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Sprint 1 Retrospective

Geoff Hackett, Sam Fellers, Rishabh Saxena, Andrew Houvenagle, Austin Wirth

1. What went well?

In Sprint 1, we were able to successfully establish a solid foundation for our application from which we can move forward swiftly and efficiently in later sprints. As a team, we worked quite cohesively. Our communication was decent, and we were able to pretty well stay in contact and keep all members informed on what needed to be accomplished.

Additionally, we were able to reach out to our teammates for assistance when it was needed, which allowed us to overcome roadblocks faced by individuals. The database and much of the backend has been completed so in future sprints we will be able to focus more on front end functionality.

Following are the tasks that were successfully completed in Sprint 1:

- Created a MySQL database with tables for postings, users, bids, transactions, etc. Each of these tables was populated with test data for manipulating.
- Implemented user registration. Users can create an account, have that account information verified and stored into the database and then log in with that information.
- Implemented a main page that is able to display information on all tasks posted by users.
- Created a profile page to allow users to view their profile information.
- Successfully connected front-end pages to server endpoints
- Implemented a login system with session information to keep track of the logged in user. The user can only access the main and profile pages if they are logged in, otherwise they are redirected to the login page.
- Created endpoints for various front-end jobs including logging in, registering, logging out, retrieving posts, etc that allows the frontend to retrieve database information.

- Implemented logout functionality that removes the stored session data so a user must log in again to view the main pages.

2. What did not go well?

One of the main things we struggled with in sprint one was getting the frontend and the backend to work well together. Because this was such an important part of our application, a lot of the functionality could not be completely implemented or tested until it was complete. This meant that we had to rush a bit at the end to get everything working. Some things were not completed and we did not have enough time for satisfactory testing of the main features implemented during sprint one.

We also had trouble finding a good host for our SQL database. We ended up using Purdue's SQL engine, but it has some major drawbacks including limited space and the fact that it can only be access from Purdue computers.

Tasks that were not successfully completed in Sprint 1:

- Implementing the bidding process was not completed. Some components of the bidding process were completed: setting up the bid table, creating appropriate endpoints, and creating the bid entry frontend, but the components were not combined due to time limitations.

3. How should you improve?

For sprint one, we put a lot of time and effort into building the backend and getting everything set up. For future sprints we will be able to focus more on front-end functionality and user experience. One way we can improve is to test our functionality more. Testing is something we somewhat neglected during sprint one. Moving forward, we will be implementing much of the core functionality and it will be important for us to test it thoroughly to make sure it performs as intended.

Another way we can improve is to tackle the more difficult functionality sooner rather than later. In sprint one, we left some of the more difficult parts for later in the sprint which caused us to have less time to test and refine the functionality. In future sprints we will start working on the most complex functionality right away.