



Reading and writing other formats





Other formats

- When processing data you will come across a range of formats.
- Common text formats are:
 - -XML
 - HTML
 - Json
- Common binary formats in our community are:
 - Grib
 - ESRI shapefiles





Reading XML – Element Tree

```
from urllib.request
import urlopen
from xml.etree.ElementTree import parse
# Download the RSS feed and parse it
u = urlopen('http://planet.python.org/rss20.xml')
doc = parse(u)
# Extract and output tags of interest
for item in doc.iterfind('channel/item'):
    title = item.findtext('title')
    date = item.findtext('pubDate')
    link = item.findtext('link')
```

print title, date, link





Reading HTML - HTMLParser

from HTMLParser import HTMLParser

```
# create a subclass and override the handler methods
class MyHTMLParser(HTMLParser):
    def handle_starttag(self, tag, attrs):
        print "Encountered a start tag:", tag
    def handle_endtag(self, tag):
        print "Encountered an end tag:", tag
    def handle data(self, data):
        print "Encountered some data : ", data
# instantiate the parser and fed it some HTML
parser = MyHTMLParser()
parser.feed('<html><head><title>Test</title></head>'
            '<body><h1>Parse me!</h1></body></html>')
```





Reading Grib

- See later section on Iris





Reading ESRI Shapefiles

```
import shapefile
sf = shapefile.Reader("shapefiles/blockgroups.shp")
shapes = sf.shapes()
# Get the bounding box of the 4th shape.
# Round coordinates to 3 decimal places
bbox = shapes[3].bbox
print ['%.3f' % coord for coord in bbox]
```

```
['-122.486', '37.787', '-122.446', '37.811']
```



