

Department of Artificial Intelligence

22AIE201: FUNDAMENTALS OF AI

Project Report

PERSONAL FINANCE ADVISORY

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that we, the students of Amrita School of Artificial Intelligence, has completed the "Personal Finance Advisory" as part of our Fundametals of AI project.

The project work was carried out under the guidance and supervision of Mr Prajeesh C B, Assistant Professor, Amrita School of Artificial Intelligence, Coimbatore. To the best of our knowledge this work has not formed the basis for the aware of any degree/diploma/ associate ship/fellowship/ or a similar award to any candidate in any University.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title	Page No
ABSTRACT	5
INTRODUCTION	6
LITERATURE REVIEW	7-9
OBJECTIVES	9
SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION	10-11
1. Frontend Interface (User Interaction Layer)	10
2. Data Management and Storage	10
3. AI-Driven Advisory System (LLaMA Model Integration)	10
4. Privacy and Security Considerations	11
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	12-14
FUTURE WORK	15
CONCLUSION	16
REFERENCES	17

ABSTRACT

This project introduces a Personal Finance Advisory application powered by a finetuned Large Language Model (LLM) to offer tailored financial insights and management tools for individual users. Implemented as a user-friendly web application with Streamlit, the platform is structured around three main modules: Cash Flow Tracking, Tax Planning Assistance, and Investment Advice.

In the Cash Flow Tracking module, users can log and categorize their income and expenses, which are stored in a CSV file for easy access and monthly summaries. This module supports detailed financial monitoring, allowing users to track spending habits and income sources with immediate visual feedback on the current month's cash flow. The Tax Planning module allows users to input their annual income, additional income sources, and relevant deductions such as medical expenses, mortgage interest, and charitable contributions. With these inputs, the application uses the LLaMA model to generate personalized tax advice based on the user's unique financial situation and queries, enhancing the relevance and usability of tax planning guidance.

For long-term financial growth, the Investment Advice module enables users to define their risk tolerance, investment horizon, and goals (e.g., retirement or purchasing a home). Based on this information, the LLM generates individualized investment strategies to align with user preferences. The integration with LLaMA enhances each module by interpreting user input and crafting contextually relevant financial advice, making the tool interactive and adaptable to a broad range of financial scenarios.

This application stands out for its seamless combination of financial record-keeping, tax and investment advisory, and AI-driven insights, delivering a comprehensive personal finance management experience. By automating financial guidance through advanced language model capabilities, this project provides users with accessible, intelligent, and actionable support for informed financial decision-making.

INTRODUCTION

In an increasingly complex financial landscape, individuals are faced with an overwhelming array of financial decisions. From managing monthly budgets and tracking expenses to optimizing tax savings and planning long-term investments, effective personal finance management has become a necessity for achieving financial security and meeting future goals. However, with rising costs of living, fluctuating economic conditions, and the need for informed financial planning, many individuals struggle to access personalized and affordable financial advice.

Traditional financial advisory services, while valuable, are often inaccessible due to high costs, limited availability, and a lack of personalization for individuals with specific financial needs. Moreover, for those new to financial planning, the complexity of managing cash flow, taxes, and investments independently can lead to suboptimal decisions, financial stress, and missed opportunities for growth. As a result, there is a growing demand for accessible, user-friendly tools that empower individuals to take control of their financial well-being with confidence and convenience.

Advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and natural language processing (NLP) offer a promising solution to these challenges. By leveraging AI-driven advisory systems, individuals can receive personalized, real-time financial guidance without the barriers associated with traditional services. Large Language Models (LLMs), such as LLaMA, have shown the ability to interpret and respond to diverse, nuanced queries, making them well-suited for personal finance applications. These models can analyze user inputs, understand specific financial contexts, and provide contextually relevant advice, delivering an interactive and adaptive experience that caters to each user's unique financial circumstances.

This project introduces a Personal Finance Advisory application that harnesses the power of a fine-tuned LLM to offer personalized financial insights across three crucial areas: cash flow management, tax planning, and investment advice. Built on a web-based platform using Streamlit, the application allows users to track income and expenses, receive tailored tax-saving suggestions, and plan for their future with customized investment strategies. The integration of AI-driven financial guidance ensures that users not only have access to practical tools for tracking and managing their finances but also receive contextual advice based on their specific inputs, from budgeting and tax filing to selecting investment goals.

