

Automated Browsing

Data Boot Camp

Lesson 11.3



Class Objectives

By the end of today's class you will be able to:



Use Splinter to perform automated browser actions.



Automate the web scraping process by using Splinter and BeautifulSoup.



Organize scraped information into a Python data structure.



Automated Web Scraping

Use Splinter to visit a live website and store its

HTML code

Use DevTools to identify
HTML tags and CSS
selectors for what you
want to scrape

Use a for loop and Splinter to scrape the desired elements from multiple pages

Ethics and Laws Around Web Scraping

Before collecting data from a website...

01

Always read a website's Terms of Use or Terms of Service before scraping the website

02

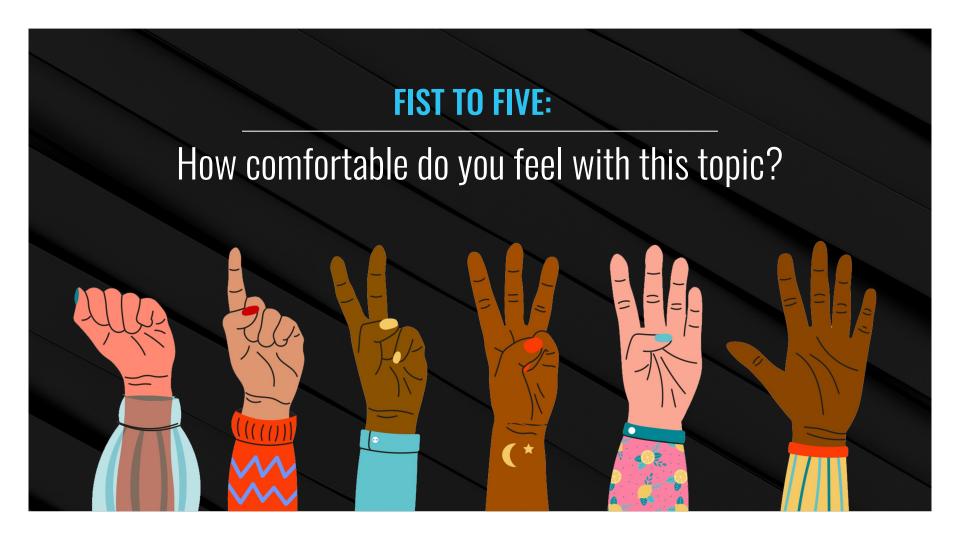
Look for sections that prohibit automated scraping, or directions on using their data

03

Research recent legal cases involving web scraping, since legal stances are evolving



Be extra cautious about personal data!





Practice Performing an Automated Web Scrape

In this activity, we'll scrape data from a website that was created specifically for practicing our skills: Quotes to Scrape

Suggested Time:

Activity: Practice Performing an Automated Web Scrape

Instructions

Open up **Quotes to Scrape** in Chrome and familiarize yourself with the page layout.

Use DevTools to review the details of the "Top Ten tags" line.

Scrape the "Top Ten tags" heading.

Extract all of the Top Ten tags from the webpage.

End the session by using browser.quit()





Instructor Demonstration

Automated Web Scraping Across Multiple Pages



Scrape Book Links

In this activity, you'll practice automated scraping on another website that was created specifically for practicing our skills: Books to Scrape

Suggested Time:

Activity: Scrape Book Links

Open up <u>Quotes to Scrape</u> in Chrome and familiarize yourself with the page layout. Where can you find a link to more details about each book?

Inspect the element where the additional book details are linked. What class is the link contained within?

Scrape from One

Run the cells to import the necessary libraries and to set up the browser.

Use the browser.visit(url) function to visit the website.

Create a BeautifulSoup parser to parse the HTML code from the page you visited.

Use the **find_all** function to locate and store all of the website content associated with the class you previously identified by using DevTools.

Create a blank list, then use a for loop to extract each of the links associated with the books and store them in that list.

Print the list to confirm that you were successful.

Activity: Scrape Book Links

Scrape from Multiple

Since you have confirmed that your code works and you are able to scrape the book links, now you can automate the scraping process by scraping multiple website pages.

Look back at the page, and find the button that allows you to click the next page. How is it labeled?

Use the label text that you found, the browser.links.find_by_partial_text method, and the click method to automatically move to the next page. Run your code and use the open browser window to confirm that you successfully advanced to the next page.

Now use a for loop and the code you wrote for the previous section to scrape the book links from the first three pages of the website. Display your results by printing the page number, followed by the links on that page.

Congratulations, you have automated the process of scraping multiple website pages! Now end the session by using browser.quit().







News Headers

In this activity, you will scrape news summaries across multiple pages from the Global Voices news site

Suggested Time:

Activity: News Headers

Instructions

Open page 2 of <u>Global Voices news</u> in Chrome. Use DevTools to identify the elements that contain the data you need to scrape.

Within your Jupyter notebook, use Splinter to click on any popup or lightbox to make it disappear.

Create an empty list to store your article summaries.

Create a function that will perform your web scraping. The function should perform the following tasks:

- Collect the HTML from the browser.
- Parse the HTML and save it as a BeautifulSoup object.
- On any given page, scrape the **title** and the **date** of each article.
- For each article summary, the title and the date should be structured as a dictionary. All dictionaries should be contained in a Python list.

Create a for loop that will:

- Call your web scraping function to scrape the article summaries on a page.
- Click the button to go to the next page of older articles.
- Repeat the process for a total of five pages.

Import the scraped data (a list of dictionaries) into a Pandas dataframe. Using Python, Pandas, or both, convert the dates into a useable datetime type.





Mars Fact Scrape

In this activity, you'll practice scraping data that was stored in a table on a website.

Suggested Time:

Activity: Mars Fact Scrape

Instructions

Open up the Mars Facts website in Chrome and become familiar with the layout.

You'll scrape the data from the table labeled "Mars Planet Profile." Use Chrome DevTools to inspect that element. What is the class of the table you want to scrape?

In Jupyter Notebook, Import the necessary libraries and set up Splinter. Use Splinter to visit the Mars Facts site and collect the html. Create a BeautifulSoup parser to parse the html from the website.

Scrape and store the table by using the find method alongside the class you identified by using Chrome DevTools.

Store the table information in a dictionary by following these steps:

- Create an empty dictionary.
- Use the find_all method to store all the rows of the table in a variable.
- Use a for loop to iterate through each of the rows in the table.
- For each row in the table, use the `find` method to extract the text for each header and to extract the text for the data associated with that header.
- Add the extracted header and associated data in the dictionary, with the header as the key and the data as the value.

Display your scraped table dictionary to confirm the process was successful.

Quit your browsing session.





Instructor Demonstration

Scrape a Table with Pandas







