

Rosalind Franklin AI Chatbot

Welcome to Rosalind Franklin's AI chatbot!

For us humans, conversation is natural. It is part of our everyday life. We fundamentally understand it, and it's part of who we are. However, teaching a machine to have a conversation with people is hard because it is all about the conversation experience.

Franklin's AI chatbot project aims to create and deploy an artificial intelligence chatbot publicly. To accomplish this project, Hafssa Abid-Tyler (majoring in Computer Science), Heya Albiel (majoring in Biomedical Engineering), and Dr. Hermioni, a tech project coach, teamed up to make this project happen. The team used Google Cloud Dialog flow to build an AI chatbot based on a well-known, deceased person in STEM with whom anyone can perform a Q & A. For instance, we ask the famous STEM person questions that they answer in the chatbot form.

To start the project, we first learned the background of deconstructing Chatbots, creating an FAQ Chatbot with Dialog flow, and building an FAQ bot with Dialog flow and Google Sheets. We created a Dialog flow account using google cloud. Then, we chose Rosalind Franklin, our STEM female scientist, a British chemist, and an X-ray crystallographer. After that, we created an excel spreadsheet with various FAQs and tested it using the new chatbot developed in the Dialog flow account. Although our project began with an FAQ, the Dialog flow platform allowed the bot to learn from our data and handle more variations on the initial questions that we had written.

After creating the Dialog flow bot, we learned about how to use HTML to embed an interface into the Nvolve website, making access easier for visitors to the site. As part of this effort, we received guidance from a computer science expert who gave us valuable insight into how we could manipulate our interface to provide more control over user interaction with the bot.

Working on the chatbot opened me up to a new way of using technology, and it provided a way to get some hands-on experience with a tool that implements machine learning. I came into the project knowing nothing about such bots, and this experience gave me a rewarding introduction to the topic. I also enjoyed the exercise of breaking down the original problem and brainstorming what questions should be addressed and how a famous STEM figure would answer them. Overall, it was a fantastic, intellectually stimulating experience.