CSCB20 A3 Report

Homepage: https://mathlab.utsc.utoronto.ca/cscb20/fokediso/src/index.php

There are few challenges we faced when designing the website. In this assignment, we have given specific instruction to implement certain function and ability in the website. A usually approach would be creating individual php file for each new function, however that would decrease readability and code efficiency. Our first challenge is how to implement those function cleanly to make the user to have smooth experience and also create a very flexible, easy to maintenance, good structures and readability. We redesign the user workflow from start, from login, creating account to provide different function for different user.
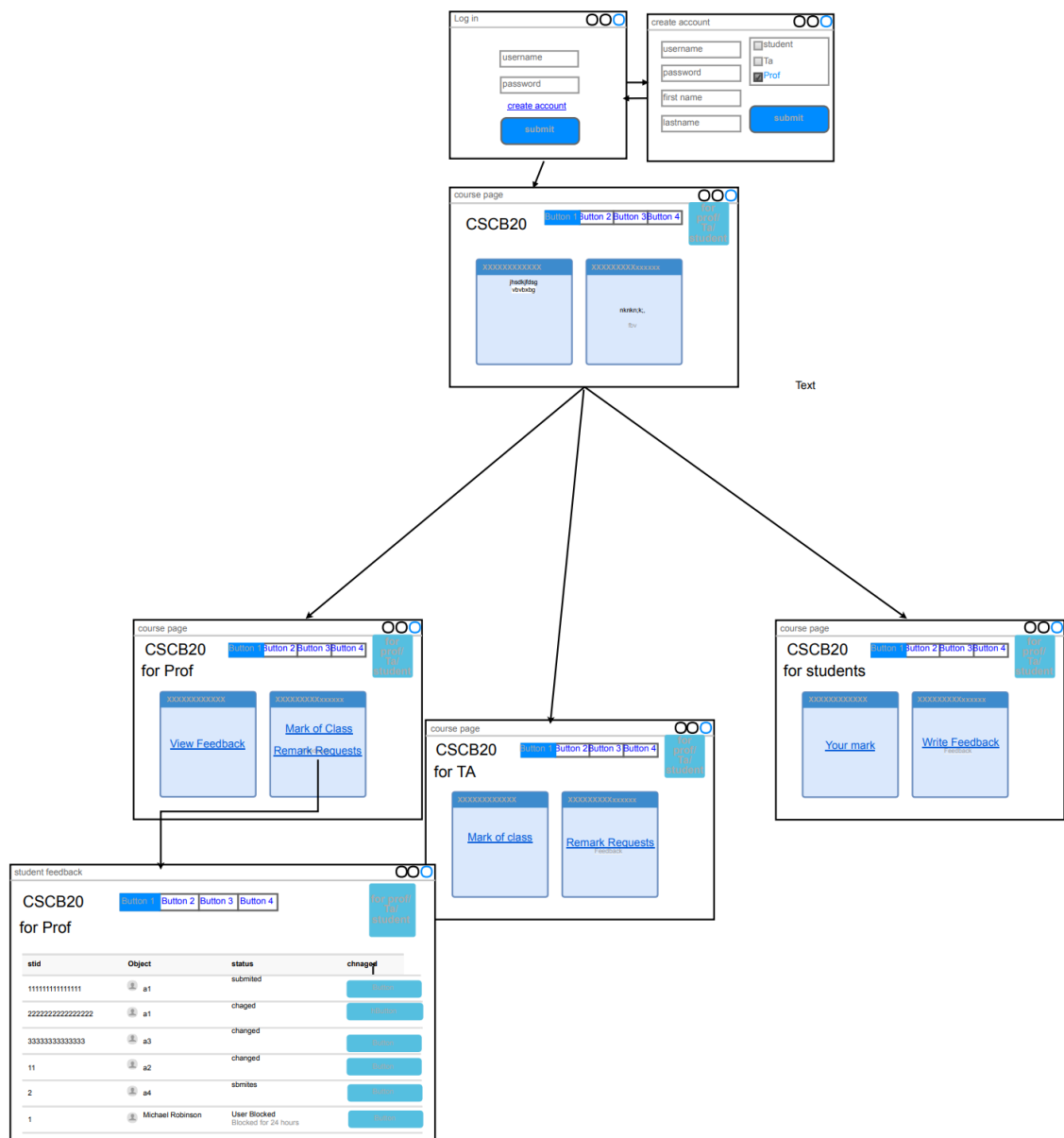
For easy to maintenance reason, all three users will share login.php, create.php and index.php from A2. Each user will have access to all the content available in this website, while they can only see their special content for their user group. We achieve this by using Javascript to show and hide elements in index.php based on their user type from mysql.
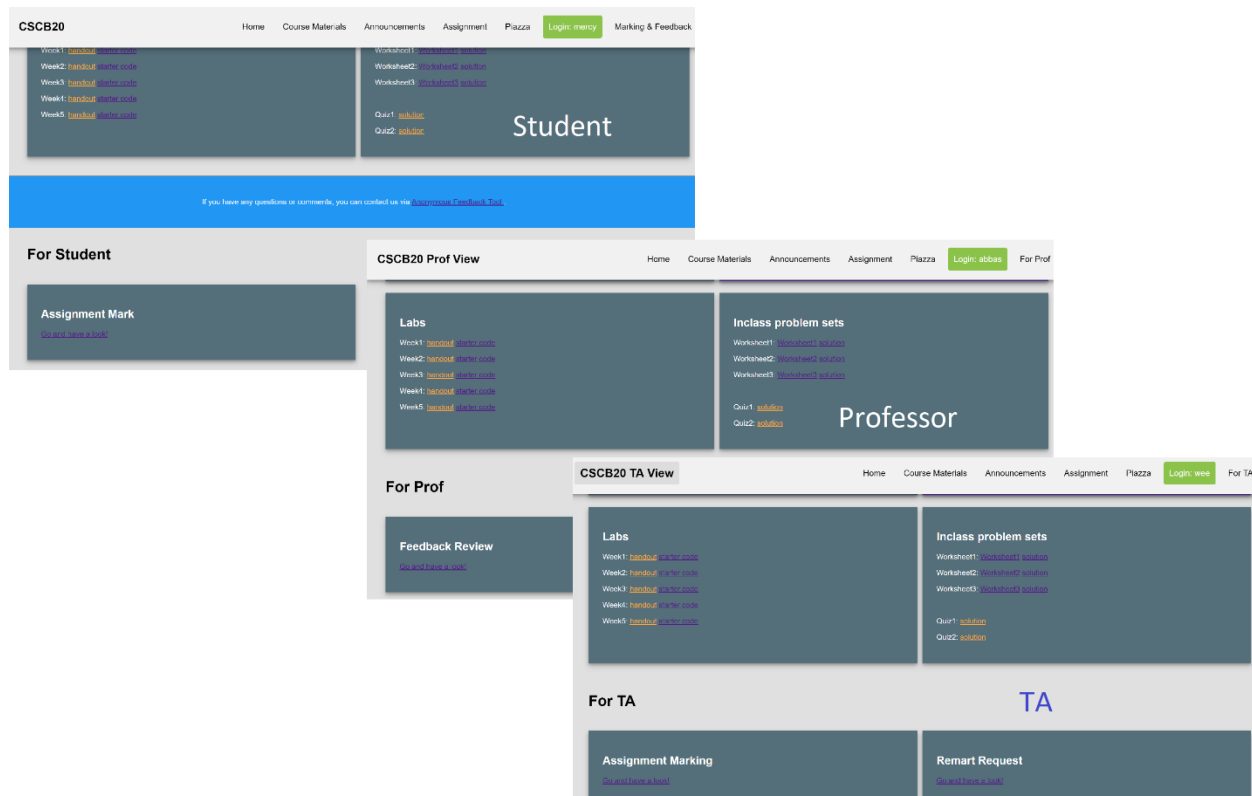

