Project 3: Building an Auto Grading System in PrairieLearn.

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Our Client

- Dr. Ramon Lawrence
  - Computer Science Professor at The University of British Columbia.
  - Focused research on Database Systems.
  - Introduction to Databases Instructor.
  - Plans to be using this project in the upcoming semester.

The Problem

Auto ER

- Scalability

The existing system for solving database design questions is currently only able to host ER design questions

- Usability

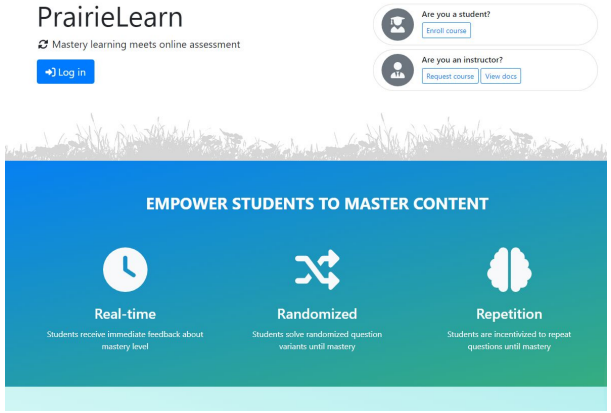
Cannot view student grades easily. No menu for questions. Strong knowledge of SQL is required to create new questions.

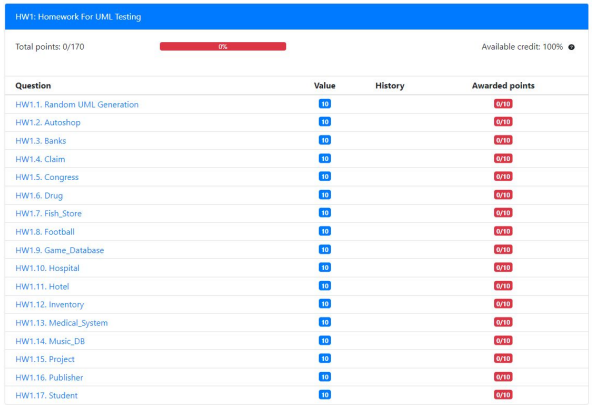
- Accessibility

Login to system is done through creating of user accounts from an excel sheet. Students are given a username and password.

What is PrairieLearn?

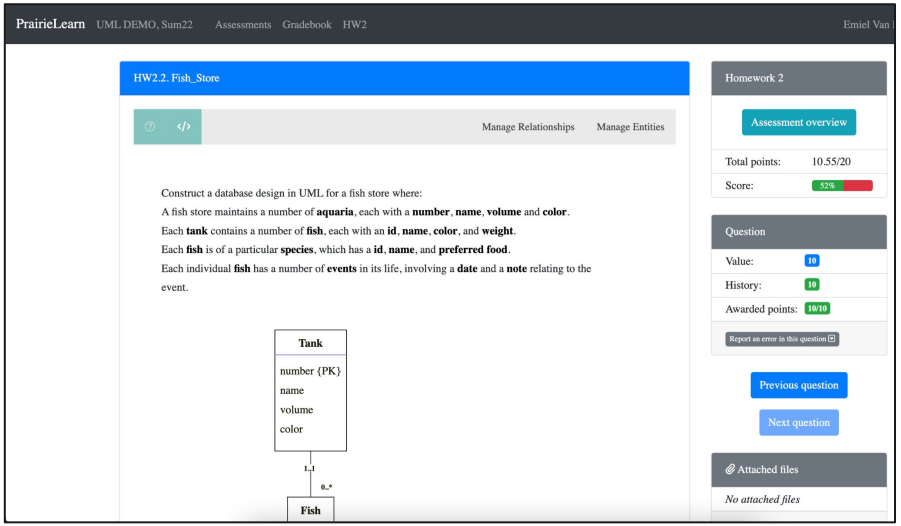
PrairieLearn is a problem-driven learning system for creating homeworks and tests. Questions can be randomized and autograded, thus making it powerful learning tool.





What is our Project?

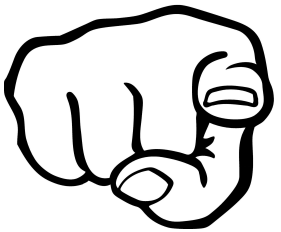
Goal: Integrate AutoER into PrairieLearn and deploy on a live server.



