W205 Final Project

A System to Assess Nonprofit Performance

Project Overview

We will be examining the financial health of certain nonprofits in order to allow donors to rank the nonprofits prior to deciding on which nonprofit will receive their donations.

We will be limiting our examination to nonprofits that have filed a Form 990 and are classified as 501(c)(3) organizations.

An organization is considered a 501(c)(3) organization if it is organized and operated exclusively for one or more of the following purposes:

- Religious
- Charitable
- Scientific
- Testing for public safety
- Literary
- Educational
- Fostering national or international amateur sports competition (but only if none of its activities involve providing athletic facilities or equipment; however, see Amateur Athletic Organizations, later in this chapter)
- The prevention of cruelty to children or animals

Implementation

We will use the public Form 990 data provided by <u>AWS & the IRS</u> and use the index Json file for the 2015-2016 documents to parse necessary financial information for 501(c)(3) nonprofits. We will then develop an algorithm that leverages financial metrics for each nonprofit and then assigns a score of financial health to each nonprofit.

We will need to use:

- AWS host
- MySQL Database to store information about nonprofit entities
- A lightweight Web framework such as Flask

Progress

We have already gotten close to finishing our basic end-to-end implementation of the technologies.

Our next steps will be to:

- 1. Find out how we can best leverage the financial metrics to provide a concrete score for each nonprofit
- 2. Scale our implementation to be encompassing of a larger variety of nonprofits.