

STAT243 Lecture 2.4 Working with Information on the Web

Logic ▾

- 以编程方式与 Web 交互：以下载为主，也可上传
- 常见格式：HTML, XML, JSON, YAML。
- 核心工具：`requests`、`BeautifulSoup` / `lxml`、`json`、`yaml`、`pandas.read_html` / `read_json`。

1 Reading HTML（抓取 HTML 表格）

- 关键思路：获取 HTML 源码 → 解析 DOM → 抽取 `<table>` 或节点文本。
- 浏览器中可先查看 **View Source / Developer Tools** 了解结构与是否存在大量 Javascript。

1.1 使用 `find_all` 通过 HTML 标签或属性搜索



Python

```
1 import io, requests, pandas as pd
2 from bs4 import BeautifulSoup as bs
3
4 URL = "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_and_dependencies_by_population"
5 user_agent = "stat243_educational_bot/0.1 (paciorek@berkeley.edu)"
6 headers = {'User-Agent': user_agent}
7 response = requests.get(URL, headers=headers)
8 html = response.content
9
10 soup = bs(html, 'html.parser')
11 html_tables = soup.find_all('table')
12
13 # pandas.read_html 需要字符串/文件句柄，不直接接受 Tag 对象
14 pd_tables = [pd.read_html(io.StringIO(str(tbl)))[0] for tbl in html_tables]
15 [x.shape for x in pd_tables]
16 # 输出:
17 # [(242, 6), (13, 2), (1, 2)]
18
19 pd_tables[0].head()
20 # 输出:
21 #   Location ... Notes
22 # 0   World ...  NaN
23 # 1   India ...   [b]
24 # ...
```

- `BeautifulSoup` 构建树后可按标签或属性搜索，再交给 `pandas.read_html` 解析。

1.2 Extracting hyperlinks（提取超链接）



Python

```
1 import requests
2 from bs4 import BeautifulSoup as bs
3
4 URL = "http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ghcn/daily/by_year"
5 response = requests.get(URL)
6 soup = bs(response.content, 'html.parser')
7
8 # 方法 1: 所有 <a> 标签
```

```

9  a_elements = soup.find_all('a')
10 links1 = [x.get('href') for x in a_elements]
11
12 # 方法 2: 具有 href 属性的 <a>
13 href_elements = soup.find_all('a', href=True)
14 links2 = [x.get('href') for x in href_elements]
15
16 links2[:9]
17 # 输出:
18 # ['?C=N;0=D', '?C=M;0=A', '?C=S;0=A', '?C=D;0=A', '/pub/data/ghcn/daily/',
19 #  '1750.csv.gz', '1763.csv.gz', '1764.csv.gz', '1765.csv.gz']

```

1.3 CSS selectors (用选择器抽取)

```

Python
1  # 所有 <tr> 内部的 <th>
2  soup.select("tr th")
3  # 输出:
4  # [<th>...</th>, <th>...</th>, ...]
5
6  # 所有父元素为 <th> 的 <a>
7  soup.select("th > a")
8  # 输出:
9  # [<a href="?C=N;0=D">Name</a>, <a href="?C=M;0=A">Last modified</a>, ...]

```

1.4 XPath (用 lxml 进行 XPath 查询)

```

Python
1  import lxml.html
2
3  # 将 BeautifulSoup object 转为 lxml object
4  lxml_doc = lxml.html.fromstring(str(soup))
5
6  # 所有带 href 的 <a>
7  a_elements = lxml_doc.xpath('//a[@href]')
8  links = [x.get('href') for x in a_elements]
9  links[:9]
10 # 输出:
11 # ['?C=N;0=D', '?C=M;0=A', '?C=S;0=A', '?C=D;0=A', '/pub/data/ghcn/daily/',
12 #  '1750.csv.gz', '1763.csv.gz', '1764.csv.gz', '1765.csv.gz']

```

2 XML, JSON, and YAML

- 三者均支持键值、数组与层级结构
- 读取需用对应库解析为 Python 结构 (dict/list 等)。

2.1 XML (结构化自描述)

- XML 是一种以自描述格式储存数据的 markup language, 通常有 hierarchical structure, 不需要 metadata
- XML 文档具有树状结构, 由元素 (节点) 组成
- 常见存档/办公文档/空间信息 (如 KML)。

```

XML
1  <?xml version="1.0"?>
2  <catalog>
3    <book id="bk101">