Target Users

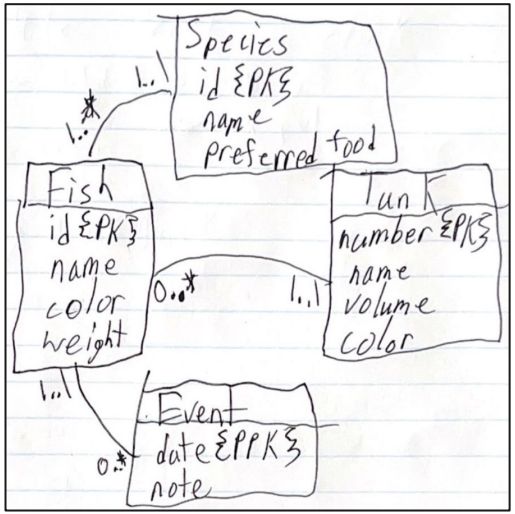
- Academic World
  - Instructors
  - Teaching Assistants
  - Students
- Any User looking to practice ER design questions

You



Usage Scenario

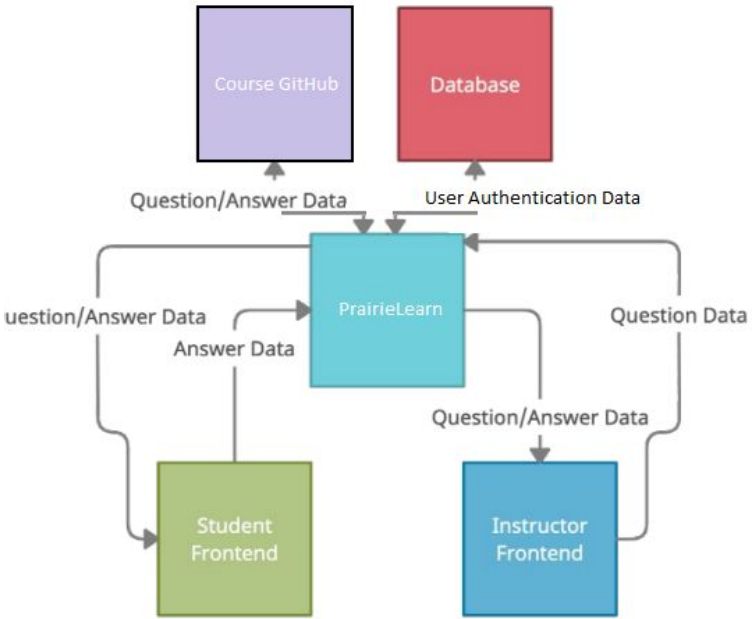
- Introduction to Databases Course.
  - Requires drawing ER design questions.
  - Very difficult to test and practice these questions as it requires drawing.
- This enables students to practice in an easy format.
- This enables instructors to provide an easy testable environment.
- Easier for grading of these questions as they are not hand drawn.

