

SCRAPING DATA FROM REAL WEBSITE

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Submitted to Scifor Technologies



Script. Sculpt. Socialize

**Under Guidance Of
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ABSTRACT

Streamlit. The tool allows users to extract text, images, links, and other elements from web pages and download the content in PDF or DOCX formats. The project explores web scraping methodologies, implements content extraction, and provides a user-friendly interface for non-technical users. The tool is highly customizable, enabling the scraping of multiple types of content with optional pagination and dark mode for ease of Web scraping is a powerful technique used to automate the extraction of data from websites. This report presents the development of "ScrapeIt," a web-based data extraction tool built using Python and use.

Keywords: Streamlit, elements, web scraping

INTRODUCTION

Web scraping is the automated process of extracting data from websites, enabling users to gather large volumes of information efficiently. As the internet becomes increasingly data-rich, web scraping has become essential across various fields, including data science, market research, e-commerce, and journalism. Manually collecting data from multiple sources can be labour-intensive and inefficient, especially when dealing with complex and large-scale projects. Web scraping addresses this by automating the data extraction process, making it faster and more accurate.

Web scraping involves sending HTTP requests to a website, retrieving its HTML content, and parsing that content to extract specific data points such as text, images, links, and more. The extracted data can then be stored in a structured format for analysis, reporting, or other applications. Common use cases include price monitoring, sentiment analysis, content aggregation, and competitive research. As businesses and researchers rely more on data-driven insights, web scraping has become a valuable tool for gaining a competitive edge or enhancing research quality.




This project introduces “ScrapeIt,” a web scraping tool developed using Python and Streamlit, designed to simplify data extraction for users with varying technical expertise. “ScrapeIt” allows users to input a URL, select the types of content they wish to extract (like titles, headers, paragraphs, images, and links), and download the results in PDF or DOCX formats. The tool’s intuitive interface, combined with features like pagination support and customizable image settings, makes it accessible to non-technical users while maintaining functionality.

In an era where data drives decision-making, tools like “ScrapeIt” bridge the gap between technical complexity and practical usability. This report delves into the development, functionality, and applications of the tool, highlighting its potential to streamline the web scraping process for various use cases.



TOOLS USED

The tools we are used in this project are:




1. Programming Language:

-  **Python:** A high-level, general-purpose programming language known for its simplicity and readability. Python is widely used in web development, data analysis, automation, artificial intelligence, and more, with a vast ecosystem of libraries and frameworks that make it versatile for various applications.
-  **HTML (HyperText Markup Language):** The standard language for creating web pages and web applications. HTML provides the structure and layout of a webpage using elements like headings, paragraphs, links, and images, defining how content is displayed in web browsers.
-  **CSS (Cascading Style Sheets):** A stylesheet language used to control the presentation, styling, and layout of HTML documents. CSS allows for the customization of colors, fonts, spacing, and overall design, enabling the creation of visually appealing and responsive web pages.

2. Platform:

-  **Google Colab:** A cloud-based Jupyter notebook environment that allows you to write and execute Python code with free access to GPUs and TPUs, ideal for data science and machine learning projects.
-  **Streamlit:** An open-source Python framework that lets you quickly build and deploy interactive web apps, making it easy to create data-driven applications with minimal code.

3. Python Libraries:

-  **BeautifulSoup:** A Python library used for parsing HTML and XML documents, allowing easy navigation, searching, and modification of the parsed data.
-  **Requests:** A Python library that simplifies sending HTTP requests to interact with web pages and APIs, making it easier to retrieve website content.
-  **Streamlit:** An open-source Python framework that allows the quick creation of

interactive web applications, especially for data science and machine learning projects.

✚ **BytesIO:** A Python class from the `io` module that handles in-memory byte streams, useful for managing file-like objects without needing to save them to disk.

✚ **FPDF:** A Python library that provides a simple way to generate PDF documents programmatically, supporting text, images, and formatting.






✚ **python-docx:** A Python library used for creating, reading, and editing Microsoft Word (.docx) files, allowing easy programmatic manipulation of Word documents.

