Power Up Reports with Google

RIPL Webinar | Tuesday, September 24, 2019



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Assumptions

- You're comfortable with getting the data you need from the places it lives (e.g. exporting .CSV files, writing SQL queries, etc.)
- You have an awareness of basic programming concepts (loops, conditionals, arrays), at least at a high level

What We Will Cover

- Two approaches to using Sheets to create enhanced reports
 - Dump and Format
 - Parse and Update
- High level overview of getting data into Google Sheets, including some automated methods using Google Apps Script

What We Won't Cover

- Detailed instructions for using Sheets database functions
 - https://github.com/sclsnj/power-up-reports-with-google/
- Specific coding details about using Google Apps Script to interface with Sheets
 - https://developers.google.com/apps-script/overview

Two Approaches

Dump and Format

1. Dump a large amount of raw data into Google Sheets



 Set up database functions and conditional formatting to create report



Parse and Update

1. Set up a report in Google Sheets that's ready to use



2. Use Google Apps Script to pull in new data



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Parse and Undate

Getting Data

- Copy and paste
- Export as a .CSV and import > Append
- Get data from an emailed report
- Query a database directly



Dump and Format

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Database Functions

DAVERAGE	Returns the average of a set of values selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. Learn more
DCOUNT	Counts numeric values selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. Learn more
DCOUNTA	Counts values, including text, selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. Learn more
DGET	Returns a single value from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. Learn more
DMAX	Returns the maximum value selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. <u>Learn</u> more
DMIN	Returns the minimum value selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. <u>Learn</u> more
DSUM	Returns the sum of values selected from a database table-like array or range using a SQL-like query. <u>Learn</u> more

DAVERAGE (database, field, criteria)

Working at Scale

Only use as many **columns** as you'll need for your data.

- Google default is 1,000 rows x 26 columns
 - 1,000 rows x 26 columns = 26,000 cells
 - 1,000 rows x 6 columns = 6,000 cells
- At larger scales, the difference gets more pronounced:
 - 10,000 rows x 26 columns = 260,000 cells
 - 10,000 rows x 6 columns = 60,000 cells

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create report



Parse and Update

1. Set up a report in Google Sheets that's ready to use



2. Use Google Apps Script to pull in new data



Parse and Update

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Google Apps Script, in General

- Script pulls in the data from a source
 Emailed report (.CSV), database query
- Script parses through the data
 - Mapping, dividing out, aggregating, evaluating, etc.
- Script dumps the data into the Sheet
 - Either into an empty space or replacing the previous data

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Bound Scripts



Unbound Scripts

- Starts with a trigger from within a standalone Google Apps Script
- Google Apps Script gets the data from the source
- Data returns to Google Apps Script for parsing
- Google Apps Script puts the data in the Google Sheet



Handouts

- Basic Scripts
- Tips and Hints
- Examples:
 - People Count Trends
 - Circ Transaction Trends
 - Monthly Statistics
 - Long In Transit
 - High Holds

github.com/sclsnj/power-up-reports-with-google