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Language and Tool Selection

Frontend Language Selection

We chose to use AngularJs to write the Front End as it is great for producing quick easy SPAs(single page applications). It uses dynamic DOM manipulation which makes easy to display data as it changes and passing data around between its model and views are easy. AngularJs is also something Alex Austin and Harry Jones used extensively and are confident with their ability. They feel that AngularJs is easy to learn and creating complicated front end components is a quick.

Since we will be creating a web front end HTML 5 is a requirement. HTML 5 is used as it has the canvas feature which can be great for utilising with future proof of concepts.

For styling we will use SCSS which ties in nicely with other previously mentioned selections. It is simply CSS styling with nesting so that styling specific sections is made a lot easier without the need for long class selection.

Bower and npm are package manager that allow user contributed dependencies to be loaded into the application and managed and updated regularly. Bower is for front end tools and npm is used for backend dependencies.

Initially we were going to use a automation tool called gulp as was quicker than previously experienced Grunt but became increasingly difficult to get started. So switched to Grunt which works well with all previously mentioned selection. And includes a live reload server, JavaScript checker and Sass compiler.

Backend Language Selection

Initially we decided on creating the backend in Erlang as this is a highly concurrent language and would be idea for dealing with all the potential requests between its users. Later it was decided that Erlang was not best as it had poor socket support and maintained which was main component that would allow request to be sent online.

Later we decided on Golang which is Erlang's younger brother which is also highly concurrent and more importantly had better socket support and was regularly maintained. It also has some similarities to C which James has programmed in before.