SIM - STUDENT INTERNSHIP MATCHMAKING PLATFORM

BACHELOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

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BACHELOR'S PROJECT

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SUMMARY

In 2021, the government stated in a public message an encouragement for educational institutions to focus on better university-industry collaborations by including more and better practical internships (Kunnskapsdepartementet, 2021, p. 5). Oslomet implemented the "IT project in practice" course in 2015, which aimed to encourage collaboration between students and industry partners through nine different project types. As the number of interested students increased over the years, the coordinator identified the need for a platform to simplify project management and the student internship matchmaking process. Due to the government's statement and the course coordinator's situation, our group felt motivated to implement a solution for this problem. Last semester, our group created an SRS and an MVP for the platform. In the current semester, we reconstructed our previous MVP using Laravel, incorporating improved security measures and user-friendly features. The resulting platform simplifies the management and coordination of student-industry collaborative projects.

3 STIKKORI	D
	Webapplication
	Intership Matchmaking Platform
	Skill Development

Acronyms

API Application Programming Interface. 6, 7, 10, 11, 35–37, 59, 75, 76, 98, 99, 154

CRUD Create, read, update and delete. 66

CSS Cascading Style Sheets. 36, 64

DSL Domain Specific Language. 36

GDPR General Data Protection Regulation. 54

HTML HyperText Markup Language. 60, 62, 64

HTTP Hypertext Transfer Protocol. 35, 69, 75, 76, 119

IDE Integrated Development Environment. 35

MFA Multi-Factor Authentication. 97

MVC Model View Controller. 60, 64

MVP Minimum Viable Product. 5, 18, 31, 32, 48, 58, 156

REST Representational State Transfer. 37, 98

SIM Student Intership Matchmaking. 4, 9, 11, 22, 51, 52, 118–120

SPA Single Page Application. 59

 ${\bf SRS}\,$ Software Requirements Specification. 18

SSO Single Sigh On. 53

 $\mathbf{TDD}\ \mathrm{Test}$ Driven Development. 156

 \mathbf{XSS} Cross-Site Scripting. 87, 93

Preface

This report provides a comprehensive overview of our bachelor thesis completed at Oslo Metropolitan University. The bachelor project was initiated by participating in the "DATA3710, IT project in practice" course during the previous semester, where we collaborated with OsloMet and one of their project course coordinators.

Our bachelor thesis revolves around creating a complete web application that streamlines the administrative tasks for the course coordinator. Our primary objective was to utilize the knowledge we had accumulated over the past three academic years to develop a solution that would contribute value to the university while meeting Oslomet's needs and requirements.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to Tulpesh Patel for entrusting us with the responsibility of solving the administrative challenges faced by the "IT project in practice" course. We are thankful for his guidance and support throughout the project, which enabled us to grow and develop our skills. We also appreciate the course coordinator's valuable insights and input throughout the platform's development. With his suggestions and feedback, this project was possible. Lastly, we thank the Department of Computer Science at OsloMet for providing us with the resources and facilities necessary to complete this project.

This report is designed for digital reading as a PDF and includes clickable links to facilitate navigation to references, figures, appendices, and external resources.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Project Background

In 2021, the Norwegian government emphasized the importance of university-industry collaborations and practical internships for students. OsloMet established the course "DATA3710, IT project in practice," which aims to provide students with practical IT experience. [Aul+22]

The course started around August 2015 and over the years, it quickly gained popularity among students, resulting in a total of approximately 492 students and 194 projects spread across 145 organizations in 9 different project types (numbers are from the last 9 semesters). As seen in figure 1.1, the trend of students, projects, and project providers has steadily increased over the past six years.

During the spring of 2023, the initial enrollment for the "IT project in practice" subject was 100 students, but 40 of them eventually dropped the subject, resulting in a total of 60 students remaining, as shown in 1.1. The exact reasons for the high dropout rate are unclear, but from the course evaluation we know that it is the number, type and variety of the projects there are not enough projects to satisfy all 100 students. Another potential factor could be the challenging nature of the internship matchmaking process at the beginning of the subject. Many of our fellow students have expressed similar concerns, stating that finding a suitable project and contacting the project provider can be difficult, ultimately leading to fewer students engaging in internships.

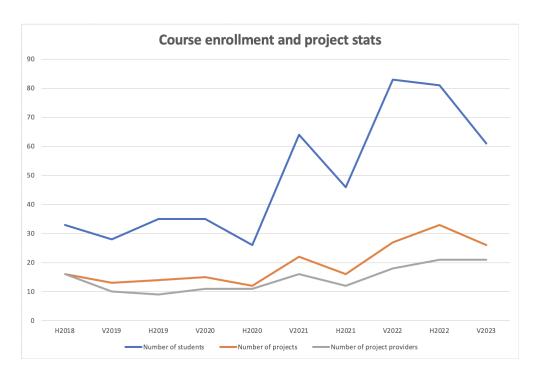


Figure 1.1: Course enrollment and project stats

1.2 Challenges of Course Management Process

Two key challenges arise in managing this course. Firstly, the course is overseen by a single course coordinator, which presents limitations regarding resource availability and workload management. Secondly, the current task management approach must be updated and more efficient. Figure 1.2 visually represents the primary administrative tasks associated with the course management process. These tasks include collecting projects via email, conducting quality assurance of projects using online forms, creating project descriptions by rewriting and copying/pasting from the online forms, uploading the descriptions on Canvas for students, and manually verifying project assignments by crosschecking Canvas, communicating with project providers via email, and reaching out to students.

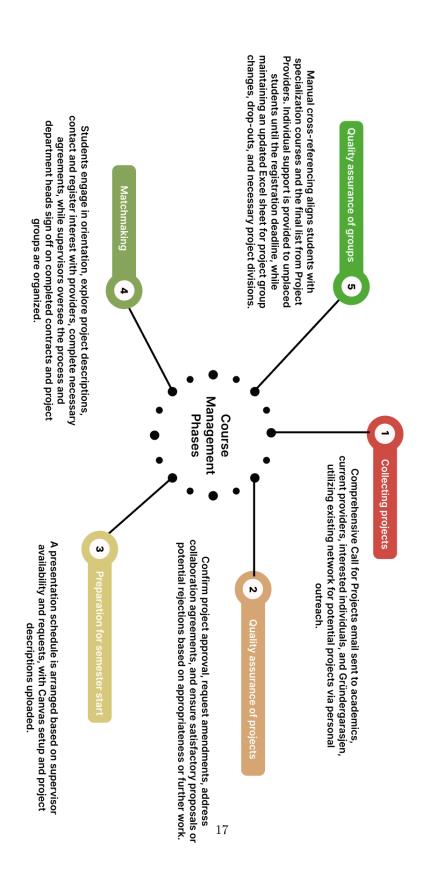


Figure 1.2: Course management phases for the course coordinator

With the increasing number of students taking the courses, as seen in 1.1. There is a need for a more effective solution to manage the courses. Addressing this problem is one of the main objectives of our Bachelor Thesis.

1.3 Project Objectives

Our solution focuses on streamlining and automating tasks related to managing the course, such as emailing companies, using online forms, exporting data, rewriting documents, and posting project descriptions on Canvas.

The main functionalities of the application include companies creating project proposals, the course coordinator reviewing and approving projects, and students applying for projects that match their interests and skills. This ensures a better matchmaking process and easier coordination in the beginning phase of the course "IT project in practice".

1.4 Previous Work and Methodology

In the previous semester (Autumn 2022), we undertook a project as part of the "IT project in practice" course. The objective of the project was to design and implement a platform that simplifies the administrative processes associated with course management. We conducted a thorough analysis of the requirements and documented them in a Software Requirements Specification (SRS), see chapter 2 for more about our SRS. Using pure PHP programming, we developed a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) to address this challenge. While the previous Minimum Viable Product (MVP) was simplistic in nature, it did incorporate the essential functionalities, see appendix A.1 The functional requirements for the application mainly remained the same, which was helpful during the development of the current solution.

Building upon our previous work, our goal for the bachelor's thesis is to redevelop a more efficient and secure platform using the Laravel PHP framework.

1.5 The project group

Our project group comprises five computer engineering students from OsloMet who have previously collaborated on various project tasks during our studies. We are a tightly knit group and are well acquainted with each other's strengths and weaknesses, which allows us to complement each other well. Together, we possess a diverse range of expertise and experience that we bring to the table for this bachelor thesis. Given our strong track record of successful collaboration, it was easy for us to join forces for this project.



(a) Gurjot Singh Aulakh Full-Stack Developer



(b) Mortaza Baqeri Full-Stack Developer



(c) Arman Yedicam IT-Security Analyst



(d) Okbamichael Mussie Technical tester



(e) Faesal al shhadat UI/UX Designer

1.6 Supervisor

OsloMet:

Tulpesh Patel
Associate Professor,
Fakultet for teknologi, kunst og design,
OsloMet

As we solved the problem of Tulpesh Patel, it was natural that he became both our internal and external supervisor. We contacted the supervisor early in the project and agreed to hold weekly meetings.

1.7 Project Provider



Oslo Metropolitan University -Storbyuniversitetet Postboks 4, St. Olavs plass, 0130 Oslo

OsloMet is an abbreviation for the international name Oslo Metropolitan University. OsloMet offers various degree programs in technology, healthcare, and pedagogy. Institut IT, a department within OsloMet, provides the relevant course(s) related to information technology education and training.

Chapter 2

Initial Product Specifications

2.1 Stakeholders Impacted by Student Internship Matchmaking (SIM)

Those who will primarily benefit, and be affected by the "SIM":

- The Course Coordinator
- Students taking the course
- Project Providers

The main tasks for the course coordinator are:

- 1. Receive projects proposals
- 2. Evaluate project proposals
- 3. Make projects available
- 4. Easy overview of students and projects

The main tasks for the student are:

- 1. Go through project descriptions
- 2. Apply for projects
- 3. Contact companies

The main tasks for the project provider are:

- 1. Create projects
- 2. Edit projects
- 3. Track project status
- 4. Go through student applications
- 5. Accept/decline student applications

2.2 Functional Requirements

The functional requirements define the specific features and capabilities that the system should possess to address the needs of its users. These requirements are often expressed as user stories in an agile development approach. [Prond] Figure 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, provides examples of functional requirements we made in the last semester prior to the bachelor project.

Functional requirements - Course Coordinator

Id	Description	Priority
FRCC -1	Have an overview of students registered for the project courses	HIGH
FRCC-2	Have an overview of Project Proposals sent in by project providers	HIGH
FRCC-3	Quality-check the Project Proposals; request changes and updates to Project Proposal	HIGH
FRCC-4	Edit status of Project Proposals (accepted, under revision, rejected)	HIGH
FRCC-5	See overview of status of projects	HIGH
FRCC-6	Create Project Descriptions based on key information in accepted Project Proposals	HIGH
FRCC-7	Publish Project Descriptions for students	HIGH
FRCC-8	Have an overview of which students are registered to which project(s)	MIDDLE

Figure 2.1: Course coordinator's functional requirements

Functional requirements - Student

Id	Description	Priority
FRS-1	Create and edit profile of themselves	MIDDLE
FRS-2	See all Project Descriptions	HIGH
FRS-3 Filter projects according to to availability		HIGH
FRS-4	Can apply for the published projects	HIGH

Figure 2.2: Student's functional requirements

$Functional\ requirements-Project\ Provider$

Id	Description	Priority
FRPP-1	Create and edit profile of themselves	MIDDLE
FRPP-2	Create project proposals	HIGH
FRPP-3	Edit project proposals based on feedback from the Course Coordinator	HIGH
FRPP-4	Access student profiles	HIGH
FRPP-5	Can accept/reject students	LOW

Figure 2.3: Requirements for project provider functionality

2.3 Non-functional Requirements

Non-functional requirements encompass the system's performance, security, reliability, and maintainability. These requirements are not directly tied to the system's functional goals but are crucial for effectiveness. Figure 2.4 presents examples of non-functional requirements.

Id	Description	Priority
NFRS-1 The system is protected from unauthorized		HIGH
	access to the system and its stored data.	
NFRS-2	NFRS-2 The system considers different levels of	
	authorization and authentication across	
	different user roles.	
NFRS-3	Meet and follow GDPR regulation	HIGH
NFRS-4	Follow OsloMet's guidelines and	MIDDLE
	requirements for data security and	
	privacy	
NFRS-5	The system shall provide a web page that	MIDDEL
	explains how to navigate the site. This	
	page should be customized based on	
	what pages that user is allowed to	
	access.	
NFRS-6	This help page should be accessible from	MIDDEL
	all other pages.	
NFRS-7	Adheres to the (seven) principles for	LOW
	Universal Design	
NFRS-8	Has a consistent "look and feel"	LOW
NFRS-9	Translation into another language	LOW
	(Norwegian)	
NFRS-10	Scalability: the system should be able to	MIDDEL
	accommodate additional course types	
	and an increase in the number of	
	students and projects without major	
	reengineering.	

