

Twint - Python Script

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With a python script called Twint, I scraped specific data about tweets that came from or mentioned the @BOS311 Twitter account.

Twint was very successful, but it was obviously a plan B. I would have preferred to have been able to use the actual Twitter API library. However, we got caught behind schedule a little bit, as we had to wait upon approval for a developer's account from Twitter.

Twint was relatively simple, once I got it installed, though I admit that it still took me longer than I would have liked to get it up and running. I would type commands into the command line, such as "twint u- @BOS311 s- Campaign signs" to call up the data we needed. To ensure that was saved to properly, I'd type in "twint u- @BOS311 s- Campaign signs o- file.csv --csv".

With Twint. I was able to identify the most active tweeters, and export the CSV sheets into an Excel file. I then organized those Twitter users in a pivot table in excel, and sorted them from highest count of tweets to lowest count. It was also helpful because we were able to see just how many tweets were sent that mentioned @BOS311 in a certain time frame. The actual @BOS311 account had the most by far, probably to no surprise, with over 400. But the sheer total number different people who tweeted at @BOS311 was massive, over 1,000 accounts.