### **Getting Data**

#### Lecture 9

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### Introduction

- In order to be a data scientist we need data.
- In fact, data scientist spend a large fraction of time:
  - Acquiring data
    - Cleaning data
    - Transforming data
- In this chapter, we'll look at different ways of getting data into Python and into the right formats.

### stdin and stdout

- sys.stdin: Used to accept input from command line directly.
- **sys.stdout**: Used to display output directly to the screen console.
- Python scripts uses these commands to access data at the command line.
- **Example 1**: A script that reads in lines of text and output the ones that match a regular expression:

```
# egrep.py
import sys, re

# sys.argv is the list of command—line arguments
# sys.argv[0] is the name of the program itself
# sys.argv[1] will be the regex specified at the command line
regex = sys.argv[1]

# for every line passed into the script
for line in sys.stdin:
    # if it matches the regex, write it to stdout
    if re.search(regex, line):
        sys.stdout.write(line)
```

• **Example 2**: Python program to counts the lines it receives and then writes out the count:

```
# line_count.py
import sys

count = 0
for line in sys.stdin:
    count += 1

# print goes to sys.stdout
print(count)
```

- Example 3: Read input and count how many lines of a file contain numbers.
- In Windows, we'd use:

```
1 type SomeFile.txt | python egrep.py "[0-9]" | python line_count.py
```

In a Unix system we'd use:

```
1 cat SomeFile.txt | python egrep.py "[0-9]" | python line_count.py
```

 The | is the pipe character, which means use the output of the left command as the input of the right command.

• Example 4: A script that counts the words in its input and writes out the most common ones:

```
1 # most_common_words.py
2 import sys
3 from collections import Counter
4
5 # pass in number of words as first argument
  try:
      num_{words} = int(sys.argv[1])
8 except:
      print("usage: most_common_words.py num_words")
      sys.exit(1) # nonzero exit code indicates error
10
11
12 # strip(): Remove spaces at the beginning and end of the string
  counter = Counter(word.lower() # lowercase words
                   for line in sys.stdin
14
                   for word in line.strip().split()# split on spaces
15
                   if word) # skip empty 'words'
16
17
  for word, count in counter.most_common(num_words):
18
      sys.stdout.write(str(count))
19
      sys.stdout.write("\t")
20
      sys.stdout.write(word)
21
      sys.stdout.write("\n")
22
                                                                      7/53
```

After which we could do something like:

```
$ cat the_bible.txt | python most_common_words.py 10
2 36397
          the
  30031
          and
4 20163
          οf
5 7154
          to
6 6484
        in
7 5856
        that
8 5421
          he
9 5226
        his
10 5060
          unto
  4297
          shall
```

• (If you are using Windows, then use *type* instead of *cat*.)

# Reading files

- File: It is some information or data which stays in the computer storage devices.
- Examples: music files, video files, text files.
- We can also explicitly read from and write to files directly in our code.
- Python makes working with files pretty simple.

### The Basics of Text Files

 The first step to working with a text file is to obtain a file object using open:

```
# 'r' means read—only, it's assumed if you leave it out
file_for_reading = open('reading_file.txt', 'r')
file_for_reading2 = open('reading_file.txt')

# 'w' is write — will destroy the file if it already exists!
file_for_writing = open('writing_file.txt', 'w')

# 'a' is append — for adding to the end of the file
file_for_appending = open('appending_file.txt', 'a')

# don't forget to close your files when you're done
file_for_writing.close()
```

# The Basics of Text Files (Contd.)

Because it is easy to forget to close our files, we should always
use them in a with block, at the end of which they will be closed
automatically:

```
with open(filename) as f:
    data = function_that_gets_data_from(f)

# at this point f has already been closed, so don't try to use it
process(data)
```

 If we need to read a whole text file, we can just iterate over the lines of the file using for loop:

```
starts_with_hash = 0

with open('input.txt') as f:
for line in f: # look at each line in the file
    if re.match("^#",line): # use a regex to see if it starts
    with '#'

starts_with_hash += 1 # if it does, add 1 to the count
```

# The Basics of Text Files (Contd.)

 Example: Imagine we have a file full of email addresses, one per line, and we need to generate a histogram of the domains.

```
def get_domain(email_address: str) -> str:
    """ Split on '@' and return the last piece"""
    return email_address.lower().split("@")[-1]
3
4
    # a couple of tests
5
    assert get_domain('joelgrus@gmail.com') == 'gmail.com'
    assert get_domain('joel@m.datasciencester.com') == 'm.
       datasciencester.com'
8
9
    from collections import Counter
10
11
    with open('email_addresses.txt', 'r') as f:
    domain_counts = Counter(get_domain(line.strip())
12
    for line in f
13
    if "@" in line)
14
15
```

### **Delimited Files**

- These files are very often:
  - comma-separated
  - tab-separated

where, a comma or a tab indicating where one field ends and the next field starts in a line.