4. Software:

✚ **VS code:** is a free, open-source code editor developed by Microsoft. It is widely used by developers for writing and debugging code across multiple programming languages.

DATASET INFORMATION

When performing web scraping, the dataset you aim to collect can vary widely depending on your objectives. Here's a general guide on dataset information you might look for:

1. **URLs:** The specific web pages or websites you intend to scrape data from.
2. **Data Elements:** Types of data you want to extract, such as:
 -  Text: Headlines, article content, product descriptions.
 -  Links: Hyperlinks to other pages or external sites.
 -  Images: URLs of images and potentially their metadata (e.g., alt text).
 -  Metadata: Information like publication dates, author names, or page views.
 -  Tables: Structured data often found in HTML tables.
3. **Pagination Details:** Information on how to navigate through multiple pages of data if the website uses pagination.
4. **HTML Structure:** The layout and tags used on the website, which are crucial for parsing the content correctly (e.g., `<div>`, ``, `<a>`).
5. **Frequency of Updates:** How often the website content changes, which affects how frequently you need to scrape data.
6. **Legal and Ethical Considerations:** Site-specific terms of service, robots.txt rules, and data usage policies to ensure compliance with legal and ethical standards.

Understanding these aspects helps in designing an effective web scraping strategy and ensures that you gather relevant and structured data.

METHODOLOGY

The development and deployment of the web scraping tool involve several critical steps, which ensure that the tool is functional, user-friendly, and capable of extracting and presenting data effectively.

1. Design and User Interface

The user interface (UI) is a crucial component of the web scraping tool, designed with Streamlit, a powerful framework for creating interactive web applications using Python. The design and functionality of the UI are as follows:

- **User Input Fields:** The interface includes a text input field where users can enter the URL of the webpage they want to scrape. This field is essential for specifying the target page from which data will be extracted.
- **Element Selection:** Users can choose which types of content they want to scrape. This includes options like titles, headers, paragraphs, anchor tags (links), images, and comments. Checkboxes or toggle buttons are used for these selections, allowing users to customize their data extraction based on their needs.
- **Pagination Settings:** If the website has multiple pages of content, users can specify the number of pages to scrape. This feature is useful for scraping data from paginated content, such as articles spread across several pages.
- **Image Width Configuration:** A slider allows users to set the width of images when displayed in the output. This customization ensures that the images fit well within the generated reports and presentations.
- **Customization Options:** The sidebar provides additional customization features. For instance, a dark mode toggle lets users switch between light and dark themes for better readability or personal preference.
- **Download Buttons:** Once data extraction is complete, users can download the scraped content in various formats. Buttons are provided to export the content as PDF or DOCX files, making it easy to save and share the results.

This UI design aims to make the tool intuitive and accessible, even for users with limited technical expertise, while offering sufficient customization to meet diverse needs.

2. Content Scraping Workflow

The content scraping workflow is designed to handle the end-to-end process of data extraction, from user input to data export. Here's a detailed breakdown of each step:

- **User Input:** Users start by entering the URL of the website they wish to scrape. They can also specify additional parameters such as the number of pages to scrape and select specific content types (e.g., titles, headers, paragraphs, etc.).
- **Web Requests and Parsing:**
 - **Web Requests:** The tool uses the requests library to send HTTP requests to the specified URL. This library simplifies the process of fetching web pages and handling responses.
 - **HTML Parsing:** Once the HTML content is retrieved, the BeautifulSoup library is used to parse and navigate through the page's structure. BeautifulSoup helps identify the tags and elements that contain the data specified by the user.
- **Data Extraction:**
 - **Element Identification:** Based on user selections, the tool searches for and extracts the relevant HTML elements. For example, if users choose to scrape images, the tool locates tags and retrieves their src attributes.
 - **Absolute URLs:** For images and links, the tool processes relative URLs to generate absolute URLs. This ensures that the links and image sources are correctly resolved, even if they are relative paths on the website.
- **Data Display:** The extracted data is dynamically displayed within the Streamlit interface. This allows users to review the content in real-time as it is being scraped, ensuring that they can see the results immediately.
- **Data Export:**
 - **PDF and DOCX Generation:** After data extraction, users can download the content in PDF or DOCX formats. The tool uses functions to convert the scraped data into these formats:
 - **PDF Generation:** Uses the FPDF library to create a PDF document, including formatted text and images.
 - **DOCX Generation:** Uses the python-docx library to create a Word document with headings, paragraphs, and other content elements.

