

- A. If I were a software developer at Airbnb, I would propose the following policy to verify if a business license is valid for short-term rentals in San Francisco: Require listers to upload a copy of their valid business license for short-term rentals to Airbnb's platform for verification purposes. Some may rebuttal by saying: "Verifying business licenses is not our responsibility as a technology platform. We are simply providing a space for users to connect with one another, and it is up to the users themselves to comply with local laws and regulations." However I would respond with While we are not responsible for ensuring that our users comply with local laws and regulations, we do have a responsibility to create a safe and trustworthy platform for our users. By implementing a more rigorous verification process for business licenses, we can help to weed out bad actors who may be operating illegally and put our users at risk. Also, by working to ensure that our platform is in compliance with local laws and regulations, we can build stronger relationships with local government agencies and stakeholders, which could ultimately benefit our business in the long run.
- B. After looking through the Housing Insecurity in the US Wikipedia page, one research question that could be explored using the dataset created through web-scraping is the relationship between short-term rental availability and housing in San Francisco. This could involve looking at the number of units available for short term rental in different neighborhoods and how this relates to the availability of affordable long-term housing options in those same neighborhoods. This analysis could help identify areas where short-term rentals may be contributing to housing insecurity by decreasing the availability of affordable long-term housing options. It could also help inform policy decisions aimed at addressing housing insecurity and regulating short-term rentals in San Francisco.
- C. One important factor to consider when discussing the legality of web scraping is whether the website being scraped has technical measures to prevent scraping. This is important because the CFAA can be used to prosecute individuals who engage in unauthorized access of a computer system. If a website has implemented measures such as CAPTCHAs to determine you are not a robot to prevent scraping, then the act of scraping could be considered unauthorized access and could potentially result in legal action (under the CFAAs guidelines). On the other hand, if a website does not have any measures in place and allows public access to its content, then scraping may not be considered unauthorized access and may not be subject to legal action under the CFAA.
- D. The acceptability of web scraping is determined by a set of rules that depend on its perceived usefulness as a tool. To ensure responsible use of data obtained through this method, one guideline that could be established is to be aware of potential uses for the data, potential users, and the possible harm that may result from improper use. Taking

precautions to prevent theft, unauthorized access, and improper use is also essential. Another policy that could be implemented is to explicitly state how the data is being used and work to minimize any potential harm resulting from its use. These guidelines would establish moral and accepted standards for selecting whether or not to scrape publicly available data. It is critical to be transparent about data gathering and access to ensure web scraping safety because privacy is a top priority for everyone.