iJRASET
International Journal For Research in Applied Science and Engineering Technology



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR RESEARCH

IN APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Volume: 12 **Issue:** V **Month of publication:** May 2024

DOI: https://doi.org/10.22214/ijraset.2024.61722

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International Journal for Research in Applied Science & Engineering Technology (IJRASET)
ISSN: 2321-9653; IC Value: 45.98; SJ Impact Factor: 7.538
Volume 12 Issue V May 2024- Available at www.ijraset.com

Portal for Various National and International Scholarship

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Abstract: ***This abstract presents the development of a comprehensive portal for accessing various national and international scholarship opportunities. Built using Python Django framework, this portal aims to streamline the process of discovering scholarships, thereby facilitating access to education for a broader demographic. The portal aggregates scholarship listings from diverse sources, including government, educational institutions, and private organizations, offering a centralized platform for users to explore available opportunities. Through intuitive search and filtering functionalities, users can efficiently navigate through a vast array of scholarships tailored to their preferences, including academic background, field of study, and eligibility criteria. Key features of the portal include user authentication, personalized profiles, enhancing user engagement and facilitating tailored recommendations based on individual preferences and qualifications. Furthermore, the portal prioritizes user experience through responsive design, ensuring accessibility across various devices and platforms.***
Keywords: Python, Django, scholarship, nation scholarship, international scholarship, Django framework.

I. INTRODUCTION

Access to quality education is a fundamental right that empowers individuals to pursue their aspirations and contribute meaningfully to society. However, the cost of education can be a significant barrier for many, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds. Scholarships play a pivotal role in bridging this gap, providing financial support to deserving students and enabling them to access educational opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach. In response to the growing need for streamlined access to scholarship opportunities, we present the development of a Portal for National and International Scholarship Websites. This portal serves as a centralized platform, leveraging the power of technology to aggregate scholarship listings from a diverse range of sources, including government agencies, educational institutions, and private organizations. Built using the Python Django framework, the portal combines robust functionality with user-friendly design to create an intuitive and efficient user experience. Through features such as advanced search and filtering options, personalized user profiles, and notification systems, the portal aims to simplify the process of discovering relevant scholarships tailored to individual preferences and qualifications.

This introduction provides an overview of the significance of scholarships in promoting educational access and highlights the need for a centralized platform to streamline the scholarship search process. Subsequent sections will delve into the technical aspects of the portal's development, including its architecture, features, and implementation details, demonstrating how it addresses the challenges associated with accessing scholarship opportunities on a national and international scale..

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The Accessing relevant scholarship opportunities poses significant challenges for students worldwide. Fragmented information across various websites, limited customization options, lack of awareness about available scholarships, inefficient application processes, and accessibility barriers hinder students' ability to identify and apply for scholarships effectively. Addressing these challenges necessitates the development of a centralized portal that aggregates scholarship listings, offers advanced search and filtering features, provides personalized recommendations, and prioritizes user experience and accessibility. Such a platform would empower students to explore scholarships tailored to their needs, promoting educational access and social mobility.

III. TECHNOLOGY STACK

The development of the Portal for National and International Scholarship Websites relies on a robust technology stack to ensure efficiency, scalability, and security. The primary components of the technology stack include Python, Django, and MySQL.

1) *Python:* Python serves as the core programming language for developing the web application. Known for its simplicity, readability, and versatility, Python is well-suited for web development tasks. It offers extensive libraries and frameworks that expedite development and facilitate the implementation of complex functionalities.

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2) *Django:* Django is a high-level Python web framework renowned for its scalability, security, and rapid development capabilities. It follows the Model-View-Controller (MVC) architectural pattern, which promotes modular and maintainable code. Django provides a plethora of built-in features, including an ORM (Object-Relational Mapping) system, authentication mechanisms, form handling, and administrative interfaces. These features streamline the development process and enable developers to focus on implementing application-specific logic.
3) *MySQL:* MySQL is a popular open-source relational database management system (RDBMS) used for storing and managing application data. It offers robust performance, scalability, and reliability, making it an ideal choice for web applications with varying data requirements. MySQL seamlessly integrates with Django through its built-in support for various database backends, including MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, and Oracle. Leveraging MySQL, developers can design efficient database schemas, execute complex queries, and ensure data integrity and security.

By leveraging Python, Django, and MySQL, the technology stack of the scholarship portal facilitates the development of a feature-rich, scalable, and secure web application. This combination of technologies empowers developers to create a dynamic and user-friendly platform that meets the diverse needs of scholarship seekers and providers alike.

IV. ALGORITHM

Content-Based Filtering and Collaborative Filtering are two popular recommendation techniques that can be implemented within the scholarship portal project to enhance user experience and provide personalized scholarship recommendations.

