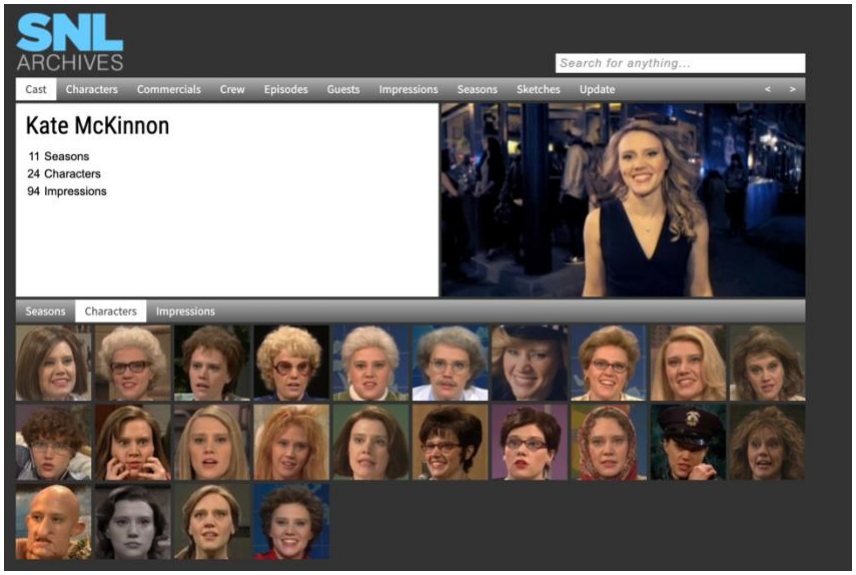
My idea for the final project is to create a data visualization/network graph of SNL cast members and their non-SNL-related projects to analyze the frequency by which cast members include other SNL cast members and alumi in their creative projects. Although they were only minor parts, this visualization would show, for example, how in Andy Samberg's Brooklyn 99, SNL alums like Fred Armisten played Mlep(clay)nos (the clay is silent) or Maya Rudolph played U.S. Marshal Karen Haas.

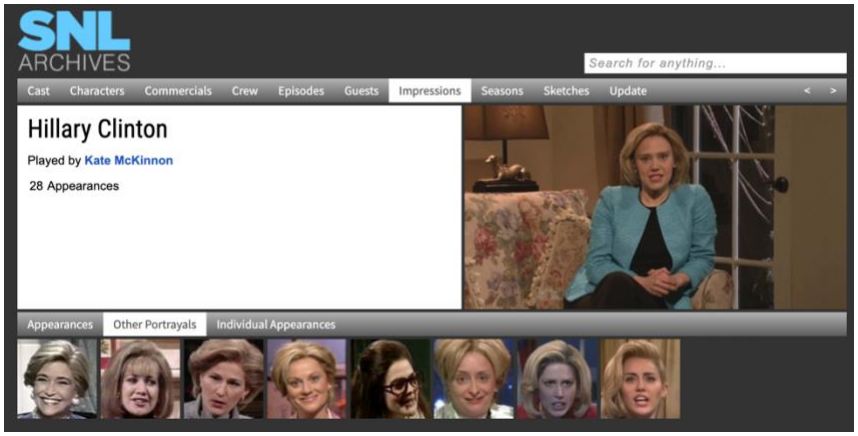
The data that I plan to use was scraped from snlarchives.net, an online archive of all things SNL created by Joel Navaroli (@snlmedia). The data was scraped and published on Kaggle and GitHub by Hendrik Hilleckes (@hhllcks, hllcks@gmail.com, blog.hhllcks.de) and Colin Morris (http://colinmorris.github.io/). The current database on GitHub is missing a few seasons of data so I will likely be using the scraping technique that the Hilleckes details in his GitHub repository for the project.

To build a foundation of understanding regarding snlarchives.net, I explored the website quite a bit, paying keen attention to organization and choices made. The home page is broken down into 10 categories: Cast; Characters; Commercials; Crew; Episodes; Guests; Impressions; Seasons; Sketches; and Updates. Each category is then broken down alphabetically, organized by first letter of first name (including mononymous names) except for the categories of Cast and Guest which use last name (unless the person is mononymous).

The SNL archive includes descriptions of every skit from "Live from New York" to the goodbyes and includes screen caps of each. A user could, for insance, search for a cast member like Kate McKinnon and get a list of every Impression and character that the cast member has done in addition to the seasons that they've been on SNL.



