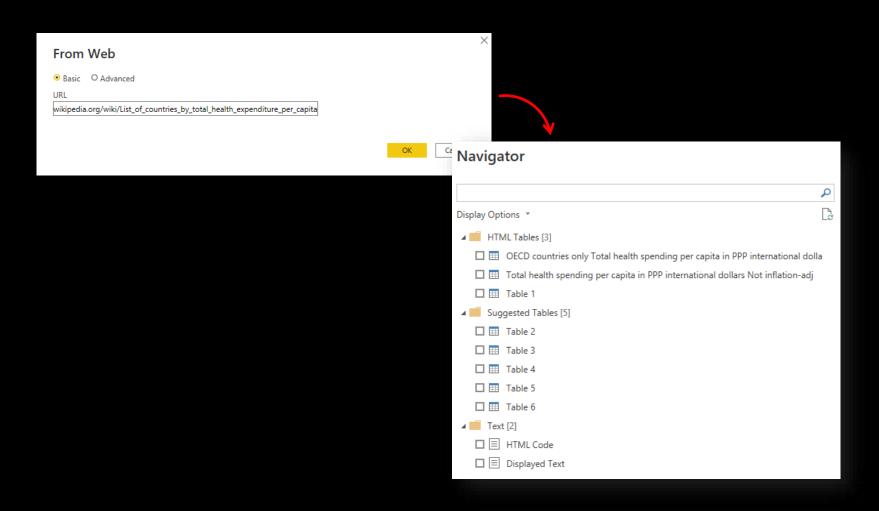
Power Query (M):
Web scraping using
Web.BrowserContents
and Html.Table

We can easily extract data from a webpage Using Get data>Web



If the page includes elements, they are listed under HTML tables

▶ ... == \$0

sortable. This allows rank table.wikitable.sortable.stati c-row-numbers.plainrowhea 415.53 × 1198.56 ders.srn-white-background.j qu... Ith in LOCATION" links OECD countries only. Total health spending per capita in PPP nternational dollars. Not inflation-adjusted. Costa Rica joined OECD in 2021.[1][2][4][5] Location 2018 \$ 2019 \$ 2020 \$ 2021 \$ 5.194 5.130 5 627 Australia * 5.519 5.624 5.883 Austria * 6.693 5.315 5.353 5.407 Belgium * 5.828 ■ Canada * 5.308 5.190 5.905 2.281 2.297 2.413 2.608 Chile * 1.293 1.336 Colombia * 1.192 Costa Rica * 1.530 1.556 1.618 Czech Republic * 3.129 3.272 Denmark * 5.307 5.360 6.384 5.694

HTML Tables [3]

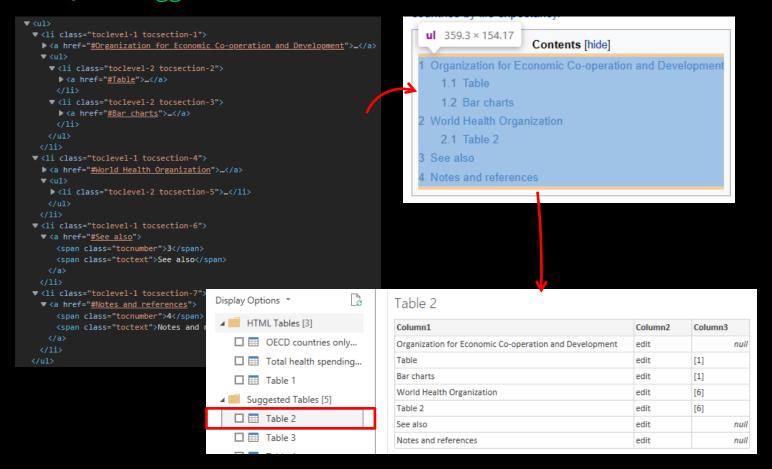
DECD countries only Total health spending per capita in PPP international dolla

