



**KENNESAW STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

## **Web Crawler**

**CS 7263**  
**Information Retrieval**

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## I. ABSTRACT

The goal of this project is to build a web scraper that will crawl through the course textbook and collect all text pages from the textbook. The crawler should then extract the pages titles and contents and store each unique page in a library of pages. Finally the crawler should perform corpus processing and generate statistics about all crawled and downloaded pages.

## II. DATA

For this project, we initially start our crawl on the html webpage for the course textbook: *Christopher D. Manning, Prabhakar Raghavan and Hinrich Schütze, Introduction to Information Retrieval, Cambridge University Press. 2008.* Link: <https://nlp.stanford.edu/IR-book/information-retrieval-book.html>. This book has approx. 192 unique webpages, which is the min target number of webpages for this scraper.

## III. CODE BREAKDOWN

Below is a breakdown of each python file and an explanation of what each function of the corresponding class does.

### 1. crawler.py

#### **is\_link\_ok\_to\_follow(self,link):**

This function checks if input link is a valid string, checks if link is already crawled via the crawled pages library, removes anchors, queries and '/', checks if link is not a relative, and checks if the link ends with '.html'. if all these conditions are met, returns true, else returns false.

#### **get\_html(self,url):**

This function opens the passed URL using urllib.urlopen, loads the HTML code into a string variable and returns the string.

#### **discover\_urls(self, soup, pageurl):**

This function Loops through each <a> tag in the html in soup object and calls **check\_relative\_link** to ensure link is not relative, then calls **is\_url\_ok\_to\_follow** to ensure link is ok to follow, it then adds the url to the frontier queue and cleans using **clean\_url**.  
No return.

#### **check\_relative\_link(self,url,pageurl):**

This function checks if the url has the full url by checking how many "/" exist in the url. If it is 1 or less, it appends the url to the home pageurl.  
Returns the complete url.

#### **clean\_url(self,url):**

this function cleans the url by removing anchor tags and queries.  
Returns cleaned url.

**extract\_info(self,url,soup):**

This function calls **clean\_url** to clean input url, then puts the url into a dict with the key as the cleaned url and the value as a tuple of the url's title and text content. Soup is used to extract title and text.  
No return.

**save\_webpages(self,library):**

This function loops through the library of crawled urls and saves them 1 by 1 with a unique file name into the 'webpages/' folder.  
No return

**crawl(self):**

This function loops while the frontier queue is not empty, checking each url with **is\_url\_ok\_to\_follow**. It then uses **get\_html** to grab the first url in the queue's HTML. With this HTML as a string it creates a new soup object. It then calls **extract\_info** and **discover\_urls** with this soup object to extract text and discover all links on this page. Finally when the frontier queue is empty, it calls **save\_webpages** to save the library into text files.  
No return

**2. stats.py:**

**process(self):**

This function goes through each file in the directory "webpages/" and generates the following statistics:

- Total words
- Total words (stop words removed)
- Total unique words
- Average page length
- Top 30 words
- Top 30 words (stop words removed)

The function then saves these as class variables.  
No return

**print\_statistics(self):**

This function simply prints the generated statistics from **process**.  
No return

## IV: OUTPUT

```
(.venv) michaelrizig@Michaels-MacBook-Pro webscraper % python3 stats.py
```

```
Total words: 214715
```

```
Total words (stopwords removed): 9874
```

```
Unique words: 9903
```

```
Average Page Length: 735.3253424657535
```

```
Top 30 words (with stopwords):
```

```
1: 'the' Count: 11642 Documents: 290
2: 'of' Count: 7108 Documents: 289
3: 'a' Count: 4915 Documents: 280
4: 'in' Count: 4717 Documents: 290
5: 'and' Count: 4218 Documents: 283
6: 'to' Count: 4010 Documents: 290
7: 'is' Count: 3724 Documents: 287
8: 'for' Count: 2563 Documents: 277
9: 'we' Count: 2020 Documents: 242
10: 'that' Count: 1858 Documents: 258
11: 'as' Count: 1621 Documents: 260
12: 'are' Count: 1395 Documents: 241
13: 'this' Count: 1389 Documents: 251
14: 'an' Count: 1109 Documents: 287
15: 'be' Count: 1095 Documents: 235
16: 'document' Count: 1070 Documents: 190
17: 'documents' Count: 1036 Documents: 196
18: 'with' Count: 1034 Documents: 239
19: 'index' Count: 1029 Documents: 288
20: 'on' Count: 991 Documents: 241
21: 'query' Count: 987 Documents: 166
22: 'by' Count: 856 Documents: 228
23: 'can' Count: 799 Documents: 214
24: 'retrieval' Count: 784 Documents: 136
25: 'at' Count: 751 Documents: 288
26: 'it' Count: 751 Documents: 225
27: 'page' Count: 749 Documents: 286
28: 'not' Count: 733 Documents: 211
29: 'from' Count: 709 Documents: 209
30: 'or' Count: 655 Documents: 208
```

```
Top 30 words: (without stopwords)
```

```
1: 'document' Count: 1070 Documents: 190
2: 'documents' Count: 1036 Documents: 196
3: 'index' Count: 1029 Documents: 288
4: 'query' Count: 987 Documents: 166
5: 'retrieval' Count: 784 Documents: 136
6: 'page' Count: 749 Documents: 286
7: 'term' Count: 652 Documents: 155
8: 'information' Count: 645 Documents: 148
```

```
9: 'classification' Count: 639 Documents: 68
10: 'terms' Count: 634 Documents: 161
11: 'text' Count: 595 Documents: 126
12: 'next' Count: 592 Documents: 284
13: 'web' Count: 575 Documents: 106
14: 'clustering' Count: 558 Documents: 41
15: 'figure' Count: 541 Documents: 137
16: 'contents' Count: 539 Documents: 285
17: 'previous' Count: 538 Documents: 283
18: 'search' Count: 538 Documents: 123
19: 'model' Count: 522 Documents: 105
20: 'may' Count: 521 Documents: 285
21: 'section' Count: 463 Documents: 179
22: 'two' Count: 461 Documents: 157
23: 'case' Count: 455 Documents: 285
24: 'set' Count: 448 Documents: 136
25: 'one' Count: 445 Documents: 174
26: 'example' Count: 434 Documents: 154
27: 'number' Count: 427 Documents: 157
28: 'relevance' Count: 415 Documents: 67
29: 'vector' Count: 412 Documents: 96
30: 'book' Count: 377 Documents: 289
(.venv) michaelrizig@Michaels-MacBook-Pro webscraper %
```