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# Web Scraping: Beautiful Soup vs Selenium

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# Problems Revisited: Yahoo Finance Scraping

Portfolios

Refresh 12/05/19 01:27 PM ET

PositionsPerformance & ValueMarginGains & LossesAnalysisEstimated Income

Individual Brokerage -9898

Net Account Value  
\$32,063.00

Total Unrealized Gain  
\$12,369.00 (+10.65%)

Day's Gain Unrealized  
\$101.50 (+0.32%)

Show less

Available for Withdrawal ⓘ  
\$1,232.00

Marginable Purchasing Power ⓘ  
\$145.50

Non-Marginable Purchasing Power ⓘ  
\$145.50

Options

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Symbol	Actions	Qty #	Last Price \$	Bid	Ask	Day's Gain \$	Total Gain \$	IV%	Delta	Gamma	Vega	Theta		
BENG ⓘ Dec 20 '19 \$7.50 Put	Trade	≡+	-1	0.05	0.00	0.05	247.50	251.97	178.93%	-0.01	0.01	0.00	-0.01	
JSTG ⓘ Jan 17 '20 \$115 Call	Trade	≡+	-2	7.05	6.75	7.25	230.00	118.93	61.16%	0.45	0.02	0.15	-0.11	
KRBD ⓘ Dec 20 '19 \$6 Put	Trade	≡+	-1	0.15	0.14	0.18	1.00	83.47	182.95%	-0.09	0.05	0.00	-0.02	
CSYN ⓘ Dec 20 '19 \$6 Put	Trade	≡+	-1	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.00	54.97	80.91%	-0.12	0.17	0.00	-0.01	
JXRB ⓘ Dec 20 '19 \$15 Call	Trade	≡+	10	0.02	0.00	0.01	-5.00	-105.12	340.62%	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	
FKTR ⓘ	Trade	🔔≡+	200	109.52	109.39	109.51	-372.00	14,767.07	0.00%	0.00	--	--	--	
Cash											\$6,202.01			
Total						\$101.50	\$15,171.29					-0.14		

Streaming quotes via MarketCaster ⓘ

# Problems Revisited: Yahoo Finance Scraping

No.	Ticker	Sector	Live Price	Dividend Yield	Beta	P/E	EPS
1	Stock1	Healthcare	\$160.44	2.47%	0.72	29.12	5.51
2	Stock2	Consumer Discretionary	\$233.20		0.82	78.21	2.98
3	Stock3	Pharma	\$232.46	2.78%	0.74	18.88	12.31
4	Stock4	Tech	\$322.85		1.36	75.85	4.26
5	Stock5	ETF	\$126.12	2.50%		12.63	9.98
6	Stock6	REIT	\$41.04		0.52	51.01	0.80
7	Stock7	Energy	\$125.86		1.27	34.02	3.70
8	Stock8	Consumer Staples	\$55.75		2.11	#N/A	-1.58
9	Stock9	Tech	\$51.11		1.34	11.80	4.33

# Problems Revisited: Yahoo Finance Scraping

## Microsoft Corporation (MSFT)

NasdaqGS - NasdaqGS Real Time Price. Currency in USD

★ Add to watchlist

Visitors trend 2W → 10W ↑ 9M ↑

**240.97** -2.82 (-1.16%)

At close: February 19 4:00PM EST

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### Valuation Measures

Annual Quarterly Monthly

Currency in USD

Download

	Current	12/31/2020	9/30/2020	6/30/2020	3/31/2020	12/31/2019
Market Cap (intraday) <sup>5</sup>	1.82T	1.68T	1.59T	1.54T	1.20T	1.20T
Enterprise Value <sup>3</sup>	1.75T	1.61T	1.53T	1.48T	1.14T	1.14T
Trailing P/E	35.91	35.87	36.52	33.92	27.48	29.75
Forward P/E <sup>4</sup>	32.89	33.00	32.15	32.36	25.32	28.90
PEG Ratio (5 yr expected) <sup>1</sup>	2.44	2.57	2.50	2.48	2.77	2.78
Price/Sales (ttm)	12.02	11.59	11.30	11.30	9.07	9.40
Price/Book (mrq)	13.96	13.60	13.45	13.46	10.87	11.32
Enterprise Value/Revenue <sup>3</sup>	11.45	37.49	41.06	38.83	32.54	30.88
Enterprise Value/EBITDA <sup>6</sup>	23.33	74.53	78.80	83.86	68.75	63.53

🔒 Premium access required. [Learn more](#)

### Financial Highlights

#### Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year Ends	Jun 30, 2020
Most Recent Quarter (mrq)	Dec 31, 2020

#### Profitability

Profit Margin	33.47%
Operating Margin (ttm)	39.24%

#### Management Effectiveness

Return on Assets (ttm)	12.81%
Return on Equity (ttm)	42.70%

#### Income Statement

Revenue (ttm)	153.28B
Revenue Per Share (ttm)	20.23
Quarterly Revenue Growth (yoy)	16.70%
Gross Profit (ttm)	96.94B

### Trading Information

#### Stock Price History

Beta (5Y Monthly)	0.82
52-Week Change <sup>3</sup>	41.01%
S&P500 52-Week Change <sup>3</sup>	16.75%
52 Week High <sup>3</sup>	246.13
52 Week Low <sup>3</sup>	132.52
50-Day Moving Average <sup>3</sup>	230.76
200-Day Moving Average <sup>3</sup>	217.76

#### Share Statistics

Avg Vol (3 month) <sup>3</sup>	28.19M
Avg Vol (10 day) <sup>3</sup>	20.46M
Shares Outstanding <sup>5</sup>	7.56B
Float	7.43B
% Held by Insiders <sup>1</sup>	0.06%