Total health spending per capita in PPP international dollars Not inflation-adj

Table 1

PQ will also try to detect other structured data

Here, the table-of-contents is an unordered (bulleted) list - PQ has suggested this as Table 2



When we load a table, PQ generates some code

Web.BrowserContents downloads the HTML from the page

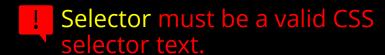
Html.Table extracts data from the downloaded HTML

If the page has a lot of content, we can choose to ask Web.BrowserContents to wait for it to load completely before downloading

The second (optional) parameter can be a record with one field – WaitFor, which is itself a record with one or two fields – either Timeout (duration) or Selector (text) or both

There are two options for WaitFor

WaitFor is a record with one or two fields – either Timeout (duration) or Selector (text) or both



See <u>CSS Selectors Reference</u> (w3schools.com) for details

```
Source = Web.BrowserContents(

| "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_total_health_expenditure_per_capita",
| WaitFor = [Timeout = #duration(0,0,0,45)]]
| Source | Give the function 45 seconds to download the complete HTML of the page
```

Wait for the element with class attribute "table" before finishing the download

11

13

The first parameter of Html.Table is a valid HTML text, often (but not always) derived from Web.BrowserContents

```
htmlTable
     = Html.Table(
           Source.
                 {"Column1", "TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR > :nth-child(1)"},
                {"Column2", "TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR > :nth-child(2)"},
{"Column3", "TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR > :nth-child(3)"},
{"Column4", "TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR > :nth-child(4)"},
{"Column5", "TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR > :nth-child(5)"}
           [RowSelector="TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR"]
                                                                                                                             The 3rd param, which is
   The second parameter is a list of lists.
                                                                                                                              optional on one-column tables,
                                                                                                                              is a one-field record -
   Each sub-list takes the form
```

column name,

CSS selector, (optional) function to process the element attributes

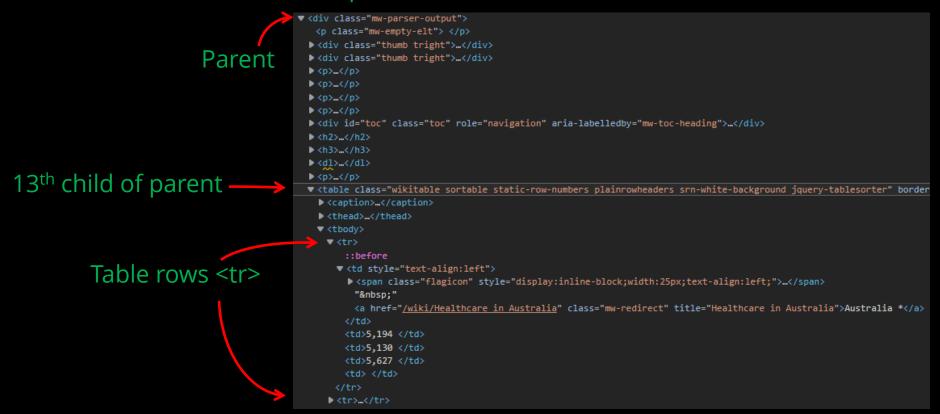
RowSelector, which is a CSS Selector used to identify each row in the table

RowSelector tells Html. Table which elements to use

[RowSelector= TABLE.wikitable.sortable.static-row-numbers.plainrowheaders.srn-white-background:nth-child(13) > * > TR"

Select all <TR> elements whose parent is any element - * - which has a parent element with class attribute

wikitable sortable static-row-numbers plainrowheaders srn-white-background which is the 13th child of its parent



OK, take a breath...

