

Problem Set 4

Wyatt Hartwig

2026-02-07

Due 02/07 at 5:00PM Central.

“This submission is my work alone and complies with the 30538 integrity policy.” Add your initials to indicate your agreement: SWH

Github Classroom Assignment Setup and Submission Instructions

1. Accepting and Setting up the PS4 Assignment Repository

- Each student must individually accept the repository for the problem set from Github Classroom (“ps4”) – <https://classroom.github.com/a/hWhtchqH>
 - You will be prompted to select your cnetid from the list in order to link your Github account to your cnetid.
 - If you can’t find your cnetid in the link above, click “continue to next step” and accept the assignment, then add your name, cnetid, and Github account to this Google Sheet and we will manually link it: <https://rb.gy/9u7fb6>
- If you authenticated and linked your Github account to your device, you should be able to clone your PS4 assignment repository locally.
- Contents of PS4 assignment repository:
 - `ps4_template.qmd`: this is the Quarto file with the template for the problem set. You will write your answers to the problem set here.

2. Submission Process:

- Knit your completed solution `ps4.qmd` as a pdf `ps4.pdf`.
 - Your submission does not need runnable code. Instead, you will tell us either what code you ran or what output you got.
- To submit, push `ps4.qmd` and `ps4.pdf` to your PS4 assignment repository. Confirm on Github.com that your work was successfully pushed.

Grading

- You will be graded on what was last pushed to your PS4 assignment repository before the assignment deadline
- Problem sets will be graded for completion as: {missing (0%); - (incomplete, 50%); + (excellent, 100%)}
 - The percent values assigned to each problem denote how long we estimate the problem will take as a share of total time spent on the problem set, not the points they are associated with.
- In order for your submission to be considered complete, you need to push both your `ps4.qmd` and `ps4.pdf` to your repository. Submissions that do not include both files will automatically receive 50% credit.

```

import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import altair as alt
import time
import vlc_convert as vlc
from IPython.display import Image, display
import requests
from datetime import datetime
import calendar
from urllib.parse import urljoin
import csv
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup as bs
import os
os.chdir('C:\\\\Users\\\\wyatt\\\\student30538-w26\\\\ps4-whartwig')

import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
#alt.renderers.enable("png")
alt.data_transformers.disable_max_rows()

#This function will work with (alt.Chart + alt.Chart) as well
def display_to_pdf(altchart, scale=2):
    png_bytes = vlc.vegalite_to_png(altchart.to_dict(), scale=scale)
    display(Image(png_bytes))

```

Step 1: Develop initial scraper and crawler

```

with open('webpage.html', 'w') as page:
    text = requests.get('https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement/').text

soup = bs(text, 'lxml')

```

(Pseudo code made after the fact with AI assistance as I missed the requirement to write pseudo code for part a. Pseudo code in question 2 is my own written and structured pseudo code.)

START

Initialize: Set the starting URL, an empty list for events, and a page counter to 0.

```

Repeat while a URL exists AND the page counter is less than 10:
Fetch: Download the webpage content.
Find: Identify all "event cards" on the current page.
For each card found:
    Extract: Pull out the Title, Hyperlink, and Date.
Filter Categories:
    Collect all category tags for the card.
    Remove "COVID-19" from that list.
    If a category remains, pick the first one; otherwise, label it "Other."
Save: Add the gathered info (Name, Category, Date, Link) to the event list.
Find Pagination: Look for a "Next" button.
Update:
    If "Next" exists: Update the URL to the next page and add 1 to the page
    ↵ counter.
    If "Next" is missing: Clear the URL to stop the loop.
END

```

```

#First instance of the list of events
#soup.find_all(lambda tag: tag.name == "li" and tag.find('a'))[81]

#We will need this root to find html links
root = 'https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement/'
current_url = 'https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement/'
event_log = []
count = 0
while current_url:
    if count == 10:
        break
    response = requests.get(current_url)
    soup = bs(response.text, 'lxml')

    #Scrape current page
    cards = soup.find_all('li', class_='usa-card')

    for card in cards:
        a_tag = card.find('h2', class_='usa-card__heading').find('a')

        title = a_tag.get_text(strip=True)
        link = urljoin(root, a_tag['href'])

        date = card.find('span', class_='text-base-dark').get_text(strip=True)