- Python libraries to read comma-separated or tab-delimited files:
  - Python's csv module
  - Pandas
- csv.reader: This is used to iterate over the rows of a file that has no header.

# Delimited Files (Contd.)

For example, if we had a tab-delimited file of stock prices:

```
6/20/2014 AAPL 90.91
6/20/2014 MSFT 41.68
6/20/2014 FB 64.5
6/19/2014 AAPL 91.86
6/19/2014 MSFT 41.51
6/19/2014 FB 64.34
```

• We could process them with:

```
import csv

with open('tab_delimited_stock_prices.txt') as f:

tab_reader = csv.reader(f, delimiter='\t')

for row in tab_reader:
   date = row[0]

symbol = row[1]

closing_price = float(row[2])

process(date, symbol, closing_price)
```

# Delimited Files (Contd.)

If our file has headers:

```
date:symbol:closing_price
6/20/2014:AAPL:90.91
6/20/2014:MSFT:41.68
6/20/2014:FB:64.5
```

- We can skip the header row with an initial call to reader.next
- Or get each row as a dict (with the headers as keys) by using csv.DictReader:

```
with open('colon_delimited_stock_prices.txt') as f:
colon_reader = csv.DictReader(f, delimiter=':')
for dict_row in colon_reader:
   date = dict_row["date"]
symbol = dict_row["symbol"]
closing_price = float(dict_row["closing_price"])
process(date, symbol, closing_price)
```

• Even if file doesn't have headers, we can still use *DictReader* by passing it the keys as a *fieldnames* parameter.

## Delimited Files (Contd.)

We can similarly write out delimited data using csv.writer

```
todays_prices = {'AAPL': 90.91, 'MSFT': 41.68, 'FB': 64.5 }

with open('comma_delimited_stock_prices.txt', 'w') as f:
    csv_writer = csv.writer(f, delimiter=',')
    for stock, price in todays_prices.items():
        csv_writer.writerow([stock, price])
```

• csv.writer will do the right thing if fields themselves have commas.

```
results = [["test1", "success", "Monday"],
["test2", "success, kind of", "Tuesday"],
["test3", "failure, kind of", "Wednesday"],
["test4", "failure, utter", "Thursday"]]
```

# Scraping the Web

- Web scraping is used to extract information from web pages.
- Fetching web pages is pretty easy; but getting meaningful structured information out of them is somewhat difficult.

# HTML and the Parsing Thereof

- HTML is popular language for writing the web pages.
- Text is marked up into elements and their attributes:

### Beautiful Soup library:

- This library is used to extract data from HTML pages.
- This produces a parse tree out of the various elements on a web page and provides a simple interface for accessing them.
- Requests library: This is used for making HTTP requests.
- html5lib library: Python's built-in HTML parser is not that lenient and doesn't always cope well with HTML that's not perfectly formed.
  - For that reason, we'll also install the *html5lib* parser.

```
python -m pip install beautifulsoup4 requests html5lib
```

- requests.get: This produces a string containing the HTML.
- BeautifulSoup function produces the parse tree.

```
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
import requests

# I put the relevant HTML file on GitHub. In order to fit
# the URL in the book I had to split it across two lines.
# Recall that whitespace—separated strings get concatenated.

rul = ("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/"
"joelgrus/data/master/getting—data.html")

html = requests.get(url).text
soup = BeautifulSoup(html, 'html5lib')
```

• We'll typically work with Tag objects, which correspond to the tags representing the structure of an HTML page.

