

The Finer Things In Alteryx

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Controlling Level Of Detail by Parsing Dates

The_Century - toString(tonumber((left(DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y'), 2))) + 1) + "st"

The_Decade - left(DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y'), 3) + "0's"

The screenshot shows the 'Formula (3) - Configuration' window in Alteryx. It displays six output columns, each with a formula and data type settings. The columns are:

- The_Century**: Formula: `toString(tonumber((left(DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y'), 2))) + 1) + "st"`. Data type: V_String, Size: 10.
- The_Decade**: Formula: `// This strips off the minutes/seconds
left(DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y'), 3) + "0's"`. Data type: V_String, Size: 7.
- The_Year (date)**: Formula: `// This strips off the minutes/seconds
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y-01-01')`. Data type: Date, Size: 10.
- The_Year (str)**: Formula: `// This strips off the minutes/seconds
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y')`. Data type: V_String, Size: 6.
- The_Month (date)**: Formula: `// This strips off the minutes/seconds
// default to the first of the month
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y-%m-01')`. Data type: Date, Size: 10.
- The_Month (str)**: Formula: `// This Returns the month
// m = two digit number
// b = Aug
// B = August
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%B')`. Data type: V_String, Size: 12.

The Day (date) 1909-01-01

```
// This strips off the minutes/seconds
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y-%m-%d')
```

Data type: Date Size: 10

The Day (str) Fri

```
// This returns the Day
// a = Fri
// A = Friday
// d = 06
//
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%a')
```

Data type: V_WString Size: 6

The_Hour (datetime) 1909-01-01 09:00:00

```
// This strips off the minutes/seconds
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y-%m-%d %H:00:00')
```

Data type: DateTime Size: 19

The Hour (str) 09

```
// Returns just the hour
// H = 0 to 23 hours
// I = 0 to 12 hours
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%I')
```

Data type: V_String Size: 4

The_Hour_(str am/pm) AM

```
// This returns the hour
// p = am/pm
// P = AM/PM
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%p')
```

Data type: V_String Size: 4

The_Minute (datetime) 1909-01-01 09:53:00

```
// This strips off the seconds
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:00')
```

Data type: DateTime Size: 19

The_Minute (str) 53

```
// This returns the Minutes
// M = two digit Minutes
// p = am/pm
// P = AM/PM
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%M')
```

Data type: V_String Size: 4

HMS (time) 9:53:39 AM

```
// This returns the hours minutes seconds
// X = hours mins seconds am/pm
DateTimeFormat([Event_Date], '%X')
```

Data type: V_String Size: 12

+

Results - Output Data (R) - Input

17 of 17 Fields | Cell Viewer | 15 records displayed

Record #	RecordID	Event_Date	Key_Meaning	The_Century	The_Decade	The_Year (date)	The_Year (str)	The_Month (date)	The_Month (str)	The_Day (date)	The_Day (str)	The_Hour (date/time)	The_Hour (str)	The_Hour (str am/pm)	The_Minute (date/time)	The_Minute (str)	UNIX (time)
1	1919-02-01.0953233	574	2015	1919	1919-01-01	1919	1919-01-01	January	1919-01-01	PM	1919-01-01 01:00:00	01	AM	1919-01-01 01:00:00	01	351333 AM	
2	1919-05-01.0953800	686	2015	1919	1919-01-01	1919	1919-05-01	May	1919-05-01	Thu	1919-05-01 01:00:00	12	AM	1919-05-01 01:00:00	12	12:18:00 AM	
3	1919-05-01.1953960	809	2015	1919	1919-01-01	1919	1919-05-01	January	1919-05-01	Thu	1919-05-01 13:00:00	01	PM	1919-05-01 13:00:00	59	1:59:00 PM	
4	1919-02-01.1294200	469	2015	1919	1919-01-01	1919	1919-02-01	February	1919-02-01	Wed	1919-02-01 21:00:00	10	PM	1919-02-01 21:00:00	42	10:42:00 PM	
5	1944-05-01.1841160	723	2015	1944	1944-01-01	1944	1944-05-01	May	1944-05-01	Fri	1944-05-01 14:00:00	02	PM	1944-05-01 14:00:00	21	2:11:00 PM	
6	1953-04-01.1556227	763	2015	1953	1953-01-01	1953	1953-04-01	April	1953-04-01	Wed	1953-04-01 15:00:00	03	PM	1953-04-01 15:00:00	56	3:56:02 PM	
7	1945-07-01.1461390	5	2015	1945	1945-01-01	1945	1945-07-01	July	1945-07-01	Sat	1945-07-01 16:00:00	04	PM	1945-07-01 16:00:00	10	4:10:00 PM	
8	1976-10-15.1606000	512	2015	1976	1976-01-01	1976	1976-10-15	October	1976-10-15	Mon	1976-10-15 16:00:00	04	PM	1976-10-15 16:00:00	00	4:00:00 PM	
9	1989-10-01.1323960	906	2015	1989	1989-01-01	1989	1989-10-01	October	1989-10-01	Sat	1989-10-01 13:00:00	01	PM	1989-10-01 13:00:00	29	1:29:00 PM	
10	1999-03-21.1234800	732	2015	1999	1999-01-01	1999	1999-03-21	March	1999-03-21	Sun	1999-03-21 23:00:00	11	PM	1999-03-21 23:00:00	48	11:48:00 PM	
11	2010-02-01.1407900	995	2115	2010	2010-01-01	2010	2010-02-01	February	2010-02-01	Fri	2010-02-01 16:00:00	04	PM	2010-02-01 16:00:00	05	4:05:00 PM	
12	2017-06-21.1943760	628	2115	2017	2017-01-01	2017	2017-06-21	June	2017-06-21	Wed	2017-06-21 06:00:00	04	AM	2017-06-21 06:00:00	27	6:27:00 AM	
13	2017-09-11.1900800	618	2115	2017	2017-01-01	2017	2017-09-11	September	2017-09-11	Mon	2017-09-11 19:00:00	07	PM	2017-09-11 19:00:00	60	7:00:00 PM	
14	2017-11-01.1930660	428	2115	2017	2017-01-01	2017	2017-11-01	November	2017-11-01	Wed	2017-11-01 03:00:00	03	AM	2017-11-01 03:00:00	66	3:06:00 AM	
15	2030-12-11.1232260	619	2115	2030	2030-01-01	2030	2030-12-11	December	2030-12-11	Sun	2030-12-11 12:00:00	12	PM	2030-12-11 12:00:00	32	12:32:00 PM	

Converting Unix Timestamps (check your work at <https://www.unixtimestamp.com/index.php>)

Results - Formula (3) - Output

6 of 6 Fields | Cell Viewer | * 13,600 of 23,495 records displayed (partial results)

Record #	Latitude	Longitude	Occupied	Unixtime	Driver	Date
1	37.75134	-122.39488	False	1213084687	new_abboip	2008-06-10 07:58:07
2	37.75136	-122.39527	False	1213084659	new_abboip	2008-06-10 07:57:39
3	37.75199	-122.39460	False	1213084540	new_abboip	2008-06-10 07:55:40
4	37.7508	-122.39346	False	1213084489	new_abboip	2008-06-10 07:54:49

Formula (3) - Configuration

Output Column: Date

Data Preview: 2008-06-10 07:58:07

Formula: `DateTimeAdd("1970-01-01", [Unixtime], "seconds")`

Data type: DateTime | Size: 19

Timestamp Converter

1213084687

Is equivalent to:

06/10/2008 @ 7:58am (UTC)

2008-06-10T07:58:07+00:00 in ISO 8601

Tue, 10 Jun 2008 07:58:07 +0000 in RFC 822, 1036, 1123, 2822

Tuesday, 10-Jun-08 07:58:07 UTC in RFC 2822

2008-06-10T07:58:07+00:00 in RFC 3339

Make Another Conversion:

Enter a Date & Time:

YYYY - MM - DD @ 00 : 00 : 00 (24h:min:sec)

Enter a Timestamp:

1415463675

Convert

Topic 4: Regex and Date Operations (Multiple weekly examples)

From Week 4 of the Weekly challenges

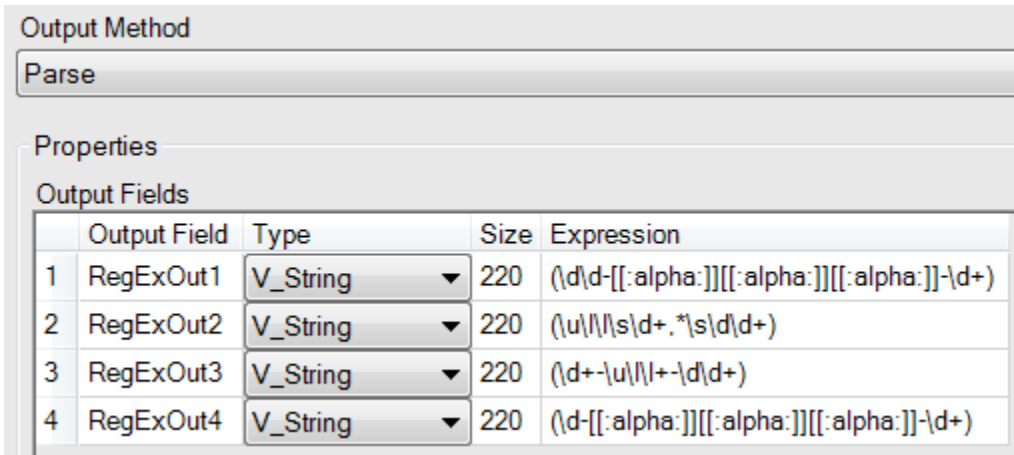
```
.*(\d\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+).* | .*(\u\|\s\d+,*\s\d\d+).* | .*(\d+-\u\|+-\d\d+).* | .*(\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+).*
```

There are four regex searches here -> and the example data that matches the search:

1. `.*(\d\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+).*` -> 16-APR-2005
2. `.*(\u\|\s\d+,*\s\d\d+).*` -> Nov 16, 1900
3. `.*(\d+-\u\|+-\d\d+).*` -> 9-July-2001
4. `.*(\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+).*` -> 4-SEP-00

Notice that the pipe (|) is used to delimit the searches and that “.” is used at the beginning and the end of the searches to be able to find the 4 search patterns anywhere in the search area.

Alteryx creates 4 output fields sized at 220 to handle the content of the four searches, when the Parse method is used.