Most of the time, Power Query is smart enough to find the correct elements for you and you won't need to worry manually typing in these CSS Selectors

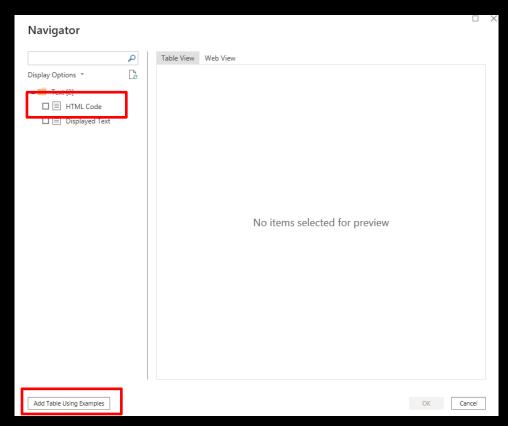
HUGE RELIEF.

But what if all you see in the Navigator pane is this?

Power Query is great, but sometimes the website you want to scrape isn't so easily parsed.

Sometimes no tables can be found.





We can either Add Table
Using Examples or load the
HTML code and build
Html.Table by hand

1. 'Add Table Using Examples'

i) try to find the right elements

With 'Add Table Using Examples', we try typing in a column and Power Query will attempt to locate an element in the page that contains what we've typed.

Add Table Using Examples **Customer Reviews RESULTS** ** * * * * * Up ** * * * Up Doctor Who: The Complete Thirteenth Series - Flux ****** & Up · Starring: Various TV Show · Directed by: Various Doctor Who \$1859 Save \$3.72 with coupon Actor Peter Davison FREE delivery Wed, Jan 4 on \$25 of items **David Tennant** shipped by Amazon Janet Fielding Or fastest delivery Tue, Jan 3 Sylvester McCoy Sophie Aldred Colin Baker David Bradley Doctor Who: The Complete David Tennant Collection (Blu-ray) Director Peter Moffatt Starring: Various Richard Martin · Directed by: Various \$2699 \$44.98 Christopher Barry Andrew Morgan Save \$4.20 with coupon Pennant Roberts FREE delivery /Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KP9NKNB/ref=sr_1_5?ke...iNS43NilsInFzcCl6ljQuNzkifQ%3D%3D&sprefix=%2Caps%2C110&sr=8-5 /Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KPBYF22/ref=ice_ac_b_...rds=doctor+who+dvd&qid=1672347922&sprefix=%2Caps%2C110&sr=8-5 /Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KPBYF22/ref=sr 1 5?keywords=doctor+who+dvd&qid=1672347922&sprefix=%2Caps%2C110&sr=8-5 /Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KPBYF22/ref=sr_1_5?ke...vd&qid=1672347922&sprefix=%2Caps%2C110&sr=8-5#customerReviews /Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KPBYF22/ref=sxin_15_a...efix=%2Caps%2C110&sr=1-1-7d9bfb42-6e38-4445-b604-42cab39e191b Doctor-Who-Complete-Thirteenth-Flux/dp/B09KPBYF22/ref=sxin 15 a...0&sr=1-1-7d9bfb42-6e38-4445-b604-42cab39e191b#customerReviews gp/slredirect/picassoRedirect.html/ref=pa_sp_atf_aps_sr_pg1_1?i...47922%26sprefix%3D%252Caps%252C110%26sr%3D8-1-spons%26psc%3D1 gp/slredirect/picassoRedirect.html/ref=pa_sp_atf_aps_sr_pg1_1?i...47922%26sprefix%3D%252Caps%252C110%26sr%3D8-1-spons%26psc%3D1 gp/slredirect/picassoRedirect.html/ref=pa_sp_atf_aps_sr_pg1_1?i...3D%252Caps%252C110%26sr%3D8-1-spons%26psc%3D1#customerReviews/ Add to ListAdd to List ShareShareReportReportYour feedback is i...st delivery Tue, Jan 3 Starring: Various Directed by: Various Add to ListAdd to List ShareShareReportReportYour feedback is i...8.59 \$3.72 coupon applied at checkoutSave \$3.72 with coupon Amazon's Choicefor doctor who dvd Doctor Who: The Complete Thir... \$25 shipped by Amazon.Starring: Various Directed by: Various