This workflow ensures a seamless user experience, from setting up the scrape to obtaining the final, formatted output. Each step is designed to be efficient and user-friendly, allowing users to gather and utilize web data effectively.

CODE SNIPPET

```
import streamlit as st
import requests
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
from fpdf import FPDF
from docx import Document
from io import BytesIO

# Configure Streamlit page settings
st.set_page_config(
    page_title="Web Scraper",
    page_icon=":spider:", # Favicon emoji
    layout="centered", # Page layout option
)

# Custom CSS for styling
st.markdown("""
<style>
/* Background color */
.main {
    background-color: #f5f5f5;
}
/* Title and headers */
h1, h2, h3, h4 {
    color: #4B778D;
    font-family: 'Segoe UI', sans-serif;
}
/* Center the title */
.css-10trblm {
    text-align: center;
}
/* Customize the sidebar */
.css-1d391kg {
    background-color: #1F1F1F;
    color: #FFFFFF;
}
/* Customize the buttons */
.stButton button {
    background-color: #4B778D;
    color: white;
    font-size: 18px;
    border-radius: 10px;
}
/* Image styling */
img {
    border-radius: 10px;
}
</style>
""", unsafe_allow_html=True)

# Streamlit app title with a stylish header
```

```

st.markdown("<h1 style='text-align: center; color: #4B778D;'>🕸ScrapeIt: Web  
Data Extractor</h1>", unsafe_allow_html=True)

# Sidebar for additional features
st.sidebar.title("App Options")
dark_mode = st.sidebar.checkbox("🌙 Dark Mode")

# Apply dark mode theme dynamically, including the sidebar
if dark_mode:
    st.markdown("""
<style>
.main {
    background-color: #1e1e1e;
    color: #f5f5f5;
}
.css-1d391kg {
    background-color: #333333;
    color: #f5f5f5;
}
h1, h2, h3, h4, p {
    color: #00ced1;
}
</style>
""", unsafe_allow_html=True)

# Input: Website URL
url = st.text_input("Enter the URL of the website you want to scrape:")

# Input: Specify additional parameters if needed (like number of pages)
num_pages = st.number_input("Enter the number of pages to scrape (if  
applicable):", min_value=1, step=1, value=1)

# Input: Set the image width
image_width = st.slider("Set the image width (in pixels):", min_value=50,  
max_value=1000, value=300)

# Element Selection
st.sidebar.subheader("Select Elements to Scrape")
scrape_title = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Title", value=True)
scrape_headers = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Headers (h1, h2, h3, etc.)",  
value=True)
scrape_paragraphs = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Paragraphs", value=True)
scrape_anchors = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Anchor Tags (Links)", value=True)
scrape_images = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Images", value=True)
scrape_comments = st.sidebar.checkbox("Scrape Comments", value=False)

if st.button("🔍 Scrape Content 🔍"):
    if url:
        # Function to scrape content from the webpage
        def scrape_content(url, num_pages):
            all_data = {
                'titles': [],
                'headers': [],