The screenshot shows the Alteryx configuration interface. Under the 'Output Method' section, 'Parse' is selected. Below it, the 'Properties' section contains a table titled 'Output Fields' with the following data:

	Output Field	Type	Size	Expression
1	RegexOut1	V_String	220	(\d\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+)
2	RegexOut2	V_String	220	(\u\ \s\d+,*\s\d\d+)
3	RegexOut3	V_String	220	(\d+-\u\ +-\d\d+)
4	RegexOut4	V_String	220	(\d-[:alpha:][:alpha:][:alpha:]-\d+)

Example matches of these are:

Results - RegEx (54) - Output

5 of 5 Fields | Cell Viewer | 17 records displayed

Record #	Field 1	ReqExOut1	ReqExOut2	ReqExOut3	ReqExOut4
1	He who sleeps on the floor will not fall...	16-APR-2005			
2	After all is said and done, more is said t...	09-JAN-1856			
3	I want to see you shoot the way you sh...		Nov 16, 1900		
4	get someone else to do it.15-APR-1944...	15-APR-1944			
5	Why do they call it rush hour when not...	27-JUN-70			
6	I'm taking the Ryanair approach to it s...	23-MAY-2011			
7	I Xeroxed a mirror. Now I have an extr...	30-JUN-06			
8	Freidrich Engels01-AUG-08This record i...	01-AUG-08			
9	'He's so old his social security number i...		Jan 5 2000		
10	"I was the best man at the wedding.So...			9-July-2001	
11	"When my wife was asked, "Do you tak...	21-May-07			
12	"These are the continuing voyagesTo b...	16-SEP-69			
13	"The best cure for insomnia is to get a l...				4-SEP-00
14	t death ever before and based I consider	08-MAY-2000			

After some additional work using a formula tool,

Formula (56) - Configuration

Output Column	Data Preview
ReqExOut1	16-APR-2005
<pre>if isempty([ReqExOut1]) then (trim(substring([ReqExOut2],4,2))+ "-" + Left(uppercase([ReqExOut2]),3)+ "-" +right([ReqExOut2],4)) else [ReqExOut1] endif</pre>	
Data type: V_String	Size: 220
ReqExOut1	16-APR-2005
<pre>if [ReqExOut1]=="--" then [ReqExOut3] else [ReqExOut1] endif</pre>	
Data type: V_String	Size: 220
ReqExOut1	16-APR-2005
<pre>if isempty([ReqExOut1]) then [ReqExOut4] else [ReqExOut1] endif</pre>	
Data type: V_String	Size: 220

Results - Formula (56) - Output

5 of 5 Fields | Cell Viewer | 17 records displayed

Record #	Field 1	ReqExOut1	ReqExOut2	ReqExOut3	ReqExOut4
1	He who sleeps on the floor will not fall...	16-APR-2005			
2	After all is said and done, more is said t...	09-JAN-1856			
3	I want to see you shoot the way you sh...	16-NOV-1900	Nov 16, 1900		
4	get someone else to do it.15-APR-1944...	15-APR-1944			
5	Why do they call it rush hour when not...	27-JUN-70			
6	I'm taking the Ryanair approach to it: s...	23-MAY-2011			
7	I Xeroxed a mirror. Now I have an extr...	30-JUN-06			
8	Freidrich Engels01-AUG-08This record i...	01-AUG-08			
9	'He's so old his social security number i...	5-JAN-2000	Jan 5 2000		
10	"I was the best man at the wedding.So...	9-July-2001		9-July-2001	
11	"When my wife was asked, "Do you tak...	21-May-07			
12	"These are the continuing voyagesTo b...	16-SEP-69			
13	"The best cure for insomnia is to get a l...	4-SEP-00			4-SEP-00
14	I don't even butter my bread; I consider...	08-may-2003			
15	It matters not whether you win or lose;...	21-MAR-2005			
16	Smoking is one of the leading causes o...	24-OCT-1989			
17	I tried to think but nothing happened!"...	11-AUG-1935			

And a text to columns parse:

&Y

Text To Columns (57) - Configuration

Field to Split: **ReqExOut1** | Delimiters: -

Split to Columns

of Columns: 3

Extra Columns: Leave Extra in Last Field

Output Root Name: Date

Split to Rows

Advanced Options

- Ignore Delimiters in Quotes
- Ignore Delimiters in Single Quotes
- Ignore Delimiters in Parenthesis
- Ignore Delimiters in Brackets
- Skip Empty Fields

Results - Text To Columns (57) - Output

8 of 8 Fields | Cell Viewer | 17 records displayed

Record #	Field 1	ReqExOut1	ReqExOut2	ReqExOut3	ReqExOut4	Date1	Date2	Date3
1	He who sleeps on the floor will not fall...	16-APR-2005				16	APR	2005
2	After all is said and done, more is said t...	09-JAN-1856				09	JAN	1856
3	I want to see you shoot the way you sh...	16-NOV-1900	Nov 16, 1900			16	NOV	1900
4	get someone else to do it.15-APR-1944...	15-APR-1944				15	APR	1944
5	Why do they call it rush hour when not...	27-JUN-70				27	JUN	70
6	I'm taking the Ryanair approach to it: s...	23-MAY-2011				23	MAY	2011
7	I Xeroxed a mirror. Now I have an extr...	30-JUN-06				30	JUN	06
8	Freidrich Engels01-AUG-08This record i...	01-AUG-08				01	AUG	08
9	'He's so old his social security number i...	5-JAN-2000	Jan 5 2000			5	JAN	2000
10	"I was the best man at the wedding.So...	9-July-2001		9-July-2001		9	July	2001
11	"When my wife was asked, "Do you tak...	21-May-07				21	May	07
12	"These are the continuing voyagesTo b...	16-SEP-69				16	SEP	69
13	"The best cure for insomnia is to get a l...	4-SEP-00			4-SEP-00	4	SEP	00
14	I don't even butter my bread; I consider...	08-may-2003				08	may	2003
15	It matters not whether you win or lose;...	21-MAR-2005				21	MAR	2005
16	Smoking is one of the leading causes o...	24-OCT-1989				24	OCT	1989
17	I tried to think but nothing happened!..."	11-AUG-1935				11	AUG	1935

the final dates are assembled using the DateTimeParse function:

DateTime_Out 2005-04-16

```
DateTimeParse(([Date1]+"-"+[Date2]+"-"+[Date3]), "%d-%b-%Y")
```

Results - Formula (58) - Output

9 of 9 Fields | Cell Viewer | 17 records displayed

Record #	Field 1	ReqExOut1	ReqExOut2	ReqExOut3	ReqExOut4	Date1	Date2	Date3	DateTime Out
1	He who sleeps on the floor will not fall...	16-APR-2005				16	Apr	2005	2005-04-16
2	After all is said and done, more is said t...	09-JAN-1856				09	Jan	1856	1856-01-09
3	I want to see you shoot the way you sh...	16-NOV-1900	Nov 16, 1900			16	Nov	1900	1900-11-16
4	get someone else to do it.15-APR-1944...	15-APR-1944				15	Apr	1944	1944-04-15
5	Why do they call it rush hour when not...	27-JUN-70				27	Jun	1970	1970-06-27
6	I'm taking the Ryanair approach to it: s...	23-MAY-2011				23	May	2011	2011-05-23
7	I Xeroxed a mirror. Now I have an extr...	30-JUN-06				30	Jun	2006	2006-06-30
8	Freidrich Engels01-AUG-08This record i...	01-AUG-08				01	Aug	2008	2008-08-01
9	'He's so old his social security number i...	5-JAN-2000	Jan 5 2000			05	Jan	2000	2000-01-05
10	"I was the best man at the wedding.So...	9-July-2001		9-July-2001		09	Jul	2001	2001-07-09
11	"When my wife was asked, "Do you tak...	21-May-07				21	May	2007	2007-05-21
12	"These are the continuing voyagesTo b...	16-SEP-69				16	Sep	1969	1969-09-16
13	"The best cure for insomnia is to get a l...	4-SEP-00			4-SEP-00	04	Sep	2000	2000-09-04

For Reference, here are the specifiers used for dates/time for Alteryx:

Specifiers always begin with a percent sign (%), followed by a case-sensitive letter. The data must include at least a two digit year.

Specifier	Output from DateTimeFormat	Supported Input with DateTimeParse
%a	Abbreviated weekday name ("Mon")	Any valid abbreviation of a day of the week ("mon", "Tues.", "Thur"), giving an error only if the text given is not a day of the week. Note that Alteryx does not check that the specified day name is valid for a particular date.
%A	Full weekday name ("Monday")	Day name or any valid abbreviation of a day of the week ("mon", "Tues.", "Thur"), giving an error only if the text given is not a day of the week. Note that Alteryx does not check that the specified day name is valid for a particular date.
%b	Abbreviated month name ("Sep")	Any valid abbreviation of a month name ("Sep", "SEPT."), giving an error only if the text given is not a name of a month.
%B	Full month name ("September")	Month name or any valid abbreviation of a month name ("Sep", "SEPT."), giving an error only if the text given is not a name of a month.
%c	The date and time for the computer's locale	Not supported
%C	The century number ("20")	Not supported
%d	Day of the month ("01")	One or two digits, ignoring spaces ("1" or "01")
%D	Equivalent to %m/%d/%y	Not supported
%e	Day of the month, leading 0 replaced by a space (" 1")	One or two digits, ignoring spaces ("1" or "01")
%h	Same as %b ("Sep")	Any valid abbreviation of a month name ("Sep", "SEPT."), giving an error only if the text given is not a name of a month.
%H	Hour in 24 hour clock, 00 to 23	Up to two digits for hour, 0 to 23. Not compatible with %p or %P.
%I (capital "eye")	Hour in 12 hour clock, 01 to 12	Up to two digits for hour, 1 to 12. Must follow with %p or %P.
%j	The day of the year, from 001 to 365 (or 366 in leap years)	3-digit day of the year, from 001 to 365 (or 366 in leap years)
%k	24 hours, leading zero is space, " 0" to "23"	Up to two digits for hour
%l (lowercase "el")	12 hours, leading zero is space, " 1" to "12"	Not supported
%M	Minutes, 00 to 59	Up to two digits for minutes
%m	Month number, 01 to 12	One or two digit month number, 1 or 01 to 12
%p	"AM" or "PM"	Case blind ("aM" or "Pm"). Must follow %I (capital "eye", hour in 12-hour format)
%P	"am" or "pm"	Case blind ("aM" or "Pm"). Must follow %I (capital "eye", hour in 12-hour format)
%S	Seconds, 00 to 59	Up to two digits for seconds
%T	Time in twenty-four hour notation. Equivalent to %H:%M:%S	Not supported
%u	Day of week as a decimal, 1 to 7, with Monday as 1	Not supported
%U	This returns the week number, as 00 - 53, with the beginning of weeks as Sunday.	Not supported
%w	Day of week as a number, 0 to 6, with Sunday as 0	Not supported
%W	This returns the week number, as 00 - 53, with the beginning of weeks as Monday.	Not supported
%x	The date for the computer's locale	Not supported
%X	The 12-hour clock time, including AM or PM ("11:51:02 AM")	Hours:Minutes:Seconds [AM / PM]
%y	Last two digits of the year ("16")	Up to four digits are read, stopping at a separator or the end of the string, and mapped to a range of the current year minus 66 to current year plus 33. (For example, in 2016, that's 1950 to 2049.) › Limitation with six-digit dates
%Y	All four digits of the year ("2016")	Two or four digits are read. Two digits are mapped to a range of the current year minus 66 to current year plus 33. (For example, in 2016, that's 1950 to 2049.)
%z	Offset from UTC time (" -600")	Not supported
%Z	Full timezone name ("Mountain Daylight Time")	Not supported

The separators:

▼ Separators

Separators are inserted between date/time specifiers to form a format string.

Separator	Output from DateTimeFormat	Supported Input with DateTimeParse*
/	/	/ or -
-	-	/ or -
space	A space	Any sequence of white space characters
%n	A newline	Not supported
%t	A tab	Not supported
other	Other characters, such as comma, period, and colon	Other characters, such as comma, period, and colon

* DateTimeParse accepts forward slashes (/) and hyphens (-) interchangeably. However, commas, colons, and all other separators must match the incoming data exactly.

And the Date/Time Examples:

▼ Format string examples

Format String	Result
%d-%b-%y	01-Aug-16
%A, %d %B, %Y	Monday, 01 August, 2016
%d-%m-%y	01-08-16
%d-%m-%Y	01-08-2016
%d %B, %Y	01 August, 2016
%d/%m/%y	01/08/16
%d/%m/%Y	01/08/2016
%a, %B %d, %Y	Mon, August 01, 2016
%A, %B%e, %Y	Monday, August 1, 2016
%m-%d-%y	08-01-16
%m-%d-%Y	08-01-2016
%m/%d/%y	08/01/16
%m/%d/%Y	08/01/2016
%b %d	Aug 01
%B %d, %Y	August 01, 2016
%B, %Y	August, 2016
%Y-%m-%d	2016-08-01
%Y%m%d	20160801

To find a match for anything:

(.)*

Datetime Tool Example 1: Custom format date string

From Week 16, a custom formatted string (16-JUN-01) is converted to a date (2001-06-16) using the datetime tool.

