

Find the most popular status entry (awk, sort, cat, csvcut, head)

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To do this analysis efficiently, we'll use the command line language called **awk**, a tool that allows you to filter, extract and transform data files. awk is a very useful tool to put in your bag of tricks. But let's watch the following video lecture first!



Find the most popular status entry

To start, let's look at a very simple awk program to output every line of our **facebook.csv** file, where we specify the delimiter of the file (comma) using the

facebook.csv file, where we specify the delimiter of the file (column) using the -F option:

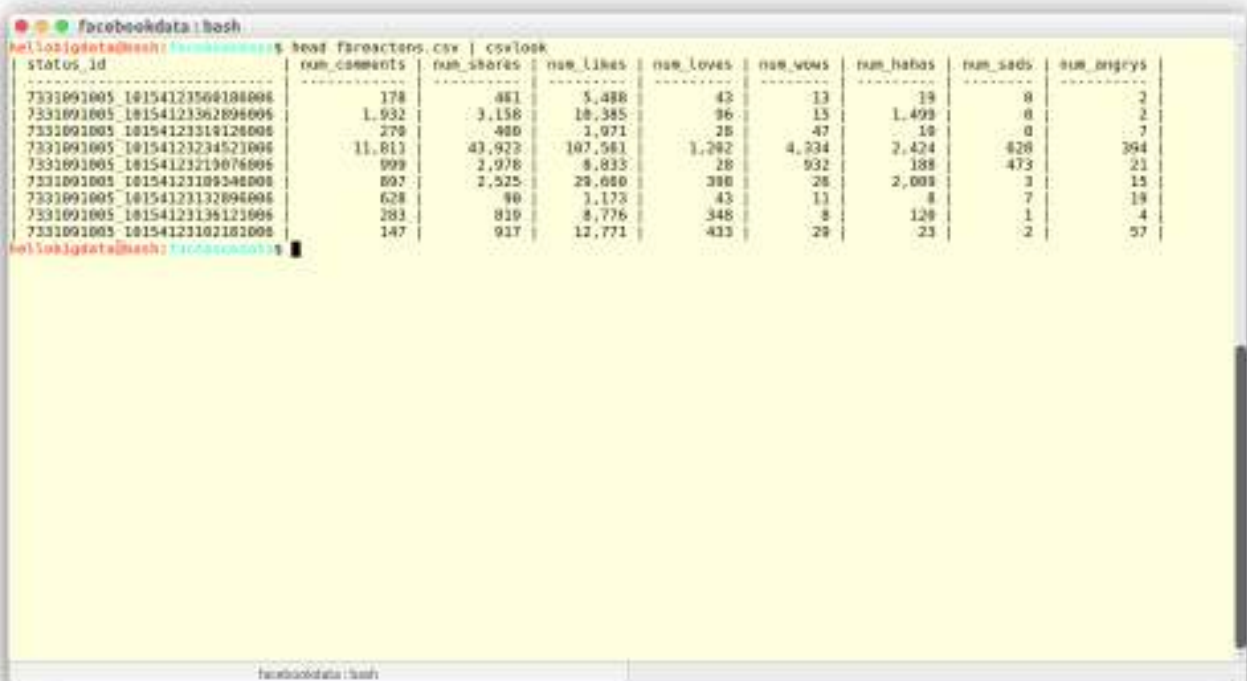
```
awk -F "," '{ print; }' facebookdata.csv
```

You should see the entire file being output to the screen. To only output the status ids (column 1), use the dollar sign (`$`) to denote columns as follows:

```
awk -F "," '{ print $1; }' facebookdata.csv | head
```