# What is BeautifulSoup?

- ❖ A module for pulling data out of HTML and XML documents
- ❖ Pros:
  - Beginner Friendly, very good documentation and a friendly user community
  - Most popular web scraping Python library
- ❖ Drawbacks:
  - Relies on other libraries to work (requesters and parser) → More dependencies
  - Lack of JavaScript handling by itself

BeautifulSoup

# What is Selenium?

- ❖ Web browser automation tool, developed for web testing
- ❖ Pros:
  - Incorporates requesters and parsers
  - Can interact with web controls and invoke JavaScript
- ❖ Drawbacks:
  - Much longer time and more expensive to run the script: Selenium needs to download the full contents of the web page, not just HTML, resulting in a slower process and higher CPU and memory usage
  - More potential for reliability issues



# Winner: Beautiful Soup

- Beginner friendly and the amount of resources and libraries available are the main reasons that we chose Beautiful Soup.
- Beautiful Soup tends to need more concise code than Selenium when scraping the same data.
- Time Complexity is also considered, especially when we want the users to have the ability to scrape data for multiple stock tickers at a time

# Code

```
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
import re
import json
from scraping.clients import Requester
from scraping.constants import *

class Scraper:
    def __init__(self, ticker, requester=Requester()):
        self.ticker = ticker.upper()
        self.requester = requester
        self.url_stats = URL_KEY_STATISTICS.format(self.ticker, self.ticker)
        self.url_profile = URL_PROFILE.format(self.ticker, self.ticker)
        self.financials_dict = {}
        self.profile_dict = {}
        self.sec_filing_list = []

    def parse_url(self, url):
        text = self.requester.get_page_text(url)
        soup = BeautifulSoup(text, 'lxml')
        pattern = re.compile(r'\s--\sData\s--\s')
        script_data = soup.find('script', text=pattern).contents[0]
        start_pos = script_data.find("context") - 2
        end_pos = -12
        json_loads = json.loads(script_data[start_pos: end_pos])
        json_data = json_loads['context']['dispatcher']['stores']['QuoteSummaryStore']
        return json_data

    def add_to_data_dict(self, dict):
        for key, val in dict.items():
            try:
                self.financials_dict[key] = val['fmt']
            except (KeyError, TypeError):
                continue

    def add_key_stats_to_dict(self):
        stats_data = self.parse_url(self.url_stats)
        tables_to_scrape = ['financialData', 'summaryDetail', 'defaultKeyStatistics', 'price', 'calendarEvents']
        for table in tables_to_scrape:
            self.add_to_data_dict(stats_data[table])

    def add_profile_to_dict(self):
        profile_data = self.parse_url(self.url_profile)
        self.scrape_company_description(profile_data)
        self.scrape_sec_filing(profile_data)
```



# Code Continued

```
def scrape_company_description(self, profile_data):
    asset_profile = profile_data['assetProfile']
    profile_fields_to_include = ['sector', 'industry', "longBusinessSummary"]
    for field in profile_fields_to_include:
        self.profile_dict[field] = asset_profile.get(field)

def scrape_sec_filing(self, profile_data):
    try:
        sec_filings = profile_data['secFilings']['filings']
        n = min(3, len(sec_filings))
        sec_fields_to_include = ['date', 'type', 'title', 'edgarUrl']
        if sec_filings:
            for i in range(n):
                temp_filing_dict = {}
                for field in sec_fields_to_include:
                    temp_filing_dict[field] = sec_filings[i].get(field)
                self.sec_filing_list.append(temp_filing_dict)
        return True # SEC Filing successful
    except KeyError:
        return False # No SEC Filing Info on Yahoo Finance

def scrape_all_data(self):
    self.add_key_stats_to_dict()
    self.add_profile_to_dict()
    return {'profile': self.profile_dict, 'financials': self.financials_dict, 'sec_filings': self.sec_filing_list}

if __name__ == "__main__":
    s = scraper('AAPL')
    data = s.scrape_all_data()
    print(data["profile"])
    print(data["financials"])
    print(len(data["financials"]))
    print(data['sec_filings'])
```

# Results

```
sector: Technology
industry: Consumer Electronics
longBusinessSummary: Apple Inc. designs, manufactures, and markets smartphones, personal computers, tablets, wearables, and accessories worldwide. It also sells various related services. The company offers iPhone, a line of sm
ebitdaMargins: 28.95%
profitMargins: 21.74%
grossMargins: 38.78%
operatingCashFlow: 88.92B
revenueGrowth: 21.48%
operatingMargins: 25.25%
ebitda: 85.14B
targetLowPrice: 83.00
grossProfits: 104.96B
freeCashFlow: 66.89B
targetMedianPrice: 157.00
currentPrice: 129.87
earningsGrowth: 34.40%
currentRatio: 1.16
returnOnAssets: 13.36%
numberOfAnalystOpinions: 38
targetMeanPrice: 151.75
debtToEquity: 169.19
returnOnEquity: 82.09%
targetHighPrice: 175.00
totalCash: 76.83B
totalDebt: 112.04B
totalRevenue: 294.14B
totalCashPerShare: 4.58
revenuePerShare: 17.13
quickRatio: 1.02
recommendationMean: 2.00
previousClose: 129.71
regularMarketOpen: 130.24
twoHundredDayAverage: 122.48
trailingAnnualDividendYield: 0.62%
payoutRatio: 21.77%
regularMarketDayHigh: 130.71
averageDailyVolume10Day: 84.47M
regularMarketPreviousClose: 129.71
fiftyDayAverage: 133.56
trailingAnnualDividendRate: 0.81
```