Figure 2.4: Non-functional requirements

Chapter 3

Process documentation

3.1 Planning

The process documentation will provide detailed information about our project planning and the steps taken to reach the final product. The planning phase of this project has been an essential part of our work, as we have dedicated efforts to documentation, front-end, and back-end development.

3.1.1 At start-up

3.1.1.1 Requirements Review Workshop and Priority List Creation

To ensure a clear understanding of the project requirements and specifications, the group initiated a workshop. This workshop allowed each member to individually review the requirements and specifications. Following the individual review, a joint session was conducted where the group discussed and consolidated their findings. As a result, a priority list of the requirements and specifications was created, as we have shown above in chapter 2 of the project documentation.

3.1.1.2 Addressing Availability Challenges and Digital Meetings

Recognizing that group members had other commitments that limited their availability throughout the week, the group decided to address this challenge by conducting digital meetings at the beginning of the project. Although these digital meetings allowed members to participate remotely, it was noted that it hindered the group's ability to work closely together. However, despite this constraint, all members could complete their assigned tasks successfully.

3.1.1.3 Introduction to Git Flow and Implementation Approach

In the first sprint of the project, a team member organized a concise workshop to introduce Git flow, a popular version control workflow. This workshop provided an overview of the Git flow process and outlined the team's approach to implementing it in the future, as shown in 3.1. By adopting Git flow, the team aimed to streamline their collaboration, ensure proper version control, and facilitate efficient code management throughout the project.

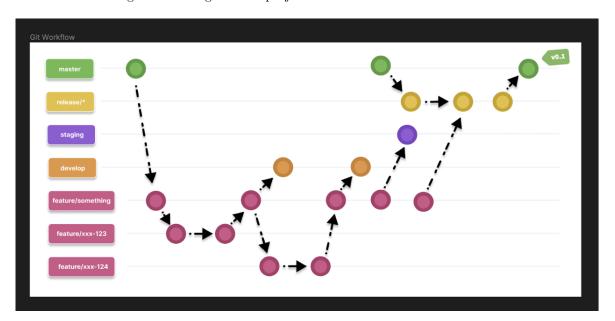


Figure 3.1: Git workflow

3.1.1.4 Progress Gantt Chart for Task Overview and Timeline

To visualize the project tasks and their respective timelines, the group utilized a progress Gantt chart, as shown in 3.2. The chart divided the project into four phases: startup, development, testing, and documentation. Within each phase, specific milestones were identified to mark key progress points. The project timeline was depicted on the right side of the chart, providing an overview of the expected duration for each phase and milestone. The Gantt chart served as a helpful tool to monitor and manage task progress throughout the project lifecycle.

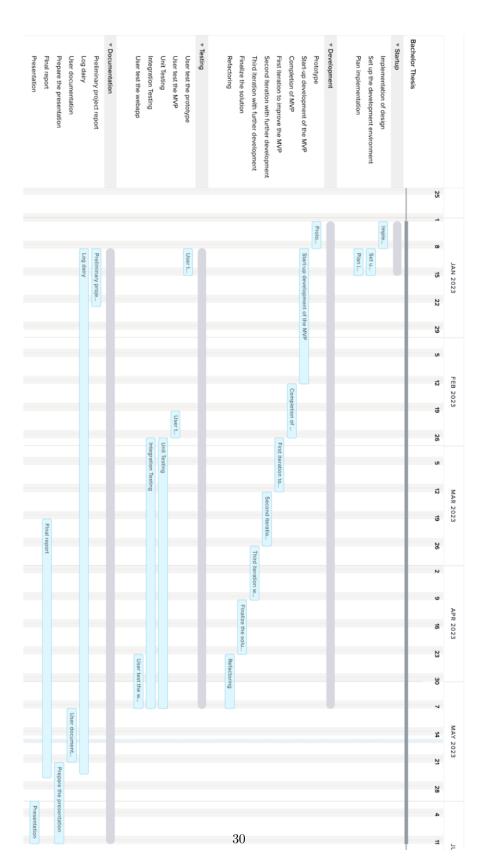


Figure 3.2: A progress Gantt chart of the project

3.1.1.5 Exploring PHP Laravel as the Framework Choice

Our previous MVP was developed using PHP, so it was natural to take the next step and use a framework to improve the application. We learned that Laravel is one of the leading frameworks for PHP and most importantly has built-in security features. [Patnd] Another reason for choosing Laravel as a framework is that two of our team members had experience using Laravel at work. Therefore, we chose to use Laravel.

To prepare for the project, we decided to enroll in a PHP Laravel course before starting the planning phase. [Ari22] With the course, we aimed to expand our understanding of this programming language and framework before using it to create the application. We also wanted to help the rest of the group familiarize themselves with the framework more easily.

3.1.2 Under development

3.1.2.1 Sprint Planning and Focus Areas

In this subchapter, we discuss the formulation of our project plan, as depicted in 3.2. We structured our work into two-week sprints and identified the specific focus areas for each sprint. This approach allowed us to prioritize and allocate our resources efficiently. However, adhering strictly to the plan presented challenges, as we encountered unforeseen obstacles and shifting priorities throughout the project.

3.1.2.2 Deprioritizing some Requirements

Due to many factors described in chapter ??, we had to prioritize and deprioritize requirements in the specification. This was done in collaboration with the course coordinator. We discuss the factors and things we took into account when making these decisions, emphasizing that the changes we made had a minimal effect on the overall project results.

3.1.2.3 Balancing Functional Requirements and Design Focus

This subchapter delves into the importance of striking a balance between functional requirements and design considerations throughout the project. Initially, our emphasis was primarily on functional implementation, keeping in mind the overall/universal development process and our initial MVP 1.0 concept. However, as the project progressed, we recognized the need to allocate more attention to design aspects. We explore the rationale behind this shift and discuss how it was communicated and aligned with the course coordinator. Further details on this topic can be found in chapter ??.

3.1.3 Areas of Responsibility

At the beginning of the project, our goal was that each member of the group could implement parts of the application. Therefore, as mentioned earlier, we purchased a course in Laravel so everyone had knowledge and experience using Laravel. Sadly not everyone could complete the course. After the project started, we quickly realized that this was not the best approach as there was a big gap in technical knowledge when it comes to coding and areas of interest. We solved this issue by allowing each team member to take responsibility for areas in which they were most interested and had the best knowledge. Therefore, early in the project, we thoroughly discussed each individual's preferences, areas of focus, strengths, and weaknesses. After reaching a consensus, we allocated tasks and responsibilities:

Name	Role	Responsibility
Gurjot Singh Aulakh	Scrum master and full-stack developer	Responsible for software development across the entire stack and leading the agile processes and practices within the team.
Mortaza Baqeri	Full-stack developer	Responsible for software development across the entire stack
Okbamichael Mussie	Technical Tester	Responsible for unit testing, feature testing, and API-testing
Arman Yedicam	Security Analyst	Responsible for the security of the product
Faesal al shhadat	UI/UX Designer	Responsible for the design of the product

Table 3.1: Individuals in Group - Names, Roles, Responsibilities.

3.2 Tools used in the process

This section provides a concise overview of the tools utilized in the project, along with a general description of each tool. Subsequently, we will delve into a detailed discussion on how these tools were effectively employed throughout the report.

Notion:

Notion is a versatile platform that offers a unified space for thinking, writing, and planning. It allows for capturing thoughts, managing projects, and even running an entire company, all while offering complete customization to match one's preferences. [Labnd] Notion was an obvious choice for our team due to their familiarity with the platform, requiring minimal training.

Docker:

Docker is a platform-as-a-service application that enables container creation, operation, and management. Virtual machines form the foundation of Docker, allowing for easy creation, distribution, and interaction. Any operating system or software architecture can seamlessly function with programs enabled by it. [Docnd]

Facebook Messenger:

Facebook Messenger is a chat tool that operates through a web-based platform. [Metnd] The tool enables group members to share information and engage in informal conversations quickly.

Figma:

Figma is a user-friendly tool that enables the rapid creation of visual prototypes for digital interfaces such as webpages. [Fignd] We utilized Figma to construct and test our prototype and refine it for further development. The resulting prototype was the foundation for our service's graphical representation and subsequent progress.

Github:

Developers can work collaboratively on software projects using *GitHub*, a web-based platform that enables version control. [Gitnd] GitHub is built on Git and offers features such as bug tracking, task management, and documentation. Since our team is already familiar with GitHub, it is an ideal option for us.

Microsoft OneDrive:

Microsoft OneDrive provides the option for online storage. [Micnda] We saved all project-related files and materials on OneDrive and shared them among the group members. This feature enabled us to collaborate and work together on these documents.

Microsoft Word:

Microsoft Word served as our computerized writing tool. [Micndb] We used it to write all the reports and supporting documents for the project, enabling seamless collaboration and co-authorship on these materials.

MySQL Workbench:

MySQL Workbench is a comprehensive visual tool that unifies database builders, coders, and DBAs.

[Orand] The report creators utilized it to create specific diagrams, such as database diagrams.

PhpStorm (IDE):

The group members were already familiar with editors such as IntelliJ IDEA, which made it a sensible choice for editing both the client and backend code. IntelliJ IDEA is widely used by software professionals worldwide, especially those who work with Java and Kotlin in enterprise, online, mobile backend, and full-stack applications. On the other hand, *PhpStorm* is specifically designed for developers who create online applications or command-line tools using PHP or PHP-based solutions. [Capnd] [Jetnd] As a result, no training was required since the group members were already familiar with these editors.

Postman:

The tool, *Postman*, is designed for evaluating APIs. This utility provides a convenient way to assess APIs. With Postman, users can transmit API endpoint inquiries with the desired parameters in the "header" and "body" by the HTTP protocol.[Posnd]

Zoom.us:

Zoom.us, a video conferencing tool, was utilized for guidance meetings with an internal supervisor at OsloMet and all group meetings. [Comndb]

3.3 Framework/library used

In this section, we will provide a brief and general overview of the frameworks and libraries that were utilized in the project. This serves as an introduction before we delve into a more detailed explanation of how we employed them and the connections between them later in the report.

Blade:

The *Blade* is the scripting engine that comes bundled with Laravel and is simple and powerful. We opted to use the blade as our frontend framework since it is integral to Laravel. [Larnda]

Bootstrap:

Bootstrap is the go-to CSS framework for developers who want to build mobile-friendly, responsive web pages that are flexible and adaptable to different screen sizes. [W3Snd]

Php - Laravel:

Laravel is a web application platform that boasts an elegant and expressive syntax, which enables developers to focus on the creative aspects of building applications rather than getting bogged down in details. By providing a solid foundation, Laravel makes it easier to focus on creating rather than worrying about the finer development points. [Otwnd]

JavaScript:

JavaScript (JS) is a computer language with first-class functions that can be interpreted or, just-intime, compiled. JavaScript originated as a web scripting language and has evolved into a universal language that finds application in various contexts beyond web development. Various non-browser environments such as Node.js, Apache CouchDB, and Adobe Acrobat utilize it, although it is most well-known as the scripting language for websites. [nd]

Mockery:

The *Mockery* is a flexible PHP fake object system that enables easy utilization for unit testing with PHPUnit or other testing frameworks. Its main goal is to offer a concise API that uses a Domain Specific Language (DSL) that can precisely define all possible object operations and interactions in a human-readable manner. [Bcnd]

PhpUnit:

PHPUnit provides an efficient and effective way to perform unit tests on PHP code, allowing developers to identify and fix bugs quickly. It offers a range of features, such as mock objects and code coverage analysis, that help ensure the quality and reliability of PHP applications. [Bernd]

Swagger:

The Swagger framework is responsible for automatically generating descriptions of a REST API. Swagger is beneficial for maintaining and developing the solution as it provides a clear and structured overview of API interaction without requiring familiarity with the underlying code or structure. Incorporating Swagger declarations into the API enables the quick creation of a website with visual representations of all endpoints and their specifications. Facilitation of automated documentation generation and rapid assessment of API communication via the website is enabled. [Sofnd]

MySQL:

Popular relational database management system MySQL is open source. TSQL, or Structured Query Language, manages and manipulates table data. MySQL is a well-liked option for web-based applications and data-driven websites because of its reputation for dependability, usability, and performance. We use MySQL because it can easily be coupled with other programming languages like PHP and Python and can handle significant volume and high throughput data. [Aul+23]

Laravel Sail:

Simplifies working with Laravel's default Docker development environment by providing a lightweight command-line interface. It includes a docker-compose.yml file and a sail script at the root of your project, allowing you to interact with Docker containers conveniently. Sail is suitable for building Laravel applications using PHP, MySQL, and Redis, even without Docker experience. It is compatible with macOS, Linux, and Windows (via WSL2). [Larndf]

xDebug:

xDebug is an effective PHP debugging tool that aids developers in efficiently identifying and resolving code errors. By incorporating xDebug into PHPUnit and Laravel, developers can enhance the debugging capabilities of their unit tests. This integration enables them to better track test runs, examine variables, and identify code errors. Particularly for Laravel applications, xDebug facilitates step-by-step debugging, the establishment of breakpoints, and analysis of the application's behavior

during testing. [Xdend]

Livewire:

Livewire is a comprehensive framework designed for Laravel, which simplifies the process of creating dynamic interfaces while staying within the familiar Laravel environment. It enables developers to construct contemporary web applications using Vue and React, minus the additional intricacies that could complicate their workflow. [Livnd]

3.4 Working method

We used a flexible approach for our project and opted for the agile methodology. This helped us quickly create and test a prototype to confirm or refute our assumptions about the solution. We have used various methods within agile methodology in our project, which we will discuss individually and provide reasoning for their selection.

