Web Scraping with BeautifulSoup

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Motivation

A not-for-profit organization is trying to reach the 194 Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) across the nation.

They want to mail them some materials. They need a *spreadsheet* with the name of the contact, title, mailing address, etc. (11 fields), for each of the CFCs.

Copy-paste each field? Web Scraping!

What is Web Scraping?

It is the practice of gathering data, through any means other than API.

For example, by writing an automated program that:

- queries a web server,
- requests and retrieves data,
- parses that data to extract information, and
- stores it.

Web Scraping with Python by Ryan Mitchell (O'Reilly)

Why Web Scraping?

- Web scrapers are excellent at gathering and processing large amounts of data, thousands of pages at once, from a collection of sites.
- Not all websites have an API or an API that suits your needs.

If you can see it in your browser, you can access it via a Python script.

And, if you can access it, you can store it in a database to retrieve and analyze.

Inspect the Page



ABOUT CFC

OUR WORK

LEARNING INSTITUTE

PARTNERS

GET INVOLVED

AB

Wood Buffalo Community Foundation

Alberta

Airdrie and District Community Foundation

Banff Canmore Community Foundation

Battle River Community Foundation

```
<div class="wrapper">
254
255
                  <arv elass="has-columns prov prov can">
256
              <h2>AB</h2>
257
258
       <h3><a href="https://www.communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/wood-buffalo-community-
259
   foundation/">Wood Buffalo Community Foundation</a></h3>
260
                                              <div class="has-columns prov prov can prov ab">
       <br class="clearfix"></div>
261
              <h2>Alberta</h2>
262
263
       <h3><a href="https://www.communityfoundations.ca/cfc_locations/airdrie-and-district-community-
264
   foundation/">hirdrie and District Community Foundation</a></h3>
265
266
       <h3><a href="https://www.communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/the-banff-community-
   foundation/">Banff Canmore Community Foundation</a></h3>
```

Banff Canmore Community Foundation

- 214 Banff Avenue/Box 3100 | Banff | T1L 1C7
- 403-762-8549
- www.banffcanmorecf.org
- Rob Buffler, Executive Director

BeautifulSoup

- Provides simple methods to navigate, search, and modify parse trees.
- Automatically converts incoming documents to Unicode and outgoing to UTF-8.

www.crummy.com/software/BeautifulSoup

Libraries Used

```
In [125]: # import libraries
          from requests import get
          from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
          import regex as re
          import csv
          import pandas as pd
          import time
          from genderize import Genderize
          import nltk
          from nltk.tokenize import word tokenize
          from nltk.tag import pos tag
          import spacy
          from spacy import displacy
          from collections import Counter
          import en core web sm
          nlp = en core web sm.load()
```

```
In [3]: | url = 'https://communityfoundations.ca/find-a-community-foundation/'
        response = get(url)
        #print 500 characters for show
        print(response.text[:500])
          <!doctype html>
          <!--[if lt IE 7]> <html class="no-js ie6 oldie" lang="en-US" prefix="og:
           http://ogp.me/ns#"> <![endif]-->
In [4]: html soup = BeautifulSoup(response.text, 'html.parser')
        type(html soup)
Out[4]: bs4.BeautifulSoup
In [59]: info containers = html soup.find all('h3')
         print(type(info containers))
         print(len(info containers))
          <class 'bs4.element.ResultSet'>
          194
In [64]: first cfc = info containers[0]
         first cfc
Out[64]: <h3><a href="https://communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/wood-buffalo-c
         ommunity-foundation/">Wood Buffalo Community Foundation</a></h3>
In [123]: location title = first cfc.text
          location title
Out[123]: 'Wood Buffalo Community Foundation'
```

```
In [211]: info containers all = html soup.find all(["h2", "h3"],
                                                    class =lambda x: x != 'hidden')
          print(type(info containers all))
          print(len(info containers all))
          <class 'bs4.element.ResultSet'>
          207
In [268]: for lines in info containers all:
              if lines.name == 'h2':
                  province = lines.text
                  print ('In Province', lines.text)
              if lines.name == 'h3':
                  print('Foundation: ', lines.text)
                  foundation = lines.text
                  print ('Foundation url: ', lines.find all("a",
                                  href=re.compile("cfc locations"))[0].get('href'))
          In Province AB
          Foundation: Wood Buffalo Community Foundation
          Foundation url: https://communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/wood-buff
          alo-community-foundation/
          In Province Alberta
          Foundation: Airdrie and District Community Foundation
```

Foundation url: https://communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/airdrie-a

Foundation url: https://communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/the-banff