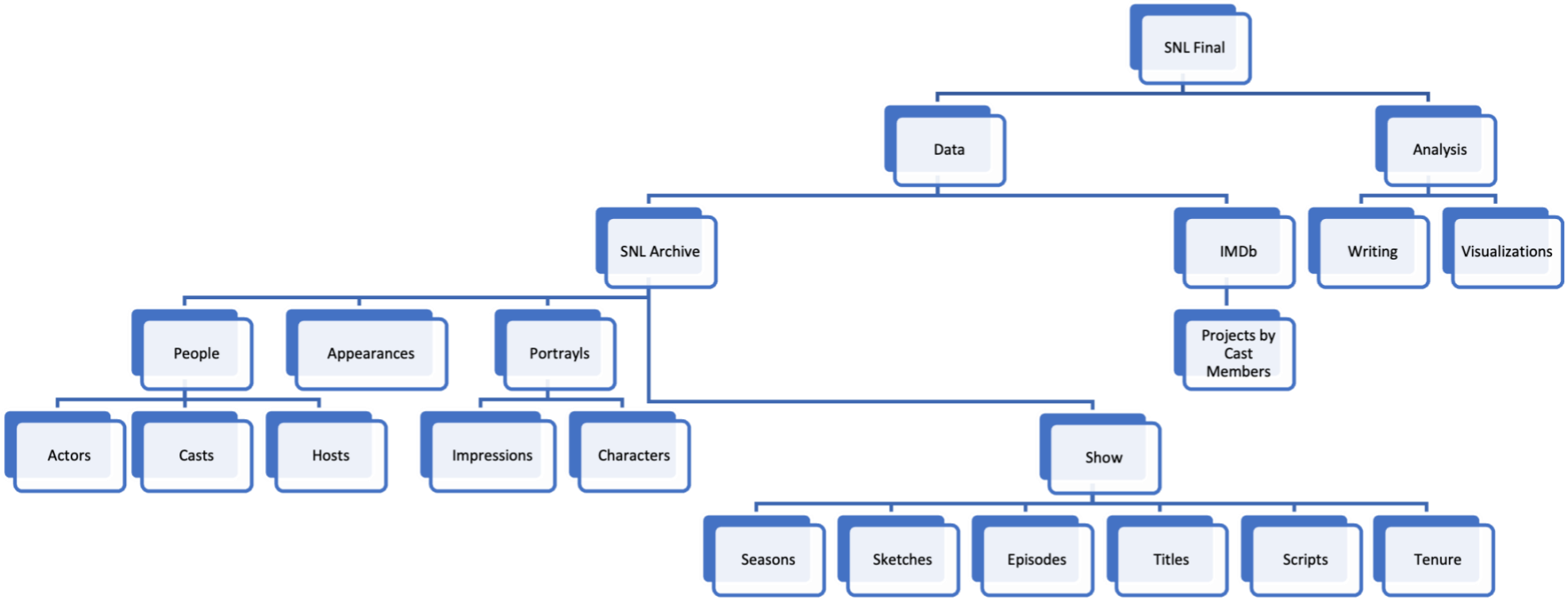
Another user might search for every portrayl of Hillary Clinton and get results which includes every actor who portrayed Hillary Clinton in addition to the individual appearances of each portrayl. When the archive was scraped by Hendrick Hilleckes, it was parsed into the following csv and json files: actors, appearances, casts, characters, episodes, hosts, impressions, seasons, sketches, tenure, titles. As far as I can tell, all of the data was kept intact.



My vision for this project is to take the file of cast members and use their names to scrape each of their IMDb pages. Then I'm going to attempt to visualize the overlaps for each cast member's other projects. Since SNL has been on since 1975, with different casts every few years and new cast members every season, I am expecting the final dataset to be large. There have been a total of 159 SNL cast members. I plan on working with a subset of the data while I figure out how to do everything.

	aid	sid	featured	first_epid	last_epid	update_anchor	n_episodes	season_fraction
2	A. Whitney Brown	11	True	19860222.0		False	8	0.4444444444444444
3	A. Whitney Brown	12	True			False	20	1.0
4	A. Whitney Brown	13	True			False	13	1.0
5	A. Whitney Brown	14	True			False	20	1.0
6	A. Whitney Brown	15	True			False	20	1.0
7	A. Whitney Brown	16	True			False	20	1.0
8	Alan Zweibel	5	True	19800409.0		False	5	0.25
9	Sasheer Zamata	39	True	20140118.0		False	11	0.5238095238095238
10	Sasheer Zamata	40	True			False	21	1.0
11	Sasheer Zamata	41	False			False	21	1.0
12	Sasheer Zamata	42	False			False	21	1.0
13	Bowen Yang	45	True			False	18	1.0
14	Bowen Yang	46	True			False	17	1.0
15	Fred Wolf	21	True			False	20	1.0
16	Fred Wolf	22	True		19961019.0	False	3	0.15
17	Casey Wilson	33	True	20080223.0		False	8	0.6666666666666666
18	Casey Wilson	34	True			False	22	1.0
19	Kristen Wiig	31	True	20051112.0		False	15	0.7894736842105263
20	Kristen Wiig	32	False			False	20	1.0

While exploring the cast.csv file, I noticed some odd columns, like "season_fraction," and strange formatting decisions, such as making the "first_epid" dates into float values. I'm sure that I'm going to have to do a good amount of data cleaning and organizing but I'm grateful that there is a clear place to begin this project.


SNL Final
Data
Analysis
SNL Archive
IMDb
Writing
Visualizations
People
Appearances
Portrayls
Projects by Cast Members
Actors
Casts
Hosts
Impressions
Characters
Show
Seasons
Sketches
Episodes
Titles
Scripts
Tenure