Sinny Rec

My proposal for my term project is to produce a movie search application. The application will allow users to search for movies and obtain an average user rating. The search function will allow a user to search for a movie by title. It will also allow a search for titles using tags such as 'teen comedy', 'cult film', and 'sci-fi'. If a search is done using tags, then the app will return the films with the highest K scores with regard to the query terms. If the user searches for a specific movie, and it is found, the app will return data for that movie and will also recommend similar titles. The app will use a dataset from a project called MovieLens. The data contains over 27,000 titles with user ratings, tags, as well as relevance scores for each tag.

This idea is certainly not a new one. There are many similar applications. Popflake makes film recommendations to the user using keywords such as tags. Suggest Movie Recommender allows the user to search using filters like language and release date. One of the more popular apps is called Popcorn. Popcorn creates film lists such as 'Cannes Winners' and '13 Best Tom Hanks Films' which give the user suggestions in relation to the list title. It also allows the user to search by title and genre. The app also allows users to find theaters and movie times.

Why would someone need this app? Well, to put it plainly, people, myself included, love movies. The first movie was produced in 1878 for the sole purpose of answering the question: "When a horse trots, do all four hooves leave the ground simultaneously?". Movies have come a long way since. In 2018, the film industry took in over $12 billion in box office sales. That's over 1.5 billion tickets sold. These numbers only represent domestic sales. Technology has also given rise to popular movie services such as Hulu and Netflix that offer users access to thousands of titles. This application will help users browse through titles that they will hopefully enjoy.

Dataset Source: https://grouplens.org/datasets/movielens/