Automated Core Course Scheduling

Weekly Progress Report 3

Customer
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Project description:
The project is intended to develop a system which is web based, browser independent and using a GUI to help automate scheduling of core courses. The system should be the link between the lecturers and the study coordinators, such that the lecturers can choose their prefered time slots and the system gives schedule suggestions to the coordinator based on the predefined constraints and coordinator defined constraints.

Progress

So far we have completed most of our first iteration tasks, below are a list of what has been done.

what has been done

- The requirements specification contract was completed and submitted, there was some negotiation with the clients on the requirements basically the must-have and may-haves, we tried as much to push some requirements like (Calender based GUI) which is not that critical or core feature required for the system to be operation. However the clients insisted for it to be part of the core features, at the end we came up with a final version of the requirements specification contract which was accepted by the client.
- The use case diagrams was completed by Anastasiia, showing the major interation of the users with the system, it was reviewed, uploaded to wiki and closed that issue.
- We currently have the Use case descriptions which are awaiting review and finalization.
- We had a group meeting where we agreed on a technology to use for our project (Python Flask), which is a micro framework that suits our project because it is not that big as opposed to other frameworks meant for large projects.
- We also agreed to use Constraints Satisfaction tools to model our scheduling problem.
- Users interfaces prototypes where designed which will be fine tuned and presented to the client on the next meeting.

ongoing work

- Data models are still ongoing.
- Internal design of the system like Sequence and Architectural designs are still being tweaked as more information of how the system should be and the various interation with it.
- The Vertical prototype is also still ongoing, currently we have a skeleton of it.

plans for the next week

- We plan to review the use case descriptions and get them ready for friday submission.
- Complete a working vertical prototype of a core feature.
- present the GUI designs to the client and get some opinion on possible improvements.
- Have drafts of the interaction and structure of system against the next iteration (Sequence and Architectural diagrams), which will help during the development of the system.
- We also want to meet with Alexander next week, to get some insight on the network architecture of the server that will (at the end) host our project.

Problems

We would have wanted to reduce the workload of the project(requirements) into the may-have category in order for it to be manageable and concentrating on only critical features, however the client insisted for almost all except one requirement to be in must-have category, well i guess that is why they are customers and we are develpers.