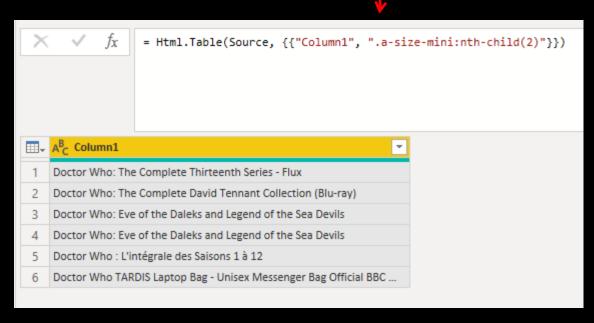
We select the item in the list that best matches what we're looking for

'Add Table Using Examples' review the results

We can then review the selector and the results

In this case, "Add Tables Using Examples" has used the wrong selector.

The list of titles is too short.

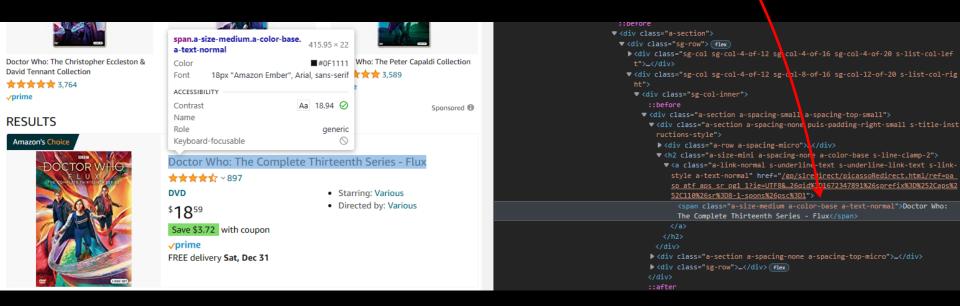


2. Build Html.Table manually

i) find the correct element using "developer tools"

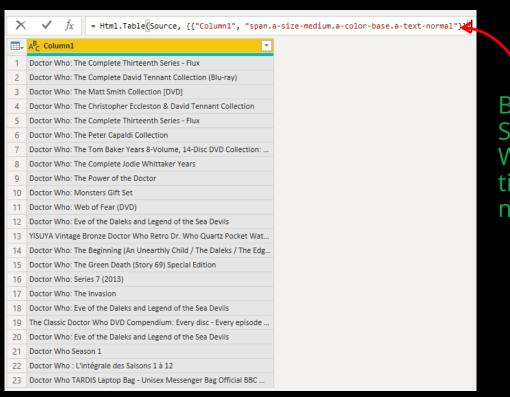
If we use the browser's developer tools, we can review the elements on-screen and select the element whose class attribute we want

span.a-size-medium.a-color-base.a-text-normal



2. Build Html.Table manuallyii) use it as the CSS Selector for the table column

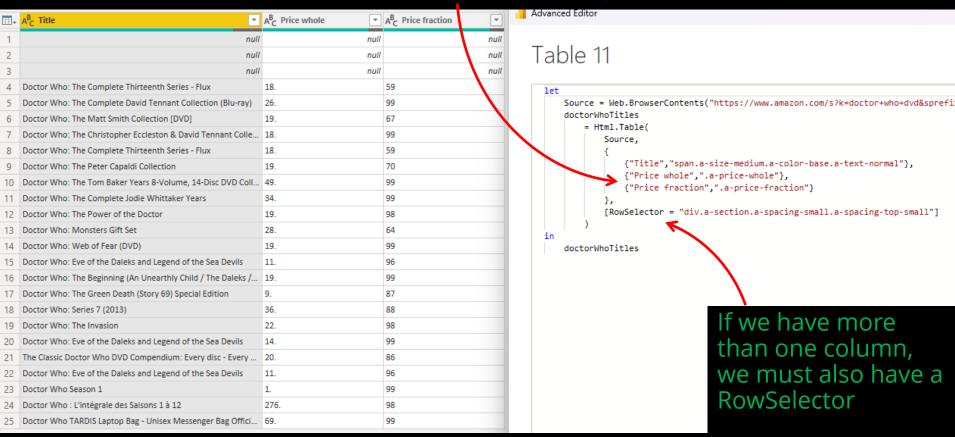
span.a-size-medium.a-color-base.a-text-normal



