

Analysis of Alternatives: Language

Summary

This analysis will discuss the reasoning behind our decision in choosing an appropriate language to develop our COVID Manager application. It will go through the criteria that were taken into consideration in this process, rank the importance of each of them as well as listing the language options we are considering. These options will be compared against each identified criterion to find the most suitable platform.

Terms of reference

Since it has been established that our COVID dashboard will be a web application, we now need to nominate the most optimal language for this purpose. The first and most important factor to consider is how easy it is to run the language file in browsers. We also need to consider the availability of support frameworks and libraries for web development purposes for each language.

We will consider JavaScript and Python, since they are two of the most popular languages used for web development, and they are the only languages many team members are familiar with.

Body

LANGUAGES	JavaScript	Python
Browser compatibility	JavaScript applications can be run easily on web browsers.	Browsers do not understand Python. Using only Python to build a web application is a complicated process and requires supporting frameworks such as Flask.
Supporting frameworks and libraries for web application development	Since JavaScript is one of the most popular languages used for web apps, it provides access to a wide range of supporting frameworks and libraries. For example, React and Angular are great frameworks to assist with developing the front-end.	Python has limited support for front-end development.

Recommendations

Based on the evaluations of both languages, JavaScript is chosen over Python due to its ease in running in browsers and its wide range of supporting frameworks and libraries.