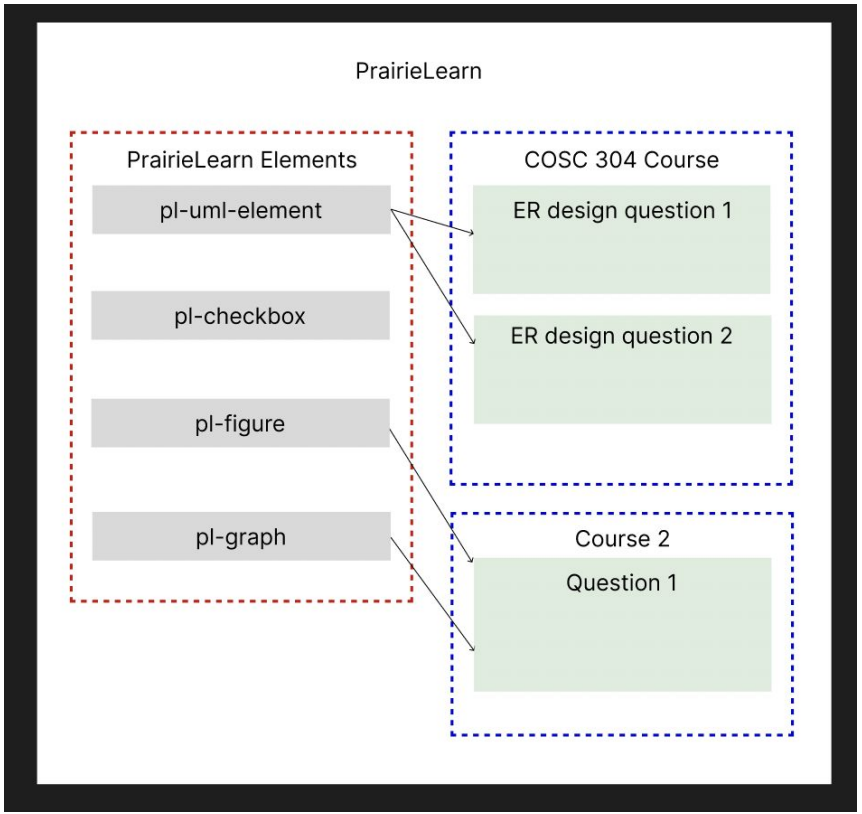


Requirements

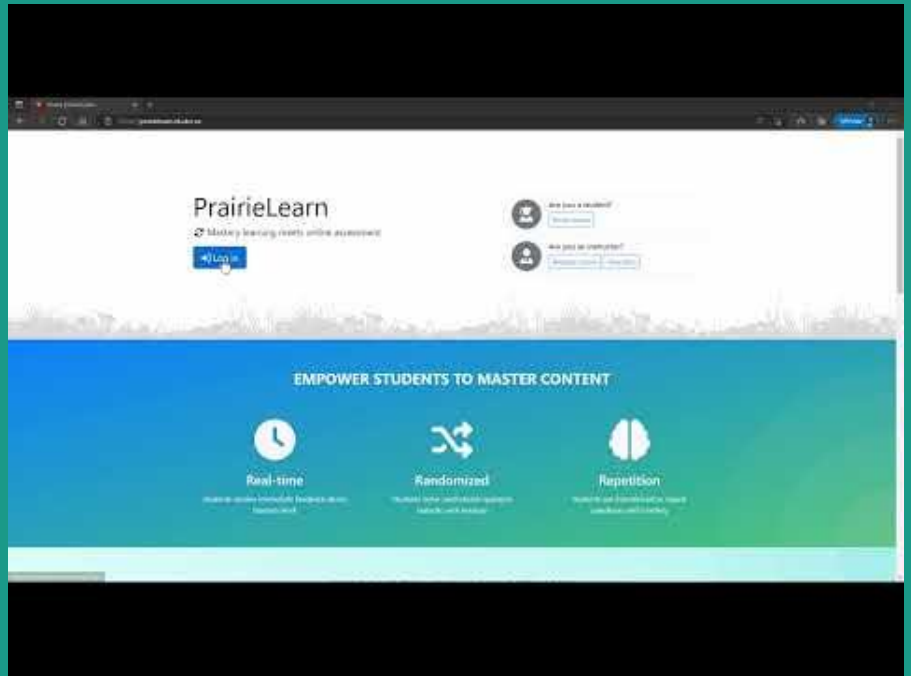
1. Bring ER design question into PrairieLearn.
2. Convert ER question to be a custom PrairieLearn element for easy modification and creation.
3. Dockerize PrairieLearn.
4. Create UBC wide self hosted PrairieLearn server.

System Architecture





Video Demonstration



The Solution

Moving to PrairieLearn from the original system has brought many benefits both teacher and students users in regards to the following:

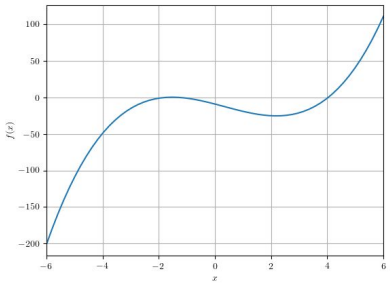
- Scalability
- Usability
- Accessibility

Key Feature

Compared to the old system (AutoEd), PrairieLearn supports multiple question types.

Select the appropriate points (with dynamic figure)

The function $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 10x - 9$ is illustrated below. Select the values of x corresponding to negative function values.

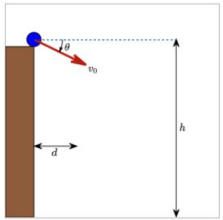


- ☐ $x = 6$
- ☐ $x = 4$
- ☐ $x = -6$
- ☐ $x = 0$

Select all possible options that apply.

