

# Summer Internship Report

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## Facebook Events Web Scraping Project



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## **1 Acknowledgements**

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I could not have imagined having a better advisor and mentor for this internship period at Picktick India.

Besides my mentor I would like to thank the rest of Picktick India Team: Ms. Amrita Kashyap, and Mr. Nikhil Ahuja, for their help in testing, review and continuous Tech support. It was great help of Mr Rahul Jain for giving the overview of whole event creation process. My sincere thanks also goes to Mr Sahil Bhutani who provided me an opportunity to join as intern.

## 2 Introduction and Overview

### 2.1 Picktick India – Background Information

An Augmented Reality based City Discovery Platform.

Picktick is a platform to discover 1000+ things to do near using augmented reality. Dive into a whole new world with Augmented Reality and explore your city from monuments to deals to restaurants to shopping to marathons all in one place

An Event Aggregator Platform

### 2.2 Introduction

Performance of a Process affects the economic growth, labour cost, time complexity and productivity.

Process Automation has been a widely used technology to increase productivity and remove inefficiencies in various industries in the late 20th century. However, the Automated Web Scraping has been late in adopting technology solutions to increase its efficiency and productivity.

The primary reason for this anomaly is to Scrap the whole data from Facebook event page, this would not only require finding out data, but scrap there images, additionally merging images with a background then automatically store whole scraped data to firebase along with automatic blank cells and nan cells checking.

### 2.3 Need for Web Scraping

Web scraping is the process of extracting data from websites. Some data that is available on the web is presented in a format that makes it easier to collect and use it. Automating web scraping also allows for defining whether the process should be run at regular intervals in order to capture changes in the data



### 2.4 Issues in implementing Scraping

There are a variety of ways to **scrape** a website to extract information for reuse. In its simplest form, this can be achieved by copying and pasting snippets from a web page, but this can be impractical if there is a large amount of data to be extracted or if it is spread over a large number of pages. Instead, specialized tools and techniques can be used to automate this process by defining what sites to visit, what information to look for.

In current scenario we are using this simple approach for event creation in which we are just copying and pasting snippets from a facebook event page which is having very low efficiency and productivity as well as increasing time complexity and labour cost which is totally affecting industry economy growth.

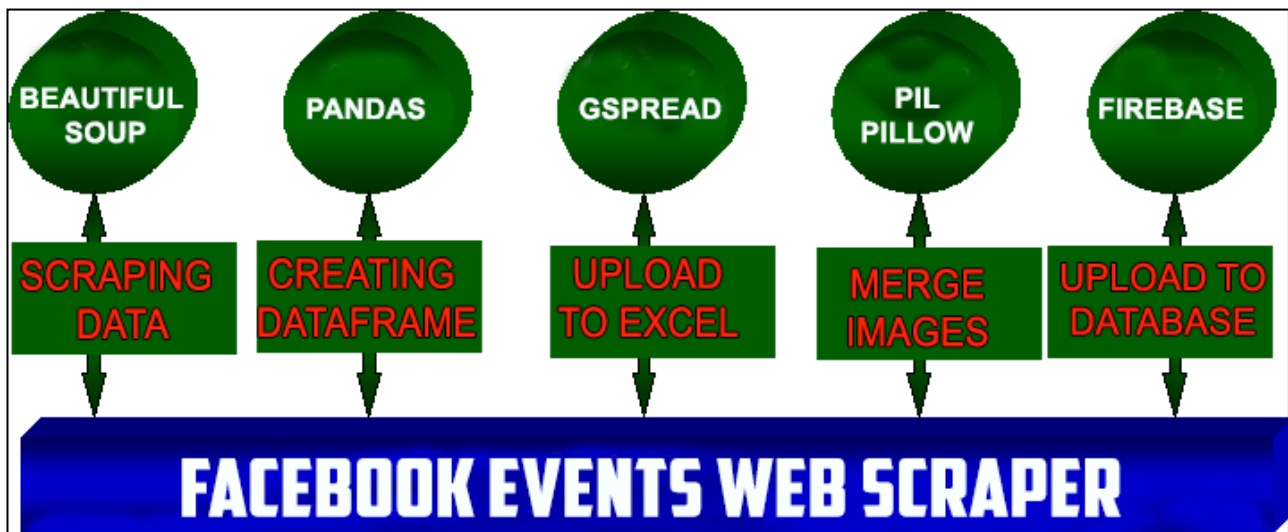
Using this simple approach for event creation also includes critical human errors which many time crashes the Picktick App so everytime we need to check whether App is crashing out or not, this increases time complexity of event creation process and increases downtime of Picktime Application.

## 2.5 Solution Approach

One possible option for addressing the above stated challenges is to create an automated web-scraping script in which the solutions to be developed and deployed can adopt to Python Django Webframework, make use of Python different-different libraries (BeautifulSoup, Pandas etc..).

## 2.6 Direction of Research at Facebook Events Web scraping

From Facebook events page we are scraping data using beautiful soup then we are creating a data frame using pandas library after data frame creation we uploading raw data to google spreadsheet and from that spreadsheet we the getting image urls and we are merging a background to all images and get a firebase Url and then we are uploading whole data to firebase



## **2.7 Project Overview**

### **2.7.1 Part-I: Uploading Raw Data to Google Spreadsheet**

This part of the project involved scraping the data from Facebook events page based on their urls which are putted in .txt file line by line, after extracting the required data a data frame created which is uploaded directly to google spreadsheet. Extracted information includes:

- ☐ Title, Start Date, End Date, Start Time, End Time, Start Seconds, End Seconds
- ☐ Location, Latitude Longitude, Image Url
- ☐ Ticket Information

One of the important achievements of this part was the automatically fetching of Latitude and Longitude. The major benefits of this includes:

- ☐ No App Crashing.
- ☐ It Decreases time complexity as there is no need to manually approve and disapprove the events.

### **2.7.2 Part-II: Merging Images Getting Firebase URL and Update to Spreadsheet**

This part of project involved importing data from excel sheet to a dataframe from which we need to select image urls that are scraped from facebook after that all the images are merged with a background along with maintaining aspect ratio.

Now merged images are uploaded to firebase and url of these uploaded images is updated on google spreadsheet

Image merging in a equal aspect ratio was one of the achievement. Major Benefits Include:

- ☐ No need to buy canvas license which reduces license cost as well as manual labour cost.
- ☐ Much Faster than manual image merging 1 min = approx. (30) images so decreases time complexity of image merging task.

### **2.7.3 Part-III: Automated Testing : Check for Number Blank & nan cells**

This part of project comes after manual testing of google spreadsheet which involves checking of blank and null value containing cells in a column. It sums number of blank and nan values in a column and if values increases then 0 then we need to manually check in google spreadsheet.

Major Benefits Include :

- ☐ Reduces Manual Work by Automated Testing of whole excel - sheet in one go.

### **2.7.4 Part-IV: Upload Whole Data to Firebase**

It's the last part of project which involves uploading data of excel sheet directly to firebase by iterating over each row along with adding Vendor ID and Event ID as a header for storing each event detail in a structured way.

Major Benefits Include :

- ❑ No Need to manually type scraped event information in a create event form which reduces time complexity and human errors

### 3 Project Part - I: Uploading Raw Data to Spreadsheet

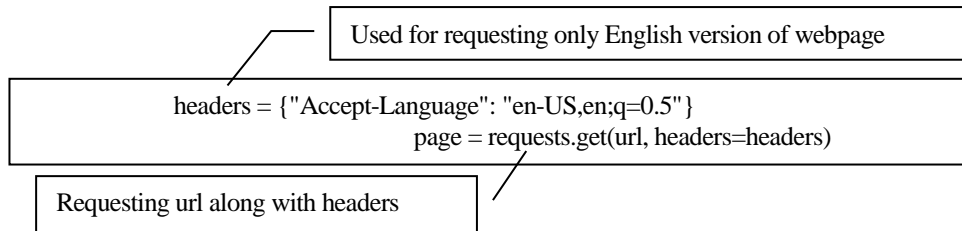
#### 3.1 Libraries Used:

- ❑ `import requests`

**Intro:** Requests will allow us to send HTTP/1.1 requests using Python. With it, we can add content like headers, form data, multipart files, and parameters via simple Python libraries. It also allows you to access the response data of Python in the same way. [More Info](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install requests`

**Usage:** Here we are requesting event page URL and getting its data in the response in page variable.

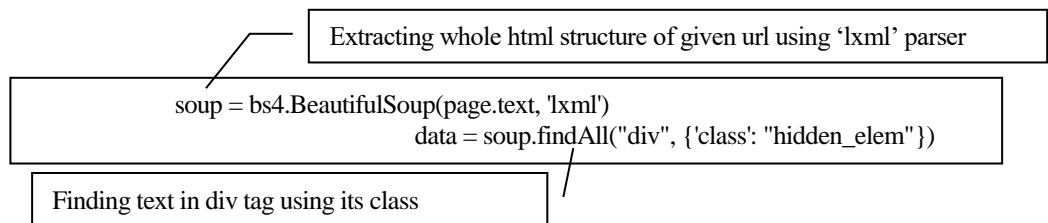


- ❑ `import bs4`

**Intro:** Beautiful Soup is a Python library for pulling data out of HTML and XML files. It works with your favourite parser to provide idiomatic ways of navigating, searching, and modifying the parse tree [More](#)

**Installation:** `pip install beautifulsoup4`

**Usage:** In Beautiful Soup we will pass the response of requested URL as a parameter, here response is stored in page variable.



