

Midterm Project Report

Advanced Computer Programming

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Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Github

- 1) Personal Github Account: fadhlanharashta
- 2) Group Project Repository: https://github.com/fadhlanharashta/ACP---Group-3

1.2 Overview

In my mid term project, I develop a web scraper using Scrapy and Pyhthon web crawling framework, I use several useful libraries which includes:

- CrawlSpider
- Regular Expression
- CSS and XPath Selectors
- Conditional Logic and String Manipulation

In this project I use a few libraries, Scrapy which is the main scrapy module, LinkExtractor which helps extract links that match a patterm, and CrawlSpider to lets the code to follow links based on rules.

While some part of the code works as intended, such as the code abilitry to capture the repositories link, title, and number of commit and language, it is somehow unable to get the last updated.

The captured data then put on an XML file and also to make it easier to check, I also make a JSON file.

Chapter 2 Implementation

2.1 Class 1: GithubSpider

This class inherits form CrawlSpider, a specialized spider in Scrappy used for crawling websites using Rules. It is designed to scrape Github repository data from a specific user.

2.1.1 Fields

Field	Description
name	Unique name to identify spider: "github_spider"
allowed_domains	A list that limits the spider crawling to github: "github.com"
Start_urls	Starting URL for the spider's to begin crawling "https://github.com/fadhlanharashta?tab=repositories"
rules	Some rules that tells the spider how to follow links and which callback to use. In this case, it follows repository links and cals "parse_repo"

2.1.2 Methods

Parse Repo

The main callback that extract data from each repository page. It handles both empty and not empty repositories and collect all the needed datas such as link, name, number of commit, language, and last update.

2.1.3 Functions

Extract Repositories

Extract current repository and then parse the repositories name from the URL string. The spider only crawls github.com and starts from repositories tab. It has a rule: the program will extract links for githubname/reponame but no more slashes. Since it only follow links to individual repositories from the profile's repositories page, it only take from anchor tags (<a>) that match the given CSS selector. And then each link call the parse repo method. Lastly it wont follow links from the individual repo page.

About

Uses CSS selector to get the repository description if available. It extract the repository description.

```
# About section
about = response.css('p.f4.my-3::text, div.BorderGrid p.f4::text').get()
about = about.strip() if about else None
```

Empty Repo check

Uses regex to check if the repository is empty or not. If repo is empty yield as follows:

```
# Check for empty repo

is_empty = response.css('div.Box.mt-3 h3::text').re_first(r'This repository is (.*)')

if is_empty:

yield {

"url": url,

"about": about if about else repo_name,

"last_updated": None,

"languages": None,

"number_of_commits": None,

}

else:
```

Last Update

Scrapes the <relative-time> tag to get the latest update timestamp.

```
last_updated = response.css('div[data-testid="latest-commit-details"] relative-time::attr(datetime)').get()
if not last_updated:
last_updated = response.xpath('//relative-time/@datetime').get()
```

Language

Extract programing languages used in the repository using css selector.

```
#language | #language | Tesponse.css('ul.list-style-none .d-inline .color-fg-default::text').getall()

if not languages:

languages = response.css('.language-color + span::text').getall()

languages = [lang.strip() for lang in languages if lang.strip()]

languages_str = ", ".join(languages) if languages else None
```

Number of Commit

Uses XPath and regex to find and parse the number of commits.

Yield

Each yield returns a dictionary for each repository. The data of which we want to crawl

2.2 Class 2: Setting

```
BOT_NAME = "github_scraper"

11

12 SPIDER_MODULES = ["github_scraper.spiders"]

13 NEWSPIDER_MODULE = "github_scraper.spiders"

14

15 FEEDS = {
    "output/repos.xml": {
        "format": "xml",
        "encoding": "utf8",
        "overwrite": True,
        }

20 }

21 }

22 # Crawl responsibly by identifying yourself (and your was allowed as a substant of the s
```

BOT NAME

Identifies the scappy bot, used internally.

• SPIDER MODULES

Module path for spider definition.

NEWSPIDER MODULE

Default path for spider created via command line

FEEDS

Specifies export format and file path XML file exported to output/repos.xml

• USER AGENT

Overrides default user-agent string to mimic a real browser.

• ROBOTSTXT OBEY

Sets to false to ignore robot.txt riles and allow full crawling

• TWISTED REACTOR

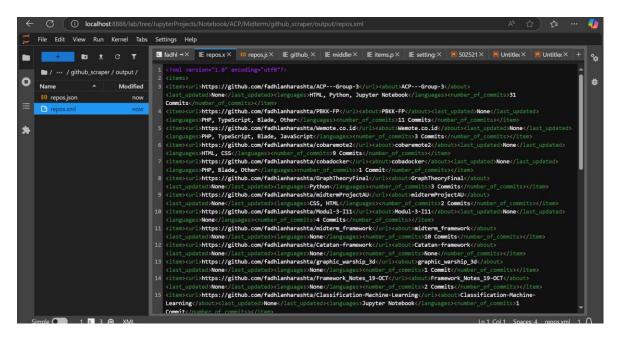
Specifies the event loop reactor for asynchronous processing.

• FEED EXPORT ENCODING

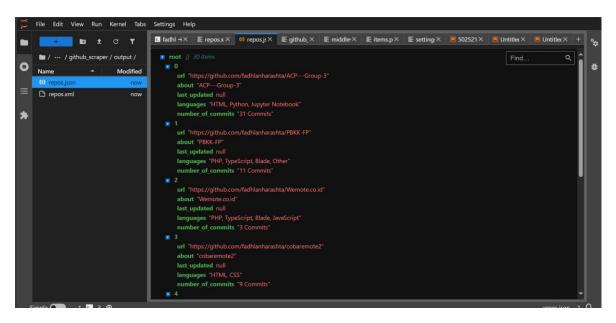
Sets UTF-8 Encoding for exported file.

Chapter 3 Results

3.1 Result 1: XML File



3.2 Result 2: Json File



Chapter 4 Conclusions

While I successfully crawl some data inside my repositories, there are some data that I stil unable to get. Data like last updated still unable to be crawled. The problem is that my code is unable to recognize the last updated date from the HTML. While I have try to inspect the HTML manually to find the number of commit and the last update detail, I still unable to get the data and put it into the XML file. As a result, the data im able to put on the XML file which is not none is links, about, number of commit, and languages, while the last update and number of commit remain none.