

SECTION 15: WEB SCRAPING WITH PYTHON - 1 hour 40 minutes, 9 parts

6/9 Python Web Scraping - Book Examples Part One

- **working with multiple pages and items**

- -> this is using the same notebook as the previous video
- -> **we want to grab multiple elements off a webpage**
- -> **web scraping libraries**
- -> toscrape <- this is a website designed for practicing web scraping
- -> scraping hub
- -> the point of using this website is that no permissions are required
- -> **bookstoscrape**
 - -> this is a fake bookstore website designed for practicing web scraping
 - -> it looks like Amazon but for books
 - -> there is information about books on there
 - -> we are scraping the titles of the books on there with two star ratings
 - -> importing requests and bs4 for this
 - -> there are 50 pages of books on the webpage and each has 20 books on it
 - -> **looping through all of the pages of books and scraping the books on each**
- -> **we want to figure out what URL procedure is happening when we go from one page to the next**
 - -> we have 20 pages of books on the 'Amazon' site to scrape them from
 - -> each of those webpages follows a different URL syntax
 - -> so he's looking at what that is
 - -> then writing a while loop for the pattern
 - -> it's how we scrape the information from the webpage into Python for processing
 - -> he has stored two of the URLs in strings

```
In [63]: import requests
import bs4
```

```
In [64]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-2.html'
```

```
Out[64]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-2.html'
```

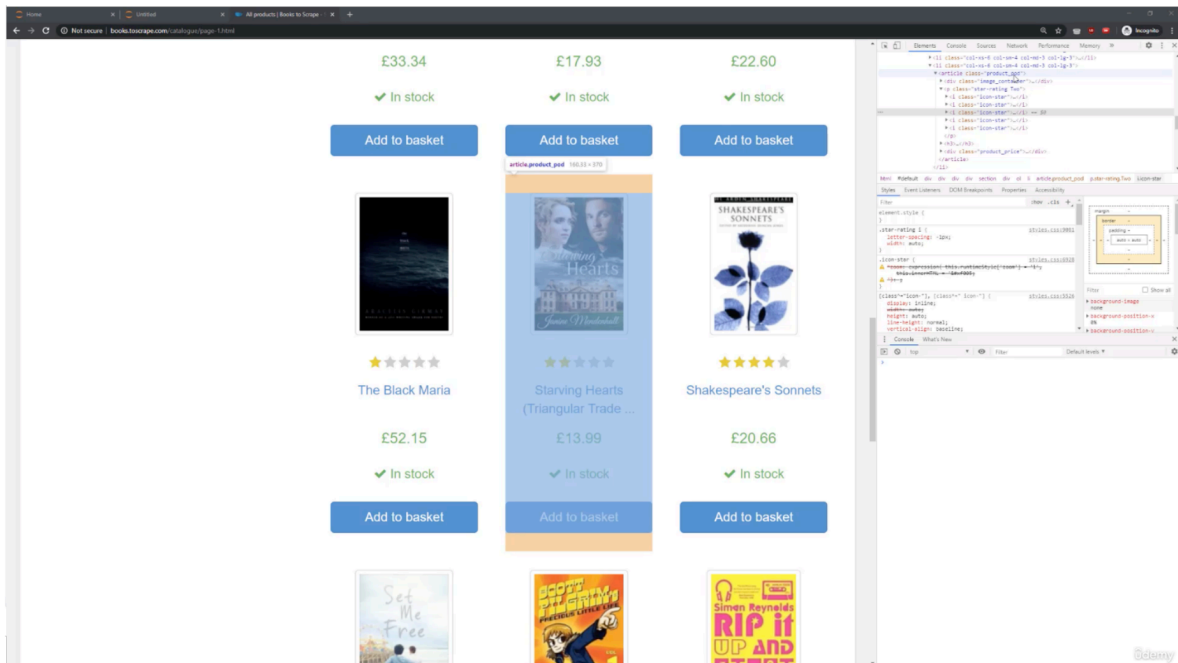
```
In [65]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-3.html'
```

```
Out[65]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-3.html'
```

```
In [66]: base_url = 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-{}.html'
```

- -> **he generalises the URL of each page and uses the .format method to fill in the different numbers for the pages**

- -> inspecting the stars on the webpage



- -> he's inspecting the different stars for the books on the webpage
- -> these are in the form of html font awesome icons
- -> they have different classes
- -> **he's looking at the html for the different elements on the webpage which we want to scrape**
- -> **we can extract certain elements and then filter them**

```
In [65]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-3.html'
```

```
Out[65]: 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-3.html'
```

```
In [66]: base_url = 'http://books.toscrape.com/catalogue/page-{}.html'
```

```
In [69]: res = requests.get(base_url.format(1))
```

```
In [70]: soup = bs4.BeautifulSoup(res.text, 'lxml')
```

```
In [72]: soup.select(".product_pod")
</div>
<p class="star-rating Three">
  <i class="icon-star"></i>
  <i class="icon-star"></i>
  <i class="icon-star"></i>
  <i class="icon-star"></i>
  <i class="icon-star"></i>
</p>
```

- -> all of the book elements have a certain class
- -> he's used the requests.get method on a specific URL
- -> then converted it into a beautiful soup object
- -> then he's extracted the html for the books from one of the webpages
- -> in this case, there are 20 different books, so we know it's for the books of one of the webpages

- -> beautiful soup is the library we use for web scraping
 - -> it's a soup object

```
In [74]: soup.select(".product_pod")
```

```
Out[74]: [<article class="product_pod">
  <div class="image_container">
    <a href="a-light-in-the-attic_1000/index.html"></a>
  </div>
  <p class="star-rating Three">
    <i class="icon-star"></i>
    <i class="icon-star"></i>
    <i class="icon-star"></i>
    <i class="icon-star"></i>
    <i class="icon-star"></i>
  </p>
  <h3><a href="a-light-in-the-attic_1000/index.html" title="A Light in the Atti
c">A Light in the ...</a></h3>
  <div class="product_price">
    <p class="price_color">£51.77</p>
    <p class="instock availability">
      <i class="icon-ok"></i>
```