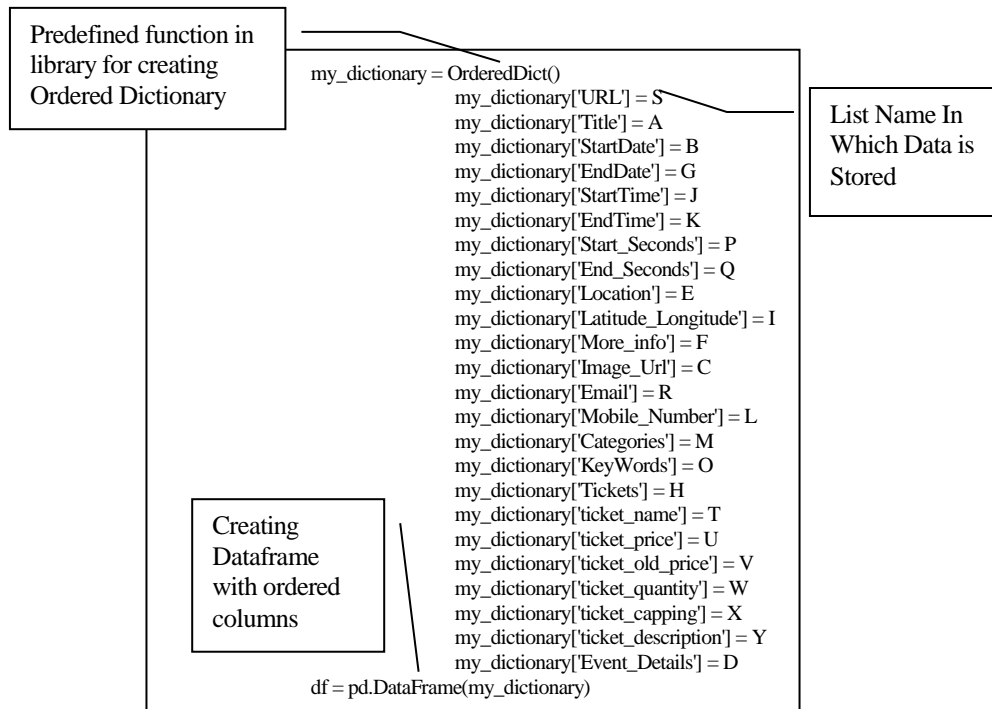
- ❑ `from collections import OrderedDict`

**Intro:** Ordered dictionaries are just like regular dictionaries but they remember the order that items were inserted. When iterating over an ordered dictionary, the items are returned in the order their keys were first added. [More](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install collections-extended`



**Usage:** used for storing pandas dataframe columns to excel sheet in an ordered way.

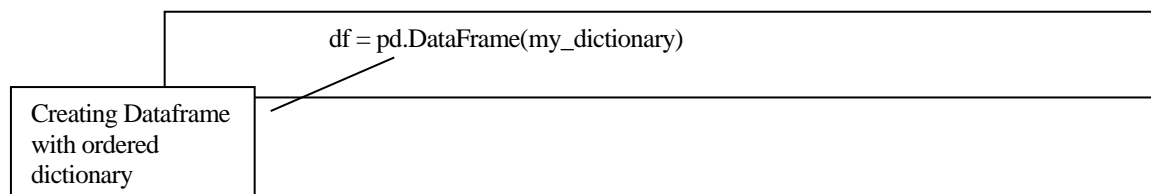


- ❑ import pandas as pd

**Intro:** Pandas is a Python package providing fast, flexible, and expressive data structures designed to make working with “relational” or “labelled” data both easy and intuitive. It aims to be the fundamental high-level building block for doing practical, **real world** data analysis in Python. [More](#)

**Installation:** pip3 install pandas

**Usage:** used for creating a dataframe which will store whole scraped data in different different columns.

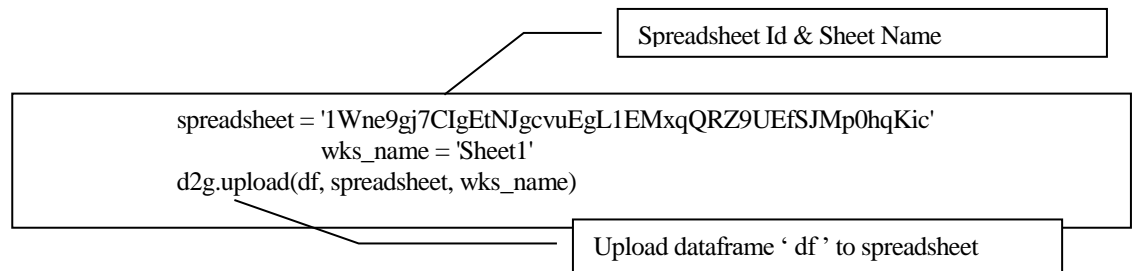


- ❑ from df2gsread import df2gsread as d2g

**Intro:** Python library that provides possibility to transport table-data between Google Spreadsheets and Pandas DataFrame for further management or processing. Can be useful in all cases, when you need to handle the data located in Google Drive. See Google Spreadsheet Access Credential Guide [here..](#)

**Installation:** pip3 install df2gsread

**Usage:** used for uploading pandas dataframe to google spreadsheet

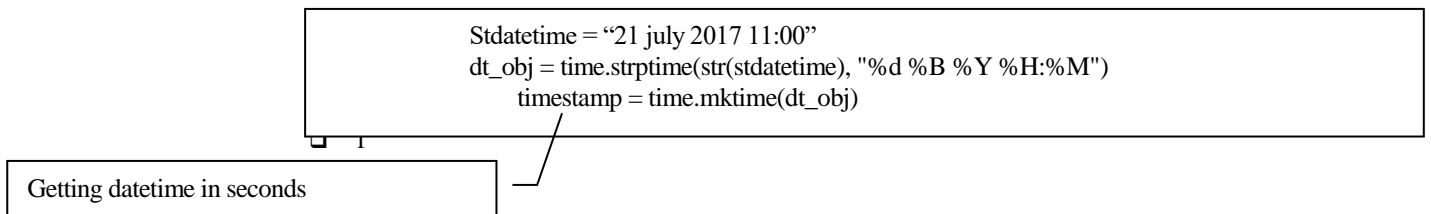


❑ import datetime

**Intro:** The datetime module supplies classes for manipulating dates and times in both simple and complex ways. [More](#)