By democratizing access to financial guidance through AI, this application aims to empower users to make more informed financial decisions, reduce financial stress, and achieve greater financial independence. The project highlights the transformative potential of AI in personal finance and the role of technology in making financial advisory services more accessible, adaptive, and effective for a diverse range of individuals worldwide.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful tool in personal finance management, enabling applications that offer personalized, data-driven insights to help users make better financial decisions. Research in this area highlights advancements in AI models and machine learning, particularly in tasks such as budgeting, tax planning, and investment guidance.

The study "Personal Financial Management: The Role of Technology in Transforming Financial Literacy and Decision Making" [1] discusses how digital tools are transforming personal finance by providing accessible resources for improving financial literacy and decision-making. This research emphasizes the need for personalized financial advice that traditional financial advisory services often cannot provide due to cost and accessibility barriers. By leveraging technology, AI applications can address these gaps, offering users tailored guidance and real-time decision support.

In the paper "Applications of Machine Learning in Personal Finance: A Survey" [2], the authors explore the various ways machine learning is applied in personal finance, from credit scoring to budget tracking and automated expense categorization. This survey outlines the role of machine learning algorithms in detecting spending patterns and forecasting financial needs, which are crucial for personalized advisory systems. The study also highlights the importance of supervised learning models in enhancing financial accessibility, especially for individuals who may lack advanced financial knowledge or resources for traditional advisory services.

A significant breakthrough in personalized financial advisory systems has come from the integration of Large Language Models (LLMs), as discussed in "Leveraging Large Language Models for Contextual Financial Advice" [3]. This paper examines how LLMs like GPT and LLaMA can be fine-tuned to provide customized responses based on individual user queries. The research reveals that these models excel in understanding complex financial prompts and delivering relevant advice for areas such as tax planning, cash flow management, and investment strategy. The study concludes that LLMs are well-suited for personalized finance advisory applications due to their ability to adapt responses to various financial scenarios and goals.

The paper "Natural Language Processing in Financial Applications: Taxonomy, Challenges, and Open Issues" [4] addresses the growing role of Natural Language Processing (NLP) in finance, particularly for applications that require interpreting unstructured data and providing automated, context-aware guidance. This study categorizes different financial NLP tasks, such as sentiment analysis for market predictions and user-specific advisory. It also notes the challenges inherent in applying NLP models to finance, such as the need for accurate context understanding to prevent generic or misleading responses, underscoring the value of models fine-tuned specifically for finance applications.

To support the rapid development of such applications, "Streamlit for Rapid Development of Financial Advisory Tools" [5] explores how Streamlit, an open-source framework, can be effectively used to create interactive financial applications. This paper provides insights into building accessible, user-friendly interfaces for finance advisory tools and shows how Streamlit's simplicity enhances user engagement by making complex financial data more understandable and actionable.

Addressing data privacy concerns, the study "Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning for Financial Data: Challenges and Solutions" [7] investigates privacy-preserving methods, such as differential privacy and federated learning, for sensitive financial data. Given the confidential nature of personal financial information, this paper highlights the importance of secure data handling, particularly in AI-driven finance applications that involve user-specific advisory services. The authors emphasize that privacy-preserving techniques are essential for building user trust in AI-based financial tools.

Collectively, these studies emphasize the potential of AI in transforming personal finance advisory services by making them more accessible, personalized, and secure. Machine learning and NLP advancements are driving the development of advisory systems that cater to individual needs while preserving data privacy. By incorporating technologies such as LLMs and privacy-preserving methods, AI-powered financial advisory tools can bridge the gap in access to financial guidance, democratizing financial literacy and empowering users to make informed financial decisions.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this project is to develop a user-friendly, web-based financial management tool that simplifies personal finance tracking for individuals. Through an intuitive interface, the application enables users to log and monitor income, expenses, and cash flow, helping them gain a clearer picture of their financial standing. By making financial tracking straightforward and accessible, this tool supports users in maintaining a balanced budget and managing their personal finances effectively.