Simple multiple-choice question

A cannon ball with mass $m = 1.8\ \text{kg}$ is fired downward from a cliff at a height $h = 2.67\ \text{m}$, at an angle $\theta = 31^\circ$ with respect to the horizontal, and an initial velocity $v_0 = 20\ \text{m/s}$, as illustrated in the figure below.



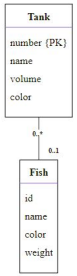
Suppose the ball hits the ground a distance $d = 4\ \text{m}$ from the base of the cliff. How long is the ball in the air? Assume the acceleration due to gravity is $g = 9.8\ \text{m/s}^2$.

- ○ (a) $t = 0.2\ \text{s}$
- ○ (b) $t = 0.738\ \text{s}$
- ○ (c) $t = 0.388\ \text{s}$
- ○ (d) $t = 0.259\ \text{s}$
- ○ (e) None of the above

Fish_Store

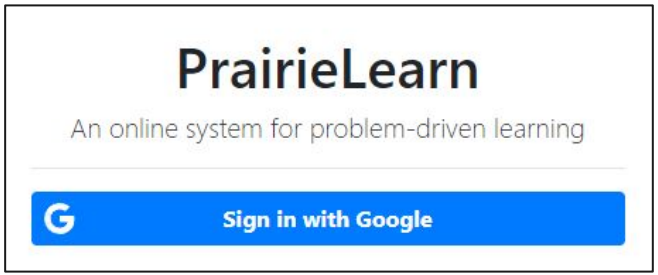
Manage Relationships Manage Entities

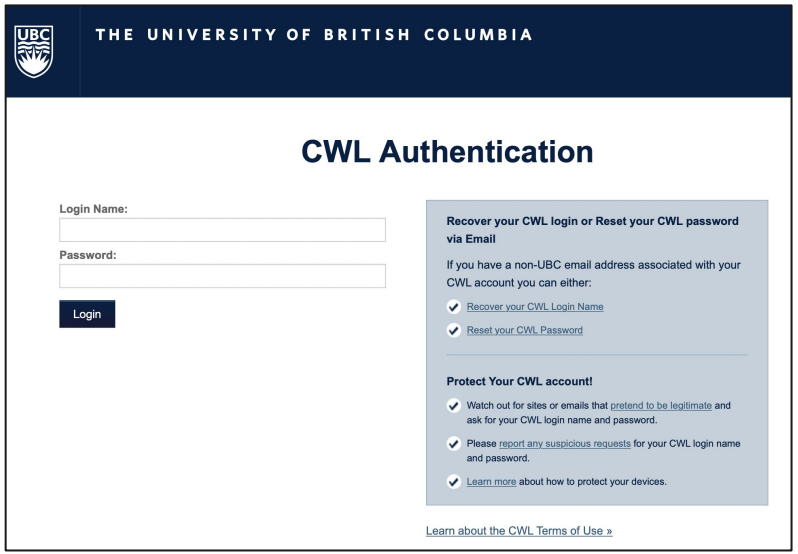
Construct a database design in UML for a fish store where:
A fish store maintains a number of **aquaria**, each with a **number**, **name**, **volume** and **color**.
Each **tank** contains a number of **fish**, each with an **id**, **name**, **color**, and **weight**.
Each **fish** is of a particular **species**, which has a **id**, **name**, and **preferred food**.
Each individual **fish** has a number of **events** in its life, involving a **date** and a **note** relating to the event.



Key Feature

Students can sign in using Google or with CWL (coming soon)





What is an element?

- Professors can create questions simply through the use of elements.
- PrairieLearn comes equipped with many useful elements out of the box such as multiple choice elements.
- PrairieLearn is open source and has a large active community, it is only natural to see many new elements emerge as time passes.