Another problem we found is it is hard to manage login session, therefore we created a single session.php, config.php, footer.php and header.php for all pages. Using this way, we can get the file just once and get it applied to all pages. This is also good for managing the permission for each user group, to address the requirement that only certain user group can have access to certain pages (for example only student can have access to the feedback.php). We added a simple permission system which use an array customized in each page combine with some if statement in the session.php. If the logged in user's user group is not in the array, a pop up alert box will give them a reminder and bring them back to the sign in page.
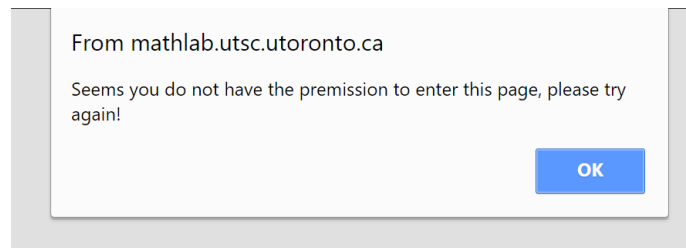
We also leaned few interesting use of Javascript when doing this project. For example, we first tried to set "visibility:none" to default then change the visibility in Javascript. However, this method will cause the header to splitted into two rows. We solved this problem by dynamically update the header to append elements into the HTML object. As you can see on the first screenshot, the header now append the a tag after the green login tag without splitted into two row.

