CS 411 Project Proposal

Project Title

WatchDojo

Project Summary

The goal of this project is to build a database-supported web application that allows users to freely explore TV shows and movies. We will start from both the front-end and back-end to build up an interactive web application.

The dataset for this project is collected from Kaggle. Each row will have show/movie information such as title, cast, director, etc. Some basic functionalities for our web application include search, filter, and add shows/movies to each user's "favorite" list. Some interesting features will allow users to compare two shows/movies and also write their own reviews.

Description

The website of this project provides a platform for users to search movies and look up information about movies. The website contains all information about Netflix movies and TV Shows. Users can search movies directly or find movies according to different attributes like type, release year and date, etc. This website aims to help users quickly find movies they are interested in. Even if sometimes users are not sure what movie they want to watch exactly, they can find movies according to movie types or ranking.

Besides, the website allows users to give reviews on movies or TV shows, and even create their own favorite movie or TV show lists. In this way, users can use it as a record of their favorite movies/shows or even save what they are interested in or intend to watch in future times. Users can also share their favorite lists so that other users can watch them.

Usefulness

Nowadays there is a large amount of movie resources online, so people usually get lost in the millions of search results when they want to watch some movies or TV shows. This web application can solve this problem by providing users with a concise and helpful movie tracker. Users could search and find movies they want quickly, and add movies to their favorite lists.

There are indeed many websites doing movies and TV shows searches. The main difference between our website and other similar websites is that our website allows users to compare two movies in detail. When users struggle to choose which movie is better, they can compare information like IMDB ratings and reviews of two movies and then make the right

decision easily. Another distinctive feature of our website is that it allows users to share their favorite lists or add other users' favorite lists. This feature can help users find other users with similar interests and explore more potential movies they may like.

Realness

Our datasets are all from kaggle.com, containing csv files about a number of different movies/shows. (link: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/shivamb/netflix-shows)
For each movie/show, the dataset includes its type(movie/TV show), director name, cast names, issue country, release year and date, rating, duration, listed in, and a brief description.

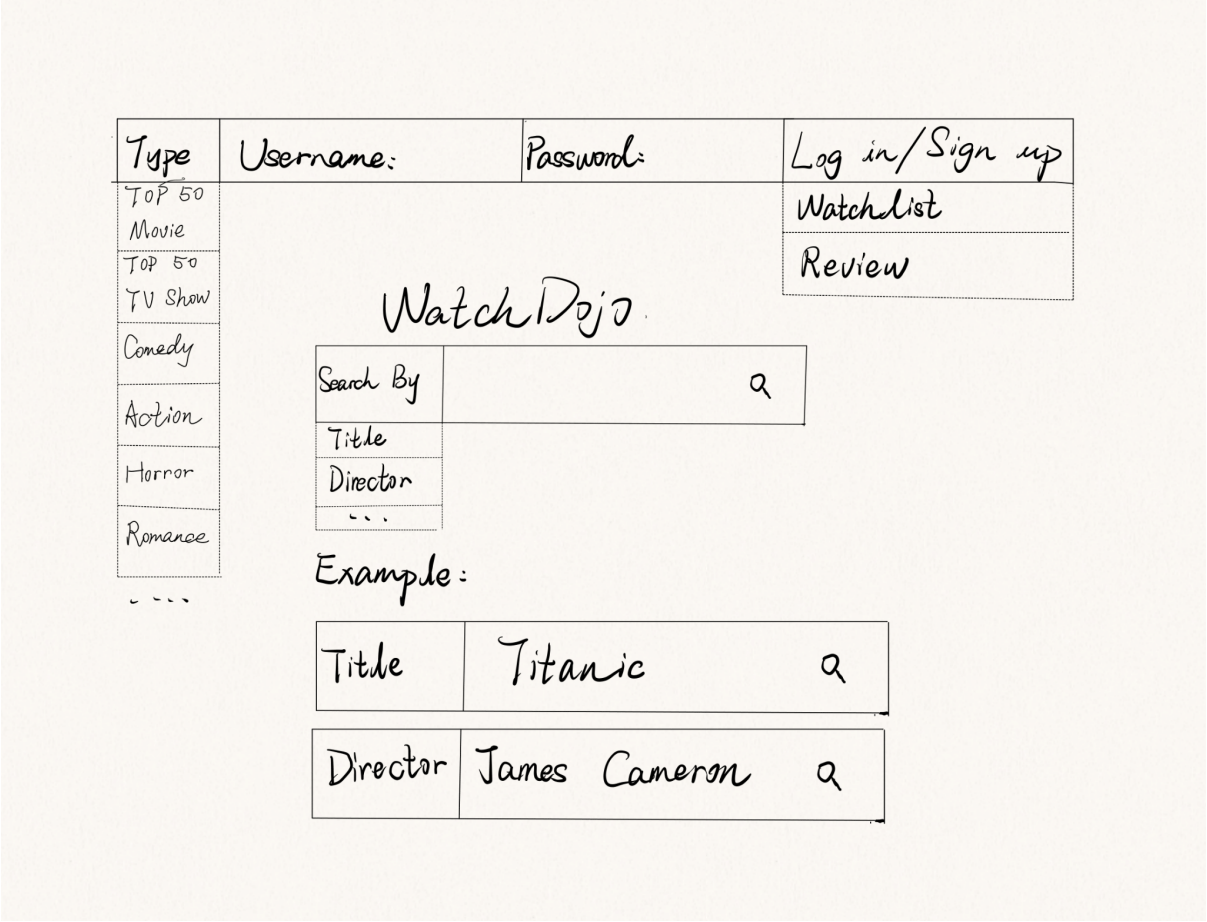
Functionality

Our project will focus on searching by keywords, comparing different movies, submitting reviews, and creating favorite lists.

We will allow users to search by different categories, such as by title, director, cast, country, and type. The searching functionality will also include the filter bar. To help people decide which one they want to watch, for several different movies and films, we will provide a comparison function to show the difference of IMDB ratings and reviews. We will also provide a review system for each product to record people's opinions for share.

Besides, by selecting favorite movies, users can create a watch list, and update it anytime they want. In order to keep the list, we will create a user login system to safely keep these records. The system can also help submit reviews, and share watchlists to spread interest so that other users can also use your watchlist.

UI Mockup



Project Work Distribution

Front end: (Jerry Xu)
Front end design, implementation of the web application (HTML, CSS, JS)
Search & filter: (Tiancheng Xiao)
Enter title/cast/… and return results. Filter show/movie list by selected attributes (year released…)
Login & sign up: (Haoyu Zhai)
Create new accounts and log in with existing accounts. Maintaining the privacy of user data.
Compare function: (Wentao Zhang)
Listing two shows/movies information side by side
Favorite list: (Wentao Zhang)
Adding shows/movies to user created list.
Reviews: (Haoyu Zhai)
Adding reviews to shows/movies.

** If any functionality/work requires additional help, member will be assigned based on their availability.
** Function implementation includes partial front-end and database query