Team name: IDK

Team members: Ming Feng Chua, Rena Pei Qi Chong, Yingxuan Wu, Kevin Li
Date: 02/24/23

This journal has to be uploaded to 1) a **dropbox folder** (**https://www.dropbox.com/request/oMzqzRNvauGRuF97kjyh**). **AND** 2) posted to your project website every two weeks by 11:59 pm on the second Friday (except the spring break). When uploading to the dropbox folder, change the file name to "Team_name_MM-DD-2023" where MM = month and DD= day of upload).

Team roles for this report (write down name):

Facilitator(s): Ming Feng Chua, Rena Pei Qi Chong

Recorder(s): Ming Feng Chua, Rena Pei Qi Chong, Yingxuan Wu, Zijun Li

Deliverer(s): Rena Pei Qi Chong

Planner(s): Ming Feng Chua, Rena Pei Qi Chong

Team Contact: Ming Feng Chua

See last page for description of roles. Obviously one person can take more than one role or there can be more than one person per role or make your own roles!

0. **Describe briefly what the main goal of your team is (so the peer reviewer has some context). E.g. we are working on image classification for blah de blah. Our goal is blah de blah etc. In the initial part of the semester before your proposal it is ok to put down "we are still coming up with ideas on team project".**

We had our first meeting to shortlist and finalize our topic for our project. Some topics we have shortlisted are hand/action recognition, recommendation system (for movies, songs etc.), image classification and sentiment analysis. We have chosen a movie recommendation system for our final topic. Currently, we do not have any concrete plans for the project workflow, but we have decided that we will be working towards a content-based recommendation system.

I. **What was done during the report period regarding the project:** If you want to include code include this in the Appendix. Describe what the group did (including contributions of individual team members) with regards to the group project during this report period. Give enough details so I understand what you folks have been doing over the week. Include dates of your meeting(s) and who met on these days.

Items:

1. We re-organized our website with a new GitHub page template, by adding new functionalities and sections.
2. Created a GitHub repository to track each member's code contributions to the project and for ease of collaboration between team members.
3. Rena organized a meeting to finalize the project topic and discuss potential problems we anticipate facing.
4. Researched on potential project topics and potential problems we might face considering our schedules and commitments, through research articles and videos.
5. Collated potential datasets to do exploratory analysis and training of the ML model. Research articles were also gathered to further our understanding of the underlying ML models behind recommendation systems and how our knowledge from the course can complement this project.
6. Ming Feng gave a crash course on collaboration and source control using Git, GitHub and Visual Studio Code.
7. Delegated sections of report to team members.

II. **What were obstacles faced if any in working on the project?** This could be technical (like not being able to implement or understand particular techniques) or time issues (midterms for other courses etc).

For our project, we will be using python to build the recommendation system. Some of us do not have as much proficiency in Python, which would be an obstacle for us when working on the project. Additionally, some of us do not have much experience in using Github, which was difficult for us when starting out as we are using Github as the main mode of collaboration and source control.

None of our group members have any experience in building a website, thus we took some time to get a base template up and edit the site to suit our project. Lastly, given the little experience that most of us have in machine learning, it was difficult for us to decide on a topic since we are unsure of the requirements and difficulties for each project.

III. **What is the plan for the next reporting period including what each team member is planning to work on. Describe goals and potential timelines (" I plan to finish understanding x to see if it can be implemented for our project by Wednesday etc".)**

The next submission will be for the project proposal. We will be working on the project proposal and start work on the project.

What each team member will be working on:

Rena: I plan to source for more datasets (currently have found 1 source) and explore the dataset to see its suitability for our project. Once that dataset is finalized, I can start on data preprocessing. I also plan to research more on implementing the movie recommendation system before the project proposal deadline so that we can have a rough project pipeline.

Ming Feng: I plan to collate more datasets and begin exploratory data analysis. I also plan on reading more research papers on popular recommendation systems such as Netflix's own recommender system, to see how our knowledge from this course can help to complement and aid in our understanding of the ML models behind the algorithms. I also plan on improving the aesthetics and adding functionalities to our group's website.

Yingxuan: I plan to improve my Python proficiency by practicing coding in the next session and learn more about the strategy behind currently existing recommendation systems for popular streaming media, also look for more potential data sources and develop a general idea of how the project will proceed.

Zijun: I plan to recap my Python and learn about packages for recommendation systems over the next week. I can discuss with teammates about datasets they collected and project an outline for the programming parts. Also, I would check if there are similar projects from previous semesters and compare them to my thoughts.

While in the biweekly document above you will describe what your team did with regards to the team project (with proper attributions of who did what in the week) there are 4 pre-defined roles. I urge you to have different people do these jobs every week so that you gain experience in each of the jobs. There can also be more than one person per job for example 2 people recording the weekly journal.

Facilitator: Manages the group for this week including setting up times for group members to meet, making sure everyone has a say in the meetings etc.

Recorder: Person in charge of recording the meetings as well as the happenings of the past two weeks and describing what was accomplished in the meeting and writing up this report.

Deliverer: Person in charge of checking the entire report and uploading the file to dropbox folder and project website, as well as the representative of the group getting in touch with the instructor.

Planner: Person in charge of what will be happening next two weeks as well as thinking about longer term goals (what more needs to be done for the project).

Team contact: Person I can email if I see any issues in the biweekly report instead of mass spamming everyone in the team.