Another JavaScript function to improve user experience is when hover your mouse over the green login button, the text will change to remind you that you can click the button to sign out. The JavaScript function change HTML inline when CSS style detect a mouse is hover on a certain area. The text of that element will then changed to "Sign out" remind user that they can click to signout.
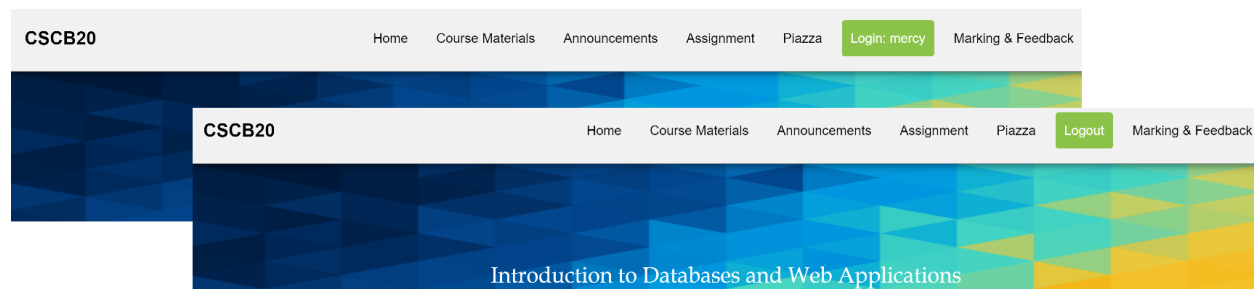
To make the universal index.php works we also learned how hide and show element in HTML by changing css display style. Another challenges we have is how to change the table value (for example to display.
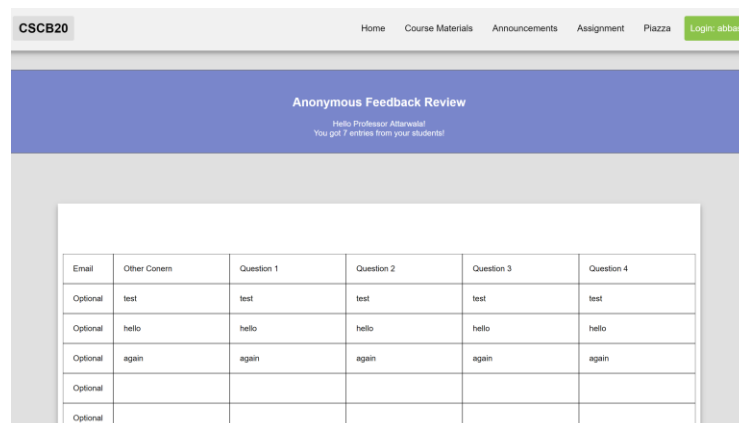
Team member work split:

Login.php – Mercy

Create.php – Edison

Index.php – Edison/Mercy

Feedback.php – Edison

Feedbackreview.php – Edison

Stumark.php – Mercy

RemarkReq.php – Mercy

Config.php, session.php, style.css, script.js, header.php, footer.php – Mercy/Edison

Overall work split: 4 file/4 file

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2018 March