# A Level Programming Project Report

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November 20, 2021

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## Chapter 1

# Analysis

## 1.1 Problem identification

A Level Computer Science students need to learn many algorithms and data structures during the course. In the final exam, they need to write pseudocode to solve computational questions. Many students find it is hard to achieve a high score on those questions due to the lack of efficient training. The general method used by students to learn and revise for Computer Science is to attempt and self-mark past paper questions. This works well for ordinary questions. However, for the algorithm questions, different students may produce completely different code solutions. This makes their self-marking very unreliable. It is also too much work for the teacher to mark their solutions one by one. So, in the end, students do not know whether they get things right, and teachers do not know how the students perform and how they can help, especially in this lockdown online learning era where no direct contact between teachers and students is possible.

Both the students and the teachers are looking for a more efficient method to learn and practice.

## 1.2 Stakeholders

There are two types of stakeholders, Computer Science teachers, and Computer Science students.

### 1.2.1 Computer Science teachers

Computer Science teachers find it is difficult to monitor their students' ability to design and implement algorithms, so they cannot provide efficient help to

their students. This software allows them to create coding questions and send them to the students. After the students hand their solutions back, the software will automatically mark their answers and provide detailed statistical data with simple visualizations. This helps the teachers save a lot of time and allows them to help the students better.

The stakeholder is Mr Grimwood, who is an experienced A Level Computer Science teacher who teaches a Year 12 CS group and a Year 13 CS group.

### 1.2.2 Computer Science students

Computer Science students find that they tend to lose marks on the algorithms coding questions, so they want more practice. But unlike ordinary questions, they may take a completely different approach towards the questions compared to the mark scheme, so they do not know whether they get it correct. Students may also think they have got things right, but actually, they have made some mistakes. The software provides a free practice space that automatically marks their solutions and points out their mistakes in real-time. So the students can learn and revise more efficiently.

The stakeholders are Timofei and PCloud. They are both Year 13 students studying A Level Computer Science.

## 1.3 Why it is suited to a computational solution

The original problem, 'understand and mark a student's answer' is a very difficult question for a computer to solve. But I transform the question into 'compare the output of the students' code with pre-generated test cases', which makes the problem solvable using a computational method since a computer is good at 'executing a piece of code' and 'comparing two strings'. This approach solves the 'marking' question from another angle and makes the question suited to a computational solution.

## 1.4 Solve by computational methods

## 1.4.1 Thinking abstractly

In reality, students use pens and paper to write their code solutions. This can be simplified into a code editor, and the students can use their keyboards to type in the code. In this way, no 'text scanning' or 'handwriting recognization' is needed which makes the design and programming much easier. The code editor will also provide a better user experience. Features such as syntax highlighting cannot exist on paper but are possible in a code editor.

In reality, the students' answer is sent to a teacher to mark it against the mark scheme. The teacher needs to read the code line by line and check whether it is correct. This process is abstracted into a judger that marks the code against pre-generated test cases, which transforms a problem that originally cannot be solved by computational method into one which is very easy to be solved by a computer while saving time and costs. When creating a new question, instead of creating a mark scheme for marking, the teacher needs to provide test cases with the correct input and expected output. The judger will run the students' submissions with the input and check whether their output matches the expected one.

## 1.4.2 Thinking ahead

For teachers, the software requires them to enter questions and test cases. A question editor containing input boxes is needed for this purpose. For students, the software requires them to enter their code solutions. A code editor is needed for this purpose. A relational database is needed to store all the data. For all users, the software requires input data from the mouse and keyboard to navigate between different windows and menus. Users will also need a monitor for the program to display all the information and outputs.

### 1.4.3 Thinking procedurally and decomposition

The program can be decomposed into several parts. Each part can be designed and maintained individually. Different components can interact with each other using custom APIs.



## 1.4.4 Thinking concurrently

When judging the students' solution, many test cases can be executed at the same time to reduce the judging time. The number of parallel judgers needs to be set carefully based on the user's hardware. Running too few test cases concurrently may result in a very long judging time while running too many test cases at the same time may use up computing resources and cause issues.

### 1.5 Interview

## 1.5.1 Design interview

#### Interview for teachers

- 1. Do you find your students tend to lose marks on programming questions in exams?
- 2. Do you find marking the programming question takes a lot of time and effort?
- 3. Compare to the knowledge-based Computer System section, do you find it is more difficult to monitor students' skill level on the Algorithm and Programming section?
- 4. Have you ever heard about some online programming platforms?
- 5. Have you ever tried some of the online programming platforms?
- 6. If yes, what do you think about these platforms? Have you ever considered using them for teaching and training?
- 7. Do you think a similar solution can help improve the efficiency of learning and training?
- 8. If no, do you think the idea of a software that can mark students' answers on programming questions and provide analysis data can help improve the efficiency of learning and training?
- 9. Do you have anything else to add?

Question 1 to 3 is a series of proof-of-concept questions, which I expect my stakeholders to answer 'Yes' to all of them. They confirm that the problem I am trying to solve exists and there is a need for such a solution. Question 4 to 5 asks about the teachers' knowledge of existing solutions. Question 6 to 8 ask about their experiences and opinions about these existing solutions, which gives me insights on the problems with existing solutions and how my solution can fit their need better.

#### Interview for students

- 1. Do you find the programming questions difficult?
- 2. Do you find yourself lacking efficient practising in algorithm designing and programming?
- 3. Have you ever heard about some online programming platforms?
- 4. Have you ever tried some of the online programming platforms?
- 5. If yes, what do you think about these platforms?
- 6. Do you think a similar solution can help you learn and practise?
- 7. If no, do you think the idea of software that provides coding questions and marks your answer instantly can help you learn and practice better?
- 8. Do you have anything else to add?

Question 1 and 2 are similar proof-of-concept questions to confirm such a problem exists. The following questions ask about students' knowledge of existing solutions. If they have used an existing product before, I ask whether they think it helps. Otherwise, I ask whether they think it will be useful.

### 1.5.2 Conduct the interview

### Computer Science teacher - Mr Grimwood

- 1. Do you find your students tend to lose marks on programming questions in exams?
  - They do. Many of them don't understand the algorithms.
- 2. Do you find marking the programming questions takes a lot of time and effort?
  - Yes. Because some students produce partially correct answers, so it takes a lot of time to identify the correct part and award them the corresponding mark. Some students may take completely different approaches which takes a lot of effort to understand and mark them.
- 3. Do you find it is more difficult to monitor students' skill level on the Algorithm and Programming section and more difficult to provide sufficient help?
  - Yes.
- 4. Have you ever heard about some online programming platforms? I have. Emm... But I forget the names.
- 5. If yes, have you ever tried some of the online programming platforms? I have.

- 6. If yes, what do you think about these platforms?

  I think the idea is quite interesting and I find them working quite well.
- 7. Have you ever considered using them for teaching and practising?

  No. Because most of them require a paid subscription, and their content is more likely to be something like 'Learning Python' which is irrelevant to the A Level Computer Science content.
- 8. Do you think a similar solution can help improve the efficiency of learning and training?
  - Yes. The students can learn at their own pace and they can keep practising by themselves.
- 9. Do you have anything else to add? No.

Mr Grimwood has several valuable points here. He points out that the 'partially correct' answers are the most difficult ones to mark. For my solution, if a student submits a 'partially correct' code answer, then its output will certainly not match the expected output. This means my solution might not be able to tell the difference between a 'partially correct' answer and an 'incorrect' answer. This is a potential limitation I need to watch out for. He also says the price is one of his concerns. My solution will be free and open-source, which will meet his need perfectly. By adding the function to create custom questions and share them with others, users will be able to create and find A Level Computer Science content, or any content easier. It is also a good idea for me to create some A Level Computer Science content that comes with the software to make it easier to use.

### Computer Science student - PCloud

- Do you find the programming questions difficult?
   I find some of them quite complex and difficult, especially the graph algorithms such as Dijkstra.
- 2. Do you find yourself lacking efficient practising in algorithm designing and programming?
  - Absolutely. Although I code a lot in my spare time, normal projects are quite different from the exam questions. There are not many past papers and exam-style questions for practising, so I usually don't feel confident of those questions.
- 3. Have you ever heard about some online programming platforms? Yes. Such as AcWing, LeetCode, and TopCoder.
- 4. Have you ever tried some of the online programming platforms? Yes. I am an active user of AcWing.

5. If yes, what do you think about these platforms?

I enjoy the experience. They can provide instant feedback for my submissions. It provides very strong positive feedback when I solve a new question. I find myself learning faster and more efficiently with such platforms.

- 6. Do you think a similar solution can help you learn and practise?

  Absolutely. The existing platforms do not provide A Level related content.

  So if a software solution can be altered for A Level Computer Science course, that will help a lot.
- 7. (\*) How do you think it should be optimized for A Level CS content? You can add past exam questions practising. Adding a timed practice mode will be helpful.
- 8. Do you have anything else to add? No.

PCloud confirms that such a solution will help him learn and practise more efficiently. The instant feedback of whether he gets the question correctly is very important to him. Instead of sending the user's submission to a remote server, my solution should judge the user's answer on their computer. This can avoid the instabilities caused by the remote server's availability and the network connection. He also gives me some good ideas about the content. I can add past exam questions for users to do timed practice, which enables users to practice algorithms and exam techniques at the same time.

### Computer Science student - Timofei

- Do you find the programming questions difficult?
   Yes. I generally lose marks because of some careless syntax mistakes I made.
- 2. Do you find yourself lacking efficient practising in algorithm designing and programming?
  - Yes. I find I cannot find many materials to practice.
- 3. Have you ever heard about some online programming platforms? Codewar. Something like that.
- 4. Have you ever tried some of the online programming platforms? Yes.
- 5. If yes, what do you think about these platforms?
  I think they are quite helpful. But I find their marking is too specific, if I get a single character wrong in my output, it gets marked incorrect.

- 6. Do you think a similar solution can help you learn and practise? Yes.
- 7. Do you have anything else to add? No.

Timofei points out that the marking system in existing products is not very sensible. This may be a potential limitation of my solution as well. It is easy to directly compare the users' output and the expected output. But if they are different, it is difficult to figure out whether that difference is caused by a wrong code solution or just some formatting error. I can partially solve this by allowing the users to pre-test their code against examples before formal submissions, so they can check the output format.

## 1.6 Research

There are many coding training websites on the market, most of them share a similar idea, so I will investigate two of the most popular ones.

- LeetCode
- Codeforces

### 1.6.1 LeetCode

LeetCode is a platform for interview coding training, many large companies (Google, Facebook, ...) use it as a part of their interview.

LeetCode provides a database containing more than 1000 coding questions.

### Main coding layout



This is LeetCode's main coding area. The user's screen is split into two parts - the question section and the code editor for inputting answers. Users can drag the splitter in the middle to adjust the size of each section.

The question section contains 4 tabs, 'Description' tab displays the content of the question. 'Solution' tab displays the solutions from the community. 'Discuss' tab displays the discussions in the community. 'Submission' tab lists the user's previous submissions. Since I am not adding social functions in my solution, I will ignore the 'Solution' and 'Discuss' tabs. Under the 'Description' tab, LeetCode provides the context of the question, followed by 3 examples, and constraints for this question. The examples allow the user to run and check their solution before formal submission for marking, this can help them avoid silly mistakes. My solution should also provide similar examples for each question. Under the 'Submission' tab, LeetCode records every history submission, so the user can revise old questions more efficiently. My solution should provide a similar function as well.



The code editor provides line number and syntax highlighting functions. User can change their programming language with a drop-down box. LeetCode supports all mainstream programming languages. My solution should be able to support multiple programming languages as well, which allows students with different backgrounds to use them easily.

On the button, the user can 'Run Code' to test their code against the examples before submission, and then click the 'Submit' button to submit their solution formally.

The split view design is clean and handy. The user can see the question and write their solution on the same page without switching between different windows. The design of examples and the 'Run Code' button is useful as well. I can refer to LeetCode's coding layout when designing my solution's interface.

### Question database



Every question in LeetCode has many different attributes (Lists, Difficulty, Status, Tags, Title, Acceptance), so it is very easy for a user to find a suitable question to practice. My solution can similarly organize the question database and provide a corresponding query interface for a better user experience. The Pick One button on the top right is a very handy feature as well. Users can simply click that button to start working on a quick random question. The idea of a list of questions is great. Users can organize a series of questions to practice and share.

