

Dexter Norales

Concise Stacker Work Portfolio

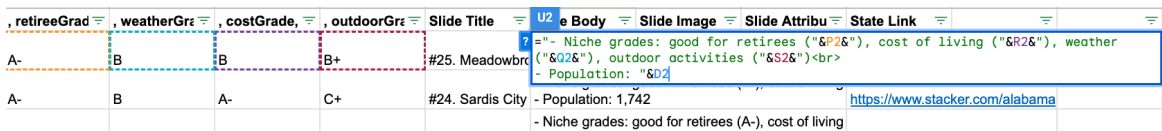
Part 1:

In my time at Stacker Media, one of the processes I completed a large sum of times would be -

- Receiving a story title to work on and a website where I could find the data
- Using Python to write a web scraper or automated web crawler with the Selenium framework that would clean the data as well

```
358         for index, row in stateDf.iterrows():
359             num_count+=1
360
361             searchable_stateName=stateName.replace('(', '\(').replace(')', '\)')
362
363             newDf = symbolsDf_two.loc[symbolsDf_two['GEO'] == row['Geography of destination']]
364             newDf = newDf[~newDf['Geography of destination'].astype(str).str.contains("part,")]
365             newDf["Ranked"] = newDf.groupby(['GEO'])['VALUE'].rank(ascending=False).astype(int)
366             newDf = newDf.sort_values(by=['VALUE'], ascending=False)
367             newDf = newDf[newDf['Geography of destination'].astype(str).str.contains(searchable_sta
368
369             rightvalue=newDf.iloc[0]['Ranked']
370
371             moved_value = str((row['VALUE']))
372             moved_value_int=(format(int((row['VALUE'])), 'd'))
373
374             right_index=migra_list.index(row['Geography of destination'])
375             right_index=int(right_index)+1
376
377             migrated_value=migra_list[right_index]
378             migrated_value_int=(format(int(migra_list[right_index]), 'd'))
379
380             net_migration= int(moved_value) - int(migrated_value)
```

- Collect the data and format it in Google Sheets using simple and complex functions



retireeGrad	weatherGrz	costGrade	outdoorGrz	Slide Title	U2 e Body	Slide Image	Slide Attribu	State Link
A-	B	B	B+	#25. Meadowbr	?- Niche grades: good for retirees (&P2&"), cost of living (&R2&"), weather (&Q2&"), outdoor activities (&S2&") - Population: "&D2			
A-	B	A-	C+	#24. Sardis City	- Population: 1,742			https://www.stacker.com/alabama
-	-	-	-	-	- Niche grades: good for retirees (A-), cost of living			

- Write a script to format the story for the content management system (CMS) utilizing the Pandas Framework
- Download data as CSV and push it into CMS scripts for publishing to partners like CMS

I would create all 50 different articles if the story were a state-level story, hundreds of cities if it were a city-level story, and 700-3,100 counties if it were a county-level story - all depending on the data available.

For example, let's take one of the stories I worked on, "Best Community Colleges in [New York]". New York is a state so we know it is a state-level story, so I would complete the process above for all 50 states - replacing the brackets with each of the 50 states. For this story, each state had roughly 8 community colleges. For each school, I needed to collect the school name, school type, location, overall grading, acceptance rate, and a few other identifiable and used pieces of data totaling 13 columns. 13 columns for 8 schools for 50 states - totaling roughly 5,200 pieces of data. This is what is left after removing thousands of cells that had some sort of error. However, this is on the lower end as many stories require more data. "Best Counties to Retire in [New York]" is a county-level story requiring 22 columns for 781 counties - 17,182 pieces of data. This can also be on the lower end as each county is mentioned once, other stories require

data for 20-50 different mentions per county per state. This can easily inflate data points up to 800,000, for a single story - after cleaning!

All in all, I've worked on a large sum of stories which have each required a unique process with different frameworks to collect, clean, and process. Here are a few of the many stories I have worked on - a few of which have been updated since:

Best Colleges in New York - Stacker
Best Community Colleges in New York - Stacker
Best Counties to Live in New York Stacker
Best Counties to Raise a Family in New York Stacker
Best Counties to Raise a Family in New York Stacker
Best Counties to Retire to in New York Stacker
Best Minigolf in Every State Stacker
Best Places to Live in New York Stacker
Best Private High Schools in New York Stacker
Best Private High Schools in New York Stacker
Biggest blown lead in every NFL team's history - OLBG.com
Biggest Blown Leads by the New York Giants OLBG - Stacker

Biggest Sources of Immigrants to New York - Stacker
Books Set in New York Stacker
Cities With the Fastest-growing Home Prices in New York - Stacker
Cities With the Most Expensive Homes in New York Stacker
Counties in New York Where People Spend Most of Their Paycheck ...
Counties With Highest COVID-19 Infection Rates in New York Stacker
Counties With the Best Commutes in New York Stacker
Counties With the Highest COVID-19 Vaccination Rate in New York ...
Counties With the Highest Unemployment Rate in New York - Stacker
Counties With the Most Born-and-bred Residents in New York ...
Counties With the Most College Graduates in New York - Stacker
Counties With the Most Veterans in New York Stacker
Counties With the Most Veterans in New York Stacker

