

FundsXpert

The Property Tax Return Finder,

Graphical User Interface Programming II
Alpha Memo

By

Jose Flores

Michael Meding

It would be fair to say that we have run into many problems so far with this project. We also are significantly far behind our original goals that we set out to achieve for this project. This means that we will be eliminating several features from the original project proposal.

The largest issue that we have been struggling with for this assignment is good communication. Being able to communicate with a team is crucially important to a good project. It helps to eliminate redundant work, inconsistency, and obvious coding mistakes all of which we have encountered so far in this project.

AngularJS also seems to be a point of contention for us as the learning curve is quite high. Angular cannot be thought of as just another JavaScript library but rather its own language rich with complicated features.

Our original acceptability criteria was quite modest and lacked a lot of detail which we later uncovered would be necessary for this project to be considered acceptable. We had set out to create a fairly involved database with an administration console, data searching, and filtering.

The administration console exists but has very limited functionality. It was our goal that this would be the hub controlling many of the features of the site. Currently it only has support for adding blog style articles to the news page.

The database for this project is largely complete as it contains almost all the necessary calls to accomplish our goals for this project. The only items missing are feature specific calculation calls for visualizing our data. Finally, we are missing the data searching and filtering implementations for all but one table in our database.

Given the state of the database it is reasonable to conclude that our acceptability criteria is still feasible. We have gotten some data across and now have a good template to base further database table implementations on. This will help move things along and hopefully keep us on track for the beta release of the site.

We had briefly mentioned many other interesting features that if time allowed we would implement. These features were also included in our original project visualizations. However, given that we are a behind we must abandon all of these features in lieu of much richer data visualizations.

The one feature of this project which has been set since day one has been the look and feel. Using bootstrap required that we implement their CSS which allows us easy access to change the look and feel as we go along.

We expect to deliver this project about 3 weeks behind our original schedule. The dates we had set originally were quite short leaving us with ample time for testing. As it stands we will just make the deadline for getting the project working for beta but with limited time for testing.