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CS 109A/STAT 121A/AC 209A/CSCI E-109A: Homework 1

Harvard University Fall 2017

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INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: There is web page scraping in this homework. It takes about 40 minutes. **Do not wait** till the last minute to do this homework.

- To submit your assignment follow the instructions given in canvas.
- Restart the kernel and run the whole notebook again before you submit. There is an important CAVEAT to this. DO NOT run the web-page fetching cells again. (We have provided hints like # DO NOT RERUN THIS CELL WHEN SUBMITTING on some of the cells where we provide the code). Instead load your data structures from the JSON files we will ask you to save below. Otherwise you will be waiting for a long time. (Another reason to not wait until the last moment to submit.)
- Do not include your name in the notebook.

Homework 1: Rihanna or Mariah?

Billboard Magazine puts out a top 100 list of "singles" every week. Information from this list, as well as that from music sales, radio, and other sources is used to determine a top-100 "singles" of the year list. A **single** is typically one song, but sometimes can be two songs which are on one "single" record.

In this homework you will:

- Scrape Wikipedia to obtain infprmation about the best singers and groups from each year (distinguishing between the two groups) as determined by the Billboard top 100 charts. You will have to clean this data. Along the way you will learn how to save data in json files to avoid repeated scraping.
- 2. Scrape Wikipedia to obtain information on these singers. You will have to scrape the web pages, this time using a cache to guard against network timeouts (or your laptop going to sleep). You will again clean the data, and save it to a json file.
- 3. Use pandas to represent these two datasets and merge them.
- 4. Use the individual and merged datasets to visualize the performance of the artists and their songs. We have kept the amount of analysis limited here for reasons of time; but you might

enjoy exploring music genres and other aspects of the music business you can find on these wikipedia pages at your own leisure.

You should have worked through Lab0 and Lab 1, and Lecture 2. Lab 2 will help as well.

As usual, first we import the necessary libraries. In particular, we use <u>Seaborn</u> (http://stanford.edu/~mwaskom/software/seaborn/) to give us a nicer default color palette, with our plots being of large (poster) size and with a white-grid background.

```
In [1]:
        %matplotlib inline
        import numpy as np
        import scipy as sp
        import matplotlib as mpl
        import matplotlib.cm as cm
        import matplotlib.pyplot as pl
        import pandas as pd
        import time
        import requests
        import urllib.request
        from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
        pd.set option('display.width', 500)
        pd.set option('display.max columns', 100)
        pd.set_option('display.notebook_repr_html', True)
        import seaborn as sns
        sns.set style("whitegrid")
        sns.set_context("poster")
```

Q1. Scraping Wikipedia for Billboard Top 100.

In this question you will scrape Wikipedia for the Billboard's top 100 singles.

Scraping Wikipedia for Billboard singles

We'll be using <u>BeautifulSoup (http://www.crummy.com/software/BeautifulSoup/)</u>, and suggest that you use Python's built in requests library to fetch the web page.

1.1 Parsing the Billboard Wikipedia page for 1970

Obtain the web page at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard_Year-End_Hot_100_singles_of_1970) using a HTTP GET request. From this web page we'll extract the top 100 singles and their rankings. Create a list of dictionaries, 100 of them to be precise, with entries like

```
{'url': '/wiki/Sugarloaf_(band)', 'ranking': 30, 'band_singer': 'Sugarloaf',
'title': 'Green-Eyed Lady'}.
```

If you look at that web page, you'll see a link for every song, from which you can get the url of the singer or band. We will use these links later to scrape information about the singer or band. From the listing we can also get the band or singer name band singer, and title of the song.

HINT: look for a table with class wikitable.

```
In [2]:
        #retrieves our data from wikipedia
        with urllib.request.urlopen('https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard Year-End Hot
           wiki chart = response.read()
        soup = BeautifulSoup(wiki chart, "lxml")
        tables = soup.find('table', attrs={'class':'wikitable sortable'})
        #scrapes the page for relevant information
        song list = []
        tr list = tables.find all('tr')
        for tr in tr_list:
            td list = tr.find all('td')
            if td list == [] :
                 td_list = []
            else :
                 ranking = td list[0].get text()
                title = td list[1].get text()
                band singer = td list[2].get text()
                 soup of link = BeautifulSoup(str(td list), "lxml")
                url = td_list[2].a["href"]
                #creates a dictionary entry for the scraped data
                 dict entry = { 'band singer' : band singer,
                 'ranking' : ranking,
                 'title' : title,
                 'url' : url}
                 #appends our new dictionary to our song_list
                 song list.append(dict entry)
```

You should get something similar to this (where songs is the aforementioned list):

```
songs[2:4]
```

```
[{'band_singer': 'The Guess Who',
    'ranking': 3,
    'title': '"American Woman"',
    'url': '/wiki/The_Guess_Who'},
    {'band_singer': 'B.J. Thomas',
        'ranking': 4,
    'title': '"Raindrops Keep Fallin\' on My Head"',
        'url': '/wiki/B.J._Thomas'}]
```

1.2 Generalize the previous: scrape Wikipedia from 1992 to 2014

By visiting the urls similar to the ones for 1970, we can obtain the billboard top 100 for the years 1992 to 2014. (We choose these later years rather than 1970 as you might find music from this era more interesting.) Download these using Python's requests module and store the text from those requests in a dictionary called yearstext. This dictionary ought to have as its keys the years (as integers from 1992 to 2014), and as values corresponding to these keys the text of the page being fetched.