Our Element

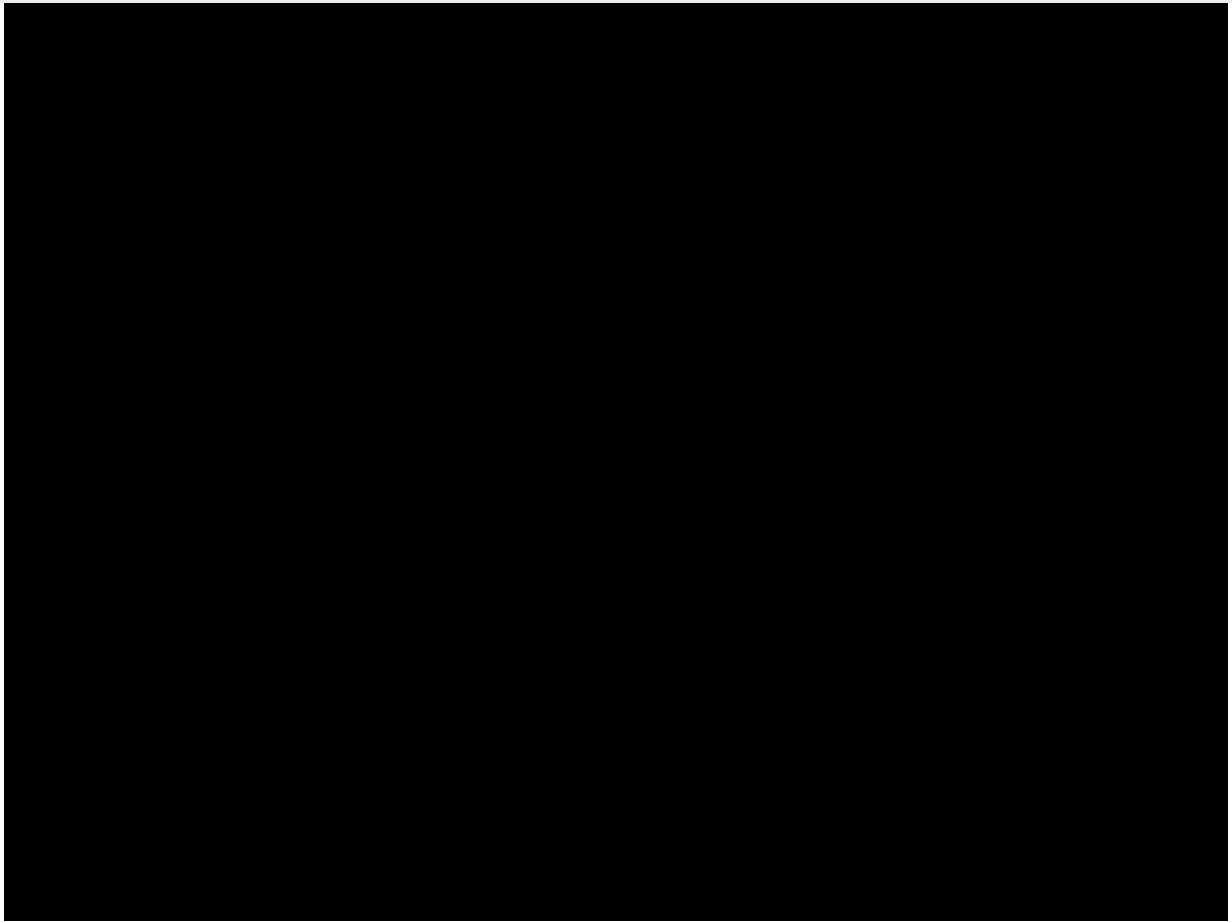
Our group was tasked with creating an element, which would allow a professor to easily create an ER question through the use of basic html and markdown, which would then be auto formatted into the ER question.

For example, to create a randomized question is as simple as:

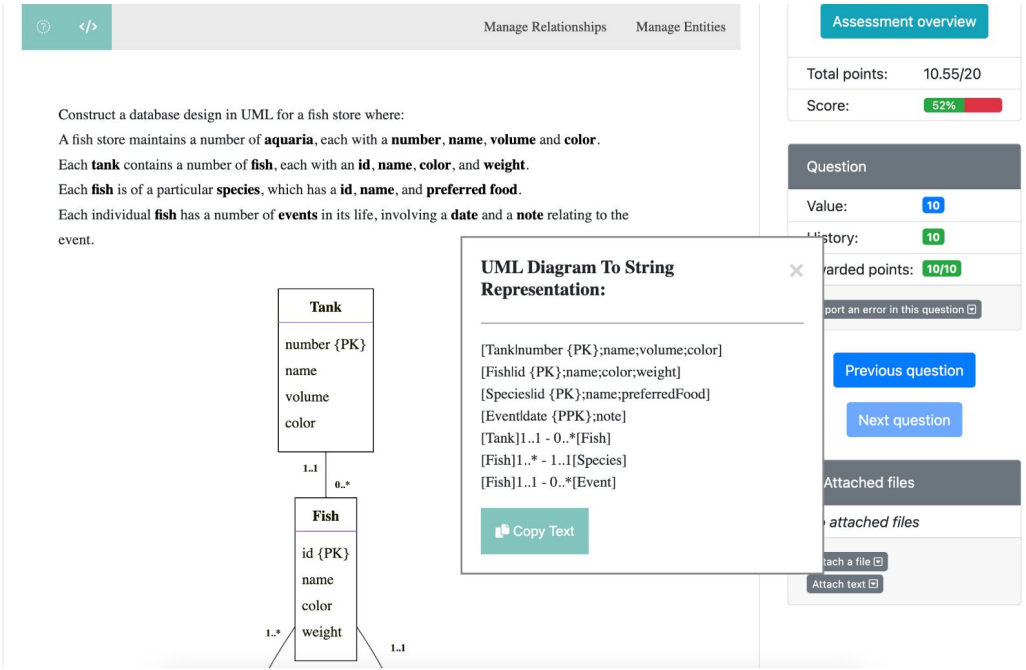
```
<pl-uml-element random = True  max-grade= "10" marker-feedback = True>
</pl-uml-element>
```