The screenshot shows the Alteryx interface. On the left is the 'DateTime (85) - Configuration' panel. It has three main sections: 'Select the format to convert' with radio buttons for 'Date/Time format to string' and 'String to Date/Time format' (selected); 'Select the string field to convert' with a dropdown menu set to 'Field_3'; and 'Specify the new column name' with a text box containing 'DateTime_Out'. Below these is a list of date formats, with 'Custom' selected at the bottom. On the right is a workflow diagram. It starts with an 'Input' tool connected to a 'Parse out the new lines' tool (a green hexagon with a red asterisk). This tool is connected to a 'Convert date to date field' tool (a green hexagon with a clock icon). The workflow is titled 'challenge_16_solution.yxmd'.

The custom setting is shown below as `d/-Mon.-yy`. When this is used, Field 3 becomes a DateTime Out.

The screenshot shows the 'DateTime (85) - Configuration' panel with the custom format 'd/-Mon.-yy' entered in the 'Specify the format of the incoming string field' text box. Below this is an 'Example' section with a text box containing '02-Jan-00' followed by 'becomes' and another text box containing '2000-01-02'. A note below reads: 'Note: The incoming string should match the example.' To the right is the 'Results - DateTime (85) - Output' table, which shows 2 records displayed.

Record #	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	DateTime Out
1	Mary had a little lamb whose fleece wa...	123	16-JUN-01	2001-06-16
2	I do not like green eggs and ham	456	25-DEC-10	2010-12-25

Datetime Tool Example 2: Standard format date string

From Week 17, a standard formatted string (April 03, 2013) is converted to a date (2013-04-03) using the datetime tool.

DateTime (91) - Configuration

Select the format to convert

Date/Time format to string

String to Date/Time format

Select the string field to convert

Close Date

Specify the new column name

DateTime_Close_Date

Select the format that matches the incoming string field

- day, dd Month, yyyy
- dd-MM-yy
- dd-MM-yyyy
- dd-Mon.-yy
- dd Month, yyyy
- dd/MM/yy
- dd/MM/yy hh:mm:ss
- dd/MM/yyyy
- dd/MM/yyyy hh:mm:ss
- dy. Month dd, yyyy
- HH:mm:ss
- MM-dd-yy
- MM-dd-yyyy
- MM/dd/yy
- MM/dd/yy hh:mm:ss
- MM/dd/yyyy
- MM/dd/yyyy hh:mm:ss
- Month dd, yyyy**
- Month, yyyy
- yyyy-MM-dd
- yyyy-MM-dd hh:mm:ss
- yyyyMMdd
- Custom

challenge_17_solution.yxmd
Batch Macro.yxmc

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The use case: A bank is looking to calculate customer retention rate month over month. The numerator of the accounts open 24 months prior to the start of the month. For example, for June 2013, the numerator of accounts open between June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2013. The denominator will be total closed in June 2013 or between June 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013.

The objective is to create a batch macro that calculates the retention rate for May, June, July and August

Results - DateTime (91) - Output

5 of 5 Fields | Cell Viewer | 10 records displayed

Record #	RecordID	Open Date	Close Date	DateTime Start Date	DateTime Close Date
1	1	April 03, 2013	May 06, 2013	2013-04-03	2013-05-06
2	2	April 14, 2013	[Null]	2013-04-14	[Null]
3	3	May 03, 2013	July 18, 2013	2013-05-03	2013-07-18
4	4	May 24, 2013	June 12, 2013	2013-05-24	2013-06-12
5	5	June 13, 2013	July 10, 2013	2013-06-13	2013-07-10
6	6	June 26, 2013	[Null]	2013-06-26	[Null]
7	7	July 04, 2013	[Null]	2013-07-04	[Null]
8	8	July 15, 2013	August 09, 2013	2013-07-15	2013-08-09
9	9	July 21, 2013	[Null]	2013-07-21	[Null]
10	10	August 13, 2013	[Null]	2013-08-13	[Null]

Week 21 – More Custom Date Work

In this example, very sketchy date details are provided and complete month/years are created from the information. Here is the initial sketchy data followed by the parsing of month and year.

The screenshot shows a data table on the left and a 'Formula (56) - Configuration' window on the right. The table has a 'Date' column with values: J07, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, S, O, N, D, J08. The formula configuration window shows two output columns: 'Month' with the formula `Left([Date],1)` and 'Year' with the formula `Right([Date],Length([Date])-1)`. Both output columns are set to 'V_WString' data type with a size of 64.

Here is the final date output, showing the clever logic used to rename the months:

The screenshot shows a 'Multi-Row Formula (58) - Output' window. On the left is the expression logic, and on the right is the resulting data table.

```

Expression:
IF [Month]=='J' AND [Row+1:Month]=='F' THEN 'Jan'
ELSEIF [Month]=='F' THEN 'Feb'
ELSEIF [Month]=='M' AND [Row+1:Month]=='A' THEN 'Mar'
ELSEIF [Month]=='A' AND [Row+1:Month]=='M' THEN 'Apr'
ELSEIF [Month]=='M' THEN 'May'
ELSEIF [Month]=='J' AND [Row+1:Month]=='J' THEN 'Jun'
ELSEIF [Month]=='J' AND [Row+1:Month]=='A' THEN 'Jul'
ELSEIF [Month]=='A' AND [Row+1:Month]=='S' THEN 'Aug'
ELSEIF [Month]=='S' THEN 'Sep'
ELSEIF [Month]=='O' THEN 'Oct'
ELSEIF [Month]=='N' THEN 'Nov'
ELSEIF [Month]=='D' THEN 'Dec'
ELSE ''
ENDIF
    
```

The output table shows 10 records with columns: Record #, Date, Month, and Year.

Record #	Date	Month	Year
1	J07	Jan	07
2	F	Feb	07
3	M	Mar	07
4	A	Apr	07
5	M	May	07
6	J	Jun	07
7	J	Jul	07
8	A	Aug	07
9	S	Sep	07
10	O	Oct	07

Topic 5: Multifield searching and matching (Week 5)

The append tool is used to create combinations of an input value and records in a database such that the input field can be found in any of the columns of the database. The append operation creates the combinations needed for this to be possible, and a simple if block does the comparisons.

Results - Append Fields (67) - Output

5 of 5 Fields | Cell Viewer | 19 records displayed

Record #	Position Number	Level0	Level1	Level2	Level3
1	3333	123456	[Null]	[Null]	[Null]
2	3333	123456	111111	[Null]	[Null]
3	3333	123456	111111	22222	[Null]
4	3333	123456	111111	22222	33333
5	3333	123456	111111	23333	[Null]
6	3333	123456	111111	23333	34444
7	3333	123456	111111	23333	35555
8	3333	123456	12222	[Null]	[Null]
9	3333	123456	12222	234444	[Null]
10	3333	123456	12222	234444	366666
11	3333	123456	12222	33333	36677
12	3333	123456	12222	234444	37777
13	3333	123456	12222	[Null]	[Null]
14	3333	123456	12222	235555	[Null]
15	3333	123456	12222	235555	388888
16	3333	123456	12222	235555	399999
17	3333	123456	12222	235555	399888
18	3333	123456	12222	235555	3998877
19	3333	123456	33333	235555	388888

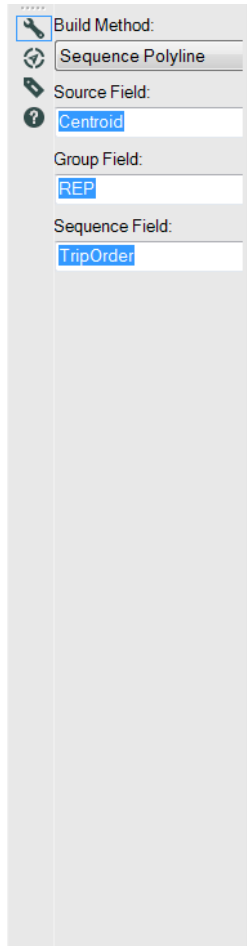
The user input of 3333 is appended to the database records. The following logic identifies the records where 3333 is found.

Expression:

```
[Position Number]==[Level0] or  
[Position Number]==[Level1] or  
[Position Number]==[Level2] or  
[Position Number]==[Level3]
```

Topic 6: Length along a Polyline (Week 6)

A sequence of airport trips are strung together to find out which sales rep as traveled the most miles. The airport lat/longs are given as centroids so all that is necessary is to produce polylines for each sales rep and use the spatial info tool to calculate the distance traveled by each sales rep.



Build Method:
Sequence Polyline

Source Field:
Centroid

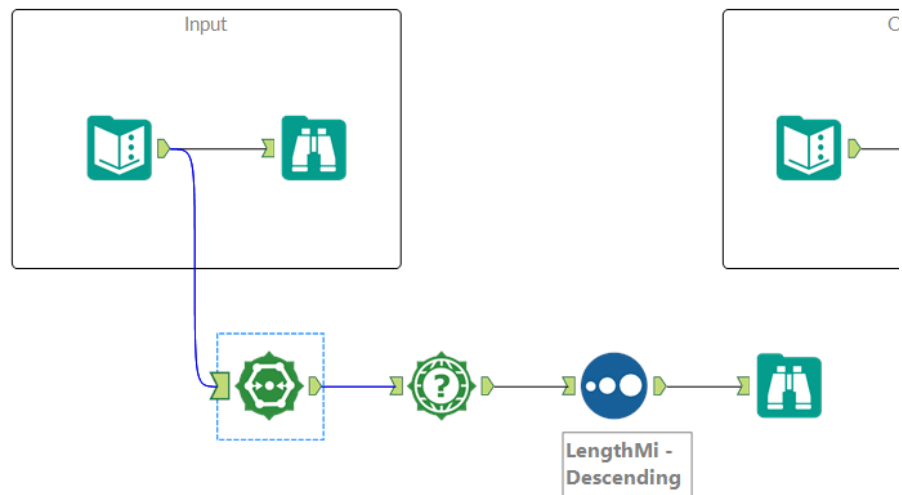
Group Field:
REP

Sequence Field:
TripOrder

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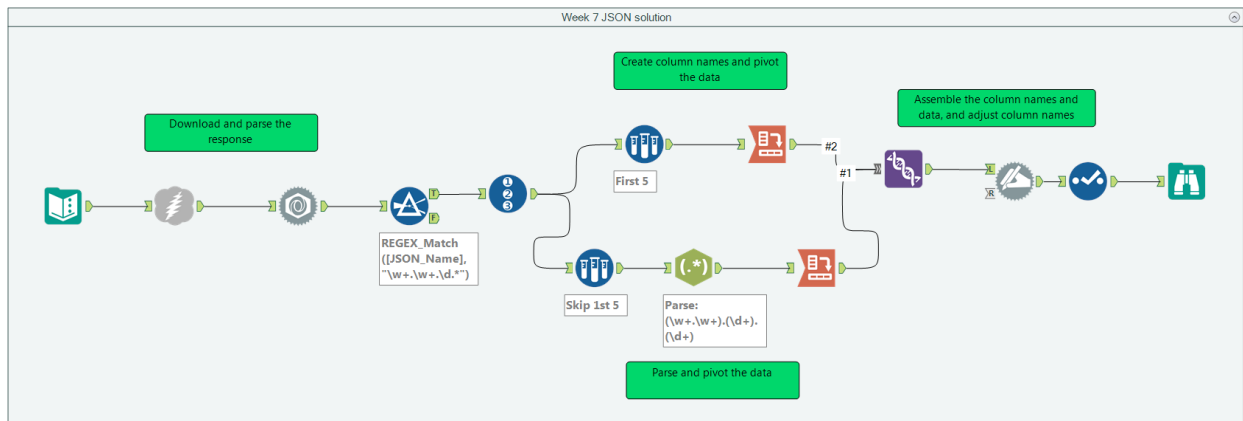
Sales reps are travelling all over the US. The data contained in the workflow details the travel paths for 7 cities. The travel route is detailed as well.