- Beautiful Soup find() method:
  - This matches for a first matching tag and return a Tag object.
- Example: To find the first tag (and its contents):

```
first_paragraph = soup.find('p') # or
first_paragraph = soup.p

output: Joel Grus
```

• We can get the text contents of a Tag using its text property:

```
first_paragraph_text = soup.p.text
first_paragraph_words = soup.p.text.split()
```

output: Joel Grus output: ['Joel', 'Grus']

• And we can extract a tag's attributes by treating it like a dict:

```
first_paragraph_id = soup.p['id'] # raises KeyError if no 'id'
first_paragraph_id2 = soup.p.get('id') # returns None if no 'id'
```

 Beautiful Soup find\_all() method: We can get multiple tags at once as follows:

```
all_paragraphs = soup.find_all('p') # or just soup('p')
paragraphs_with_ids = [p for p in soup('p') if p.get('id')]
```

Frequently, we'll want to find tags with a specific class:

```
important_paragraphs = soup('p', {'class' : 'important'})
important_paragraphs2 = soup('p', 'important')
important_paragraphs3 = [p for p in soup('p')
if 'important' in p.get('class', [])]
```

- These methods can be combined to implement more elaborate logic.
- For example, if we want to find every < span > element that is contained inside a < div > element, we could do this:

```
# Warning: will return the same <span> multiple times
# if it sits inside multiple <div>s.
# Be more clever if that's the case.

spans_inside_divs = [span
for div in soup('div') # for each <div> on the page
for span in div('span')] # find each <span> inside it
```

Just this handful of features will allow us to do quite a lot.

# Example: Keeping Tabs on Congress

- The VP of Policy at DataSciencester is worried about potential regulation of the data science industry and asks you to quantify what Congress is saying on the topic.
- In particular, he wants you to find all the representatives who have press releases about "data."
- At the time of publication, there is a page with links to all of the representatives' websites at https://www.house.gov/representatives.
- And if you "view source," all of the links to the websites look like:

Let's start by collecting all of the URLs linked to from that page:

```
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
import requests

url = "https://www.house.gov/representatives"
text = requests.get(url).text
soup = BeautifulSoup(text, "html5lib")

all_urls = [a['href']
for a in soup('a')
if a.has_attr('href')]

print(len(all_urls)) # 965 for me, way too many
```

 This returns way too many URLs. If we look at them, the ones we want start with either http://or https://, have some kind of name, and end with either .house.gov or .house.gov/.

• This is a good place to use a regular expression:

```
1 import re
2
3 # Must start with http:// or https://
4 # Must end with .house.gov or .house.gov/
5 regex = r"^https?://.*\.house\.gov/?$"
7 # Let's write some tests!
8 assert re.match(regex, "http://joel.house.gov")
9 assert re.match(regex, "https://joel.house.gov")
10 assert re.match(regex, "http://joel.house.gov/")
assert re.match(regex, "https://joel.house.gov/")
assert not re.match(regex, "joel.house.gov")
assert not re.match(regex, "http://joel.house.com")
14 assert not re.match(regex, "https://joel.house.gov/biography")
15
16 # And now apply
  good_urls = [url for url in all_urls if re.match(regex, url)]
18
19 print(len(good_urls)) # still 862 for me
```

- That's still way too many, as there are only 435 representatives.
- If we look at the list, there are a lot of duplicates.
- We can get rid of them by using set.

```
good_urls = list(set(good_urls))
print(len(good_urls)) # only 431 for me
```

- There are always a couple of House seats empty, or maybe there's a representative without a website.
- When we look at the sites, most of them have a link to press releases.
- For example:

- This is a relative link, which means we need to remember the originating site.
- For scraping we write:

- If we watch these as they scroll by, we'll see a lot of /media/press-releases and media-center/press-releases, as well as various other addresses.
- One of these URLs is https://jayapal.house.gov/media/press-releases.
- Our goal is to find out which congress people have press releases mentioning "data."
- We'll write a slightly more general function that checks whether a page of press releases mentions any given term.

 If you visit the site and view the source, it seems like there's a snippet from each press release inside a tag, so we'll use that as our first attempt:

```
def paragraph_mentions(text: str, keyword: str) -> bool:
    """

Returns True if a  inside the text mentions {keyword}

"""

soup = BeautifulSoup(text, 'html5lib')
paragraphs = [p.get_text() for p in soup('p')]
return any(keyword.lower() in paragraph.lower()
for paragraph in paragraphs)
```

Let's write a quick test for it:

```
1 text = """<body>h1>Facebook</h1>p>Twitter"""
2 assert paragraph_mentions(text, "twitter") # is inside a 3 assert not paragraph_mentions(text, "facebook") # not inside a
```

 At last we're ready to find the relevant congress people and give their names to the VP:

```
for house_url, pr_links in press_releases.items():
    for pr_link in pr_links:
        url = f"{house_url}/{pr_link}"
        text = requests.get(url).text
        if paragraph_mentions(text, 'data'):
            print(f"{house_url}")
            break # done with this house_url
```

• After running this we get a list of representatives.