```

```

4      <author>Gambardella, Matthew</author>
5      <title>XML Developer's Guide</title>
6      <genre>Computer</genre>
7      <price>44.95</price>
8      <publish_date>2000-10-01</publish_date>
9      <description>An in-depth look at creating applications with XML.</description>
10    </book>
11    <book id="bk102">
12      <author>Ralls, Kim</author>
13      <title>Midnight Rain</title>
14      <genre>Fantasy</genre>
15      <price>5.95</price>
16      <publish_date>2000-12-16</publish_date>
17      <description>A former architect battles corporate zombies, an evil sorceress, and her
18      own childhood to become queen of the world.</description>
19    </book>
20  </catalog>

```

Example ▾

示例：Kiva 最新贷款数据（注意：在线接口可能返回 403，需本地保存演示）。我们采用两种方法：

1. 暴力解法 (将数据视作列表而不是树结构)
2. 使用 XPath 来遍历树结构



Python

```

1  import xmltodict
2  # 假设 'newest.xml' 已手动下载（或用浏览器另存）
3  with open('newest.xml', 'r') as file:
4      content = file.read()
5
6  # 一些 XML 含有裸 '&', 需先替换以避免解析错误
7  content = content.replace("&", "and")
8  data = xmltodict.parse(content)
9
10 data.keys()
11 # 输出:
12 # dict_keys(['response'])
13
14 data['response'].keys()
15 # 输出:
16 # dict_keys(['paging', 'loans'])
17
18 len(data['response']['loans']['loan'])
19 # 输出:
20 # 20
21
22 type(data['response']['loans']['loan'][2])
23 # 输出:
24 # dictionary
25
26 data['response']['loans']['loan'][2]['activity']
27 # 输出:
28 # 'Retail'

```



Python

```

1  # 同样可用 lxml + XPath 提取指定字段

```

```

2 from lxml import etree
3
4 doc = etree.fromstring(content)
5 loans = doc.xpath("//loan")
6 [loan.xpath("activity/text()") for loan in loans][:3]
7 # 输出:
8 # [['Poultry'], ['Retail'], ['Retail']]
9
10 ## 假设只想要 country locations of the loans (using XPath)
11 [loan.xpath("location/country/text()") for loan in loans]
12 # 输出:
13 # [['Uganda'], ['Ecuador'], ['Ecuador']] ...]
14
15 ## or extract the geographic coordinates
16 [loan.xpath("location/geo/pairs/text()") for loan in loans]
17 # 输出:
18 # [['-0.352537 31.552699'], ['-1.054723 -80.45249']] ...]

```

2.2 JSON（层级键值，较 XML 简洁）

- JSON 文件以 **“attribute-value” pairs**（也称为“键-值”对）结构化，通常具有层次结构
- 可以使用 `json` 包将 JSON 读取到 Python 中
- JSON 的最外层可以是 **对象（object，用花括号 {}）** 或 **数组（array，用方括号 []）**。如果最外层是数组，那么就没有键（key）去命名它的元素。

{ }

JSON

```

1 {
2     "firstName": "John",
3     "lastName": "Smith",
4     "isAlive": true,
5     "age": 25,
6     "address": {
7         "streetAddress": "21 2nd Street",
8         "city": "New York",
9         "state": "NY",
10        "postalCode": "10021-3100"
11    },
12    "phoneNumbers": [
13        { "type": "home", "number": "212 555-1234" },
14        { "type": "office", "number": "646 555-4567" }
15    ],
16    "children": [],
17    "spouse": null
18 }

```



Python

```

1 import json
2 # 假设 'newest.json' 已手动下载
3 with open('newest.json', 'r') as file:
4     content = file.read()
5
6 data = json.loads(content)
7 list(data.keys())
8 # 输出:
9 # ['loans']
10
11 type(data['loans']), data['loans'][0]['location']['country']
12 # 输出:

```

```
13 # (<class 'list'>, 'Uganda')
14
15 [c['location']['country'] for c in data['loans'][:5]]
16 # 输出:
17 # ['Uganda', 'Ecuador', 'Ecuador', 'Tajikistan', 'Mali']
```

Remark ▾

注意：JSON 不原生支持缺失、无穷大等特殊值。

2.3 YAML（常用于配置）

- 以缩进表达层级，人类可读；缩进易出错；部分关键字（如 `on`）在某些实现中会被当作布尔。

 YAML

YAML

```
1 name: deploy-book
2
3 # Only run this when the master branch changes
4 on:
5   push:
6     branches:
7       - main
8
9 # This job installs dependencies, build the book, and pushes it to `gh-pages`
10 jobs:
11   deploy-book:
12     runs-on: ubuntu-latest
13     steps:
14       - uses: actions/checkout@v2
15
16     # Install dependencies
17     - name: Set up Python 3.9
18       uses: actions/setup-python@v1
19       with:
20         python-version: 3.9
21
22     - name: Install dependencies
23       run: |
24         pip install -r book-requirements.txt
```

