

Package ‘htmldf’

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Title Simple Scraping and Tidy Webpage Summaries

Version 0.6.0

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Description Simple tools for scraping webpages, extracting common html tags and parsing contents to a tidy, tabular format. Tools help with extraction of page titles, links, images, rss feeds, social media handles and page metadata.

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Imports cld3, dplyr, httr, lubridate, magrittr, processx, progress, R.utils, ranger, rvest, stringr, tibble, tidyr, tools, urltools, xml2

Depends R (>= 3.5.0)

Encoding UTF-8

Language en_GB

URL <https://github.com/alastairrushworth/htmldf/>

BugReports <https://github.com/alastairrushworth/htmldf/issues>

RoxygenNote 7.1.2

Suggests testthat

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

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R topics documented:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| html_df | 2 |
| Index | 5 |

html_df

Get a tabular summary of webpage content from a vector of urls

Description

From a vector of urls, `html_df()` will attempt to fetch the html. From the html, `html_df()` will attempt to look for a page title, rss feeds, images, embedded social media profile handles and other page metadata. Page language is inferred using the package `clld3` which wraps Google's Compact Language Detector 3.

Usage

```
html_df(
  urlx,
  max_size = 5e+06,
  wait = 0,
  retry_times = 0,
  time_out = 30,
  show_progress = TRUE,
  keep_source = TRUE,
  chrome_bin = NULL,
  chrome_args = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <code>urlx</code> | A character vector containing urls. Local files must be prepended with <code>file://</code> . |
| <code>max_size</code> | Maximum size in bytes of pages to attempt to parse, defaults to 5000000. This is to avoid reading very large pages that may cause <code>read_html()</code> to hang. |
| <code>wait</code> | Time in seconds to wait between successive requests. Defaults to 0. |
| <code>retry_times</code> | Number of times to retry a URL after failure. |
| <code>time_out</code> | Time in seconds to wait for <code>httr::GET()</code> to complete before exiting. Defaults to 30. |
| <code>show_progress</code> | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Whether to show progress during download. |
| <code>keep_source</code> | Logical argument - whether or not to retain the contents of the page source column in the output tibble. Useful to reduce memory usage when scraping many pages. Defaults to TRUE. |
| <code>chrome_bin</code> | (Optional) Path to a Chromium install to use Chrome in headless mode for scraping |
| <code>chrome_args</code> | (Optional) Vector of additional command-line arguments to pass to chrome |
| <code>...</code> | Additional arguments to <code>'httr::GET()'</code> . |

Value

A tibble with columns

- url the original vector of urls provided
- title the page title, if found
- lang inferred page language
- url2 the fetched url, this may be different to the original, for example if redirected
- links a list of tibbles of hyperlinks found in <a> tags
- rss a list of embedded RSS feeds found on the page
- tables a list of tables found on the page in descending order of size, coerced to tibble wherever possible.
- images list of tibbles containing image links found on the page
- social list of tibbles containing twitter, linkedin and github user info found on page
- code_lang numeric indicating inferred code language. A negative values near -1 indicates high likelihood that the language is python, positive values near 1 indicate R. If not code tags are detected, or the language could not be inferred, value is NA.
- size the size of the downloaded page in bytes
- server the page server
- accessed datetime when the page was accessed
- published page publication or last updated date, if detected
- generator the page generator, if found
- status HTTP status code
- source character string of xml documents. These can each be coerced to xml_document for further processing using rvest using xml2::read_html().

Author(s)

Alastair Rushworth

Examples

```
# Examples require an internet connection...
urlx <- c("https://github.com/alastairrushworth/html_df",
         "https://alastairrushworth.github.io/")
dl <- html_df(urlx)
# preview the dataframe
head(dl)
# social tags
dl$social
# page titles
dl$title
# page language
dl$lang
# rss feeds
dl$rss
```

```
# inferred code language
dl$code_lang
# print the page source
dl$source
```

Index

html_df, 2