A key feature of this project is the integration of a fine-tuned Large Language Model (LLM) to provide personalized financial guidance. This AI-driven approach allows the application to cater to the unique financial circumstances of each user, delivering customized advice in three main areas: cash flow management, tax planning, and investment strategy. By leveraging the contextual understanding capabilities of the LLM, the application tailors recommendations to individual user inputs, offering highly relevant insights that traditional financial tools often cannot provide.

In addition to cash flow management, the application aims to simplify tax planning. Users can enter tax-related details, such as income sources, deductions, and filing status, to receive AI-generated tax-saving recommendations. This feature addresses the complexities of tax optimization, offering personalized suggestions that help users make informed decisions about their taxes. The tax planning assistance module thus reduces the stress and guesswork associated with filing taxes, especially for users who may lack access to professional tax advisory services.

Investment advice is another critical component of this project. By gathering information on each user's risk tolerance, investment horizon, and financial goals, the application generates tailored investment strategies. The LLM interprets these inputs to deliver recommendations aligned with each user's long-term financial objectives, making it easier for users to develop investment plans that suit their personal preferences. This AI-powered investment advisory feature empowers users to make confident investment decisions that support their financial goals.

Making financial advisory services accessible and personalized is a fundamental goal of this project. AI-driven tools allow for a level of customization that is typically unavailable to individuals without the resources for traditional financial advisors. By democratizing access to personalized financial advice, this application helps bridge the gap for those seeking affordable, user-specific financial guidance.

Security and privacy are also essential considerations in this project. Given the sensitive nature of financial data, the application is designed with robust data protection practices. By focusing on privacy-preserving techniques, the project ensures that user information is handled securely, fostering trust and confidentiality in all interactions with the AI model.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. Frontend Interface (User Interaction Layer)

The frontend of the application is developed using Streamlit, an open-source framework for building data-centric web applications. Streamlit's simplicity and real-time updating capabilities make it ideal for creating interactive, user-friendly interfaces. The interface is divided into three main sections or tabs, each focusing on a key financial area:

- Cash Flow Tracking: Allows users to log and categorize income and expenses, presenting a monthly financial summary.
- Tax Planning Assistance: Gathers tax-related details such as income, deductions, and filing status, generating tailored tax-saving recommendations.
- Investment Advice: Collects user inputs on risk tolerance, financial goals, and time horizon, offering customized investment strategies.

Each tab contains interactive elements, such as sliders, buttons, and dropdowns, allowing users to input data and view immediate responses from the application. This modular interface enables users to navigate different financial features seamlessly, making the application intuitive and easy to use.

2. Data Management and Storage

The application uses a local CSV file (cash_flow.csv) for storing financial data, including income and expense records. This file-based storage system is lightweight and simple, allowing for efficient data logging and retrieval. Each transaction record includes fields such as:

- Amount: The value of the income or expense.
- Date: The transaction date.
- Category: Type of transaction (e.g., salary, food, travel).
- Flow Type: Indicates if the entry is an income or expense.
- Description: Additional details provided by the user.

Using the Pandas library, the application reads and writes data to this file, enabling users to filter and view cash flow summaries for the current month. While suitable for personal use, this file-based storage can be upgraded to a relational database (e.g., PostgreSQL) for better scalability, multi-user support, and advanced querying in future versions.

3. AI-Driven Advisory System (LLaMA Model Integration)

The core of the application's advisory functionality is powered by a fine-tuned LLaMA 3.2 model with 3 billion parameters. This AI model is trained to generate contextually relevant financial advice based on user inputs, allowing the application to deliver personalized responses in natural language. The LLaMA model is fine-tuned on a curated dataset that includes financial topics, covering areas such as tax advice, cash flow management, and investment strategies.

Model Fine-Tuning and Optimization

- Data Preparation: The model is fine-tuned using a dataset that includes financial scenarios, questions, and recommendations relevant to personal finance. This dataset allows the model to interpret prompts and provide appropriate advice tailored to each module's focus.
- Parameter Optimization: With 3 billion parameters, the LLaMA model achieves a balance between accuracy and computational efficiency, making it suitable for real-time responses in an interactive application.