Our Element

Things get a bit more interesting when we want to create a set question:



Key Feature


Manage Relationships
Manage Entities
Construct a database design in UML for a fish store where:
A fish store maintains a number of aquaria, each with a number, name, volume and color.
Each tank contains a number of fish, each with an id, name, color, and weight.
Each fish is of a particular species, which has a id, name, and preferred food.
Each individual fish has a number of events in its life, involving a date and a note relating to the event.
Tank
number {PK}
name
volume
color
1..1
0..*
Fish
id {PK}
name
color
weight
1..*
1..1
UML Diagram To String Representation:
[Tank|number {PK};name;volume;color]
[Fish|id {PK};name;color;weight]
[Species|id {PK};name;preferredFood]
[Event|date {PPK};note]
[Tank]1..1 - 0..*[Fish]
[Fish]1..* - 1..1[Species]
[Fish]1..1 - 0..*[Event]
Copy Text
Assessment overview
Total points: 10.55/20
Score: 52%
Question
Value: 10
10
10/10
Previous question
Next question
Attached files
Attach text

Major Challenge

- PrairieLearn was designed to run natively, and was not dockerized for production.
- The team spent a large amount of time reworking the docker files and writing documentation for running the system in production on docker.

Dockerized PrairieLearn Code and Documentation Merged Into Codebase!!!

RUNNING IN PRODUCTION

Setup

Using Docker Compose

User Authentication

Admin User

Testing

- 8.6k+ total tests implemented in PrairieLearn

- 66 total tests written for our custom ER element
  - **randomgrader.py:** 87% line coverage (33 tests)
  - **randomgeneration.py:** 95% line coverage (33 tests)

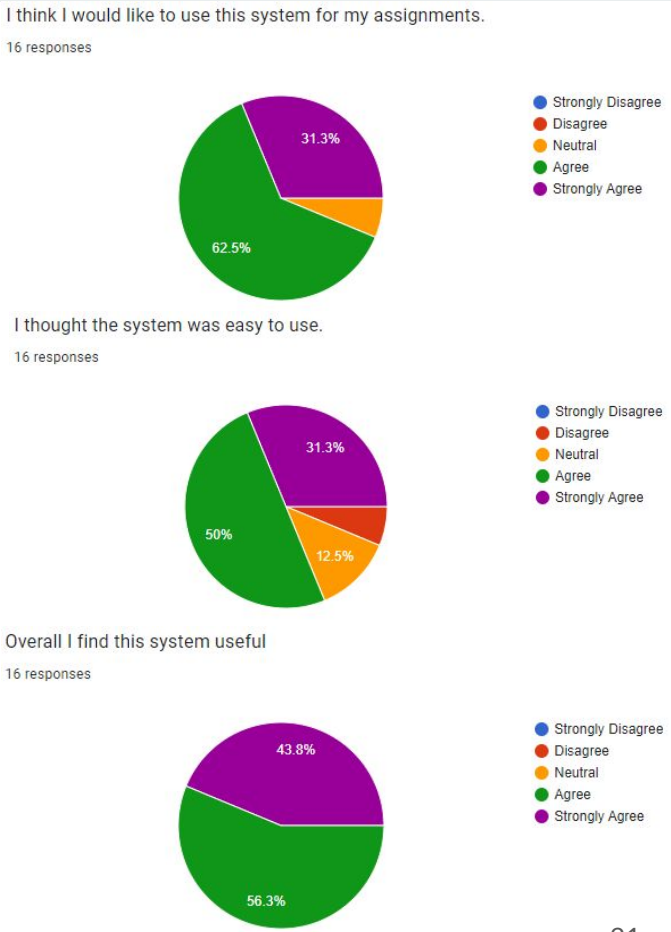
```
randomgeneration_integration_test.py ..................                    [ 27%]
randomgeneration_unit_test.py ..............                              [ 50%]
randomgrader_integration_test.py .....                                    [ 57%]
randomgrader_unit_test.py ............................                    [100%]

============================================== 66 passed in 0.49s ==============================================
```

