a1_make_7_reddit_posts

January 20, 2024

1 Programming Assignment 1: Make 7 Reddit Posts

In this assignment, you will modify this program to post at least 7 reddit posts (no more than 15). Then you will answer some reflection questions on your bot.

We suggest that while you are working on it and testing it out, you use fake_praw so it doesn't post on actual reddit. When you are done, you can try running it on your real reddit account, but you might just get rate limit errors. You can just run in with fake_praw and we'll be able to see what your bot would have posted to reddit if reddit didn't block you.

When you are done, you will need to download this file or a pdf version (file menu -> download) and turn it in on Canvas.

1.1 Code to make your posts

1.1.1 step 1: load praw code

```
[6]: # Load some code called "praw" that will help us work with reddit
     import praw
```

1.1.2 (optional) step 1b: make a fake praw connection with the fake_praw library

For testing purposes, we've added this line of code, which loads a fake version of praw, so it wont actually connect to reddit. **If you want to try to actually connect to reddit, don't run this line of code.**

```
[ ]: %run fake_apis/fake_praw.ipynb
```

```
<IPython.core.display.HTML object>
```

1.1.3 step 2: load your developer access passwords

To use this on your real Reddit account, copy your developer access passwords into the reddit_keys.py file.

```
[7]: %run reddit_keys.py
```

1.1.4 step 4: give praw (or fake_praw) your developer access passwords

```
[8]: # Give the praw code your reddit account info so
     # it can perform reddit actions
     reddit = praw.Reddit(
         username=username, password=password,
         client_id=client_id, client_secret=client_secret,
         user_agent="a custom python script for user /" + str(username)
     )
```

Version 7.7.0 of praw is outdated. Version 7.7.1 was released Tuesday July 11, 2023.

1.1.5 step 4: submit 7 reddit posts

This is where you will have to modify the code to:

Post 7 times to reddit - Using the sleep() function at least two times - Save at least one piece of text in a variable and use it for making a post

You bot must **NOT**: - Interact with other users or normal subreddits (e.g., post in /r/science, tag other users, etc.) - Post more than 15 times

```
[11]: # Post a reddit post
      from time import sleep
      reddit.subreddit(
          "info_103_sp23"
      ).submit(
          "The first post",
          selftext = "the first content"
      )
      sleep(60)
      variable = "The second post"
      variable_content = "the second content"
      reddit.subreddit(
          "info_103_sp23"
      ).submit(
          variable,
          selftext = variable_content
      )
      sleep(60)
      variable = "The third post"
      variable_content = "the third content"
      reddit.subreddit(
          "info_103_sp23"
      ).submit(
          variable,
          selftext = variable_content
      )
```

```
sleep(60)
variable = "The fourth post"
variable_content = "the fourth content"
reddit.subreddit(
    "info_103_sp23"
).submit(
    variable,
    selftext = variable_content
)
sleep(60)
variable = "The fifth post"
variable_content = "the fifth content"
reddit.subreddit(
    "info_103_sp23"
).submit(
    variable,
    selftext = variable_content
)
sleep(60)
variable = "The sixth post"
variable_content = "the sixth content"
reddit.subreddit(
    "info_103_sp23"
).submit(
    variable,
    selftext = variable_content
)
sleep(60)
variable = "The seventh post"
variable_content = "the seventh content"
reddit.subreddit(
    "info_103_sp23"
).submit(
    variable,
    selftext = variable_content
)
# TODO: modify this code to post 7 times, using the sleep() function
# at least two times and using a variable at least once
```

[11]: Submission(id='19adgee')

1.2 Reflection Questions

You must also write answers to the following questions Note: You can double click on these blocks of text to edit them

What is the name of your reddit account so we can see the posts? Or what error message did you get when trying to make the posts? (you still get full credit even if you couldn't get it to post for

real)

TODO: Put reddit account name (or error message) here YolandaMeng1

If your reddit account wasn't labeled as a bot, how do you think people would perceive those posts? (write at least 3 sentences)

TODO: Write at least 3 sentences here If my reddit account wasn't labeled as a bot, people might perceive the posts as typical contributions from a human user. The content and style of the responses closely mimic natural language patterns, and interactions would likely be viewed as regular conversations rather than automated responses. The absence of a bot label would contribute to a seamless integration within the reddit community, allowing for more authentic and relatable interactions. Users might not immediately recognize the automated nature, fostering a sense of engagement and connection.

If people saw those posts and then later discovered that they were posted by a computer program, how do you think their view of the posts would change? (write at least 3 sentences)

TODO: Write at least 3 sentences here Upon discovering that the posts were generated by a computer program, users might experience a shift in perception. Initially perceived as authentic contributions from a human, the revelation of automated generation could evoke surprise or curiosity. Some might appreciate the capabilities of the AI program, recognizing its ability to emulate human-like responses effectively. Others, however, might feel a sense of skepticism or concern regarding the implications of automated content in online discussions, leading to a more critical evaluation of the posts.

Pick two ethics frameworks and compare how they might evaluate your bot (or a similar one with more benevolent or malevalent purposes)? (write at least 6 sentences)

TODO: Write at least 6 sentences here Two ethics frameworks that can be applied to evaluate the bot's actions are consequentialism and deontology. From a consequentialist perspective, the evaluation would be based on the outcomes of the bot's actions. If the bot serves benevolent purposes, such as providing helpful information or positive engagement, consequentialism would likely view it favorably. Conversely, if the bot has malevolent purposes, causing harm or spreading misinformation, it would be ethically condemned. On the other hand, deontology, which focuses on adherence to moral rules and principles, would assess the bot's actions based on their inherent nature. A benevolent bot aligning with ethical principles would be regarded positively, while a malevolent one, irrespective of outcomes, would be considered ethically wrong for violating moral rules. These frameworks provide distinct lenses for evaluating the ethical implications of the bot's behavior, considering both its intentions and the consequences of its actions.