-community-foundation/

nd-district-community-foundation/

Foundation: Banff Canmore Community Foundation

```
In [ ]: url = 'https://communityfoundations.ca/cfc locations/the-banff-community-fou
      subresponse = get(url)
      html subsoup = BeautifulSoup(subresponse.text, 'html.parser')
       addr containers = html subsoup.find all('div',
In [16]:
                                    class = 'single-meta single-event')
       print(type(addr containers))
       print(len(addr containers))
        <class 'bs4.element.ResultSet'>
In [17]: first subcfc = addr containers[0]
       first subcfc
Out[17]: <div class="single-meta single-event">
       T1L 1C
       7
       <a href="tel:403-762-8549">403-762-8549</a></p
       >
       <a href="http://www.banffcanmorecf.org">www.ban
       ffcanmorecf.org</a>
       Rob Buffler, Executive Director
       </div>
```

How about using NLP for parsing the address?

NLTK

```
In [131]:
          def preprocess(sent):
               sent = nltk.word tokenize(sent)
               sent = nltk.pos tag(sent)
               return sent
In [132]:
          sent = preprocess(address array)
          sent
Out[132]: [('214', 'CD'),
           ('Banff', 'NNP'),
           ('Avenue/Box', 'NNP'
           ('3100', 'CD'),
           ('|', 'NNP'), ←
                                                 Proper Nouns
           ('Banff', 'NNP'),
           ('|', 'NNP'), ←
                                                 Tokenization split zip code
           ('T1L', 'NNP'),
           ('1C7', 'CD')] <--
```

Train model for geographical data?

spaCy

```
In [135]:
          article = nlp(address array)
          len(article.ents)
Out[135]: 5
In [141]:
          sentences = [x for x in article.sents]
          print(sentences[0])
          214 Banff Avenue/Box 3100
                                        Banff | T1L 1C7
          displacy.render(nlp(str(sentences[0])), jupyter=True, style='ent')
In [142]:
                          Banff Avenue/Box FAC
                                                               Banff PERSON | T1L 1C7
            214 CARDINAL
                                               3100 PERCENT
           CARDINAL
```

The Code

cfcMailingAddresses

Organization	Title	Addressee (First	Additional Info (Add	Civic Address 1 (A	Civic Address 2 (PO	Municipality	Provi	Postal Co	Phone	Website
Wood Buffalo Community Foundation			c/o Redpoll Centre	at Shell Place, 1 C.A. I	Fort McMurra	AB	T9H 5C5		www.wbcfoundat	
Airdrie and District Community	Mr.	Dale Rathgeber		1, 213 Main Street	PO Box 10249	Airdrie	AB	T4B 0R6	403-948-5	www.airdriefound
Banff Canmore Community Fo	Mr.	Rob Buffler	Executive Director		214 Banff Avenue/Box	Banff	AB	T1L 1C7	403-762-8	www.banffcanmo
Battle River Community Found	Ms.	Dana Andreassen	Executive Director		Box 1122	Camrose	AB	T4V 4E7	780-679-0	www.brcf.ca
Community Foundation of Letl	Ms.	Charleen Davidso	Executive Director	1202 - 2 Avenue S,	Unit 50	Lethbridge	AB	T1J 0E3	403-328-5	www.cflsa.ca
Community Foundation Of No	Ms.	Tracey Vavrek	Executive Director	11330-106 Street, Suite 200		Grande Prairi	AB	T8V 7X9	780-538-2	www.buildingtom
Community Foundation of Sou	Mr.	Chris Christie		104, 430 - 6th Avenue S.E.		Medicine Hat	AB	T1A 2S8	403-527-9	www.cfsea.ca
Drayton Valley Community For	Ms.	Charlene Jones	Executive Director		Box 6836	Drayton Valle	AB	T7A 1S2	780-514-2	www.dvcf.org
Edmonton Community Founda	Mr.	Martin Garber-Co	President and CEO	9910 - 103rd Street	NW	Edmonton	AB	T5K 2V7	780-426-0	www.ecfoundatio
Red Deer & District Communit	Ms.	Kristine Bugayonç	CEO	Suite 203, Mid City	Plaza, 4805-48 Street	Red Deer	AB	T4N 1S6	403-341-6	www.rddcf.ca
St. Albert Community Foundat	Mr.	Dave Reidie	Executive Director		P.O. Box 65068	St. Albert	AB	T8N 5Y3	780-458-8	www.sacf.ca

Summary

- Use web scraping to gather and process information.
- Inspect the webpage, view the source.
- BeautifulSoup can help parse HTML and XML.
 - find(), findAll(), tag names and attributes, works with regEx, search by CSS class.
- Fortunately, CFC page was straightforward to process.
- Refining code: adjust headers, throw exceptions.