You ought to sleep a second (look up time.sleep in Python) at the very least in-between fetching each web page: you do not want Wikipedia to think you are a marauding bot attempting to mount a denial-of-service attack.

HINT: you might find range and string-interpolation useful to construct the URLs.

1.3 Parse and Clean data

Remember the code you wrote to get data from 1970 which produces a list of dictionaries, one corresponding to each single. Now write a function parse_year(the_year, yeartext_dict) which takes the year, prints it out, gets the text for the year from the just created yearstext dictionary, and return a list of dictionaries for that year, with one dictionary for each single. Store this list in the variable yearinfo.

The dictionaries **must** be of this form:

```
{'band_singer': ['Brandy', 'Monica'],
  'ranking': 2,
  'song': ['The Boy Is Mine'],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/The_Boy_Is_Mine_(song)'],
  'titletext': '" The Boy Is Mine "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Brandy_Norwood', '/wiki/Monica_(entertainer)']}
```

The spec of this function is provided below:

```
.. .. ..
In [5]:
        Function
        _____
        parse year
        Inputs
        ----
        the year: the year you want the singles for
        yeartext_dict: a dictionary with keys as integer years and values the downloaded
            from wikipedia for that year.
        Returns
        -----
        a list of dictionaries, each of which corresponds to a single and has the
        following data:
        Eg:
        {'band singer': ['Brandy', 'Monica'],
           'ranking': 2,
           'song': ['The Boy Is Mine'],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/The_Boy_Is_Mine_(song)'],
           'titletext': '" The Boy Is Mine "',
           'url': ['/wiki/Brandy Norwood', '/wiki/Monica (entertainer)']}
        A dictionary with the following data:
            band singer: a list of bands/singers who made this single
            song: a list of the titles of songs on this single
            songurl: a list of the same size as song which has urls for the songs on the
                 (see point 3 above)
            ranking: ranking of the single
            titletext: the contents of the table cell
            band_singer: a list of bands or singers on this single
            url: a list of wikipedia singer/band urls on this single: only put in the par
                of the url from /wiki onwards
        Notes
        See description and example above.
        def parse_year(the_year, yeartext_dict):
            year = the year
            yearinfo = []
            song = []
            songurl = []
            band_singer = []
            title = []
            url = []
            title_text = ''
```

```
i = 0
title string = ''
band singer = ''
soup = BeautifulSoup(yearstext[year], "lxml")
tables = soup.find('table', attrs={'class':'wikitable sortable'})
#iterates through tree structure, scraping our data
tr list = tables.find all('tr')
for tr in tr_list:
    td_list = tr.find_all('td')
    if td list == [] :
        td list = []
    else :
        ranking = tr.th.string
        links = tr.td.findAll('a')
        number of links = len(links)
        if number of links == 0:
            songurl = [None]
            title_text = [a['title']]
            song.append(a['title'] )
        else :
            i = 0
            for a in tr.td.findAll('a') :
                song.append(a['title'] )
                title_string = '\"' + a['title'] + '\"'
                if i == 0 :
                    title_text = title_string
                    i = i + 1
                else :
                    title text = title text + ' / ' + title string
                    i = i + 1
                songurl.append(a['href'])
        title = song
        #finds next td tag
        tr.td.findNext('td')
        temp = len(tr.td.findNext('td').findAll('a'))
        if temp == 0:
            singer_url = [None]
            band singer = tr.td.findNext('td').string
            band singer = [band singer]
        elif temp == 1:
            singer url = tr.td.findNext('td').a['href']
            singer url = [singer url]
            band_singer = tr.td.findNext('td').a.string
            band singer = [band singer]
        else:
            singer url = []
            band_singer = []
            for a in tr.td.findNext('td').findAll('a'):
                webpage = a['href']
                singer_url.append(webpage)
                band singer.append(a.string)
        #creates dictionary entry
        dict_entry = {'band_singer' : band_singer,
        'ranking' : ranking,
        'song' : title, 'songurl': songurl, 'titletext' : title_text,
        'url' : singer_url}
        #appends new dictionary to our list
```

```
yearinfo.append(dict_entry)
songurl = []
song = []
title_string = ''
title_text = ''
return(yearinfo)
```

```
In [6]: #parse each year
  years_dict = {}
  for year in range(1992, 2015):
     years_dict.update({year : parse_year(year, yearstext)})
```

```
In [7]: #assign the complete dictionary back to yearinfo
yearinfo = years_dict
```