**Installation:** pre installed in python 2.7 and above

**Usage:** used for converting start datetime and end datetime to seconds

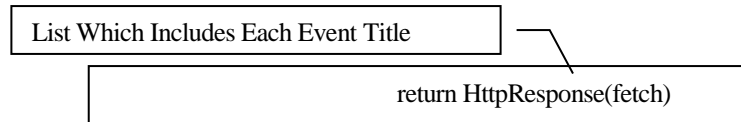


❑ from django.http import HttpResponse

**Intro:** Django function used for showing response on each request.

**Installation:** Predefined in Django views.py

**Usage:** Printing Scraped Event Headings on WebPage.

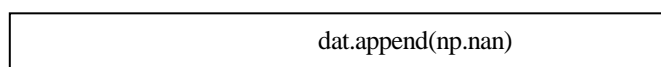


❑ import numpy as np

**Intro:** NumPy is the fundamental package for scientific computing with Python.

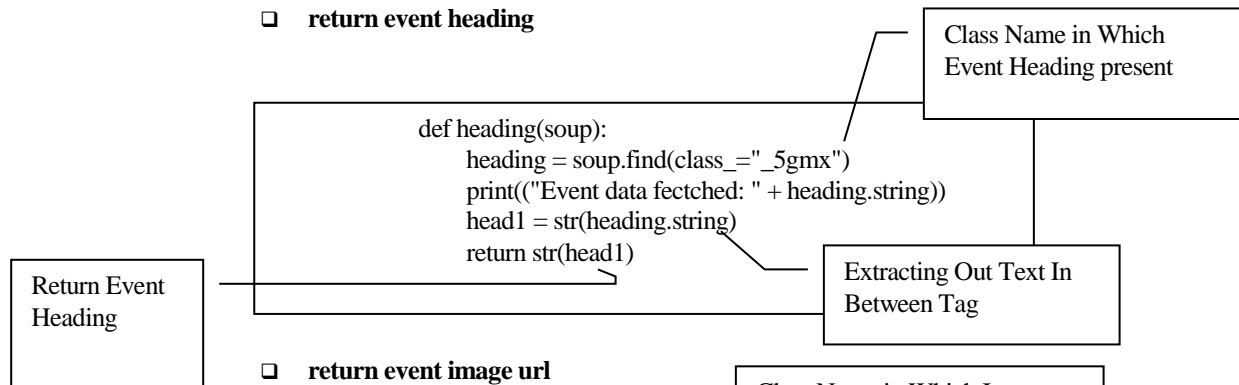