Prompt Generation and Response Handling

- Each module generates prompts based on user inputs. For example, the Tax Planning Assistance module formulates prompts based on income, deductions, and filing status, enabling the model to generate context-specific tax recommendations.
- The generate_response function sends prompts to the LLaMA model through subprocess calls, returning JSON-formatted responses that the application parses and displays to the user. This setup allows the model's advisory output to be structured, clear, and easy to understand.

4. Privacy and Security Considerations

• Given the sensitivity of financial data, privacy and security are essential. Currently, data is stored locally, ensuring that user information remains private. However, if the application transitions to a cloud environment, additional security measures such as encryption and privacy-preserving techniques (e.g., differential privacy) will be necessary to protect user data. These measures would ensure compliance with privacy standards, securing the system for broader and more flexible usage.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The Personal Finance Advisory application demonstrates significant potential in providing personalized, AI-driven financial guidance. By integrating a fine-tuned LLaMA 3.2 model with a user-friendly Streamlit interface, the system offers tailored recommendations in cash flow management, tax planning, and investment advice.

Cash Flow Tracking: The module enables users to log and categorize income and expenses, providing an accurate monthly summary using CSV-based storage. While this method works well for local use, it may need adaptation for scalability if applied to larger datasets or extended use.

Tax Planning Assistance: The tax module offers tailored suggestions based on user inputs, like income and deductions, which users found helpful for tax optimization. However, handling highly specific tax queries highlighted some limitations in the dataset; adding more varied tax scenarios during fine-tuning could increase response accuracy.

Investment Advice: The model generates investment recommendations based on user-defined risk tolerance, goals, and time horizon. While valuable, some recommendations were general for advanced investment scenarios, suggesting a need for more targeted fine-tuning to address complex financial needs.

Model Performance: The LLaMA model performed well, generating relevant and context-aware responses across different financial prompts. Its 3 billion parameters achieved a balance between computational efficiency and precision, although further fine-tuning with specialized financial data could improve depth in complex cases.

Privacy and Security: The application currently stores data locally, which ensures user privacy. If scaled to a cloud-based platform, additional security measures like encryption and differential privacy would be necessary to protect user data.

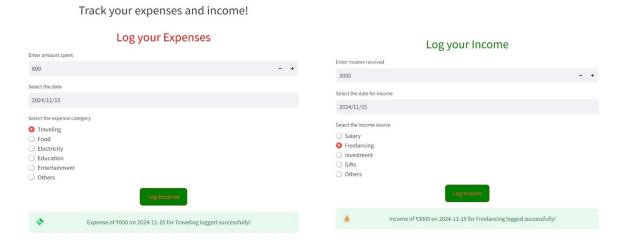


Fig 1. Expenses Login

Fig 2. Income Login

Current Month's Cash Flow

	Amount	Date	Category	Flow Type	Description
4	1,000	2024-11-10 00:00:00	Salary	Income	None
5	12,498	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Education	Expense	None
6	5,000	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Investment	Income	None
7	1,500	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Education	Expense	None
8	9,000	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Freelancing	Income	None
9	14,000	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Education	Expense	None
10	5,555	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Investment	Income	None
11	800	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Traveling	Expense	None
12	3,000	2024-11-15 00:00:00	Freelancing	Income	None

Fig 3. Current Month's Cash Flow

Get assistance with your tax planning!

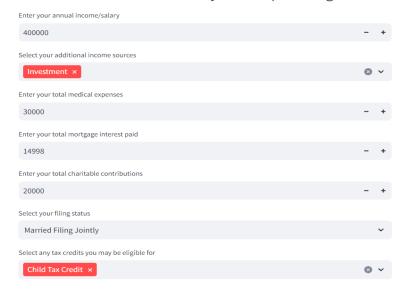


Fig 4. Tax Planning

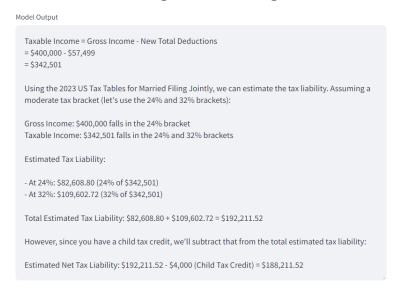


Fig 5. Tax planning advice from the model

Get personalized investment advice!

