

UNIX AWK command

stands for Aho, Weinberger, and Kernighan the developers
for manipulating and generating reports
no compiling

command programming language

allows the user to use variables, numeric functions, string functions, and logical operators

tiny but effective programs in the form of statements

it scans a file line by line, splits each input line into fields, compares input line/fields to pattern, performs action(s) on matched lines

syntax:

```
awk [options] 'selectionCriteria {action}' inputFile > outputFile
```

where options can be

```
-v var=val      set variable
```

```
-F x           use x as separator
```

```
-f fileA      read program from a fileA
```

lets have a file sample.txt (report), collection of data in format (name type id). Data separator in this file is space and record (line) separator is line break.

```
[root@localhost ~]# echo -e "a stud 123\nb stud 342\nc staff s111\nd staff s234\ne stud 455\nf stud 456" > sample.txt
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# ls
```

```
dos  hello.c  hello.js  sample.txt
```

now lets print content using awk

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '{print}' sample.txt
```

```
a stud 123
```

```
b stud 342
```

```
c staff s111
```

```
d staff s234
```

```
e stud 455
```

```
f stud 456
```

now lets print data of only students

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/stud/ {print}' sample.txt
```

```
a stud 123
```

```
b stud 342
```

```
e stud 455
```

```
f stud 456
```

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now lets print only name and id of students

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/stud/ {print $1, $3}' sample.txt
```

```
a 123
```

```
b 342
```

```
e 455
```

```
f 456
```

here \$1 holds name \$2 holds type \$3 holds id in each line, basically they indicates column number. They are built in variables of awk command.

awk reads a file line by line (record) and then breaks line into columns (fields)

\$0 indicate entire line

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/stud/ {print "data:", $0}' sample.txt
```

```
data: a stud 123
```

```
data: b stud 342
```

```
data: e stud 455
```

```
data: f stud 456
```

other built in variables are

NR line count (record number)

Nf column count of a line (fields of line)

lets print 'line' lineNumber entireContentOfLine of students from sample.txt

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/stud/ {print "line",NR, $0}' sample.txt
```

```
line 1 a stud 123
```

```
line 2 b stud 342
```

```
line 5 e stud 455
```

```
line 6 f stud 456
```

lets print only last field of staff from sample.txt

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/staff/ {print $NF}' sample.txt
```

```
s111
```

```
s234
```

lets print second last column of staff from sample.txt

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '/staff/ {print $(NF-1)}' sample.txt
```

```
staff
```

```
staff
```

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now lets print students from first five lines of sample.txt

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk 'NR==1, NR==5 {print $0}' sample.txt | awk '/stud/ {print $0}'
```

```
a stud 123
```

```
b stud 342
```

```
e stud 455
```

is there any empty line?

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk 'NF==0 {print $0}' sample.txt
```

variables in awk

lets print 11 to 20 in awk

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk 'BEGIN { for(i=11;i<=20;i++) print i}'
```

```
11
```

```
12
```

```
13
```

```
14
```

```
15
```

```
16
```

```
17
```

```
18
```

```
19
```

```
20
```

now lets try to create awk script file and execute it, write vi prg.awk and press i to insert mode

```
[root@localhost ~]# vi prg.awk
```

```
#!/usr/bin/awk -f
```

```
BEGIN{
```

```
for(i=11;i<=15;i++)
```

```
print i
```

```
}
```

press ESC to stop inserting and then press :wq for save & quit vi editor

here #! specifies an interpreter for the instructions in a script,

/usr/bin/awk is the interpreter

-f interpreter option, used to read a program file

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now lets make script executable and then run it

```
[root@localhost ~]# chmod +x ./prg.awk
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# ./prg.awk
```

```
11
```

```
12
```

```
13
```

```
14
```

```
15
```

now lets print details of all students in sample.txt to generate report

in same way as above write following code for prg2.awk

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '{print}' sample.txt
```

```
a stud 123
```

```
b stud 342
```

```
c staff s111
```

```
d staff s234
```

```
e stud 455
```

```
f stud 456
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# awk '{print}' prg2.awk
```

```
#!/usr/bin/awk -f
```

```
#read sample.txt and print data of students only
```

```
/stud/ {print $0}
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# chmod +x prg2.awk
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# ./prg2.awk sample.txt
```

```
a stud 123
```

```
b stud 342
```

```
e stud 455
```

```
f stud 456
```

awk script for fibonnaci series

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat prg3.awk
```

```
#!/usr/bin/awk -f
```

```
BEGIN
```

```
{
```

```
a=0;
```

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```
b=1;
N=8;
for(i=0;i<N;i++)
{
print a;
c=a+b;
a=b;
b=c;
}
}
[root@localhost ~]# chmod +x prg3.awk
[root@localhost ~]# ./prg3.awk
0
1
1
2
3
5
8
13
```

now lets read a command line input in awk file and decide if it is even or odd

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat evenOdd.awk
#!/usr/bin/awk -f
BEGIN
{
num = ARGV[1];
if(num%2==0)
    print num, "is even";
else
    print num, "is odd";
}
[root@localhost ~]# chmod +x evenOdd.awk
[root@localhost ~]# ./evenOdd.awk 13
13 is odd
[root@localhost ~]# ./evenOdd.awk 10
10 is even
```