Discussion of problems

During the course of this project so far, we have encountered a number of problems. As we started the project, we immediately had a few technical issues – since our project was to incorporate a database of some sort, we had envisioned that we would use MySQL, since we had used it on a course last year and knew it was installed on the server already. However, when we first tried to login to the accounts we had set up last year we found that we could not access those accounts – this was resolved by e-mailing the module convenor and getting IS to allow us back into the MySQL accounts.

A problem with regards to our group appeared at this point – task scheduling. Since we could not feasibly all work on all sections at the same time, it became necessary for us to divide out the workload. This was resolved by having each member of the group state what their strengths were (coding in specific languages, writing skills etc). We then all sat down and discussed how the workload should be divided by splitting it into certain skill areas, and then attributing those skills to team members who felt strong in that area. Another minor problem was that whilst there was an algorithm necessary to be built, it was only needed near the end. This was resolved by having the team member set to work on that temporarily re-assigned to help out in the database.

Another more general issue with the group was the amount of time they could work on the project at times. Due to increasing workload throughout the year, progress slowed as deadlines for other modules approached and the amount of time available to work on the project was diminished. Due to this, there were times where self-set deadlines were missed because there was not enough time to fully complete it on top of the rest of their work.

Another technical issue we encountered was the fact that we

UCD