Helpful notes

Notice that some singles might have multiple songs:

```
{'band_singer': ['Jewel'],
   'ranking': 2,
   'song': ['Foolish Games', 'You Were Meant for Me'],
   'songurl': ['/wiki/Foolish_Games',
   '/wiki/You_Were_Meant_for_Me_(Jewel_song)'],
   'titletext': '" Foolish Games " / " You Were Meant for Me "',
   'url': ['/wiki/Jewel_(singer)']}
```

And some singles don't have a song URL:

```
{'band_singer': [u'Nu Flavor'],
  'ranking': 91,
  'song': [u'Heaven'],
  'songurl': [None],
  'titletext': u'"Heaven"',
  'url': [u'/wiki/Nu_Flavor']}
```

Thus there are some issues this function must handle:

- 1. There can be more than one band_singer as can be seen above (sometimes with a comma, sometimes with "featuring" in between). The best way to parse these is to look for the urls.
- 2. There can be two songs in a single, because of the way the industry works: there are two-sided singles. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard_Year-End_Hot_100_singles_of_1997

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard_Year-End_Hot_100_singles_of_1997) for an example. You can find other examples in 1998 and 1999.

- 3. The titletext is the contents of the table cell, and retains the quotes that Wikipedia puts on the single.
- 4. If no song anchor is found (see the 24th song in the above url), assume there is one song in the single, set songurl to [None] and the song name to the contents of the table cell with the quotes stripped (ie song is a one-element list with this the titletext stripped of its quotes).

As a check, we can do this for 1997. We'll print the first 5 outputs: parse_year(1997, yearstext) [:5]

This should give the following. Notice that the year 1997 exercises the edge cases we talked about earlier.

```
In [8]: # sanity check
         parse year(1997, yearstext)[:5]
Out[8]: [{'band singer': ['Elton John'],
           'ranking': '1',
           'song': ['Something About the Way You Look Tonight',
            'Candle in the Wind 1997'],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/Something About the Way You Look Tonight',
            '/wiki/Candle in the Wind 1997'],
           'titletext': '"Something About the Way You Look Tonight" / "Candle in the Win
         d 1997"',
           'url': ['/wiki/Elton_John']},
          {'band singer': ['Jewel'],
           'ranking': '2',
           'song': ['Foolish Games', 'You Were Meant for Me (Jewel song)'],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/Foolish Games',
            '/wiki/You_Were_Meant_for_Me_(Jewel_song)'],
           'titletext': '"Foolish Games" / "You Were Meant for Me (Jewel song)"',
           'url': ['/wiki/Jewel_(singer)']},
          {'band singer': ['Puff Daddy', 'Faith Evans', '112'],
           'ranking': '3',
           'song': ["I'll Be Missing You"],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/I%2711 Be Missing You'],
           'titletext': '"I\'ll Be Missing You"',
           'url': ['/wiki/Sean_Combs', '/wiki/Faith_Evans', '/wiki/112_(band)']},
          {'band singer': ['Toni Braxton'],
           'ranking': '4',
           'song': ['Un-Break My Heart'],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/Un-Break_My_Heart'],
           'titletext': '"Un-Break My Heart"',
           'url': ['/wiki/Toni Braxton']},
          {'band singer': ['Puff Daddy', 'Mase'],
           'ranking': '5',
           'song': ["Can't Nobody Hold Me Down"],
           'songurl': ['/wiki/Can%27t_Nobody Hold Me Down'],
           'titletext': '"Can\'t Nobody Hold Me Down"',
           'url': ['/wiki/Sean Combs', '/wiki/Mase']}]
```

```
[{'band singer': ['Elton John'],
  'ranking': 1,
  'song': ['Something About the Way You Look Tonight',
   'Candle in the Wind 1997'],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/Something About the Way You Look Tonight',
   '/wiki/Candle in the Wind 1997'],
  'titletext': '" Something About the Way You Look Tonight " / " Candle i
n the Wind 1997 "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Elton John']},
 { 'band singer': ['Jewel'],
  'ranking': 2,
  'song': ['Foolish Games', 'You Were Meant for Me'],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/Foolish Games',
   '/wiki/You_Were_Meant_for_Me_(Jewel_song)'],
  'titletext': '" Foolish Games " / " You Were Meant for Me "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Jewel (singer)']},
 {'band singer': ['Puff Daddy', 'Faith Evans', '112'],
  'ranking': 3,
  'song': ["I'll Be Missing You"],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/I%27ll Be Missing You'],
  'titletext': '" I\'ll Be Missing You "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Sean_Combs', '/wiki/Faith_Evans', '/wiki/112_(band)']},
 {'band singer': ['Toni Braxton'],
  'ranking': 4,
  'song': ['Un-Break My Heart'],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/Un-Break_My_Heart'],
  'titletext': '" Un-Break My Heart "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Toni Braxton']},
 {'band singer': ['Puff Daddy', 'Mase'],
  'ranking': 5,
  'song': ["Can't Nobody Hold Me Down"],
  'songurl': ['/wiki/Can%27t_Nobody_Hold_Me_Down'],
  'titletext': '" Can\'t Nobody Hold Me Down "',
  'url': ['/wiki/Sean Combs', '/wiki/Mase']}]
```

Save a json file of information from the scraped files

We do not want to lose all this work, so let's save the last data structure we created to disk. That way if you need to re-run from here, you don't need to redo all these requests and parsing.