The objective is to determine which Rep has logged the most miles. Please include the route traveled as output.



Topic 7: Parsing JSON Data (Week 7)

This is an excellent example in so many ways. The methods used to identify the JSON data elements are insightful and efficient. There are so many excellent maneuvers in this example that it is one of the best exercises to date. I have rarely used the sample tool, and it is used in two different ways here. I have never used the JSON tool, so it was good to learn. Finally, the use of regex and the dynamic rename tool were both good.



Topic 8: Filtering by date (week 8)

Given date data like:

Results - Filter (42) - Out - True

8 of 8 Fields | Cell Viewer | * 10,35'

Record #	TicketID	Date	MemberID
1	102424	2013-07-01	[Null]
2	102443	2013-07-01	991857
3	102448	2013-07-01	[Null]
4	102480	2013-07-01	994721
5	102487	2013-07-01	990871
6	102487	2013-07-01	990871

Configure a filter to allow date-based filtering

Filter (42) - Configuration

Basic Filter

[Pick Field] =

Custom Filter

Variables | Functions | Saved Expressions

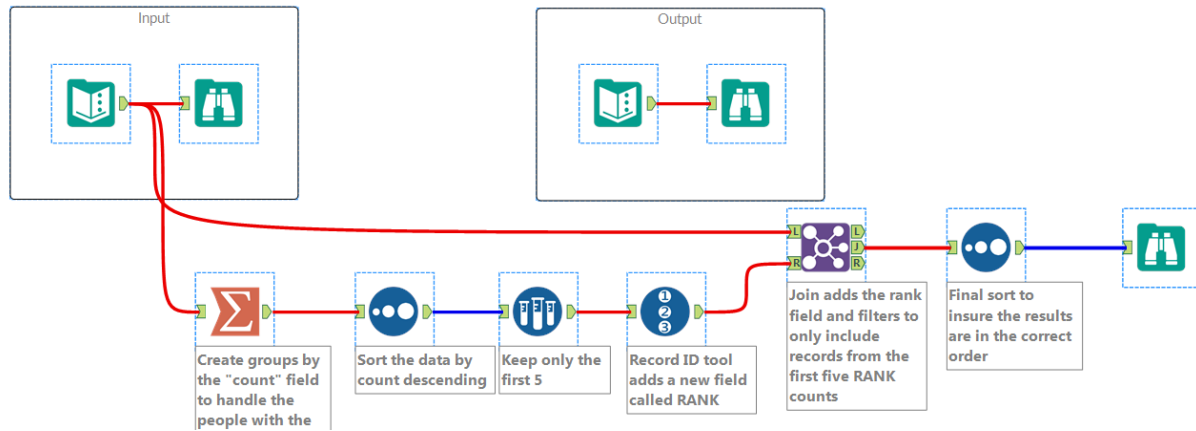
Fields

Constants

Expression:

```
DateTimeParse([Date], "%Y-%m-%d") >= '2013-07-01'
```

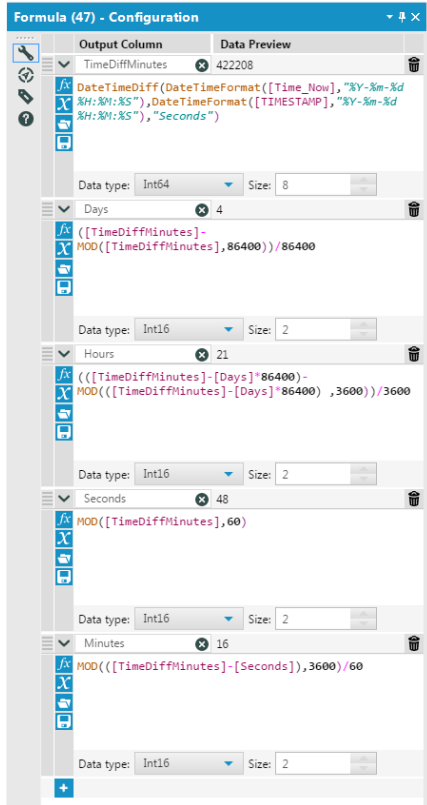

Topic 9: Ranking items where there can be more than 1 at the same rank level, and performing a top N calculation (Week 9)



I like this example because of the use of the sample tool to identify the top N ranks, and also for the use of the clever technique used to assign the ranks (using a join).

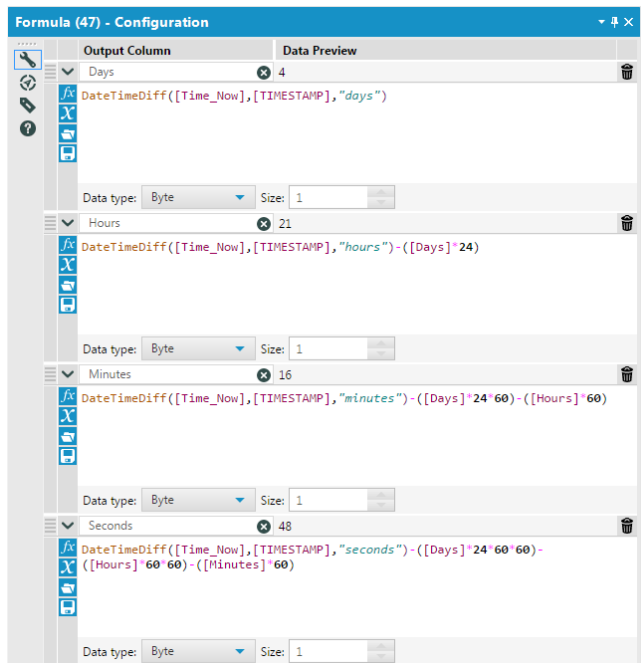
Topic 10: Calculating Time (Days, hours, minutes, seconds)

Has an error in the naming of the first formula. This says it is a time difference in minutes but is actually a difference in seconds. Otherwise, excellent instructional on how to calculate discrete time blocks.

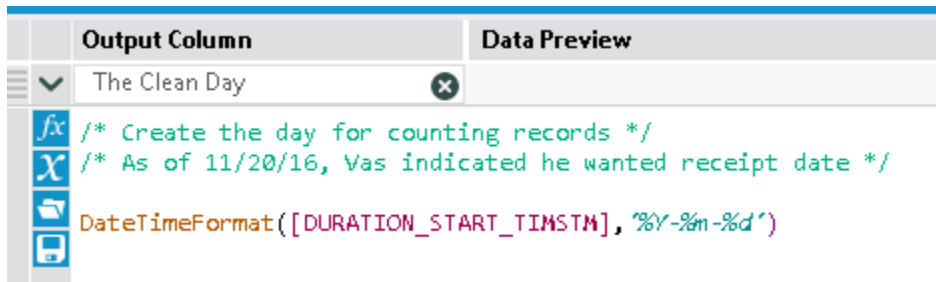


	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M		
1	Registrant	TIMESTAMP	Time_Now	TimeDiffMinutes	Days	Hours	Minutes	Seconds		Days	Hours	Minutes	Seconds	Minutes Calculated	Seconds Calculated
2	HPNZGSDN	7/9/2014 11:07	7/14/2014 8:24	422208	4	21	16	48		4	21	16	48	7036	422208
3	F5NZRZ3Y	7/9/2014 8:40	7/14/2014 8:24	431068	4	23	44	28		4	23	44	28		
4	FHNBTNM	7/8/2014 12:26	7/14/2014 8:24	503859	5	19	57	39		5	19	57	39		
5	ZHN7W97	7/8/2014 13:26	7/14/2014 8:24	500277	5	18	57	57		5	18	57	57		
6	ZKNWRVB	7/8/2014 13:25	7/14/2014 8:24	500333	5	18	58	53		5	18	58	53		
7	HGNYD3V	7/7/2014 19:13	7/14/2014 8:24	565871	6	13	11	11		6	13	11	11		

For a more efficient solution, see the following formulas



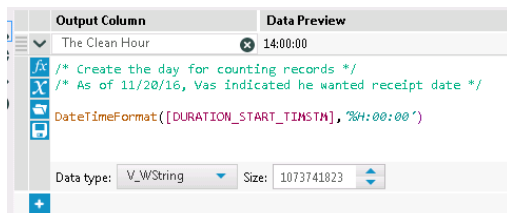
Creating a day bucket from a datetime field



`/* Create the day for counting records */`

`DateTimeFormat([DURATION_START_TIMSTM], '%Y-%m-%d')`

Creating an hour bucket



`DateTimeFormat([DURATION_START_TIMSTM], '%H:00:00')`

The Minute Bucket With the day:

DateTimeFormat([DURATION_START_TIMSTM], '%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:00')

The Minute Bucket:

DateTimeFormat([CALL_START_DT], '%H:%M:00')

You can also create an hourly bucket for all days of your data like this:

DateTimeFormat([DURATION_START_TIMSTM], '%Y-%m-%d %H:00:00')

With this formulation, you will get 24 records per day times the number of days you have in the file.

Topic 11: Linear Regression Modeling

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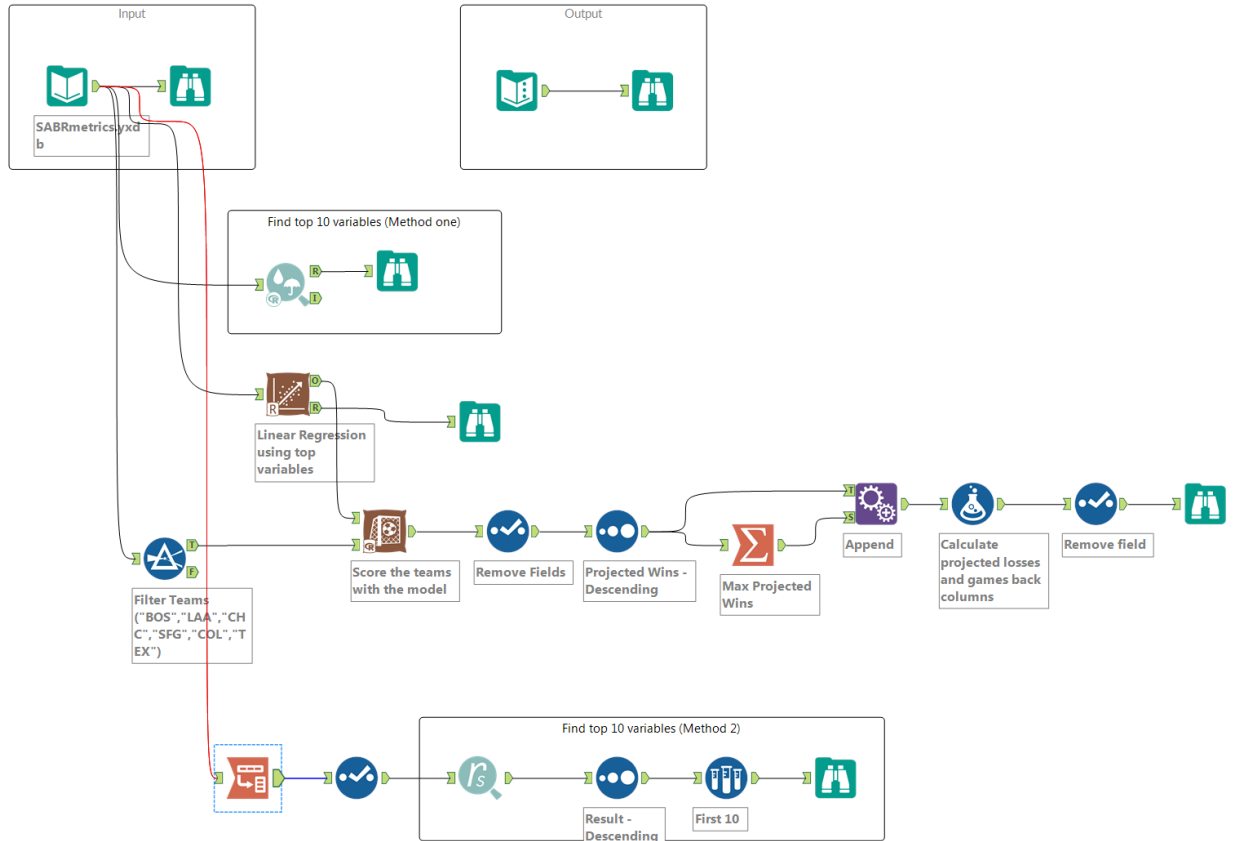
Weekly Challenge #18

The use case: The Baseball season has completed and it's time to project next year's win totals.