### **Pricing**



The basic functions of LeetCode are free to use for all users and it charges a fee for premium subscriptions. The premium subscription provides a larger question database, better code editor, faster judger, and more.

### Analysis

LeetCode is a fully web-based solution, which means it works on any device. However, it also means you will not be able to use it without a stable Internet connection. I decide to make my solution a desktop application since most students practice coding with a computer. It also save me a lot of cost from running and maintaining a server. LeetCode runs a large community for users to discuss questions with each other. I am not adding such a function to my solution. Teachers and students can use existing platforms they have been familiar with, it is unnecessary for me to develop a new platform and for the users to migrate from mature solutions. LeetCode has an easy-to-use graphical interface, which is important so new users can get their hands on very easily.

LeetCode does not support custom questions or any functions for educators. It is mainly designed for self-learners. My solution is designed for school use, so

it must support functions like custom questions, custom assignments, statistics data visualizations. LeetCode charges a subscription fee for essential functions. My solution will be free and open-source so everyone can benefit from it.

### 1.6.2 Codeforces

Codeforces is a competitive coding platform, it is mainly used by people to hold coding competitions.

### Main question layout



The questions and the examples take up nearly all the spaces on the question page. There is no online editor or online runtime environment provided. Users are expected to write and test their code in their IDEs and only submit the solution for judging. Custom IDEs may be more powerful than a built-in one. My solution will provide an editor, it is much more convenient to use. Even if a user decides to use his environment, he can paste his code into the editor for submission. It sets the time and memory limits for users' submissions, if a piece of code takes too long to run, or takes up too much memory while running, it will be terminated and marked wrong.

#### Submission



When the user submits the code, the code enters a queue waiting for judging, then the user can look up their result. Users can check their source code, performance stats, and more importantly, when they have not passed all test cases, they can see what they have got wrong. The judgment protocol provides detailed information about each test case, so users can debug easily.



### Analysis

Codeforces is optimized for coding competition, so it has a lightweight and complex interface for better performance. It is completely free to use. Users can create their questions but it is very complicated to do so. My solution needs to enable users without experience to create questions easily. There is no function for education - there is no way for a teacher to 'create a class' and monitor his students. Codeforces is an online platform, so it also works across all devices and requires an Internet connection. Users have to use their IDEs to write and debug their code. Codeforces sends all submissions to a central 'judging queue' for marking. My solution will mark all submissions locally, which makes judging a lot faster and save me from running a server. By limiting time and space allowance, Codeforces effectively prevents malicious code from running.

## 1.7 Features

A useful homepage interface with shortcuts to different functions in the software and other resources outside the software. This allows the user to get into practising faster and makes the software easy to use. Details about the design of the homepage will be discussed in the Design chapter.

A problem database with a graphical user interface. The GUI will have a search box and several drop-down menus for the user to input information to search for a problem. This provides the user with a simple way to find the problems they want, and it also ensures the users can manage and backup the data easily.

An interface for users to create new problems and share them with others. This interface will have multiple text fields for the user to input the descriptions to the problem, the expected input/output data. Then the problem is saved to the database and can be exported to a JSON file allowing the user to share it with others. Users can also create a 'list' of problems and export the entire list into a JSON file and share it with others. This enables teachers to create custom problems and share them with the students. It is a core feature that differentiates my solution from the existing ones.

An interface for teachers to create assignments. An assignment is a 'list' of problems with some extra data, such as the due date and total mark. It can be exported to a JSON file and shared with students. The student's submission will be exported into a JSON file as well and can be sent back to the teacher. The solution will also integrate with the assignment function in Microsoft Teams for Education, which makes it even easier to do. The students' submissions will be automatically marked by the software and detailed data will be provided to the teacher. A simple data analysis interface will be provided to the teacher so they can have a brief look at the result. The teacher can also export the data into a CSV file so they can import it to their school system or analysis it with professional software. This automates the entire process from creating assignments, distributing assignments, collecting assignments, and marking as-

signments. Teachers will have more time analysis the student's performance and provide corresponding help timely. It is a core feature that differentiates my solution from the existing ones.

An interface displaying the problem and the code editor. The solution provides a 'Run Code' button for the student to pre-run their code before submission, a 'Submit' button for the student to submit their code. This allows the students to read the question and write their code solution without switching between different windows. The 'Run Code' function also makes it easier to debug their code.

A playground with a code editor and runtime environment. This allows the software to be used in class teaching as well, the students can experiment with different algorithms and programming languages in the playground easily.

A settings page contains all the setting options for the software. Users can adjust settings such as their preferred programming language, syntax highlighting settings, colour themes, and so on. This allows the users to customize the software to fit their needs and allows users with different backgrounds to use it without issues.

### 1.8 Limitations

The software will be written in C# instead of web-based which means extra software needs to be downloaded by the user. I plan to use .NET 5 runtime and WinUI 3 library for my solution, so only the Windows 10 1809 or newer Windows operating systems will be supported. This should not cause many compatibility issues since most school computers are running the required version of the operating system. Downloading extra software is inconvenient and may violate the IT security policy of some schools.

The judger can only accept limited programming languages and the user may require to configure their runtime environment. Creating a compiler for 'OCR Pseudocode Programming Language' is too complex for this project. I will attempt to allow the user to add their preferred programming language and write documentation for them to make the process easier.

Unlike LeetCode, there are no Discussion pages for users to discuss questions because it is a desktop program instead of a web one. But this is not a big problem, students and teachers should use an existing product such as Microsoft Teams which has very good support in sharing code snippets. It is unnecessary to rebuild the wheel.

Distributing the questions and assignments is still inconvenient. Currently, distributing questions and assignments requires the teacher to first export the questions and assignments, then send them to the students through email or file-sharing platforms. When the students finish working, they need to send their results back through email or other apps. I have attempted to integrate the file-

sharing function with the existing platform - the Microsoft Teams Assignment function. But unfortunately, the Graph API required for this operation is still in beta version, which means it can only be tested in the development environment and cannot be used in production. So for now, the users still have to use this inconvenient way to share questions and submissions. But in the future, the integration with some existing platforms may improve the experience. (Update: the Microsoft Teams API is out of beta, now it is possible to integrate with it)

There are no good ways to maintain and distribute a large question database. Computer Science teachers are required to maintain a database for their students. But this is difficult work. Creating good test cases is much time consuming than writing a mark scheme, it is very likely for a wrong solution to pass the judging if the test cases are not good enough. It relies on the teacher who creates the questions to consider everything clearly to minimize its impact.

The judger can only simply compare the students' output with the expected output if there is a format error such as trailing space and extra newline in their output, which will not be considered as a mistake in a real exam, will be marked as a wrong answer by the judger. So students may need to spend extra time debugging their output format. It cannot judge "partially correct" answers as well. It does not care which line did the student get correct or wrong, if the final output doesn't match, the submission will be marked wrong.

## 1.9 Hardware and software requirements

Hardware and software	Justification
requirements	
Standard mouse, keyboard,	Standard I/O devices are required for the
and monitor.	user to interact with the software. Users
	need a mouse to navigate around different
	menus and pages, they need to use a
	keyboard to input their code solutions and
	use a monitor to get the output from the
	software.
Operating system: Windows	The software is designed with the WinUI 3
10 (1809 or later), Windows	library and .Net 5 runtimes, which require
11.	such an operating system to run.
x86 64-bit CPU (Intel /	A modern CPU is required for the software.
AMD architecture) with 2	1 core will be used to run the main program
or more cores and 1 GHz or	and at least 1 spare core is required for the
higher clock speed.	judger to judge the submitted code. A clock
	speed higher than 1 GHz is required to
1000	ensure the software is running smoothly.
1GB free memory or more.	Around 512MB RAM is required to run the
	software, and another 512MB RAM is
	required for the judger to judge the
07015D ( 11.1	submissions.
256MB free disk space or	256MB free disk space is required to store
more.	and run the program itself, the user may
	need extra disk space to store extra cache
A 1 1 1 1 1	data and the database.
A modern dedicated or	The software has very little graphical
integrated graphics card.	demand, if the user's graphics card can run
	their operation system, it should be able to
	handle software as well.

## 1.10 Success criteria

Criteria	Justification
Users can use different links,	This ensures the program is easy to use
menus, and buttons to navigate	and allows the user to find the function
around the software easily.	they want to use quickly.
Users can use different	This allows users to search for questions
drop-down menus and the	easily in the database.
search box to find a problem	
from the problem database.	
Users can add new questions to	This allows teachers to create new
the database.	algorithm problems.
Correctly validate the new	Make sure correct data is input and
questions before adding them	prevent SQL injection.
to the database.	
Users can create lists of	This allows teachers to organize
questions.	problems better by creating lists to
	manage them.
Users can create assignments.	This allows teachers to create new
	assignments for their students.
Users can export/import	This allows the users to share questions
questions, lists, and	and data with others easily.
assignments from/to their	
problem database.	
Users can work on a problem	This allows the users to practice and get
and their submissions can be	feedback on the software.
automatically marked by the	
judger.	
Users can create submissions	This allows the students to complete and
for assignments and export	hand in assignments easily.
them into a file.	
Correctly access and interact	Allow teachers and students to manage
with the Microsoft Teams API	assignments through Microsoft Teams.
The software can mark the	This automates the marking process and
assignments automatically.	reduces teachers' work.
The software can perform	This provides teachers with an overview
simple data analysis to the	of student's performance on their
assignments data.	assignments and allows them to help
	their students better.
Users can export the	This allows the teachers to use advanced
assignment data to CSV files.	data analysis tools and import the data
	into their school system.
Users can use the playground	This allows the users to experiment with
to test any code.	new algorithms and programming
	languages and allows the software to be
	used in class teaching.

Users can customize the	This allows users to work in their favourite
software.	environment and makes the solution suitable
	to users with different backgrounds.
Split the core functions	Allowing easier maintenance.
and class into a core	
library.	
Use sensible variable	Makes the code easy to understand and make
names and add comments	maintenance easier.
to each function.	
Create CI/CD pipelines to	It allows the software to be tested and
build and deploy the	deployed automatically so users always
application automatically.	receive the latest features and security
	updates.
Unit tests with coverage	It makes sure all code is well tested.
higher than 90%.	

All the success criteria will first be tested through the unit tests created during the development. Then they will be tested and improved by me during the Alpha Testing stage. Finally, they will be tested by the stakeholders in the Beta Testing stage, and the evaluation will be based on their user experience and opinions.

# Chapter 2

# Design

## 2.1 Decomposition

As shown in the decomposition diagram on the next page, the entire problem will be decomposed into 5 main sub-problems: user interface, judger module, database module, data structure design and API module. Each of which will be further decomposed as explained below.



## 2.1.1 NavigationView



The NavigationView provides a global menu for the user to navigate between different pages in the software. There are six tabs in the NavigationView, "Home", "Problems", "Assignments", "Playground", "Account", "Settings". By clicking on a different tab, the mainframe will display the corresponding page. The currently selected tab will be highlighted.

### Usability feature

The entire NavigationView is a usability feature. Users can always look it up by clicking the top left button. They will be able to know where they are and navigate to other pages with one click, which makes the program easier to use.

### Validation

There are only buttons in the NavigationView for the user to click, so only valid actions can be taken, no further data validation is required.

## 2.1.2 HomePage



The HomePage is the first page that gets displayed to the user. On the top of the HomePage, there will be a beautiful background image under the 'Algorithm Dynamics' title. On the bottom, there are 10 useful buttons link to different functions.

### Usability feature

The 'Random' button starts a random problem for the user. The 'Import' button calls the system file explorer for the user to import problems, problem lists, or assignments. The 'Playground', 'Problems', 'Assignments' and 'Account' button links the user to the corresponding page. The three buttons at the end link to three useful websites, when users click the button, the default web browser will be called and directed to these websites, which makes it easy for the user to look up specifications and revise content. All the useful functions of the software are grouped on the HomePage, which makes them easily accessible and makes the software easy to use.

### Validation

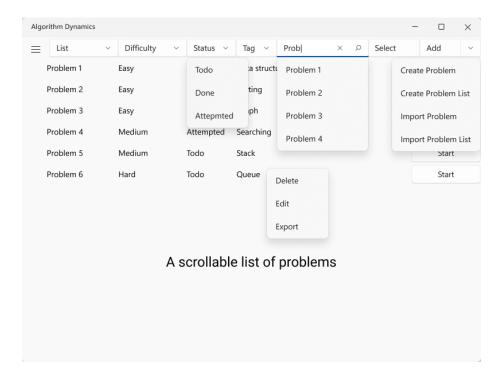
There are only buttons in the HomePage for the user to click, so only valid actions can be taken, no further data validation is required.