```

```

#We have to filter out the COVID-19 category doubles
cat_tags = card.find_all('li', class_='usa-tag')
all_cat = [c.get_text(strip=True) for c in cat_tags]
cat = [c for c in all_cat if c != 'COVID-19']
cat = cat[0] if cat else 'Other'

event_log.append({'Name': title, 'Category': cat, 'Date': date, 'Link':
↳ link})

# 2. Find the "Next" button link
next_button = soup.find('a', class_='pagination-next')

if next_button and 'href' in next_button.attrs:
    # Update current_url to the next page's link
    current_url = urljoin(root, next_button['href'])
    count += 1
else:
    current_url = None

event_log = pd.DataFrame(event_log)
event_log.to_csv('event_log.csv', index=False)

event_log = pd.read_csv('event_log.csv')

event_log

```

	Name	Category	Date
0	Brooklyn Banker Pleads Guilty to Laundering Pr...	Other	February 3, 2026
1	Delafield Man Sentenced to 18 Months' Imprison...	Criminal and Civil Actions	February 3, 2026
2	Former NFL Player Convicted for \$197M Medicare...	Criminal and Civil Actions	February 3, 2026
3	AG's Office Secures Indictments Against Peabod...	State Enforcement Agencies	February 2, 2026
4	Florida Man Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Vio...	Criminal and Civil Actions	January 30, 2026
...
195	Baltimore County Woman Sentenced For Impersona...	Criminal and Civil Actions	November 13, 2022
196	Alabama Doctor Pleads Guilty To \$6 Million Tel...	Criminal and Civil Actions	November 13, 2022
197	Repeat Offender Pleads Guilty To Health Care F...	Criminal and Civil Actions	November 13, 2022
198	ICYMI: Charges, Pleas, Sentencings And Settlem...	Criminal and Civil Actions	November 13, 2022
199	Bradenton Woman Indicted For Passport Fraud An...	Criminal and Civil Actions	November 13, 2022

Step 2: Making the scraper dynamic

1. Turning the scraper into a function

- a. Pseudo-Code

```
BEGIN FUNCTION
crawler_function(month, year):
    BEGIN INDICATOR
        if year < 2013:
            end function and print a message to the user to choose another date
    END INDICATOR

    root = underlying url link for the first web page
    current_url = link to first page of content (same as above, but will be
    ↵ used to find next page)
    event_log = empty list for storing results

    target_date = reformat user input with datetime to use in the loop

    BEGIN WHILE LOOP
        while current_url:
            response = use requests package to access the webpage and get html
            soup = create BeautifulSoup object that houses the html as plain text
            ↵ accessible

            cards = scrape all the cases (case cards) from the indexible soup object

            BEGIN MAIN FOR LOOP
                for card in cards:
                    BEGIN DATE CHECK LOOP
                        scrape_date = get the plain text of the date
                        card_date = convert the scrape_date to machine readable datetime

                        BEGIN COMP IF STMT
                            if card_date < target_date:
                                print a message stating the input date was reached
                                reset the scrapping indicator to True
                                break the loop outer loop
                            END COMP IF STMT
                        END DATE CHECK LOOP

                        a_tag = use the .find on the card to find the main tag and associated
                        ↵ class
```

```

title = recover the title in plain text of the event from the card

link = root + pull the url from the a_tag card with 'href'

date = scpare the date based on the relevant tag and class

BEGIN FILTER (here we must fix the COVID-19 doubles)
pull all tags for the categories in the card
use a list comprehension to subset the aobve to the plain text
set the category to a list (using a comprehension) that does not
↪ include 'COVID-19'
cat = the first item in the resulting list (should be a string object)
END FILTER

event_log = append all the above items using a dictionary to the
↪ event_log

BEGIN FIND NEXT PAGE
next_button = use .find to pull the tag and class combonation for the
↪ page that signals the next button
END FIND NEXT PAGE

BEGIN NEXT BUTTON IF LOGIC
next_button and the link in 'href' class are in next_button
↪ attribute:
    reset current_url to equal the root url plus the url found in the
↪ next_button 'href'
    else (if there is not next_button):
        set current_url equal to None so the scraper stops
    END NEXT BUTTON IF LOGIC
END MAIN FOR LOOP
END OUTER WHILE LOOP

use csv module to save the resulting event_log as a csv within the current
↪ directory
END FUNCTION

```

- b. Create Dynamic Scraper

```

def get_enforc_actions(month, year):
    if int(year) < 2013:

```

```

return print(f'Your selection of {year} is too far back, please select a
↳ year from 2013 or later.')

root = 'https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement/'
current_url = 'https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement/'
event_log = []

target_date = datetime.strptime(f'{month} 1, {year}', '%B %d, %Y')

stop_scraping = False

while current_url and not stop_scraping:
    #pull content from the webpage
    response = requests.get(current_url)
    soup = bs(response.text, 'lxml')

    #Scrape current page
    cards = soup.find_all('li', class_='usa-card')

    #Check the date and set the date
    for card in cards:
        scraped_date = card.find('span',
        ↳ class_='text-base-dark').get_text(strip=True)
        card_date = datetime.strptime(scraped_date, "%B %d, %Y")

        if card_date < target_date:
            print(f"{target_date} reached and {len(event_log)} events pulled")
            stop_scraping = True
            break

    #Pull the title and link from the card
    a_tag = card.find('h2', class_='usa-card__heading').find('a')
    title = a_tag.get_text(strip=True)
    link = root + a_tag['href']

    #Find all the category labels and then filter against COVID-19 doubles
    cat_tags = card.find_all('li', class_='usa-tag')
    all_cat = [c.get_text(strip=True) for c in cat_tags]
    cat = [c for c in all_cat if c != 'COVID-19']
    cat = cat[0] if cat else 'Unknown'

    #Append pieces to event_log
    event_log.append({'Name': title, 'Category': cat,

```

```

        'Date': scraped_date,
        'Link': link})

#Find the "Next" button link and see if we need to continue
if not stop_scraping:
    next_button = soup.find('a', class_='pagination-next')
    if next_button and 'href' in next_button.attrs:
        #Update current_url to the next page's link to get to next page
        current_url = urljoin(root, next_button['href'])
        time.sleep(0.5)
    else:
        current_url = None

#Convert and export data
event_log = pd.DataFrame(event_log)
event_log.to_csv(f'enforcement_actions_{year}_{month}.csv', index=False)
return f'Pulled {len(event_log)} items from the webpage'

```

```

get_enforc_actions('January', 2024)
pd.read_csv('enforcement_actions_2024_January.csv').iloc[-1,:][0]

```

The data frame returns 1,769 events (as of 04FEB26). The earliest event was a State Enforcement Agencies event on 03 January 2024 where a former nurse aide indicted in the death of a Clarksville patient was arrested in Georgia.

- c. Test Your Code

```

get_enforc_actions('January', 2022)

```

```

jan2022 = pd.read_csv('enforcement_actions_2022_January.csv')
jan2022.iloc[-1,:]

```

Name	Integrated Pain Management Medical Group Agree...
Category	Fraud Self-Disclosures
Date	January 4, 2022
Link	https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/enforcement//fraud/e...
Name:	3358, dtype: object

The function returns a data frame with 3,359 events (as of 04FEB26). The oldest event is a Fraud Self-Disclosures occurring on 04 January 2022 in which the (an?) Integrated Pain Management Medical Group agreed to pay \$10,000 for Allegedly Violating the Civil Monetary Penalties Law by Employing Excluded Individuals.