By editing the CSS Selector for column1, We've extracted the title from each matching element

2. 'Build Html.Table manually iii) add additional columns

Each page element has a tag and usually a class attribute. Understanding CSS Selectors is critical to successful web scraping



Web scraping with Power Query - Takeaways

- 1. In Power Query, most web-scraping can be done with very little effort using Get Data>Web
- 2. In some cases, you may need to inspect the HTML using your browser's developer tools
- 3. A good understanding of CSS Selectors will help you be more successful with parsing HTML. <u>CSS Selectors Reference (w3schools.com)</u> is a good resource for this

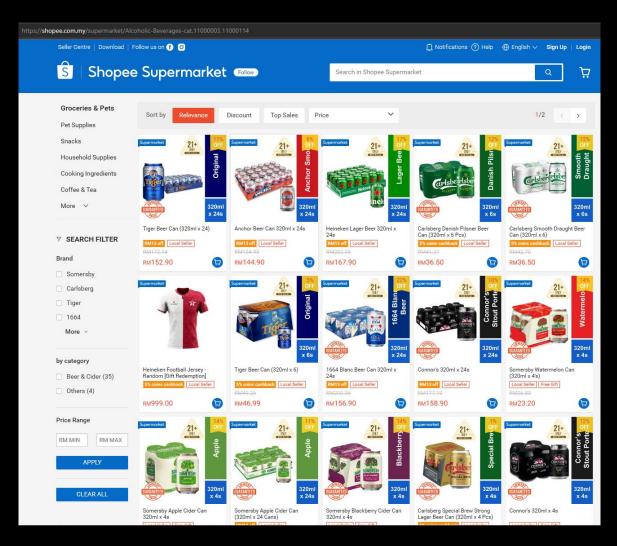


!! Be sure of the legality of scraping data from the websites you want to interact with

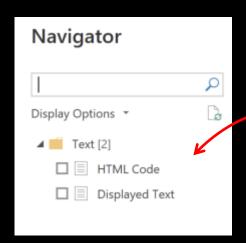
For an example walkthrough, continue reading

Shopee is a popular online supermarket in several Asian countries

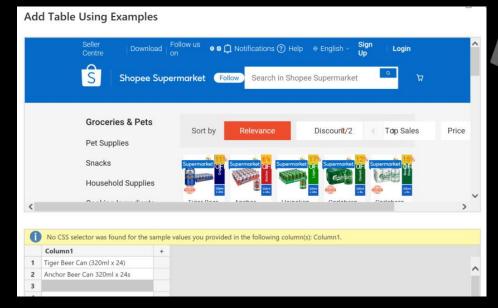
This search for alcoholic beverages has 25 results on the first page. When initially loading, 15 are visible in the window.



