

More SQL; Web APIs

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Computation for Public Policy

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computationforpolicy.github.io

COUNT DISTINCT

-- count number of distinct rows in a query

```
SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT community_id)
```

```
FROM community_tracts;
```

CREATE TABLE

There are basic ways to create a table:

- By first creating the schema and then INSERTing data.
- By defining a new table as the result of a query.

CREATE TABLE

```
CREATE TABLE tablename (
```

```
    column1 int,
```

```
    column2 text,
```

```
    column3 boolean
```

```
);
```

CREATE TABLE AS

```
CREATE TABLE tablename AS (  
    SELECT ...  
);
```

CREATE TEMP TABLE

CREATE **TEMP** TABLE tablename (

...

);

CREATE TEMP TABLE AS

```
CREATE TEMP TABLE community_populations AS (
```

```
    SELECT community_id, sum(population)
```

```
    FROM community_tracts c
```

```
    JOIN block_population b
```

```
    ON substring(c.tract_id::text from 6 for 6) =
```

```
        substring(lpad(b.census_block::text, 10, '0') for 6)
```

```
    GROUP BY 1;
```

```
);
```

CREATE TEMP TABLE AS

```
CREATE TEMP TABLE community_crimes AS (  
    SELECT community_area, count(*) as crime_count  
    FROM crimes c  
    GROUP BY 1  
);
```


Querying temporary tables

```
SELECT community_area, crime_count,  
       crime_count*1.0 / population as crime_rate  
FROM community_population  
JOIN community_crimes  
     ON community_area = community_id;
```

DROP-ing tables

```
DROP TABLE community_crimes;
```

Homework 3 updates

- Technically multiple rows in `cmecomp3` correspond to a single “evaluation” but for the purposes of this exercise you can treat each row as a distinct evaluation.
- I have reimported the data with the correct types (previously everything was text).
- Note that `violation_flag` is a text field, with values ‘Y’, ‘N’, ‘U’
 - can convert it to a boolean by writing (`violation_flag = ‘Y’`)

API

“An API (application program interface) is a set of routines, protocols, and tools for building software applications. The API specifies how software components should interact.”

Web API

Web APIs are APIs that work over the web. This covers a broad range of tasks including:

- Maps
- Social Media
- Business
- Transit
- Weather
- etc.

POST

APIs can have side-effects. For example:

- The Twilio API allows programs to send text messages.
- The Facebook API allows programs to post statuses.
- There are APIs for home automation that allow programs to control hardware.

GET

However, the APIs we'll use policy and social science research will be retrieving information, not modifying it. They are a data source not unlike a file.

So why use APIs for data?

Unlike files, APIs are ideal for:

- querying small pieces of data
- data that has a complex structure
- data which is changing over time

API Workflow

- Request
- Response
- Analysis

Sort of a public, user-friendly database.



ctabustracker.com



bus tracker

FIND BY STOP #:

10575

Find

OR

1. SELECT ROUTE

2. SELECT DIRECTION

3. SELECT STOP

55 - Garfield

Westbound

55th Street & Ellis

Map

☒ SHOW ALL BUSES FOR THIS STOP

TEXT "CTABUS 10575" TO 41411 FOR ARRIVAL TIMES

55th Street & Ellis (Westbound)

11:59 AM 17°F

[J14-19-20-56-60-124-157 Stop](#) [Bus Stop Restoration](#) [Temporary Bus Stop Relocation](#)

