Journal Report 6
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Daily Log

Monday September 2

Obtained more transcripts in parallel from the IBM Watson speech-to-text API demo website. In tandem, worked to resolve misunderstandings regarding the API's functions and errors in making requests. Installed necessary packages to write code locally to make API requests to IBM Watson:
ibm-watson (SpeechToTextV1 module/function),
ibm-watson.websocket (RecognizeCallback, AudioSource objects),
ibm-cloud-sdk-core.authenticators (IAMAuthenticator object).

Wednesday September 4

Not at school

Friday September 6

Continued to obtain more transcripts in parallel from the demo site. Now have 12 transcripts. Placing them as third column in the excel spreadhseet for the data set (shown in a previous journal report, see updated version below). In tandem, figured out how to successfully make IBM Watson API requests locally in Python by using the functions above and writing methods to open file, run those functions with necessary parameters, and save transcript output to a file. Tested with a sample MP3 file. Working to scale the code in parallel to many TED talks.

Timeline

Date	Goal	Met
September 27th	Find high-quality algorithms for laughter and applause detection in audio files, Manually approximate average lengths of each in several TED Talks	Yes, see previous page with algorithms found and summary discussion of results for lengths of laughter and applause in TED talks; Also pursued additional project goals
October 4th	Successfully set-up Watson for local implementation of curl and Python API requests for speech to text on some TED talks and compare those transcripts to the real ones manually processed by TED	Partially, still working/figuring out how to use IBM Watson's Speech to Text API in Python locally with the HTTP requests, but still managed to obtain transcripts for some TED Talks and compare them to the real ones manually processed by TED
October 11th	Among me, Arvind, and Mr. White, figure out how to use IBM Watson's API locally in Python for scaling the dataset in the near future and continue to obtain as many TED Talk transcripts as possible for initial tests of summarization in the coming weeks	Yes, have working Python code for making IBM Watson speech-to-text API requests; also expanded data set to 10 transcripts from the API.
October 18th	Start scaling dataset using IBM Watson API to up to the 27 TED Talks allowed this month (500 minutes total cap), then decide when we'll need to upgrade to a higher API access level for more requests and transcripts to start video transcript summarization task of the project	
October 25th	Start researching for initial parts of the video transcript summarization and in tandem, continue to build the dataset over time	

Reflection

It was a relief to overcome hurdles in understanding how to use the IBM Watson API and setting up the requisite packages. Now we should be able to start expanding our dataset at a faster rate. It's also been nice to have this demo site running queries in parallel on the side, and I might continue getting more transcripts this way too, in addition to the code for doing so directly. Please refer to the snapshot of the spreadhsheet dataset below for an idea of how we're formatting it (first column is official transcript from TED, second is URL to TED Talk where we download the MP3 files – the link itself is not actually important data for summarization later, and third is the transcript returned by IBM Watson's Speech-to-Text API):

Thank you	https://www.ted.com/talks/al_gore_on_averting_climate_crisis	Speaker 2: Ted talks are recorded live at the Ted conference and produced with WNYC New York public radio this episode feat
(Music: "Tl	https://www.ted.com/talks/david_pogue_says_simplicity_sells	Speaker 1: Ted talks a recorded live at the Ted conference and produced with WNYC New York public radio.Speaker 1: This epi
If you're h	https://www.ted.com/talks/majora_carter_s_tale_of_urban_renewal	Speaker 1: Ted talks a recorded live at the Ted conference and produced with WNYC New York public radio this episode featur