# Overview

This document describes how to use the Excel condenser tool which takes a specific-format Excel file provided by Priority Group and condenses the nearly duplicate rows into a single row with added columns. This program requires (a) installing Python and (b) using a command-line terminal. Alternatively, you can contact Ada Barach with the input Excel file, she will run the program for you, and send back the output Excel file.

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# Install Python

1. Go to <https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-3111/>
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page to the “Files” table
3. Graphical user interface

   Description automatically generatedSelect the correct installer for your computer architecture (most likely “Windows Installer (64-bit)” or “macOS 64-bit universal2 installer”)
4. After the download is complete, run the .exe file you just downloaded (should be named python-3.11.1.exe and can be double-clicked from wherever you saved it)
5. The installation wizard should be running, select option “Install Now”. Your computer will prompt you for permission for the installer to modify your computer. Say yes. The installation should then begin on its own.

# Setting up excel-condenser For the First Time

## On a Windows Computer

1. Download the .zip file attached to Ada’s email. Alternatively, visit the following link, select the green “Code” button, and select “Download ZIP”: <https://github.com/abarach/excel-condenser>
2. Extract the files from the .zip into the directory that you’ll run the program from
3. This directory should contain files called “condenser.py” and “requirements.txt”.
4. Open the windows terminal (you can run the terminal by searching “cmd” in the search box in your taskbar and selecting “Command prompt”).
5. Enter the following command where [file path] is the location of the directory with the program files/report file. As a check, if you type “dir” into the terminal at this point, the Python files and input Excel sheet should be listed in the output. The file path to the directory can usually be found by right-clicking on the directory and selecting “Copy as path”.

$ cd [file path]

1. Install the required Python packages using the following command:

$ pip install -r requirements.txt

## On a Mac Computer

1. Download the .zip file attached to Ada’s email. Alternatively, visit the following link, select the green “Code” button, and select “Download ZIP”: <https://github.com/abarach/excel-condenser>
2. Extract the files from the .zip into the directory that you’ll run the program from
3. This directory should contain files called “condenser.py” and “requirements.txt”.
4. Open the Terminal app. This can be found in the Applications folder or by searching “terminal” in Launchpad.
5. Enter the following command, where [file path] is the location of the directory with the program files/report file. As a check, if you type “ls” into the terminal at this point, the Python files and input Excel sheet should be listed in the output.

$ cd [file path]

* + Graphical user interface, text, application, email

    Description automatically generatedThe file path to the directory can be found by right-clicking on the directory and selecting “Get Info”. Under “General” will be a “Where” line containing the file path. You can ignore the “Macintosh HD” but need to add a ‘/’ to the beginning of the path and then add ‘/’ plus the folder name to the end. For example, the following screenshot translates to the path “/Users/adabarach/Documents/Personal/excel-condenser”

1. Install the required Python packages using the following command:

$ pip install -r requirements.txt

# Folder Structure

* condenser.py – the Python program to run
* README.md – the User’s guide, in Markdown.
* requirements.txt – contains the required Python packages. These can be installed using the command: pip install -r requirements.txt
* UsersGuide.docx – this document
* UsersGuide.pdf – a PDF of this document

# Running excel-condenser

1. Save the desired input Excel document into the same directory as above (which contains the “condenser.py” file). This file should contain only one worksheet. See the data/data\_test.xlsx file for an example.
2. Open the windows terminal (you can run the terminal by searching “cmd” in the search box in your taskbar and selecting “Command prompt”).
3. Type “cd [file path]” where [file path] is the location of the directory with the program files/report file. As a check, if you type “dir” into the terminal at this point, the Python files and input Excel sheet should be listed in the output. The file path to the directory can usually be found by right-clicking on the directory and selecting “Copy as path”.
4. Enter the following command into the terminal to run the program.

$ python3 condenser.py --input\_file [path1] --output\_file [path2]

where [path1] is replaced by the file path to the location of the input Excel file. If you saved the input Excel file into the same directory as the Python file, then you can simply put the file name here. [path2] is the file path at which you want the outputted Excel file to be saved. If you’d like to save the file to the same directory as the Python file, you can simply put the desired file name here.

* + If desired, you can specify the worksheet name of the outputted Excel file by adding --sheet\_name [insert name here] to the end of the command.

1. The program should only take a few seconds to run.
2. The directory containing the Python file (or the directory you specified in [path2] above) should now contain a file with the name specified by [path2] above. This is the output from the Python program and can be renamed to whatever you like. If you do not rename this file, it may be overwritten the next time you run the program.

# Common Error Messages and Solutions

1. The below error indicates that the program cannot find the input Excel file. This likely occurred due to an incorrect file path ([path1] above).

Text, letter

Description automatically generated

1. Text

   Description automatically generatedThis error occurs if the requirements from the requirements.txt file were not installed properly. Repeat step f) from Setting up excel-condenser For the First Time.
   * Alternatively, you can manually install the requirement. The red box highlights the package that needs to be installed. In this example, the package is openpyxl. To install the requirement, enter the following command into the terminal. The installation may prompt you to confirm the download by entering y for yes.

$ pip install openpyxl