

Reflection

Evaluation

Overall, our project was well planned out and finished in a timely manner. We tried to finish things before Sunday when the due date is the upcoming Tuesday. We had a clear and straight focus on what we want to achieve. The MVP was a decent indication of what the final project would be like, so there's not much panicking as hell week approaches. Teammates were able to take up other teammates with parts they are struggling with. However there was less communication involved, but rather teammates just took up the work. We had weekly meetings at the student center to do the docs part and assign work, and most of the coding is done individually. We had skype meetings when some team members cannot make it. The team chemistry is good.

Lessons learned

1. Should have a broader set of minimal set of features. We are very efficient in our implementation and things got done quickly and we did not have many issues blocking our progress. However, it felt like we could have accomplished more with our time. There are a set of things that we agreed is "nice to have" once we finished our basic product, but very few of them are finished even though we did have some time after we're done with basic requirement. It would have been nice to be more ambitious goals at the beginning. It is generally true in all areas of engineering that things which are "nice to have but not required" are rarely done.
2. Working around with APIs is not as easy as it seems. Even with the Google APIs, looking up the correct form the data is supposed to be in and finding sample code was more tedious than it seems. With that we appreciate cleanly-written APIs even more, and it gives up incentive to make our code cleaner and more user-friendly.

Peer review

Constructive but candid evaluations of teammate performance, 50-100 words per person.

Shidan - The other three people were probably much better than me in terms of coding.

On Max - I was especially happy that Max can help me out with the front end when issue arises. He had less time due to his work but indicated his availability early on so it was good from the team planning perspective. I would appreciate more comments from Max's code.

On Julian - Julian knows his backend really well. He usually finishes his part very early on and tested his code out. Solid performance no complaints.

On Jason - Good work ethic to finish the cleanups. Sometimes forgetful but you are probably busy with other classes, too.

However, team members in general were not very responsive. It would be helpful if team members can actually help each other explaining the details of the code, instead of just "I got this", as the first option can better help the team members improve their coding skills.

Jason - The teammates are good at web programming and know their stuff quite well. Project got moved early and quickly.

On Shidan -- He is very responsible and volunteers to do many less technical work, such as doing meeting prep and meeting notes, as well as making some of the graphs. Nice to have him on team.

On Max -- He knows a lot about web programming in general and did much of the difficult front end work. He is also very vocal and communicated to TAs well during our project meetings with them.

On Julian -- He gets his stuff done early and writes good tests. Nothing to complain about.

Julian - The teammates were very easy going and this contributed to the fluidity of the development process of the app. Coding wise, everyone was on par with what they were tasked and knew how to mesh with each other's code well.

On Shidan -- He is very on top of setting up meetings and hashing out the details of the app when the need arose. Nice to work with.

On Jason -- Similarly to the other team members, he was very knowledgeable on the frameworks that the app was built on. No complaints

On Max -- Very knowledgeable about the web frameworks used in the projects. He could definitely improve by writing better comments regarding the code he writes; I see this as the biggest way he could improve as a software engineer.

Max - I was very pleased with the group dynamic throughout all phases of the project. I feel that we worked together to select a project we are all enthusiastic about and equally cared about the overall well being of.

On Shidan -- He was very helpful with team organization and coding throughout all stages of the project. He was most helpful in being knowledgeable in many different areas of the app, fixing bugs and keeping the code well-coordinated.

On Jason -- He was very easy to work with and was most helpful with cross-team coordination. Jason submitted his code very early, which significantly helped other capabilities development

On Julian -- Julian helped most with external API integration and development. Julian also helped use external services like mongolab and heroku. Julian helped move the app forward quickly, which was well appreciated by all.