```

```

        'paragraphs': [],
        'anchors': [],
        'comments': [],
        'images': []
    }
    for page in range(1, num_pages + 1):
        paginated_url = f"{url}?page={page}" # Adjust this for
pagination if necessary
        response = requests.get(paginated_url)

        if response.status_code == 200:
            soup = BeautifulSoup(response.content, 'html.parser')

            # Scrape the title
            if scrape_title:
                title = soup.title.get_text(strip=True) if soup.title
else "No title found"
                all_data['titles'].append(title)

            # Scrape headers (h1, h2, h3, etc.)
            if scrape_headers:
                headers = [header.get_text(strip=True) for header in
soup.find_all(['h1', 'h2', 'h3', 'h4', 'h5', 'h6'])]
                all_data['headers'].extend(headers)

            # Scrape paragraphs (body content)
            if scrape_paragraphs:
                paragraphs = [p.get_text(strip=True) for p in
soup.find_all('p')]
                all_data['paragraphs'].extend(paragraphs)

            # Scrape anchor tags (links)
            if scrape_anchors:
                anchors = [a.get('href') for a in soup.find_all('a')
if a.get('href')]
                all_data['anchors'].extend(anchors)

            # Scrape comments (update selector according to the actual
structure)
            if scrape_comments:
                comments = soup.find_all('div', class_='comment-
class') # Replace with actual tag and class for comments
                for comment in comments:
                    all_data['comments'].append(comment.get_text(strip
=True))

            # Scrape images (src attribute)
            if scrape_images:
                images = soup.find_all('img')
                for img in images:
                    img_src = img.get('src')
                    if img_src:
                        # Ensure the image URL is absolute

```

```

        if not img_src.startswith('http'):
            img_src = requests.compat.urljoin(url,
img_src)

        all_data['images'].append(img_src)

    else:
        st.error(f"Failed to retrieve page {page}. Status code:
{response.status_code}")
        break

    return all_data

# Run the scraper and display the content
with st.spinner("Scraping content..."):
    scraped_data = scrape_content(url, num_pages)

if scraped_data:
    # Display the scraped content based on user selection
    if scrape_title and scraped_data['titles']:
        st.subheader("Page Titles")
        for idx, title in enumerate(scraped_data['titles'], 1):
            st.markdown(f"<h3 style='color: #4B778D;'>{idx}.
{title}</h3>", unsafe_allow_html=True)

    if scrape_headers and scraped_data['headers']:
        st.subheader("Headers")
        for header in scraped_data['headers']:
            st.markdown(f"<p style='font-size: 18px;'>{header}</p>",
unsafe_allow_html=True)

    if scrape_paragraphs and scraped_data['paragraphs']:
        st.subheader("Body Content (Paragraphs)")
        for paragraph in scraped_data['paragraphs']:
            st.write(paragraph)

    if scrape_anchors and scraped_data['anchors']:
        st.subheader("Anchor Tags (Links)")
        for anchor in scraped_data['anchors']:
            st.write(f"[{anchor}]({anchor})")

    if scrape_comments and scraped_data['comments']:
        st.subheader("Comments")
        for idx, comment in enumerate(scraped_data['comments'], 1):
            st.markdown(f"<p style='background-color: #EFEFEF;
padding: 10px; border-radius: 5px;'>{idx}. {comment}</p>",
unsafe_allow_html=True)

    if scrape_images and scraped_data['images']:
        st.subheader("Images")
        for img_src in scraped_data['images']:
            st.image(img_src, caption="Scraped Image",
width=image_width)

# Sidebar download options

```

```

st.sidebar.subheader("Download Options")

# Convert content to PDF
def generate_pdf(scraped_data):
    pdf = FPDF()
    pdf.set_auto_page_break(auto=True, margin=15)
    pdf.add_page()

    # Title
    pdf.set_font('Arial', 'B', 16)
    pdf.cell(200, 10, txt="Web Scraped Content", ln=True,
align='C')

    # Add titles
    pdf.set_font('Arial', 'B', 12)
    for idx, title in enumerate(scraped_data['titles'], 1):
        pdf.ln(10)
        pdf.multi_cell(0, 10, f"Title {idx}: {title}")

    # Add headers
    pdf.set_font('Arial', 'B', 12)
    for header in scraped_data['headers']:
        pdf.ln(8)
        pdf.multi_cell(0, 10, header)

    # Add paragraphs
    pdf.set_font('Arial', '', 12)
    for paragraph in scraped_data['paragraphs']:
        pdf.ln(5)
        pdf.multi_cell(0, 8, paragraph)

    # Add anchor tags
    pdf.set_font('Arial', '', 12)
    for anchor in scraped_data['anchors']:
        pdf.ln(5)
        pdf.multi_cell(0, 8, anchor)

    # Add comments
    pdf.set_font('Arial', 'I', 12)
    for idx, comment in enumerate(scraped_data['comments'], 1):
        pdf.ln(6)
        pdf.multi_cell(0, 8, f"Comment {idx}: {comment}")

    # Convert the PDF to bytes
    pdf_bytes = BytesIO()
    pdf.output(pdf_bytes, 'S').encode('latin1') # Specify 'S' for
in-memory buffer output
    pdf_bytes.seek(0)
    return pdf_bytes

# Convert content to DOCX
def generate_docx(scraped_data):
    doc = Document()

