Student Performance Tracker

Technical Work Summary

Contributors

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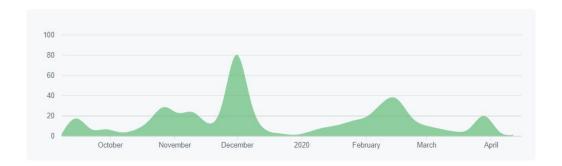
Alex Nguyen

Ryan Kann

High-Level Design

The Student Performance Tracker is an

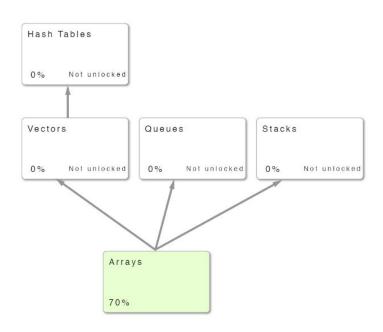
- Online Course Environment
 - Taking (and retaking) Quizzes
 - Reviewing and Administering Grades



High-Level Design

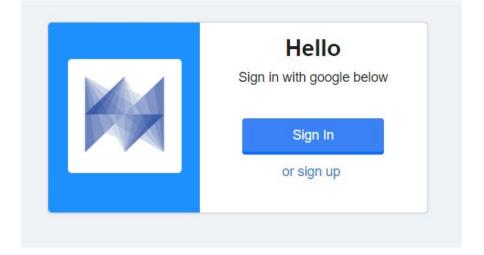
The Student Performance Tracker is a

- Specialized Pedagogical Tool
 - Graph-Based Structure
 - Competency-Bucket Grading
 - Adjustable Grading Metrics



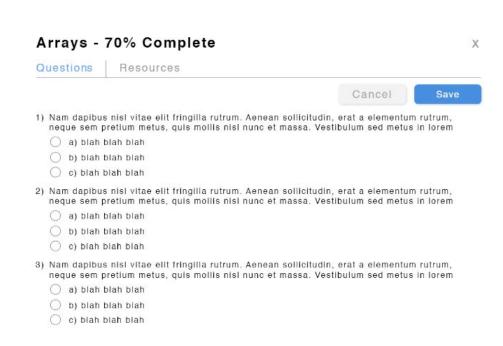
Fall '19 and Spring '20 Goals

- Security
 - Improving Google OAuth efficiency
 - Protecting exposed API Endpoints
- Course Alignment
 - Changing grading policies
 - Locking course topics



Fall '19 and Spring '20 Goals

- Scaling
 - Smarter Queries
 - Batching
 - Less Frontend Computing
- Quizzes
 - Stream Question System
 - Live Feedback
 - Novel Grading Metric



What We're Working With

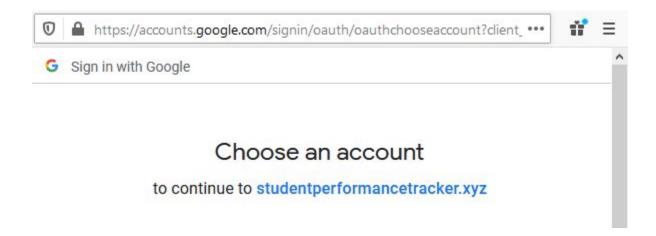
Tech & Tools Used

- Django, Django REST Framework
- Vue, Vuex
- PostgreSQL
- HTML, Javascript, CSS, Webpack
- Docker, Docker Compose
- Nginx
- Gunicorn
- Letsencrypt, Certbot
- Bash helper scripts
- Travis-Cl



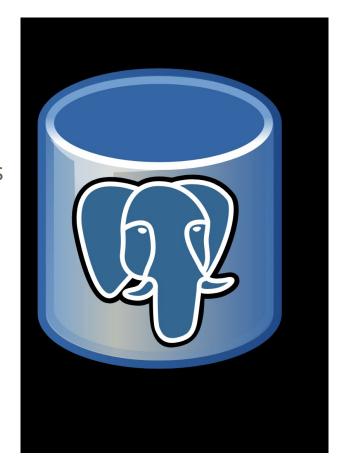
Backend

- Authentication Classes with OAth
- REST framework and tests all needed to authenticate properly