3.4.1 Agile development

The group decided to work according to an agile framework called Scrumban, combining the two methodologies, Scrum and Kanban. We reached this conclusion because both frameworks contribute value in different areas, and we required qualities from both. [Atlnd]

3.4.2 Scrumban

Scrumban is a hybrid approach combining elements of both Scrum and Kanban. We decided to use Scrumban due to its high relevance in the IT industry. [San22]

The group acknowledged the inherent uncertainty and potential for unforeseen changes in requirements. For example, while planning for some of the sprints, the group remained flexible to accommodate any alterations in the requirements specifications along the way. The agile methodology allowed the team to respond proactively to changes while maintaining a structured project plan.

3.4.3 Scrumban in practice

The project was structured into six sprints lasting for two weeks and seven sprints lasting for one week. Tulpesh conducted sprint review meetings weekly to present our progress and contributions. The sprint review meetings duration was one hour. We also held retrospective meetings to ensure that the team could reflect on the process and make necessary adjustments. These meetings allowed

all team members to share their opinions on what had gone well, what had gone poorly, and what could be improved.

During the planning phase of the first sprint, we created a backlog to keep track of all the tasks in the project. We continuously updated this backlog with new tasks as the project progressed. Initially, these tasks were based on the user stories of the application.

We implemented a Kanban board in Notion. Subchapter 4.1.2 discusses the rationale behind selecting Notion and its utilization.

To ensure alignment among team members, we conducted daily 15-minute stand-up meetings at 10 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. These meetings involved brief reviews of individual accomplishments since the previous meeting, discussing intended goals, and identifying obstacles.

Gurjot, with his prior experience in agile development methodologies, assumed the role of the project's scrum master.

Chapter 4

The development process

The project has progressed through different phases with well-defined timelines, while some procedures have remained constant throughout the entire project duration. The project's duration spans 20 weeks, and to streamline the workflow, we divided it into nine sprints.

4.1 Start-up phase

We will now provide an overview of the distinct sprints and phases consistently present throughout the project's timeline.

4.1.1 Design and Prototype Sprint

Design sprints are a structured process that rapidly develop and test prototypes to validate ideas and solve challenges. They foster collaboration and innovative problem-solving, with key objectives including idea validation, user feedback, and practical solution generation. Design sprints offer benefits such as rapid iteration, risk reduction, teamwork, and vision alignment. [two22]

Our design sprint team consisted of five individuals with varied skills and expertise, driving our achievements. Through collaboration and leveraging our diverse skill sets, we generated well-rounded solutions that addressed project aspects. We prioritized functional requirements over visual design ideas, given the project requirements.

During the first week of the design sprint, we split into two groups, one focusing on backend implementation and the other on design ideas. This approach allowed for independent thinking and a wide range of suggestions. In the second week, we shifted to prototype development, consolidating the best elements from individual proposals and making collective decisions on design direction. Technical considerations were also addressed, and we chose Figma as the tool for implementing the prototype.

We conducted website research on matchmaking internship solutions to gain insights and inspiration, analyzing three specific websites for user flows and interfaces. This research influenced the development of our prototype.

At the start of the project's 3rd sprint, we tested the prototype with our course coordinator and gathered feedback on functionality, user interface, user flow, and the overall concept. The feedback was predominantly positive, with some minor issues related to language usage and images. We iterated on the prototype to align with specifications and the coordinator's feedback. To see the final version of the prototype, check Appendix A.2.

4.1.2 Implementation planning and set up of the software environment

We utilized Notion to create a dedicated project board to manage our project effectively. This board served as a centralized hub for distributing tasks and responsibilities among team members. It allowed us to track progress on specific functions, complete administrative tasks and projects, and monitor individual responsibilities. We utilized the project board to review our progress during our stand-up meetings. Although this approach was new to the group, we chose Notion due to its familiarity among team members and prior experience using the application. Implementing this approach helped us structure our work process and enhance overall productivity.

To effectively manage the task backlog, shown in figure 4.1. This board provided a complete overview of all the project tasks. We divided each task into sub-tasks to simplify problem-solving and closely monitor task progress. Figures 4.2 and 4.3 offer visual representations of this approach.

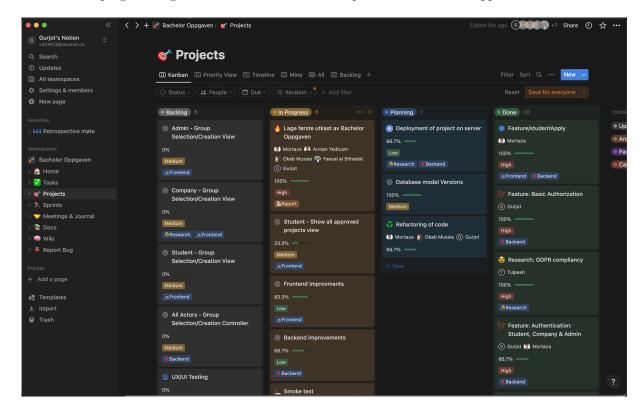


Figure 4.1: "Kanban" project board created in Notion.

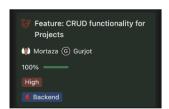


Figure 4.2: A task from Notion

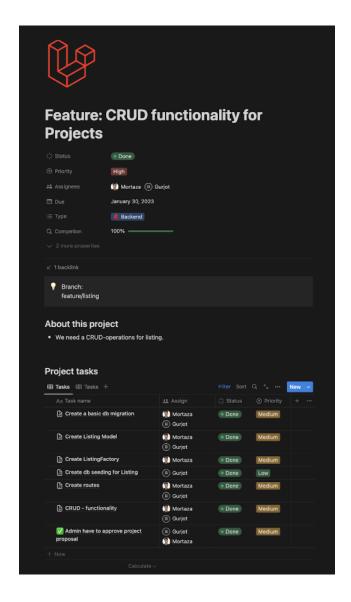


Figure 4.3: Table of sub-tasks as viewed in the Task section of Notion.

To categorize tasks, we used tags. Each task was represented by a card on the Kanban board, allowing us to assign priority, deadline, responsible person, and iteration for completion. We utilized different board views to enhance task management:

1. Priority View: This view listed tasks based on their priority, difficulty level, and iteration association. It helped us prioritize critical tasks and allocate our time and resources effectively. See

figure 4.4 for an illustration.

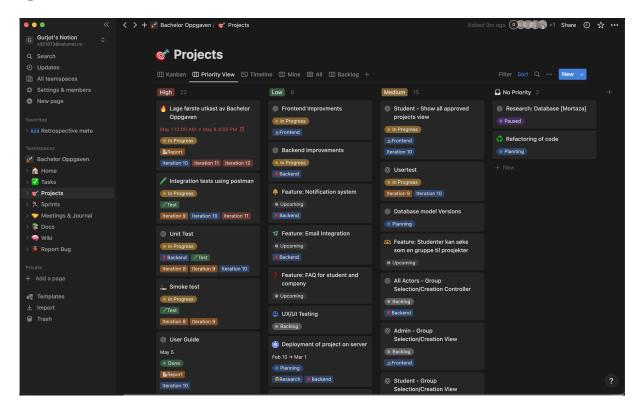


Figure 4.4: Priority View from Notion.

- 2. Timeline View: We utilized a Timeline view to visualize the sprints and understand the task sequence and inter-dependencies.
- 3. Mine Board: Each team member had a Mine board displaying tasks assigned to them.
- 4. All Board: Each team member had an All board that showed all the tasks. This approach facilitated task visibility and effective collaboration within the team.
- 5. Backlog Board: The Backlog board displays all the tasks currently in the backlog.

These board views and categorizations allowed us to manage our tasks efficiently, ensuring clear visibility, effective collaboration, and streamlined progress throughout the project.

4.2 Development phase

The development phase consists of 13 sprints, each with its specific focus areas, as indicated in the table below. The first six sprints lasted two weeks each. After this period, we reduced the sprint duration from two weeks to one week. The reason we halved the sprint duration was because we understood that gaining feedback from the course coordinator every week was much more efficient for improvement than using two weeks per sprint. In other words, the group's efficiency increased when switching from two to one week sprints. It is also important to note that the front- and backend implementation as well as the testing was done every week until sprint 11.

Sprints	Week Number	Description	
Sprint 1	2 & 3	Planning and creation of preliminary project report	
Sprint 2	4 & 5	Design and prototyping of frontend	
Sprint 3	6 & 7	Security analysis, backend development and smoke testing	
Sprint 4	8 & 9	Implementation of frontend and survey planning	
Sprint 5	10 & 11	Developing T&Cs, implementing tests, and discussing survey methods	
Sprint 6	12 & 13	Usertesting and UI/UX improvements	
Sprint 7	14	Code refactoring and restructuring	
Sprint 8	15	Building a complete user guide for all actors	
Sprint 9	16	Creating project poster to present at IT-Expo	
Sprint 10	17	Planning the execution of the Bachelor report and distributing the work based on our roles	
Sprint 11	18	Creating a template and an early draft of the Bachelor report	
Sprint 12	19	Writing the Bachelor report	
Sprint 13	20	Finishing the Bachelor report	

Table 4.1: Sprints overview

Throughout the entire development process, the project team maintained a flexible workflow, resulting in a highly positive group dynamic. In situations where individual motivation waned, the group managed to sustain the dynamics by being open about personal challenges. The group was also willing to support and help each other to contribute to the project in the best possible way. This created a conducive collaborative atmosphere and provided significant support to each team

member.

In the upcoming chapters, the various phases will be discussed in greater detail, providing more insights and elaboration.

During the implementation of the MVP, we experienced that it took longer than expected, and it turned out that the application was more demanding to implement than anticipated. As a result, it was impossible to develop in several iterations as we had planned in the Gantt chart. Additionally, we wanted to add extra functionality, which included the ability for "digital signing of contracts," where students could sign work and confidentiality agreements through the application. We also planned to conduct user tests with companies, but this was postponed due to lack of approval in time from SIKT (Appendix A.7).

Along the way, there were also time-consuming activities such as working on the project report and creating a poster, see appendix A.13

4.2.1 Development of MVP

We began by implementing the main functionality of the application and established database models based on the requirements specifications, appendixes A.8 and A.9.

The team focused heavily on backend development and creating activity and user models. The application's appearance could have been more emphasized initially, as the design was simple and intuitive. Most of the focus was on functional requirements over non-functional ones, seamlessly integrated with the implemented functionality. The goal was to ensure users could use the features effectively and efficiently.

4.2.1.1 Docker Container Hosting

We started setting up the Docker container by creating a repository on GitHub called "BachelorOpp-gaven2023". We used PhpStorm as our development environment for the project. We started with a

predefined docker file from Sail and made modifications to create five Docker containers, see appendix A.12.

Docker Containers	What were they used for?	
Selenium-1	To run automated tests	
Redis-1	To handle caching of data and to accel-	
	erate database processing	
MySQL-1	Contained the database and was used	
	to store and manage data of the appli-	
	cation	
Mailhog-1	To capture and display email messages	
	sent from other containers in the system	
Sim-1	The container where the entire applica-	
	tion was located and could be run.	

Table 4.2: Details about docker containers

The entire application (front- and backend) was placed in the Docker container called "sim-1".

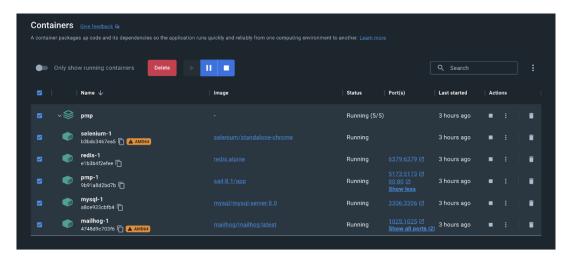


Figure 4.5: Docker Containers

4.2.1.2 Hosting

Early in the process, we decided to host our web application so that we could easily perform user tests. Therefore, we researched how to deploy a Docker-containerized Laravel web application using online resources.