```

```

doc.add_heading('Web Scraped Content', 0)

# Add titles
for idx, title in enumerate(scraped_data['titles'], 1):
    doc.add_heading(f"Title {idx}: {title}", level=1)

# Add headers
for header in scraped_data['headers']:
    doc.add_heading(header, level=2)

# Add paragraphs
for paragraph in scraped_data['paragraphs']:
    doc.add_paragraph(paragraph)

# Add anchor tags
for anchor in scraped_data['anchors']:
    doc.add_paragraph(anchor)

# Add comments
for idx, comment in enumerate(scraped_data['comments'], 1):
    doc.add_paragraph(f"Comment {idx}: {comment}",
style='Italic')

# Convert DOCX to bytes
doc_bytes = BytesIO()
doc.save(doc_bytes)
doc_bytes.seek(0)
return doc_bytes

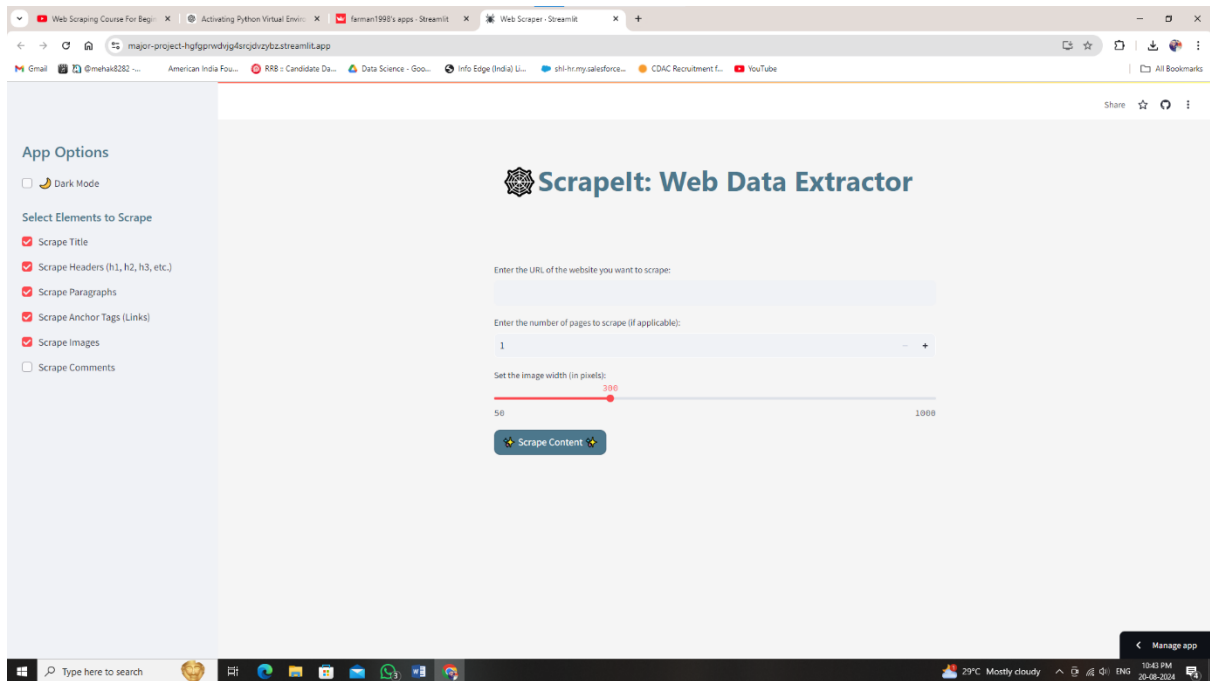
# Download PDF
pdf_file = generate_pdf(scraped_data)
st.sidebar.download_button(
    label="📄 Download PDF",
    data=pdf_file.getvalue(), # Use getvalue() to extract bytes
    file_name="scraped_content.pdf",
    mime="application/pdf"
)

# Download DOCX
docx_file = generate_docx(scraped_data)
st.sidebar.download_button(
    label="📄 Download DOCX",
    data=docx_file.getvalue(), # Use getvalue() to extract bytes
    file_name="scraped_content.docx",
    mime="application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document"
)

else:
    st.warning("No content found or there was an error during
scraping.")
else:
    st.warning("Please enter a valid URL.")

