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12/13/17

Hcde 310 Short Reflection

The original intention for my project was to create song covers for a song. I planned on filtering through the lyrics of a song to generate the top 3 keywords, and put the keywords into a Flickr search as tags that would return pictures related to the tags. Later, I realized that this approach is flawed. First of all, I found using Flickr.photos.search, the information returned can only be used to rank based on the number of tags, the number of comments, and the number of views. These are not great ranking systems for returning good and accurate pictures that can be used as song covers. Secondly, too many times having the top three words searched together as tags does not return anything. Also, Flickr is prone to return random and unrelated pictures.

Due to these flaws, the value of the initial project proposal went down. After looking through many possible approaches and APIs to used, I decided to change my project to analyze lyrics and use the Aylien Text Analysis API instead of the Flickr API. One feature Aylien API had was summarizing paragraphs into a few sentences. The user is being prompted to enter a title, text, and number of sentences to be summarized into.

I had trouble working with the Aylien API at first because it had a different authentication requirement than Musixmatch and Flickr API. Aylien does not like having everything go into the url. Instead, it accepts a header with authentication ID and key separately. It was hard to figure out the correct headers to pass in and the correct url l format, since the website was not clearly documented. But I figured it out through comparing an example urls generated online. Then the rest was easy.

Overall, I really enjoyed this class, and I am proud of myself. I never thought I could do a project like this by myself. At moments working on the project felt impossible, when it feels like I’m nowhere close to having the right code. It was a scary feeling given how many hours I spent on this project. But, the moment you realize that the code works after all the hard work is the most amazing feeling ever.

If I had more time, I would make the website look better and more interesting. I would also add images to the website, so it is not boring.

Also, I want to express my appreciation to you and the TAs for being great teachers. Thanks to you all!





