aster*sk

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Making the world a better place, one evening at a time

- Is your evening in danger?
- Trying to catch a dinner and a movie on a tight schedule?
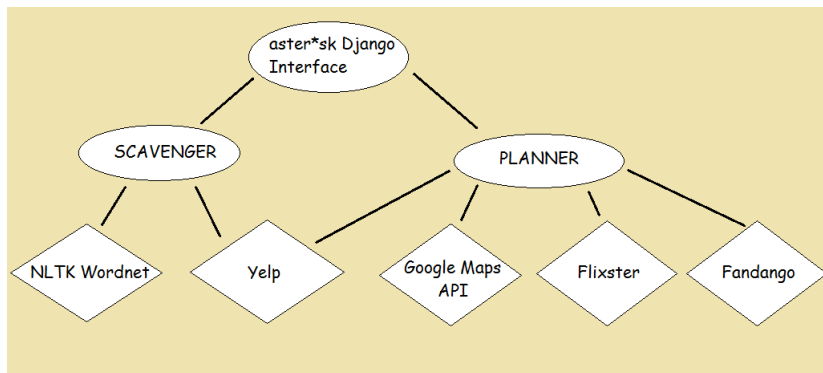- New to Hyde Park?

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- Is your evening in danger?
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- New to Hyde Park?
  - If you said yes to any two of the above, then aster*sk is for you!

What is aster*sk?

1. **(aster*sk SCAVENGER)** A way to search for restaurants based on qualitative attributes, ratings, priciness, business hours, and other parameters

2. **(aster*sk PLANNER)** A day planner that optimizes a dinner-and-a-movie itinerary

Diagram

SCAVENGER

- **S**earch **C**leaner **A**nd **V**iewer in **ENG**lish for **E**mergency **R**estaurants
- Uses scraped Yelp data and reviews to search through a database of information on Hyde Park and surrounding restaurants
- Search parameters include:
    - Price (upperbound)
    - Ratings (lower bound)
    - Business hours
    - Distance from location (upper bound)
    - Descriptive phrases from reviews

SCAVENGER Description Search

- Uses Python's Natural Language Processing Toolkit to:
  - Identify adjectives and adverbs from Yelp restaurant reviews found on the first page of Yelp's page for each restaurant
  - Create a set of synonyms for each of these words
  - Allows for a more powerful search query $\implies$ makes the world a better place

aster*sk PLANNER

- **P**lanner for **L**ooking **A**t **N**ew Ci**N**ematic **E**xperiences and **R**estaurants
- Pulls contemporaneous showtimes from theaters near any zipcode from Fandango and Flixster
- Finds restaurants and movies that fit search parameters
- Implements an algorithm that efficiently maximizes amount of time spent eating and watching movies
    - Uses Google Maps API to estimate travel times

Challenges and Surprises

- Speed of processing requests
- Formatting output on Django
- NLTK linguistic terminology

The aster*sk Team

'making the world a better place'

- Brandon D. Dixon: web scraper, PLANNER algorithm author, Google Maps API expert
- J. Kenneth Jung: NLTK expert, database compiler, web scraper, DIC (Debugger-In-Chief)
- Adam B. Sudit: Django designer, SCAVENGER algorithm author, Google Maps API expert

Demo Time!

take a r*sk...with aster*sk