DO NOT RERUN THE HTTP REQUESTS TO WIKIPEDIA WHEN SUBMITTING.

We **DO NOT** need to see these JSON files in your submission!

```
In [9]: import json
```

```
In [10]: # DO NOT RERUN THIS CELL WHEN SUBMITTING
    fd = open("yearinfo.json","w+")
    json.dump(yearinfo, fd)
    fd.close()
    del yearinfo
```

Now let's reload our JSON file into the yearinfo variable, just to be sure everything is working.

```
In [11]: # RERUN WHEN SUBMITTING
# Another way to deal with files. Has the advantage of closing the file for you.
with open("yearinfo.json", "r") as fd:
    yearinfo = json.load(fd)
```

1.4 Construct a year-song-singer dataframe from the yearly information

Let's construct a dataframe flatframe from the yearinfo. The frame should be similar to the frame below. Each row of the frame represents a song, and carries with it the chief properties of year, song, singer, and ranking.

	year	band_singer	ranking	song	songurl	url
0	1992	Boyz II Men	1.0	End of the Road	/wiki/End_of_the_Road	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men
1	1993	Whitney Houston	1.0	I Will Always Love You	/wiki/I_Will_Always_Love_You#Whitney_Houston_v	/wiki/Whitney_Houston
2	1994	Ace of Base	1.0	The Sign (song)	/wiki/The_Sign_(song)	/wiki/Ace_of_Base
3	1995	Coolio	1.0	Gangsta's Paradise	/wiki/Gangsta%27s_Paradise	/wiki/Coolio
4	1996	Los del Río	1.0	Macarena (song)	/wiki/Macarena_(song)	/wiki/Los_del_R%C3%ADo
5	1997	Elton John	1.0	Something About the Way You Look Tonight	/wiki/Something_About_the_Way_You_Look_Tonight	/wiki/Elton_John
6	1998	Next (group)	1.0	Too Close (Next song)	/wiki/Too_Close_(Next_song)	/wiki/Next_(group)
7	1999	Cher	1.0	Believe (Cher song)	/wiki/Believe_(Cher_song)	/wiki/Cher

```
In [12]: # turns our list into a list of dictionaries where each entry contains a year key
rows = []
for year in yearinfo.keys():
    for song in yearinfo[year]:
        song['year'] = year
        rows.append(song)
```

```
In [13]: # sanity check
          rows
Out[13]: [{'band_singer': ['Boyz II Men'],
            'ranking': '1',
            'song': ['End of the Road'],
            'songurl': ['/wiki/End_of_the_Road'],
            'titletext': '"End of the Road"',
            'url': ['/wiki/Boyz II Men'],
            'year': '1992'},
          {'band_singer': ['Sir Mix-a-Lot'],
            'ranking': '2',
            'song': ['Baby Got Back'],
            'songurl': ['/wiki/Baby_Got_Back'],
            'titletext': '"Baby Got Back"',
            'url': ['/wiki/Sir_Mix-a-Lot'],
            'year': '1992'},
           {'band_singer': ['Kris Kross'],
            'ranking': '3',
            'song': ['Jump'],
            'songurl': ['/wiki/Jump'],
            'titletext': '"Jump"',
            lumile El/odia/Mada Maa
```

```
In [14]: # TO RERUN THIS CELL, you must restart and clear all output!!!
          # the following code removes lists from inside of our dictionaries inside of our
          # for each individual list item
          band singer = []
          songurl = ''
          title text = ''
          singer url = []
          starting length = len(rows)
          for dics in rows:
              if starting length == 0:
                  break
              dict add = {}
              # checks if our dictionary contains lists longer than one element
              if len(dics['band singer']) > 1:
                  i = 0
                  j = len(dics['band singer'])
                  for value in dics['band_singer']:
                      # new dictionary entry to append to our list
                      dict add = {'band singer' : dics['band singer'][i],
                       'ranking' : dics['ranking'],
                      'song' : dics['song'], 'songurl': dics['songurl'], 'titletext' : dics
'url' : dics['url'][i], 'year' : dics['year']}
                      rows.append(dict add)
                      i = 1 + i
                      j = j - 1
              starting_length = starting_length - 1
          rows2 = []
          band singer = []
          # loops through our list again, removing duplicate entries
          for dics in rows:
              if len(dics['band_singer']) == 1 or len(dics['band_singer']) > 5:
                  rows2.append(dics)
          # turns all remaining one element lists into strings
          for row in rows2:
              for key in row:
                  row[key] = str(row[key])
                  row[key] = row[key].strip("[]")
                  row[key] = row[key].strip("''")
```

```
In [190]: rows2

titletext: Baby Got Back,

'url': '/wiki/Sir_Mix-a-Lot',

'year': '1992'},
```

```
{'band singer': 'Kris Kross',
 'ranking': '3',
 'song': 'Jump',
 'songurl': '/wiki/Jump',
 'titletext': '"Jump"',
 'url': '/wiki/Kris_Kross',
 'year': '1992'},
{'band_singer': 'Vanessa Williams',
 'ranking': '4',
 'song': 'Save the Best for Last',
 'songurl': '/wiki/Save the Best for Last',
 'titletext': '"Save the Best for Last"',
 'url': '/wiki/Vanessa L. Williams',
 'year': '1992'},
{'band_singer': 'TLC',
 'ranking': '5',
 'song': 'Baby-Baby-Baby',
```

