Package 'htmldf'

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Title Simple Scraping and Tidy Webpage Summaries

Version 0.6.0

Author Alastair Rushworth

Maintainer Alastair Rushworth <alastairmrushworth@gmail.com>

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:

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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 `cld3` 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

urlx	A character vector containing urls. Local files must be prepended with `file://`.
max_size	Maximum size in bytes of pages to attempt to parse, defaults to `5000000`. This is to avoid reading very large pages that may cause `read_html()` to hang.
wait	Time in seconds to wait between successive requests. Defaults to 0.
retry_times	Number of times to retry a URL after failure.
time_out	Time in seconds to wait for `httr::GET()` to complete before exiting. Defaults to 30.
show_progress	Logical, defaults to `TRUE`. Whether to show progress during download.
keep_source	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`.
chrome_bin	(Optional) Path to a Chromium install to use Chrome in headless mode for scraping
chrome_args	(Optional) Vector of additional command-line arguments to pass to chrome
...	Additional arguments to 'httr::GET()'.

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/htmldf",
          "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
```

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