We contacted the IT department at OsloMet to get help deploying our web application. After talking to them, we were given access to a Linux VM hosted on OsloMet servers to deploy our web application. However, some errors prevented us from completing the deployment anyway. We discovered the problem in the container "pmp-1" (which was later renamed to "sim-1"), as shown in figure 4.6, but finding the error and fixing it was tough. Details about this error can be found in appendix A.10.

Figure 4.6: Deploying error from OsloMet VM

After not being able to solve the previous issue with the Linux VM, we tried to deploy the web application on Microsoft Azure. We needed more expertise in Microsoft Azure, therefore, we contacted many of our acquaintances and asked for help to deploy. Unfortunately, none had enough knowledge and time to assist us. Nevertheless, we did not give up and tried again. Eventually, we managed to deploy the web application, but we experienced an error that prevented us from getting it to work correctly, as shown in figure 4.7.

: (Application Error

If you are the application administrator, you can access the diagnostic resources.

Figure 4.7: Application error from Microsoft Azure

Details about this error can be found in appendix A.11. We found out that the problem was in the docker file.

Since hosting was not a part of the requirements specification, we chose not to spend any more time on this and would consider it later if we had enough time remaining.

4.2.1.3 MySQL Database

In this project we have used MySQL as our database client. We use MySQL because it can easily be coupled with PHP and Laravel framework and also because it can handle significant volume and high throughput data. MySQL database is run through docker, as a docker container. Figure 4.8 illustrates our final version of SIM application.

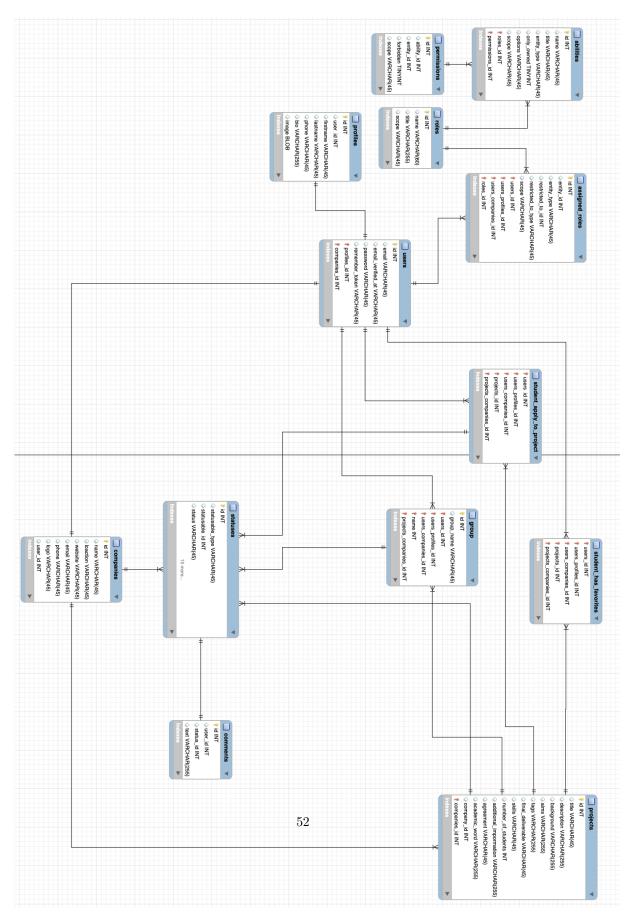


Figure 4.8: Final version of SIM's database

4.2.1.4 Single Sign On

SSO, or "Single Sigh On (SSO)," is an authentication method that allows users to log into multiple applications with a single login. This means users do not have to create separate accounts or log in multiple times to access different systems. Instead, they can use one login to access all the other systems they need to use, making it easier and more efficient to work across other platforms and applications. [App23] We considered various options and decided to use Feide login, a popular SSO solution in Norway.

In the meantime, we encountered several strict requirements to use Feide login, including the need for at least one person on the team to be a master's student and the team to have a company with an organization number. Unfortunately, we did not meet these requirements and could not use Feide login. Read more about this in section 5.1.4.

4.2.1.5 Development of the front end with the blade

During the implementation of Blade, most things went smoothly. The blade had some limitations that made it difficult to implement certain parts of the application, especially parts that needed to be dynamic, such as favoriting projects. We used Blade syntax to implement the frontend. For more information, see section 5.1.2.

4.2.2 Documentation

Here, we present the documentation methods used for the entire project.

Project Diary

We have chosen Notion as our project diary and documentation tool. Notion has served as a log for what has been done when it was done, and who worked on what in different stages of the project. We have also used Notion to document the entire project, the process, and the required tasks.

User guide for a solution

We have created a detailed platform description that can be used as a user guide. The user manual will clearly explain how our solution can be used. See section 7, "User Guide."

Final report

Our bachelor thesis summarizes the project, including its challenges and successes. The report will also reflect on what we could have done differently and what we have learned from the project.

4.2.3 Correspondence between the project plan and actual implementation

The goal of the entire project plan was to establish an operational plan for the project to approach the development of the application with efficiency. The implementation of the product was a crucial part of this plan. The group developed the entire plan collaboratively, based on requirement specifications and project analyses, the plan aimed to manage our work with time as a critical factor. Roles were assigned between the group during the project phase to ensure efficient execution of the tasks.

The group discussed important points such as the requirements specification and GDPR updates. The team had to be flexible and adapt to changes, ensuring alignment with the course coordinator's needs. Taking an iterative approach to development allowed continuous testing and validation, saving time in the long run.

The implementation was similar to the project plan, but some things needed to go according to the plan. This was because the implementation process sometimes depended on responses from people outside the group. Therefore some tasks had to be put on hold, resulting in a different approach than the project plan.

4.2.4 Quality assurance

During the development phase, Notion and GitHub were used as tools to gain easier access to the entire project in a structured and easy way. The applications provided value to our product by giving us free comprehensive platforms that made collaboration and communication easier in the software

development process. The applications made it possible for the members to edit and view the same documents. Therefore, if something was wrong or unclear, any of the members had the possibility to comment or edit. When met with challenges requiring a collective review, the responsible team members would conduct a review. Additionally, commenting on these challenges in the Kanban board on Notion was possible. All members had access to the Kanban board to comment and share their thoughts on the different tasks. If anyone had any incidents or questions, they were taken forward and discussed during the stand-up meetings.

4.3 Reflection and Discussion

4.3.1 Challenges around basic setup of coding environment

The initial setup of the code environment was a significant challenge. We were determined to avoid the common issue of "It works on my machine, but not on yours" and decided to utilize Docker. However, our prior knowledge of Docker was purely theoretical, and we had no practical experience in creating and running a Docker container for a web application, which made the task daunting. We encountered numerous hurdles during the setup and execution of Docker, but thankfully, Laravel came to our rescue with Sail.

Sail simplified the process of configuring the code environment with Docker, however it introduced additional complexity to other aspects of the setup. For example, difficulty arose when trying to configure phpStorm to utilize the docker containers for running the application and the automated tests. Furthermore, Sail made it difficult to configure xDebug.

Lastly, the inability to deploy or host the application meant that we could not set up the development, staging, and production environments as intended. This hindered our ability to follow the planned Git workflow effectively, furthermore it made it more challenging for us to perform usertest of new features, because we had to wait for our meeting with our course coordinator to show what we had made and get feedback. Further details on this topic have already been discussed previously in 4.2.1.2

We encountered many challenges and It was incredibly time-consuming to set up the development environment. We spent multiple weeks in the beginning of the project to solve these issues, but ultimately solving the issues made the development process much easier.

4.3.2 Challenges regarding changes in software requirement

At the start of bachelors, we had discussions about the key points of the project with the entire group and course coordinator and created product requirements. Initially, the focus was on the functionality and security aspect of the application. Although we had initially envisioned the application to be visually appealing and accessible to all users, we did not prioritize this aspect significantly as it was not specified in the product requirements provided by the course coordinator.

Later in the project we got many changes in requirements from the course coordinator. It was both functional and nonfunctional changes, but the biggest change was that UI/UX was now heavily prioritized. We performed many small feature tests with our course coordinator, and it was apparent that the UI/UX design was important as we got a lot of feedback on how to improve the UI/UX from these tests.

This meant that we could no longer follow our initial plan of focusing mainly on backend and security and we spent a lot of time refining and creating the best possible frontend.

We had to address these new requirements and try to tackle them as quickly as possible as they came up to stay on track with the project plan. This resulted in delays from the original plan. This also rendered many of our initial designs useless as it was working but not up to standards in terms of UI/UX. We ended up relying on custom bootstrap for most of the development as we knew it was created by professionals.

Throughout the course of the project, we received several updates to the functional requirements from our course coordinator. These updates encompassed additional functionalities as well as improvements to existing ones. The list of functional changes can be found in figures 4.9, 4.10, and 4.11. While some of these modifications may appear minor, they did contribute to project delays due to the time required for implementation. We have made significant progress in developing most

of these new features, with some nearing completion. However, we ultimately made the decision to prioritize the completion of the bachelor's report before resuming work on the application. To see which new requirement we have started working on, refer to chapter 5.2.

FRCC-8	Have an overview of which students are registered to which project(s)	MIDDLE
FRCC-9	See the status of students in the sign-up phase (i.e., confirmed member of a project, under consideration, not signed up for a project)	MIDDLE
FRCC-10	Edit project groups	LOW
FRCC-11	Register submission of formal documents (Collaboration Agreement and NDA for each)	LOW
FRCC-12	Archive Project Proposals and Descriptions	MIDDLE
FRCC-13	Remove/Archive company profiles	MIDDLE

Figure 4.9: New functional requirements for course coordinator

FRS-5	Register their interest for a project (individually or as a pre-defined group)	HIGH
FRS-6	See who is in the final group	LOW
FRS-7	Can contact the other groups members	MIDDLE

Figure 4.10: New functional requirements for Student's functional requirements

FRPP-6	Have an overview of students that have registered interest in their project(s)	MIDDLE
FRPP-7	Can accept/reject students	LOW
FRPP-8	See who is in the final group	LOW
FRPP-9	Have the name and contact details of the Internal Supervisor attached to the project	LOW

Figure 4.11: New functional requirements for project provider

4.3.3 Challenges in development of MVP

In the development of the current MVP, we chose not to continue developing the MVP we had from the previous semester. Though most of the core functional requirements for the application remained the same, there are multiple reasons for starting on scratch rather than work on the previous code.

One of the primary reasons for not continuing with the previous MVP was because the previous MVP was implemented in pure PHP and lacked security features. Recognizing the importance of enhanced security, we made the decision to adopt the PHP framework, Laravel, for the new MVP. Laravel offers integrated security features, as outlined in section 5.5. Instead of attempting to retrofit the previous MVP to utilize the framework, it was more efficient to start anew with a fresh Laravel instance.

Finally, the code for the previous MVP lacked proper structure and the database was not well-designed as it did not have proper relationships. This could lead to potential scalability issues for the application in the feature, furthermore the code could be difficult to work on especially for new developers who would take over the future development. Our decision was easily made due to the combination of these factors and the chance to expand our knowledge and experience by utilizing a new framework.

4.3.4 Challenges and reflections about the frontend

As mentioned before we have used Laravel Blade for the frontend. Though Laravel Blade made it easier to create the frontend because it is easy to understand and allows us to write plain php code in our template, there are some drawbacks of using Blade as well. For example, creating dynamic and responsive user interfaces in Laravel Blade is difficult alone, and requires the use of a tool like Livewire.

Late in the development process we realized that using a frontend framework like Angular would have made the development process and setup more difficult, but it would also provide us with several benefits. It would for example allow for a clear separation between the frontend and backend of the application, while Laravel Blade tightly couples server-side rendering with the backend logic. Angular's separation would make it easier to maintain and scale the project as we could separate the backend and frontend groups fully and work independently on our respective parts.

Furthermore, Angular is a big framework and offers a robust set of tools and components for building dynamic and interactive UI. It is also well-suited for building SPA's, which would provide a smoother user experience and could also reduce load time for rending pages. In the future, it would be possible to change the application to use a frontend framework like Angular. Considering this, we incorporated a Swagger API documentation, which is covered in detail in Chapter 5.6.1.

4.3.5 Challenges in deprioritizing some Requirements

Due to time constraints and changes in requirements, we had to make a prioritization decision and deprioritize some requirements in order to focus on the most important ones. This allowed us to successfully complete the key and high-priority requirements as described in chapter 2.2. By adopting this approach, we were able to ensure that we met the core objectives and delivered the product on time.

Chapter 5

Product Documentation

The product documentation will comprehensively explain the application's structure and features.

