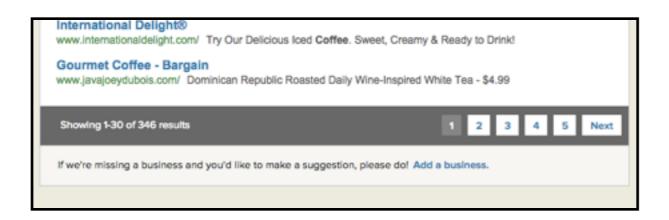
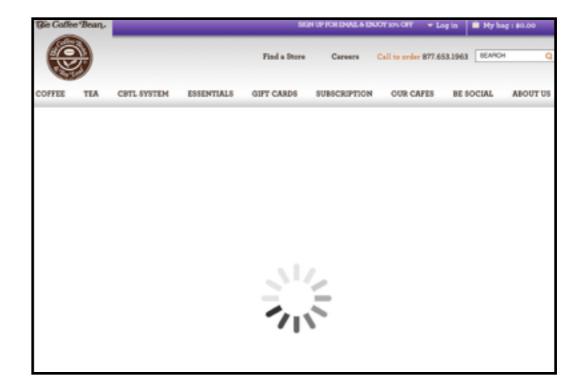
Some Obstacles



Results on Multiple Pages



Dynamic Web Page

Results on Multiple Pages

Today's GOAL

Collect the cast list of Top 250 comedy movies sorted based

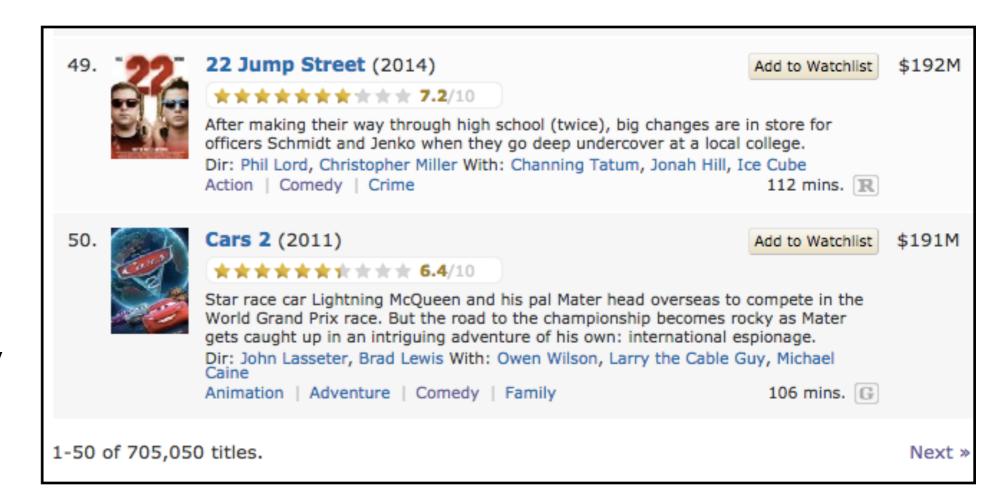
on US Box Office Income

(http://www.imdb.com/search/title?

<u>genres=comedy&sort=boxoffice_gross_us</u>)

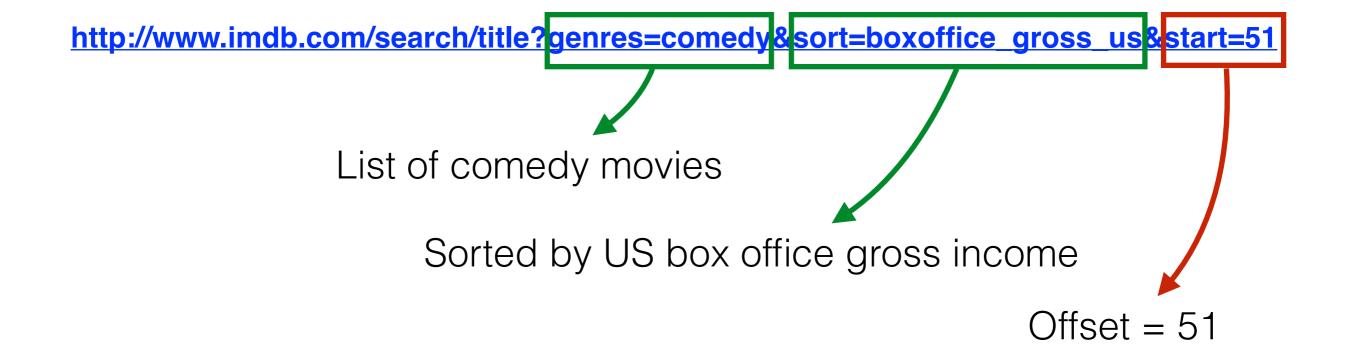
Pagination

Sometimes data we are interested in is on multiple pages. For instance, IMDB list of top comedy movies.



http://www.imdb.com/search/title?genres=comedy&sort=boxoffice_gross_us http://www.imdb.com/search/title?genres=comedy&sort=boxoffice_gross_us&start=51 http://www.imdb.com/search/title?genres=comedy&sort=boxoffice_gross_us&start=101

Structure of URL



Change the offset and you'll have different pages of the list.