A. Content-Based Filtering

Content-Based Filtering recommends scholarships to users based on the attributes and characteristics of the scholarships themselves, as well as the user's preferences and past interactions. In the context of the scholarship portal project, content-based filtering can be implemented as follows:

1) *Attribute Analysis:* Scholarships can be analyzed based on various attributes such as field of study, academic level, eligibility criteria, location, and application deadlines. Each scholarship is represented by a set of features extracted from these attributes.
2) *User Profile Creation:* Upon user registration, the portal creates a user profile by capturing information such as academic background, field of interest, preferred scholarship types, and geographic location.
3) *Matching Algorithm:* A matching algorithm is employed to compare the attributes of scholarships with the user's profile preferences. Scholarships that closely match the user's preferences are recommended to the user.
4) *Personalized Recommendations:* The portal provides personalized scholarship recommendations to users based on their profile information and past interactions, thereby improving user engagement and satisfaction.

B. Collaborative Filtering

Collaborative Filtering recommends scholarships to users based on the preferences and behaviours of similar users. It leverages the collective wisdom of the user community to generate recommendations. In the context of the scholarship portal project, collaborative filtering can be implemented as follows:

1) *User-Item Matrix:* A user-item matrix is constructed, where rows represent users, columns represent scholarships, and each cell denotes the user's interaction or rating for a particular scholarship (e.g., applying, bookmarking).
2) *Similarity Calculation:* Similarity measures such as cosine similarity or Pearson correlation coefficient are used to calculate the similarity between users based on their interactions with scholarships. Users with similar preferences are identified.
3) *Recommendation Generation:* For a target user, scholarships that have been positively rated or interacted with by similar users but not yet seen by the target user are recommended.
4) *Real-Time Updates:* The user-item matrix is dynamically updated based on user interactions to ensure that recommendations remain relevant over time.

By implementing both content-based filtering and collaborative filtering techniques within the scholarship portal project, users can receive personalized recommendations that match their preferences and interests, thereby improving user satisfaction and increasing engagement with the platform.

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V. MODULE DESCRIPTION

Below are the list of modules:

1) *User Authentication:* This module manages user registration, login, and authentication processes. Users can create accounts, log in securely, and access personalized features such as saving favorite scholarships, setting preferences, and receiving notifications.
2) *Scholarship Listings:* The Scholarship Listings module aggregates scholarship opportunities from various sources, including government agencies, educational institutions, and private organizations. It provides a searchable and filterable database of scholarships based on criteria such as field of study, academic level, eligibility requirements, and application deadlines.
3) *Recommendation Engine:* The Recommendation Engine module utilizes content-based filtering and collaborative filtering techniques to provide personalized scholarship recommendations to users. It analyzes user preferences, past interactions, and similarities with other users to generate tailored recommendations, improving user engagement and satisfaction.
4) *User Profile Management:* The User Profile Management module enables users to create and manage their profiles, including personal information, academic background, field of interest, and scholarship preferences. Users can update their profiles, view their activity history, and customize their notification settings.
5) *Admin Panel:* The Admin Panel module provides administrators with tools to manage the scholarship portal efficiently. Administrators can add, edit, or remove scholarships, monitor user activity, moderate content, and generate reports. The admin panel ensures the smooth operation and integrity of the platform.
6) *Accessibility and Security:* Accessibility and Security modules ensure that the scholarship portal is accessible to users with disabilities and adheres to security best practices. Accessibility features include support for screen readers, keyboard navigation, and high contrast mode. Security measures include data encryption, user authentication, role-based access control, and protection against common vulnerabilities such as SQL injection and cross-site scripting (XSS).

