets with 377 * 18 records in each. Each
	worksheet is filled with similar data. the string value of a cell is each worksheet
	is replaced and the updated file is saved as a new file.
	Scenario 1 Results 5.23s
	Scenario 2 - Load a 10 MB XLS Template File
	The workbook contains 100 worksheets with 377 * 18 records in each

	worksheet. Each worksheet is filled with similar data. The scenario inserts 100 rows into each worksheet, fill them with string values and then the updated file as a new file.  Scenario 2 Results 6.12
	Scenario 3 - Load a 10 MB XLS Template File The workbook contains 100 worksheets with 377 * 18 records in each. Each worksheet is filled with similar data. The code then inserts 10 columns in each worksheet, fills them with string values and saves the updated file. Scenario 3 Results: 7.10
References	<u>Click here</u>

	Apache POI
Large file - Writing to HSSF	<ul> <li>Disadvantages: only 65536 lines can be processed at most, otherwise an exception will be thrown</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Advantages: write cache in the process, do not operate the disk, the last one-time write to the disk, fast</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Large files - Writing to XSSF</li> <li>Disadvantages: the speed of writing data is very slow, consume memory, and overflows memory, such as 1 million</li> <li>Advantages: can write a large amount of data, such as 20000</li> </ul>	
Large files - Writing to SXSSF	Advantages: can write a very large amount of data, such as 1 million or

	more, write data fast, occupy less memory.
<b>References</b> (because there is no speed test on	<u>Click here</u>
the Apache POI Homepage, so I refer to speed	
test on other site)	

## Among 3 libraries above, my team recommend using Apache POI library because:

- 1. Apache POI is completely free (whilst Aspose.Cell and EasyXLS limit their features in free versions)
- 2. Apache POI is very popular. Therefore, it will be easy for us to find support from the Internet (EasyXLS and AsposeCells are unpopular and have very few users).

## **References:**

Aspose.Cells for Java | Documentation

Apache POI - the Java API for Microsoft Documents

Apache POI - Overview (tutorialspoint.com)

EasyXLS™ | .NET Excel component | Java Excel library | API for Excel