5.1 Description of solution

We have a fully functional application to offer. This chapter will provide details on how we have implemented the application. We have utilized support libraries for both front and backend development, which has been referred to in the source code. These libraries are defined in a 'composer.json' file.

5.1.1 Architecture

The Laravel application with Blade syntax on the frontend follows a traditional server-side architecture, where the backend handles requests, processes data, and generates responses. This structure employs the Model View Controller (MVC) pattern, with models representing data structures and database tables, controllers managing requests, and views rendering HTML output. The Laravel

framework includes built-in features and tools to create scalable applications while ensuring code uniformity and maintainability.

MVC (Model View Controller)

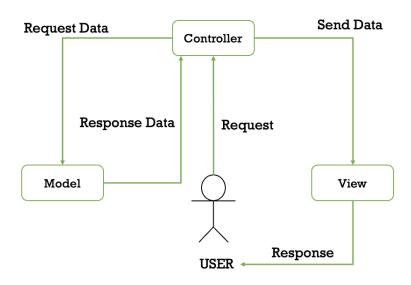


Figure 5.1: Shows how model view controller works

5.1.2 Frontend

Laravel Blade is a templating engine with the Laravel PHP framework. It is simple yet powerful and lets you use plain PHP code in your templates. All Blade templates are compiled into plain PHP code and cached until modified, meaning Blade adds zero overhead to your application. Blade template files use the '.blade.php' file extension and are typically stored in the 'resources/views' directory. [Larada]

Laravel Blade is used for implementing the frontend. We opted for Laravel Blade because it can incorporate plain PHP into our codebase, simplifying the development process. Additionally, regular

Headless CMS (Content Management System)

Traditional CMS (Content Management System)

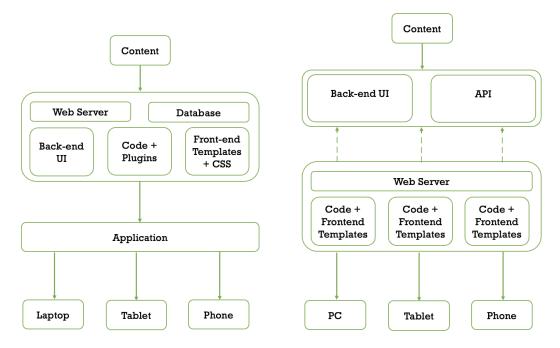


Figure 5.2: Traditional Content Management System

Figure 5.3: Headless Content Management System

HTML in the code makes it easy to understand and work with.

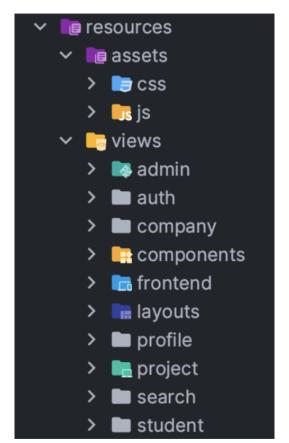
However, it's worth noting that unlike websites built using React or Angular, the website we created using Laravel Blade is static. This poses a challenge when implementing specific features, such as favoriting a project. Dynamic changes to the frontend can only be achieved by using JavaScript or frontend frameworks like React or Angular.

Despite this limitation, the benefits and ease of use of the Laravel blade outweigh its drawbacks. Moreover, our group only has a little experience with frontend frameworks, and learning them would require a significant amount of time, which wasn't feasible given our time constraints.

The application's frontend uses custom Bootstrap and custom JS files taken from a course. [Ari22]

5.1.2.1 Architecture

The source code in the front end is separated into two folders, "resources" and "public."



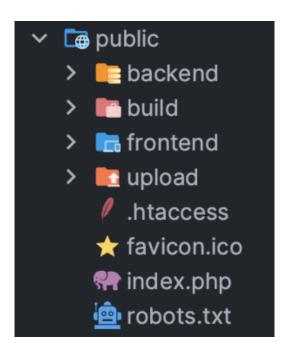


Figure 5.4: Resources folder

Figure 5.5: Public folder

Resources

Resources help to manage and organize assets such as views, images, style sheets, and scripts. Laravel offers a flexible and robust approach to resource management, making it easy to keep everything organized and accessible.

One of the most significant advantages of using resources in Laravel is the ability to separate the presentation layer from the application logic. This makes it simpler to maintain and modify the codebase as it grows. It also allows for the reuse of components across different application parts,

reducing development time and enhancing code quality.

Resources in Laravel are generally organized into directories based on their purpose. For instance, views are typically stored in the resources/view's directory, while assets such as style sheets and images are kept in the resources/assets directory. Additionally, Laravel provides a way to organize resources based on the context in which they are used through resource routing.

Public

The public folder contains files and code that is accessible to the web. This includes CSS, Javascript, and other assets needed for the website's frontend.

5.1.3 Backend

The backend is part of a software application that runs on the server and handles data processing and server-side logic. The backend is essential to maintaining application performance and security and directly impacts the user experience. Typical tasks in the backend include creating and maintaining databases, communicating with third-party APIs, implementing security features, managing server configurations, and running critical processes that cannot be run on the client.

The organizational structure of Laravel's backend comprises several levels, each with distinct responsibilities. Its design follows the Model View Controller (MVC) pattern, as shown in figure 5.1, with the Model layer responsible for data management, the View layer for displaying data to users, and the Controller layer for managing user requests and facilitating communication between the Model and View levels.

The Model layer is responsible for data modeling and manipulation, while the View layer consists of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript files comprising the user interface. The Controller layer mediates between the Model and View levels, handling user requests and directing data flow.

This layered architecture promotes the separation of concerns, allowing each layer to be modified or updated without affecting the others. It also enables individual layer testing, which is essential for developing robust and sustainable software.

We have divided our backend into multiple layers. These layers consist of routing, controller, model, view, and database, as shown in figure 5.6.

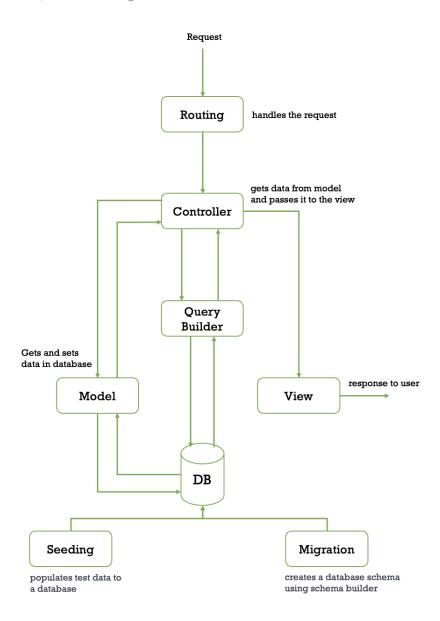


Figure 5.6: The layering of the backend

5.1.3.1 Models

The Models folder is in charge of data logic, which includes data access, manipulation, and validation. The models serve as a bridge between the database and the application code, representing the data units in the application.

Laravel uses Eloquent Object-Relational Mapping (ORM), allowing developers to communicate with the database using PHP classes and objects instead of writing complex SQL queries. It is much easier to perform CRUD operations by associating database tables with model classes. [Larndc]

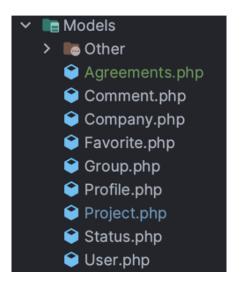


Figure 5.7: Model's folder

One of the core Models in our application is the Project model. The HasFactory tells us that this model has a factory class. Factory classes are used to create fake instances of a model. The naming convention is to combine the model name with the Factory suffix. In this example, the factory class for the Project model is ProjectFactory.

```
<?php
namespace App\Models;
use ...
class Project extends Model implements IStatusable
   use HasFactory;
   /** The relationships that should always be loaded. ...*/
   protected $with = ['company', 'latestStatus'];
   public const STATUS = Status::class;
   public const COMPANY = Company::class;
   public const GROUP = Group::class;
   public const USER = User::class;
   /** The database table used by the model ...*/
   protected $table = 'projects';
   protected $fillable = [
       'title',
        'description',
        'background',
        'aims',
        'tags',
        'final_deliverable',
        'skills',
        'number_of_students',
        'additional_information',
        'agreement',
        'academic_work',
        'company_id',
   ];
```

Figure 5.8: Project's model

```
<?php
namespace Database\Factories;
use ...
/**
* @extends \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Factories\Factory<\App\Models\Project>
class ProjectFactory extends Factory
{:;;
      Define the model's default state.
      Returns: array<string, mixed>
    public function definition()
        return [
            'title' => $this->faker->sentence(),
            'description' => $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
            'background' => $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
             'aims' => $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
            'tags' => 'laravel, api, backend',
            'final_deliverable' => $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
            'skills' => $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
            'number_of_students' => $this->faker->numberBetween( int1: 1, int2: 5),
            'additional_information'=> $this->faker->paragraph( nbSentences: 2), // n of sentences
            // TODO: add a new table with agreements
            'agreement' => $this->faker->sentence(),
            'academic_work' => $this->faker->sentence(),
        ];
```

Figure 5.9: Database fields filled with fake data

In Eloquent, relationships are defined as methods on the Eloquent model classes. Eloquent supports many types of relationships. More about it can be read in the official Laravel Doc.

The relationships are straightforward; for instance, the relationship between the project and a company is defined as "Project **belongs to** (a) company." And vice versa, in the Company model, we have defined a method, projects(), which defines the relationship to project class. The relationship is defined as: "Company **has many** projects."

Since relationships are influential query builders, defining relationships as methods provides powerful method-chaining and querying capabilities. [Larndc]

We have defined scopes that can help filter unwanted data when fetching data from the database; the scopes can easily be chained to the methods.

5.1.3.2 Controllers

The Controllers are essential to every Laravel project since it handles user requests and returns suitable replies. This category usually contains classes that handle different HTTP requests, and each class has many methods that correlate to different actions being performed on the data. [Larndg]

We have utilized this interface to construct and maintain controller classes, which are used to process HTTP requests submitted to the server.

When a user submits a request to the server, it is directed to the appropriate controller method based on the URL and HTTP verb. The controller then processes the data, interacts with the relevant model, and delivers a response to the user as a view or JSON data.

One of the most significant advantages of using controllers in a Laravel project is that they assist in keeping an application's logic structured and manageable. Developers may guarantee that their code is modular, reusable, and easy to maintain by splitting request handling into various controller classes. Furthermore, controllers promote the separation of concerns, making testing and debugging the application's various components easier.

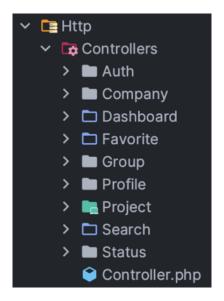


Figure 5.10: Controller's folder

5.1.3.3 Middleware

Middleware is the software between two components and conducts actions depending on established rules. It bridges the client and server sides, enabling developers to specify which actions should be done before or after a request is delivered to the server. [Lar21b]

It includes classes that describe particular actions that must be completed during a request's lifetime. We have used middleware for authentication, authorization, data validation, and other activities. These responsibilities are critical for ensuring an application's security and stability.

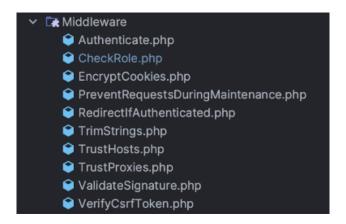


Figure 5.11: Middleware's folder

Our HTTP routes are defined in the web.php file, more in subchapter 5.1.3.6. Every HTTP request is passed through a set of predefined middleware provided by Laravel, \$middleware. An HTTP request to the web.php class is also passed through the 'web' middleware group, which Laravel provides.

```
namespace App\Http;
                    use Illuminate\Foundation\Http\Kernel as HttpKernel;
                    class Kernel extends HttpKernel
   10
                                * The application's global HTTP middleware stack.
                                 * These middleware are run during every request to your application.
                                * @var array<int, class-string|string>
  15
  16 📬
                              protected $middleware = [
  17
                                      // \App\Http\Middleware\TrustHosts::class,
  18
                                         \App\Http\Middleware\TrustProxies::class,
                                        \Illuminate\Http\Middleware\HandleCors::class,
  19
  20
                                        \App\Http\Middleware\PreventRequestsDuringMaintenance::class.
                                        \Illuminate\Foundation\Http\Middleware\ValidatePostSize::class,
  22
                                        \App\Http\Middleware\TrimStrings::class,
  23
                                        \verb|\line| Illuminate | Foundation | Http | Middleware | ConvertEmptyStringsToNull::class, | Illuminate | Foundation | Http | Middleware | ConvertEmptyStringsToNull::class, | Illuminate | Foundation | Http | Middleware | Http 
                              1;
  25
  26
                                * The application's route middleware groups.
  28
  29
                                * @var array<string, array<int, class-string|string>>
  30
  31 📬
                              protected $middlewareGroups = [
  32
                                         'web' => [
  33
                                                  \App\Http\Middleware\EncryptCookies::class,
  34
                                                    \Illuminate\Cookie\Middleware\AddQueuedCookiesToResponse::class,
  35
                                                   \Illuminate\Session\Middleware\StartSession::class,
  36
                                                   \Illuminate\View\Middleware\ShareErrorsFromSession::class,
  37
                                                    \App\Http\Middleware\VerifyCsrfToken::class,
                                                    \Illuminate\Routing\Middleware\SubstituteBindings::class,
  39
\App\Http > Kernel
```

Figure 5.12: Kernel class

In Laravel, it is also possible to create our middleware, but we did not need it for our project. Instead, we can also use middleware created by other developers; for example, we used the authentication middleware.