User Testing Results

- System Usability Scale (SUS) was used.

- Majority of the UI Problems are with PrairieLearn itself:
  - Tabs made it cluttered.
  - Submit button location.
  - Difficulty with navigation.

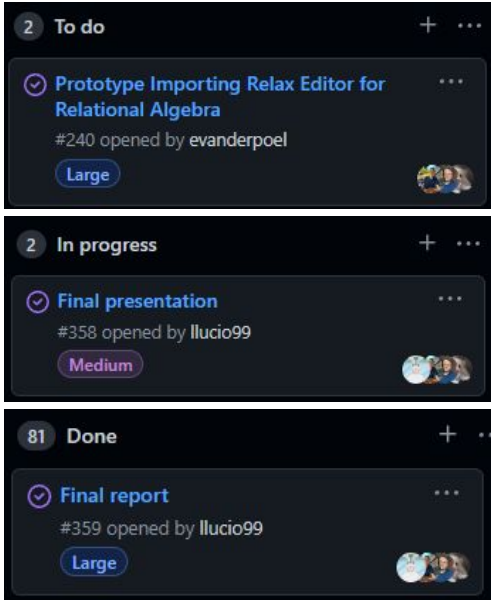


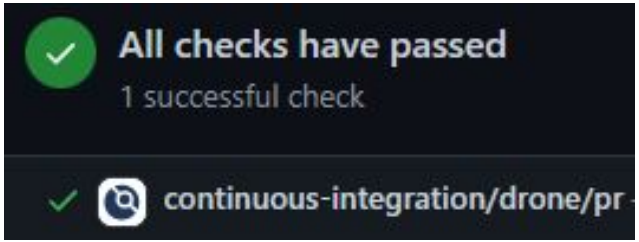
User Testing Results

- Bugs found:
  - Info Button Crashing applications **(FIXED)**.
  - Font of PrairieLearn changed with question **(FIXED)**.
- Suggestions For ER Design Question:
  - Add text field to auto generate ER from string form.
  - Disable clicking on add attribute to stop menu closures.
  - Font Style.

Workflow/Deployment

- Languages
  - Python
  - Javascript
- Project Management
  - Github Projects
- Code Spaces
  - Pycharm
- Deployment
  - Docker
  - Linux Server
- CI/CD
  - Drone IO





Project Statistics (Toggl Time Report)

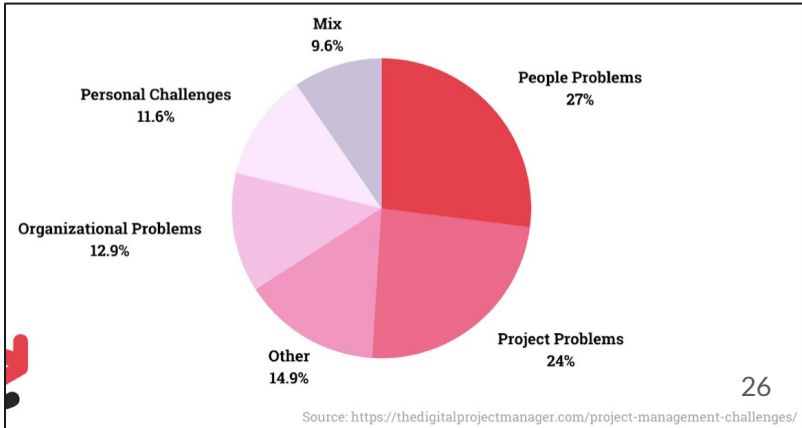
Project Statistics (Burn up/Burn down)

What have we Learned?