However, since the dataset has quoted ("text") cells we will use `csvcut` to extract the columns, e.g., we want to extract the column 1,8-15 into a file called `fbreactions.csv` . The idea is to sum-up all the reactions (columns 8 + ... + 15) on each FB status and then find the status which had the maximum number of reactions.

```
csvcut -c 2,8-15 facebookdata.csv > fbreactions.csv
```



```
facebookdata:~$ cat fbreactions.csv | csvlook
```

status_id	num_comments	num_shares	num_likes	num_loves	num_woms	num_hahas	num_sads	num_angrys
7331091005 10154123560100000	178	461	5,488	42	13	19	0	2
7331091005 10154123562890000	1,932	3,158	10,345	96	15	1,499	0	2
7331091005 10154123514120000	270	480	1,071	28	47	10	0	7
7331091005 10154123234521000	11,811	43,922	107,561	1,242	4,234	2,424	428	394
7331091005 10154123219076000	999	2,978	8,833	28	932	188	473	23
7331091005 10154123109348000	697	2,525	28,680	300	26	2,001	3	15
7331091005 10154123132094000	628	90	3,173	43	11	4	7	19
7331091005 10154123136121000	283	819	8,776	348	8	129	1	4
7331091005 10154123102102000	147	917	12,771	433	29	23	2	57

Extract all the reactions into a file fbreactions.csv

To calculate the total number of reactions on each entry (status), all we need to do is horizontally add up all the numbers from the columns #8-15 and we do this easily with `awk`, as follows:

```
awk -F " " '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1 " " total; total=0 }
```

```
awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1, " total; total=0 }' fbreactons.csv | \
head
```



Let's pay attention to the `awk` statetment, which not only sums up the columns side by side, but also on each line prints two output (`status id` and `total` number of reaction on that row). Finally, at the end of each iteration, it nulls the `total=0`.

To get the status with `max` reactions, next, we sort the status ids, based on the number of reactions (column 2) using the `sort -n -r -t"," -k 2` function, which tells the system to sort out the piped (`|`) output numerically (`-n`), on the column 2 (`-k 2`) wich is delimited by a commma (`,`):

```
awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1," total; total=0 }' fbreactons.csv | \
sort -n -r -t"," -k 2 | \
head -n 1
```



```
facebookdata: bash
hellolobigda@facebookdata: ~$ awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1," total; total=0 }' fbreactons.csv | head
status id,total
7331091005_10154123560109006,6284
7331091005_10154123362896006,17867
7331091005_10154123319120006,2732
7331091005_10154123234521006,172277
7331091005_10154123219876006,14452
7331091005_10154123109140006,35333
7331091005_10154123132896006,1979
7331091005_10154123136121006,10359
7331091005_10154123102101006,14379
hellolobigda@facebookdata: ~$ awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1," total; total=0 }' fbreactons.csv | sort -n -r -t"," -k 2 | head -n 1
7331091005_10154089857531006,668121
hellolobigda@facebookdata: ~$
```

The final output, tells us that the status id: `7331091005_10154089857531006` had the maximum number of reaction of total `668121`.

If we now use `grep`, we can easily find the message which had the largest number of reactions.

```
cat facebookdata.csv | grep 7331091005_10154089857531006
```



Let's make it little more beautiful using `csvcut`:

```
facebookdata:~$ bash
hello@igdataash:~$ awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1," total; total=0 }' fbreactions
.csv | sort -n -r -t"," -k 2 | head -n 1
7331091005_10154089857531006,668121
hello@igdataash:~$ cat facebookdata.csv | csvcut -c 1,2 | grep 7331091005_10154089857531006 | csvlook
| 7331091005_10154089857531006 | LeBron and the Cavs are tired of being bullied |
|-----|-----|
hello@igdataash:~$
```

FB Awk total find

However, we want to make it more interesting! let's efficiently pipe all the steps shown above into a single command and find the message as follows:

```
cat facebookdata.csv | \
csvcut -c 2,8-15 | \
awk -F "," '{ total = total + $2 + $3 + $4 + $5 + $6 + $7 + $8 + $9; print $1","total; total=0 }' \
sort -n -r -t"," -k 2 | \
head -n 1
```



Do you want to know more?

['awk' man page](#)