The objective: Determine the top 10 variables that correlate to wins (excluding [Win_Pct] and [Games] from the correlation). Leverage those top 10 variables to predict the # of wins the team will have in next year's season.

Isolate the teams to only use Boston - BOS, Los Angeles of Anaheim - LAA, Chicago Cub - CHC, San Francisco Giants - SFG, Colorado Rockies - COL and Texas Rangers - TEX.

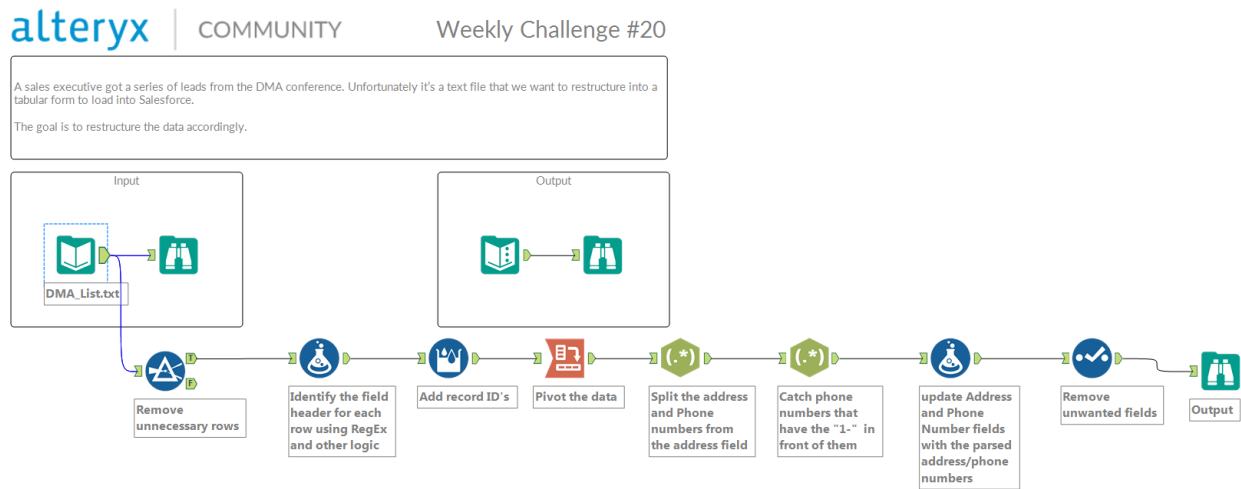
Create what the final standing will be and how many games out of first place each team is assuming each team plays 162 games.



I like this example because it uses the Spearman Correlation tool to identify the top 10 statistics that are most strongly correlated to winning baseball games (lower part of workflow) than then these terms are used in a linear regression model to estimate how teams will do in the following season. I especially like the use of the scoring tool to determine the teams which are best positioned to win the following year. It would be an interesting study to take historical data, apply this approach and see how accurate the results were. I'd like to do the same thing for football.

Topic 12: Identifying Data Fields in Sloppy Data

This is example 20 and I like it a lot because of how regex parsing is used to identify different data type elements like addresses, phone numbers, etc. The buckets are created to hold these fields and I think the approach is novel and robust. There are many real-work examples that could use this approach.



The incoming data looks like this:

Input Data (39) - Configuration

Connect a File or Database

_externals\1\DMA_List.txt

Options

Name	Value
1 Record Limit	
2 File Format	Comma-Delimited Text Files (*.csv)
3 Search SubDirs	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Output File Name as Field	No
5 Delimiters	\t
6 First Row Contains Field Names	<input type="checkbox"/>

Preview

Field_1
1 Alfa Insurance
2 [Null]
3 P.O. Box 11000 Montgomery, AL 36191-0001 334-288-3900
4
5
6 [Null]
7 BuyFilters.com, LLC
8 [Null]
9 P.O. Box 581 Silverhill, AL 36576 866-863-1262
10
11
12 [Null]
13 Compass Marketing Inc
14 [Null]
15 175 Northshore PI Gulf Shores, AL 36542 251-968-4600
16 251-968-5938 fax

Once the cleaning and parsing is complete, a nice output structure is achieved:

Results - Browse (48) - Input

7 of 7 Fields | Cell Viewer | 1,742 records displayed, 161 KB

Record #	RecordNumber	Company Name	Address	Phone	FAX	Notes	Website
1	1	Alfa Insurance	P.O. Box 11000 Montgomery, AL 36191...	334-288-3900			
2	2	BuyFilters.com, LLC	P.O. Box 581 Silverhill, AL 36576	866-863-1262			
3	3	Compass Marketing Inc	175 Northshore Pl Gulf Shores, AL 36542	251-968-4600	251-968-5938 fax		
4	4	Hatchett & Fagan Direct	950 22nd Street North Suite 700 Birmin...	205-458-8200	205-458-8206 fax		
5	5	Medseek	3000 Riverchase Galleria, Ste 1500 Birm...	205-982-5800			
6	6	Priester Pecan Company, Inc.	208 E. Old Fort Road Fort Deposit, AL 3...	334-227-4301			
7	7	RayPress Corporation	380 Riverchase Pkwy E Birmingham, AL...	205-492-2414	205-989-7203 fax		
8	8	Southern Poverty Law Center	400 Washington Ave. Montgomery, AL...	334-956-8200			
9	9	Winston and Winston Attorneys At Law	1800 12th Ave S Birmingham, AL 35205...	205-933-2300	205-933-2321 fax		
10	10	Axiom Corporation	601 E Third St Little Rock, AR 72201	888-322-9466	501-252-1854 fax	...ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST OUT O...	http://www.axiom.com
11	11	The Heritage Company	2402 Wildwood Ave. Ste. 500 North Litt...	501-835-5000	501-835-3828 fax	...The Heritage Company is a full service...	http://www.theheritagecompany.com
12	12	Mays Mission for the Handicapped, Inc.	604 Colonial Dr Heber Springs, AR 725...	501-362-7526			
13	13	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	Division 1 - Legal 702 Southwest 8th St...	479-277-8402			
14	14	Higher Power Marketing	P.O. Box 71250 Phoenix, AZ 85050	480-584-3535	480-907-1840 fax	...Who We ArePer Inquiry Advertising A...	http://www.hpowermarketing.com
15	15	IMPACT International Marketing	151 Riviera Dr., Bldg. B, Ste. #202 Lake...	866-389-9798	866-291-3908 fax	...Impact offers brand name merchandis...	http://www.impactgroup.com
16	16	IMP Advertising	1300 E. Broadway, Ste 100 Okla...	405-601-3000	405-601-3000 fax	IMP Advertising is a direct marketin...	http://www.IMPAdvertising.com

Here are the details of how the data fields are identified: (Awesome regex examples)

The screenshot shows a configuration window titled "Formula (44) - Configuration". It contains a table with two columns: "Output Column" and "Data Preview". Below the table, there are several rows, each representing a different output column configuration. Each row includes a formula editor with a formula, a "Data type" dropdown, and a "Size" input field.

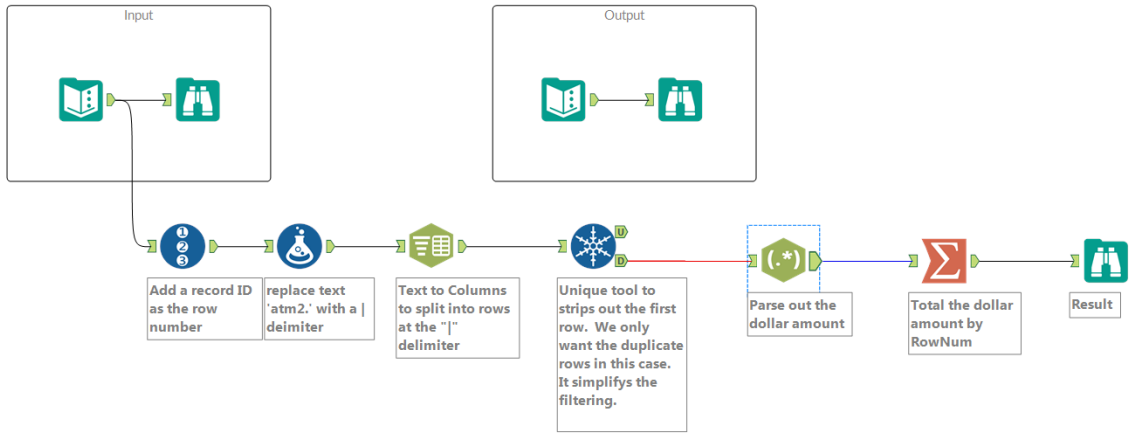
Output Column	Data Preview
Field_1	Alfa Insurance

Output Column	Formula	Data type	Size
Field	<code>Trim([Field_1])</code>	V_String	254
Field	<code>if right([Field_1],3) == "fax" then "FAX" else "" endif</code>	String	64
Field	<code>if isempty([Field]) and (REGEX_Match([Field_1]," ^(\d{3})-(\d{3})-(\d{4}).*") or REGEX_Match([Field_1],"^(\d{3}).(\d{3}).(\d{4}).*")) then "Phone" else [Field] endif</code>	String	64
Field	<code>if isempty([Field]) and left([Field_1],4) == "http" then "Website" else [Field] endif</code>	String	64
Field	<code>if isempty([Field]) and left([Field_1],3) == "..." then "Notes" else [Field] endif</code>	String	64
Field	<code>if isempty([Field]) and (REGEX_Match([Field_1],"^.*[,]+\s*\u{2}\s+\d+.*") or Left(uppercase(REGEX_Replace([Field_1], "\w", "")),5) == "POBOX" or (REGEX_Match([Field_1],"^.*\d+\s.*\d+")) then "Address" else [Field] endif</code>	String	64
Field	<code>if isempty([Field]) then "Company_Name" else [Field] endif</code>	String	64

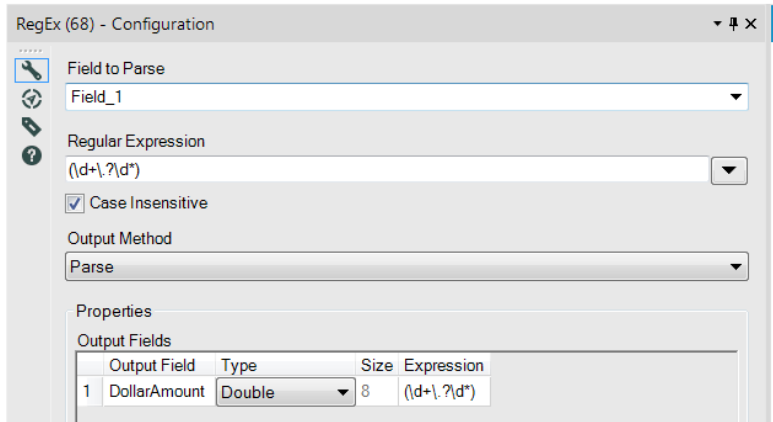
Continuing with the theme of sloppy data, Week 22 has ATM data in a really ugly format and the dollar transactions need to be extracted. This is another nice regex example. Here is the workflow:

alteryx | COMMUNITY Weekly Challenge #22

Use case: The log files from an ATM machine have the transaction amounts embedded in text strings. The user needs to have these text amounts summarized by row (transaction).
 Objective: For this assignment the numbers directly following the text 'ATM2.' are dollar amounts for transactions. Summarize the values on a row by row basis.