Figure 5.13: Authenticate.php

5.1.3.4 Policies

Laravel's policies are a helpful tool for managing authorization logic in applications. Policies are PHP classes that establish authorization rules for specific resources or models. Policies enable us to regulate resource access based on user roles, permissions, and other relevant factors. [Lar21a]

When a user is not authorized to perform a particular action, the policy will respond by returning a status code 403.

These are the policies that we have created.

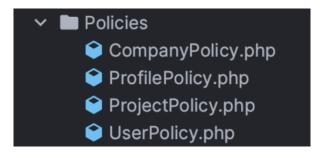


Figure 5.14: Policie's folder

Figure 5.15: ProjectPolicy defines the policy for actions on the Profile model

We created the profile policy, which contains methods we utilize for authorization. To use these methods, we simply call them with \rightarrow can() within the route:

```
Route::put( uri: '/{profile}', action: 'update')->name( name: 'profiles.update')

->can( ability: 'update', models: 'profile');

68
```

Figure 5.16: Put request route

5.1.3.5 API Resource

The API Resource class is a middleman between the database and the API response. API Resource classes allow us to transform the Eloquent models into custom JSON format for API responses. The Resource class can be instantiated for a single model or a collection of models. [Larndh]

We have used a lot of API Resource classes, but we need to understand how the API Resource classes work. The API Resource only transforms data when directly returned from a controller method after an HTTP call. Still, it does not transform data if the API Resource is passed as a parameter to a view or other methods. But we tried to use the API Resources to transform data passed to the views, which is improper use. As a result, API Resources did not transform the data because it was not returned directly from the controller. In the future, if we use other frontend frameworks like React or Angular, we can use the API routes and return JSON responses using the API Resource.

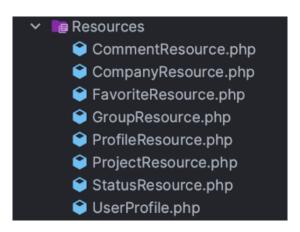


Figure 5.17: API resources' folder

5.1.3.6 Routes

Routes determine how the application responds to incoming requests. They are responsible for mapping requests to specific actions in the application, making it easier for developers to manage and maintain logical units of application logic. [Larndi]

Laravel boasts an intuitive and straightforward routing system that enables developers to define routes using a fluid and expressive syntax. These routes are defined in the routes/web.php file, the default location for web application routes. Additionally, these routes can handle various HTTP requests, including GET, POST, PUT, and DELETE.

For API routes, Laravel provides a separate file, routes/api.php, which developers can use to define routes that handle requests from external clients. These routes are typically secured using middleware like API tokens or OAuth authentication.

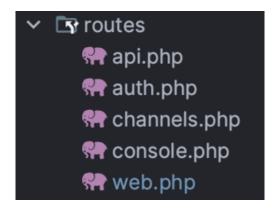


Figure 5.18: Route's folder

5.1.4 Sign-on

After we could not implement a federated login in our system, we decided to use another simple login method mentioned in section 4.2.1.4. This will still provide users with a secure and easy login process.

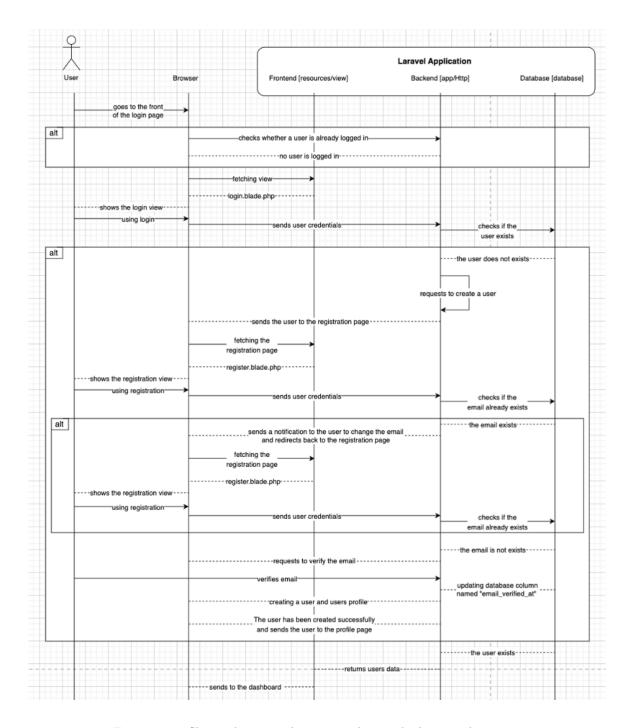


Figure 5.19: Shows the network requests during the login and register $\,$

5.1.5 Design and accessibility

Design and accessibility haven't been a focus, even though it's crucially important. The principle behind design and accessibility is to create products, services, or solutions accessible to everyone, regardless of their physical and cognitive abilities. This involves considering how design can affect usability, readability, and navigation for people with various disabilities. [Matnd] This includes four main categories:

Responsive design refers to a design approach where a website is developed to adapt to different devices and screen sizes, ensuring optimal user experience regardless of the device. [Blind] This made the application more user-friendly and compatible with multiple devices such as mobile phones, tablets, and computers.

Universal Design considers all users, regardless of their physical or mental abilities, to ensure that websites and apps are accessible, requiring technological solutions that work for all users. [Blind] Universal design ensures inclusively and equal access for a broad range of users, regardless of their abilities or limitations.

User-friendliness refers to how easy and intuitive a website or application is for its users. [Blind] Improving user-friendliness will enable the application to reduce frustration and increase user satisfaction. This can lead to increased user loyalty and positive recommendations.

User experience refers to a user's overall experience when using a product or service. [Blind] It will help to emphasize creating a positive user experience. It can also improve the application by forming a favorable perception among users, increasing their engagement and encouraging long-term user loyalty.

In the project's development, we used a predefined Bootstrap template with a specific design and usability. This could be an efficient way to start since we believed it could save us time in the design process. However, we did not have time to conduct user testing on the design's usability for anyone other than the course coordinator. This could be a disadvantage, as it may result in the design needing to be optimally adapted to all users, leading to a poor user experience for some.

The results from user testing of the course coordinator section of the website were positive in terms of design and accessibility. This was a good indication that the chosen design works well for users and is accessible to everyone, regardless of ability. We could not conduct continuous testing throughout the entire development process, which made it challenging to maintain usability at all times. We have learned from this that we need to focus more on the frontend when we continue developing the application or participate in future projects. Therefore, this should be carried forward into the further development phase.

5.2 Correspondence between requirement specification and product

The conformity between the requirement specification and the final product was concluded as good after an acceptance test conducted by the course coordinator. An acceptance test is a formal test to determine if the acceptance criteria have been met and allow the system owner to accept the system. Acceptance criteria are defined based on requirements within the scope. [Sjo16]

The course coordinator was pleased with the application submission. This can be confirmed by our recent user testing session with the course coordinator. Additionally, we observed during testing that the course coordinator, acting as a user, validated and approved the application's requirements but requested a few changes. Please refer to chapter 6.2.1.1 for more details. It is recommended for both businesses and students to test the application to ensure their specific needs are met. However, since group and subject coordinators have developed different requirement specifications for students and businesses and have tested it themselves, we can also consider these applications as having undergone acceptance testing for students and businesses. To ensure this is accurate, it should be carried forward into the next development phase after completing the entire project.

Functional requirements - Course Coordinator

Id	Description	Priority	Implemented		
FRCC-1	Have an overview of students registered for the project courses	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-2	Have an overview of Project Proposals sent in by project providers	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-3	Quality-check the Project Proposals; request changes and updates to Project Proposal	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-4	Edit status of Project Proposals (accepted, under revision, rejected)	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-5	See overview of status of projects	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-6	Create Project Descriptions based on key information in accepted Project Proposals	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-7	Publish Project Descriptions for students	HIGH	YES		
FRCC-8	Have an overview of which students are registered to which project(s)	MIDDLE	PARTLY		
FRCC-9	See the status of students in the sign-up phase (i.e., confirmed member of a project, under consideration, not signed up for a project)	MIDDLE	YES		
FRCC-10	Edit project groups	LOW	NO		
FRCC-11	Register submission of formal documents (Collaboration Agreement and NDA for each)	LOW	NO		
FRCC-12	Archive Project Proposals and Descriptions	MIDDLE	PARTLY		
FRCC-13	Remove/Archive company profiles	MIDDLE	PARTLY		

Figure 5.20: Implementation status of Course coordinator's functional requirements

Functional requirements - Student

Id	Description	Priority	Implemented
FRS-1	Create and edit profile of themselves	MIDDLE	YES
FRS-2	See all Project Descriptions	HIGH	YES
FRS-3	Filter projects according to to availability	HIGH	YES
FRS-4	Can apply for the published projects	HIGH	YES
FRS-5	Filter relevant projects based on their interests	LOW	YES
FRS-6	Register their interest for a project (individually or as a pre-defined group)	HIGH	YES
FRS-7	See who is in the final group	LOW	NO
FRS-8	Can contact the other groups members	MIDDLE	PARTLY

Figure 5.21: Implementation status of Student's functional requirements

$Functional\ requirements-Project\ Provider$

Id	Description	Priority	Implemented
FRPP-1	Create and edit profile of themselves	MIDDLE	YES
FRPP-2	Create project proposals	HIGH	YES
FRPP-3	Edit project proposals based on feedback from the Course Coordinator	HIGH	YES
FRPP-4	Access student profiles	HIGH	YES
FRPP-5	Filter student profiles-based on their interests	LOW	NO
FRPP-6	Have an overview of students that have registered interest in their project(s)	MIDDLE	YES
FRPP-7	Can accept/reject students	LOW	YES
FRPP-8	See who is in the final group	LOW	NO
FRPP-9	Have the name and contact details of the Internal Supervisor attached to the project	LOW	NO

Figure 5.22: Implementation status of Project Provider's functional requirements

Non-Functional requirements

Id	Description	Priority	Implemented
NFRS-1	The system is protected from unauthorized	HIGH	YES
	access to the system and its stored data.		
NFRS-2	The system considers different levels of	HIGH	YES
	authorization and authentication across		
	different user roles.		
NFRS-3	Meet and follow GDPR regulation	HIGH	PARTLY
NFRS-4	Follow OsloMet's guidelines and	MIDDLE	YES
	requirements for data security and		
	privacy		
NFRS-5	The system shall provide a web page that	MIDDEL	YES
	explains how to navigate the site. This		
	page should be customized based on		
	what pages that user is allowed to		
	access.		
NFRS-6	This help page should be accessible from	MIDDEL	YES
	all other pages.		
NFRS-7	Adheres to the (seven) principles for	LOW	PARTLY
	Universal Design		
NFRS-8	Has a consistent "look and feel"	LOW	YES
NFRS-9	Translation into another language	LOW	NO
	(Norwegian)		
NFRS-10	Scalability: the system should be able to	MIDDEL	YES
	accommodate additional course types		
	and an increase in the number of		
	students and projects without major		
	reengineering.		

 ${\bf Figure~5.23:~Non-functional~requirements}$

5.3 Central data structures in the solution

In this section, we will introduce the fundamental data structures crucial to both the frontend and backend of the solution.

5.3.1 Principles for code development

We have applied to the best of our abilities the principles of code development while creating our web application. Our goal was to build a maintainable application that can be used and improved by other developers in the future.

5.3.1.1 Modularity

Modularity is a software development principle that involves breaking down a codebase into independent and self-contained modules or components that can be developed, tested, and maintained separately. This approach improves the quality of the code, makes it easier to maintain, and enables developers to work on different parts of the codebase concurrently. [WG12]

Modularity was a primary focus during the development of our application. By incorporating Git branching and embracing a modular approach, we were able to concurrently collaborate on various parts of the codebase without interfering with each other's work.