I tried to get the brand details from the page

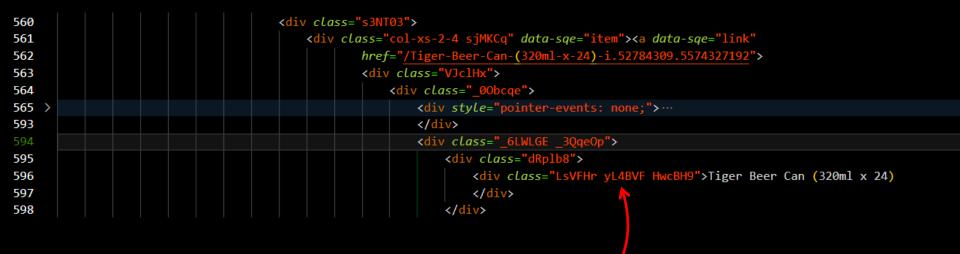


The Navigator showed me there were no HTML tables and no Suggested tables



"Add Table Using Examples" couldn't find a CSS Selector for the brand

I used the developer tools in my browser to inspect the HTML of the page



I found the text "Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 24)" in the div element with class attribute

LsVFHr yL4BVF HwcBH9

The CSS Selector

".LsVFHr.yL4BVF.HwcBH9"

will find all such elements on the page

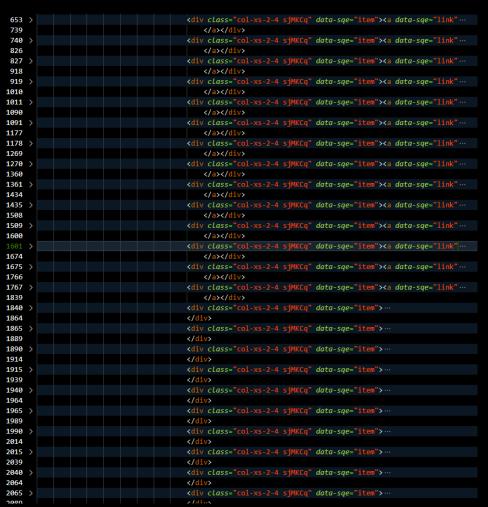
I used the Selector to try to extract just the brand name from the page

The first attempt returned no data!

I added a Timeout to Web.BrowserContents to give the page more time to fill the elements

```
1
                       Web.BrowserContents(
                             "https://shopee.com.my/supermarket/Alcoholic-Beverages-cat.11000003.11000114",
 3
                             [WaitFor = [Timeout = #duration(0,0,0,30)]]
 4
            htmlTable = Html.Table(
                                                                                                                 page,
                  page,
                                                                                             Bc SKU Name
                                                                                            Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 24)
                        {"SKU Name",".LsVFHr.yL4BVF.HwcBH9"}
                                                                                            Anchor Beer Can 320ml x 24s
10
                                                                                            Heineken Lager Beer 320ml x 24s
11
                                                                                            Carlsberg Danish Pilsner Beer Can (320ml x 6 P...
                                                                                            Carlsberg Smooth Draught Beer Can (320ml x 6)
13
            htmlTable
                                                                                            Heineken Football Jersey - Random [Gift Rede...
                                                                                            Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 6)
                                                                                            1664 Blanc Beer Can 320ml x 24s
                                                                                            Connor's 320ml x 24s
                                                                                            Somersby Watermelon Can (320ml x 4's)
                 Even though there were 25
                                                                                            Somersby Apple Cider Can 320ml x 4s
                 brands on the page, the
                                                                                            Somersby Apple Cider Can (320ml x 24 Cans)
                 query only returned 15
                                                                                            Somersby Blackberry Cider Can 320ml x 4s
                                                                                            Carlsberg Special Brew Strong Lager Beer Can ...
                                                                                            Connor's 320ml x 4s
```

I found that the page had a script to fill the first 15 brands when the page loads. The rest are filled when the window is scrolled!