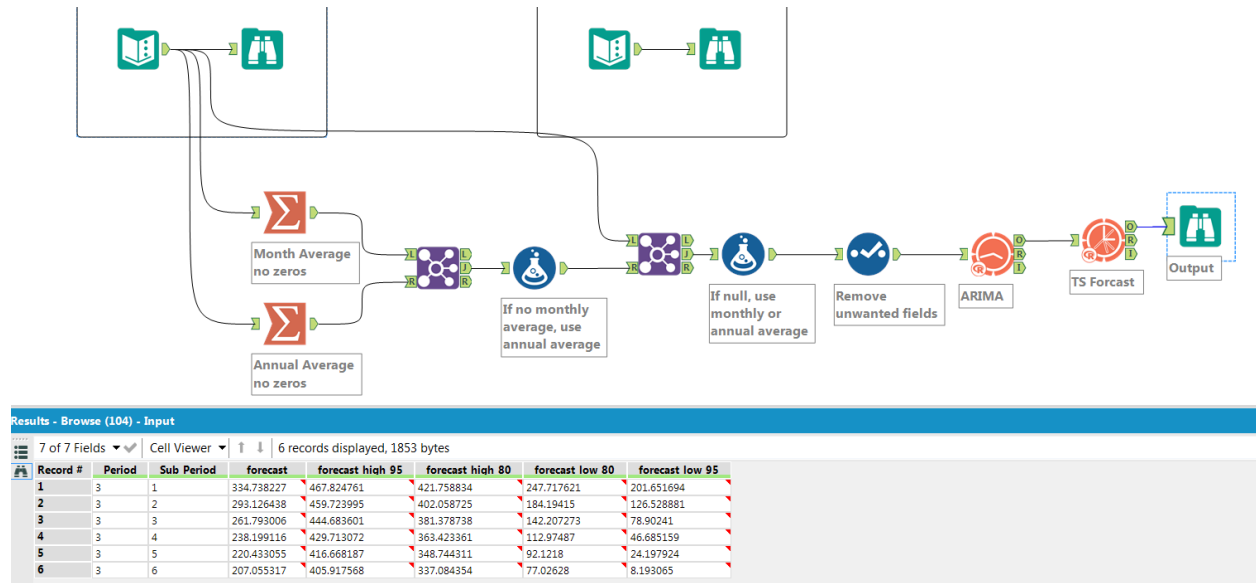
Here is the regex for extracting the dollar values of the transactions:



Here is the result:

Record #	RowNum	Field 1	DollarAmount
1	1	39.14]atc1.CC-270957white/atc2.1563...	39.14
2	1	32.50]atc1.CC-264289black dots/atc2....	32.5
3	1	19.99]atc1.CC-286881teal splash/atc2....	19.99
4	2	188]atc1.CC-289105black/atc2.128497...	188
5	3	14.99]atc1.CC-269604golden leopard/...	14.99

Topic 13: Time Series Forecasting Using An autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) model



I really like this example for a few different reasons. Using Alteryx to make predictions is a very practical usage of the software. I especially like the forecasting at 95% and 80% high and low.

Miscellaneous Notes



About the Text to Columns tool

The text to columns tool takes the text in one column and splits the string value into separate, multiple columns (or rows), based on a single or multiple delimiter (s).

► [Watch the video](#)

Configuration Properties

1. Specify the field to split. Choose this field from the drop down list.
2. Specify the delimiter (s) to use to split the data on. You can type the character in this space (i.e. &, :, ', etc.) or use the following:

\t = Tab

\n = New line

\s = Space


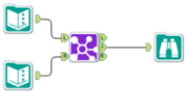

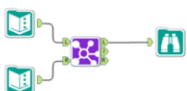

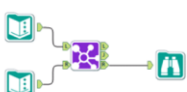





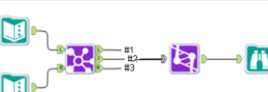
*Note: If you wanted to separate a field using a space OR tab, you would put '\s\t' in the delimiter. This is especially handy with the **Skip Empty Fields** in the Advanced Options.*

3. Choose your method for splitting:

- **Split to Columns:** will split a single column of data at each instance of the specified delimiter into multiple columns.
- **Split to Rows:** will split a single column of data at each instance of the specified delimiter into multiple rows.

Doing different types of Joins

See the table below for using the Join tool to execute different types of joins.

<p>Inner Join: contains records that joined from the L input to those records in the R input.</p>		
<p>Left Unjoin: contains records from the L input that did NOT join to records from the R input.</p>		
<p>Right Unjoin: contains records from the R input that did NOT join to records from the L input.</p>		
<p>Left Outer Join: all records from the L input including the records that joined with the R input.</p>		
<p>Right Outer Join: all records from the R input including the records that joined with the L input.</p>		
<p>Full Outer Join: all of the records from both L and R inputs.</p>		

<p>The J output of the Join tool contains the result of an Inner Join.</p>
<p>The L output of the Join tool contains the result of a Left Unjoin.</p>
<p>The R output of the Join tool contains the result of a Right Unjoin.</p>
<p>To do a Left Outer Join, connect the J and L outputs of the Join tool to the Union tool. Connect the J output first to establish the combined table schema.</p>
<p>To do a Right Outer Join, connect the J and R outputs of the Join tool to the Union tool. Connect the J output first to establish the combined table schema.</p>
<p>To do a Full Outer Join, connect the J, L, and R outputs of the Join tool to the Union tool. Connect the J output first to establish the combined table schema.</p>

Data Field Types

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	
Bool	Boolean: The type of an expression with two possible values: True or False	0=False; -1=True Note: any value other than 0 would indicate the value is True.
Byte	Number: A byte field is a positive whole number that falls within the range, 0 thru 255	0, 1, 2, 3,...253, 254, 255
Int16	Number: 2Byte: Twice Exponential to the Byte, or 2^{16}	-32,768 to 32,767
Int32	Number: 4Byte: Four Times Exponential to the Byte, or 2^{32}	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
Int64	Number: 8Byte: Eight Times Exponential to the Byte, or 2^{63} to $+2^{63}$	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807
Fixed Decimal	Number: The specification of width of field and then to decimal threshold. The first number is the total width of number, the second number is to the decimal level of precision. The decimal point is included in the character width.	"7.2" => 1234.56 "8.2" => -1234.56
Float	Number: A single-precision floating point number is a 32-bit approximation of a real number.	+/- 3.4E +/- 38 (7 digits) where 38 is the exponent and 7 digits references seven digits of accuracy.
Double	Number: A double-precision floating point number is a 64-bit approximation of a real number.	+/- 1.7E +/- 308 (15 digits) where 308 is the exponent and 15 digits references fifteen digits of accuracy.
String	Character: Fixed Length String. The length must be at least as large as the largest character value contained in the field. Limited to 8192 characters.	Any string whose length does not vary much from value to value.
V_String	Character: Variable Length. Length of field will adjust to accommodate the entire string within the field.	If the string greater than 16 characters and varies in length from value to value
WString	Character: Wide String will accept unicode characters. Limited to 8192 characters.	Any string whose length does not vary much from value to value. Æ,ç,ð,Ñ... Any string that contains unicode characters
V_WString	Character: Variable Length Wide String	If the string greater than 16 characters and varies in length from value to value. If the string contains unicode and is longer than
Date	Character: A 10 character String in "yyyy-mm-dd" format	December 2, 2005 = 2005-12-02
Time	Character: A 8 character String in "hh:mm:ss" format	2:47 and 53 seconds, pm = 14:47:53
DateTime	Character: A 19 character String in "yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss" format	2005-12-02 14:47:53
Blob	Blob: Binary Large Object: A large block of data stored in a database. A BLOB has no structure which can be interpreted by the database management system but is known only by its size and location.	an image or sound file
SpatialObj	Blob: The spatial object associated with a data record. There can be multiple spatial object fields contained within a table.	A spatial object can consist of a point, line, polyline, or polygon.

Flat files are intended to be used with ASCII characters.

Quick Reference For All Tools

https://help.alteryx.com/10.6/Getting_Started/AllTools.htm

Browse Colors

View data in the Configuration window and the Results window. The Configuration window displays different charts

A colored data quality bar displays at the top of each column of data in the Results window.

- **Red (Not OK):** The column contains values with leading or trailing white space.
- **Yellow (Null):** The column contains no values.
- **Gray (Empty):** The column contains strings with no values.
- **Green (OK):** The column contains values without leading or trailing white spaces.

Browse Metadata

▼ Numeric data

If the selected column contains numeric values, the following metadata is provided:

- **Name:** The column name.
- **Data Type:** The data type of the selected column.
- **Size:** The amount of memory reserved for each record in this column.
- **Non-Nulls:** The number of non-null entries in the column, including empty values.
- **Uniques:** The number of unique values in the field. Use the Unique tool to see a full count of unique and duplicate entries. See [Unique Tool](#).
- **Nulls:** The number of values in the column that are null, excluding empty values.
- **Minimum:** The smallest value in the column.
- **Maximum:** The largest value in the column.
- **Average:** The average value of values in the column.
- **Standard Deviation:** The measure of how dispersed the values are in the chart.
- **Variance:** The measure of how far a set of random numbers are dispersed from the mean.
- **25th Percentile:** The median value in the lower, or first, half of the data.
- **50th Percentile:** The median value of the data.
- **75th Percentile:** The median value in the upper, or second, half of the data.

▼ String data

If the selected column contains string values, the following metadata is provided:

- **Name:** The column name.
- **Data Type:** The data type of the selected column.
- **Size:** The amount of memory reserved for each record in this column.
- **Non-Nulls:** The number of non-null entries in the column, including empty values.
- **Uniques:** The number of unique values in the field. Use the Unique tool to see a full count of unique and duplicate entries. See [Unique Tool](#).
- **Nulls:** The number of values in the column that are null, excluding empty values.
- **Blanks:** The number of empty values.
- **Values with Leading Whitespace:** The number of string values with whitespace before the value. Use the Data Cleansing tool or the Formula
- **Values with Trailing Whitespace:** The number of string values with whitespace after the value.
- **Shortest (Non-Blank) Length:** The number of characters in the shortest value in the column.
- **Average Length:** The average length of values in the column.
- **Longest Length:** The number of characters in the longest value in the column.
- **Shortest Value:** The shortest value in the column.
- **Longest Value:** The longest value in the column.
- **First Alphanumeric Value:** The first string entry in a column that is sorted alphabetically.
- **Last Alphanumeric Value:** The last string entry in a column that is sorted alphabetically.

▼ [Date/Time data](#)

If the selected column contains date/time values, the following metadata is provided:

- **Name:** The column name.
- **Data Type:** The data type of the selected column.
- **Size:** The amount of memory reserved for each record in this column.
- **Non-Nulls:** The number of non-null entries in the column, including empty values.
- **Uniques:** The number of unique values in the field. Use the Unique tool to see a full count of unique and duplicate entries. See [Unique Tool](#).
- **Nulls:** The number of values in the column that are null, excluding empty values.
- **Minimum:** The smallest value in the column.
- **Maximum:** The largest value in the column.

▼ [Spatial data](#)

If the selected column contains spatial objects, the following metadata is provided:

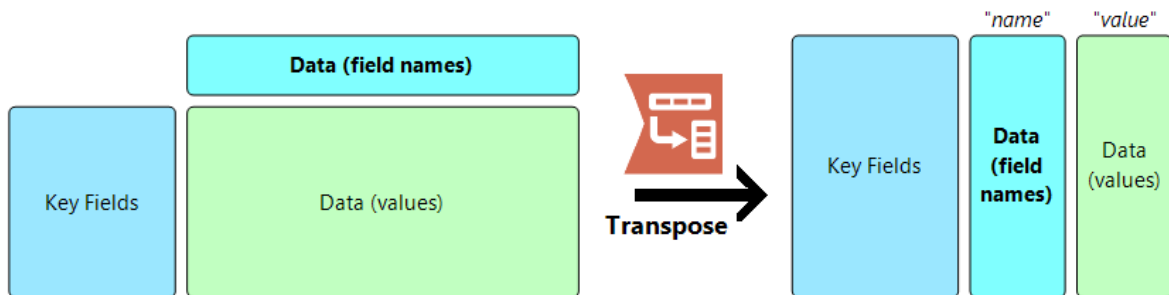
- **Name:** The column name.
- **Data Type:** The data type of the selected column.
- **Size:** The amount of memory reserved for each record in this column.
- **Non-Nulls:** The number of non-null entries in the column, including empty values.
- **Nulls:** The number of values in the column that are null, excluding empty values.

Overview

The Transpose tool pivots the data so that a wide data set becomes a narrower data set.

All of the fields selected as Data Fields will have their values stacked into a single column called "Value", while the names of each corresponding variable will be stored alongside in a column called "Name". The Key Fields will remain unchanged, and all other columns will be dropped from the output.

Below is a conceptual representation of how the Transpose tool transforms the data.

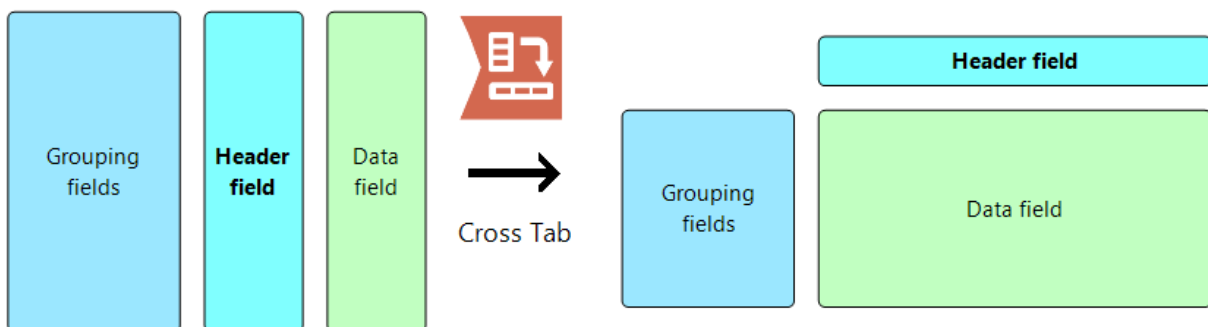


Overview

The Cross Tab tool pivots the data so that a narrow data set becomes a wider data set.

A new column is created for each unique value in the New Column Headers field, which will be populated by aggregating the values in the Values for New Columns field, while the contents of the Group Data by these Values field do not change.

Below is a conceptual representation of how the Cross Tab tool transforms the data.



Imputation Tool

The Imputation tool replaces problematic numeric values (such as nulls) for specified columns with another value such as the median or a user-specified value.

1) Run the workflow (Ctrl+R).

2) Select a tool to view its output in the Results window.



Replacing null values



The most common use of the Imputation tool is to replace null values with another number. This can be the average, median, mode of the column, or a user-specified value such as zero. The user can also specify a value other than [Null] to be replaced if desired.



The first example has null values being replaced with zero, while the second example has null values being replaced with the average of the column.

Creating a new column with imputed values



The "Output imputed values as separate field" option leaves the original fields as they were as creates new ones with the suffix "_ImputedValue".

Creating a column indicating whether or not a value has been imputed



The "Include imputed value indicator field" creates a binary column for each field selected with the suffix "_Indicator", where 1 indicates that the value has been imputed and 0 indicates that it has been left unchanged.

More Info

It is often a good idea to use the Imputation before streaming data into the predictive tools since many are designed to error when null values are encountered. However, be careful to choose an appropriate replacement value to get the best results from the predictive tools.

Select Records Tool

The Select Records tool can be used to choose a precise subset of input records.

1) Run the workflow (Ctrl+R).

2) Select a tool to view its output in the Results window.



A single record



The Select Records tool can be used to specify a single record, such as 10800 in this example.

A range of records



A hyphen is used to specify a range, in this case rows 109-113.

All records beyond a certain row



A plus (+) is used to select records starting at 20000 and also return all rows through the last record in the set.

Alternately, a minus (-) can be used to return all records preceding a certain record. (see below)

Multiple selections



Multiple selections can listed together.

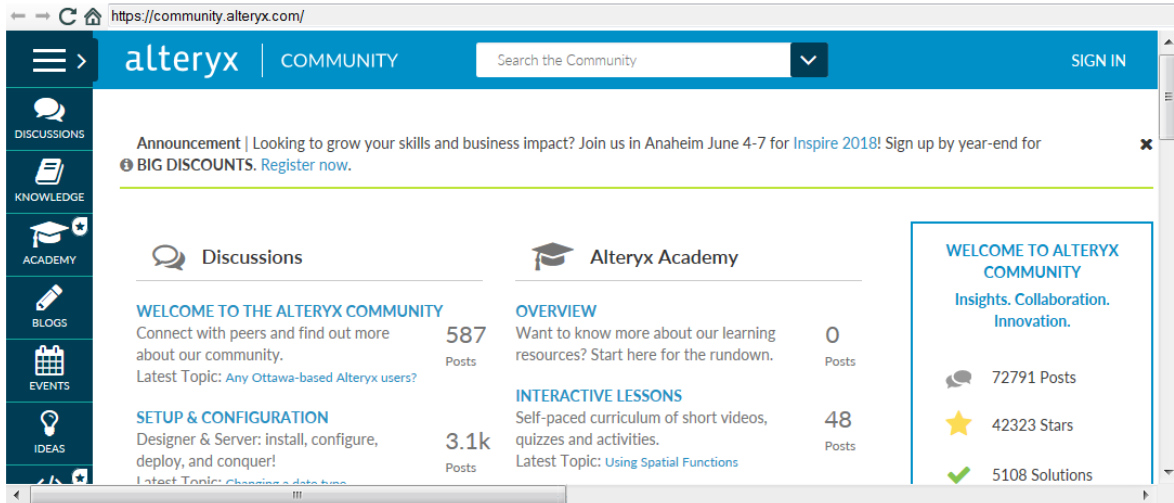
This Select Records tool is configured to return rows 1-87, 109-113, 10800, and 20000 through the end of the data set.

Explorer Box Tool

Display a web page, file directory, or file on the canvas.

Display a web page

Enter a URL to display a web page when an internet connection is available. To resize the box, click it and then click and drag the squares on any side to the desired position.



Display file directory

Add a directory path to display a file directory. Double-click a file in the directory to open it in the default program for that file type, or click and drag data, workflow, analytic app, or macro files to the canvas.



Supported Data Sources

Alteryx connects to a variety of data sources. Alteryx can read, write, or read and write, dependent upon the data source.

Adobe	Adobe Analytics		Read-only	
Alteryx	Alteryx Database	.yxdb	Read & Write	
	Alteryx Calgary	.cydb	Read	
	Alteryx Spatial Zip	.sz	Read & Write	
Amazon	Amazon Aurora		Read & Write	
	Amazon Redshift		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Amazon S3		Read & Write	
ASCII	ASCII	.flat, .asc	Read & Write	
Apache Hadoop	Apache Hadoop Avro	.avro	Read & Write	
	Cassandra		Read & Write	
	Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)		Read & Write	
	Hive		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Spark		Read & Write	In-DB Support
Autodesk	Autodesk	.sdf	Read & Write	
Cloudera	Cloudera Impala		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)		Read & Write	
	Hive		Read & Write	In-DB Support
CSV	Comma Separated Value	.csv	Read & Write	
Databricks	Databricks		Read & Write	In-DB Support
DataStax	DataStax Enterprise , DataStax Community		Read & Write	
dBase	dBase	.dbf	Read & Write	
ESRI	ESRI GeoDatabase	.gdb	Read-only	
	ESRI Personal GeoDatabase	.mdb	Read-only	
	ESRI Shapefile	.shp (.dbf, .shx, .prj)	Read & Write	
EXASOL	EXASOL		Read & Write	In-DB Support
Foursquare	Foursquare		Read-only	
GIS	GIS	.grd, .grc	Read-only	
Google	Google Analytics		Read-only	
	Google BigQuery		Read-only	
	Google Earth/Maps	.kml	Read & Write	
	Google Sheets		Read & Write	
Hortonworks	Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)		Read & Write	
	Hive		Read & Write	In-DB Support
HP	Vertica		Read & Write	In-DB Support
HTML	HyperText Markup Language	.htm	Write	
IBM	IBM DB2		Read & Write	
	IBM Netezza/Pure Data Systems		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	IBM SPSS	.sav	Read & Write	
JSON	JSON	.json	Read & Write	
MapInfo	MapInfo Professional Interchange Format	.mid, .mif	Read & Write	
	MapInfo Professional Table	.tab (*.dat, *.map, *.id, *.ind)	Read & Write	

MapR	Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) Hive		Read & Write Read & Write	In-DB Support
Marketo	Marketo		Read & Write	
Microsoft	Microsoft Access 2000-2003	.mdb	Read & Write	
	Microsoft Analytics Platform System		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Microsoft Azure ML		Read-only	
	Microsoft Azure SQL Database		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Microsoft Azure SQL Data Warehouse		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Microsoft Cognitive Services		Read-only	
	Microsoft Excel 1997-2003	.xls	Read & Write	
	Microsoft Excel 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016	.xlsx	Read & Write	
	Microsoft Excel Macro Enabled	.xlsm	Read & Write	
	Microsoft Office Access 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016 <small>Requires MS Office Access or driver</small>	.accdb	Read & Write	
	Microsoft Power BI		Write	
	Microsoft SQL Server 2008, 2012, 2014, 2016		Read & Write	In-DB Support
	Microsoft SharePoint		Read & Write	
MongoDB	MongoDB		Read & Write	
MySQL	MySQL		Read & Write	
Netsuite	Netsuite Suite Analytics		Read-only	
OpenGIS	Geography Markup Language	.gml	Read & Write	
Oracle	Oracle		Read & Write	In-DB Support & Predictive Support
Pivotal	Pivotal Greenplum		Read & Write	
PostgreSQL	PostgreSQL		Read & Write	
Qlik	Qlik Sense, QlikView	.qvx	Read & Write	
Salesforce.com	Salesforce Salesforce Wave		Read & Write	
SAP	SAP Hana Sybase Adaptive Server Enterprise Sybase SQL Anywhere 10		Read & Write Read & Write Read & Write	In-DB Support
SAS	SAS	.sas7bdat	Read & Write	
SQLite	SQLite	.sqlite	Read & Write	
SRC Geography	SRC Geography File	.geo	Read & Write	
Tableau	Alteryx Web Data Connector for Tableau Publish to Tableau Server Tableau Data Extract	.tde	Publish Publish Write-only	
Teradata	Teradata Teradata Aster		Read & Write Read	In-DB Support
Text	Text	.txt	Read	
Twitter	Twitter		Read-only	
XML	Extensible Markup Language	.xml	Read-only	
Zip Files	Zip Files	.zip	Read-only	

Data Types

String data

A string represents alphanumeric data and can include letters, numbers, spaces, or other types of characters. A string can also be thought of as plain text. All the characters in a string are considered text even if the characters are digits.