```

Output:



RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The web scraping tool underwent rigorous testing across a range of websites to validate its functionality and effectiveness. The tests demonstrated the tool's capability to extract diverse types of content and produce well-formatted output documents.

Content Extraction: The tool was tested on various websites with different structures and content types. It successfully extracted a wide range of elements, including titles, headers, paragraphs, and images. For instance, on news websites, it accurately pulled headlines and article content, while on e-commerce sites, it retrieved product descriptions and images. The tool's ability to handle different HTML structures and extract relevant data consistently was confirmed during these tests.

User Interface Performance: The user interface was evaluated for usability and effectiveness. The design, implemented using Streamlit, allowed users to input URLs, select content types to scrape, and configure settings with ease. The interface dynamically displayed the extracted content in a clear and organized manner. For example, scraped titles and paragraphs were shown with appropriate formatting, and images were displayed at user-defined widths. The interactive elements, such as the dark mode toggle and download buttons, worked seamlessly, enhancing the overall user experience.

Output Formats: The tool's ability to generate output in different formats was tested extensively. The PDF and DOCX generation features performed reliably, producing documents that were well-formatted and easy to read.

- **PDF Output:** The tool used the `FPDF` library to create PDF documents that included titles, headers, paragraphs, and images. The resulting PDFs were formatted correctly, with clear text and appropriately sized images, making them suitable for professional use or sharing.
- **DOCX Output:** Similarly, the `python-docx` library enabled the creation of Word documents that preserved the structure and content of the scraped data. The DOCX files included headings, paragraphs, and images, formatted in a way that was easy to navigate and edit.

Overall, the testing confirmed that the tool met its objectives, providing a reliable solution for web scraping with a user-friendly interface and effective data extraction capabilities. The

successful generation of PDF and DOCX files further demonstrated the tool's versatility and practicality in various applications.

CONCLUSION

The "ScrapeIt" tool has successfully achieved its primary goal of providing an accessible and customizable platform for web scraping. Through its user-friendly interface and versatile functionality, it allows users to tailor the scraping process to extract precisely the data they need. By integrating Python libraries like requests, BeautifulSoup, Streamlit, FPDF, and python-docx, the tool simplifies the complex task of web data extraction and presents the results in well-formatted PDF and DOCX files. The project illustrates how leveraging these libraries can streamline data collection and presentation, making web scraping more approachable and efficient for users with varying levels of technical expertise.

CHALLENGES

Dynamic Web Pages with JavaScript Content: One of the notable challenges was dealing with dynamic web pages that load content via JavaScript. Since the current implementation relies solely on requests and BeautifulSoup—which only handle static HTML content—there were limitations in scraping data from pages where content is generated dynamically after the initial page load. This could potentially affect the tool's ability to extract content from modern websites that rely heavily on client-side scripting.

Compatibility Across Different Website Structures: Ensuring that the tool works seamlessly across various website structures presented another challenge. Websites often have unique HTML layouts and tag structures, necessitating flexible and adaptive parsing logic. The tool had to be robust enough to handle these variations, ensuring accurate data extraction regardless of the underlying HTML architecture. Developing and testing adaptable parsing rules was essential to maintain the tool's reliability and effectiveness.

Overall, while the "ScrapeIt" tool successfully addresses many of the common needs in web scraping, these challenges highlight areas for potential improvement. Future iterations of the tool could incorporate browser automation tools like Selenium to handle dynamic content and further refine parsing strategies to enhance compatibility with diverse web structures.

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