# **Using APIs**

- API is the acronym for 'Application Programming Interface", which
  is a intermediary software that allows two applications to talk to
  each other.
- Many websites and web services provide APIs, which allow to explicitly request data in a structured format.
- This saves us the trouble of having to scrape them.

### JSON and XML

- HTTP protocol is used for transferring text, therefore, requested data through a web API needs to be serialized into a string format.
- Popular serialization format:
  - JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)
  - Extensible Markup Language (XML)
- JSON objects look quite similar to Python dicts, which makes their string representations easy to interpret:

```
{ "title" : "Data Science Book",
  "author" : "Joel Grus",
  "publicationYear" : 2019,
  "topics" : [ "data", "science", "data science"]
```

• We can parse JSON using Python's json module.

# JSON and XML (Contd.)

 loads function: This deserializes a string representing a JSON object into a Python object:

# JSON and XML (Contd.)

Sometimes an API provider provides responses in XML:

 We can use Beautiful Soup to get data from XML similarly to how we used it to get data from HTML

## Using an Unauthenticated API

- Most APIs these days require first client's authentication before using them.
- Start by taking a look at GitHub's API, with which we can do some simple things unauthenticated:

```
import requests, json
github_user = "joelgrus"
endpoint = f"https://api.github.com/users/{github_user}/repos"
repos = json.loads(requests.get(endpoint).text)
```

 repos is a list of Python dicts, each representing a public repository in joelgrus's GitHub account.

#### Using an Unauthenticated API (Contd.)

- The repos can be used to figure out which months and days of the week we are most likely to create a repository.
- The only issue is that the dates in the response are strings:

```
1 "created_at": "2013-07-05T02:02:28Z"
```

To parse date, we'll install one date parser:

```
python —m pip install python—dateutil
```

Example:

```
from collections import Counter
from dateutil.parser import parse

dates = [parse(repo["created_at"]) for repo in repos]
month_counts = Counter(date.month for date in dates)
weekday_counts = Counter(date.weekday() for date in dates)
```

## Using an Unauthenticated API (Contd.)

Similarly, we can get the languages of last five repositories:

 The benefits of using Python is that there is already a built library for pretty much any API we're interested in accessing.

## Finding APIs

- If we need data from a specific site, look for a "developers" or "API" section of the site for details, and try searching the web for "python <sitename> api" to find a library.
- List of APIs that have Python wrappers can be obtained from Real Python on GitHub.
- And if we can't find what we need, scraping is the solution.

## Example: Using the Twitter APIs

- Twitter is a popular source for collecting information:
  - It can be use to get real-time news.
  - For measuring reactions/sentiment to current events.
  - Finding links related to specific topics.
- Twitter data can be accessed through its APIs.
- Twython is a popular python library used to interact with the Twitter APIs.
- Installing twython library:
   python -m pip install twython

#### **Getting Credentials**

- Interaction with Twitter's APIs require some credentials.
  - This requires a Twitter account.
- Steps for getting the credentials:
  - Go to https://developer.twitter.com/.
  - "Sign in" to your Twitter account.
  - Olick Apply for a developer account.
  - Request access for your own personal use.
  - Fill out the application. It requires 300 words on why you need access.
  - Once you get approved, go back to developer.twitter.com, find the "Apps" section, and click "Create an app."
  - Fill out all the required fields.
  - Click CREATE.
- Goto "Keys and tokens" tab —> "Consumer API keys" section:
  - API key
  - API secret key

## **Using Twython**

- The first step to use the Twitter API is authenticate yourself.
  - API providers want to know who's accessing their data.
- OAuth (Open Authorization):
  - Authorization protocol used to grant access to the secured information without giving the credentials.
  - Twitter, Amazon, Facebook use OAuth to grant 3<sup>rd</sup> party access to protected information.
- OAuth 1.0: Required to perform actions (e.g., tweeting) or connect to the Twitter stream.
- OAuth 2.0: Used for doing simple searches.