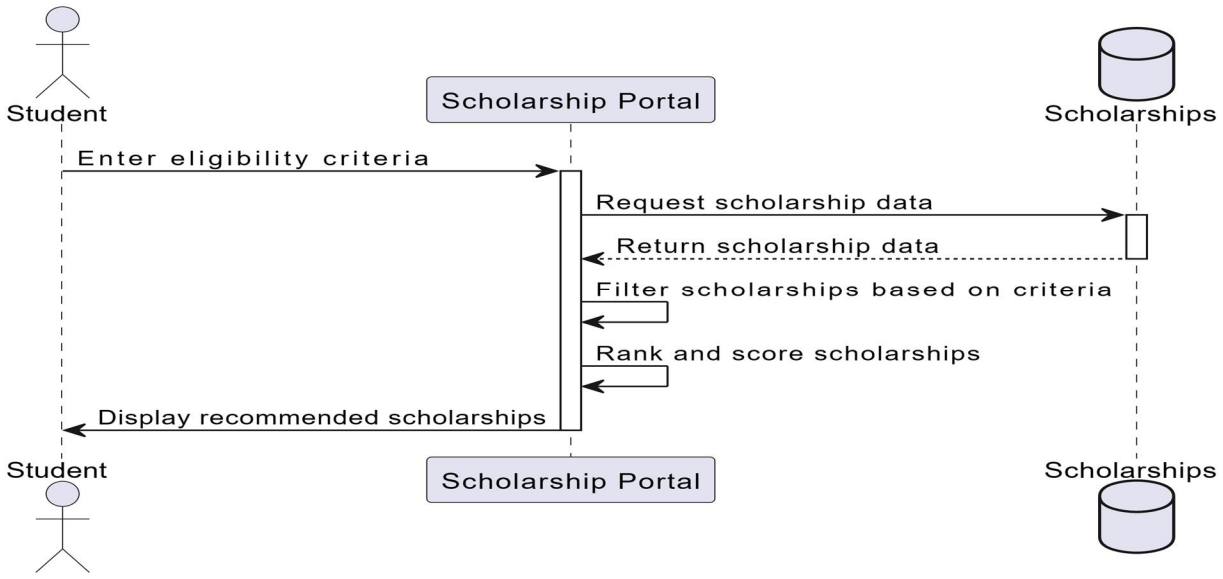


Fig: Flow Diagram/ Sequence Diagram

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the development of the Portal for National and International Scholarship Websites represents a significant advancement in facilitating access to education and promoting social mobility. Through the integration of cutting-edge technologies and innovative features, the project addresses the challenges associated with discovering, applying for, and managing scholarship opportunities on a national and international scale.

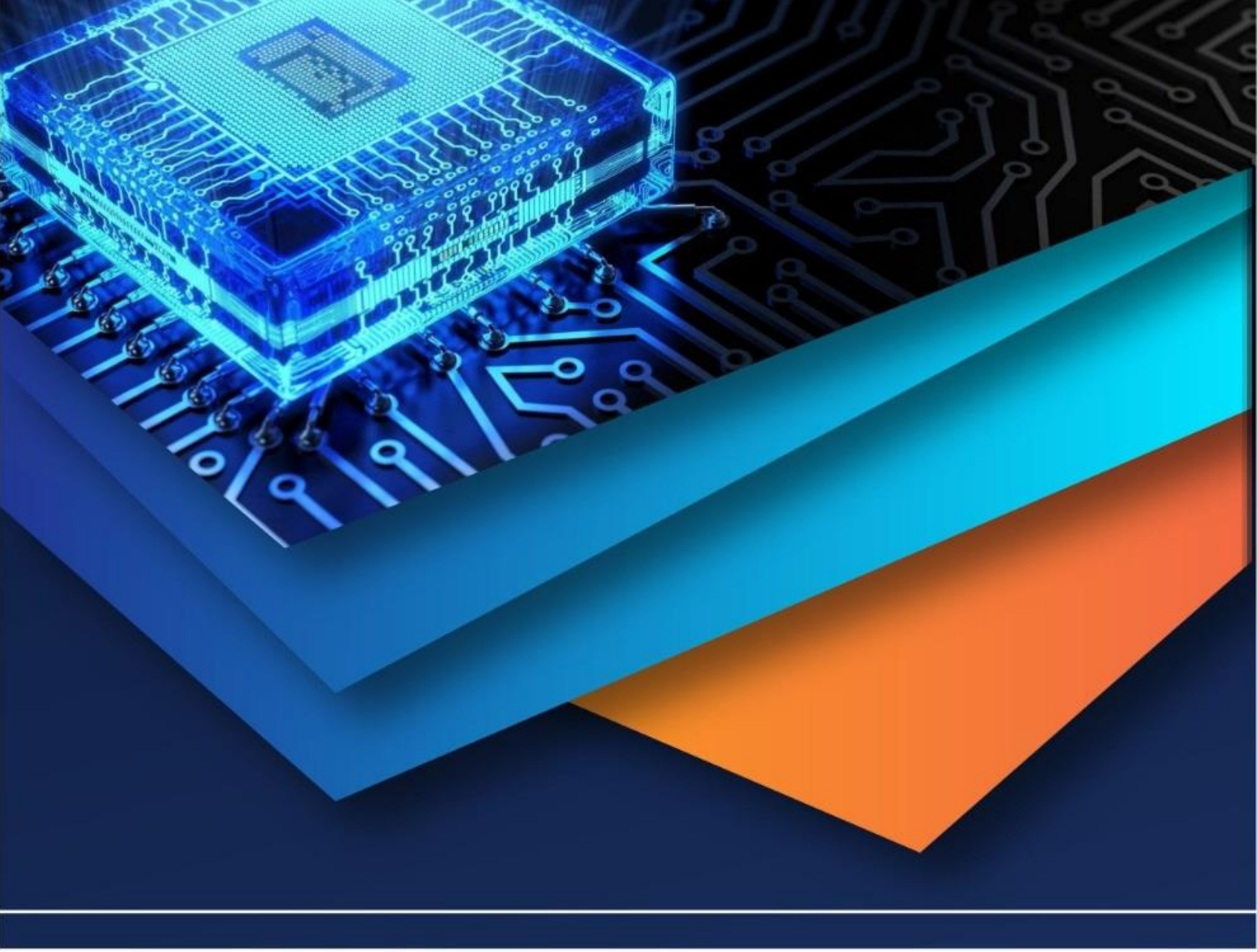
The portal's user-centric design prioritizes user experience, providing intuitive navigation, personalized recommendations, and streamlined application processes. Users can explore a comprehensive database of scholarships, tailored to their preferences and qualifications, thereby empowering them to pursue their educational aspirations effectively.

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