To construct the dataframe, we'll need to iterate over the years and the singles per year. Notice how, above, the dataframe is ordered by ranking and then year. While the exact order is up to you, note that you will have to come up with a scheme to order the information.

Check that the dataframe has sensible data types. You will also likely find that the year field has become an "object" (Pandas treats strings as generic objects): this is due to the conversion to and back from JSON. Such conversions need special care. Fix any data type issues with flatframe. (See Pandas astype (http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-

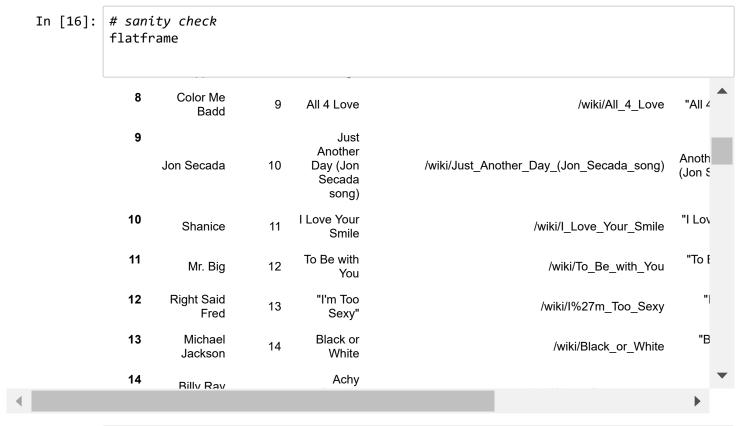
<u>docs/stable/generated/pandas.DataFrame.astype.html</u>) function.) We will use this flatframe in the next question.

(As an aside, we used the name flatframe to indicate that this dataframe is flattened from a hierarchical dictionary structure with the keys being the years.)

```
In [15]: # create dataframe
flatframe = pd.DataFrame(rows2)

# check datatypes of dataframe columns
flatframe['year'].dtype
```

Out[15]: dtype('0')



In [17]: # convert year column to int
flatframe['year'] = flatframe['year'].astype(np.uint16)

Who are the highest quality singers?

Here we show the highest quality singers and plot them on a bar chart.

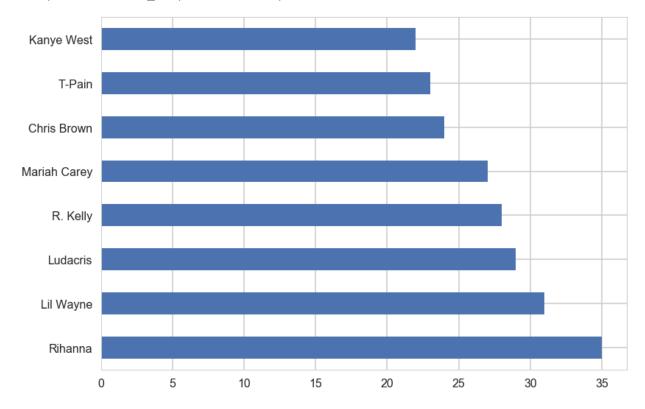
1.5 Find highest quality singers according to how prolific they are

What do we mean by highest quality? This is of course open to interpretation, but let's define "highest quality" here as the number of times a singer appears in the top 100 over this time period. If a singer appears twice in a year (for different songs), this is counted as two appearances, not one.

Make a bar-plot of the most prolific singers. Singers on this chart should have appeared at-least more than 15 times. (HINT: look at the docs for the pandas method value_counts.)

