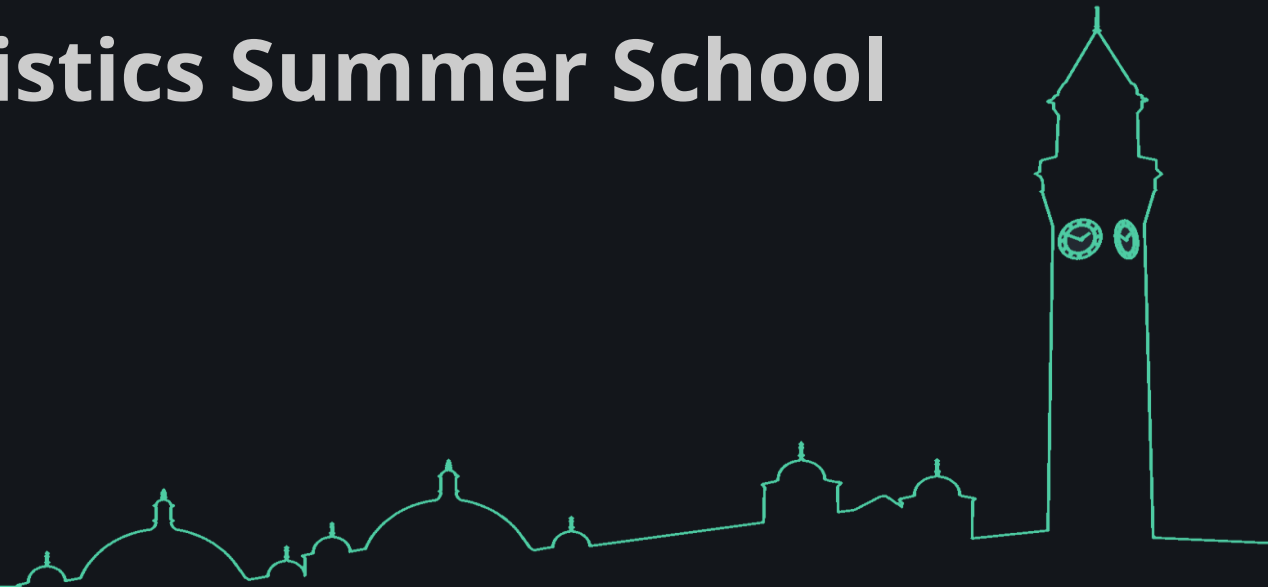UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Web scraping with R
Part 3: Finding CSS selectors

Birmingham Corpus Linguistics Summer School

Jason Grafmiller

Finding selectors

1. Use **Selector Gadget**

2. Use the **developer console** in your browser

https://selectorgadget.com/

Using Selector Gadget

1. Click on the Selector Gadget extension in your browser

2. Click on one of the elements that you want to extract

   – This element should turn **green**, and *all the other elements on the page that share that element's selector* should be highlighted in **yellow**.

3. Click on one of these unwanted elements. It should turn **red**

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until only the elements you want are highlighted.