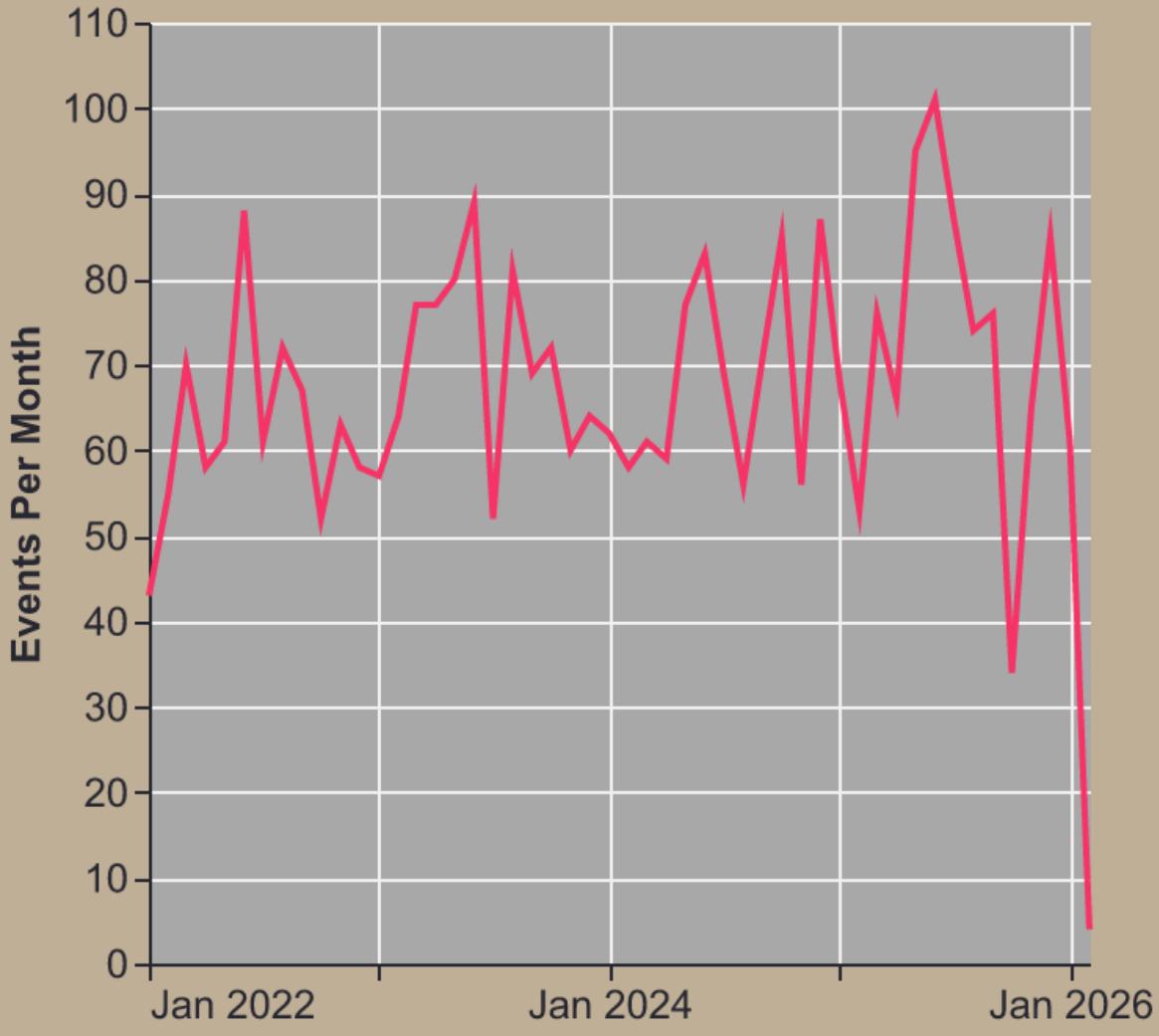
Step 3: Plot data based on scraped data

1. Plot the number of enforcement actions over time

```
ThemeRegistry.enable('my_theme')

line_plot = alt.Chart(jan2022, title='Monthly Number of Office of the\nInspector General Recorded Events').mark_line().encode(
    alt.X('yearmonth(Date):T', title=''),
    alt.Y('count()', title='Events Per Month')
)
display_to_pdf(line_plot)
```

