

Interview Assignment Web Scraping using Python

Overview

The program is designed for web scraping various pages from the website "https://www.scrapethissite.com/". It fetches data from different types of pages containing databases and stores the scraped data into a MongoDB database. The program is equipped with error handling, logging, and parallel scraping to enhance efficiency and robustness.

Dependencies:

- requests: For making HTTP requests to the website.
- beautifulsoup4: For parsing HTML content. It helps in extracting data from web pages.
- pymongo: For interacting with MongoDB.
- **logging**: For error logging. It allows the script to connect to a MongoDB database and perform operations such as inserting data.
- **Concurrent.futures**: Specifically, **ThreadPoolExecutor** is used for parallel execution of web scraping tasks to speed up the process.

Setup and Installation

- 1. Ensure that all the python libraries mentioned above are installed.
- 2. Ensure MongoDB is installed and running. The project connects to MongoDB at mongodb://localhost:27017/.

Explanation of the Code

Functions used

 get_text_or_none(cell) :- Extracts and returns text from an HTML cell, or None if the cell is empty.

- 2. **get_int_value(cell)** :- Converts text from an HTML cell to an integer, returns None if conversion fails.
- get_float_value(cell): Extracts a float value from an HTML cell, with error handling for conversion issues
- 4. **different_collections(url):** Returns a list of year collections from the URL by extracting text from links with the class year-link.
- 5. ajax_data(url, year): Fetches Ajax data for a given year from the URL.

Steps:

- Construct the URL with query parameters (ajax=true and year=<year>) to request data for the specified year.
- Send an HTTP GET request to the constructed URL.
- Check if the response status code is 200 to ensure a successful request.
- If successful, parse the JSON response and return the data.
- If the request fails or the response status code is not 200, log an error message and return None.
- parse_team_data(url): Parses team data from the URL, extracting relevant fields from the HTML content.

Steps:

- Send an HTTP GET request to the specified URL to retrieve the HTML content of the page.
- Parse the HTML content using BeautifulSoup to navigate and extract data.
- Find all the table rows () with the class "team", which typically represent individual teams' data rows.
- Iterate over each team row and extract relevant information such as team name, year, wins, losses, etc.
- Construct a dictionary for each team with the extracted information.
- Append each team dictionary to a list of teams.
- Return the list of teams.

- 7. **get_total_pages(url)**: Returns the total number of pages available for pagination.
- scrape_all_pages(base_url): Scrapes all pages using parallel scraping, minimizing load on the server with delays.

Steps

- Obtain the total number of pages to scrape from the base URL.
- Set up a ThreadPoolExecutor with a defined maximum number of worker threads.
- Generate futures for each page, representing the asynchronous scraping task.
- Submit the futures to the executor for simultaneous execution.
- Process completed futures, retrieving their results and aggregating the team data.
- Implement error handling to catch and log any exceptions that occur during future execution.
- Once all pages are processed, return the aggregated team data for further use.
- 9. advanced_topic(advanced_url): Fetches advanced topic data from the URL.

Steps:

- Send an HTTP GET request to the specified URL to retrieve the HTML content of the page.
- Parse the HTML content using BeautifulSoup to navigate and extract data.
- Identify relevant elements containing advanced topics, typically <h4>
 headings.
- For each advanced topic element, extract the topic name, link, and related paragraph text.
- Construct a dictionary for each advanced topic with the extracted information.
- Append each topic dictionary to a list of topics.
- Return the list of advanced topics.

- 10. **save_to_mongo(collection, data):** Saves the scraped data to MongoDB.
- 11. scrape_and_save(url, db_name, collection_name, data_func, *args):
 Main function to scrape data and save it to MongoDB.

Main Scraping Logic

AJAX JavaScript Page

- 1. URL: https://www.scrapethissite.com/pages/ajax-javascript/#2015
- 2. Database: Oscar_Winning_Films
- 3. Process:
 - Fetch different year collections using different_collections.
 - For each year, scrape AJAX data and save it to MongoDB using scrape_and_save. ach year's data is stored as a separate collection inside the main database, with each collection representing data for a specific year.

Forms Page

- 1. URL: https://www.scrapethissite.com/pages/forms/
- 2. Database: Hockey_Teams_Data
- 3. Process:
 - Scrape all team data from paginated pages using scrape_all_pages.
 - Save the data to MongoDB using scrape_and_save.

Advanced Topics Page

- 1. URL: https://www.scrapethissite.com/pages/advanced/
- 2. Database: Advanced_topics
- **3.** Process:
 - Scrape advanced topics data using advanced_topic.
 - Save the data to MongoDB using scrape_and_save.

Execution Time

The script also records and prints the total execution time to measure performance using the time library.