**Installation:** pip3 install numpy

**Usage:** used to appending null values

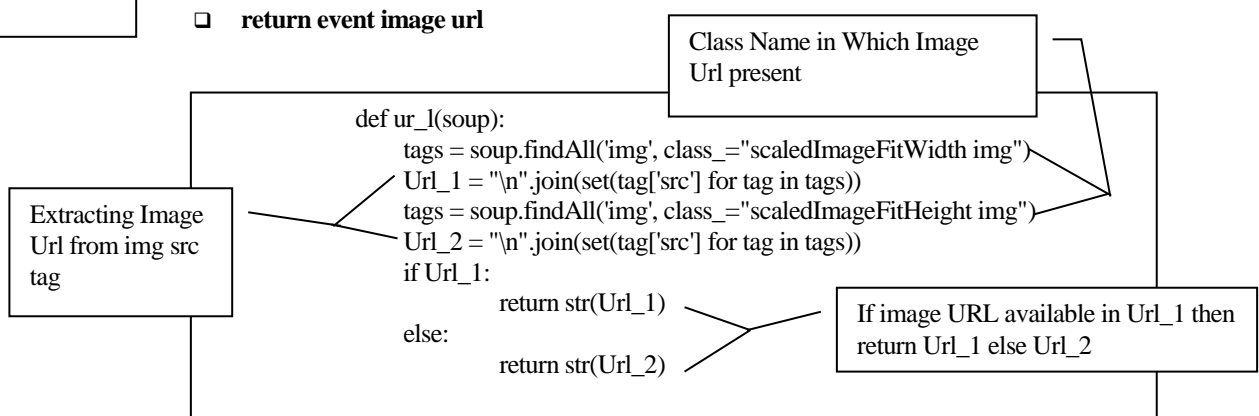


### 3.2 User Defined Functions:

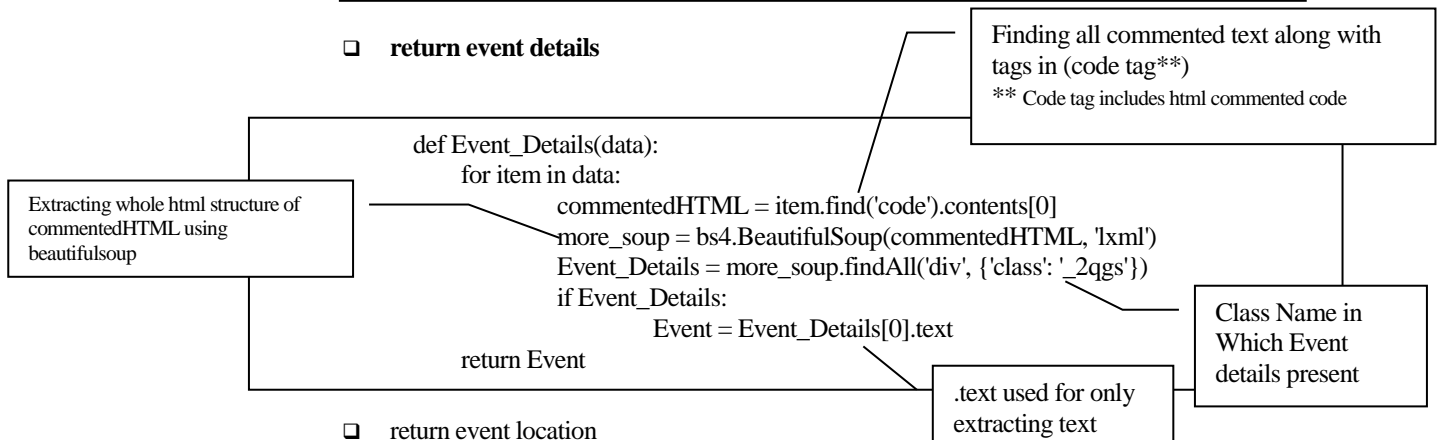
#### ❑ return event heading



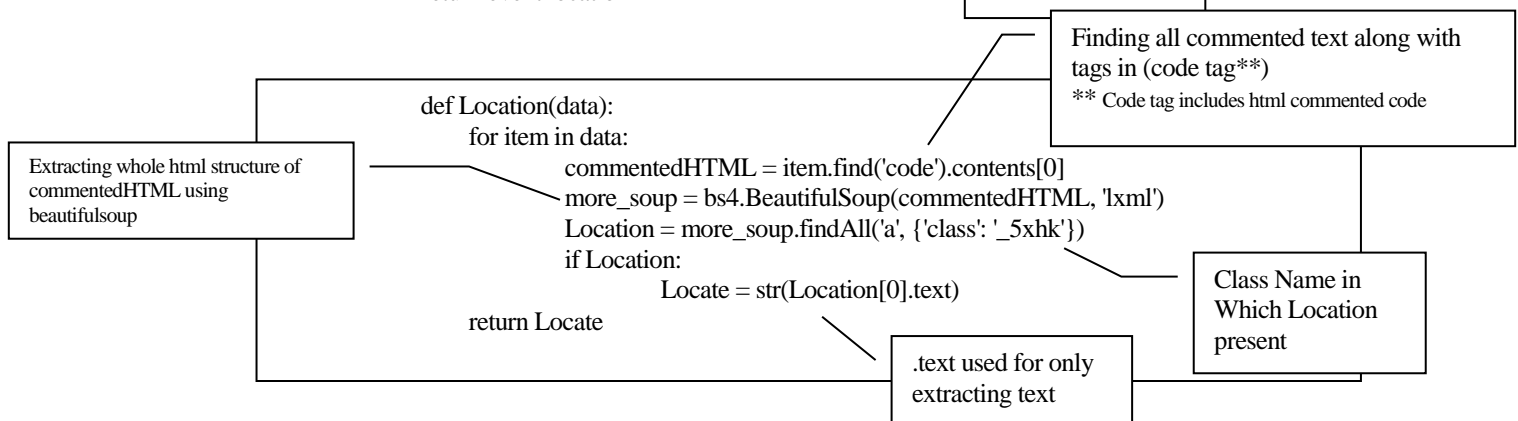
#### ❑ return event image url



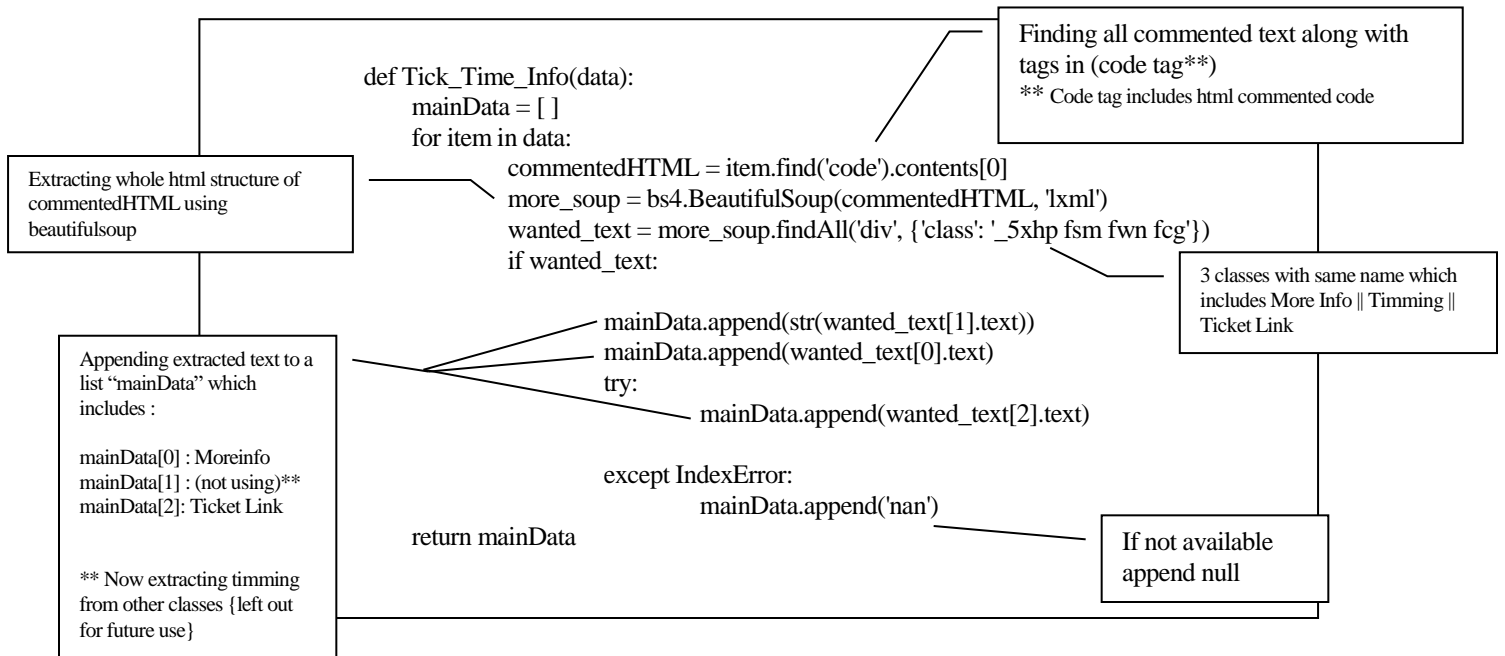
#### ❑ return event details



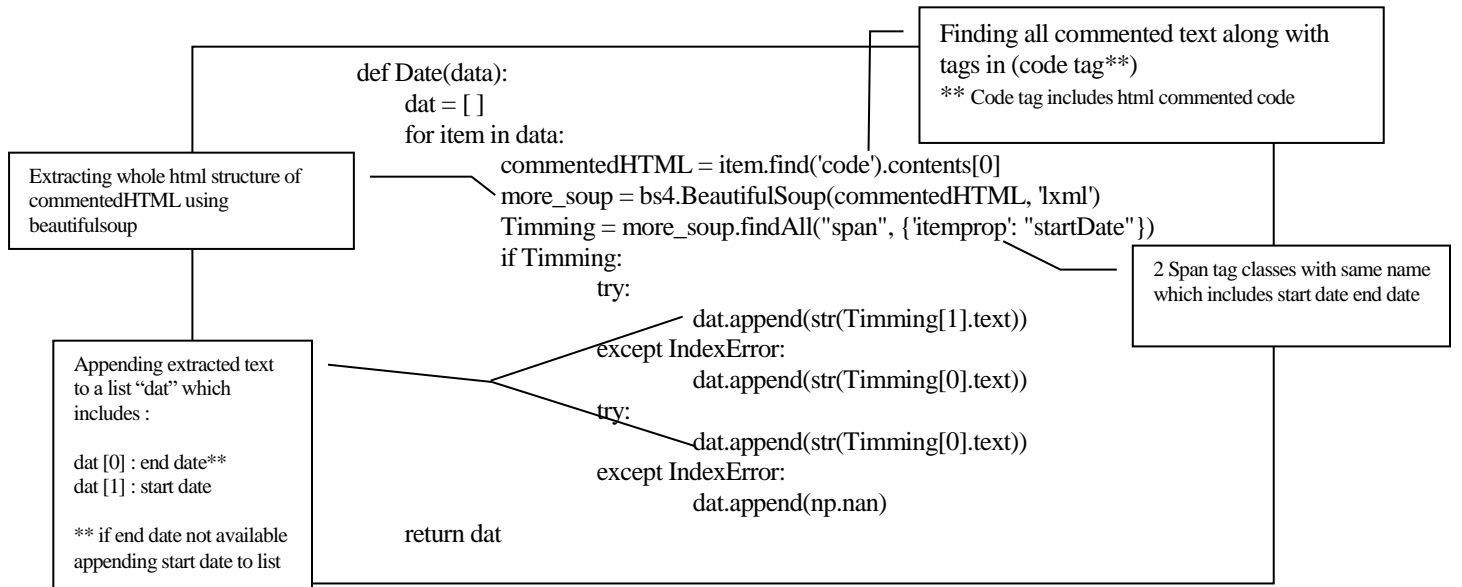
#### ❑ return event location



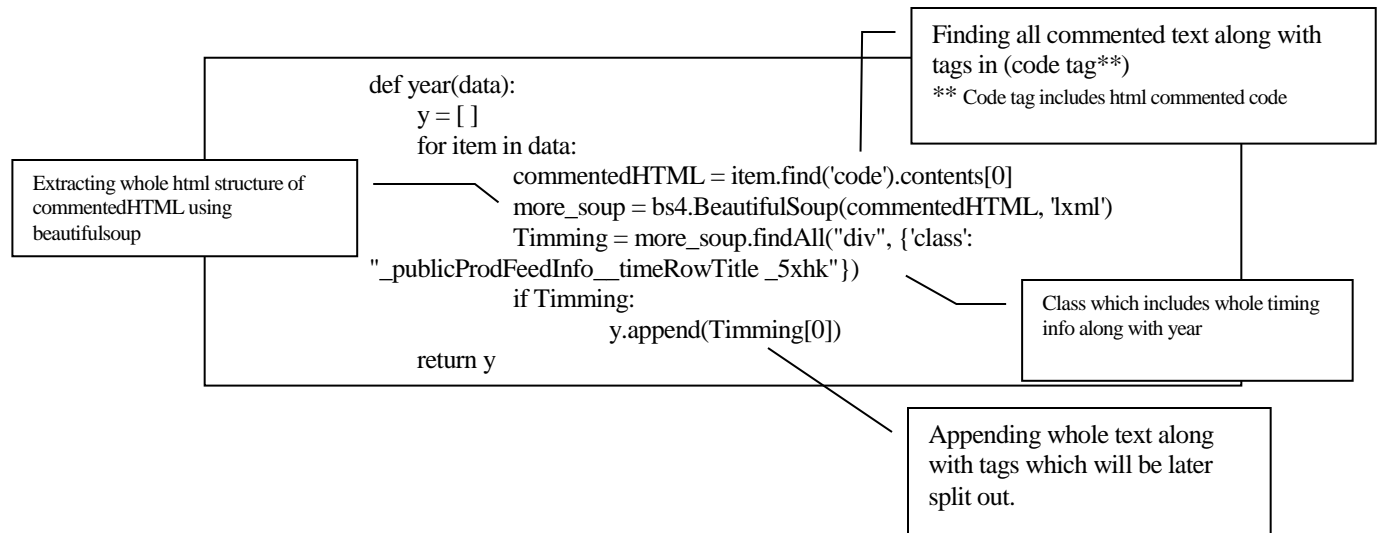
## ❑ return event More Info || Timming || Ticket Link