ROUTE / DESTINATION

ESTIMATED ARRIVAL / BUS #

55

To Midway Orange Line

3 MINUTES

1557

55

To Midway Orange Line

15 MINUTES

1306

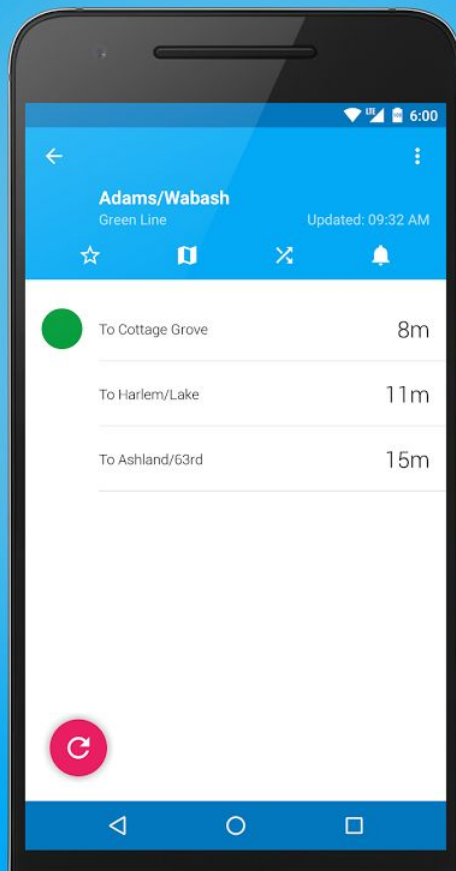
55

To Midway Orange Line

27 MINUTES

1346

Get quick arrival times
right from the CTA



CTA Bus API

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CTA Bus Time Endpoint

Base URL: <http://www.ctabustracker.com/bustime/api/v1/gettime>

Parameters:

Name	Value	Description
Key	string (required)	25-digit Bus Tracker API access key.

Response

A well-formed XML document containing the current system time will be returned as a response to **gettime**.

Response Fields:

Name	Description
bustime-response	Root element of the response document.
Error	Child element of the root element. Contains a message if the processing of the request resulted in an error.
Tm	Child element of the root element containing the current system date and (local) time. Date and time is represented in the following format: YYYYMMDD HH:MM:SS. Month is represented as two digits where January is equal to "01" and December is equal to "12". Time is represented using a 24-hour clock.

CTA Bus Prediction Endpoint

Predictions

Base URL: <http://www.ctabustracker.com/bustime/api/v1/getpredictions>

Parameters:

Name	Value	Description
key	string (required)	25-digit Bus Tracker API access key.
stpid	comma-delimited list of stop IDs (not available with vid parameter)	Set of one or more stop IDs whose predictions are to be returned. For example: 5029,1392,2019,4367 will return predictions for the four stops. A maximum of 10 identifiers can be specified.
rt	comma-delimited list of route designators (optional, available with stpid parameter)	Set of one or more route designators for which matching predictions are to be returned.
vid	comma-delimited list of vehicle IDs (not available with stpid parameter)	Set of one or more vehicle IDs whose predictions should be returned. For example: 509,392,201,4367 will return predictions for four vehicles. A maximum of 10 identifiers can be specified.
top	number (optional)	Maximum number of predictions to be returned.

CTA Bus Prediction Endpoint

Response Fields:

Name	Description
bustime-response	Root element of the response document.
error	Child element of the root element. Message if the processing of the request resulted in an error.
prd	Child element of the root element. Encapsulates a predicted arrival or

	departure time for the specified set of stops or vehicles.
tmstmp	Child element of the prd element. Date and time (local) the prediction was generated. Date and time is represented in the following format: YYYYMMDD HH:MM. Month is represented as two digits where January is equal to "01" and December is equal to "12". Time is represented using a 24-hour clock.
typ	Child element of the prd element. Type of prediction. 'A' for an arrival prediction (prediction of when the vehicle will arrive at this stop). 'D' for a departure prediction (prediction of when the vehicle will depart this stop, if applicable). Predictions made for first stops of a route or layovers are examples of departure predictions.
stpid	Child element of the prd element. Unique identifier representing the stop for which this prediction was generated.
stpnm	Child element of the prd element. Display name of the stop for which this prediction was generated.
vid	Child element of the prd element. Unique ID of the vehicle for which this prediction was generated.

dstp	Child element of the prd element. Linear distance (feet) left to be traveled by the vehicle before it reaches the stop associated with this prediction.
rt	Child element of the prd element. Alphanumeric designator of the route (ex. "20" or "X20") for which this prediction was generated.
rtdir	Child element of the prd element. Direction of travel of the route associated with this prediction (ex. "East Bound").
des	Child element of the prd element. Final destination of the vehicle associated with this prediction.
prdtm	Child element of the prd element. Predicted date and time (local) of a vehicle's arrival or departure to the stop associated with this prediction. Date and time is represented in the following format: YYYYMMDD HH:MM. Month is represented as two digits where January is equal to "01" and December is equal to "12". Time is represented using a 24-hour clock.
dly	Child element of the prd element. "true" if the vehicle is delayed. The dly element is only present if the vehicle that generated this prediction is delayed.