Backend

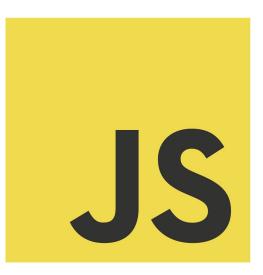
- Models were re-written
- Views were re-written to work with new models
- Rewrite backend tests



Frontend Tools

- Vue/Vuex
- Javascript & HTML







Frontend Challenges

- Vuex was unfamiliar to the team at first
- Testing frontend properly was difficult
- Previous team left us with hardly any functional tests





Getting the codebase ready for production

- Nginx and Gunicorn replace the django dev server
- Nginx replaces npm serve
- One bash script to enable HTTPS



4 Goals for the Student Performance Tracker

- 1. Security and Authentication
- 2. Performance at Scale
- 3. Course Alignment
- 4. Quizzes and Grading

1. Security and Authentication

- Student grades were viewable by anyone
- Google Oauth tokens were exposed
- No HTTPS

```
i Not secure | web.mit.edu
```

```
"grade": 90,
"student": 2,
"assignment": 1
"grade": 98,
"student": 4.
"assignment": 1
"grade": 78.
"student": 4.
"assignment": 2
"grade": 89.
"student": 4.
"assignment": 4
```

Django REST Framework Auth and Permissions

- Grades only viewable by that student, or by professors
- Removed hundreds of lines of code
- Secured passwords, tokens, quiz answers
- Added HTTPS

```
# Check if the user is a professor

class IsProfessor(permissions.BasePermission):

def has_permission(self,request,view):
    is_prof = hasattr(request.user,'is_professor') and request.user.is_professor == True
    #print("Is prof:", is_prof)
    return is prof
```

2. Performance at Scale

- Added pagination at DB level
- Minimized data sent to frontend
- Calculate and cascade grades only when necessary
- Moved work from frontend to backend

```
# Execute update_topic_grade when StudentToAssignment grades are changed
@receiver(post_save, sender=StudentToAssignment)

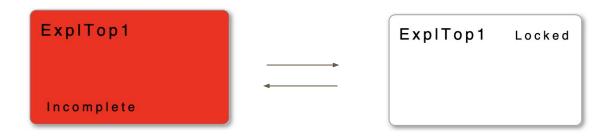
def grade_save(sender, **kwargs):
    instance = kwargs.get('instance')
    created = kwargs.get('created')

if instance.previous_grade != instance.grade or created:
    update_topic_grade(instance.student.pk, instance.assignment.topic.pk)
```



Goal: Bring the features of the app into alignment with the professor's desired course structure.

A) Topic Locking



Topic Lock

You may lock this topic to make it unavailable to students or unlock it to make it available again.