- No matter the difficulty of the task don't underestimate how much work it may take.
- Always expect the unexpected.
- Working with Legacy Software is difficult and takes time to understand the codebase.

What would we do differently?

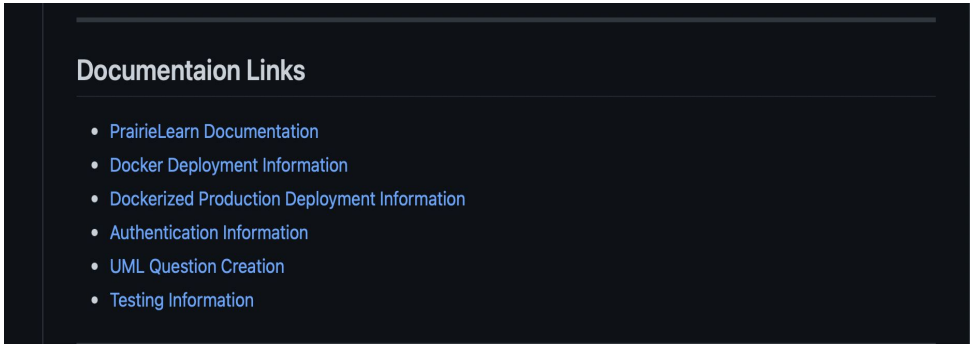
- Put a large focus on docker early on.
- Evaluate prototypes on a deeper scale.



Source: https://thedigitalprojectmanager.com/project-management-challenges/

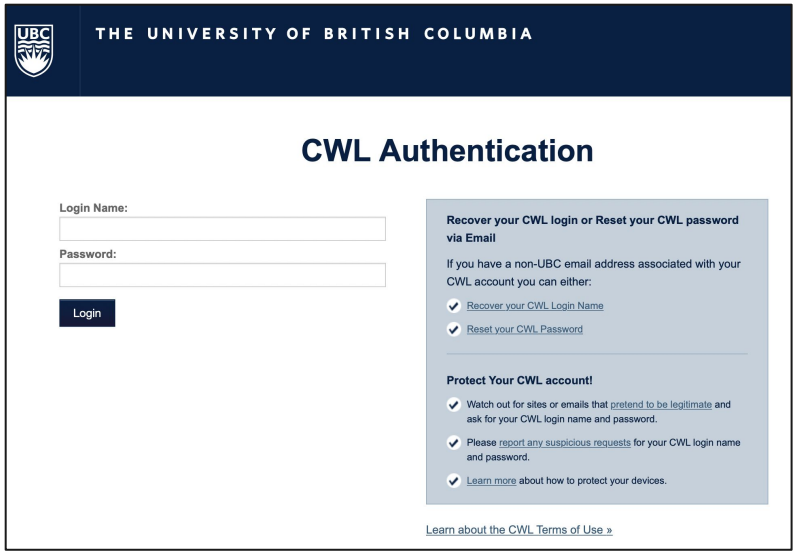
Summary

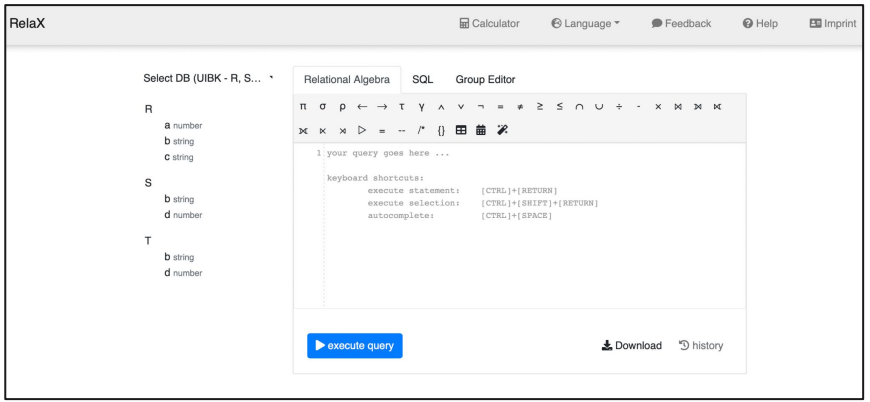
- As project is deployed, handoff will be seamless.
- Project documentation can be found on project repository.



Future Work

- CWL Integration
- Importing Relax Editor for relational Algebra questions





Thank You!

Questions?