Monthly Number of Office of the Inspector General Recorded Events

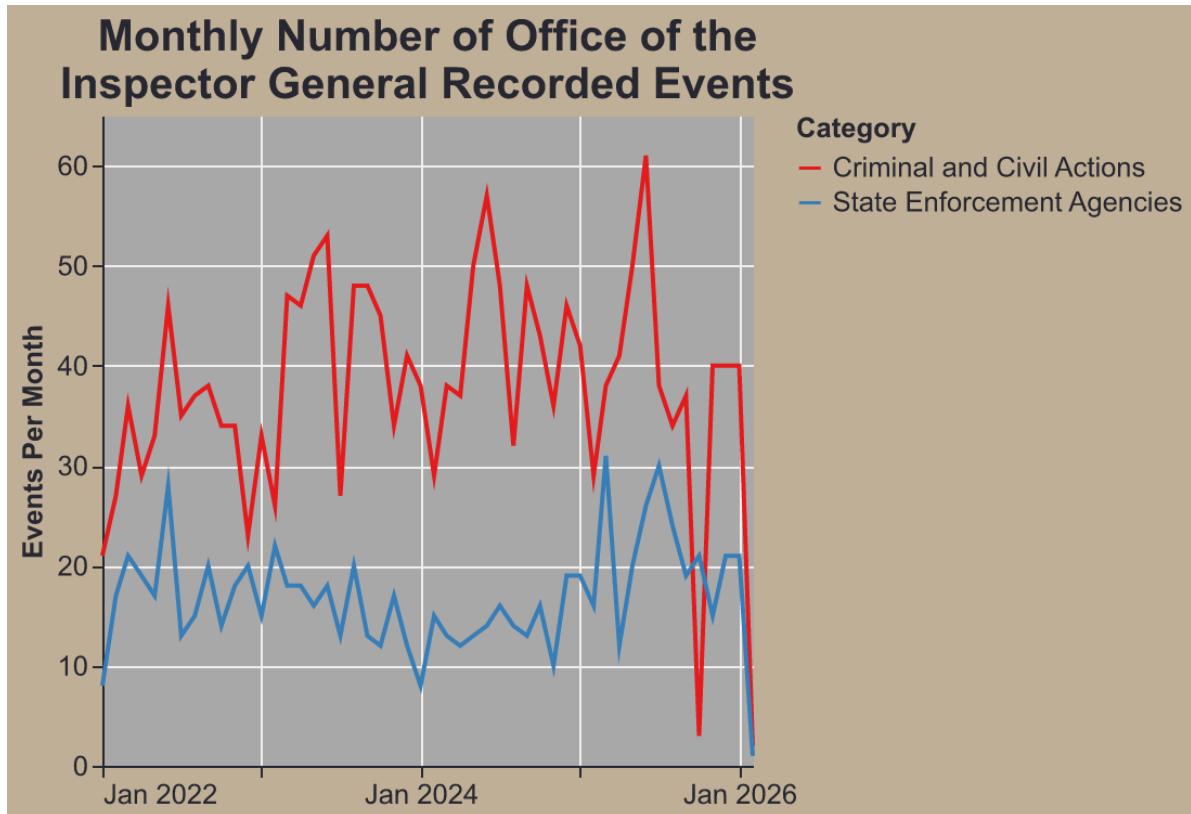


2. Plot the number of enforcement actions categorized:

- based on “Criminal and Civil Actions” vs. “State Enforcement Agencies”

```
crim_state = alt.Chart(jan2022, title='Monthly Number of Office of the\nInspector General Recorded Events').mark_line().encode(\n    alt.X('yearmonth(Date):T', title='')),
```

```
    alt.Y('count()', title='Events Per Month'),  
    alt.Color('Category').legend(labelLimit=400)  
).transform_filter("datum.Category == 'Criminal and Civil Actions' ||  
    datum.Category == 'State Enforcement Agencies' ")  
display_to_pdf(crim_state)
```



- based on five topics

```
topics = jan2022.copy()
topics = topics[topics['Category']=='Criminal and Civil Actions']
case_types = ["Health Care Fraud", "Financial Fraud", "Drug Enforcement",
              "Bribery/Corruption", "Other"]
```

```
conditions = [
    #Drug Keywords
    ↵ topics['Name'].str.contains('Dealer|Distribut|trafficking|controlled|substance|opioid|narco',
    ↵ prescrib', case=False, na=False),
```

```

#Bribery/corruption keywords

↳ topics['Name'].str.contains('kickback|bribe|corruption|unnecessary|solicit',
↳ case=False, na=False),
#Finance keywords
topics['Name'].str.contains('bank|wire|tax|financial|money|theft|embez',
↳ case=False, na=False),
#Health keywords

↳ topics['Name'].str.contains('health|medicine|medicare|medical|healthcare|lab|practice|CO'
↳ case=False, na=False),
]

choices = ['Drug Enforcement', 'Bribery/Corruption', 'Financial Fraud',
           'Health Care Fraud']

topics['Sub Category'] = np.select(conditions, choices, default='Other')

five_line = alt.Chart(topics, title='Monthly Number of Office of the
↳ Inspector\n General Criminal Recorded Events').mark_line().encode(
    alt.X('yearmonth(Date):T', title=''),
    alt.Y('count()', title='Events Per Month'),
    alt.Color('Sub Category').legend(labelLimit=400)
)
footer = alt.Chart().mark_text(
    align='left', baseline='middle', fontSize=10, color='black',
    dx=166
).encode(
    text=alt.value("Note:\nManually set sub categories\n based on keyword
↳ assumptions\n is not certain to produce completely\n accurate
↳ categorizations.")
)
display_to_pdf(footer + five_line)

```

Monthly Number of Office of the Inspector General Criminal Recorded Events