#### Stakeholder feedback

Timofei thinks putting the links on the same page makes it messy. He thinks those websites and resources can be easily found on the Internet, so there is no need to put extra links on the HomePage.

PCloud points out that the icon grid needs to be responsive, so when he uses the software on a small screen, all buttons should still be displayed properly.

## 2.1.3 ProblemsPage



The ProblemsPage displays all problems in the database. The user can search, create, edit, delete, import, export or start working on one or multiple problems on this page.

### Usability feature

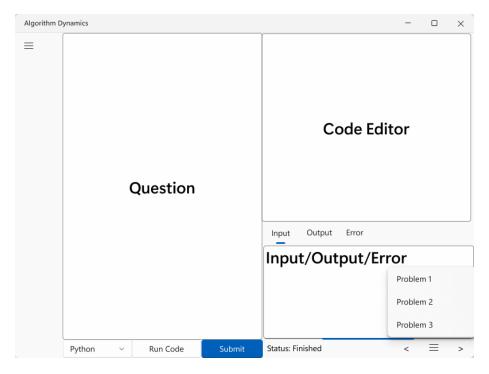
The user can apply the selection condition by either selecting different fields in the dropdown boxes or directly typing into the search box. A scrollable list of problems that match the conditions will be shown below with detailed information. The user can start working on a problem by clicking the start button on the right. They can also right-click the problem to call a context menu that includes more actions for them to delete, edit or export the problem. By clicking the select button on the top, the user can select multiple problems

at once and apply the same action to them at once. By clicking the Add button on the top right, a context menu will be displayed, allowing the user to create or import new problems or problem lists. When the user is typing into the search box, a flyout will display matching results to save typing. I will implement an advanced searching algorithm to improve the quality of the search results, and I will explain the algorithm in the algorithm design section.

#### Validation

Most components on this page are still buttons, users can only click them and no invalid data can be input. The search box is where the user can input some text only. A flyout will be displayed to promote the user to click the button instead of inputting data themselves. Also, a length check will be applied. The user can only enter a maximum of 32 characters so they cannot crash the search box or the searching algorithm. Instead of passing the search keywords directly to the database, a custom searching algorithm will be used to search and sanitise the search keyword, which prevents SQL injection and provide a better searching experience.

## 2.1.4 CodingPage



The CodingPage is where the user works on a programming problem. It contains a question panel, a code editor and an IO panel.

### Usability feature

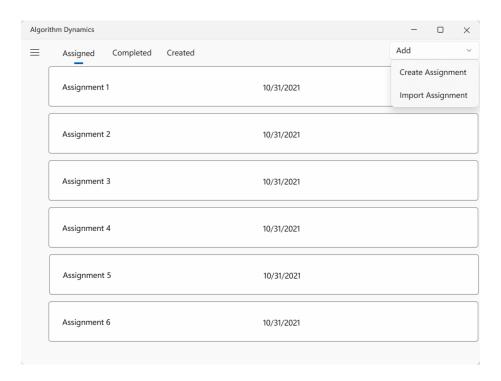
The question is displayed on the left and a code editor will be displayed on the top right. The input, output and error messages will be displayed on the button right, the user can switch between them by clicking the corresponding tab. On the bottom, the user can select programming language using a dropdown menu, run code by clicking the run code button and submit their code for judging by clicking the submit button. The status field shows the status of the judger and 3 navigation buttons on the button right to make it easy to navigate between different problems. There is a progress bar between the IO panel and the navigation buttons, it displays the judging progress.

The code editor will support line numbers, basic syntax highlighting and key-board shortcuts to make it easy to use.

#### Validaton

Again, most of the components on the page are either read-only (such as the question section) or buttons. The code editor is the only place for the user to input text, and the text inside will be validated by the compiler or the interpreter of the selected programming language. However, the IO panel requires further validation. To prevent the user from printing out a huge amount of data which might result in poor performance, the IO panel will perform a length check and only display the first 2048 characters of the output.

## 2.1.5 AssignmentsPage



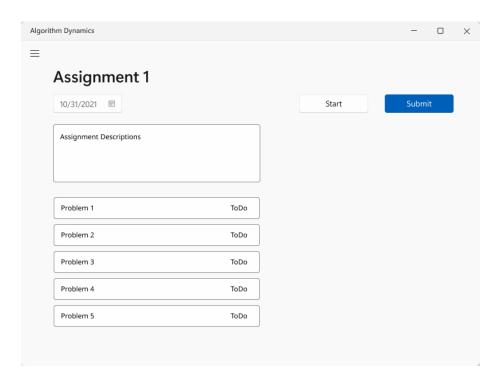
The AssignmentPage is where the user interacts with the assignments. For students, they can work on their assignments; for teachers, they can create and mark assignments.

## Usability feature

The user can switch between different tabs by clicking the navigation bar at the top. They can enter the detailed view of an assignment by clicking one assignment. A dropdown button is placed on the top right for the user to create or import a new assignment. All assignments will be displayed in a list with their due date.

### Validation

There are only buttons for the user to click, so only valid actions can be taken, no further data validation is required.



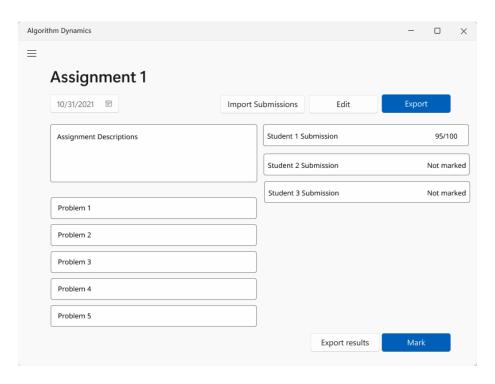
This is the assignment details page for students, which gets displayed when a student clicks on an assignment.

### Usability feature

The descriptions and due date of the assignment are displayed on the top left. A list of problems is displayed below where the user can see their status and start working on one by clicking it. When the user clicks the start button, he will be navigated to the CodingPage and the problems will be loaded. When he finishes all problems, he can click the submit button to either submit it through API or export it to a file to send to the teacher for marking.

### Validation

There are only buttons for the user to click, so only valid actions can be taken, no further data validation is required.



This is the assignment details page for teachers, which gets displayed when a teacher clicks on an assignment.

### Usability feature

The teacher can click the Import Submissions button to import students' submissions or click the edit button to edit the assignment, or the export button to distribute the assignment. All student submissions and their status will be listed on the right, the teacher can click the mark button to mark all of them automatically and click the student submission to see the code details in the CodeingPage.

After marking, the teacher can click the export results button to export all student's marks into a CSV file for further data analysis.

### Validation

There are only buttons for the user to click, so only valid actions can be taken, no further data validation is required.

## 2.1.6 PlaygroundPage



The PlaygroundPage is a free space for the user to run any code quickly. It is essentially the same page as the CodingPage but without a coding problem. The interface is slightly changed with a larger code editor and a separate IO panel for a better user experience.

## 2.1.7 AccountPage



The AccountPage is used to manage the current user and display user statistics.

### Usability feature

If the user has login into his Microsoft account, the avatar, username, email and role will be managed by his Microsoft Account, the edit button will navigate to the Microsoft account website, and the login button will be replaced with a logout button. If the user has a login locally, he can edit his information by clicking the edit button and log in to Microsoft account by clicking the login button.

Some interesting statistics will be displayed on the button.

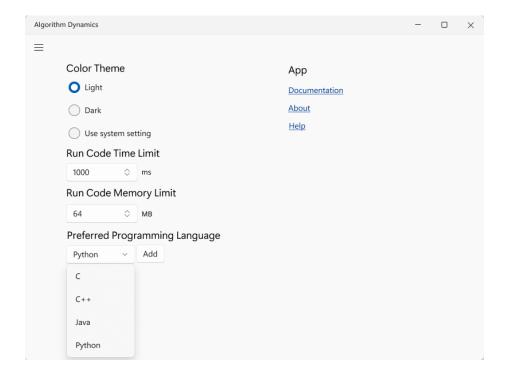
### Validation

When the user edits his local identity, the user name will not be allowed to exceed 32 characters, and a format check will be applied to the email address.

#### Stakeholder feedback

Timofei thinks there can be more interesting statistics, such as favourite variable names, and the total time spends in the software.

# 2.1.8 SettingsPage



The SettingsPage is where the user adjusts software settings.

### Usability feature

The user can adjust the colour theme of the software to use a light theme, dark theme or system default theme. The user can also change the run code time limit, memory limit and programming language profiles in the SettingsPage.

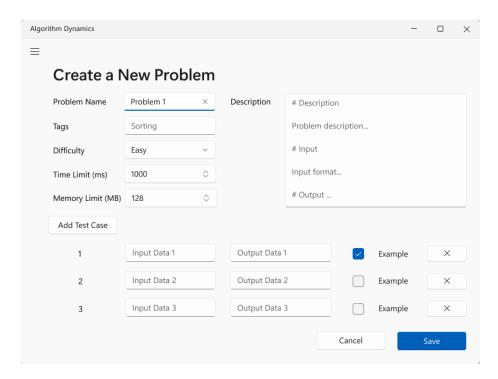
### Validation

Radio buttons are used for colour theme selection so it is impossible to enter any invalid data. A number box is used for the time limit and memory limit settings so only positive integers can be input. A dropdown list is used for the programming language setting so only valid input is accepted.

#### Stakeholder feedback

Timofei likes the idea of being able to switch between a light theme and a dark theme. He thinks it will be better if users are allowed to create their custom themes. He also suggests that allowing the user to change the font size manually may help a lot.

# 2.1.9 CreateNewProblemPage



The CreateNewProblemPage is used to create new problems. It contains multiple text boxes for the user to input problem information.

This page will be reused for editing existing problems. The title will be altered correspondingly.

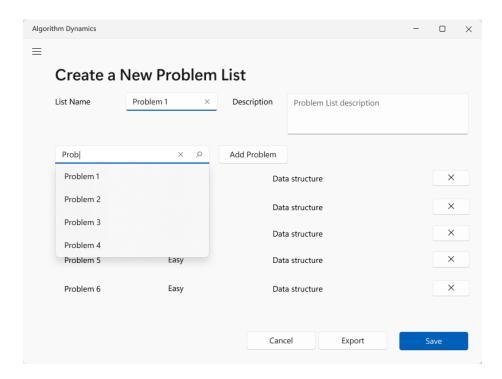
#### Usability feature

The Tags field will be a tokenizing text box with an auto suggestion dropdown menu to make input faster. The Difficulty field will have a dropdown list for easy selection. The Time Limit and Memory Limit fields will be number boxes. The user can add a new test case by clicking the add button and removing existing ones by clicking the delete button. If the user clicks the cancel button, a flyout will be displayed to confirm cancellation.

#### Validation

There are many input boxes on this page, they will all be validated. For the Problem Name field, the user can enter 32 characters at maximum. In the Tags field, the user can enter 5 tags at maximum. In the Time Limit and Memory Limit fields, the user can only enter numbers.

# 2.1.10 CreateNewProblemListPage



The CreateNewProblemListPage is used to create a new problem list. It contains multiple text boxes for the user to input problem list information.

The page will be reused for editing existing problem lists. The title will be altered correspondingly.

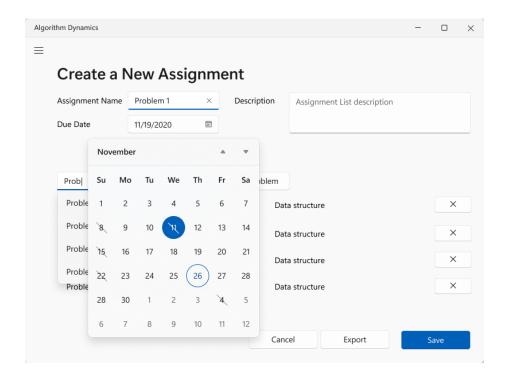
#### Usability feature

There will be an autosuggest box for the user to search for problems and add them to the list. There is an export and a save button at the button for the user to export or save the problem list. If the user clicks the cancel button, a flyout will be displayed to confirm cancellation. The test cases will be a scrollable list to display multiple test cases.