In [19]: # plot top artists
artist_count[:8].plot.barh()

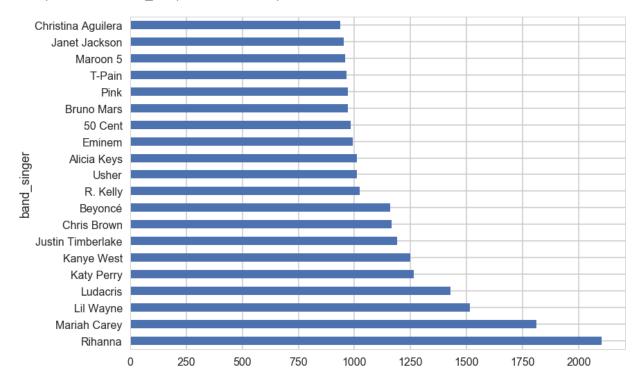
Out[19]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x1c89dc5b978>



1.6 What if we used a different metric?

```
In [20]: scored_df = pd.DataFrame(np.array(flatframe[['band_singer', 'song', 'ranking']]))
    scored_df.columns = ['band_singer', 'song', 'ranking']
    # scored_df.groupby(['band_singer', 'song'])['ranking']
    scored_df['ranking'] = scored_df['ranking'].apply(lambda x: 101 - int(x))
    #display(scored_df)
    scored_df.groupby('band_singer')['ranking'].aggregate(np.sum).sort_values(ascending)
```

Out[20]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x1c89e109128>



What we would like to capture is this: a singer should to be scored higher if the singer appears higher in the rankings. So we'd say that a singer who appeared once at a higher and once at a lower ranking is a "higher quality" singer than one who appeared twice at a lower ranking.

To do this, group all of a singers songs together and assign each song a score 101 - ranking. Order the singers by their total score and make a bar chart for the top 20.

1.7 Do you notice any major differences when you change the metric?

How have the singers at the top shifted places? Why do you think this happens?

In [21]:

.....

While Rihanna keeps her place at the head of the pack (by a sizeable margin, it s Mariah Carey gains materially over R. Kelly, Ludacris and Lil Wayne. The reason f Mariah's songs appear in the top 100 less frequently than those other three, the the relative rank of her songs while the former disregards this and looks at only relative rank also gives Katy Perry a place near the top, too.

Out[21]: "\nWhile Rihanna keeps her place at the head of the pack (by a sizeable margin, it should be noted), \nMariah Carey gains materially over R. Kelly, Ludacris an d Lil Wayne. The reason for this is that while\nMariah's songs appear in the to p 100 less frequently than those other three, the latter chart weighs\nthe relative rank of her songs while the former disregards this and looks at only frequency. Including\nrelative rank also gives Katy Perry a place near the top, to o.\n"

Q2. Scraping and Constructing: Information about Artists, Bands and Genres from Wikipedia

Our next job is to use those band/singer urls we collected under flatframe.url and get information about singers and/or bands.

Scrape information about artists from wikipedia

We wish to fetch information about the singers or groups for all the winning songs in a list of years.

Here we show a function that fetches information about a singer or group from their url on wikipedia. We create a cache object urlcache that will avoid redundant HTTP requests (e.g. an artist might have multiple singles on a single year, or be on the list over a span of years). Once we have fetched information about an artist, we don't need to do it again. The caching also helps if the network goes down, or the target website is having some problems. You simply need to run the get_page function below again, and the urlcache dictionary will continue to be filled.

If the request gets an HTTP return code different from 200, (such as a 404 not found or 500 Internal Server Error) the cells for that URL will have a value of 1; and if the request completely fails (e.g. no network connection) the cell will have a value of 2. This will allow you to analyse the failed requests.

Notice that we have wrapped the call in whats called *an exception block*. We try to make the request. If it fails entirely, or returns a HTTP code thats not 200, we set the status to 2 and 1 respectively.

In [22]:	urlcache={}

We sort the flatframe by year, ascending, first. Think why.

```
In [24]: # sort the flatframe by year
flatframe = flatframe.sort_values('year')
```

Pulling and saving the data

You may have to run this function again and again, in case there were network problems. Note that, because there is a "global" cache, it will take less time each time you run it. Also note that this function is designed to be run again and again: it attempts to make sure that there are no unresolved pages remaining. Let us make sure of this: *the sum below should be 0, and the boolean True*.

```
In [27]: # DO NOT RERUN THIS CELL WHEN SUBMITTING
    print("Number of bad requests:",np.sum([(urlcache[k]==1) or (urlcache[k]==2) for
    print("Did we get all urls?", len(flatframe.url.unique())==len(urlcache)) # we go
```

Let's save the urlcache to disk, just in case we need it again.

```
In [28]: # DO NOT RERUN THIS CELL WHEN SUBMITTING
with open("artistinfo.json","w") as fd:
    json.dump(urlcache, fd)
del urlcache
```

```
In [29]: # RERUN WHEN SUBMITTING
with open("artistinfo.json") as json_file:
    urlcache = json.load(json_file)
```

