Citizen AI – Intelligent Citizen Engagement Platform

Project Documentation

Introduction

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Project overview:

This project is an Al-powered assistant that provides both city analysis and citizen service support through a simple web-based interface. It is designed to help users gain insights into the safety conditions of cities by generating detailed reports on crime index, accident rates, and overall safety. At the same time, it functions as a government-style assistant that answers queries related to public services, policies, and civic issues in a clear and official tone. The system takes user input in the form of a city name or a citizen query, processes it using a large language model, and produces structured, informative responses that are easy to understand. The interactive application is built to be user-friendly and accessible, making it useful for citizens, travelers, policymakers, and government agencies alike. In the future, the project can be enhanced with real-time data integration, multilingual support, and voice-based interaction to make it more practical and widely applicable.

Architecture:

The new architecture would be broken down into four main layers:

Front-end (Streamlit):

A user-facing web application built with Streamlit. Unlike Gradio, which is excellent for quick demos, Streamlit is better suited for building more polished, feature-rich dashboards and applications. It will handle the user interface for both the city analysis and citizen services functions, sending requests to the backend API.

Back-end (FastAPI):

A high-performance, asynchronous API built with FastAPI. This will be the central hub that receives requests from the front-end. It'll contain all the business logic, including the LLM integration, data processing, and communication with other services. FastAPI's built-in automatic documentation with OpenAPI (Swagger UI) is a huge advantage for development and testing.

LLM Integration Layer:

This layer is managed by the FastAPI backend. It's responsible for interacting with the language model.

IBM watsonx Granite: This is the core LLM that powers the application. The backend will use the Hugging Face transformers library to load and run this model, similar to the original code. For production, you could consider using IBM's official watsonx-python-sdk for a more stable and enterprise-grade connection.

Data & ML Layer:

This layer contains the services for data retrieval and specialized machine learning tasks. Vector Search (Pinecone): To improve the accuracy and relevance of the LLM's responses, especially for specific, up-to-date information, you can implement a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) system. A vector database like Pinecone would store embeddings of a knowledge base (e.g., city crime reports, government documents). When a user asks a question, the system retrieves relevant documents from Pinecone and provides them to the LLM as context, reducing "hallucinations."

ML Modules (Forecasting & Anomaly Detection): These modules would be separate services within the backend. They could use

pre-trained models or be trained on relevant data. For example, they could analyze historical crime data to forecast future trends or detect anomalous spikes in accidents. Common algorithms for these tasks include ARIMA for time series forecasting and Isolation Forest or One-Class SVM for anomaly detection.

Setup Instructions Prerequisites

Python 3.8+
pip package installer
Access to an IBM watsonx account (or Hugging Face hub for the open model)
A Pinecone API key and environmen

Installation Process Clone the Repository Set up Virtual Environment

Install Dependencies: Create a requirements.txt file in the root directory and install everything

Folder Structure

A well-organized structure is crucial for a multi-layered application.

Running the Application

Backend: Navigate to the backend directory and run the FastAPI server using uvicorn

Frontend: Open a new terminal, navigate to the frontend directory, and run the Streamlit app streamlit run app.py .This will launch the Streamlit app in your web browser, which will make requests to the running FastAPI server.

API Documentation

FastAPI automatically generates interactive API documentation. Once the backend server is running, you can access the OpenAPI documentation at Swagger UI: http://127.0.0.1:8000/docs

Redoc: http://127.0.0.1:8000/redoc

Authentication

For a production environment, you should implement user authentication to secure the API endpoints. A common and secure method with FastAPI is using OAuth2 with JWT (JSON Web Tokens). This would involve:

A user logs in with a username/password, and the backend validates their credentials.

Upon successful validation, the backend generates and returns a JWT.

For subsequent requests, the user's front-end sends the JWT in the

Authorization header.

FastAPI's security dependencies can then automatically validate this token for protected routes.

User Interface

The Streamlit front-end will mirror the original Gradio app's functionality but with a more polished look. It'll use a sidebar for navigation between the "City Analysis" and "Citizen Services" pages. Users can input data, see progress indicators, and view the Al-generated responses in styled text boxes.

Testing

Unit Tests: Use pytest to test individual functions, such as the generate response helper or the functions that interact with Pinecone.

Integration Tests: Test the API endpoints to ensure they correctly handle requests and return the expected responses, including proper error handling for invalid inputs or authentication failures.

Known Issues

LLM Hallucinations: Despite the RAG setup, the LLM may still generate factually incorrect information. This is an inherent risk of current LLMs.

Performance: Loading a 2B-parameter model into memory can be slow and resource-intensive, especially on CPU. This can be mitigated with quantizing the model, or using GPUs. API Latency: The time taken for the LLM to generate a response can lead to high latency.

Future Enhancements

Real-time Data Integration: Connect the backend to real-time data sources (e.g., public crime APIs, traffic data) to provide up-to-the-minute information.

Chat History: Implement a chat feature that maintains context for a more conversational experience in the "Citizen Services" tab. This would involve a session management system.

User Feedback Loop: Add a feature where users can rate the quality of the Al's response (e.g., thumbs up/down). This data can be used to fine-tune the model or improve the prompting strategy over time.

Advanced ML Modules: Integrate more complex ML models, like time-series models for forecasting crime rates or deep learning models for detecting specific anomalies in traffic patterns.

OUTPUT:





