

Data Science - Project Stage 2

Web Data Extraction

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Web Data Sources:

The two sources of data we selected for our data extraction task are:

- www.amazon.com
- www.booksamillion.com

We have extracted structured data about books from the following three categories: Space Opera, Dark Fantasy and Psychological Thrillers. Moreover, we have extracted data about recently released and paperback books only.

Extraction Methodology:

The process of extracting the data from both the sources was identical.

Step 1: On applying appropriate filters on the data-source websites, a collection of multiple pages is loaded; and each page contains entries for multiple books. We grab the embedded URLs of the books on each page, store them in a file and then move to the next page. Thus, at the end of this step, we have two files, which contain more than 9000 (booksamillion) and 3000 (amazon) URLs of books.

Step 2: In this step, we read the URLs from the files created in step 1, and crawl each of these URLs individually. We extract various attributes for each book. A tuple consisting of these attributes is then stored in a CSV file.

After successful completion of both steps, we obtain two CSV files, one for each data source, containing the extracted data in tabular form. Each tuple of a table describes the data about one particular book.

Entity Description:

The entity type we have extracted from the above mentioned sources is **Books**. We have created two tables (CSV format), one for each source. These 2 CSV files are named books_amazon_output.csv and books_millions_output.csv.

The schema followed by both the tables is:

{Name, Category, Author, Price, Series, Pages, Publisher, Date, Language, ISBN-10, ISBN-13, Dimension, Weight}

Here's a brief description of the attributes extracted:

Name: Title of the book

Category: Category of the book (We have extracted data for books limited to categories Space Opera, Dark Fantasy and Psychological Thrillers)

Author: Author(s) of the book

Price: Cost of the book

Series: Series of the book

Pages: Number of pages in the book

Publisher: Publication house of the book

Date: Date on which this book was (or will be) released

Language: Language in which this book is written

ISBN-10 and ISBN-13: The 2 ISBNs of a book

Dimensions: Size of the book

Weight: Shipping weight of the book

Some attributes are sparsely populated. For example, in books_millions_output.csv, Dimensions and Weight are sparsely populated, as compared to books_amazon_output.csv.

The number of tuples in the table extracted from **amazon.com** :- **3000**

The number of tuples in the table extracted from **booksamillion.com** :- **9000**

Description of Tools Used:

We have used '*Beautiful Soup*' and '*Selenium*' tools of the python framework in our project. Selenium is used to get the HTML page source; whereas Beautiful Soup is used to extract the attributes from this source.