While a string may contain text that looks like a number (for example, "123.4"), it must first be converted to a numeric data type (either with a [Select Tool](#), or with the [ToNumber Functions](#)) to perform calculations.

Type	Description	Example
String	Fixed Length Latin-1 String. The length should be at least as large as the longest string you want contained in the field or values will be truncated. Limited to 8192 Latin-1 characters.	Any string whose length does not vary much from value to value, and only contains simple Latin-1 characters.
WString	Wide String will accept any character (Unicode). Limited to 8192 characters.	Any string whose length does not vary much from value to value and contains any character.
V_String	Variable Length. The length of the field will adjust to accommodate the entire string within the field.	Any string whose length varies from value to value, and only contains simple Latin-1 characters.
V_WString	Variable Length Wide String. The length of the field will adjust to accommodate the entire string within the field and will accept any character.	Any string whose length varies from value to value and contains any character.

Numeric data

There are several different numeric data types including integers, decimals, floats, and doubles. Numeric data types do not have adjustable lengths except for Fixed Decimal.

Type	Description	Example
Byte	A unit of data that is 8 binary digits (bits) long. A byte field is a positive whole number that falls within the range 0 thru 255, or 2^8	0, 1, 2, 3...253, 254, 255
Int16	A numeric value without a decimal equal to 2 bytes, or $-(2^{15})$ to $(2^{15})-1$	-32,768 to 32,767
Int32	A numeric value without a decimal equal to 4 bytes, or $-(2^{31})$ to $(2^{31})-1$	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
Int64	A numeric value without a decimal equal to 8 bytes, or $-(2^{63})$ to $(2^{63})-1$	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807
Fixed Decimal	A numeric value with a decimal. The length (precision) of a fixed decimal is equal to the width of the integer (left side of decimal) plus the decimal point plus the width of the scale (right side of decimal). If a number is negative, the negative sign is also included in the length. Alteryx defaults a Fixed Decimal to 19.6. The maximum precision is 50, inclusive of the decimal point and negative sign (if applicable). A Fixed Decimal is the only numeric data type with an adjustable length.	A value of 1234.567 with a length of 7.2 results in 1234.57 A value of 1234.567 with a length of 7.3 results in a field conversion error and Null output, as the value does not fit within the specified precision. A value of 1234.567 with a length of 6.1 results in 1234.6 A value of 1234.567 with a length of 8.3 results in 1234.567 A value of -1234.567 with a length of 8.3 results in a field conversion error and Null output, as the value does not fit within the specified precision. A value of 1234.567 with a length of 11.6 results in 1234.567000
Float	A standard single precision floating point value. It uses 4 bytes, and can represent values from $\pm 3.4 \times 10^{-38}$ to 3.4×10^{38} with 7 digits of precision. A float uses a decimal that can be placed in any position and is mainly used to save memory in large arrays of floating point numbers.	$\pm 3.4 \times 10^{-38}$ to 3.4×10^{38} with 7 digits precision
Double	A standard double precision floating point value. It uses 8 bytes, and can represent values from $\pm 1.7 \times 10^{-308}$ to 1.7×10^{308} with 15 digits precision. A double uses a decimal that can be placed in any position. A double uses twice as many bits as a float and is generally used as the default data type for decimal values.	$\pm 1.7 \times 10^{-308}$ to 1.7×10^{308} with 15 digits precision

Date/Time data

Type	Description	Example
Date	A 10 character String in "yyyy-mm-dd" format	December 2, 2005 = 2005-12-02
Time	A 8 character String in "hh:mm:ss" format	2:47 and 53 seconds a.m. = 02:47:53 2:47 and 53 seconds p.m. = 14:47:53
DateTime	A 19 character String in "yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss" format	2005-12-02 14:47:53

Boolean data

Type	Description	Example
Bool	An expression with only two possible values: True or False	The words 'True' and 'False' display in the results where 'False' = 0 and 'True' = non-zero.

Spatial objects

Type	Description	Example
SpatialObj	The spatial object associated with a data record. There can be multiple spatial object fields contained within a table.	A spatial object can consist of a point, line, polyline, or polygon.

Boost Regex

Boost-Extended Format String Syntax

Boost-Extended format strings treat all characters as literals except for '\$', '\', '(', ')', '?', and ':'.

Grouping

The characters '(' and ')' perform lexical grouping, so use \`\(` and \`\)` if you want a to output literal parenthesis.

Conditionals

The character '?' begins a conditional expression, the general form is:

`?Ntrue-expressionfalse-expression`

where N is decimal digit.

If sub-expression N was matched, then true-expression is evaluated and sent to output, otherwise false-expression is evaluated and sent to output.

You will normally need to surround a conditional-expression with parenthesis in order to prevent ambiguities.

For example, the format string `"(?:1foo|bar)"` will replace each match found with "foo" if the sub-expression \$1 was matched, and with "bar" otherwise.

For sub-expressions with an index greater than 9, or for access to named sub-expressions use:

`?[INDEX]true-expressionfalse-expression`

or

`?[NAME]true-expressionfalse-expression`

Placeholder Sequences

Placeholder sequences specify that some part of what matched the regular expression should be sent to output as follows:

Placeholder	Meaning
<code>\$&</code>	Outputs what matched the whole expression.
<code>\$MATCH</code>	As <code>\$&</code> .
<code>\$(#MATCH)</code>	As <code>\$&</code> .
<code>\$'</code>	Outputs the text between the end of the last match found (or the start of the text if no previous match was found), and the start of the current match.
<code>\$PREMATCH</code>	As <code>\$'</code> .
<code>\$(#PREMATCH)</code>	As <code>\$'</code> .
<code>\$</code>	Outputs all the text following the end of the current match.
<code>\$POSTMATCH</code>	As <code>\$</code> .
<code>\$(#POSTMATCH)</code>	As <code>\$</code> .
<code>\$+</code>	Outputs what matched the last marked sub-expression in the regular expression.
<code>\$LAST_PAREN_MATCH</code>	As <code>\$+</code> .
<code>\$LAST_SUBMATCH_RESULT</code>	Outputs what matched the last sub-expression to be actually matched.
<code>\$N</code>	As <code>\$LAST_SUBMATCH_RESULT</code> .
<code>\$\$</code>	Outputs a literal '\$'.
<code>\$n</code>	Outputs what matched the n'th sub-expression.
<code>\$(n)</code>	Outputs what matched the n'th sub-expression.
<code>\$(NAME)</code>	Outputs whatever matched the sub-expression named "NAME".

Escape Sequences

An escape character followed by any character x, outputs that character unless x is one of the escape sequences shown below.

Escape	Meaning
\a	Outputs the bell character: '\a'.
\e	Outputs the ANSI escape character (code point 27).
\f	Outputs a form feed character: '\f'.
\n	Outputs a newline character: '\n'.
\r	Outputs a carriage return character: '\r'.
\t	Outputs a tab character: '\t'.
\v	Outputs a vertical tab character: '\v'.
\xDD	Outputs the character whose hexadecimal code point is 0xDD.
\x{DDDD}	Outputs the character whose hexadecimal code point is 0xDDDD.
\cX	Outputs the ANSI escape sequence "escape-X".
\D	If D is a decimal digit in the range 1-9, then outputs the text that matched sub-expression D.
\l	Causes the next character to be outputted, to be output in lower case.
\u	Causes the next character to be outputted, to be output in upper case.
\L	Causes all subsequent characters to be output in lower case, until a \E is found.
\U	Causes all subsequent characters to be output in upper case, until a \E is found.
\E	Terminates a \L or \U sequence.

Alteryx Keyboard Shortcuts

Shortcuts

This page describes keyboard, mouse, and right-click context menu shortcuts in Alteryx. You can use these shortcuts to perform many functions.

▼ Select and Align Tools

Action	Shortcut
Select all items	Ctrl + A
Deselect all selected items	Ctrl + D
Align tools vertically	Ctrl + Shift + +
Align tools horizontally	Ctrl + Shift + -

▼ Move and Delete Tools

Action	Shortcut
Move selected tool	Arrow key
Move selected tool by one pixel	Ctrl + Arrow key
Delete selected tool	Delete

▼ Scroll and Pan the Canvas

Action	Shortcut
Scroll vertically	Scroll Function
Scroll horizontally	Shift + Scroll Function
Move up, down, left or right	Arrow Keys
Skip up, down, left or right	Shift + Arrow Keys
Jump to top or bottom	Home or End
Jump to left or right	Shift + Home or End
Pan	Space Bar + Left Click
Pan	Hold mouse center button

▼ Zoom In and Out of the Workflow

Action	Shortcut
Zoom in or out	Ctrl + + or -
Zoom to or from cursor	Ctrl + Scroll Function
Zoom to entire workflow	Ctrl + 0
Zoom to entire workflow	Double-click mouse center button
Jump to selection	Ctrl + 0
Jump in or out	Ctrl + 1 through 5
Zoom to area	Right-click & drag to select with magnifying glass

▼ Zoom In and Out of the Workflow: Right-Click Context Menu

Action	Right-click Context Menu
Zoom in	Zoom > Zoom In
Zoom normal	Zoom > Zoom Normal
Zoom out	Zoom > Zoom Out
Zoom to entire workflow	Zoom > All
Zoom to selection	Zoom > Selected Tools
Zoom to container	Zoom > Container Name

▼ Show and Hide Tools and Windows

Action	Shortcut
Show Toolbar	Ctrl + Alt + B
Show Tool Palette	Ctrl + Alt + T
Show Overview	Ctrl + Alt + V
Show Results Window	Ctrl + Alt + R
Show Configuration Window	Ctrl + Alt + C
Reopen the Configuration Window after closing it	Double-click the canvas or any tool
Show the Interface Designer	Ctrl + Alt + D
Show the Find Tool window	Ctrl + F

▼ Run, Open, Save, and Switch Workflows

Action	Shortcut
Run workflow; stop workflow from running	Ctrl + R
Open workflow	Ctrl + O
Close active workflow	Ctrl + F4
Save workflow	Ctrl + S
New workflow	Ctrl + N
Move between active workflows	Ctrl + Tab

▼ Undo and Redo, Copy and Paste

Action	Shortcut
Undo	Ctrl + Z
Redo	Ctrl + Y
Copy	Ctrl + C
Cut	Ctrl + X
Paste	Ctrl + V

▼ Other **Shortcuts**

Action	Shortcut
Open help page for the selected tool	F1
Close Alteryx Designer	Alt + F4
Add a Browse tool after selected tool(s). If the selected tool has multiple outputs, a browse will be added for each.	Ctrl + Shift + B
Activate menu and select menu item	Alt, then <i>underlined menu letter</i>
Show the System menu	Alt + Space
Open one or more files: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open a workflow file (*.yxmd, *.yxwz, *.yxmc) directly in a new tab on the workflow canvas. Open a data file as a configured Input Tool. 	Drag files from Windows Explorer directly to the canvas.
Copy and paste a tool's color value to another tool. For example, if you have selected a tool's Background Color (such as R=73, G=248, B=113) and you would like to use this same color for another tool's background color, you can easily copy and paste this color value.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Click inside the box containing the color values, and click Ctrl+C to copy the color values. Click inside another color box, and click Ctrl+V to paste the color values.
Refresh Workflow Use F5 to refresh tool configurations when the incoming data source has been updated externally and the metadata has changed. If the Disable Auto Configure option has been selected in the User Settings , press F5 to manually refresh tool configurations.	F5