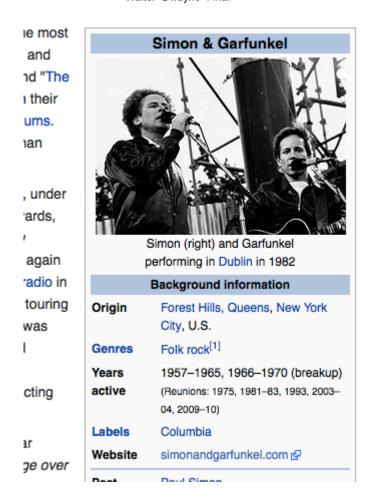
2.1 Extract information about singers and bands

From each page we collected about a singer or a band, extract the following information:

- 1. If the page has the text "Born" in the sidebar on the right, extract the element with the class .bday. If the page doesn't contain "Born", store False. Store either of these into the variable born. We want to analyze the artist's age.
- 2. If the text "Years active" is found, but no "born", assume a band. Store into the variable ya the value of the next table cell corresponding to this, or False if the text is not found.

Put this all into a function singer_band_info which takes the singer/band url as argument and returns a dictionary dict(url=url, born=born, ya=ya).

The information can be found on the sidebar on each such wikipedia page, as the example here shows:



Write the function singer_band_info according to the following specification:

```
In [30]:
         Function
         -----
         singer band info
         Inputs
         ----
         url: the url
         page_text: the text associated with the url
         Returns
         -----
         A dictionary with the following data:
             url: copy the input argument url into this value
             born: the artist's birthday
             ya: years active variable
         Notes
         See description above. Also note that some of the genres urls might require a
         bit of care and special handling.
         def singer_band_info(url, page_text):
             bday dict = {}
             bday = ''
             ya = ''
             # soupify our webpage
             soup = BeautifulSoup(page_text[url], "lxml")
             tables = soup.find('table', attrs={'class':'infobox vcard plainlist'})
             if (tables == None):
                  tables = soup.find('table', attrs={'class':'infobox biography vcard'})
             bday = tables.find('span', {'class': 'bday'})
             if bday:
                  bday = bday.get_text()[:4]
                 bday_dict = {'url' : url, 'born' : bday, 'ya' : ya}
             else:
                 va = False
                 for tr in tables.find all('tr'):
                     if hasattr(tr.th, 'span'):
                         if hasattr(tr.th.span, 'string'):
                              if tr.th.span.string == 'Years active':
                                  if hasattr(tr.th, 'span'):
                                      #ya = tr.td.string
                                      ya = tr.td.text
                                                       #DK add
                                      bday = 'False'
                                      bday_dict = {'url' : url, 'born' : 'False', 'ya' : ya
             return(bday dict)
```

```
# create additional dictionary with all artists additional information with their
 In [32]:
            list of addit dicts = []
            bday dict = {}
            for url in urlcache.keys():
                try:
                     bday_dict = singer_band_info(url, urlcache)
                     list of addit dicts.append(bday dict)
                except:
                     break
 In [35]: #use the additional dictionary to create additional dataframe
            additional_df = pd.DataFrame(list_of_addit_dicts)
 In [37]: #merge the two dataframes
            largedf = pd.merge(flatframe, additional_df, left_on='url', right_on='url', how="
In [211]:
            largedf
                                            One
                                    2
                                                                           /wiki/One Sweet Day
                   Boyz II Men
                                           Sweet
                                                                                                   Sv
                                            Day
               10
                                       4 Seasons
                                                                                               "4 Seas
                   Boyz II Men
                                   30
                                                                    /wiki/4_Seasons_of_Loneliness
                                       Loneliness
                                                                                               Lonelin
               11
                                       A Song for
                                                                                               "A Song
                   Boyz II Men
                                   30
                                                                          /wiki/A_Song_for_Mama
                                           Mama
                                                                                                  Ма
               12
                                       4 Seasons
                                                                                               "4 Seas
                   Boyz II Men
                                   96
                                                                    /wiki/4 Seasons of Loneliness
                                       Loneliness
                                                                                               Loneline
               13
                                        Baby Got
                                                                                                "Baby
                   Sir Mix-a-Lot
                                    2
                                                                            /wiki/Baby_Got_Back
                                            Back
                                                                                                   В
              14
                                                                                                  "Ju
                     Kris Kross
                                    3
                                           Jump
                                                                                     /wiki/Jump
              15
                                         Warm It
                                                                                                 "War
```