5.3.1.2 Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)

OOP is a software development approach that uses reusable and modular units called "objects" to represent real-world entities. Objects encapsulate both data and behavior. Using OOP results in cleaner and more maintainable code. We have many model objects that represent real-world entities such as Project and User model. These models are also used to talk with the database through Laravel Eloquent model binding. Using models made the development process much easier.

5.3.1.3 Separation of Concerns

Separation of concerns means breaking code into parts, each responsible for a specific task. For example, separating UI from business logic. Following this concept made it easier to modify and maintain the software without affecting other parts. Also it enabled us to code concurrently, where one group could focus on creating the best UI/UX, while the other worked on backend and providing data for the frontend. We have reflected over what could have been done differently to better achieve "Separation of concerns" in chapter 4.3.4.

5.3.1.4 Don't Repeat Yourself (DRY)

The concept of DRY means avoiding unnecessary repetition or duplication of code or logic. DRY encourages developers to develop reusable and modular code. This is a fundamental knowledge among all developers, but following it was not always easy for us because many times we did not know where to put a certain method or logic to make reusable in the correct way.

5.4 Database

5.4.1 Factories

We have used Laravel Faker, which is a useful tool for easily creating realistic and diverse datasets. It offers various types of fake data and simplifies the process of generating test data or populating databases. By using Laravel Faker, you can improve the quality of test data, simulate real-world scenarios, and save time and effort with just a few lines of code. We did this to test our database model and verify that it functions as intended.

The 'Factory' class in Laravel allows developers to create model instances and modify their attributes. [Larndb] For example, in our 'ProjectFactory', we generates fake data for the 'Project' model, as shown in figure 5.24.

Figure 5.24: Project factory from SIM application

5.4.2 Migrations

We used Laravel's migration to build and manage the database in development on our application. Migrations simplified the process of defining and modifying the database schema, including creating tables and defining columns as we can see in figure 5.25. In addition, they functioned as a version control system for the database, which could enable easy tracking and use of changes. Laravel migrations have made database setup and maintenance in Laravel much easier and more efficient.

Figure 5.25: Showing the migration code for the user's model

5.4.3 Seeders

Seeders serve as useful helpers to incorporate the initial dataset into a database. They are particularly valuable during testing or at the beginning of a new project. Utilizing seeders can be a time-saving strategy, especially when dealing with extensive databases that require significant data entry.

We used seeder classes to insert the fake data into their respective and corresponding tables. This aided us in both testing and verifying the adequacy of the database structure.

5.5 Security

5.5.1 Secure Development and safety measures

Information Security is one of the most critical parts of IT. The lack of knowledge in the security field can become critical for each company that is taking advantage of a website. [Moo16] Therefore, security will be in the focus of the application development throughout the entire process. To strengthen the security of our system/application, we first need to find potential threats and weaknesses. The weaknesses may appear insignificant initially, yet failing to take action could result in losing everything. Detecting these weaknesses and providing secure solutions is therefore essential for our application.

We are using the programming language PHP together with the framework Laravel. PHP alone does not contribute to any security for the user. The framework Laravel, however, provides many built-in safety features one can receive numerous benefits from. Therefore Laravel is a good option because it includes many safety features. Some safety features come "out of the box" and are already used. Examples of the features available in Laravel are Password Hashing, Authentication, SQL Injection protection, XSS protection (Cross-Site Scripting), and more. We have taken advantage of all the safety features mentioned using PHP Laravel. Password Hashing and Authentication were done manually, Injection protection was done both manually and automatically (Input validation was done manually, while SQL injection protection is automatically configured by Laravel). XSS protection was also done automatically by Laravel.

5.5.2 Risk Assessment and Threat Modeling

Risk assessment searches for potential threats and risks in a system is very typical amongst businesses to have a risk assessment performed by security analysts. Threat modeling is a common practice to achieve this. We developed a threat model using STRIDE and DREAD methodology to perform a risk analysis. These methodologies make the assessment more detailed and precise because they can list what safety measures and security mitigation's to prioritize. In this risk assessment, the score numbers will range from 1-10. There is no "correct" range; some use 1-3 or 1-5. Due to its

contribution to a more detailed analysis, we selected 1-10.



Figure 5.26: Example of Risk Matrix. Retrieved from [smand]

On the x-axis, we have severity; on the y-axis, we have probability. This matrix will be used as inspiration when creating our own personalized risk matrix to rank the risks and threats. In order to create a risk matrix, we one must dive deeper into the STRIDE and DREAD methodologies to create a risk matrix.

Туре	Description	Security Control
Spoofing	Threat action aimed at accessing and use of another user's credentials, such as username/password	Authentication
Tampering	Threat action intending to maliciously change or modify persistent data, such as records in a database, and the alteration of data in transit between two computers over an open network, such as the internet.	Integrity
Repudiation	Threat action aimed at performing prohibited operations in a system that lacks the ability to trace operations.	Non-Repudiation
Information Disclosure	Threat action intending to read a file that one was not granted access to, or to read data in transit. Retrieving information from an ML model through e-g model inversion.	Confidentiality
Denial of service	Threat action attempting to deny access to valid users, such as by making a web server temporarily unavailable or unusable.	Availability
Elevation of Privilege	Threat action intending to gain privileged access to resources in order to gain unauthorized access to information or to compromise a system.	Authorization

Figure 5.27: Definition of Stride. Retrieved from [Larndj]

Figure 5.27 above explains what each of the letters in the word STRIDE stands for, along with the information security pillar it belongs to and the definition of the threat.

Threat	D	R	Е	A	D	Total	Average	Rating	Fuzzy Risk value	Fuzzy Risk level
Blind SQL Injection	9	6	8	9	6	38	7.60	High	39	High (6 th category)
Login Page SQL Injection	9	6	8	9	6	38	7.60	High	39	High (6 th category)
Unencrypted login request	6	4	6	5	5	26	5.2	Medium	32.5	Somewhat High (5 th category)
Application Error	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)
Inadequate account lockout	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)
Permanent cookie contains sensitive session information	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)
Session information not updated	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)
Unencrypted password Parameter	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)
Unencrypted viewstate Parameter	2	1	3	2	3	11	2.2	Low	19	Somewhat Low (3 rd category)

Figure 5.28: DREAD in Risk Matrix. Retrieved from: [SSB13]

Figure 5.28 is an example of a Risk Matrix using a DREAD methodology. Instead of STRIDE on the Y-axis, this matrix includes specific threats. Creating the risk matrix relies on the nature of the development process and the tools utilized. In our case, we are using the highly popular STRIDE. STRIDE was created by two engineers at Microsoft. [Don21] We decided to use STRIDE because one of our group members personally has used STRIDE to perform a risk assessment for the company Finterai. This was very efficient and made the risk assessment both comprehensive and detailed.

We need to create a risk matrix to rank the different threats the platform could face. The risk matrix combines the consequences alongside the X-axis and the probability of occurrence along the Y-axis. Nevertheless, we used STRIDE and DREAD to create our first version of the risk matrix to provide a more detailed risk assessment for the web application. DREAD will be along the X-axis, and STRIDE will be along the Y-axis.

The ranking we will use for the Risk Matrix will be as follows:

Risk Matrix Ranking						
Low	1-10					
Medium	11-24					
High	25-39					
Critical	40-50					

Figure 5.29: Risk Matrix Ranking

RISK MATRIX	D	R	Е	A	D	Total	Rating
Spoofing threat	4	7	2	4	1	18	Medium
Tampering threat	9	4	9	10	8	40	Critical
Repudiation threat	6	7	2	2	5	22	Medium
Information Disclosure threat	4	3	7	10	6	30	High
Denial of Service threat	8	3	6	9	5	32	High
Elevation of Privilege threat	8	5	6	8	4	31	High

Figure 5.30: Risk matrix with STRIDE and DREAD (first edition)

After further discussion, we concluded that extending the matrix was necessary. Now that we have the total rating of each type of threat, we can further develop the matrix. To do this extension, we can use the total rating from our first version of the risk matrix as the Y-axis and probability as X-axis. We decided to do this extension because the matrix did not consider probability. The tampering threat is an excellent example of inaccuracy because of the lack of probability. It was the only threat that resulted in a critical rating. It is improbable for a hacker to tamper with the data, making the situation unrealistic. After all, it would have zero benefits for the hacker performing the

attack. So even though a potential tampering attack would be harmful, the chance of it happening is minimal.

To make the extended version of the risk matrix, we needed to round off the ratings from the risk matrix and divide it by 10. Because we want to match the rating scales and consider probability, we will use a scale of 1-4, consisting of low, medium, high, and very high, to create a risk matrix. The final score is Rating + Probability divided by two.

	А	В	С	D
1	EXTENDED RISK MATRIX	Rating	Probability	Total
2	Spoofing threat	2	1	1.5 (low/medium)
3	Tampering threat	4	1	2.5 (medium/high)
4	Repudiation threat	2	2	2 (medium)
5	Information Disclosure threat	3	2	2.5 (medium/high)
6	Denial of Service threat	3	1	2 (medium)
7	Elevation of Privilege threat	3	2	2.5 (medium/high)

Figure 5.31: The extended risk matrix (final version)

Now that we have a complete Risk Matrix with the final ratings, we can analyze what threats and vulnerabilities to prioritize and create solutions for throughout this project. As seen in the Extended Risk Matrix, "Tampering", "Information Disclosure" and "Elevation of Privilege" were the highest-scoring threats. We are mainly focusing on "Information Disclosure" and "Elevation of privilege" because it is very realistic that this could happen. The chance of a tampering attack is improbable since the hacker will not benefit. Let's have a further look into OWASP before implementing solutions.

5.5.3 OWASP

The Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) consists of 32,000 volunteers from all across the globe who perform security assessments and research to help website owners and security experts protect web applications from cyber attacks. [Par22] It is also essential to note that OWASP is considered a non-profit organization. We have used OWASP's Top Ten, a standard awareness document comprising web applications' top ten most critical security risks. This document is updated every three or four years.

As of 2021, the OWASP Top 10 includes the following web application security risks:



Figure 5.32: This is the OWASP Top Ten 2021. Retrieved from [OWAnd]

Figure 5.32 gives us information about the top ten security threats to focus on during the application development. Laravel protects us from the third and tenth security risks, Injection and XSS, respectively. It is also possible to manually use other in-built safety features in Laravel to further protect the web application. Although, one has to consider that the Top Ten from OWASP is more general, while our Risk Matrix is more specific toward our application. The OWASP Top Ten and our extended Risk Matrix combined give us a great indication of what to focus on. OWASP A01 correlates to "Elevation of Privilege" from the Risk Matrix, and OWASP A02 correlates to "Information Disclosure" from the Risk Matrix. Therefore providing secure solutions for these two fields

is necessary.

5.5.4 Security solutions for the application

Protection from "OWASP A01 - Broken Access Control"

One solution that can protect broken access control is to deny all access by default and adequately specify the degree of access in the code. We have used Laravel Breeze to create a fully working login and registration page with authentication control. The authentication protocol is made using Middleware. See 4.2.1.4 - Single Sign On and and 5.1.3.3 - Middleware for more about the authentication process. Our authentication protocol is secure and protects against OWASP A01.

Protection from "OWASP A02 - Cryptographic Failures"

In our application, we have used Bcrypt, a password-hashing algorithm. Niels Provos and David Mazièrez developed this algorithm based on the Blowfish Cipher, a symmetric-key block cipher requiring only a single key to encrypt and decrypt data. How it is perceived is considerably faster than asymmetric encryption. [Tecnd] Blowfish Cipher also has no practical cryptanalysis to this date, meaning that no one has been able to crack the Blowfish Cipher. So because of the speed and reliability of the Blowfish Cipher, we decided to use Bcrypt to encrypt the sensitive data that the users of our application will provide. We are protected from "Cryptographic Failures," the second-ranked security risk from OWASP's Top Ten 2021. Although, it is essential to note that our collected sensitive data gets vulnerable if the Blowfish Cipher algorithm is cracked. In this case, we need to change the password-hashing algorithm as fast as possible to avoid potential data leakage.

Validation for input fields and checkbox

We have implemented input validation and checkbox validation to secure our application. For example, we display error messages when a user tries to register with an existing email or a password shorter than eight characters, see figure 5.33 This validation also provides protection against injection attacks, addressing OWASP A03. Additionally, we use checkbox validation for agreeing to our Terms & Conditions during registration. This way, the user needs to agree before creating an account, see figure 5.34



Figure 5.33: Input validation in the registration page

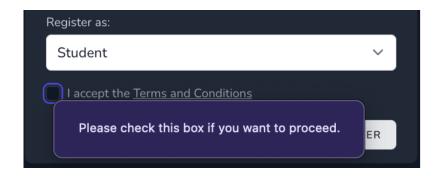


Figure 5.34: Checkbox validation in the registration page



Figure 5.35: Terms & Conditions link

5.5.5 Terms & Conditions

Creating Terms & Conditions can be difficult, especially when no members have a specialization or deep knowledge of the law. Usually, lawyers and others with political knowledge create the Terms & Conditions. Therefore, our Terms & Conditions are less advanced than, e.g., Google's. Nevertheless, we have included the essential parts to inform the users of the web application and protect us from

potential exploitation and abuse of the web application. In order for a user to create an account,

they have to agree with our Terms & Conditions, which they can read in the registration page (see

Figure 10).

