

# Success story

## Consulting (modelling)

### Company type

Real estate debt fund

### Industry

Real estate/Funds management



## Business challenge

This company made long-term forecasts on a large debt portfolio using an even larger spreadsheet – 150MB in size, in fact. This spreadsheet took a long time to calculate, a longer time to open, and was generally unwieldy and hard to use. The company was looking for someone to help deal with the frustrations of how the file was being used.

## Solution

We took a three-phase approach to helping this company:

- Implemented some quick fixes to provide some initial relief to the file opening time and some of the calculation time, replacing some volatile formulae with cleaner ones that would prevent recalculation occurring on many simple changes.
- We then went through to optimise particularly challenging areas, by reimagining and restructuring calculations, reducing one particularly egregious calculation block from 1800 rows to ten rows, with a corresponding improvement in file size and file performance.
- Once the urgency of the improvement tasks subsided, we worked with them to completely rebuild and change the way that the calculations were to be done, creating a new modular approach that would remove the need to perform as many calculations.

## Program outcomes

- Calculation speed improved by 90%, going from 30 seconds to under three seconds
- The useability of the file improved by not requiring as many recalculations when making changes