

Journal 1

URL

The URL for the source code of this project is available here:
<https://github.com/ekivolowitz/LIS351Projects/tree/master/Journal1>

Assignment Writeup

Intentions

My intentions for this project were to create a webpage that allows you to upload any ASCII encoded file and returns a histogram of the characters used in that file.

Input Work Done

The input work done is this subdirectory of the repository.

Output Results

File selected from landing page



The content of the file is [here](https://github.com/ekivolowitz/LIS351Projects/blob/master/Journal1/test.txt)
(<https://github.com/ekivolowitz/LIS351Projects/blob/master/Journal1/test.txt>)

This is a test file to test really cool things

Histogram from that file



Approach

I have tinkered with several backend technologies, and one that I wanted to play around with again was Flask. I decided to whip together a quick little backend that accepts file input, which I've never handled before. Between Flask and HTML5, all of the complicated parts were taken care of (yay). I used to write some HTML back in High School when I first got interested in computers. Although I've never taken the time to become an expert on it, I can usually hack together what I have in mind. CSS sucks, I just wanted to throw that out there. Anyway, I've written some javascript in my day, although I'm not a big fan of it. I was going to use D3js to create the histogram, but decided against it in the name of brevity, and implemented a pure ASCII form instead – topical to our readings.

Thoughts on the results

While this isn't a very complicated project, it's always exciting to take something from an idea to a reality, which I did. I'm happy with the results, although I wish that there were better print formatting options with pure HTML, like the `printf` function in C so that the output would be a little cleaner.

Dependencies

- [python3 \(https://www.python.org/download/releases/3.0/\)](https://www.python.org/download/releases/3.0/)
- [Flask \(http://flask.pocoo.org/\)](http://flask.pocoo.org/)

Usage

```
$ python3 main.py
```

Now navigate to localhost:5000 in your favorite web browser and use the letter counting program!

Note: The program only supports ASCII encoded files.

References

- [Flask Documentation \(http://flask.pocoo.org/\)](http://flask.pocoo.org/)
- [Flask File Upload Example \(http://flask.pocoo.org/docs/1.0/patterns/fileuploads/\)](http://flask.pocoo.org/docs/1.0/patterns/fileuploads/)
- [ASCII Table \(https://www.ascii.cl/htmlcodes.htm\)](https://www.ascii.cl/htmlcodes.htm)