D5: Databases and Information Systems Information Extraction, WS 2019/2020 Simon Razniewski & Cuong Xuan Chu Lab #03: Crawling and Scraping



Problem 1 (Dump infobox scraping). In the Wiki-centric systems, infoboxes often store core information about entities. Figure 1 is the infobox of the page "Podrick Payne" from *Game of Thrones* in Wikia. Figure 2 shows the part which describes the infobox of the page "Podrick Payne" (selection text). Each infobox includes a list of attributes along with lists of values. For example, the infobox in figure 2 has attributes: *Title, Season, First seen, Last seen, etc.* Each attribute has value(s), like *Title:* Podrick Payne, *Status:* Alive.

Given the dump file of the universe  $Game\ of\ Thrones$  from Lab #01 (Download <a href="here">here</a>):

- 1.1. Write a program that takes as input a page title, for example, *Podrick Payne*, and returns a list of attributes along with their values (suggested datastructure: map). For pages without infoboxes, return null. For simplicity, all attributes and values can be considered as strings. For attributes without values empty strings can be used.
- 1.2. Run the extraction on infoboxes of all entities in the dumpfile and print out the top 20 most frequent attributes. Save the result in the following format:

```
attribute 1 [tab] #occurrences attribute 2 [tab] #occurrences
```



Figure 1: Infobox of page "Podrick Payne" in Wikia.

**Problem 2** (Web scraping #1). Write a program that takes as input the URL of an (English) Wikipedia page, and outputs a list of all categories. For example, for https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saarland, the output should be [Saarland; NUTS 1 statistical regions of the European Union; States and territories established in 1957; 1957 establishments in West Germany].

**Problem 3** (Web scraping #2). In HISPOS, there is information about courses of each semester. For example, this page<sup>1</sup> shows the information of the core course **Information Retrieval and Data Mining (IRDM)**.

Write a program that takes as input a url of a course website in HISPOS, and returns the basic information of this course. Basic information refers to everything included in the table as shown in Figure 3. Again, produce a key-value map as in Problem 1.1.

Your submitted files should include the Python code files and a text file containing the results of problem 1.2.

Please submit all necessary files, which are compressed into a zip file named:

Lab03\_MatriculationNumber\_Name.zip

to the email address: cxchu@mpi-inf.mpg.de with title of the email: [IE]Lab03\_MatriculationNumber\_Name

Deadline: 23:59 02.11.2019 (Saturday)

 $<sup>^1</sup> https://www.lsf.uni-saarland.de/qisserver/rds?state=verpublish\&status=init\&vmfile=no\&publishid=120264\&moduleCall=webInfo\&publishConfFile=webInfo&publishSubDir=veranstaltung$ 



Figure 2: Infobox of the page "Podrick Payne" in the dump.

Basic Information			
Type of Course	Lecture / Exercise/problem-solving class	Long text	
Number	120264	Short text	
Term	WiSe 2019/20	Hours per week in term	
Expected no. of participants		Max. participants	
Turnus		Assignment	no enrollment
Credits			
Additional Links	https://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/departments/databases-and- information-systems/teaching/ws1920/irdm19/		
Language	english		

Figure 3: Basic information of the course IRDM.