

Deliverable 4: Team Organisation Report
SENG3011: THUMBNAILS

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Github Repo

Our github repo is located at:

https://github.com/DennisLin27/SENG3011_-Thumbnails-

Overall Team Composition and Responsibilities

Gantt Chart URL:

https://lucid.app/lucidchart/bd9d7df3-99f6-4671-bebd-aca32973601c/edit?page=0_0&invitationId=inv_08f7cc12-73a1-4bcb-8673-494b7b3f89dd#

T17 thumbnails'
Project GANTT CHART

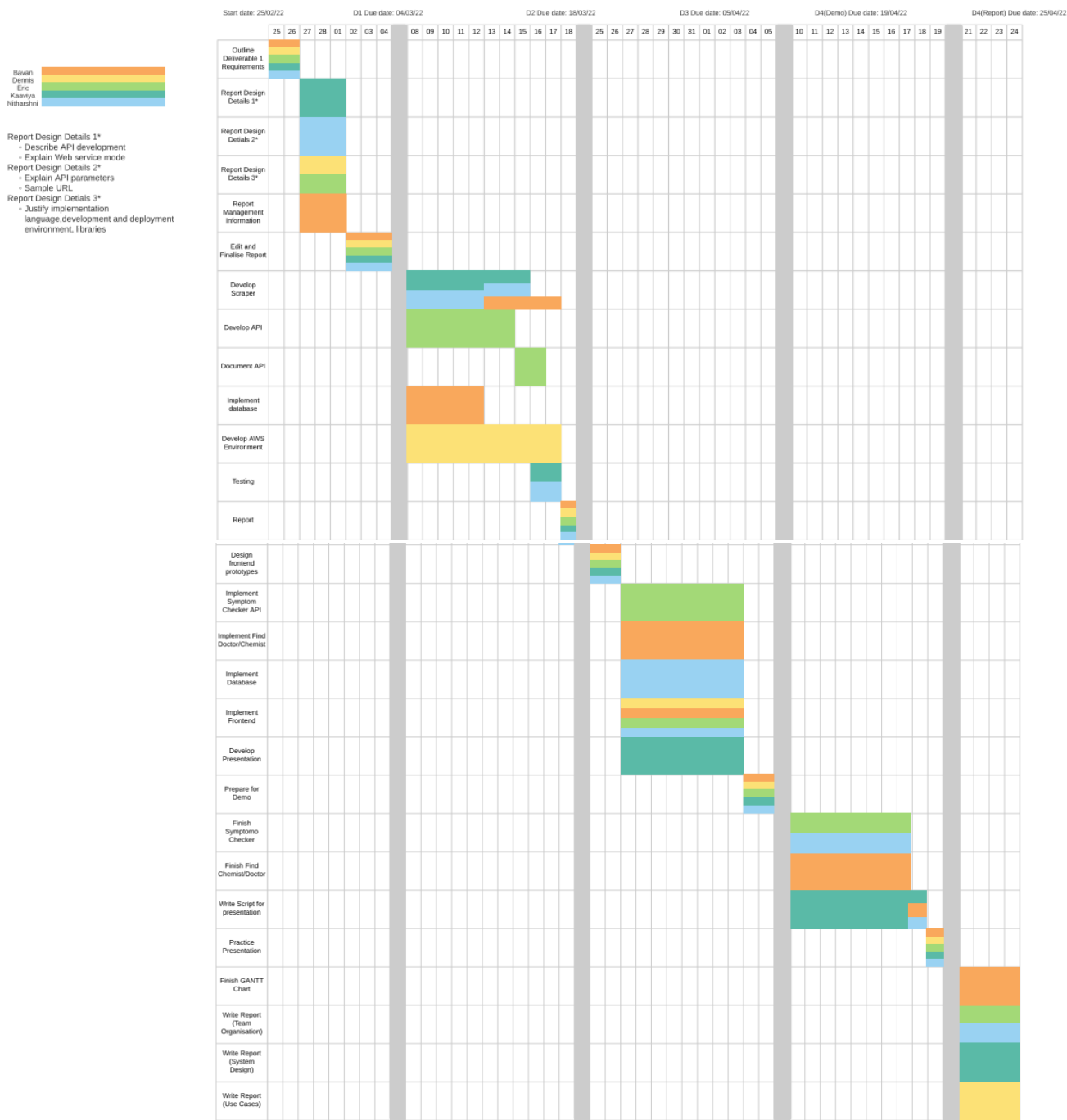


Figure 1: Team Thumbnails' Gantt Chart

Major Achievements

There have been quite a number of achievements, both big and small, that the Thumbnails team has made throughout the term.