Using the developer console

In Google Chrome, you can right click on an element and select "**Inspect**"
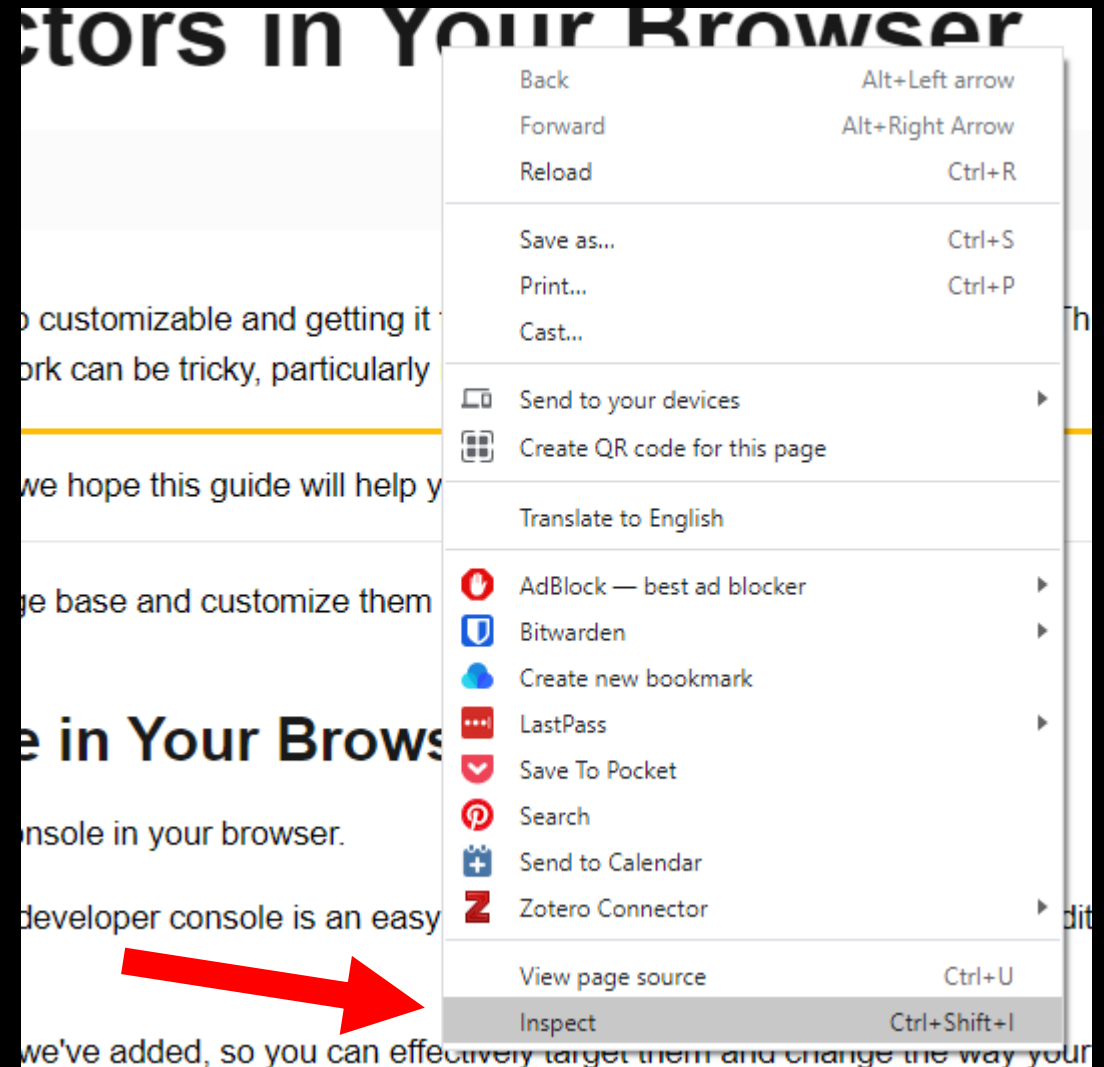
Using the developer console
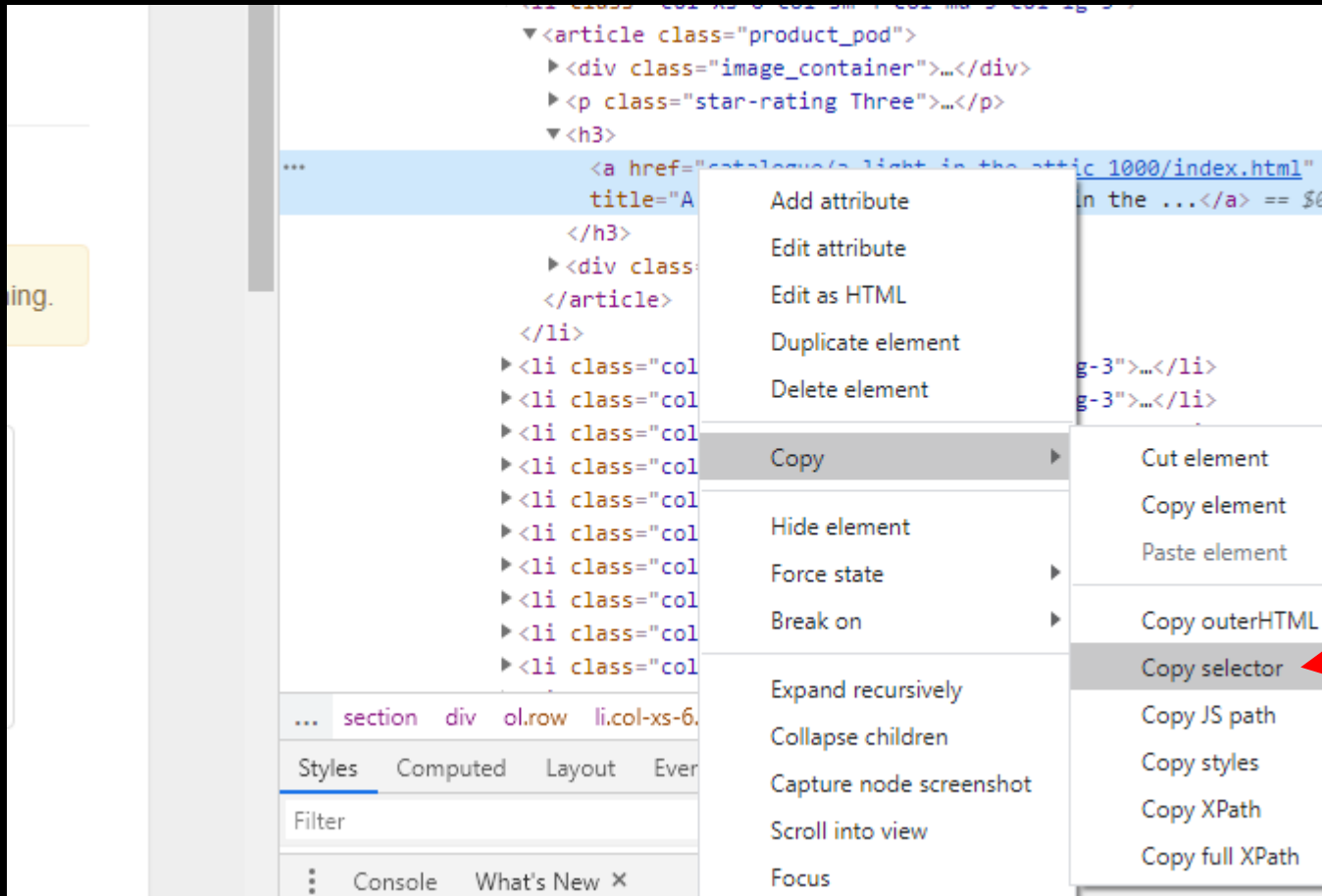
In the developer pane, find the element you want and right click, go to

Copy > Copy selector

Using the developer console

You can find information about how to do this in different browsers here:

https://support.helpdocs.io/article/eh3pzxNwYf-grabbing-css-selectors-from-your-browser