

Mr. Speice

Independent Study Mentorship II

22 March 2021

Datalizr - Crowdsourcing Machine Learning Data

Assessment 17 - Product Progress Assessment

Assessment:

Datalizr, a crowdsourcing machine learning data platform, is without a doubt one of the most involved projects that one can pursue. It requires cross-disciplinary computer science knowledge regarding machine learning, frontend interface development, backend development, DevOps, and a hint of technology entrepreneurship. That said, developing Datalizr has been a central point of growth from both a technical perspective and an interdisciplinary perspective. While a large portion of the project has been complete through intensive research and programming practice, there are still hurdles ahead that must be overcome and therefore the necessity for a concrete plan of action only increases from this point forward.

To start, it is important to evaluate the progress in portions of the project where prior skills applied. In this case, it means the backend application programming interface (API). Given my extensive experience with backend API technologies, it is important to note that many of the practices done during the development phase of Datalizr directly correlated to prior mistakes and lessons learned from previous projects. In this sense, the Datalizr backend API development has gone smoother and it was because of the synthesis of knowledge from prior projects that made Datalizr's backend API successful. However, there are still many lessons being learned from programming struggles experienced in the backend, more specifically in the intersection between DevOps (deploying the backend API) and backend API development. These lessons are certain to prove helpful in future projects and as more is learned, the process becomes increasingly

easier. Through drawing upon prior knowledge, the general backend development process greatly simplified itself and provided an overall better experience.

Designing the frontend interface was an entirely unique experience on its own. Frontend interface development required me to learn technical skills as well as creative skills. To start, learning new frontend technologies in a short amount of time has proven to be one of the most valuable experiences throughout my software development ventures. The skills of learning quickly will serve as a necessity for both the future of the project as there are many features left to implement which require the use of a wide variety of technologies as well as in the industry where projects are constantly evolving and the importance of being versatile has been increasingly emphasized. This project also leveraged the extent of my creative scope as frontend interface design requires an artistic vision. This provided a new and compelling experience because rather than writing logical statements constantly, there is also the option to write creative statements. By diversifying the development experience with creativity, future projects will be able to draw upon the best of both worlds.

Looking forward, the future of this project looks bright; however, it necessary more than ever to continue efficient consistent work. While the project itself may be marginally behind schedule, the quality of work produced has made up for this. That said, a major goal to set for this project would be to produce the highest quality work possible while maintaining or adjusting the schedule. This can easily be accomplished through small consistent work each day or large chunks of work a few times a week. It will also be beneficial to look forward and research potential technologies that may be needed for the remainder of the project so that I can learn them ahead of time, allowing for less wasted time in the future. Through this, I can ensure that

the project gets completed in a timely manner while producing a final product that is worth being used.