Lock Topic

B) Grade Display and Grade Cascading

ExplTop1
Incomplete

ExplTop1

Competency

ExplTop1

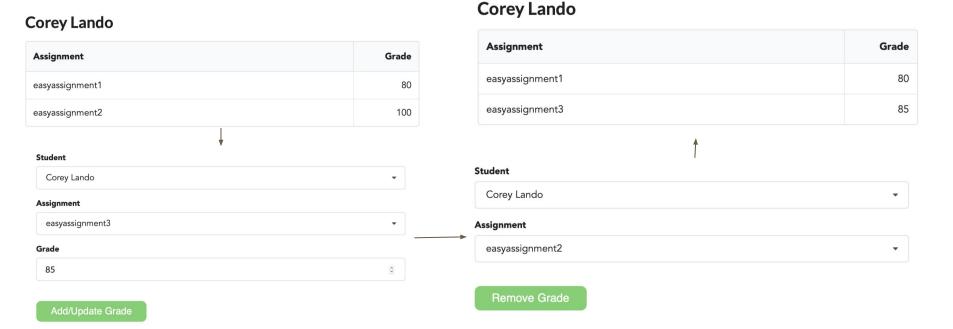
Mastery

ExplTop1 - 55% Complete

ExplTop1 - 77.5% Complete

ExplTop1 - 90% Complete

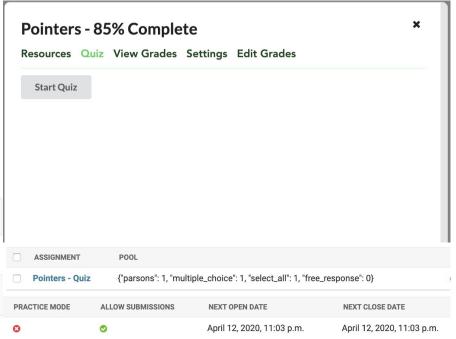
C) Tools and Individual Grading



D) CSV Functionality - DEMO

4. Quizzes and Grading - Overview

- Specialized assignment
- Pool of various types of questions
- Selects predetermined subset
- QUIZ QUESTION
 Pointers Quiz parsons: Put in the correct order.
 Pointers Quiz all that apply: Which are correct?
 Pointers Quiz multiple choice: Which is correct?

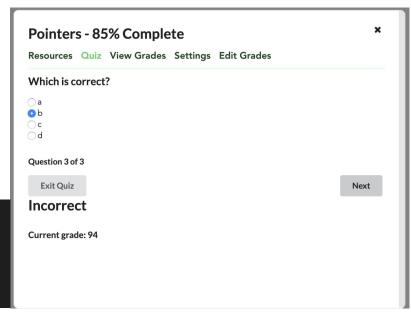


4. Quizzes and Grading - Multiple Choice

- Select 1 radio button and submit

JSON produced by CSV

```
{
  "question": "Which is correct?", # Text to display for question
  "choices": ["a", "b", "c", "d"], # Any number of choices you want
  "answer": 2 # The index of the correct answer
}
```

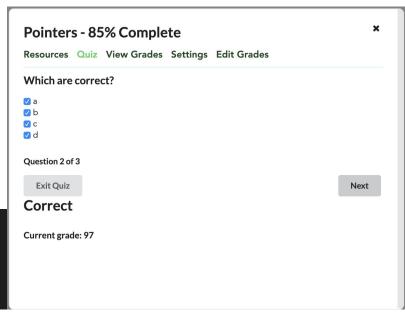


4. Quizzes and Grading - Select All That Apply

- Select any checkboxes and submit
- All or nothing (no partial credit)

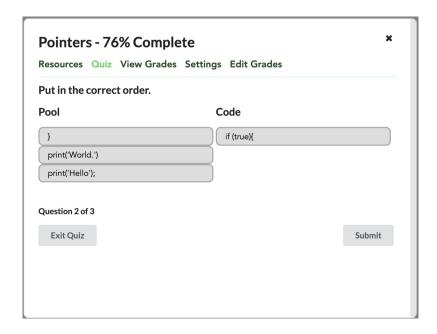
JSON produced by CSV

```
{
   "question": "Which are correct?", # Text to display for question
   "choices": ["a", "b", "c", "d"], # Any number of choices you want
   "answer": [0, 1, 2] # The indices of the correct answers
}
```



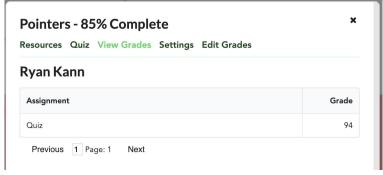
4. Quizzes and Grading - Parsons

- Click and drag code snippets
- Graded based on list of predecessors
- No "red herring" boxes



4. Quizzes and Grading - Grading Scheme

Dynamic grading based on correctness percentage over period of time.



```
# Carrington's evaluation function for guizzes.
# Takes in an old probability (@currentScore), and a
# correctness bool (@response), and returns a new probability.
def getScore(response, currentScore = 0.3):
   p_L0 = currentScore
   p G = 0.4
   p S = 0.2
   p T = 0.2
   if (response):
      numerator = ((1 - p T)*(1 - p L0)*(p G))
      denominator = (p G + (1 - p S - p G)*(p L0))
   else:
      numerator = ((1 - p T)*(1 - p L0)*(1 - p G))
      denominator = (1 - p_G - (1 - p_S - p_G)*(p_L0))
   retVal = 1 - (numerator/denominator)
   return retVal
```

