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ITAI 2372 AI Apps.

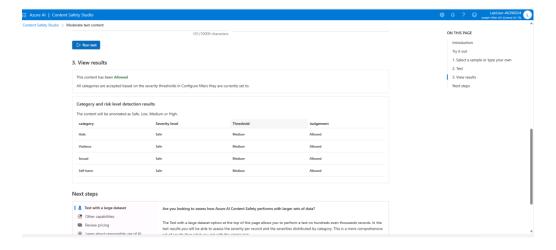
Prof. McManus

Lab L01

Reflection Journal: Exploring Azure AI Services

In this journal entry, I reflect on my experience completing an introductory lab in preparation for the Azure AI-900 certification. This lab focused on exploring the Azure AI UI, particularly practicing using the Content Safety Studio. The purpose of this entry is to reflect on my hands on experience with Azure AI tools, discuss the insights gained, and examine how these experiences have contributed to my academic and professional growth. I will explore the steps I took in the lab, the skills gained, and how this experience has shaped my new understanding of exciting AI Applications.

The lab introduced me to the Azure portal, where I went through the steps of learning to create resources, assign roles, and use the application. The specific focus in this lab was using the Content Safety Studio, a tool used for moderating text to detect harmful or inappropriate content. The lab provided a structured environment to explore different aspects of Azure's AI tools, including other studios for speech, language, vision, and machine learning, although I primarily worked with the Content Safety Studio. In the lab, I was able to test its ability to detect harmful language and categorize text based on its risk level. Through these activities, I gained a deeper understanding of the practical applications of AI in content moderation.



Initially, I was interested but also a bit intimidated when navigating the Azure portal, as it was my first time working with it. However, I quickly learned that the UI was very similar to an interface I had used in the past with AWS. I quickly found the process easy to navigate, particularly when creating resources and assigning roles. I felt like I had accomplished something as I progressed through the lab, gaining confidence in using Azure AI tools. The most fun I had was getting to test the content safety tool. I was impressed by the accuracy of the AI in detecting harmful content, particularly violent language, and categorizing it appropriately. This experience made me realize how effective AI can be in moderating digital content, which is crucial for maintaining safe online environments although I still have some concerns with how language might be interpreted depending on the context.

Analyzing the results from the AI, I found that the tool was highly accurate in identifying offensive content, but as I mentioned earlier, I also questioned its ability to understand nuanced language. For example, I wonder if the AI would have flagged some content that could have been interpreted in a "non-threatening" way depending on context. This raised questions about the limitations of AI in content moderation, particularly when it comes to understanding context and intent. I connected this experience to what I have learned about the importance of context in AI applications and my experiences in the real world. My main takeaway from this was while AI can handle large datasets and quickly flag potential issues, I still find it is limited in its ability to fully understand human communication in complex situations, based on who collected the data and how the data is interpreted.

This experience significantly contributed to my personal and academic growth. It deepened my understanding of AI and its potential applications in fields like content moderation and online safety. I developed technical skills in navigating the Azure portal, creating and managing resources, and applying AI tools to real world problems. I also gained insights into the ethical considerations of AI. In the future, I can apply these lessons in a variety of scenarios, such as working with AI systems to moderate content in educational settings. The skills I developed will also be valuable in my academic work and professional projects, particularly in fields that involve AI systems. Understanding the capabilities and limitations of AI in content moderation will allow me to design more effective and responsible AI applications in the future.

Overall, this lab experience has expanded my understanding of Azure AI and its practical applications. I gained valuable hands on experience, developed new technical skills, and

reflected on the ethical implications of using AI in real world contexts. This experience has reinforced my interest in AI and motivated me to explore more advanced AI tools in the future. I am now more confident in using Azure and other AI technologies.