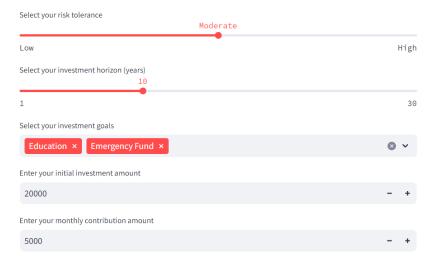


Fig 6. Investment Advice

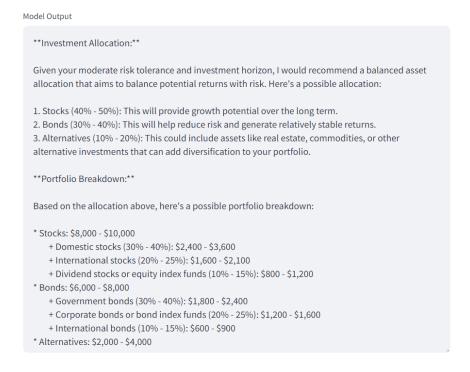


Fig 7. Investment advice from the model

FUTURE WORK

The Personal Finance Advisory application can be enhanced by further fine-tuning the LLaMA model with a broader dataset, covering advanced tax and investment scenarios to improve the accuracy and relevance of its financial advice. This would allow the model to cater to a wider variety of user needs, particularly for those seeking detailed guidance in complex financial situations, making the tool more adaptable and responsive to nuanced queries.

Upgrading the data storage system from CSV to a database like PostgreSQL would support larger datasets and provide faster data access. This transition would also enable future features like multi-user support and advanced filtering, enhancing the system's scalability and usability over extended use. For users managing finances over time, a database system would also facilitate historical data analysis, providing richer insights into financial patterns.

Data privacy will be a key consideration, especially if the application is moved to a cloud-based environment. Implementing security measures such as encryption and differential privacy will ensure that user data remains protected, fostering trust and compliance with privacy standards. Such privacy-preserving methods will be essential as the system scales or incorporates more personal data.

Additional financial visualizations, such as trend analysis and budget adherence tracking, could help users better understand their financial behaviors over time. Expanding the application with new modules for retirement planning, debt management, and even savings goals would make it a more comprehensive financial tool, offering tailored advice across a broad spectrum of personal finance areas.

The application's accessibility and usability could be further improved by optimizing the interface for mobile compatibility, allowing users to interact with their financial data seamlessly on-the-go. Incorporating personalized user profiles would also allow the application to adapt responses based on each user's financial history and goals, enhancing the personalization and effectiveness of the advice provided. Finally, integrating external financial APIs for real-time data, such as market and bank updates, would ensure the advisory responses remain accurate and current, making the application a dynamic and responsive tool for personal finance management.

CONCLUSION

The Personal Finance Advisory application illustrates the powerful potential of AI-driven solutions for personalized financial guidance. By combining a fine-tuned LLaMA 3.2 model with an intuitive Streamlit interface, the application offers users tailored advice in cash flow tracking, tax planning, and investment guidance. This project effectively addresses the growing need for accessible, data-driven financial tools, allowing users to manage and optimize their finances in a straightforward and engaging way.

The project achieved its primary objectives, but also reveals significant opportunities for enhancement. The LLaMA model performed well in generating contextually relevant advice, but further fine-tuning with a broader dataset covering complex financial topics could enhance its adaptability to a wider range of user queries. Transitioning from CSV to a robust database would also improve data management and scalability, while adding advanced security features such as encryption and differential privacy will be essential as the application moves toward a cloud-based, multi-user environment.

Additional improvements like enhanced financial visualizations, expanded modules for retirement and debt planning, and optimized mobile compatibility would deepen the application's impact, making it an even more versatile and comprehensive tool. Integrating real-time data sources via financial APIs could also keep the advisory insights current, providing users with up-to-date information for more effective decision-making.

In summary, this application represents a significant advancement toward democratizing access to personalized financial advisory services. With further development, it has the potential to become a robust, secure, and adaptive tool that empowers users to make informed financial decisions confidently and efficiently, marking a meaningful contribution to the field of personal finance management.

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