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Project Proposal Peer Review 1

News Me Review:

I think limiting the scope of news to compile to a very specific subject matter is a good idea, and will lead to the greatest amount of subject specific assumptions. I still have a few questions about the project outline (we discussed many of these topics in our last meeting, and I'm curious to see what direction you've chosen).

1. How are you planning on delivering your compiled news? Do you intend to have an automated account that posts to each user on schedule intervals/triggered by specified events? Are you going to create your own site to host compiled news for each user?
2. How are you going to compile the news? Will your program consider both text and images? In the example you gave it is possible to find the differences in image content, and provide the additional images that were not shared in the official announcement, will text compilation follow a similar procedure? Will there be a similarity threshold to ensure the same content posted by different users is processed to remove duplicate content?
3. What are the topic selectors going to be? In your proposal you mention several animated series, a couple of manufacturers/liscencers, and some reputable reviewers; do you intend to add any other selectors?

Daily Calories Calculator Review:

Most food nutrition apps, services, and APIs utilize the same database. ALthough the front ends look different, just about every option you'll find uses the Food Nutrition Database for Dietary Studies (FNDDS) which is regularly updated with all generic and branded food items sold in North America and Europe. This database is very extensive and has been expertly maintained by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). You can register for a free API key at data.gov to access the APIs for this database, or you can download the data and create your own host+query system.

Here's a link for more information:

<https://data.nal.usda.gov/dataset/food-and-nutrient-database-dietary-studies-fndds#:~:text=USDA's%20Food%20and%20Nutrient%20Database,to%20determine%20their%20nutrient%20values.>

Although this database is sponsored by US government organizations, it is the international standard for research involving human dietetics. Since it's fast to query, free, and extensive, I highly recommend using it.

Furthermore some of your design challenges are already solved by FNDDS. As an example, FNDDS has different entries for different preparation of the same food item. Using your example of potatoes, it not only has entries for the differences in mass vs volume of mashed and cubed

potatoes, it also has different nutrient values based on whether the potatoes were cooked in water, oil, or brine. Additionally, FNDDS provides data for customary, metric, and branded serving units, so you can easily query for common intake amounts without further processing.

Beyond the task of calculating the nutritional content of daily food intake, you mention ideas for recommending what quantities of macronutrients should be consumed. This problem may require the user to input some additional personal information beyond age, sex, and activity level. For instance, the Recommended Daily Intake (RDI) that is typically calculated from age/sex/activity is the intake for maintaining body mass without. In other words, people recovering from injury, athletes looking to gain muscle mass, pregnant/nursing mothers, or those with hyperthyroidism will be recommended a lower intake than what they actually need. Asking people about disability status, athletic goals, pregnancy/maternal status, and thyroid conditions is very personal, and you may get resistance from the user. It's important to remember that RDI was developed as a way to inspire healthier eating habits by informing the consumer of how much of each macronutrient is consumed by a particular product. RDI was never intended to be a prescription for intake, it's a warning against overconsumption, and a simple comparator to be applied against different food options.

For more information, you may want to speak with a registered dietitian. NOTE: the term "Nutritionist" has no standardized meaning, and does not indicate any level of education or experience. The title awarded by official medical committees and state regulators to medical professionals with education and professional experience in human dietetics and public health is "Dietitian". In short a "Nutritionist" has no credentials or certifications, a "Dietitian" is a state and board certified medical professional and public health specialist. If you choose to interview a professional, find yourself a dietitian.