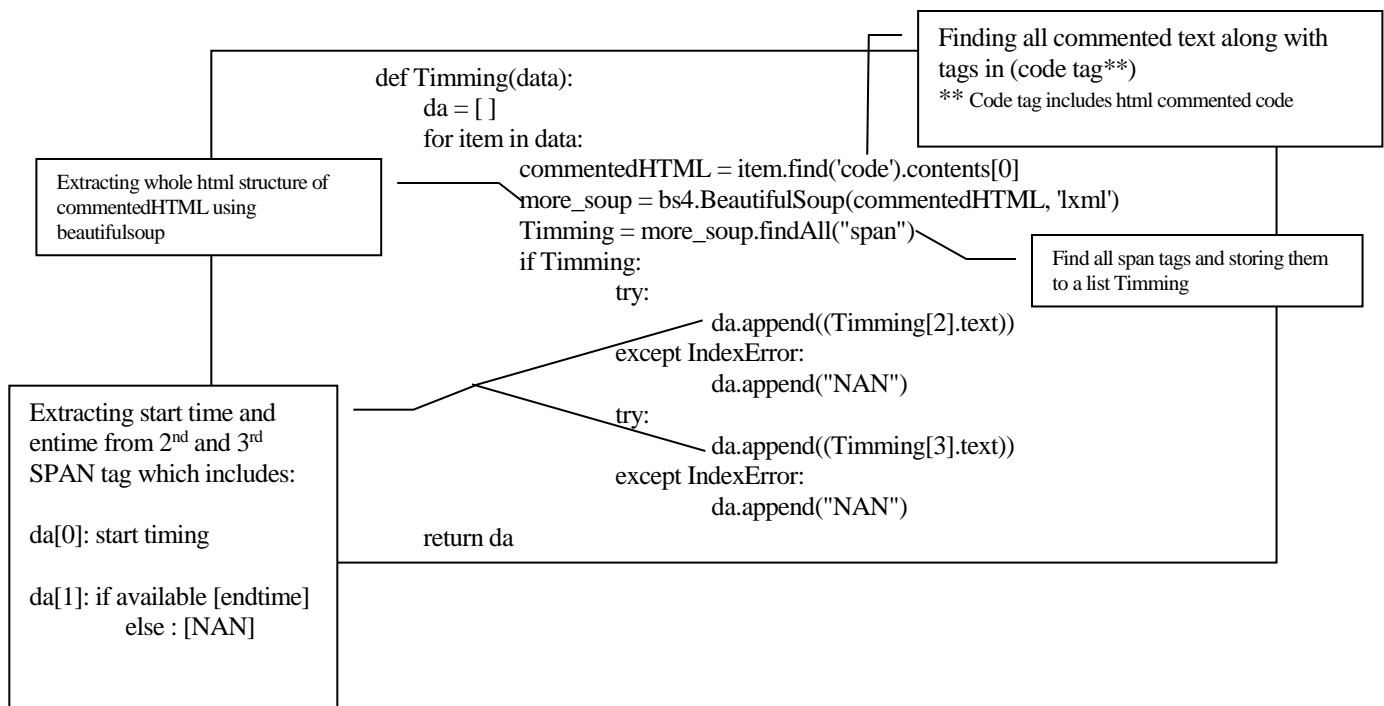
## ❑ return start date end date



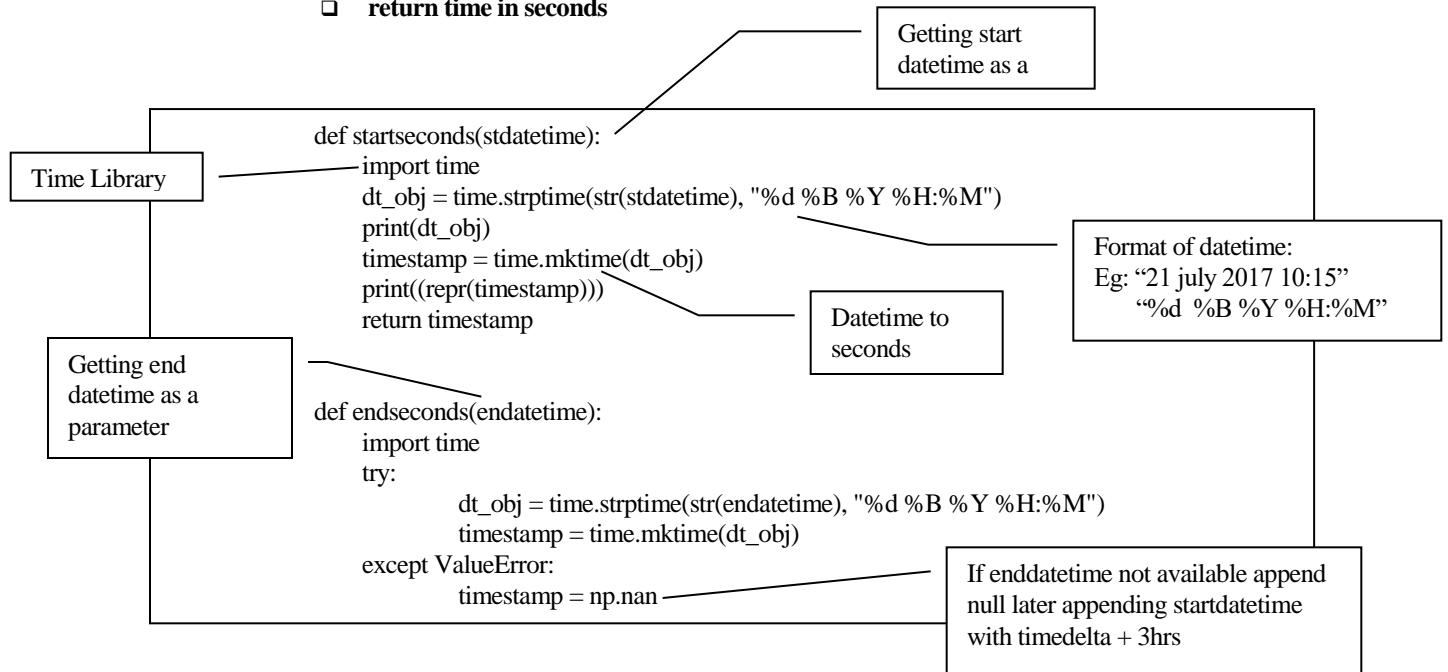
#### ❑ return year



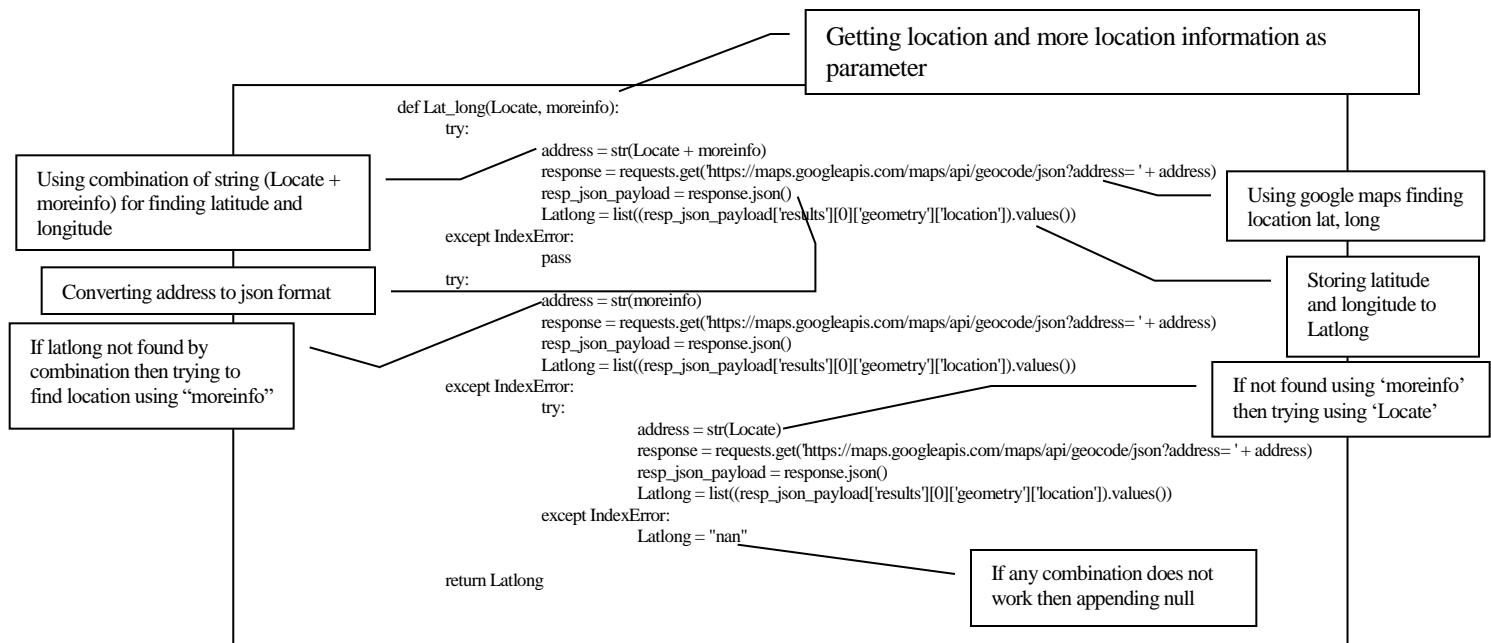
#### ❑ return start and end time



## ❑ return time in seconds

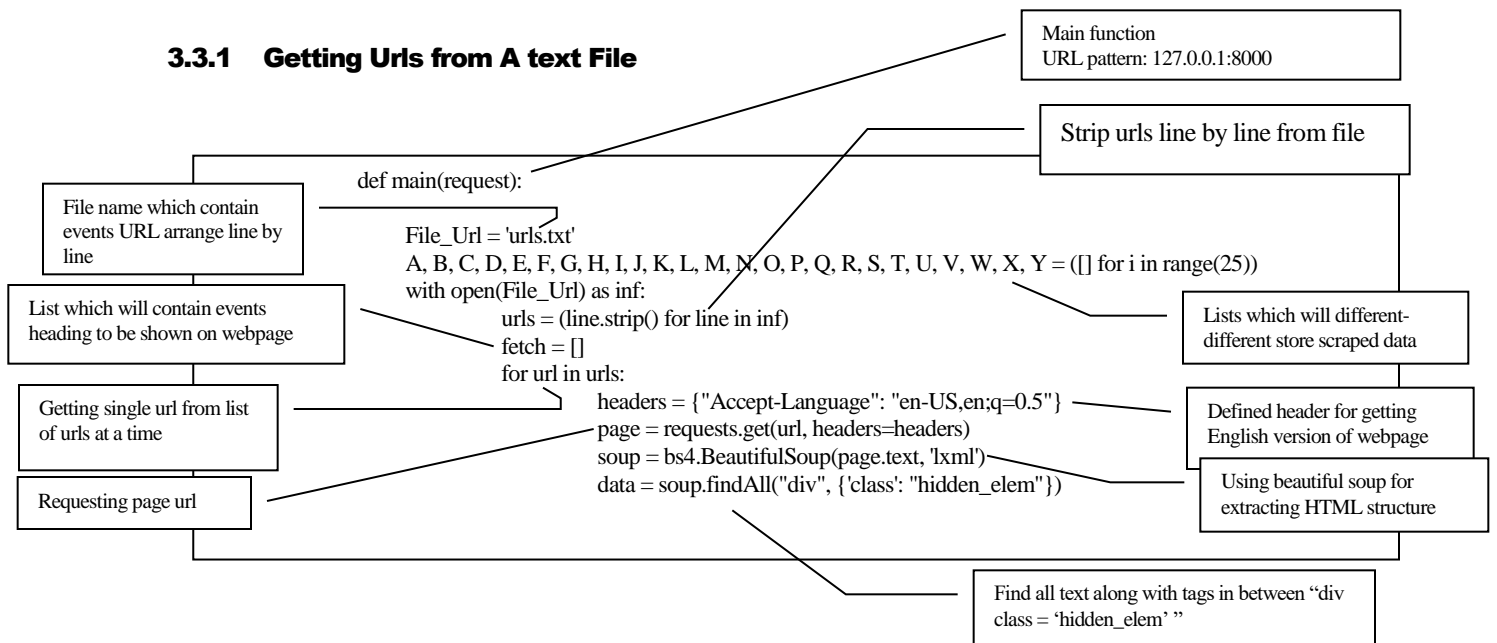


## ❑ return Latitude and longitude



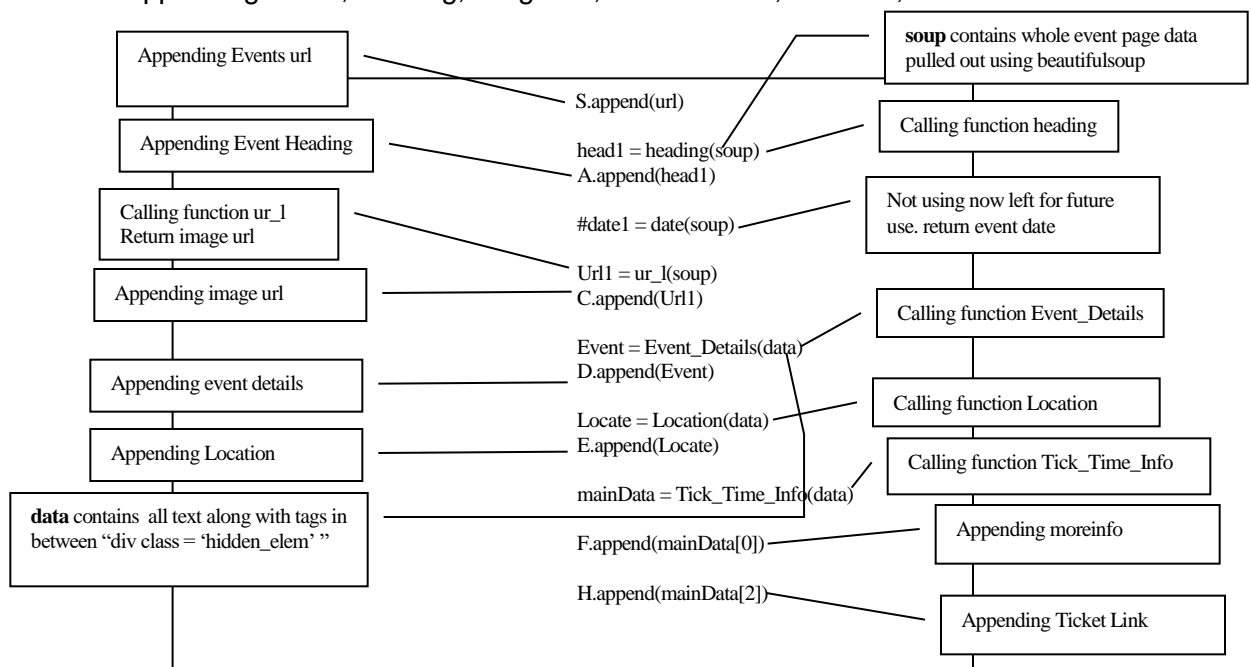
### 3.3 Main Function :

#### 3.3.1 Getting Urls from A text File

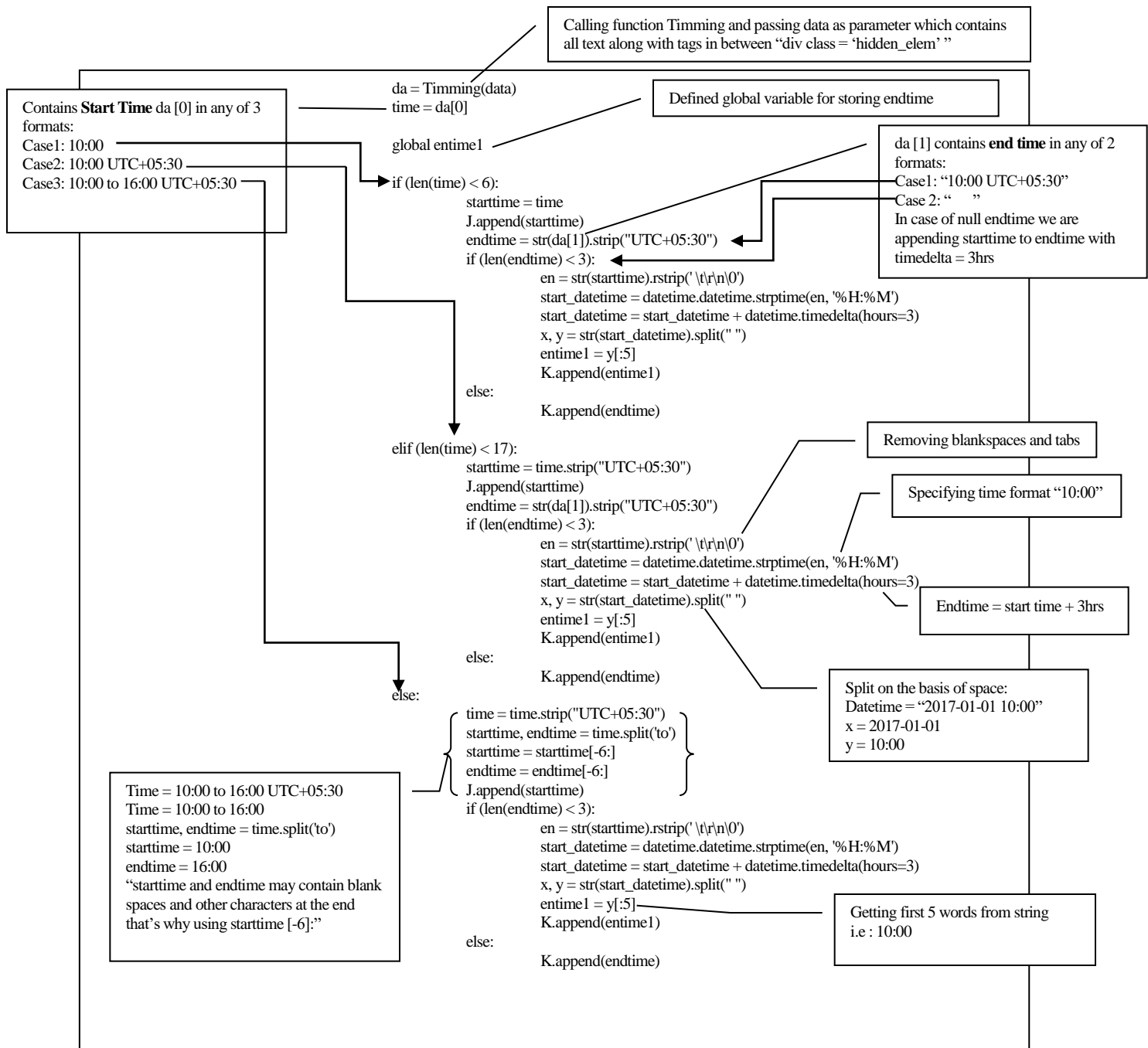


#### 3.3.2 Appending Data to Lists

##### 3.3.2.1 Appending - URL, heading, image Url, Event Details, Location, Tick Time Info

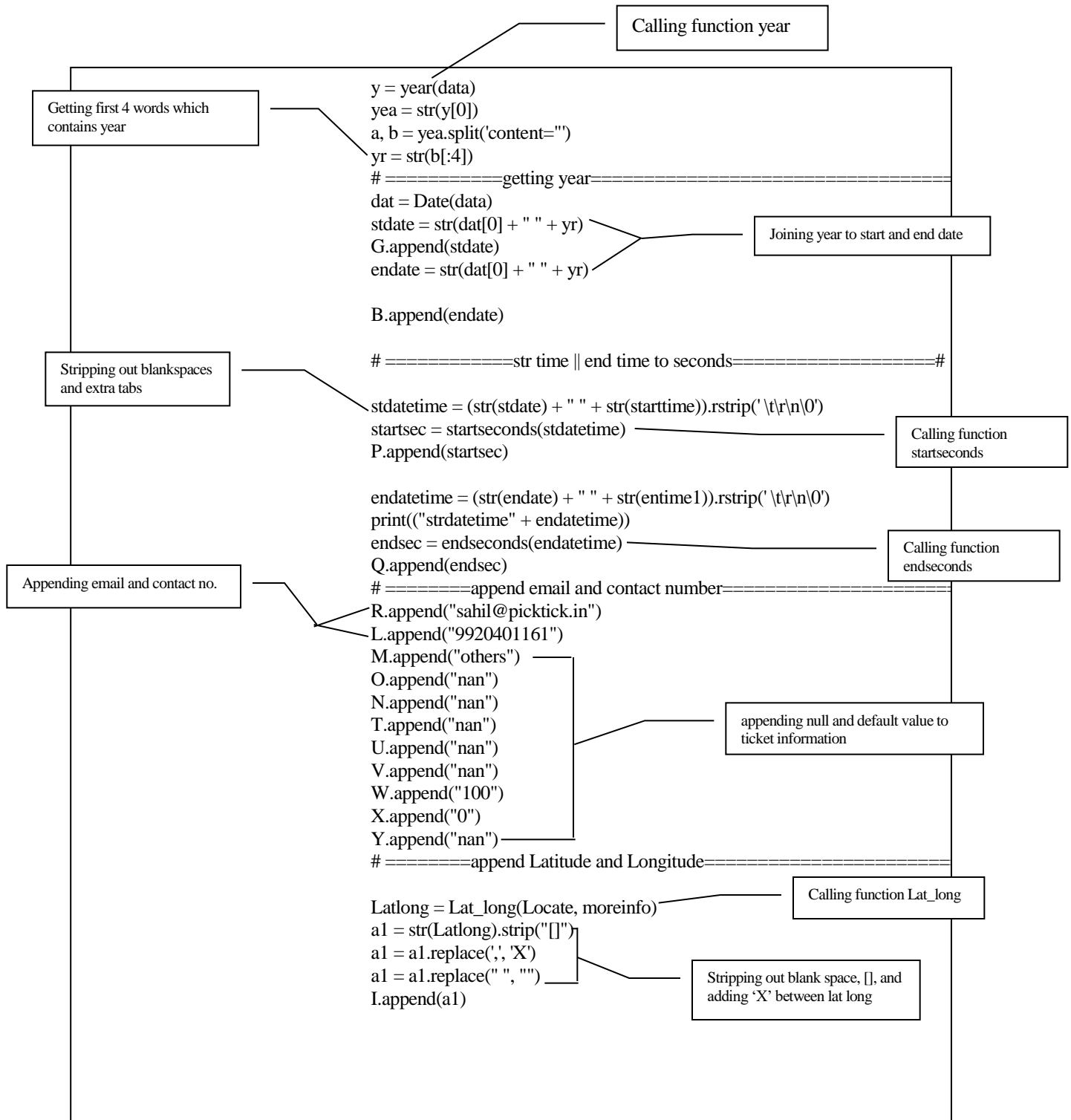


### 3.3.2.2 Appending - Start time, Endtime



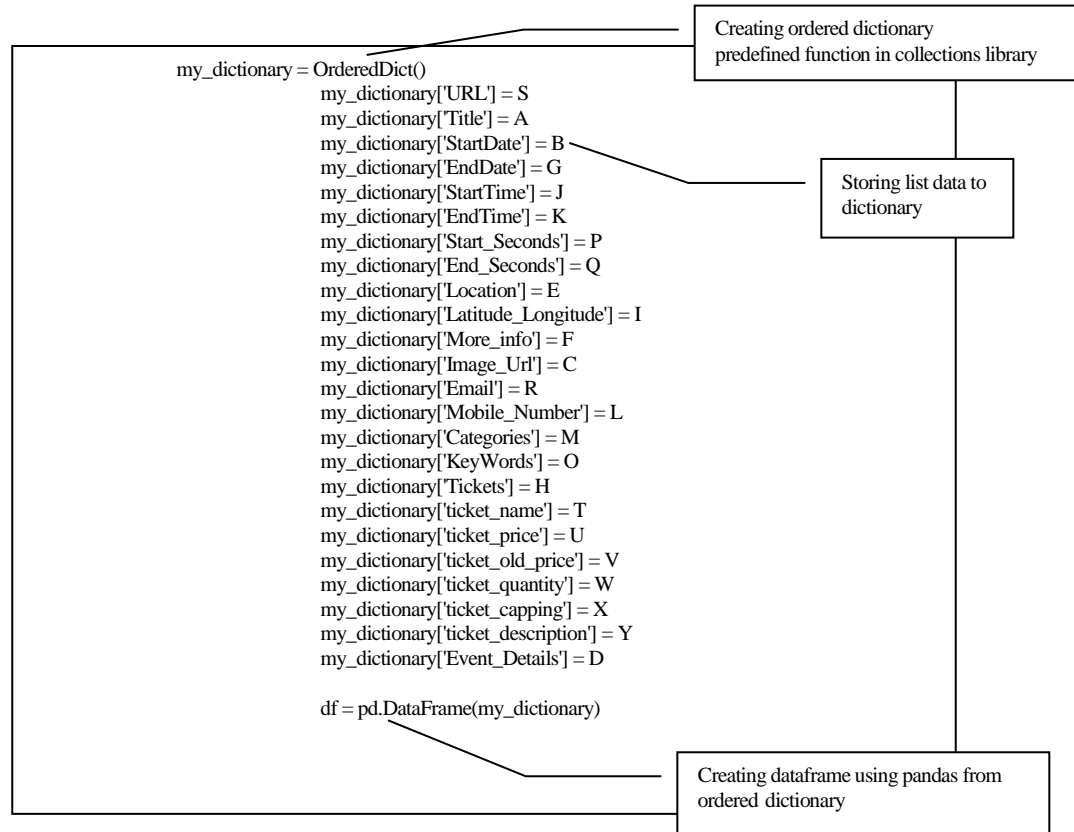


### 3.3.2.3 Appending year, start - end seconds, email, contact no., Latitude-Longitude

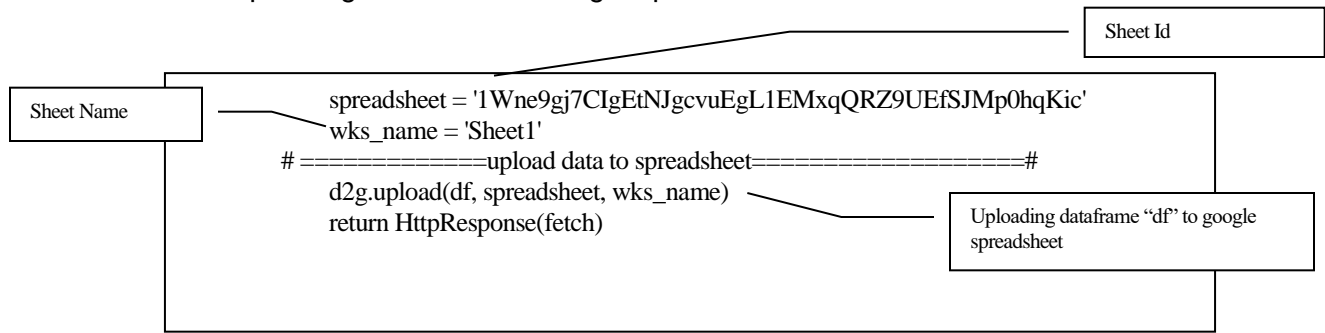


### 3.3.3 Converting Data to Data Frames Using Pandas & Upload data to spreadsheet

#### 3.3.3.1 Converting Lists Data To Data Frames Using Pandas



### 3.3.3.2 Uploading Dataframe to Google Spreadsheet



## 4 Project – II: Automated Testing: Check for Number Blank & Nan cells

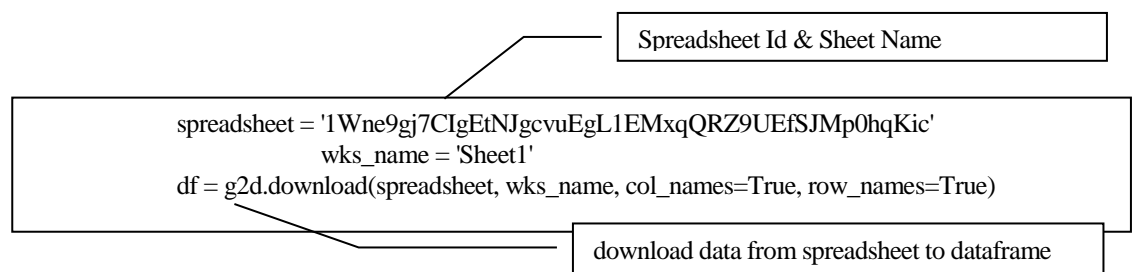
### 4.1 Libraries Used

❑ from df2gsread import gspread2df as g2d

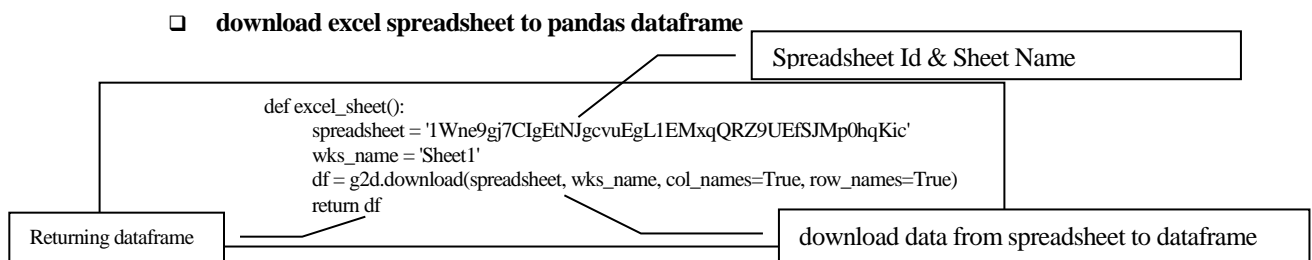
**Intro:** Python library that provides possibility to transport table-data between Google Spreadsheets and Pandas DataFrame for further management or processing. Can be useful in all cases, when you need to handle the data located in Google Drive. See Google Spreadsheet Access Credential Guide [here..](#)

**Installation:** pip3 install df2gsread

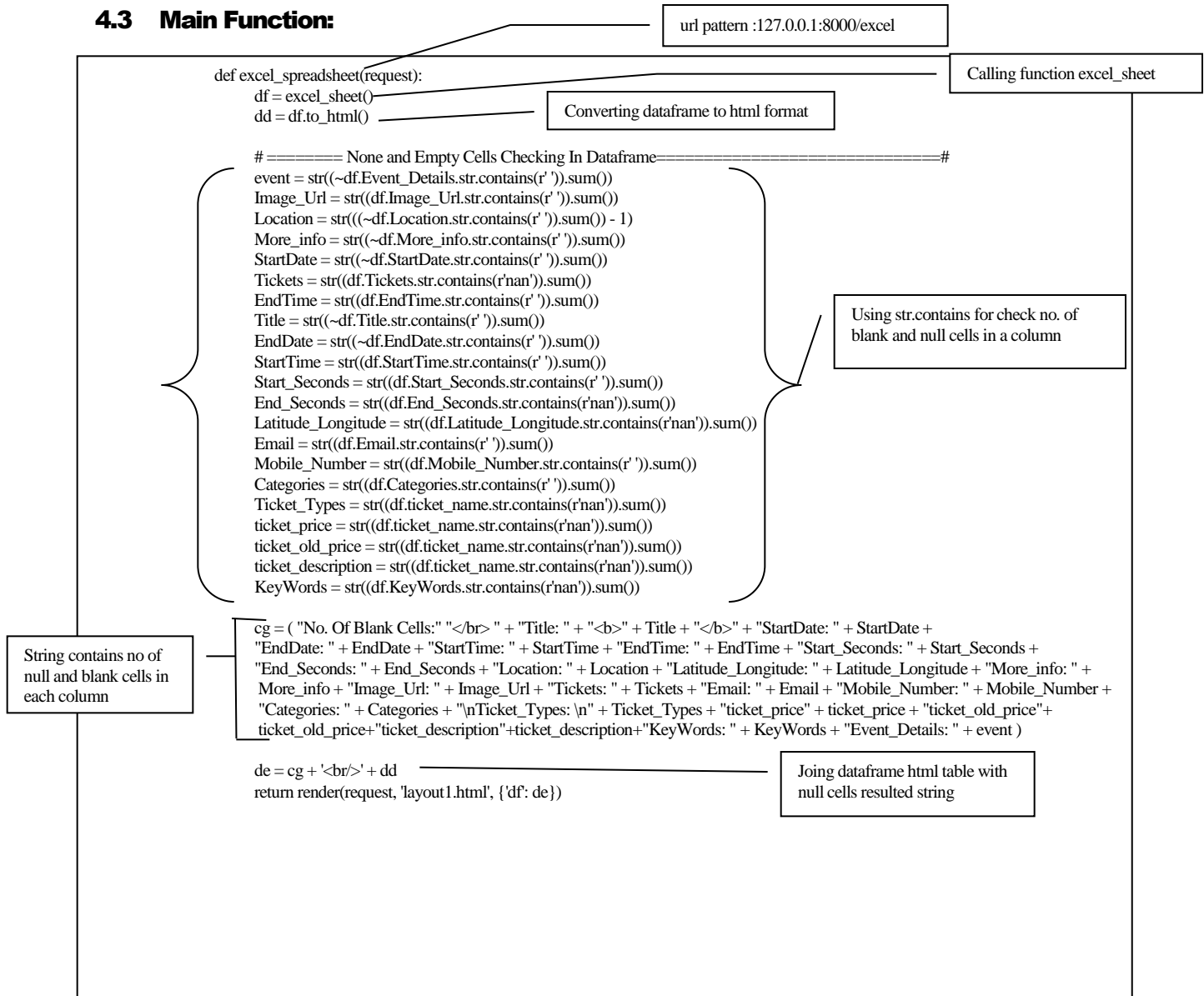
**Usage:** used for downloading data from spreadsheet to pandas dataframe



### 4.2 User Defined Function's:



### 4.3 Main Function:



## 5 Merging Images Getting Firebase Url and Update To Spreadsheet

### 5.1 Libraries Used:

- ❑ `from PIL import Image`

**Intro:** The Python Imaging Library (PIL) adds image processing capabilities to your Python interpreter. This library supports many file formats, and provides powerful image processing and graphics capabilities.[More](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install pillow`

**Usage:** used for merging scraped facebook events images with a background

- ❑ `import glob || import os`

**Intro:** The glob module finds all the pathnames matching a specified pattern according to the rules used by the Unix shell, although results are returned in arbitrary order [More](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install glob`

**Usage:** used for removing all images from local directory after getting image url.

- ❑ `from firebase import firebase`

**Intro:** Python interface to the Firebase's REST API [more](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install python-firebase`