#### Validation

A similar validation is performed just like the CreateNewProblempage. For the List Name field, the user can enter 32 characters at maximum.

# 2.1.11 CreateNewAssignmentPage



The CreateNewAssignmentPage is used to create new assignments. It contains multiple text boxes for the user to input assignment data.

The page will be reused for editing existing assignments as well. The title will be altered correspondingly.

### Usability feature

The due date will be a DateTime picker, a visual calendar will be displayed for the user to pick a due date. An autosuggest search box will be placed for the user to search for problems easily.

#### Validation

The DateTime picker will prevent invalid dates from being input, the name field will have a maximum of 32 characters limit.

### 2.1.12 Judger module

The Judger module will handle all the judging and marking tasks. It takes in a Submission, compile and execute the user's code, judges whether it gives the correct output.

The Judger will take a few seconds to judge each Submission, while it is judging, the other parts of the software need to keep working on their tasks. So I use concurrent processing to let the Judger run parallel with the main program.

When judging a single TestCase, the Judger will first start the compiler in a new process to compile the user's code. The Judger redirects the output of the compiler to an internal string variable to store all outputs. When the compiler finishes compiling, an interrupt is triggered and the Judger will be notified that the compilation has been done. It will check the compiler's exit code and its output, if there are any compilation errors, they will be reported back. Otherwise, the Judger will run the compiled executable, and feed the input to its stdin and redirects all stdout and stderr to internal string variables. On top of that, the Judger will start a countdown timer in a different process to track the time. When the countdown reaches zero, an interrupt will be sent to the Judger and it will terminate the user's code and report a time limit exceed error, or if the user's code finishes first, then its output will be compared with the expected output, the result and all statistics will then be reported.

A problem may contain multiple test cases, so all test cases will be first pushed into a judging queue, and the judger will judge them one by one.

Similarly, an assignment may contain multiple problems, all problems will be first pushed into a problem queue, and each problem will be processed one by one.

The detailed judging algorithm will be explained later in the algorithm design section.

#### 2.1.13 Database module

Because this software will store many complex relational data, a relational database is needed to store all the data. Since the software runs locally, and every user will have different data, instead of a central SQL Server, a local SQL Database engine is required.

I choose to use SQLite to power this software. It is a small, self-contained, high-reliability, full-featured SQL Database engine, which will be enough to handle all the data storing and querying requests.

The SQLite database has some limitations. It only supports five data types. TEXT, INTEGER, NULL, REAL and BLOB. So other data types such as DateTime and Guid will need to be converted before storing.

I choose to use Microsoft.Data.SQLite for the database interface, which allows me to send SQL requests to the database, handle errors and provide safety features to prevent SQL injection. Details about the design of the database and queries will be described in the Database design section.

### 2.1.14 API module

The API module will allow the user to log in to their Microsoft Education account, and interact with the Education Assignment function. Users will be able to create and manage assignments using education assignments APIs provided by Microsoft.

When the user clicks the login button in the SettingsPage, the API module will handle the login requests. When a logged-in user opens the AssignmentPage, the API module will fetch all assignments. The API module will also allow the teachers to distribute assignments directly through API calls and the students to hand in submissions without any kind of exporting.

The API module will be implemented at the end after all local functions are working correctly. The corresponding API calls and endpoints will be discussed later.

# 2.2 Algorithm design

### 2.2.1 Searchbox searching algorithm

This algorithm will be used to power all the search boxes in the software. It will be packed into a function, taking in a list of items and the searching keyword input by the user, returning a list of results. To make the software easy to use, instead of simply using a linear search and returning all matching results, the algorithm will perform some fuzzy searching, so even the word is not typed in completely, matching results will be returned.

```
function search(sourceList, keyword)
// Create an empty list to store the results
resultList = new List<string>()
// Split the keyword into pieces by space
splitKeyword = keyword.ToLower().Split(' ')
// Compare each piece of keyword with the sourceList
// Add the matching result into resultList
for i=0 to sourceList.Length - 1
for j=0 to splitKeyword.Length - 1
sourceKey = sourceList[i].ToLower()
if sourceKey.Contains(splitKeyword[j]) then
resultList.Add(sourceList[i])
```

```
endif
13
            next j
        next i
15
16
        // If no result is found,
17
        // add an "not found" notice to the resultList
        if resultList.Length == 0 then
19
              resultList.Add("No results found")
20
        endif
21
    endfunction
```

In this algorithm, I first create an empty list to store the result. Then I split the keyword into a list by space. So the keyword "A Long Problem Name" will be splitted into ["A", "Long", "Problem", "Name"].

Next, I use two nested loops to perform a linear search on each keyword. I choose to use the linear search here because the list is not sorted, so only it will work. The overall time complexity here is O(nm) where n is the length of the sourceList and m is the length of splitKeyword. This is not very fast, but in real-world use cases, both n and m will be very small (less than 1000), so this algorithm will be fast enough to handle most of the cases. The increase in complexity brings a better searching experience. In this way, the algorithm will be able to match keywords like prob to result in A Long Problem List, while normal linear search will not be able to do this.

In the end, if no item is found, a not found notice is added to the list, which will be displayed to the user.

### 2.2.2 Judger RunCode algorithm

This algorithm is designed for the Judger to run a piece of code, pass input to the code and receive all the output and error. This is the basic function of the Judger and further judging will all base on this algorithm.

Before anything can run, the Judger will need to first write the user's code to a source code file. And before it can do that, it needs to know where it should write to. I will create three private variables \_SourceCodeFilePath, \_SourceCodeFolderPath and \_ExecutableFilePath to store the file paths for the source code file and the executable file. I use the idea of encapsulation here so these variables can only be set by the public method SetSourceCodeFilePath, so they will not be modified unexpectedly.

```
partial class Judger
private _SourceCodeFilePath
private _SourceCodeFolderPath
private _ExecutableFilePath

public procedure SetSourceCodeFilePath(FolderPath, FileName)
```

For compiling programming languages such as C, C++ and Java, the source code needs to be compiled before running. So I need to add a Compile function to support these programming languages. The compile task needs to be run concurrently in a different process so the main UI can stay responsive. So instead of monitoring the compiler all the time, I will bind two event handlers to the compile process, to process its output data and error data. Those data will then be stored in two private string variables for later use.

```
partial class Judger
       private _CompilationOutput
       private _CompilationError
3
       private procedure CompileProcess_ErrorDataReceived(sender, e)
5
            // Validate the data before storing
            if string.IsNullOrEmpty(e.Data) == False then
                _CompilationError += e.Data + '\n'
            endif
        endprocedure
10
11
       private procedure CompileProcess_OutputDataReceived(sender,
            // Validate the data before storing
13
            if string.IsNullOrEmpty(e.Data) == False then
14
                _CompilationOutput += e.Data + '\n
            endif
16
        endprocedure
17
   endclass
```

Now, it is ready to run the compiler. Before it can start compiling, the old outputs need to be cleaned. I design two magic variables in the language configurations allowing more flexible arguments, these magic variables need to be pre-processed before compiling. A process start info needs to be created to let the Judger know how to start the new process. After binding the event handlers, the compiler can start running.

```
partial class Judger
private function Compile()
// Clear the old data
CompilationOutput = ""
CompilationError = ""
```

```
// Pre-process language compile command and arguments
            string fileName =
                language.CompileCommand.Replace("{SourceCodeFilePath}",
                _SourceCodeFilePath).Replace("{ExecutableFilePath}",
                _ExecutableFilePath)
            string arguments =
                language.CompileArguments.Replace("{SourceCodeFilePath}",
                _SourceCodeFilePath).Replace("{ExecutableFilePath}",
                _ExecutableFilePath)
            // Create a new process start info
11
            ProcessStartInfo StartInfo = new ProcessStartInfo
12
            (
                FileName: fileName,
14
                Arguments: arguments,
15
                UseShellExecute: false,
16
                CreateNoWindow: true,
                RedirectStandardOutput: true,
                RedirectStandardError: true,
19
            )
20
            // Create a new compile process
22
           Process CompileProcess = new Process(StartInfo)
23
            // Bind event handlers to the compile process
            CompileProcess.OutputDataReceived += new
26
            → DataReceivedEventHandler(CompileProcess_OutputDataReceived)
            CompileProcess.ErrorDataReceived += new
27
               DataReceivedEventHandler(CompileProcess_ErrorDataReceived)
28
            // Start the compile process
            CompileProcess.Start()
            CompileProcess.BeginOutputReadLine()
            CompileProcess.BeginErrorReadLine()
32
            CompileProcess.WaitForExitAsync()
33
34
            // Return the exit code
            return CompileProcess.ExitCode
36
       endfunction
37
   endclass
```

In the end, an integer exit code will be returned. If the exit code is zero, the Judger will know that the compilation is successful. If it is something else, then the Judger will need to report a compile error with detailed data from \_CompilationError.

If the user's code is compiled successfully or it does not need to be compiled, the Execute function is called to run the code or the executable, pass the input to the process and get its output. The Execute function will also need to kill the running process if it runs too long. So I will use a custom enumeration type StatusCode to manage the process' status.

```
enum StatusCode
PENDING,
RUNNING,
FINISHED,
TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED,
MEMORY_LIMIT_EXCEED
endenum

partial class Judger
private _StatusCode
endclass
```

StatusCode has five possible values, PENDING is set when the code is waiting to be run. When it starts executing, the status code will be set to RUNNING. If it finishes in time, its status will be set to FINISHED. If it exceeds the time limit, the process will be killed by the Judger and a TLE will be recorded. If it exceeds the memory limit, the process will be killed by the Judger and a MLE will be recorded.

Similarly, I will use event handlers to record all the outputs from the user's code. I add a third handler to process the exit event, which will determine the \_StatusCode mentioned above.

```
partial class Judger
       private _StandardOutput
2
       private _StandardError
       private procedure ExecuteProcess_Exited(sender, e)
5
            // Only successfully finished when the status code is not
            \hookrightarrow TLE or MLE
            if _StatusCode != StatusCode.TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED and
                _StatusCode != StatusCode.MEMORY_LIMIT_EXCEED then
                _StatusCode = StatusCode.FINISHED
            endif
        endprocedure
10
11
       private procedure ExecuteProcess_OutputDataReceived(sender,
12
        → e)
            // Validate the data before storing
13
            if string.IsNullOrEmpty(e.Data) == False then
14
                _StandardOutput += e.Data + '\n'
15
            {\tt endif}
17
       endprocedure
18
       private procedure ExecuteProcess_ErrorDataReceived(sender, e)
```

The Execute function has a similar design with the Compile function. It configures all the running information and event handlers as usual. However, this time I add two extra processes running concurrently with the execution process. The first one is a timer, which countdown the time limit. When the timer counts to zero, it checks whether the execute process is still running, if it does, then the execution process will be killed and a TLE will be reported. The second one is a memory monitor, which checks the peak memory usage of the execution process every 10 milliseconds. If the memory usage is larger than the memory limit, then the execution process will be killed and a MLE will be reported.

```
partial class Judger
       private _WorkingSet64;
       private function Execute(Input, Language, TimeLimit,
           MemoryLimit)
            // Clear the old data
            _StandardOutput = ""
            _StandardInput = ""
            _WorkingSet64 = 0
            // Initialize status code
            _StatusCode = StatusCode.PENDING
11
            // Pre-process language run command and arguments
12
            string fileName =
                Language.RunCommand.Replace("{SourceCodeFilePath}",
                _SourceCodeFilePath).Replace("{ExecutableFilePath}",
                _ExecutableFilePath)
            string arguments =
14
            → Language.RunArguments.Replace("{SourceCodeFilePath}",
                SourceCodeFilePath).Replace("{ExecutableFilePath}",
                ExecutableFilePath)
            // Create a new process start info
            ProcessStartInfo StartInfo = new ProcessStartInfo
17
            (
18
                FileName: fileName,
                Arguments: arguments,
20
                UseShellExecute: false,
21
                CreateNoWindow: true,
                RedirectStandardInput: true,
                RedirectStandardOutput: true,
24
                RedirectStandardError: true,
25
```

```
)
            // Create a new execute process
            Process ExecuteProcess = new ExecuteProcess(StartInfo)
            // Bind event handlers to the compile process
            ExecuteProcess.OutputDataReceived += new
            → DataReceivedEventHandler(ExecuteProcess_OutputDataReceived)
            ExecuteProcess.ErrorDataReceived += new
                DataReceivedEventHandler(ExecuteProcess_ErrorDataReceived)
            ExecuteProcess.Exited += new
34
                EventHandler(ExecuteProcess_Exited)
            // Start the execute process
            ExecuteProcess.Start()
            ExecuteProcess.BeginOutputReadLine()
            ExecuteProcess.BeginErrorReadLine()
            ExecuteProcess.StandardInput.WriteLine(Input);
            // Set the status code to Running
42
            _StatusCode = StatusCode.RUNNING
           // Start the timer
            Timer timer = new Timer(() =>
                // If the user's code is still running
                // when the timer has finished
49
                // Kill the user's code and record a TLE
                if ExecuteProcess.HasExited == false then
                    ExecuteProcess.Kill()
                     _StatusCode = StatusCode.TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED
                endif
            }, null, TimeLimit, Timeout.Infinite)
56
            // Start the memory monitor
            Thread MemoryMonitor = new Thread(() =>
            {
                while ExecuteProcess.HasExited == false
                    ExecuteProcess.Refresh()
                     _WorkingSet64 = ExecuteProcess.PeakWorkingSet64
                    if _WorkingSet64 > MemoryLimit then
                        ExecuteProcess.Kill()
64
                         _StatusCode =
                         \quad \hookrightarrow \quad {\tt StatusCode.MEMORY\_LIMIT\_EXCEEDED}
                    endif
                endwhile
            });
            MemoryMonitor.Start()
            // Wait the process to finish
```

