CSPB 3112, Professional Development

Project Update Report

Summary of Project and Goals:

My project is to build an application that uses the OpenAl platform/framework to fetch news articles on publicly traded companies, feed them into the Al for analysis, and output a sentiment (buy, sell, hold). With Al becoming more and more integrated into our lives I felt that learning how to develop with it would be a key project for my long term career. I also wanted to expand my knowledge and proficiency in the use of APIs as well as web/data scraping. Finally, I wanted to be able to showcase this project as a fully deployed/accessible app via a website or app for interview purposes.

Accomplishments So Far

The main goal of this project is still to learn and become proficient in using OpenAl's development tools, which I have managed to accomplish to a medium level at this point. I have been able to integrate OpenAl into my application so that I am able to send data to the platform and get a response after analysis.

I also wanted to become more proficient in web/data scraping as well as the use of APIs and would say I have taken this knowledge and experience to between introductory and medium as I am still working towards completion. I've integrated OpenAI's API into my code and am sending information to it. There are still some challenges with the Flask app and JS function calls but I am steadily working through those. As far as the web/data scraping, I have gotten the scripts to scrape data after being given a news article/html web page but have not yet been able to automate the scraping or searching for news on specific companies, it is still a manual procedure that I hope to automate by the end of the project.

My last goal is to fully deploy the application so as to use it as a reference in interviews and on my portfolio. I have not yet reached this stage in the project, though I have made considerations towards using Render or Firebase to deploy. Part of this stage of the project will also be making the application visually as well as UI/UX appealing. I hope to also track the AI analysis with stock data to check its accuracy against the market as a means to showcase past proficiency of the application.

Reflection

While I have made great strides in my project the last few weeks, it still feels like there is a ways to go before it is fully ready. The application still looks very rough and rudimentary, despite everything happening in the background, so I will need to add appropriate styling. I have not set up the database necessary to store and track the output of the OpenAI application which I had hoped to have accomplished by now so that I could keep track of more data and its accuracy over a longer period of time; I will need to prioritize its implementation. I still want to hone the AI's outputs, they are currently verbose and not ideal for storing into a database for consistent/easy tracking. Finally, the scraping script is not yet automated which I anticipate will take a significant amount of time to get working properly.

All of these goals, I believe, are achievable in the few short weeks left. The key to completing them will be focused and targeted time and execution of each task. I plan to prioritize based on what tasks will be necessary to reach MVP (like CSS and the database) and what features would simply be nice to have (fully automated web scraping). In this way I should be able to get the most done in the shortest amount of time to have a project worth sharing.