The biggest achievement would have to be designing and implementing a fully functional prototype at the end of the term. The team believes that the Web Application idea was something that displayed longevity and would benefit quite a number of people. Doing research into possible design ideas helped uncover the current need for eHealth applications, especially for elderly people and people living in remote areas. The key features that were of high priority for this target market were an accurate symptom-matching feature and a search feature that allows the user to discover nearby doctors and chemists. Hence, the team decided to prioritise these features first during the design and implementation phase of our project. After long hours, much hard work and overcoming quite a number of challenges, these features were successfully built. As a significant proportion of the target market is elderly people, the team decided to make the UI and the features very simple to comprehend and use. Due to the current restrictions placed due to Covid-19, dry run tests were not able to be conducted for usability testing purposes with elderly people, so the next best option at hand was chosen; the system was tested with family and friends who had a wide range of technical capabilities. The responses were that the participants found the UI and features very straightforward to use and they really liked the concept of the Web Application. This boosted the team members' confidence in the design and the purpose it will serve to the people who need it.

In terms of other achievements, implementing a fairly functional API despite the many challenges faced using the CDC website. These will be elaborated on in the next paragraph. Thumbnails is also very proud of working as a team to not only complete all the allocated tasks in time, but also learn valuable soft skills such as communication and teamwork, and technical skills like agile practices, and basics in front end programming.

Issues faced

As mentioned previously, one of the biggest challenges the team had was developing the scraper for the API using the CDC website. The web pages that the team was allocated from the CDC website each followed a completely different HTML format. Hence one scraper may work for one page, but will give completely wrong answers for another. The only solution for this was to create a web scraper for each type of webpage. Also, each page varied in complexity, where the headings were, how the main text was formatted with HTML tags, and so on. Some pages required opening collapsible tables to get the required information, which was extremely difficult and unfortunately was not able to be completed. The final API only utilised scrapers that the team was able to complete within the time frame. The teams who used the WHO website didn't need to implement individual pages as they all followed the same HTML format and the website itself was very clearly laid out. It would be a lot easier if everyone was given the opportunity to work on that website too.

Also, the time period allocated for each deliverable by the team was not enough and the complexity was underestimated, especially to develop the UI. This resulted in significant stress amongst the team members as everything was rushed to be implemented in time. Looking back, the team believes that if only one of the big projects was the key project of the term, the system design would have been a lot more detailed and thorough.

New Skills

There were a few skills that the Thumbnails team had hoped to have had before the start or during the workshop. One major skill was being taught how to do front-end programming. Most of the team members were fairly inexperienced with front-end as it is not a core subject in our degrees. Many had basic skills that sufficed for the final implementation of the web application. However, if front-end programming techniques that are currently used in the workforce like React or even Angular was taught at some point during the workshop, not only would the team have been able to create a much more user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing UI, but also would have gained valuable skills that can be later used in future courses and even in our careers. Also, more training regarding web deployment would have been very useful, as team members found it a lot more complicated than initially expected to be.

Would do Differently

If this entire project were to happen again, the team would:

- Use better tools such as React to create better website
- Learn skills that will help to make the UI itself more accessible and adhere to design and heuristic principles
- Create both a low fid and high fid prototype before going into developing the Web Application in order to come up with a functional and aesthetically pleasing UI
- Performed usability testing, especially with the major target market (elderly people not vulnerable to being affected by covid) to see if the UI is straightforward to use and meets their needs
- If in the unfortunate chance that CDC was the website to be scraped yet again then make sure to make a lot more scrapers than last time so that more information can be collected to be used in report generating
- Manage time a bit better and make sure to get started on deliverables as soon as possible rather than delay and rush everything last minute
- Having more frequent stand up meetings to check everyone's progress and hold people accountable for work that is needed to be completed