Now I have everything I need to build the RunCode function. It takes in the user's code, input data, language configuration, time limit and memory limit, outputs a RunCodeResult containing all the running information. I also need to set up a stopwatch to measure how long the code has been executed, unlike the timer before, this stopwatch only provides data for statistics records. In the end, the RunCode function will handle some basic errors, it will judge whether the user's code run, but it will not judge whether the user's code provides the correct output. The RunCode algorithm only runs the code and further judging will be handed over to other algorithms.

```
partial class Judger
       public function RunCode(UserCode, Input, Language, TimeLimit,

→ MemoryLimit)

            // Create a new TestCaseResult
            RunCodeResult result = new RunCodeResult()
            // Write the source code to file
            sourceCodeFile = openWrite(_SourceCodeFilePath)
            sourceCodeFile.write(UserCode)
            sourceCodeFile.close()
            // Compile if needed
11
            if Language.NeedCompile then
12
                // Compile and record the exit code
                exitCode = Compile(Language)
15
                // If compile failed then return a COMPILE_ERROR
16
                if exitCode != 0 then
17
                    result.StandardOutput = _CompilationOutput
                    result.StandardError = CompilationError
19
                    result.ResultCode = ResultCode.COMPILE ERROR
20
                    return result
                endif
            endif
23
24
            // Set up a Stopwatch to record the running time
            Stopwatch watch = new Stopwatch()
26
            watch.Start()
27
            // Execute the code
            exitCode = Execute(Input, Language, TimeLimit)
31
```

```
watch.Stop()
32
            // Store the stats to the result
34
            result.StandardOutput = _StandardOutput
            result.StandardError = _StandardError
           result.CPUTime = watch.ElapsedMilliseconds
            // If time limit exceed, return TLE
39
            if _StatusCode == StatusCode.TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED then
                result.ResultCode = ResultCode.TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED
                return result
42
            endif
43
            // If memory limit exceed, return MLE
            if _StatusCode == StatusCode.MEMORY_LIMIT_EXCEEDED then
46
                result.ResultCode = ResultCode.MEMORY_LIMIT_EXCEEDED
                return result
            endif
50
            // If receive a error or exit code is not zero
            // Return a runtime error
            if string.IsNullOrEmpty(result.StandardError) == False or
53
                exitCode != 0 then
                result.ResultCode = ResultCode.RUNTIME_ERROR
                return result
            endif
56
57
            // Otherwise, return success
            result.ResultCode = ResultCode.SUCCESS
            return result
60
       endfunction
61
   endclass
```

### 2.2.3 Judger Judge TestCase algorithm

This algorithm is designed to allow the Judger to judge a test case. On top of the RunCode function, this algorithm compare the user's output with the expected output, so it can judge whether the user's code works correctly. The JudgeTestCase function returns a TestCaseResult containing more information.

```
// If the code is executed successfully
            // Judge whether its output matches the expected output
            if result.ResultCode == ResultCode.SUCCESS then
10
                // Trim the trailing spaces before comparing
                userOutput = result.StandardOutput.Trim()
12
                expectedOutput = TestCase.Output.Trim()
13
                // If they are not matched
                // Report wrong answer
16
                if userOutput != expectedOutput then
17
                    result.ResultCode = ResultCode.WRONG_ANSWER
                endif
19
            endif
20
            return result
21
       endfunction
22
   endclass
```

### 2.2.4 Judger Judge Problem algorithm

This algorithm is designed to judge a submission. I set up a judging queue and push all test cases into the queue. Then I take them out and judge them one by one. A queue is suitable for this use case because I want the first test case entered to be judged first. A submission result will be returned at the end.

```
partial class Judger
       public function JudgeProblem(Submission)
            // Create the submission result
            SubmissionResult result = new SubmissionResult()
            result.Submission = Submission
            // Create the judging queue
            Queue JudgeQueue = new
            → Queue(Submission.Problem.TestCases)
            // Keep judging until the queue is empty
10
            while len(JudgeQueue) > 0
                Code = Submission.Code
                TestCase = JudgeQueue.Dequeue()
13
                Language = Submission.Language
14
                TimeLimit = Submission.Problem.TimeLimit
                MemoryLimit = Submission.Problem.MemoryLimit
16
                TestCaseResult = JudgeTestCase(Code, TestCase,
17

→ Language, TimeLimit, MemoryLimit)

                result.Add(TestCaseResult)
            endwhile
19
            return result
20
```

```
endfunction endclass
```

### 2.2.5 Judger Judge Assignment algorithm

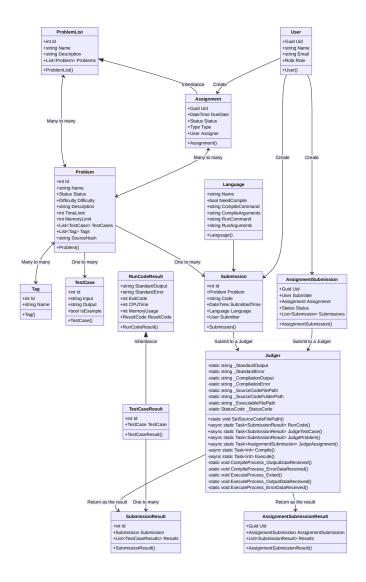
This algorithm is designed to judge an assignment submission. I set up a judging queue and push all problems into the queue. Then I take them out and judge them one by one. A queue is suitable for this use case because I want the first problem entered to be judged first. An assignment submission result will be returned at the end.

```
partial class Judger
       public function JudgeAssignment(AssignmentSubmission)
           // Create the assignment submission result
           AssignmentSubmissionResult result = new
            → AssignmentSubmissionResult()
           result.AssignmentSubmission = AssignmentSubmission
            // Create the judging queue
           Queue JudgeQueue = new
               Queue(AssignmentSubmission.Submissions)
9
           // Keep judging until the queue is empty
           while len(JudgeQueue) > 0
                Submission = JudgeQueue.Dequeue()
12
                SubmissionResult = JudgeProblem(Submission)
                result.Add(SubmissionResult)
            endwhile
           return result
16
       endfunction
17
   endclass
```

# 2.3 Data structure design

### 2.3.1 Class design

I am taking an object-oriented approach to the design of the software. This is the class diagram for all classes with their attributes and methods.



#### User

User is an object used to represent the current user. Its data will be attached to each Submission, Assignment and AssignmentSubmission, so the user can track identities and manage the data easily. Users will be asked to enter this information when they first open the software, an instance of User will be created and stored in the database.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Uid	Guid	The User uses a Guid value for its Uid instead of a
		normal int value to ensure the Uid is unique
		globally. Every user will have a unique Uid.
Name	string	Name stores the user's name.
Email	string	Email stores the user's Email address.
Role	enum Role	Role is a custom enumeration type which has two
		possible values, Student or Teacher. It is used to
		determine the role of the current user, and the user
		interface will be adjusted accordingly. I choose to
		use a custom enumeration type instead of some
		magic numbers to make the code more readable
		and easier to maintain.

### Tag

A Tag is a label used to categorize a Problem.

Variable	Data type	Justification	
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a Tag. It is	
		used to uniquely determine a Tag in the local	
		database.	
Name	string	Name stores the name of the Tag. A Name must be	
		unique, so data needs to be validated and two Tags	
		with the same Name is not allowed.	

#### TestCase

A TestCase is one set of test input and output, which will be used by the Judger to judge the user's submission.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a
		TestCase. It is used to uniquely determine a
		TestCase in the database.
Input	string	The Input will be feed to the user's submission
		code by the Judger.
Output	string	Output stores the expected Output of the
		corresponding Input. The Judger will compare
		user's output with the Output to judge whether
		the user's code is correct.
IsExample	bool	Define whether this TestCase is an example. An
		example TestCase will be displayed to the user
		for debugging, and distribute with an
		Assignment. A non-example TestCase will be
		used to judge the solution and will not be
		displayed to the user or distribute with an
		Assignment. A boolean value is suitable to store
		the two-state data.

# ${\tt Problem}$

The  $\ensuremath{\operatorname{\mbox{{\sc Problem}}}}$  is used to store and organize the data for each programming question.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a
		Problem. It is used to uniquely determine a
		Problem in the database. When a Problem is
		imported in to the database, a new Id is given.
Name	string	The Name is a string contains the name of a
		Problem.
SourceHash	string	This field is null for all normal Problem. It is
		only set for Problem which comes with an
		Assignment, and it is set to the hash value of
		the original Problem. This value will be
		recorded for Submission.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Description	string	The Description is a string storing
		the detailed description of a Problem.
		Markdown syntax is supported for a
		better user experience.
Status	enum Status	Status is an enumeration type
		containing 3 possible status: Todo,
		Solved and Attempted. This is used
		to collect user statistics data. I choose
		to use a custom enumeration type
		instead of some magic numbers to
		make the code more readable and
		easier to maintain.
Difficulty	enum Difficulty	Difficulty is an enumeration type
		containing 3 possible difficulties: Easy,
		Medium and Hard. This provdes a way
		for the user to search and select
		problems by their difficulties.
TimeLimit	int	TimeLimit sets the max time allowed
		for the user code to run in millisecond.
		When the running time exceed the
		TimeLimit, the running code will be killed and a Time Limit Exceed error
		will be recorded. This prevents infinite
		loop from using up all computing
		resources and rejects inefficient algorithms.
MemoryLimit	int	MemoryLimit sets the max memory
HemoryElmic	1110	allowed for the user's code to consume
		in bytes. When the memory usage
		exceed the memory limit, the running
		code will be killed and a Memory
		Limit Exceed Error will be recorded.
		This prevents incorrect code from
		using up all memory space and rejects
		inefficient algorithms.
TestCases	List <testcase></testcase>	TestCases is a list containing all
		TestCase for the problem. A list is
		more appropriate than an array
		because it allows new TestCase to be
		added or remove existing ones during
		runtime.
Tags	List <tags></tags>	Tags is a list containing all Tags for a
		Problem. Similarly, I use a list for
		Tags so it can be added or removed
		during runtime.

### Language

Language defines the compiling and running configurations for different programming languages. Language configurations are not stored in the database, instead, they are stored in the settings file, so users can add their custom configurations easily.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Name	string	Name stores the name of each
		programming language. The Name will
		be displayed in the drop down menu for
		the user to select their preferred
		programming language.
NeedCompile	bool	Some programming languages need to be
		compiled before running, such as C,
		C++ and Java. This attribute is used to
		tell the Judger to compile the code
		before executing.
CompileCommand	string	If a programming language requires
		compilation, this command is executed
		to call the compiler.
CompileArguments	string	If a programming language requires
		compilation, this arguments is passed to
		the compiler to specify file path and
		related compile arguments.
RunCommand	string	The Judger uses this command to run
		the executable or call the interpreter.
RunArguments	string	This Judger pass this arguments to the
		executable or the interpreter.