- First, we need API key and API secret key (also known as the "consumer key" and "consumer secret", respectively).
- We can get it from environment variables.

```
import os

import
```

```
1 import webbrowser
2 from twython import Twython
4 # Get a temporary client to retrieve an authentication URL
5 temp_client = Twython(CONSUMER_KEY, CONSUMER_SECRET)
6 temp_creds = temp_client.get_authentication_tokens()
7 url = temp_creds['auth_url']
9 # Now visit that URL to authorize the application and get a PIN
oprint(f"go visit {url} and get the PIN code and paste it below")
webbrowser.open(url)
12 PIN_CODE = input("please enter the PIN code: ")
14 # Now we use that PIN_CODE to get the actual tokens
15 auth_client = Twython(CONSUMER_KEY, CONSUMER_SECRET,
                        temp_creds['oauth_token'],
16
                        temp_creds['oauth_token_secret'])
17
final_step = auth_client.get_authorized_tokens(PIN_CODE)
19 ACCESS_TOKEN = final_step['oauth_token']
ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET = final_step['oauth_token_secret']
```

```
# And get a new Twython instance using them.
twitter = Twython(CONSUMER_KEY, CONSUMER_SECRET,
ACCESS_TOKEN, ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET)
```

 Once we have an authenticated Twython instance, we can start performing searches using Twitter Search API:

```
# Search for tweets containing the phrase "data science"
for status in twitter.search(q='"data science"')["statuses"]:
    user = status["user"]["screen_name"]
    text = status["text"]
    print(f"{user}: {text}\n")
```

• Twitter Search API uses "search criteria" that can be keywords, user-names, locations, etc.

• If we run this, we should get some tweets back like:

```
    haithemnyc: Data scientists with the technical savvy & manalytical chops to derive meaning from big data are in demand . http://t.co/HsF9Q0dShP
    RPubsRecent: Data Science http://t.co/6hcHUz2PHM
    spleonard1: Using #dplyr in #R to work through a procrastinated assignment for @rdpeng in @coursera data science specialization. So easy and Awesome.
```

- The Twitter Search API only guarantees a handful of recent results limited in numbers.
- It delivers data in batches.
- More results require repeated requests.

## Using Twython (Contd.): Streaming API

- Streaming API: This is useful collecting tweets in the real-time scenario by opening connection between the *client app* and the API.
- Twitter firehose is a streaming API that provide results in real-time.
- Streaming API require OAuth 1.0 authentication credentials, i.e., access tokens.
- A class definition that inherits from TwythonStreamer is required to access the Streaming API with Twython. This must override the on\_success method, and possibly its on\_error method to manage the received tweets.

```
1 from twython import TwythonStreamer
3 # Appending data to a global variable is pretty poor form
4 # but it makes the example much simpler
5 \text{ tweets} = []
  class MyStreamer(TwythonStreamer):
      def on_success(self, data):
          What do we do when Twitter sends us data?
          Here data will be a Python dict representing a tweet.
11
          # We only want to collect English-language tweets
13
          if data.get('lang') == 'en':
14
               tweets.append(data)
               print(f"received tweet #{len(tweets)}")
16
          # Stop when we have collected enough
17
          if len(tweets) >= 100:
18
               self.disconnect()
      def on_error(self, status_code, data):
           print(status_code, data)
           self.disconnect()
                                                    4 D > 4 B > 4 B > 4 B > ...
```

- MyStreamer will connect to the Twitter stream and wait for Twitter to feed it data.
- Each time it receives some data (here, a tweet represented as a Python object), it passes it to the on\_success method, which appends it to our tweets list if its language is English, and then disconnects the streamer after it's collected 100 tweets.

```
stream = MyStreamer(CONSUMER.KEY, CONSUMER.SECRET,
ACCESS_TOKEN, ACCESS_TOKEN_SECRET)

starts consuming public statuses that contain the keyword 'data'

stream.statuses.filter(track='data')

"""
if instead we wanted to start consuming a sample of *all* public statuses
stream.statuses.sample()

"""
```

- This will run until it collects 100 tweets (or until it encounters an error) and stop, at which point we can start analyzing those tweets.
- For instance, we could find the most common hashtags with:

```
top_hashtags = Counter(hashtag['text'].lower()
for tweet in tweets
for hashtag in tweet["entities"]["hashtags"])
print(top_hashtags.most_common(5))
```

 Each tweet contains a lot of data. Which We can dig through the Twitter API documentation.

#### For Further Exploration

- pandas is the primary library that data science types use for working with—and, in particular, importing—data.
- Scrapy is a full-featured library for building complicated web scrapers that do things like follow unknown links.
- Kaggle hosts a large collection of datasets.

# Thank You Any Questions?