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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. SQL employs persistent data engines which may have limited us in several ways and could be computationally expensive. It was important this was examined and reflected upon.

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

Albeit, the suitability of a graph database matched the requirements, however, 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 quandaries, particularly when learning about other database technologies and syntax within noSQL and Graph databases.

On this basis, using an SQL database was quite fitting for this project since it performed the tasks required, without hindering 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.