### ${\tt Submission}$

A Submission is created when the user submits a code solution to the Judger. The Submission will contain all the information including the time, the source code, the programming language selected and the corresponding Problem for the Judger to judge.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a
		Submission. It is used to uniquely
		determine a Submission in the database.
Problem	Problem	The Problem contains the corresponding
		Problem of this Submission, which also
		contains the TestCases for the Judger to
		judge the Submission. Before storing a
		Submission into the database, this value
		needs to be normalized to the Id of that
		Problem.
Code	string	Code stores the submitted code, which will
		be executed and judged by the Judger.
SubmittedTime	DateTime	SubmittedTime stores the time the
		Submission is created. Instead of using a
		string or an int value, I decide to use the
		native data type DateTime provided by C#,
		which makes it easier to process date time,
		and prevent any formating issues.
Language	Language	Language stores the programming language
		selected by the user, so the Judger knows
		how to run the code.
Submitter	User	Submitter stores the User who submits this
		Submission. This field will be normalized
		to the User. Uid before storing into the
		database.

### ProblemList

A ProblemList is a list of Problem, which allows the user to share multiple Problem easily. It is also the parent of Assignment and provides basic functions for it. The ProblemList contains a List<Problem> variable, which provides all basic functions for a list, such as add, remove, sort and find, so I don't need to reinvent the wheel. I choose a list instead of an array because the number of Problem inside the list will be changed during runtime, so a list is more appropriate for my use case.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a
		ProblemList. It is used to uniquely
		determine a ProblemList in the
		database.
Name	string	Name stores the name of the
		Problem List.
Description	string	Description stores the description of
		the ProblemList.
Problems	List <problem></problem>	Problems is a list of Problem, which
		supports basic functions to manipulate a
		list of data.

### Assignment

An Assignment is a ProblemList which gets distributed to students. When an Assignment is distributed, a copy of that Assignment is created. All TestCases with IsExample set to false will be removed to prevent students from cheating. The Type of the Assignment will be set to Copy to indicate it is a distributed copy. The Judger will reject to judge a distributed Assignment and the AssignmentsPage will show the Assignment under the Assigned tab instead of the Created tab.

Assignment is inheriate from the ProblemList, so it can reuse the Name and Description attributes and all methods to manage a list of Problem. Upon that, new attributes and methods are added to make it functional.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Uid	Guid	The Assignment uses a Guid value for its Uid instead of a normal int value to ensure the Uid is unique globally. So when the user import an Assignment into their database, the Uid will not conflict with any existing values, and it will not be changed (Unlike a ProblemList, for which will be assigned a new Id when importing). The Uid will be referenced by the AssignmentSubmission so the Judger will be able to know which Assignment it is judging.
DueDate	DateTime	The DueDate stores the time for the due date of the Assignment. Instead of using a string or an int value, I decide to use the native data type DateTime provided by C#, which makes it easier to process date time, and prevent all formating issues.
Status	enum Status	Status is an enumeration type containing 4 possible status for a source Assignment: Draft, Scheduled, Published and Assigned for the teacher to manage the lifecycle of an Assignment. For a distributed Assignment, there are 4 possible Status, NotStarted, InProgress, Completed and OverDue, which helps the student to manage the lifecycle of an Assignment. I choose to use a custom enumeration type instead of some magic numbers to make the code more readable and easier to maintain.
Туре	enum Type	Type is an enumeration type containing 2 possible types, Source or Copy. It is used to manage the distribution of an Assignment as described above.
Assigner	User	Assigner stores the User who assigns the Assignment. This field will be normalized into the User. Uid before storing into the database.

### ${\tt AssignmentSubmission}$

When a student finishes an Assignment, an AssignmentSubmission is created for the Judger to judge. The AssignmentSubmission can either be exported to file and sent to the teacher, or it can be uploaded using API. The teacher imports the AssignmentSubmission or uses API to load it, and the Judger will be able to mark it and return the result.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Uid	Guid	The AssignmentSubmission uses a
		Guid value for its Uid instead of a
		normal int value to ensure the Uid is
		unique globally. So when teachers
		import an AssignmentSubmission
		into their database, the Uid will not
		conflict with any existing values, and
		it will not be changed.
Submitter	User	The user information is collected
		when exporting an
		AssignmentSubmission, so the
		teacher will be able to know who is
		the Submitter. This field needs to be
		normalized into User.Uid before
		storing into the database.
Assignment	Assignment	The Assignment corresponding to
		this AssignmentSubmission is
		recorded, so the Judger knows how
		to judge it. This field needs to be
		normalized into Assignment. Uid
		before storing into the database.
Submissions	List <submission></submission>	Submissions stores a list of
		Submission, which contains the
		user's Submission for each Problem
		assigned.
Status	enum Status	Status is an enumeration type
		containing 3 possible types,
		NotJudged, Judged and Returned for
		the teacher to keep track of each
		submission.

### Judger

The Judger is a static class, only eposes 5 functions to run and judge user's code. The Judger takes a Submission as an input, and outputs a SubmissionResult. No variable is exposed. The private attributes and methods are discussed in the algorithm design section.

## RunCodeResult

RunCodeResult stores the judging result for a piece of code. It does not store the information about whether the output is correct, it only stores the runtime statistics and whether the code has been compiled and executed correctly. This result will not be stored in the database, so there is no Id attribute.

Variable	Data type	Justification
StandardOutput	string	StandardOutput stores the content
		output by the user's code.
StandardError	string	StandardError stores the error
		messages received (if any) when
		executing the user's code.
ExitCode	int	ExitCode stores the exit code of
		the user's code.
CPUTime	int	CPUTime stores the time it takes
		for the user's code to execute.
MemoryUsage	int	MemoryUsage stores the memory
		usage record for the user's code.
ResultCode	enum ResultCode	ResultCode is a custom
		enumeration type storing the
		judging result. It has 7 possible
		values, WRONG_ANSWER, SUCCESS,
		COMPILE_ERROR,
		TIME_LIMIT_EXCEEDED,
		MEMORY_LIMIT_EXCEEDED,
		RUNTIME_ERROR or SYSTEM_ERROR.

#### TestCaseResult

 ${\tt TestCaseResult} \ \ {\tt stores} \ \ {\tt the} \ \ {\tt judging} \ \ {\tt result} \ \ {\tt for} \ \ {\tt each} \ \ {\tt individual} \ \ {\tt TestCase}. \ \ {\tt It} \ \ {\tt is} \ \ {\tt inheriated} \ \ {\tt from} \ \ {\tt the} \ \ {\tt RunCodeResult} \ \ {\tt to} \ \ {\tt inheriate} \ \ {\tt all} \ \ {\tt the} \ \ {\tt statistics}.$ 

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique identifier for a
		TestCaseResult. It is used to uniquely determine
		a TestCaseResult in the database.
TestCase	TestCase	TestCase stores the corresponding TestCase that
		produces this result. This field will be normalized
		into TestCase.Id before storing into the
		database.

#### SubmissionResult

When the Judger finishes judging a Submission, a SubmissionResult is created and stored. It includes the result and statistics about the Submission.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Id	int	The Id is the local unique
		identifier for a
		SubmissionResult. It is
		used to uniquely determine
		a Submission in the
		database.
Submission	Submission	Submission stores the
		corresponding Submission
		of this result. It needs to be
		normalized into the
		Submission.Id before
		storing into the database.
TestCaseResults	List <testcaseresult></testcaseresult>	TestCaseResults is a list
		of TestCaseResult, storing
		result of each individual
		TestCase.

# ${\tt AssignmentSubmissionResult}$

When the  ${\tt Judger}$  finishes judging, a  ${\tt AssignmentSubmissionResult}$  is created and stored.

It includes the result and statistics about the AssignmentSubmission.

Variable	Data type	Justification
Uid	Guid	It uses a Guid value
		for its Uid instead
		of a normal int
		value to ensure the
		Uid is unique
		globally.
AssignmentSubmission	AssignmentSubmission	It stores the
		corresponding
		submission of this
		result. It needs to
		be normalized into
		the Id before
		storing into the
		database.
SubmisionResults	List <submissionresult></submissionresult>	It is a list of
		SubmissionResult,
		storing result of
		each individual
		Submission.

### 2.3.2 Settings design

The settings will be stored in a JSON file.

```
{
1
        "Theme": "Light",
2
        "RunCodeTimeLimit": 1000,
3
        "RunCodeMemoryLimit": 67108864,
        "SelectedLanguage": "Python",
        "LanguageConfiguration":
6
            {
                 "Name": "C++",
                 "NeedCompile": true,
10
                 "CompileCommand": "g++",
11
                 "CompileArguments": "-x c++ {SourceCodeFilePath} -o
12

→ {ExecutableFilePath}",

                 "RunCommand": "{ExecutableFilePath}",
13
                 "RunArguments": ""
14
            },
15
            {
                 "Name": "Python",
17
                 "NeedCompile": false,
18
                 "CompileCommand": "",
19
                 "CompileArguments": "",
                 "RunCommand": "python",
21
                 "RunArguments": "{SourceCodeFilePath}"
22
            }
23
        ],
        "CurrentUser": "6ee2ebef-3f50-43b7-adf4-78c460339fd0"
25
   }
26
```

The Theme field stores the current color theme. There are three possible values, Light, Dark or Default. The data will be validated before applying, if it is empty or invalid, the Default theme will be applyed and write back to this field.

The RunCodeTimeLimit field stores the max time allowed for the run code function. The data will be validated before applying, if it is not a positive integer, then a default 1000 will be applied and written back to this field.

The RunCodeMemoryLimit field stores the max memory allowed for the run code function. The data will be validated before applying, if it is not a positive integer, then a default 67108864, which is 64MB will be applied and written back to this field.

The SelectedLanguage field stores the default programming language selected by the user. The value will be validated before applying, if it is empty or invalid, the internal default Python programming language configuration will be applied and written back to this field.

The LanguageConfiguration is a list of dictionaries allowing the user to configure custom programming languages. The data will be validated before applying, if a configuration is invalid, it will be ignored.

The CurrentUser field stores the Uid of the User. The data will be validated. If the Uid is not found in the database or the field is empty, the user will be asked to log in and a new value will be generated and written back to this field.

The entire JSON file will be validated before any data is fetched. If the file does not exist, a default template will be created. If the format or the encoding is wrong, a default template will override the incorrect file.

# 2.3.3 Database design

#### User table

The User table will have Uid as its primary key. Since SQLite does not support Guid data type natively, it will be converted into a string for storage. The same reason why the Role is stored in integer, and because the enumeration type is implemented in integer under the hood, there is no data conversion issue.

All fields will be validated and no empty field is allowed.

The GUID will look like this: 149f3e41-dcdb-43d5-8964-75249489f6cf. It is a long random unique string of characters. Because it is too long, in this section, a placeholder <GUID> will be used to represent a string of GUID.

Uid	Name	Email	Role
<guid></guid>	"UserName"	"UserName@test.com"	0

```
CREATE TABLE User

(

Uid TEXT PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,

Name TEXT NOT NULL,

Email TEXT NOT NULL,

Role INTEGER NOT NULL

)
```

#### Problem table

The Problem table will have Id as its primary key. Both Status and Difficulty will be stored in integer for the same reason before.

All fields will be validated and only the SourceHash is allowed to be null as explained in the data structure design section.

Uid	Name	Description	Status
<guid></guid>	"name"	"Problem description"	0

Difficulty	TimeLimit	MemoryLimit	SourceHash
0	1000	1000	null

```
CREATE TABLE Problem

CREATE TABLE Problem

Uid TEXT PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,

Name TEXT NOT NULL,

Description TEXT NOT NULL,

Status INTEGER NOT NULL,

Difficulty INTEGER NOT NULL,

TimeLimit INTEGER NOT NULL,

MemoryLimit INTEGER NOT NULL,

SourceHash TEXT
```

### Tag table

The Tag table will have an auto-increment integer Id as its primary key.

All fields will be validated and no empty field is allowed.

Id	Name
1	"Tag1"

```
CREATE TABLE Tag

(

Id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY AUTOINCREMENT NOT NULL,

Name TEXT NOT NULL UNIQUE

)
```

### TagRecord table

The Tag has a many-to-many relation with the Problem. A Problem can have multiple Tags and a Tag can be assigned to multiple Problems. So a link table is required to normalize the data.

l	$\operatorname{Id}$	ProblemId	TagId
ſ	1	1	1
	2	1	2

```
1 CREATE TABLE TagRecord
2 (
```

```
PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
FOREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id),
FOREIGN KEY (TagId) REFERENCES Tag(Id),

Output
```

#### TestCase table

The TestCase table will have an auto-increment integer Id as its primary key. Since SQLite does not support boolean data type, an integer will be used to store the data of IsExample, 0 will represent false and 1 will represent true.

