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CS 6630-001—**Project Peer Feedback**

Feedback provided by—Dylan Hansen, Ervin Chhour, Khris Thammavong

Following a productive forty minutes of discussing the project, our peers provided insightful comments about how to improve the project. The peers found the project's background and motivation well constructed and found little to criticize. However, they found the project objectives somewhat ill-defined; finding the project's objective overly focused and advised that we generalize the overall objective statement—as such the group has substantially considered broadening the overall scope of the project.

The peers primarily provided feedback regarding the visualizations and dissected each implementation and their objective. The first tool discussed was the interactive map tool, whose objective is to help select counties to filter by. The idea allowed users to use their visual geographical knowledge to click a country and append it to the filter list. The peers found this somewhat redundant, as it acted as an extraneous selection tool that didn't add much usability—especially when taking into account the relative size of the tool within the visualization. The group found this feedback efficacious. As a result, this tool is being implemented as a visualization tool that shows geographic data of the selected tags—reminiscent of the Choropleth map from a previous assignment.

One point brought up during the discussion was that of the selected websites portion of the visualization. This tool is useful as it displays a thumbnail of the top selected sites within the filters. The peers were concerned about the feasibility of implementing such a tool, as there might be high computing overhead should the group have to generate the thumbnail of each site—or alternatively utilize a library not used in the class. This feedback was insightful as it forced the group to think more critically about this tool's implementation. During the

discussion, it was brought up that there was a viable solution that didn't require generating a thumbnail or taking a screenshot—that is to scrape the url and use it to display in the individual image tag href attribute. However, proceeding the meeting further consideration revealed that Cross-Origin-Resource-Sharing (CORS) restrictions were a potential issue as the group was unsure if Awwward's backend is configured such that it permitted requesting images from outside domains. To test this susceptibility, the group created a test website through Google's Firebase located at <https://cors-test-4445d.web.app/> and found that there were no issues.

The next tool brought into question, the line chart, was primarily scrutinized for its ability to compare the data of different groups of tags. For example, a user would have to manually select each tag to compare, which is tedious as there are over 40 tags. Further, selecting a high number of tags would congest the line chart with data. This feedback was insightful as the group didn't anticipate a user selecting that many tags. As a result of this discussion, the group has decided to pivot towards a bar chart that allows the user to see the information of groups of tags—as opposed to singular lines for each tag. Because of this, the group believes that a solution isn't needed as there doesn't seem to be a problem.

Finally, the peers questioned the project's timetable—which was fair as the project's schedule was vague and improperly discussed prior to this meeting. Following this, the group had a conversation regarding the project's schedule—as well as decided on the division of labor. This has been outlined in a table contained within the process book.

Overall, our group was impressed by their feedback and found value in several of the provided opinions. We have since deliberated on several of the points they have brought up and found the quality of the project has significantly improved. Their feedback was fair and well informed.