Data Acquisition via Application Programmable Interfaces

Adrian Petrescu

Kinaxis

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Schedule

Part 1

- Introduction and motivation
- HTTP, REST, and the languages of the web
- Authentication schemes
- Lots and lots of practical examples

Part 2

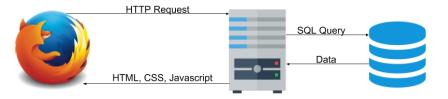
- Scraping unstructured data from the web
- Parsing
- Automated spiders

Part 3

- The server-side of APIs
- Deploying to the Cloud
- Project Description

Web Architecture

In Its Simplest Form



HTML & CSS

Like Peanut Butter and Jelly



HyperText Markup Language

```
<HTML>
  <HEAD>
    <TITLE>Star Wars - Wikipedia</TITLE>
    <LINK REL="stylesheet" HREF="/static/style.css" />
  </HEAD>
  <BODY>
    ...
  </BODY>
</HTML>
```

HyperText Markup Language

Links

```
<P>
Never gonna <A HREF="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WgXcQ">give you up</A>
</P>
```

Lists

```
<0L>
    <LI>Item 1</LI>
    <LI>Item 2</LI>
</0L>
```

Images

HyperText Markup Language

Tables

```
<thead>
 <t.r>
  Month
  Savings
 </thead>
January
  $100
 February
  $80
 <tfoot>
 <t.r>
  Sum
  $180
 </tfoot>
```

HyperText Markup Language

Div

```
<DIV ID="content" CLASS="full-width col">
...
</DIV>
```

Span

```
<P>
  This November is the Wikipedia Donation Drive.
  <SPAN STYLE="color:#36c;">Come join us.</SPAN>
</P>
```

CSS

Cascading Style Sheets

Turn all links red

```
a {
    color: #ff0000;
}
```

Only use 80% of the screen

```
body {
  width: 80%;
}
```

Cascading Style Sheets

Center-align tables in the sidebar

```
#sidebar table {
  text-align: center;
}
```

Color bookmarked headlines

```
h2.title.bookmarked {
  color: blue;
}
```

Hide all non-HTTPS links in the sidebar

```
.sidebar :not(a[href^="https"]) {
  visibility: none;
}
```

Bold the first paragraph after any headline

```
h1,h2,h3+p {
  font-weight: bold;
}
```

wget

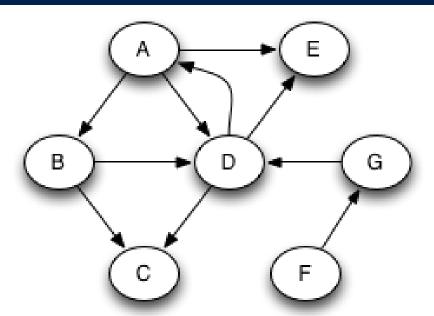
wget is a very commonly-used utility for mirroring an entire URL hierarchy. It has very many flags, but a common starting point is:

Common flags

```
$ wget -e robots=off -r -np [base-url]
```

As with any complex CLI tool, man wget is indispensable.

Breadth-First Traversal



Breadth-First Traversal

Algorithm

```
def bft(g, root):
    seen = set()
    q = [root]

while q:
    n = q.pop(0)
    if n not in seen:
       visit(n)
       seen.add(n)
    q += g[n]
```

Web Architecture

In Its Modern Form