The TestCase has a many-to-one relation to the Problem, one Problem can have multiple TestCase while one TestCase can only belong to one Problem. So, a foreign key ProblemId is enabled for the TestCase to store its corresponding Problem.

All fields will be validated and no empty field is allowed.

Id	Input	Output	IsExample	ProblemId
1	"Input1"	"Output1"	1	1

```
CREATE TABLE TestCase

(

PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,

Input TEXT NOT NULL,

Output TEXT NOT NULL,

ISExample INTEGER NOT NULL,

FOREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id)

**

ORDANIA SETTING TO THE TEST NOT NULL,

TORREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id)

**

ORDANIA SETTING TO THE TEST NOT NULL,

TORREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id)
```

#### Submission table

The Submission table will have an auto-increment integer Id as its primary key. Since SQLite does not support the DateTime data type, the time will be converted to a string before storing. Similarly, the conversion will be done for Language and UserUid.

A Submission has a one-to-many relationship with a Problem, a Problem can have multiple Submission while a Submission can only be submitted to one Problem. It also has a many-to-one relationship with a User. A User can create multiple Submission while a Submission can only be created by one User. It also has a many-to-one relationship with a AssignmentSubmission. So it will have three foreign keys to establish such relationships.

All fields will be validated and no empty field is allowed, except for the Code, empty Submission is allowed and for the AssignmentSubmissionResultUid, if the Submission does not belong to an Assignment, a null value is allowed.

Id	ProblemId	Code	Time
1	1	"source code"	"11/11/2021 14:20:04"

Language	UserUid	AssignmentSubmissionUid
"Python"	<guid></guid>	<guid></guid>

```
CREATE TABLE Submission

(
PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
FOREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id),
Code TEXT,
Time TEXT NOT NULL,
Language TEXT NOT NULL,
FOREIGN KEY (UserUid) REFERENCES User(Uid),
FOREIGN KEY (AssignmentSubmissionResultUid) REFERENCES

AssignmentSubmission(Uid),

)
```

#### ProblemList table

The ProblemList table has an auto-increment integer Id as its primary key. The description is allowed to be empty for easy sharing.

Id	Name	Description
1	"ProblemList 1"	"Description for ProblemList 1"

```
CREATE TABLE Submission

(
PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
Name TEXT NOT NULL,
Description TEXT

)
```

#### ProblemListRecord table

The ProblemList and Problem has a many-to-many relationship, so a ProblemListRecord table is used to normalize the data.

Id	ProblemId	ProblemListId
1	1	1

```
CREATE TABLE ProblemListRecord

PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,

FOREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id),
```

```
FOREIGN KEY (ProblemListId) REFERENCES ProblemList(Id)
6 )
```

### Assignment table

The Assignment table will have Uid as its primary key. It will have a one-to-many relationship with User, so a UserUid field is used to record this relationship.

Uid	DueDate	Status	Type	UserUid
<guid></guid>	"11/11/2021 14:20:04"	1	0	<guid></guid>

```
CREATE TABLE Assignment

(
Uid TEXT PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,

DueDate TEXT NOT NULL,

Status INTEGER NOT NULL,

Type INTEGER NOT NULL,

FOREIGN KEY (UserUid) REFERENCES User(Uid)
```

### AssignmentRecord table

Assignment has a many-to-many relationship with the Problem so an AssignmentRecord table is used to normalize the data.

Id	AssignmentUid	ProblemId	SourceHash
1	<guid></guid>	1	<hash></hash>

```
CREATE TABLE AssignmentRecord

(

PRIMARY KEY (Id) INTEGER NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,

FOREIGN KEY (AssignmentUid) REFERENCES Assignment(Uid),

FOREIGN KEY (ProblemId) REFERENCES Problem(Id),

SourceHash TEXT NOT NULL

7
```

## ${\bf Assignment Submission\ table}$

Uid	AssignmentUid	UserUid	Status
<guid></guid>	<guid></guid>	<guid></guid>	0

```
CREATE TABLE AssignmentSubmission
(
```

```
Uid TEXT PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,

FOREIGN KEY (AssignmentUid) REFERENCES Assignment(Uid),

FOREIGN KEY (UserUid) REFERENCES User(Uid),

Status INTEGER NOT NULL

7
```

### TestCaseResult table

Id	TestCaseId	StandardOutput	StandardError
1	1	"Standard output"	"Standard error"

ExitCode	CPUTime	MemoryUsage	ResultCode	SubmissionId
0	1000	1000	0	1

```
1 CREATE TABLE TestCaseResult
2 (
3 )
```

#### SubmissionResult table

Id	SubmissionId	AssignmentSubmissionResultUid
Iu	Dubillibbiolita	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

```
CREATE TABLE SubmissionResult

(
```

### ${\bf Assignment Submission Result\ table}$

```
Uid AssignmentSubmissionUid
```

```
CREATE TABLE AssignmentSubmissionResult

(
)
```

# 2.3.4 Import/Export design

All data will be exported into JSON files.

```
"FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
"DataType": "Problem",
"Data": ...
"Data": ...
```

Apart from the raw data, two extra fields are added to help validate the JSON file. The FileType will always be "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data". This field will be validated first to make sure the correct file is imported. The DataType determines the type of the Data and helps the module to deserialize the data.

#### Import/Export a Problem

When the user exports a problem, the problem instance will be serialized. The test cases and tags associated with the problem will be converted into a list, and their Ids will be removed.

This is a sample exported file.

```
{
         "FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
2
        "DataType": "Problem",
3
        "Data": {
             "Name": "Problem 1",
5
             "SourceHash": null,
6
             "Difficulty": 2,
             "Description": "Problem description 1",
             "TimeLimit": 1000,
             "MemoryLimit": 1000,
10
             "TestCases": [
11
                 {
12
                      "Input": "3 4",
13
                      "Output": "5",
14
                      "IsExample": true
                 },
16
17
                      "Input": "echo",
18
                      "Output": "echo",
19
                      "IsExample": false
                 }
21
             ],
22
             "Tags":
                      {
24
                      "Name": "Tag1"
25
                 },
26
                 {
27
                      "Name": "Tag2"
                 }
29
             ]
30
        }
    }
32
```

When the problem is imported, a new Id will be created for it.

The problem and test cases are imported first.

After that, the tags are imported and the corresponding TagRecord table is updated.

```
INSERT OR REPLACE INTO Tag VALUES (Name)
INSERT INTO TagRecord VALUES (Problem.last_insert_rowid,
Tag.last_insert_rowid)
```

#### Import/Export a ProblemList

When the user exports a problem list, several problems are wrapped into a list and additional information is added. The Id of the original problem list is not included in the exported file, a new Id will be assigned when the list is imported.

This is a sample exported file.

```
{
        "FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
        "DataType": "ProblemList",
3
        "Data": {
            "Name": "Problem List 1",
            "Description": "Problem list description 1",
            "Problems": [
                {
                     "Name": "Problem 1",
10
                     "SourceHash": null,
                     "Difficulty": 2,
11
                     "Description": "Problem description 1",
12
                     "TimeLimit": 1000,
                     "MemoryLimit": 1000,
14
                     "TestCases": [
15
                             "Input": "3 4",
17
                             "Output": "5",
18
                             "IsExample": true
19
                             "Input": "echo",
22
                             "Output": "echo",
23
                             "IsExample": false
```

```
}
25
                       ],
                       "Tags":
                                [
27
                            {
28
                                 "Name": "Tag1"
29
                            },
30
                            {
31
                                 "Name": "Tag2"
32
                            }
33
                       ]
34
                  },
{
35
36
                       "Name": "Problem 2",
37
                       "SourceHash": null,
38
                       "Difficulty": 0,
39
                       "Description": "Problem description 2",
40
                       "TimeLimit": 2000,
41
                       "MemoryLimit": 2000,
42
                       "TestCases": [
43
                            {
44
                                 "Input": "",
45
                                 "Output": "Hello world",
46
                                 "IsExample": true
47
                            }
48
                       ],
49
                       "Tags": []
50
                  }
51
              ],
52
              "Count": 2
         }
54
    }
55
```

When a problem list is imported, all problems are imported as individual problems. Then the information about the problem list itself is imported and the ProblemListRecord table is updated.

#### Import/Export an Assignment

When an assignment is exported, a SourceHash value is computed and attached to each problem, all test cases that are not examples are removed. Data about the assigner, due date, status and type are also attached to the exported file.

This is a sample exported file.

```
{
        "FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
        "DataType": "Assignment",
3
        "Data": {
            "Uid": "b527fe24-e872-4ef6-b1a7-7b78c9ebe110",
            "DueDate": "2021-11-19T00:00:00+00:00",
            "Status": 0,
            "Type": 0,
            "Assigner": {
                 "Uid": "359a2d2b-d1c1-4169-a255-9289fcfff4e6",
10
                 "Name": "User1",
11
                 "Email": "user1@example.com",
12
                "Role": 1
            },
14
            "Name": "Assignment 1",
15
            "Description": "Assignmet description 1",
16
            "Problems": [
                {
                     "Name": "Problem 1",
19
                     "SourceHash": "DFEFB848F705D65C7A861D36BD358F3F",
20
                     "Difficulty": 2,
21
                     "Description": "Problem description 1",
22
                     "TimeLimit": 1000,
23
                     "MemoryLimit": 1000,
24
                     "TestCases": [
                         {
26
                             "Input": "3 4",
27
                             "Output": "5",
28
                             "IsExample": true
                         }
30
                     ],
31
                     "Tags": [
                         {
                             "Name": "Tag1"
34
                         },
35
                         {
36
                             "Name": "Tag2"
                         }
38
                     ]
39
                },
                     "Name": "Problem 2",
42
                     "SourceHash": "F9B9B7578BFA6C949A146821C8F78DD3",
43
                     "Difficulty": 0,
                     "Description": "Problem description 2",
45
                     "TimeLimit": 2000,
46
                     "MemoryLimit": 2000,
47
                     "TestCases": [
                         {
49
                             "Input": "",
50
```

```
"Output": "Hello world",
51
                                 "IsExample": true
                            }
53
                       ],
54
                        "Tags": []
55
                  }
             ]
57
         }
58
    }
59
```

When an assignment gets imported, the assigner is first added to the User table.

```
1 INSERT OR REPLACE INTO User VALUES (Uid, Email, Name, Role)
```

Next, the record of the assignment is insert into the Assignment table.

```
INSERT OR REPLACE INTO Assignment VALUES (Uid, DueDate, Status,

→ Type, UserUid)
```

Finally, all the problems are imported as individual problems and the Problem-ListRecord table is updated.

```
INSERT OR REPLACE INTO ProblemListRecord VALUES (Uid,

→ Problem.last insert rowid, SourceHash)
```

#### Import/Export an AssignmentSubmission

When an AssignmentSubmission is exported, the Assignment field will be normalized and only the Uid field will be kept. The Problem field will be normalized and only the SourceHash will be kept. The Language field will be normalized and only the language name will be kept. So the exported file will not contain any redundent information and at have an optimal size.

This is a sample exported file.

```
"FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
"DataType": "AssignmentSubmission",
"Data": {
"Uid": "5872e4f1-731d-4e49-ab28-37971827fabe",
"Submitter": {
"Uid": "f84b5ec9-6156-4278-a9b1-d097e24409c1",
"Name": "student1",
"Email": "student1@example.com",
```

```
"Role": 0
10
            },
             "Assignment": {
12
                 "Uid": "977255d2-523b-4538-a472-872109bd1fc2",
13
            },
             "Status": 0,
             "Submissions": [
16
                 {
17
                     "Problem": {
                          "SourceHash":
19
                          → "DFEFB848F705D65C7A861D36BD358F3F"
                     },
20
                     "Code": "print(7)",
21
                     "SubmittedTime":
22
                         "2021-11-20T22:21:07.0812049+00:00",
                     "Language": {
23
                          "Name": "Python",
                     }
                 }
26
            ]
27
        }
28
   }
29
```

When the AssignmentSubmission is imported into the database, the Submitter will be imported first.

```
INSERT OR REPLACE INTO User VALUES (Uid, Email, Name, Role)
```

Next, the problem Id is determined using the SourceHash, and the list of submissions will be imported to the Submission table.

```
INSERT INTO Submission VALUES (ProblemId, Code, Time, Language,

→ UserUid, AssignmentUid)
```

At the end, the record in AssignmentSubmission table will be updated.

```
INSERT INTO AssignmentSubmission VALUES (Uid, AssignmentUid,

→ UserUid, Status)
```

#### Import/Export an AssignmentSubmissionResult

When an AssignmentSubmissionResult is exported, the AssignmentSubmission field is normalized so only the Uid is left. For each SubmissionResult, the SourceHash of the Problem is kept to determine the Submission.