 Python

Python

```
1 import yaml
2 with open("book.yml") as stream:
3     config = yaml.safe_load(stream)
4 print(config)
5 # 输出:
6 # {'name': 'deploy-book', True: {'push': {'branches': ['main']}}, 'jobs': {'deploy-book':
...}}
7
8 print(config.get('name'))
9 # 输出:
10 # deploy-book
11
12 len(config['jobs']['deploy-book']['steps'])
13 # 输出:
14 # 3
```

⚠ Remark ▾

注意 `on` 会被视作 boolean value

3 Web APIs and webscraping

- 目标：获取 Web 数据时，优先使用正式 API；当 API 不可用时，再考虑 webscraping，并遵守网站条款与伦理。
- 常用库：`requests`，`json`，`pandas`，`BeautifulSoup`，`lxml`，`yaml`。
- 核心操作路径：理解 HTTP → REST 风格 API → 参数拼接与分页 → 处理压缩与归档 → POST 与认证 → 第三方封装 → 动态页面。

3.1 What is HTTP?

- 请求方法**：常用 GET、POST、PUT、DELETE，实际数据提取以 GET 为主。
- 状态码**：200 成功，4xx 客户端错误（如 403/404），5xx 服务器错误。
- URL 查询字符串**：`?` 之后为参数，`&` 分隔键值对，空格常编码为 `+` 或 `%20`。

☰ Example ▾

- `www.somewebsite.com?param1=arg1¶m2=arg2`
- `https://www.yelp.com/search?find_desc=plumbers&find_loc=Berkeley+CA&ns=1`

- 响应内容**：通常包含文本形式的内容（例如，HTML、XML、JSON）或原始字节



Python

```
1 import requests
2
3 url = "https://httpbin.org/status/200"
4 r = requests.get(url)
5 print(r.status_code)
6 # 输出:
7 # 200
```

3.2 APIs: REST-based web services

🔗 Logic ▾

- 理想情况下，一个网络服务会用提供其 API (Application Programming Interface) 文档，该接口用于提供数据或允许其他交互
 - REST 是一种流行的 API 标准/风格
-
- 资源导向**：以 URL (也叫 endpoint) 作为资源，通过 query string 过滤，通过 `GET` 实现 request，常返回 JSON。
 - 分页与每页条数**：注意 `page`，`per_page`，`limit`，`offset` 等字段。
 - 两种构造 request 的方式**：
 - 直接拼接查询字符串。
 - 使用 `params` 以 dict 传参。



Python

```
1 import json, requests
2
3 # 方法一：直接拼接查询字符串 (World Bank 示例)
4 url = "https://api.worldbank.org/V2/country?incomeLevel=MIC&format=json"
5 resp = requests.get(url)
6 data = json.loads(resp.content)
```

```

7
8 ## 注意 data truncation/pagination
9 if False:
10     url = "https://api.worldbank.org/V2/country?incomeLevel=MIC&format=json&per_page=1000"
11     response = requests.get(url)
12     data = json.loads(response.content)
13
14 # 方法二: Programmatic control
15 baseURL = "https://api.worldbank.org/V2/country"
16 group = 'MIC'
17 format = 'json'
18 args = {'incomeLevel': group, 'format': format, 'per_page': 1000}
19 url = baseURL + '?' +
20     '&'.join(['=' + key + '=' + str(args[key]) for key in args])
21     response = requests.get(url)
22     data = json.loads(response.content)
23
24 # 方法三: params 传参 (更稳妥)
25 baseURL = "https://api.worldbank.org/V2/country"
26 params = {"incomeLevel": "MIC", "format": "json", "per_page": 1000}
27 resp = requests.get(baseURL, params=params)
28 data = resp.json()
29
30
31 print(type(data), len(data))
32 # 输出:
33 # <class 'list'> 2
34
35 print(len(data[1]), isinstance(data[1][5], dict), data[1][5]['name'])
36 # 输出:
37 # 104 True Benin

```



Python

```

1 # 简单的分页遍历 (若 API 需要翻页)
2 all_rows = []
3 page = 1
4 while True:
5     params = {"incomeLevel": "MIC", "format": "json", "per_page": 100, "page": page}
6     resp = requests.get(baseURL, params=params)
7     data = resp.json()
8     rows = data[1]
9     if not rows:
10         break
11     all_rows.extend(rows)
12     page += 1
13
14 print(len(all_rows) >= 100)
15 # 输出:
16 # True

```

3.3 HTTP requests by deconstructing an (undocumented) API

- **思路**: 用浏览器 DevTools 的 Network 面板观察实际请求 (URL、headers、查询参数、cookies), 在代码中复现。
- **典型场景**: 下载链接返回 zip 压缩, 需内存解压后再读取 CSV。



