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Database Design Choices and Planning

Database

During our initial planning phase for our database implementation, it was determined that the usability of the system holds significant whilst being able to provide the necessary functionality required to communicate with our back-end.

It was eminent that our database remained cost effective, prevailed in simplifying integration and hosting the database readily. We ascertained that we were able to easily obtain a MySQL host, reducing the time it took to implement a database. An area of concern was the SQL persistent data engine, which may have limited us in several ways and could be computationally expensive. It was important this was examined and reflected upon, to achieve the maximum potential of our system.

We acknowledged other prospects such as the feasibility of using graph database technology. This alternative would depend on a less rigid data structure, highly scalable, less expensive in carrying out operations and reliable for evolving data.

Albeit the suitability of a graph database matched our requirements, it was agreed that a conventional SQL database would suffice due to the aforementioned reasons and the familiarity of MySQL across our team.

This would ultimately avoid dilemmas, particularly when learning about other database technologies and syntax within noSQL and Graph databases.

To conclude, using an SQL database was suitable for this project since it performed the tasks required without compromising the implementation of a database and the necessity to learn a new system, thus increasing development time in other areas. As development proceeded, our database was continually altered to suit the demands of the system.