

Improvement of the ExpertSearch System

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This project qualifies under option 2, improving an existing system.

For this project, I would like to add a function to the ExpertSearch System. This added function is auto-scroll of results when a user looks through the query. This means that when the user reaches the bottom of the page, the page will automatically populate new results onto the end of it, resulting in a much smoother experience than having to repeatedly click “Load more” for the results.

The function will work if a user is able to enter their query and get a small batch of results, then when reaching the bottom of their first batch of results, get more results automatically. This will continue until no more results remain to be shown. In reality, we will be getting a comprehensive list of results and simply adding these results in chunks to the page for the user to see. I do not want the web page to pre-load all of them beforehand and have it hidden; that would be an unrefined and expensive implementation. Rather, I wish to add to the end of the page as the user needs. Further research into this will dictate whether such an approach is feasible or not.

To implement such functionality successfully, I currently plan to use the same code as the original project, Python. Ideally, I would be able to work through the current repository and extract out the necessary files, make changes to them, and return the results.

I believe this implementation will take five hours to search through/comprehensively understand the working code, five hours to research similar approaches like mine and determine what is and isn't feasible for the working library, another three or four hours to build out the functionality, and an additional six or seven hours to make tests and ensure proper functionality. Thus, this will take 20 hours to complete, in my reasonable belief.