

Assignment 4: Project Writeup and Reflection

Project Overview

Our project is a web application that allows a user to find the nearest MBTA stop by inputting a current location within the city of Boston. The output is pulled by accessing Google Maps Geocode and MBTA API to calculate differences in distance between two locations. From there, the stop name with the shortest distance was pulled from the output and resulted as an answer on the web application. In addition to the basic requirements, the team has improved the visuals of the web application to enhance the experience of the user. This includes a map feature to display the location of the nearest MBTA station. We hope that this provides a more detailed transfer of information to the end user and easier experience.

Project Reflection

In terms of the process, the team worked well together to complete the objectives outlined in the assignment. Each step of the process was broken down into a step by step analysis that the code successfully ran before moving onto the next step. This allows the debugging process to move slowly but continuously throughout the process. Much of the work that has been completed was learned through prior classes, so we did not struggle too much with the technical aspect. However one aspect we had to look up was how exactly to extract the data from the MBTA/Google API. For all work that was still difficult, the team consulted with online resources. We used StackedOverflow, and w3schools to do the HTML customization. One issue that we came across was failing to divide the individual functions. The entire code was ran as one function. This made the debugging process more difficult because the entire function had to be run to identify a problem. These functions were eventually broken up, which required additional time on the assignment. Another issue was the integration process between the web application and the output. One thing we wish we knew before starting was understanding the importance of breaking up functions.

The team worked closely together and collaboratively throughout the entire of the project. The workload was divided by the team's individual strengths. Each aspect was individually completed and then the team met to integrate all aspects of the assignment.

One issue that came up was integrating the output into the web application. This involved both aspects of the project to come together. The button was created and ready to go, but the team had troubles bringing the webpage to to the output page. Times like this required the entire team to come together and form a collective unit to solve any problems. One thing we would do differently is to have more working sessions as a team so we all could learn from each others' logics and skills.