Python

```

1 import io, zipfile, requests, pandas as pd
2

```

```

3  itemCode = 526
4  baseURL = "https://data.un.org/Handlers/DownloadHandler.ashx"
5  yrs = ",".join(str(yr) for yr in range(2012, 2018))
6  filter_ = f"?DataFilter=itemCode:{itemCode};year:{yrs}"
7  args1 = "&DataMartId=FA0&Format=csv&c=2,3,4,5,6,7&"
8  args2 = "&s=countryName:asc,elementCode:asc,year:desc"
9  url = baseURL + filter_ + args1 + args2
10
11  resp = requests.get(url)
12  # 把 zip 文件放在内存中, 而不是保存成 .zip 文件
13  with io.BytesIO(resp.content) as stream:
14      # 在内存中打开这个 zip 文件
15      with zipfile.ZipFile(stream, "r") as archive:
16          # 从压缩包中读取第一个文件, 并用 pandas 加载
17          name = archive.filelist[0].filename
18          with archive.open(name, "r") as f:
19              dat = pd.read_csv(f)
20
21  print(dat.head(2))
22  # 输出:
23  #   Country or Area  Element Code  ...  Value  Value Footnotes
24  # 0      Afghanistan          432  ...  202.19             NaN
25  # 1      Afghanistan          432  ...   27.45             NaN

```

3.4 Webscraping ethics and best practices

- **是否应该抓**: 优先使用公开下载文件或正式 API; 抓取是下策。
- **是否允许抓**: 遵守网站条款与 `robots.txt`; 尊重速率限制与版权、隐私。
- **实践建议**: 请求加 `User-Agent`, 缓存响应避免重复请求; 对高频请求使用 `time.sleep`; 谨慎处理认证信息。



Python

```

1  import time, requests
2
3  headers = {"User-Agent": "stat243_educational_bot/0.1 (contact@example.com)"}
4  for page in range(1, 4):
5      r = requests.get("https://httpbin.org/get", params={"page": page}, headers=headers,
6                      timeout=10)
7      print(r.status_code, r.json()["args"]["page"])
8      # 输出:
9      # 200 1
10     # 200 2
11     # 200 3
12     time.sleep(1) # 友好限速

```

3.5 More details on HTTP requests

- **结构化参数**: `params` 适合 GET, 避免手写拼接错误。
- **复杂下载**: 大文件/二进制内容可用 `stream=True` 分块下载。
- **错误处理**: `response.raise_for_status()`, 或根据 `status_code` 分支处理。



Python

```

1  # 分块下载 (示意)
2  import requests
3
4  url = "https://speed.hetzner.de/100MB.bin"
5  with requests.get(url, stream=True) as r:
6      r.raise_for_status()

```



```

7     total = 0
8     for chunk in r.iter_content(chunk_size=8192):
9         if chunk:
10             total += len(chunk)
11 print(total > 0)
12 # 输出:
13 # True

```

3.6 POST example (创建 GitHub issue)

- **说明**: 需个人 access token; 最小权限原则; 切勿把 token 提交到仓库。
- **两种方式**: 裸 `requests.post` 与封装库 `PyGitHub`。



Python

```

1 import requests
2
3 with open(".github-access-token.txt", "r") as file:
4     ghtoken = file.read().strip()
5
6 owner, repo = "paciorek", "test"
7 url = f"https://api.github.com/repos/{owner}/{repo}/issues"
8 issue = {
9     "title": "This is an example issue",
10    "body": "This is the body of the issue created via API."
11 }
12 headers = {
13     "Authorization": f"token {ghtoken}",
14     "Accept": "application/vnd.github+json"
15 }
16 resp = requests.post(url, json=issue, headers=headers)
17 print(resp.status_code in (200, 201))
18 # 输出:
19 # True

```



Python

```

1 # 使用 PyGitHub 封装
2 from github import Github
3
4 with open(".github-access-token.txt", "r") as file:
5     ghtoken = file.read().strip()
6
7 g = Github(ghtoken)
8 repo = g.get_repo("paciorek/test")
9 issue = repo.create_issue(
10     title="Test Issue Created Programmatically",
11     body="This is an issue filed programmatically using PyGitHub."
12 )
13 print(f"#{issue.number}", issue.html_url)
14 # 输出:
15 # #18 https://github.com/paciorek/test/issues/18
16 g.close()

```

3.7 Accessing dynamic pages

- **适用场景**: 内容需 Javascript 渲染或需要模拟用户交互。
- **方案**: `selenium` 驱动浏览器; 或 `scrapy` 框架配合 `splash` 渲染。

- **注意**：渲染成本高、速率慢，更应重视限速、重试与缓存；若站点有公开接口，优先 API。