Request:

<http://www.ctabustracker.com/bustime/api/v1/getpredictions?key=89dj2he89d8j3j3ksjhdue93j&rt=20&stpid=456>

Response:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<bustime-response>
<tm></tm>
  <prd>
    <tmstamp>20090611 14:34</tmstamp>
    <typ>A</typ>
    <stpid>456</stpid>
    <stpnm>Madison & Jefferson</stpnm>
    <vid>2013</vid>
    <dstp>891</dstp>
    <rt>20</rt>
    <rtdir>West Bound</rtdir>
    <rtdst>Austin</rtdst>
    <prdtm>20090611 14:40</prdtm>
  </prd>
  <prd>
    <tmstamp>20090611 14:34</tmstamp>
    <typ>A</typ>
    <stpid>456</stpid>
    <stpnm>Madison & Jefferson</stpnm>
    <vid>6435</vid>
    <dstp>1587</dstp>
    <rt>20</rt>
    <rtdir>West Bound</rtdir>
    <rtdst>Austin</rtdst>
    <prdtm>20090611 14:48</prdtm>
  </prd>
</bustime-response>
```



Recent Cities

[Chicago, IL](#)
[Point Reyes Station, CA](#)
[Big Sur, CA](#)
[New York, NY](#)
[Old Chelsea, NY](#)

Chicago, IL


[U.S. Cellular Field/Bridgeport](#) | [Report](#) | [Change Station](#)
Forecast
[History](#)
[Calendar](#)
[Rain / Snow](#)
[Health](#)

Elev 594 ft 41.83 °N, 87.64 °W | Updated 1 sec ago



Clear

19.8 °F

Feels Like 20 °F


Wind from **WNW**
Gusts 9 mph

Today is forecast to be **NEARLY THE SAME** temperature as yesterday.

Today

High 21 | Low 16 °F

0% Chance of Precip.

Yesterday

High 19.9 | Low 11.7 °F

Precip. 0 in

Pressure

30.31 in

Visibility

10.0 miles

Clouds

Few 3500 ft

Windchill

19 °F

Dew Point

-2 °F

Humidity

40%

Rainfall

0.00 in

Snow Depth

Not available.

Sun & Moon
 6:51 am

 5:18 pm

 Waxing
Crescent,
13% visible

METAR KMDW 111753Z 35007KT 10SM
FEW035 M08/M18 A3032 RMK A02
SLP288 4/001 T10781183 11078 21128
50005

Weatherunderground API

needs.

○ STRATUS PLAN	○ CUMULUS PLAN	○ ANVIL PLAN
Geolookup Autocomplete Current conditions 3-day forecast summary Astronomy Almanac for today	Geolookup Autocomplete Current conditions 3-day forecast summary Astronomy Almanac for today	Geolookup Autocomplete Current conditions 3-day forecast summary Astronomy Almanac for today
	10-day forecast summary Hourly 1-day forecast Satellite thumbnail Dynamic Radar image Severe alerts Tides and Currents Tides and Currents Raw Severe alerts	10-day forecast summary Hourly 1-day forecast Satellite thumbnail Dynamic Radar image Severe alerts Tides and Currents Tides and Currents Raw Severe alerts
		Hourly 10-day forecast Yesterday's weather summary Travel Planner Webcams thumbnails Dynamic animated Radar image Dynamic animated Satellite image Current Tropical Storms

Endpoints

API Table of Contents

Weather API

- WunderMap Layers
 - Radar
 - Satellite
 - Radar + Satellite

Data Features

- alerts
- almanac
- astronomy
- conditions
- currenthurricane

forecast

- forecast10day
- geolookup
- history
- hourly
- hourly10day
- planner

Feature: forecast

Returns a summary of the weather for the next 3 days. This includes high and low temperatures, a string text forecast and the conditions.

Response Fields

txt_forecast: forecastday

period

icon

icon_url

title

fctext

fcttext_metric

Page Contents

- Feature: forecast
- Response Fields
 - txt_forecast: forecastday
 - simpleforecast: forecastday
- Examples
 - Forecast for San Francisco, California

Forecast for San Francisco, California

http://api.wunderground.com/api/10b150b0909de03c/forecast/q/CA/San_Francisco.json

[Hide Response](#)

```
{
  "response": {
    "version": "0.1",
    "termsOfService": "http://www.wunderground.com/weather/api/d/terms.html",
    "features": {
      "forecast": 1
    }
  },
  "forecast": {
    "txt_forecast": {
      "date": "2:00 PM PDT",
      "forecastday": [{
        "period": 0,
        "icon": "partlycloudy",
        "icon_url": "http://icons-ak.wxug.com/i/c/k/partlycloudy.gif",
        "title": "Tuesday",
        "fcttext": "Partly cloudy in the morning, then clear. High of 68F. Breezy. Winds from the West",
        "fcttext_metric": "Partly cloudy in the morning, then clear. High of 20C. Windy. Winds from th",
        "pop": "0"
      }], {
```

Accessing APIs Programmatically

Desirable to make requests:

- that depend on other information
- at regular or adaptive time intervals
- on a large scale

Reading a URL

In [6]: `import urllib2`