**Usage:** used for storing merged images in a database

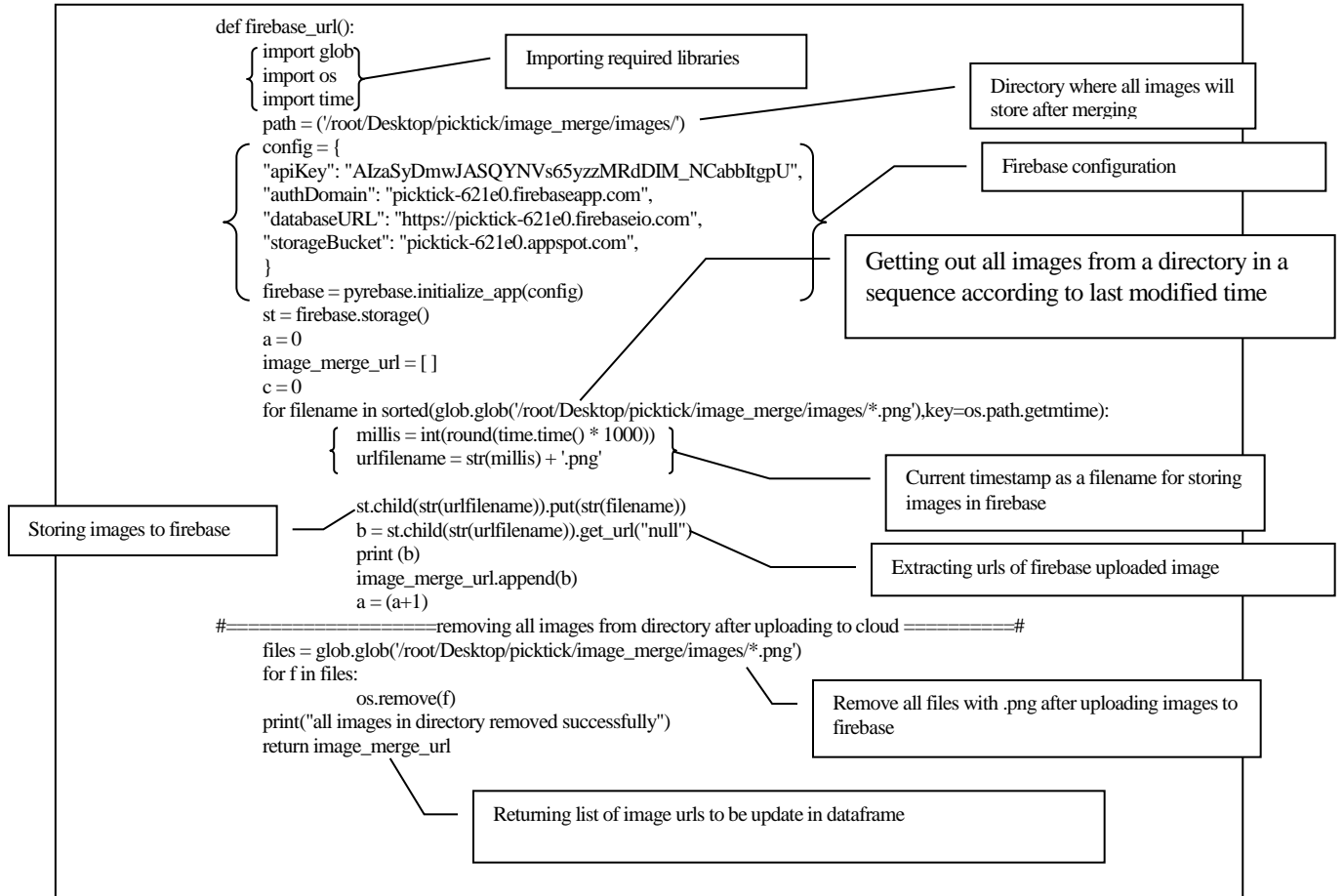
- ❑ `import pyrebase`

**Intro:** A simple python wrapper for the Firebase API.[more](#)

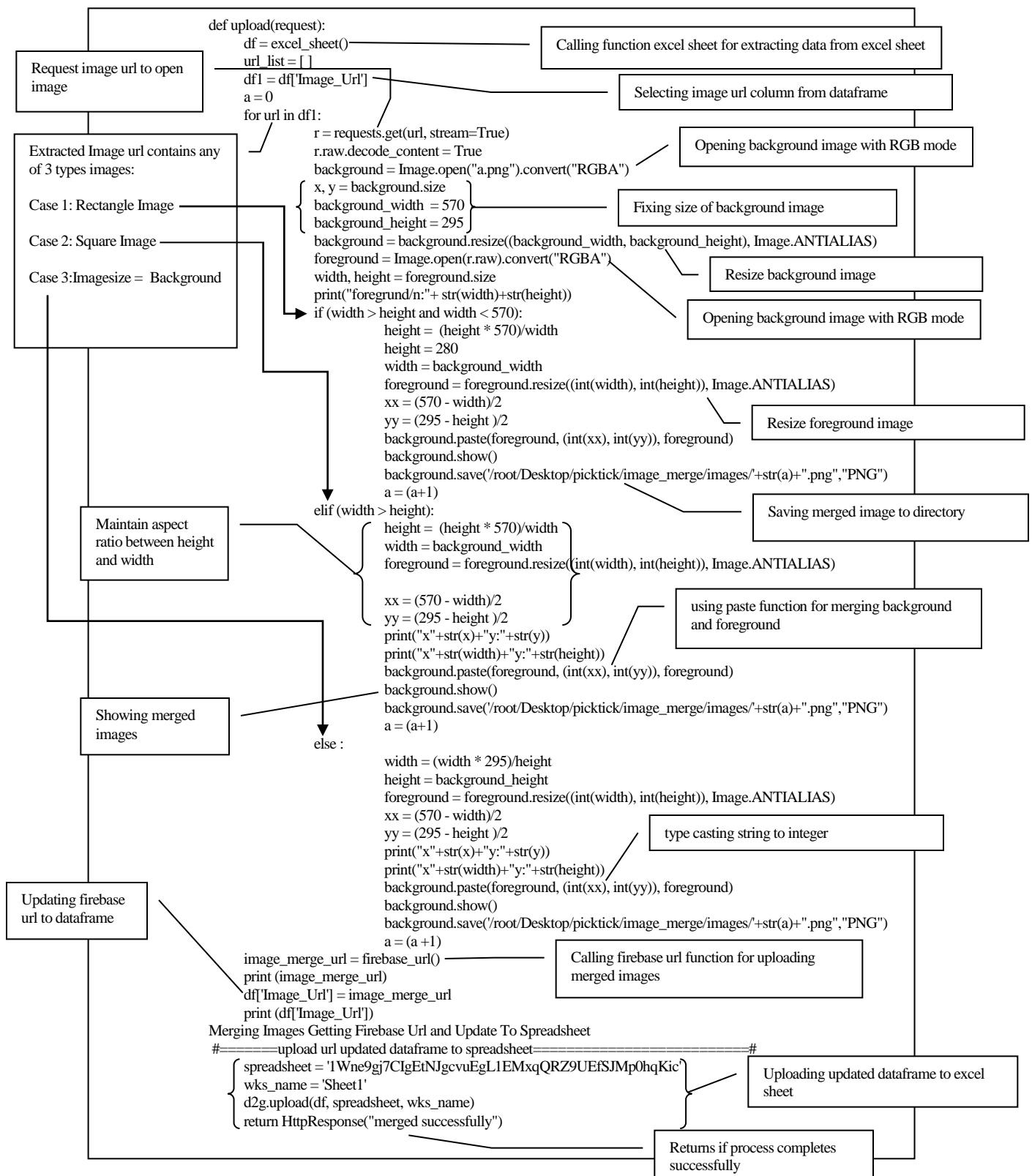
**Installation:** `pip3 install pyrebase`

**Usage:** used for storing merged images in `firebase.storage()` and getting out urls

## 5.2 User Defined Function:



### 5.3 Main Function:





## 6 Upload Whole Data to Firebase

### 6.1 Libraries Used:

- ❑ `import time`

**Intro:** This module provides various time-related functionsI [more](#)

**Installation:** preinstalled in python 2.7 and above

**Usage:** used for getting current time stamp

- ❑ `from firebase import firebase`

**Intro:** Python interface to the Firebase's REST API [more](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install python-firebase`

**Usage:** used for storing merged images in a database

- ❑ `import pyrebase`

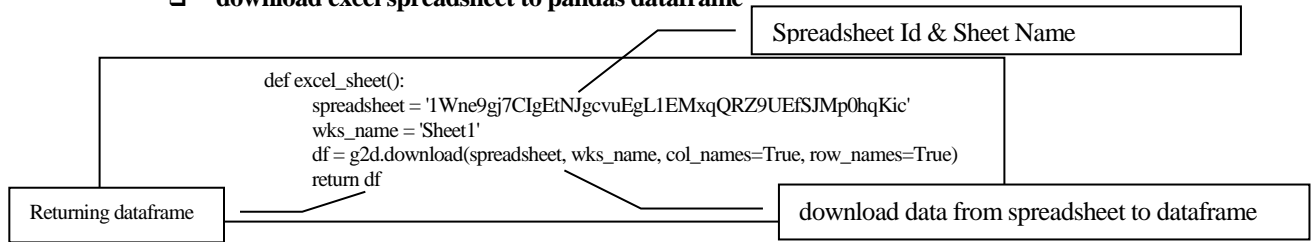
**Intro:** A simple python wrapper for the Firebase API.[more](#)

**Installation:** `pip3 install pyrebase`

**Usage:** used for storing merged images in `firebase.storage()` and getting out urls

## 6.2 User Defined Function:

### ❑ download excel spreadsheet to pandas dataframe



## 6.3 Main Function

url pattern : 127.0.0.1:8000/database\_push

```
def database_push(request):
    import time
    df = excel_sheet()
    print(len(df))

    config = {
        "apiKey": "AlzaSyDmwJASQYNVs65yzzMRdDIM_NCabbItgpU",
        "authDomain": "picktick-621e0.firebaseio.com",
        "databaseURL": "https://picktick-621e0.firebaseio.com",
        "storageBucket": "picktick-621e0.appspot.com",
    }
    vendor_id = '10110269'

    firebase = pyrebase.initialize_app(config)
    database = firebase.database()
    event_ids = database.child('vendor').child(vendor_id).shallow().child('events').get().val()

    lis=[]
    for item in event_ids:
        f, l = item.split('_')
        lis.append(l)

    lists = sorted(lis, key=int)
    event_id = (int(lists[-1]) + 1)
    b = 0
    c = len(df)
    while b < c:

        df = excel_sheet()
        df.rename(columns={'Title': 'name', 'Start_Seconds': 'start_time', 'End_Seconds': 'end_time', 'Location': 'venue_name',
        'Latitude_Longitude': 'venue', 'Image_Url': 'image', 'Email': 'email', 'Mobile_Number': 'mobile', 'KeyWords': 'keyword',
        'Categories': 'category', 'Event_Details': 'description'}, inplace=True)
        df = df.iloc[[b]]
        tktInfo = df[['ticket_name', 'ticket_price', 'ticket_quantity', 'ticket_capping', 'ticket_description',
        'ticket_old_price']].copy()
        tktInfo = tktInfo.to_dict(orient='records')
        tktId = int(round(time.time() * 1000))
        newEventId = str(vendor_id)+"_"+str(event_id)
        data = df[['keyword', 'category', 'image', 'end_time', 'start_time', 'name', 'email', 'mobile', 'venue_name',
        'venue', 'description']].copy()
        data['event_id'] = newEventId
        data['status'] = 'pending'
        data['page_views'] = '0'
        data = data.to_dict(orient='records')
        dataV = df[['category', 'image', 'end_time', 'start_time', 'name']].copy()
        dataV['event_id'] = newEventId
        dataV = dataV.to_dict(orient='records')
        print(newEventId)
        #print (dataV)
        print("it ends=====")
        #print (data)
        firebase = pyrebase.initialize_app(config)
        database = firebase.database()

        database.child('event').child(newEventId).child('details').set(data[0])
        database.child('vendor').child(vendor_id).child('events').child(newEventId).set(dataV[0])
        database.child('event').child(newEventId).child('details').child('ticket_category').child(tktId).set(tktInfo[0])

        event_id +=1
        b +=1

    return HttpResponse("datapushed successfully")
```

Calling function excel sheet for downloading data from sheet

Firebase configuration

Initialization and selecting firebase database

Getting out all event ids form firebase

1. Storing all event\_ids to list
2. Splitting on the basis of "\_"
3. Sorting them and selecting largest one \
4. Increasing by one for getting new event id

Renaming column name according to database structure

Selecting specific row from dataframe to store in firebase

Created new dataframes according to firebase structure for directly storing data to firebase

Queries for storing data to firebase stores:  
1. Data  
2. Vendor data  
3. Ticketinfo

Converting dataframe to records format

Increment event id and store data from new row of excel sheet to firebase

Return when process completed successfully