This is a sample exported file.

```
{
        "FileType": "Algorithm Dynamics Exported Data",
        "DataType": "AssignmentSubmissionResult",
3
        "Data": {
            "Uid": "8593d2cd-1b0e-4b26-aed0-37d4dc54a5a2",
5
            "AssignmentSubmission": {
                 "Uid": "a2a9062c-18eb-48ad-bee8-ccb37f208bf5"
            },
            "Results": [
                 {
10
                     "Submission": {
11
                         "Problem": {
12
                              "SourceHash":
                                 "DFEFB848F705D65C7A861D36BD358F3F"
                         }
14
                     },
15
                     "Results": [
                         {
                              "StandardOutput": "7",
18
                              "StandardError": "",
19
                              "ExitCode": 0,
                              "CPUTime": 1000,
21
                              "MemoryUsage": 1000,
22
                              "ResultCode": 1
23
                         }
                     ]
25
                 }
26
            ]
27
        }
   }
29
```

When the AssignmentSubmissionResult is imported into the database, the AssignmentSubmissionResult table is updated first.

Next, each SubmissionResult is imported into the SubmissionResult table. The SubmissionId can be determined by the SourceHash.

```
INSERT INTO SubmissionResult VALUES (SubmissionId,

→ AssignmentSubmissionResultUid)
```

At the end, the TestCaseResult table is updated. The TestCaseId will be left to null.

- INSERT INTO TestCaseResult VALUES (null, StandardOutput,
  - $\hookrightarrow$  StandardError, ExitCode, CPUTime, MemoryUsage, ResultCode,
  - $\hookrightarrow$  SubmissionId)

## 2.4 Development testing

#### 2.4.1 Milestones

There are seven major milestones for the development of the solution.

- 1. Create the UI
- 2. Implement data structures
- 3. Implement the Judger
- 4. Create the database
- 5. Handle data import/export
- 6. Handle settings
- 7. Handle API calls

#### 2.4.2 Milestone 1: Create the UI

TODO: testing plan

The user interface is created first. At this stage, all buttons and layouts are created, but there is no code behind them. So I will do dry run tests to see whether the rendering, navigation and input box validation works correctly.

Test input	Expect output	Justification
Click different buttons on the NavigationView.	The mainframe switches to the correct page.	A normal test to make sure the NavigationView is working correctly.
Click different buttons on the MainPage.	The mainframe switches to different functions correctly.	A normal test to make sure the HomePage is working correctly.
Input a long string to the search box.	Only the first 32 characters are registered.	An erroneous test to make sure the length limit is working. Since at this stage, the searching algorithm is not implemented yet, the search result is not tested.
Select different items in the difficulty, list, tag dropdown boxes.	Items can be selected correctly.	A normal test to make sure the dropdown boxes are working.
Click the start button on the problem.	Navigate to the CodingPage correctly.	A normal test to make sure the start navigation is working correctly.
Input the Markdown test data below to the Problem section.	The Markdown text should be rendered and formatted correctly.	A normal test to see whether the Markdown text can be rendered correctly.
Input the Code test data below to the code editor.	The line number shows up correctly. The syntax highlighting works correctly. The shortcuts work correctly.	A normal test to make sure the code editor is working correctly.

#### Markdown test data

1 # Markdown Tests

з ## Headers

5 ### heading 3

```
Under heading 3
   #### heading 4
   Under heading 4
12
   ##### heading 5
   Under heading 5
16
    ##### heading 6
17
   Under heading 6
19
   ## Comment
   <!-- You cannot see this comment -->
24
   ## Horizontal Rules
25
27
31
32
   ## Emphasis
33
    *This text will be italic*
35
   \_\mathit{This} will also be italic\_
   **This text will be bold**
40
   __This will also be bold__
41
   ~~Strike through this text.~~
43
   _You **can** combine them_
   ***bold and italics***
47
48
   ~~**strikethrough and bold**~~
50
   ~~*strikethrough and italics*~~
51
   ~~***bold, italics and strikethrough***~~
   ## Blockquotes
```

```
> Donec massa lacus, ultricies a ullamcorper in, fermentum sed
    \hookrightarrow augue.
_{\rm 58} \, Nunc augue augue, aliquam non hendrerit ac, commodo vel nisi.
    >> Sed adipiscing elit vitae augue consectetur a gravida nunc
    \hookrightarrow vehicula. Donec auctor
    odio non est accumsan facilisis. Aliquam id turpis in dolor
     \hookrightarrow tincidunt mollis ac eu diam.
61
    ## Lists
63
64
   * Item 1
    * Item 2
      * Item 2a
67
      * Item 2b
   1. Item 1
    1. Item 2
    1. Item 3
       1. Item 3a
       1. Item 3b
   - [x] Task 1
    - [] Task 2
    - [ ] Task 3
   ## Code
    `Inline Code`
82
83
    ```cpp
    #include <iostream>
    int main()
86
    {
87
        std::cout << "Hello world!" << endl;</pre>
        return 0;
    }
90
91
    ## Tables
94
    | Option | Description |
95
    |:----:|
    | data | path to data files to supply the data that will be
    \hookrightarrow passed into templates. |
    | engine | engine to be used for processing templates. Handlebars
    \hookrightarrow is the default. |
           extension to be used for dest files.
    | ext
100
```

```
## Links
101
    <https://assemble.io>
103
104
    <contact@revolunet.com>
105
106
    [Assemble] (https://assemble.io)
107
108
    [Upstage](https://github.com/upstage/ "Visit Upstage!")
109
110
    * [Chapter 1] (#headers)
111
    * [Chapter 2] (#comment)
112
    * [Chapter 3] (#horizontal-rules)
113
114
    ## Footnotes
115
116
    This is a digital footnote[^1].
117
    This is a footnote with "label"[^label]
118
119
    [^1]: This is a digital footnote
120
    [^label]: This is a footnote with "label"
121
122
    ## Images
123
124
    ![Minion](https://octodex.github.com/images/minion.png)
126
    ![Alt text](https://octodex.github.com/images/stormtroopocat.jpg
127
     Code test data
    #include <iostream>
    using namespace std;
    int main()
        int a, b;
        cin >> a >> b;
        cout << a + b << endl;</pre>
        return 0;
    }
```

#### 2.4.3 Milestone 2: Implement data structures

TODO: testing plan

Test input | Expect output | Justification

### 2.4.4 Milestone 3: Implement the Judger

TODO: testing plan

Test input	Expect output	Justification

#### 2.4.5 Milestone 4: Create database

TODO: testing plan

Test input	Expect output	Justification

### 2.4.6 Milestone 5: Handle data import/export

TODO: testing plan

Test input	Expect output	Justification
rest input	Lxpcci output	5 distilled their

### 2.4.7 Milestone 6: Handle settings

TODO: testing plan

Test input	Expect output	Justification
A normal	The settings can be	A normal test to make sure the
settings	loaded and processed	settings can be loaded correctly.
file.	correctly.	
Adjust the	The settings file has	A normal test to make sure the
settings in	been updated	settings can be saved correctly.
the Set-	correctly.	
tingsPage.		
No	A default settings file	An extreme test simulates the
settings	is generated.	situation when the software is first
file.		installed and there is no existing
		settings file. A correct default
		settings file must be created
		correctly.
Settings	A default settings file	An erroneous test to make sure the
file with	overrides the incorrect	settings module can process files
incorrect	file.	with an incorrect format.
JSON		
format.		
A settings	A default value is	An erroneous test to make sure the
file with	written back to all	settings module can deal with
incorrect	incorrect or missing	incorrect or missing values.
or missing	fields. The correct	
values.	fields are not affected.	

#### Normal settings file

```
{
        "Theme": "Light",
        "RunCodeTimeLimit": 1000,
        "RunCodeMemoryLimit": 67108864,
        "SelectedLanguage": "Python",
        "LanguageConfiguration":
        [
            {
                "Name": "C++",
                "NeedCompile": true,
                "CompileCommand": "g++",
11
                "CompileArguments": "-x c++ {SourceCodeFilePath} -o
                 \rightarrow {ExecutableFilePath}",
                "RunCommand": "{ExecutableFilePath}",
13
                "RunArguments": ""
14
            },
                "Name": "Python",
17
                "NeedCompile": false,
18
                "CompileCommand": "",
                "CompileArguments": "",
```

```
"RunCommand": "python",
"RunArguments": "{SourceCodeFilePath}"

}

CurrentUser": "6ee2ebef-3f50-43b7-adf4-78c460339fd0"

}
```

#### A settings file with incorrect format

```
{
"Theme": "Light,
```

#### A settings file with incorrect and missing fields

"Theme": "RandomTheme", "RunCodeTimeLimit": 1000, "RunCodeMemoryLimit": 67108864, "SelectedLanguage": "Python"

#### 2.4.8 Milestone 7: Handle API calls

Test input	Expect output	Justification
Click the login button on	Login successfully,	A normal test to
the Account page, and	the information on	make sure the
input the correct email	the Account page is	software can process
and password.	updated correctly.	the login API
		correctly.
Click the login button on	Login failed with	A erroneous test to
the Account page, and	correct error message	make sure the
input the wrong email and	displayed.	software handles
password.		login failure
		correctly.
Login with a teacher	All local assignments	A normal test to
account, navigate to the	and remote	make sure the
assignment page.	assignments created	assignments can be
	by the teacher show	fetched correctly.
	up correctly.	
Login with a teacher	The assignment gets	A normal test to
account, publish a new	published correctly.	make sure the
assignment.		assignments can be
		distributed through
		API correctly.
Login with a teacher	All submissions are	A normal test to
account, enter a published	marked	make sure all
assignment, click the mark	automatically.	submissions can be
button to mark all		processed correctly.
submissions.		
Login with a student	All local assignments	A normal test to
account, navigate to the	and remote	make sure the
assignment page.	assignments show up	assignments can be
	correctly.	fetched correctly.
Login with a student	The submission gets	A normal test to
account, submit a	submitted	make sure the
submission to an	successfully.	submission API
assignment.		works correctly.
Click the logout button on	The user gets logged	A normal test to
the Account page.	out correctly.	make sure the user
		can log out correctly.

## 2.5 Post-development testing

#### 2.5.1 Alpha testing

During the alpha testing, I will test the code myself. I will create a unit test project and write unit test cases to test the data structures, database, judger and data import and export automatically. The unit test will execute as a black-

box test, creating some test input and testing whether the output matches. By automating the testing process, it will save me a lot of time hand inputting all the test data and comparing the output, which improves the development speed and the code quality.

I will use the code coverage to measure whether the code is well tested. The code coverage calculates how many codes are executed during the unit test. A higher code coverage indicates the code is better tested.

Any failed test cases will be investigated and at the end of the alpha testing, all unit tests must be passed with a code coverage higher than 90%.

#### 2.5.2 Beta testing

During the beta testing stage. I will invite my stakeholders to use the software. First, the deployment of the software is tested. I will test how difficult it is for my stakeholders to download and install the software on their computer, identify and fix any compatibility issues that occur during this process.

I will create some test coding problems for the students to import and practice on. During this process, the import function, the coding page, the judger and the user interface is tested. After that, I will invite the students to play with the software themselves and identify and fix any issues they meet.

I will guide the teacher to create test problems, problem lists and assignments to test the user interface and the database. Then export all the problems and assignments created to test the export function. I will provide some test assignment submissions for the teacher to test the assignment management function. After that, I will invite the teacher to play with the software himself and identify and fix any issues he meets.

In the end, I will conduct an integration test by inviting the teacher and the students to work on a real programming assignment using this software. All functions of the software are tested during this stage and any issues identified during this stage will be fixed.

## Chapter 3

# Development

## Chapter 4

## Evaluation

(TODO): Add evaluation chapter