Hufana, Phillip Ian John R.
2022-04819
CMSC 198
05/07/2025

1. Assessment: How do you assess the following?

a. Work (Project)

The workload was abundant, and the system had many complex features, which made it a real challenge at the start. However, in retrospect, it felt manageable and just right for a four-person team. Every module demanded thought and planning, and though it wasn't always easy, it gave us the opportunity to push our skills further and work more efficiently as a group. The wide scope of the system—ranging from inventory to costing and records—and now a laboratory inventory system, tested both our technical and organizational abilities, which I found very rewarding.

b. Environment (Place and People)

The people were quite nice. Daily greetings were the norm, and they always made us feel welcome in the space. There was never a moment when we felt out of place or unwelcome—every interaction felt light, respectful, and warm. That positive atmosphere helped us focus better on our tasks and reduced any pressure we may have felt from the technical workload.

2. Learning (Skills, Knowledge, etc.) from the Practicum

I could confidently say that I grew from the complexity of the tasks given. I was never used to being a backend personnel, but these four weeks really opened up a whole new area of learning for me. I learned how to structure backend logic and adjust my code so it could be easily understood by my team members. This taught me how important code readability, modularity, and clarity are in collaborative settings.

I also learned to make my code more flexible, reusable, and efficient—not just to get things working, but to build things that scale. On top of that, I got better at debugging—not just my own code, but also identifying issues in other people's work. That process helped me grow more confident in reading unfamiliar code. Collaborating with my teammates and brainstorming solutions taught me how to build something that aligns with both team ideas and client expectations, turning a shared vision into a working product.

3. Difficulties Encountered: What were the difficulties you encountered and how did you cope?

a. Work (Project Development)

It was initially hard since the scope was overwhelming and there were a lot of features to plan and build. At first, it was difficult to know where to begin. But over time, I learned how to take it one feature at a time—planning things out day by day—and that made a big difference. We divided the workload among the group and kept each other in check, making sure no one was falling behind or left out. We also helped cover each other's blind spots, which created a very supportive and collaborative work environment.

b. Environment (Place and People)

There were no major difficulties with the supervisors or the working space itself. Everyone was approachable, respectful, and easy to talk to. However, the internet connection was sometimes slow, which made syncing work or deploying code a bit tricky. Also, most of the supervising staff weren't as technically adept as active developers we were used to, which made communication about technical issues a bit of a challenge at times. Still, they trusted us to handle our work and gave us the freedom to manage the system development as we saw fit.

4. Recommendations

a. What can you recommend for the improvement of the practicum experience?

To improve the practicum experience, maybe there's a need for initial information or even just a small document outlining the expected system, features, or deliverables before the deployment starts. This would help set clearer expectations for interns and let them plan their time and approach better. I also recommend assigning a project or product developer who can help guide the interns, bridge communication between the team and the clients or supervisors, and give clearer directions about feature requirements and priorities.

b. Will you recommend the same or similar company for the next batches of practicum deployment? Why?

Yes, I will recommend the same company for the next batches of practicum deployment. They're not a horror company like some unfortunate interns had. In fact, they're quite the opposite—they're wholesome, warm, and giving. The environment was nurturing, and the trust they gave us to lead our own development work made the experience feel professional and empowering.

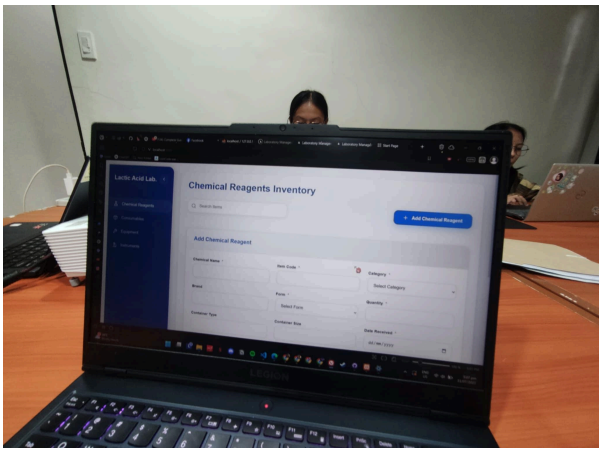
Weekly Report (Week 4)

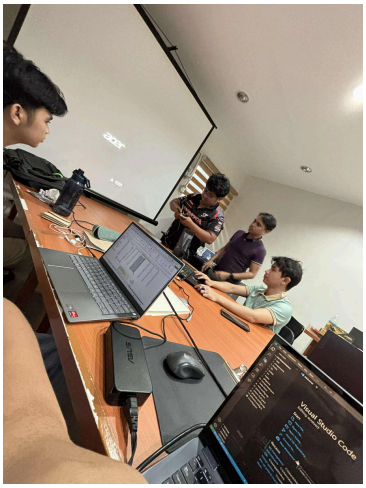
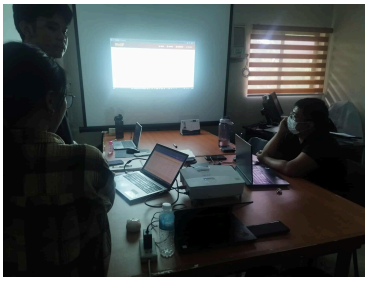
This week, we focused on polishing and finalizing key components of the bakery system, particularly by addressing several bugs and preparing for more user-focused features. I adjusted the database to accommodate a new feature: tracking threshold levels for low-stock ingredients. This update also included the ability to manually add stock entries, making the system more user-friendly and adaptable for future bakery staff who may use it.

In parallel, we started development on a new inventory system for the laboratory department. To get things started, we conducted interviews with other interns working under that department to better understand their workflow. From those interviews, we gained insights into their current manual system, which heavily relies on Microsoft Excel. Together with Gracie, I restructured their traditional system into a new database schema that aligned with their needs but offered better structure and efficiency.

After finalizing the database, I took charge of integrating it with our backend system and connected it to the frontend designs created by Ann Junah and Juliene. I built out the full CRUD operations, set up routing, handled database logic, and implemented useful features like filtering, sorting, search functions, and modal forms for adding and editing records across all four components of the laboratory inventory system. It was challenging yet fun—I was finally getting the hang of backend development. More importantly, I got to apply what I learned from the bakery project and turn it into a completely new system that future users could easily use.

Documentation:

	Making of the laboratory inventory system

	Meeting of project deliverables and joining a discussion about ML & AI
	Meeting with the laboratory interns to understand the general process of the laboratory invenotry
	Weekly progress report of the bakery and laboratory systems

Reported by:

PHILLIP IAN JOHN R. HUFANA
TTBDO Intern

Noted By:

DR. MELVIN S. PASAPORTE
TTBDO Chief Researcher