```
url = 'http://api.wunderground.com/api/10b150b0989de03c/forecast/q/CA/San_Francisco.json'  
page = urllib2.urlopen(url).read()
```

In [7]: `print` page

```
{
  "response": {
    "version": "0.1",
    "termsOfService": "http://www.wunderground.com/weather/api/d/terms.html",
    "features": {
      "forecast": 1
    }
  },
  "forecast": {
    "txt_forecast": {
      "date": "8:56 AM PST",
      "forecastday": [
        {
          "period": 0,
          "icon": "partlycloudy",
          "icon_url": "http://icons.wxug.com/i/c/k/partlycloudy.gif",
          "title": "Thursday",
          "fcsttext": "Cloudy skies this morning will become partly cloudy this afternoon"
        }
      ]
    }
  }
}
```

Parsing JSON

```
In [8]: import json
```

```
In [13]: p = json.loads(page)
```

```
In [16]: p['forecast']['simpleforecast']['forecastday'][0]
```

```
Out[16]: {u'vehumidity': 62,  
          u'avewind': {u'degrees': 320, u'dir': u'NW', u'kph': 10, u'mph': 6},  
          u'conditions': u'Partly Cloudy',  
          u'date': {u'ampm': u'PM',  
                    u'day': 11,  
                    u'epoch': u'1455246000',  
                    u'hour': 19,  
                    u'isdst': u'0',  
                    u'min': u'00',  
                    u'month': 2,  
                    u'monthname': u'February',  
                    u'monthname_short': u'Feb',  
                    u'pretty': u'7:00 PM PST on February 11, 2016',  
                    u'sec': 0,  
                    u'tz_long': u'America/Los_Angeles',  
                    u'tz_short': u'PST'}
```

```
In [17]: p['forecast']['simpleforecast']['forecastday'][0]['high']
```

```
Out[17]: {u'celsius': u'18', u'fahrenheit': u'65'}
```

CTA API: store key in file and construct URL

```
In [34]: with open('cta_api_key') as f:  
         key=f.readline()
```

```
In [38]: url = 'http://www.ctabustracker.com/bustime/api/v1/getpredictions?key=' + key[:-1] + '&rt=20&s'
```

Read URL into BeautifulSoup object

```
In [40]: from BeautifulSoup import BeautifulSoup  
page = urllib2.urlopen(url)  
soup = BeautifulSoup(page)
```


In [45]: soup

```
Out[45]: <?xml version='1.0' encoding='utf-8'?>
<bustime-response>
  <prd>
    <tmstmp>20160211 12:32</tmstmp>
    <typ>A</typ>
    <stpnm>Madison & Jefferson</stpnm>
    <stpid>456</stpid>
    <vid>1024</vid>
    <dstp>6369</dstp>
    <rt>20</rt>
    <rtdir>Westbound</rtdir>
    <des>Austin</des>
    <prdtm>20160211 12:44</prdtm>
    <tablockid>20 -813</tablockid>
    <tatripid>1040695</tatripid>
    <zone></zone>
  </prd>
  <prd>
    <tmstmp>20160211 12:32</tmstmp>
    <typ>A</typ>
    <stpnm>Madison & Jefferson</stpnm>
```

Find an element

```
In [44]: soup.find('rt')
```

```
Out[44]: <rt>20</rt>
```

Get elements contents

```
In [52]: soup.find('rt').contents[0]
```

```
Out[52]: u'20'
```

```
In [55]: soup.find('prdtm')
```

```
Out[55]: <prdtm>20160211 12:44</prdtm>
```

```
In [57]: soup.find('prdtm').contents[0]
```

```
Out[57]: u'20160211 12:44'
```

Get multiple elements

```
In [60]: soup.findAll('prdtm')
```

```
Out[60]: [<prdtm>20160211 12:44</prdtm>, <prdtm>20160211 12:55</prdtm>]
```

Parse timestamps

```
In [68]: from pandas import Timestamp  
now = Timestamp(soup.find('tmstmp').contents[0])  
arrival = Timestamp(soup.find('prdtm').contents[0])
```

```
In [69]: arrival - now
```

```
Out[69]: Timedelta('0 days 00:12:00')
```