[Counties With the Worst Commutes in New York | Stacker](#)

[Famous Actors From New York | Stacker](#)

[Famous Actresses From New York | Stacker](#)

[Fastest Growing Cities in New York - Stacker](#)

[Highest Rated IPAs in New York - Stacker](#)

[Highest Rated Stouts in New York - Stacker](#)

[Highest-rated Beer in New York | Stacker](#)

[Highest-rated Beer in New York | Stacker](#)

[Highest-rated Breakfast Restaurants in New York City, According to ...](#)

[Highest-rated Cheap Eats in New York City, According to Tripadvisor](#)

[Highest-rated Class of 2022 Football Recruits From New York](#)

[Highest-rated Fine Dining Restaurants in New York City ... - Stacker](#)

[Highest-rated Football Recruits From New York Over the Last 20 Years](#)

[Highest-rated Golf Courses in New York, According to Tripadvisor](#)

[Highest-rated Italian Restaurants in New York City, According to ...](#)

[Highest-rated Museums in New York | Stacker](#)

[Highest-rated Pizza Restaurants in New York City, According to ...](#)

[Highest-rated Steakhouses in New York City, According to Tripadvisor](#)

[Highest-rated Things to Do in New York City, According to Tripadvisor](#)

[How Gas Prices Have Changed in New York City in the Last Week](#)

[How Gas Prices Have Changed in New York in the Last Week](#)

[How the Avian Influenza Has Impacted New York - Stacker](#)

[Lowest-earning Counties in New York - Stacker](#)

[Most Diverse Counties in New York - Stacker](#)

[Most Diverse Counties in New York - Stacker](#)

[Most Popular National Parks in America - Stacker](#)

[Most Valuable Crops Grown in New York - Stacker](#)

[Neighborhoods in Tampa With the Most Expensive Home Sales](#)

[Places With the Most Expensive Homes in Rensselaer County, NY](#)

[Recently Opened Restaurants in the White Plains Area | Stacker](#)

[Record Fish Caught in New York - Stacker](#)

[The Black Homeownership Gap in New York - Stacker](#)

[The Black Homeownership Gap in New York City - Stacker](#)

[What New York's Immigrant Population Looked Like in 1900 | Stacker](#)

[Where People in Chilliwack Are Moving to the Most - Stacker](#)

[Where People in New York City Are Moving to Most - Stacker](#)

[Where People in New York City Are Moving to Most - Stacker](#)

[Where Refugees in New York Are Arriving From | Stacker](#)

Part 2:

In my experience, I have also utilized Selenium to innovate automated scripts for manual tasks given to me as an intern. In one example, I was tasked with going into our content management system to update changes for each metro we worked with, which would have taken me hours. I decided to take a stab at writing a script for myself that would do this process for me without my intervention - humourous called "I'm not doing this manually".

```
try:
    breaklock='//*[@id="node-slideshow-edit-form"]/div[1]/div/div[2]/ul/li[2]/a'
    browser.find_element_by_xpath(breaklock).click()
    time.sleep(2)
    confirm='//*[@id="edit-submit"]'
    browser.find_element_by_xpath(confirm).click()
except:
    pass

time.sleep(1)
browser.execute_script("window.scrollTo(0, 2200)")

partner='//*[@id="edit-field-partner-0-target-id"]'
browser.find_element_by_xpath(partner).click()
browser.find_element_by_xpath(partner).send_keys('msn')
```

Here is an excerpt from that script. I shared this code with upper management and to my surprise it was a script that would continue to be used and even earned me this humbling excerpt from a recommendation for a scholarship.



██████████ 2021

To ██████████

I am writing this letter on behalf of Dexter Norales to ██████████ ██████████. Dexter has been interning as a technical analyst for our data journalism startup, Stacker, since May 2021, and has impressed the entire team with the contributions he's made throughout the summer.

Dexter has shown a remarkable ability to drive innovation within the company, creating novel ways of automation processes in his day-to-day work and then eagerly extending his expertise to the rest of the team by building tools to improve our workflows. One strong example is when Dexter was tasked with manually updating our database of editorial content. After exploring the task, he took the initiative to write a custom code that automated the process—leveraging his computer science knowledge base but then also learning new functions that he had not used before. This script has already saved us many hours of tedious work and has inspired us to use similar scripts to automate more processes. This type of project shows a bias-to-action that is extremely valuable to any team, especially a startup that requires a degree of autonomy.

Dexter's passion for learning and growing his skillset clearly extends beyond Stacker. During his time as an intern he has also spent many hours after work on his own personal projects ranging from automating tasks to launching a website. These 'hacker' side projects that demonstrate intellectual curiosity and drive are exactly what we look for when hiring candidates full time, and it will give him a competitive edge over his peers as he is gaining a lot of practical experience that can be applied to a career after college.

My time at Stacker has taught me a substantial amount of data science, but better than that it has greatly boosted my confidence to take risks and pursue more of these roles. I look forward to empowering future teams I work on.