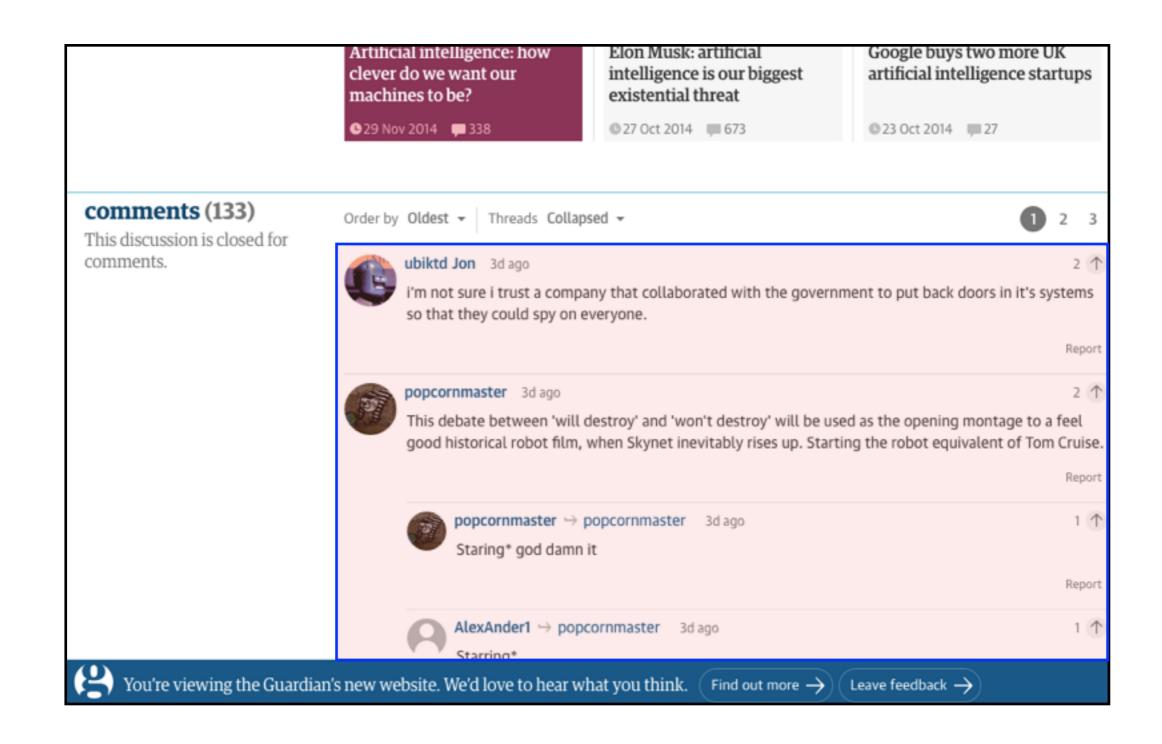
```
url_base = 'http://www.imdb.com/search/title?genres=comedy&sort=boxoffice_gross_us'
for i in range(1,250,50):
    # Concatenate two parts of the URL string
    url = url_base + '&start=' + str(i)
    response = requests.get(url)
    ...    [python]
```