The first 15 brands were populated with data

The remaining 10 were populated with placeholders and didn't have all the child elements

I found that all data for the page was in script elements containing JSON documents

```
_data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"ItemList","itemListElement":[{"@type":"ListItem","position":1,"url":"https:/
 85
 86
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name":"Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 24)","description":"","url":"https:
 87
 88
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name":"Anchor Beer Can 320ml x 24s","description":"","url":"https:
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name":"Heineken Lager Beer 320ml x 24s","description":"","url":"hi
 91
          data-rh="true">{"@context": "http://schema.org", "@type": "Product", "name": "Carlsberg Danish Pilsner Beer Can (320ml x 6 Ps)", "descri;
 92
 93
 94
                       !">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name":"Carlsberg Smooth Draught Beer Can (320ml x 6)","descriptior
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name":"Heineken Football Jersev - Random [Gift Redemotion]"."descr
 96
 97
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name 2
                                                                                           "@context": "http://schema.org",
 98
 99
          data-rh="true">{ "@context": "http://schema.org", "@type": "Product", "name A
100
101
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name
                                                                                           "url": "https://shopee.com.my/Tiger-Beer-Can-(320ml-x-24)-i.52784309.5574327192",
103
                    true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name
104
                                                                                           "image": "https://cf.shopee.com.my/file/9a0c7a0a0c661d427844fe63807411d2",
105
                                                                                           "brand": "",
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam 9
106
107
                       ">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam 11
108
                                                                                                @type": "Offer",
109
                                                                                                price": "152.90",
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name
110
                                                                                                'priceCurrency": "MYR",
111
                                                                                               "availability": "http://schema.org/InStock'
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","name
112
113
                                                                                                regateRating": {
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam: 16
114
115
          data-rh="true">{ "@context": "http://schema.org", "@type": "Product", "nam 18
                                                                                                'bestRating": 5,
116
117
                                                                                               "worstRating": 1,
                       e">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam 20
118
                                                                                               "ratingCount": "1451",
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam
120
121
          data-rh="true">{"@context":"http://schema.org","@type":"Product","nam: 23
122
123
```

I changed Html.Table to extract the JSON from those elements

```
Source = Web.BrowserContents(
             "https://shopee.com.my/supermarket/Alcoholic-Beverages-cat.11000003.11000114?",
3
 4
             [WaitFor=[Timeout=#duration(0, 0, 0, 30)]]
 6
7
8
         The data for the elements are in a JSON document in a script element.
9
         the script element has a [TextContent] field which represents the element's value.
         This value is the JSON for all products on the page, plus a few extra rows we don't need.
10
11
         so if that JSON contains the word Product, then keep it, otherwise put null
12
13
         GetProductJSON = Html.Table(
14
             Source.
             {{"Column1", "script[type=""application/ld+json""]",
15
             each if Text.Contains([TextContent], "Product") then [TextContent] else null}}
16
17
```

This CSS selector means

select the elements with a script tag and an attribute called type whose value is "application/ld+json"

If the [TextContent] attribute of the returned element contains the word Product, then put the whole JSON, otherwise put null



Then it was just a matter of extracting the data using UI-equivalent commands

19 20

21 22

23 24

25 26

27 28

29 30

31 32

33

34 35

36

37

38 39 40

41

```
RemoveNullRows = Table.SelectRows(GetProductJSON,each [Column1]<>null),
ConvertJSONDocumentToRecord = Table.TransformColumns(RemoveNullRows,{},Json.Document),
AsTable = Table.FromRecords(ConvertJSONDocumentToRecord[Column1]?),
RemoveUnwantedColumns = Table.RemoveColumns(AsTable,{"@context", "@type", "description", "brand"}),
ExpandRatingInfo = Table.ExpandRecordColumn(
    RemoveUnwantedColumns,
      ggregateRating",
    {"bestRating", "worstRating", "ratingCount", "ratingValue"},
   {"aggregateRating.bestRating", "aggregateRating.worstRating", "aggregateRating.ratingCount", "aggregateRating.ratingValue"}
),
ExpandOffers = Table.ExpandRecordColumn(
    ExpandRatingInfo,
    {"price", "priceCurrency"},
    {"offers.price", "offers.priceCurrency"}
ExpandOffers
```