2.2 Merging this information in

Iterate over the items in the singer-group dictionary cache urlcache, run the above function, and create a dataframe from there with columns url, born, and ya. Merge this dataframe on the url key with flatframe, creating a rather wide dataframe that we shall call largedf. It should look something like this:

	year	band_singer	ranking	song	songurl	url	born	ya
0	1992	Boyz II Men	1.0	End of the Road	/wiki/End_of_the_Road	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men	False	1985- prese
1	1992	Boyz II Men	37.0	It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday	/wiki/lt%27s_So_Hard_to_Say_Goodbye_to_Yesterday	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men	False	1985- prese
2	1992	Boyz II Men	84.0	Uhh Ahh	/wiki/Uhh_Ahh	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men	False	1985- prese
3	1993	Boyz II Men	12.0	In the Still of the Night (1956 song)	/wiki/ln_the_Still_of_the_Night_(1956_song)#Bo	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men	False	1985- prese
4	1994	Boyz II Men	3.0	I'll Make Love to You	/wiki/l%27ll_Make_Love_to_You	/wiki/Boyz_II_Men	False	1985- prese

Notice how the born and ya and url are repeated every time a different song from a given band is represented in a row.

2.3 What is the age at which singers achieve their top ranking?

Plot a histogram of the age at which singers achieve their top ranking. What conclusions can you draw from this distribution of ages?

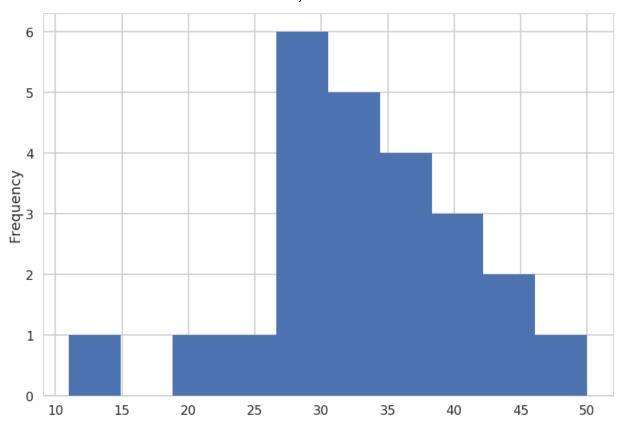
HINT: You will need to do some manipulation of the born column, and find the song for which a band or an artist achieves their top ranking. You will then need to put these rows together into another dataframe or array to make the plot.

	year	band_singer	ranking	born	year_minus_born
160	1992	Amy Grant	52	1960	32
231	1992	Bonnie Raitt	100	1949	43
194	1995	Bryan Adams	16	1959	36
99	1992	CeCe Peniston	20	1969	23
184	1998	Celine Dion	13	1968	30
49	1996	Color Me Badd	54	1985	11
259	1992	Don Henley	22	1947	45
133	1997	Elton John	1	1947	50
60	1992	George Michael	26	1963	29
154	1992	Hammer	46	1962	30
247	1998	Janet	6	1966	32
242	1994	Janet Jackson	12	1966	28
188	1992	Karyn White	63	1965	27
203	1992	Kathy Troccoli	79	1958	34
225	1996	Keith Sweat	10	1961	35
252	1992	Luther Vandross	41	1951	41
221	2006	Mary J. Blige	11	1971	35
167	1994	Michael Bolton	32	1953	41
62	1992	Michael Jackson	14	1958	34
260	1992	Patty Smyth	22	1957	35
199	1992	Paula Abdul	73	1962	30
234	1993	Peabo Bryson	18	1951	42
127	1994	Richard Marx	25	1963	31
254	1992	Ya Kid K	38	1972	20

Out[231]: <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f29d267ac18>

/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/site-packages/matplotlib/font_manager.py:1297: Use rWarning: findfont: Font family ['sans-serif'] not found. Falling back to DejaV u Sans

(prop.get family(), self.defaultFamily[fontext]))



2.4 At what year since inception do bands reach their top rankings?

Make a similar calculation to plot a histogram of the years since inception at which bands reach their top ranking. What conclusions can you draw?

	year	band_singer	ranking	ya	year_minus_ya
139	1993	Arrested Development	31	1988	5
0	1992	Boyz II Men	1	1985	7
235	1992	Charles & Eddie	90	1990	2
230	1993	Das EFX	86	1988	5
206	1993	Def Leppard	100	1977	16
39	1994	En Vogue	14	1989	5
208	1993	Jade	13	1991	2
14	1992	Kris Kross	3	1991	1
189	1992	Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch	69	1989	3
56	1992	Mr. Big	12	1988	4
202	1992	N2Deep	78	1990	2
201	1993	Snap!	25	1989	4
27	1995	TLC	2	1990	5
255	1992	Technotronic	38	1988	4
196	1992	The Cure	71	1976	16
256	1992	The New Power Generation	25	1990	2
120	1992	U2	57	1976	16

Out[241]: <matplotlib.axes. subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f29d30f8eb8>

/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/site-packages/matplotlib/font_manager.py:1297: Use rWarning: findfont: Font family ['sans-serif'] not found. Falling back to DejaV u Sans

(prop.get_family(), self.defaultFamily[fontext]))

