

DATA 601-W6

Data Loading and Wrangling



Data Wrangling

- We will learn ways and techniques to getting data into Python
- We already see one of these ways: Working with .csv files



Types of Data: Structured Data

- Conforms a data model
- Fields of data will be stored
- How that data will be stored: data type (numeric, alphabetic, date, Boolean)
- Any restrictions on the data input (number of characters, etc.).



Types of Data: Semi-Structured

- There is a structure in the data in terms of tags, rows, columns, hierarchies, fields.
- But not necessarily there are unified restrictions and pre-defined types for fields and tags.



Types of Data: Unstructured Data

- No pre-defined data model
- Not organized in fields, tags, attributes, etc.

Examples:

social media posts, images, texts.



File Formats (How we record data)

What is a file format?

A file format is a standard way that information is encoded for storage in a computer file. It specifies how bits are used to encode information in a digital storage medium. File formats may be either proprietary or free and may be either unpublished or open.

Why do we need formatting the files?

- Share (conventions)
- Store Preserve (efficient ways speed, different needs, loose of data)
- Access (speed)



Why to use so many different formats?

- Speed
- Different nature of the data
- Each has different advantages and disadvantages
- Each has different use cases



File Formats: CSV Files

- Uses .csv extension.
- Data is organized in columns and each column is separated with a column.
- Very common format in data science.
- Looks very similar to spreadsheet files however note that you cannot encode formulas and format.
- Because there is no formatting and formulas it is easier to work with this format for bigger file sizes.
- If we use tab instead of, then the file format is called tsv (tab separated values)



Libraries to work with CSV files

- Pandas
 - Faster to load for larger datasets
 - Mainly for analyzing, applying functions to data
- CSV module in Python
 - For reading and writing csv files only.
 - Built in Python, you don't have to install.
 - Faster with smaller datasets (<1K rows)



File Formats: JSON Files

- JavaScript Object Notation
- Based on JavaScript but it is completely language independent
- Consists of name-value pairs
- It is a very common format especially in data interchange of web applications.
- JSON is **not** a programming language



Libraries to work with JSON files

- Python has a built in library called json to read and parse json files.
- We can also use pandas library to read json files.

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Other File Formats...(but we will not be covering today)

- XML
- HTML
- Audio (mp4, wav, etc.)
- Image (png, jpeg, jpg, etc.)
- Other (pickle, hdf5, parquet, etc,.)



Character Encoding

- Do we know bytes? Bits?
- Character encoding is basically mapping each character to bytes (Simple huh?)
- As anything this is not also that straightforward!!



Character Encoding: ASCII

- ASCII Character Set

bits	character
01000001	A
01000010	В
01000011	С
01000100	D
01000101	E
01000110	F



Then What Happened?

- The need for way bigger character sets needed!
- Can you see why?
- Let's take a look at the wikipedia again!

```
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F
  Latin Extended-B
0190 E F f G Y b l + K k + X W N n O
01B0 U U U Y Y Z z 3 E z 2 5 5 5 p
81E8 Ā⯿GgĞğKKQQŌŌ33
01F0 j DZDzdz Ġ Ġ Hu P N n Å å Æ æ Ø
0200 ÄäÂâËëÊêìïîîôòôô
0210 Ř ř Ř r Ĉ Ü Ü Û û S ș Ţ ţ 3 3 Ă ň
0220 Nd B B Z z A a E e Ö Ö Ö Ö
0230 ÖöŸÿþnþþjdopKØ¢Ł%ş
8248 Z ? ? B U A E & J j Q q R f Y y
  IPA Extensions
0270 щтри в овофијуги г
8588 K R S ] ] J ] J f # Q Q V W Y A
0290 ҳҳӡӡ?ЅЪс⊙вобні́я∟
02A0 of 2 f dz dz dz ts tf ts fn ls lz W = y y
```



Why Should we care?

```
pd.read_csv('/content/PoliceShootingsUS.csv')
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last)
UnicodeDecodeError
pandas/ libs/parsers.pyx in pandas. libs.parsers.TextReader. convert tokens()
pandas/_libs/parsers.pyx in pandas._libs.parsers.TextReader._convert_with_dtype()
pandas/ libs/parsers.pyx in pandas. libs.parsers.TextReader. string convert()
pandas/_libs/parsers.pyx in pandas._libs.parsers._string_box_utf8()
UnicodeDecodeError: 'utf-8' codec can't decode byte 0x96 in position 2: invalid start byte
During handling of the above exception, another exception occurred:
UnicodeDecodeError
                                          Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-180-04c68a038be7> in <module>()
---> 1 pd.read csv('/content/PoliceShootingsUS.csv')
```



Solution?

- Chardet library
- We will discuss in the second part of the lecture...