The result was all 25 brands from the first page of search results

I = Table.ExpandRecordColumn(ExpandRatingInfo, "offers", {"price", "priceCurrency"}, {"offers.price", "offers.priceCurrency"})				
Ⅲ.	123 name v	ASC 123 url	ABC productID *	ABC image
1	Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 24)	https://shopee.com.my/Tiger-Beer-Can-{320ml-x-24}-i.52784309.5574	5574327192	https://cf.sh
2	1664 Blanc Beer Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/1664-Blanc-Beer-Can-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309	3590229276	https://cf.sh
3	Anchor Beer Can 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Anchor-Beer-Can-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309.40	4074317213	https://cf.sh
4	Heineken Lager Beer 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Heineken-Lager-Beer-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309	4090136933	https://cf.sh
5	Carlsberg Danish Pilsner Beer Can (320ml x 6 Pcs)	https://shopee.com.my/Carlsberg-Danish-Pilsner-Beer-Can-(320ml-x-6	8159733462	https://cf.sh
6	Carlsberg Smooth Draught Beer Can (320ml x 6)	https://shopee.com.my/Carlsberg-Smooth-Draught-Beer-Can-{320ml	10106941593	https://cf.sh
7	Heineken Football Jersey - Random [Gift Redemption]	https://shopee.com.my/Heineken-Football-Jersey-Random-Gift-Rede	9859679100	https://cf.sh
8	Tiger Beer Can (320ml x 6)	https://shopee.com.my/Tiger-Beer-Can-{320ml-x-6}-i.52784309.74743	7474323865	https://cf.sh
9	1664 Blanc Beer Can 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/1664-Blanc-Beer-Can-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309	3192452867	https://cf.sh
10	Connor's 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Connor's-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309.5390150484	5390150484	https://cf.sh
11	Somersby Watermelon Can (320ml x 4's)	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Watermelon-Can-{320ml-x-4's}-i.52	6190148984	https://cf.sh
12	Somersby Apple Cider Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Apple-Cider-Can-320ml-x-4s-i.5278	11707267207	https://cf.sh
13	Somersby Apple Cider Can (320ml x 24 Cans)	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Apple-Cider-Can-(320ml-x-24-Cans)	11707267129	https://cf.sh
14	Somersby Blackberry Cider Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Blackberry-Cider-Can-320ml-x-4s-i	11607267223	https://cf.sh
15	Carlsberg Special Brew Strong Lager Beer Can (320ml x 4 Pcs)	https://shopee.com.my/Carlsberg-Special-Brew-Strong-Lager-Beer-Ca	10306941624	https://cf.sh
16	Connor's 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Connor's-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309.4790150476	4790150476	https://cf.sh
17	Skol Beer Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Skol-Beer-Can-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309.119072	11907267173	https://cf.sh
18	1664 Rosé Beer Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/1664-Rosé-Beer-Can-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309	13141600622	https://cf.sh
19	Asahi Beer Can 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Asahi-Beer-Can-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309.6390	6390148978	https://cf.sh
20	Skol Beer Can 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Skol-Beer-Can-320ml-x-24s-i.52784309.11907	11907267055	https://cf.sh
21	Heineken Lager Beer 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Heineken-Lager-Beer-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309	3290165103	https://cf.sh
22	Asahi Beer Can 320ml x 4s	https://shopee.com.my/Asahi-Beer-Can-320ml-x-4s-i.52784309.86601	8660110010	https://cf.sh
23	Carlsberg Special Brew Strong Lager Beer Can 320ml x 24s	https://shopee.com.my/Carlsberg-Special-Brew-Strong-Lager-Beer-Ca	8259733468	https://cf.sh
	Somersby Blackberry Cider Can (320ml x 24 Cans)	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Blackberry-Cider-Can-(320ml-x-24	9160260817	https://cf.sh
- ,	Somersby Watermelon Can (320ml x 24 Cans)	https://shopee.com.my/Somersby-Watermelon-Can-(320ml-x-24-Can	5990148999	https://cf.sh