Next

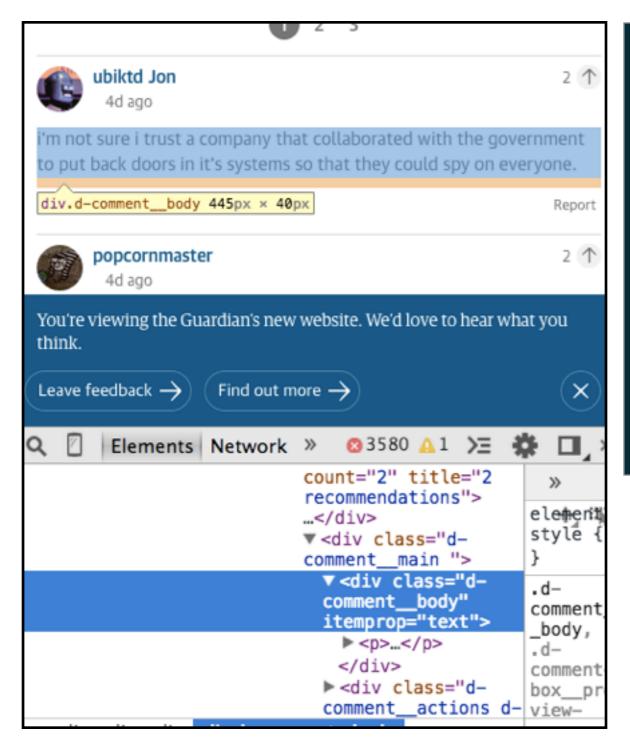
Today's GOAL

Collect **comments** of a news article on **The Guardian** (http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/jan/28/artificial-intelligence-will-not-end-human-race)

Extract Comments



Our Old Ways

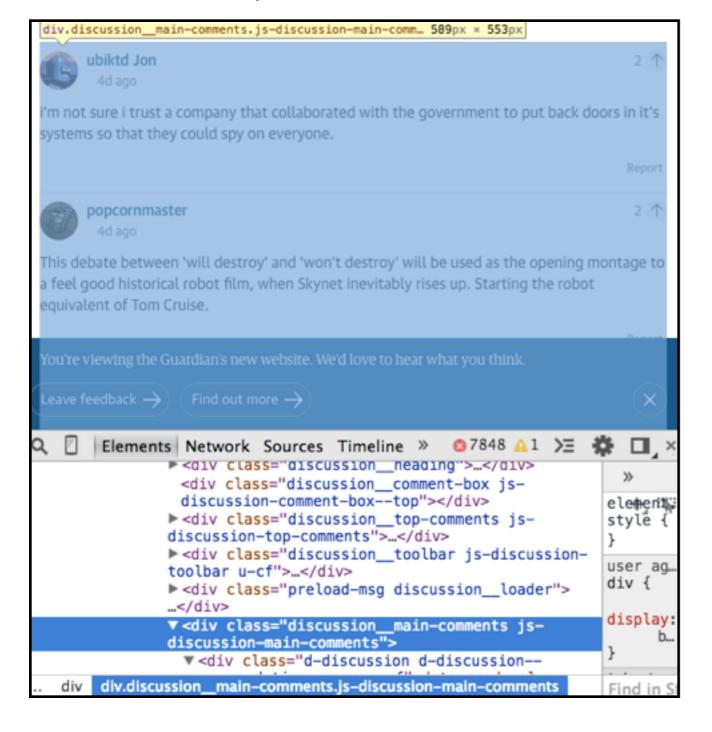


```
url_base = 'http://www.theguardian.com/technology/
2015/jan/28/artificial-intelligence-will-not-end-human-
race'
response = requests.get(url)
soup = BeautifulSoup(response.content)
mydivs = soup.findAll('div', class_ = 'd-
comment__body', limit = 1)
                                               [python]
```

mydivs will be empty!

Compare

Inspect Element



Page Source

```
pagination"></div>
</div>
<div class="preload-msg
discussion loader">Loading comments... <a
href=/discussion/p/45a9a class="accessible-
link">Trouble loading?</a><div class="is-
updating"></div></div>
<div class="discussion main-comments js-</pre>
discussion-main-comments"></div>
<div class="discussion domment-box</pre>
discussion comment-box--bottom js-discussion-
comment-box--bottom"></div>
<button class="discussion show-button button-</pre>
-show-more button button--large button--
primary js-discussion-show-button" data-link-
name="more-comments">
<i class="i i-plus-white"></i>
View more comments
</button>
```

The element containing comments is empty in the source code!

Dynamic Content

Inspect Element

Shows the page content after scripts are run on the server side.

Page Source

Shows the initial content of the page before scripts are run.

Requests gets the initial content of the page, same as what we see from Page Source.

Solution:

Use Selenium

Selenium

Python library to mechanize the browser.



Instantly watch 40,000 amazen

Opens a FireFox window, loads IMDB website.

Scrape Dynamic Web Pages

When using **Selenium**, we can wait for a certain element to load, or wait for a certain amount of time, and then look for the data we want to extract in the Page.

```
url_base = 'http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/jan/28/artificial-intelligence-will-not-
end-human-race'
browser.get(url)

time.sleep(5)
page_content = browser.page_source
[python]
```

page_content now contains the comments.

Also Consider API's

API (Application Program Interface):

Provides programmatic access to a website's data.

- + Structured Data
- + Easier than web scraping
- You have to register for a key and use it with every request, so not anonymous
- Limited rate and access