Essential things to include in the Terms & Conditions are:

• User Guidelines

• Safety and protection of data

• Termination clause

• Disclaimer for third-party applications/services

• Agree button (checkbox)

See appendix A.6: User Guidelines

5.5.6 Secure development in practice

Creating an unreachable system or application with zero vulnerabilities is impossible. Therefore,

it is essential to maintain the application's security by constantly updating the security protocols,

adding new safety features and mitigating potential attacks. We have taken the web application's

security very seriously by analyzing and implementing secure solutions for our application's most

critical and relevant security risks. Although we have put in a lot of effort to strengthen and maintain

the security of our platform, no system or application is 100% secure. No company can be secure

because humans write most code. Humans make mistakes and simply can't write perfect code.

5.5.7 Reflections on login and authentication method

We were initially going to use Feide as our login method. We wanted to use Feide because it would

make the registration process much more efficient. Their effectiveness is because the students would

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not need to create a new user but instead log in with their already created Feide account. This method also ensures that the students are honest. In addition to this, Feide is also very secure because they are taking advantage of MFA, which stands for . MFA means that you can provide more than one form of authentication. Today, there are several ways to bypass login methods that only use one-factor authentication, such as performing a brute-force attack. Therefore, we needed another alternative to protect us from attacks like this.

Even though we wanted to use Feide, we found out that to use this login method; we had to be registered as an official organization to request Feide as a login and authentication method. In addition to this, we had to create another form of login method as well if we wanted to use Feide, because the external companies do not have Feide. Therefore, we tried a second alternative, which was AzureAD's authentication method. This login method lets the users choose an additional form of authentication. This provides considerably more user security and protects them from brute-force attacks. Sadly, we did not manage to set up AzureAD, as it was a very time-consuming and complex process. Therefore, we decided to pause the AzureAD authentication implementation temporarily and instead focus on the main functionalities of the application.

The third alternative was to use Laravel Breeze, a pre-made login implementation. We chose this alternative because of its effectiveness. The purpose of Breeze is to provide a fast and straightforward login page. Something we should have taken into consideration when choosing Breeze was the need for more security features. We later discovered that Laravel had another template called Laravel Jetstream, which had built-in security features like e.g. MFA. In other words, Breeze is like a lite version to provide effectiveness, while Jetstream is a complete version with more features. Getting the same safety features for Laravel Breeze is possible but very time-consuming because they are already set up and ready to use in Laravel Jetstream.

5.6 Relationship to machines/databases/OS

In this subsection, we present the functional interfaces of the system. We have chosen to use API connections as a crucial link between the frontend and backend. This application runs on containers, making the operating system less critical for its execution. We also have expectations that the system

will function seamlessly on all types of operating systems and both older and newer web browsers.

5.6.1 API documentation

The API documentation provides valuable information to clients and developers about the available endpoints and how to interact with them. Clients can access and use the server's resources by following the instructions provided in the API documentation. Developers can also extend or modify the server's functionality by referring to the documentation.

For a REST API, the documentation typically includes an overview of the available endpoints and the expected input and output formats for each endpoint. A tool like Swagger UI often presents this information through an interactive interface, making exploring the API documentation and testing API requests easier.

Figure 5.36 is a visual representation of the available endpoints in the REST API, which can be a helpful reference for both clients and developers to understand the structure and organization of the API.

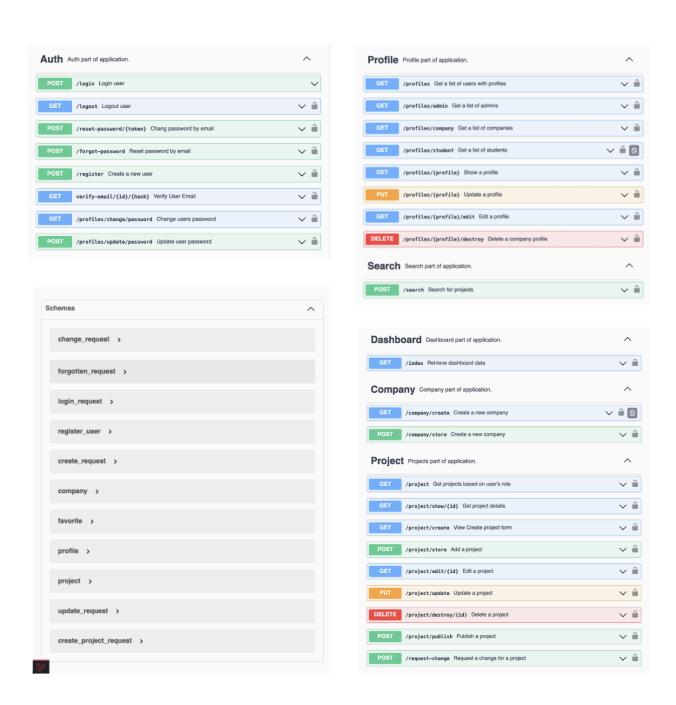


Figure 5.36: Swagger API documentation

5.6.2 Database Integration

The database's interface and backend communicated via localhost server that required a login consisting of a username and password. MySQL was used to set up a publicly accessible database resource. The database configuration file is shown in the figure below, with the username and password.

```
DB_CONNECTION=mysql
DB_HOST=mysql
DB_PORT=3306
DB_DATABASE=pmp
DB_USERNAME=sail
DB_PASSWORD=password
```

Figure 5.37: MySQL database configuration file

5.6.3 Main parts of the program

Company - Adds project proposal

For companies who wish to post projects, the application can offer a simple and user-friendly interface. The company can create an account and then post a project description with the necessary details required to attract students. This may include details about the project's duration, requirements for the participating students, and expected prior experience and competencies.

Course Coordinator - Quality assurance of the project proposals

The course coordinator's task is to ensure the quality of project proposals by carefully reviewing each proposal. They must verify that the proposals are relevant to the subject and within the students' area of expertise. By approving project proposals before they are posted on the system, the course coordinator can ensure that the projects meet a certain standard and are of high quality. This is a crucial function to ensure that students have access to quality projects and that the companies

posting projects are serious.

Student - Applying for the published projects

Students can then apply to participate in projects that match their interests and skills. They can apply through a simple interface that allows them to find and filter projects based on various criteria such as subject area. Once they have found a project they want to participate in, they can submit a request that the company can review and approve.

Chapter 6

Testing

6.1 Introduction

We conducted tests to ensure the quality and reliability of our application, which we created using the PhpUnit framework and the Laravel built-in testing library. To accomplish this, we utilized a range of tests, such as unit tests, integration tests, and smoke tests, to uncover and correct any flaws or problems in the application.

Our testing had several specific aims, including identifying errors or bugs in our code, enhancing code quality and maintainability with automated testing, confirming that the application met user expectations and requirements and boosting confidence in the application's reliability and stability.

Using the framework PhpUnit, we run 138 test cases for all test types during the testing process. Our team of five developers and with the help of our course coordinator also performed usertesting of the application over four to five weeks. We used Notion to report and monitor the results.

6.2 User Testing

6.2.1 Testing under development phase

6.2.1.1 User Tests done by course coordinator

During the development phase, we conducted user tests as an integral part of our application development process. To introduce a user test with the course coordinator, we built upon a template (see appendix A.3) from a practical IT project in the previous semester and further refined it for our bachelor thesis (see appendix A.4). The primary objectives of these tests were to prioritize and identify the essential functions of the application, aligning with the assumptions made during the design sprint and gather targeted user insights.

6.2.1.2 Feedback/result

The course coordinator provided feedback on the functionality and design for all actors within the application. Overall, the coordinator expressed high satisfaction, stating that the application precisely met their preconceived expectations and desires. The project course coordinator wanted us to change the following. See Table 6.1, 6.2 and 6.4.

We organized tasks based on the priority, with 1 being the highest priority. This means we focus on completing priority 1 tasks first before moving on to priority 2 tasks.

Functionality and design for company overview				
Changes needed	Priority			
Receipt or confirmation page which	1			
comes before finally submitting				
Status options with descriptions of	1			
the different statuses when hovering				
or clicking, same goes for the other				
columns				
Hyperlink in agreement-page	1			
All projects, current projects, archived	1			
projects				
Toolbar at bottom instead of at the top	2			
Column visibility standards should be	2			
very simple, Title and Status				
Export button, copy to excel, copy to	3			
PDF, column visibility should be re-				
moved				
Menu icon needs to change	2			
Minimum amount of data, maximum	3			
amount of information				
Swap My Projects and Need Changes.	2			
If they have no projects published or				
no projects needing changes should be				
removed				
Overview of deadlines on dashboard	3			
All projects get archived at the end	3			
of the semester, archived projects				
get placed in the archives by status				
"ARCHIVED"				

Table 6.1: Company requirements

Functionality and desig	n for course coordinator
Changes needed	Priority
Add project needs some type of connec-	1
tion to the supervisor who is responsible	
for that specific project	
Updated Projects: split into Changes	1
Made and Need Changes	
Projects Overview should include:	1
New, Under Review, Archived	
Only need Company Name and Project	1
Title	
A project should include Company	2
Name, Project Title, primary supervi-	
sor, company email	
Can be up to three supervisors per com-	3
pany	

 ${\bf Table~6.2:~Course~Coordinator's~requirements}$

Functionality and design for Student					
Changes needed	Priority				
Students status : APPLIED, NOT AP-	1				
PLIED, UNDER REVIEW and CON-					
FIRMED					
Student registration: number of stu-	1				
dents (dynamic display), status (con-					
firmed/not confirmed) which is linked					
to a specific project					
Dashboard for students: should include	2				
the status of the projects the student					
has applied for					

Table 6.3: Student requirements

6.2.1.3 Response to the Feedback

The user testing we conducted with the course coordinator regarding functionality and design took place in early May. Unfortunately, we did not have enough time to implement the new requirement based on the feedback received, unless the following conditions are met.

Tasks implemented after user-test		
Tasks	Priority	Actors
Hyperlink on agreement page	1	company
Swap My Projects and Need Changes.	2	company
If they have no projects published or		
no projects needing changes should be		
removed		
Students status : APPLIED, NOT AP-	1	student
PLIED, UNDER REVIEW and CON-		
FIRMED.		

Table 6.4: Tasks implemented after user test

6.2.1.4 Student-led User Testing

Due to time constraints that prevented us from carrying out the planned user survey, we opted for an alternative approach. We conducted a test involving five participants from OsloMet focusing solely on the student role. These participants were granted access to the student roles and given the ability to create their own user accounts. A specific/predefined flow was assigned to guide their actions during the test. The user test was conducted using an interview guide, which can be found in the appendix A.5.

Afterward, we asked them to navigate through the course coordinator page and test the functionality themself. Some gave us feedback on what worked well and what could be improved on the website.

Finally, we asked them to test the entire website and give us their thoughts randomly. they gave us multiple feedback points, summarized in the table below. Some of them, also checked the security aspects, such as input validation, to ensure proper notifications. They also tested for SQL injection vulnerabilities in input fields, console logs, and web application inspection.

From this feedback, we gained insights that the users understood our search function, for example, and what was behind it. However, the users, for example, expressed dissatisfaction with the function

on the column visibility dropdown. We also noticed that some users were not entirely sure what using "all" meant for all actors. These insights were noted based on their significance on the table list, as shown in Table 6.5. These insights were then used to prioritize and improve the application's features to meet our users' needs better.

Strengths of the Application	Areas for Improvement in the Application	
Navigation	Specify Actors: Avoid using '(All)' for actors and be more specific. Use 'Only students' instead of 'All students.'	
Searching and filtrering	Logo Link: Remove or add a logo	
UI - user friendly and responsive, nice combination of colors	course coordinator profile view: Include profile image URL in course coordina- tor profile view	
Layout	Password Criteria: Avoid using numbers only and set a maximum length for passwords	
SQL injection was approved	Dropdown Placement: Place the drop- down under the 'Column Visibility' sec- tion	
Website Status: almost complete with minor functionalities	Remove Options: Eliminate 'Approve' and 'Need Changes' options from the company's interface	
Course coordinator Interface: Well- Structured and User-Friendly	Profile Image Display: Fix profile image display issue on Google Chrome	
	The area code needs to be fixed Larger Headers: Increase header size	
	for better readability	

Table 6.5: Feedback of student test

6.2.2 Limitations and Challenges in User Testing

This point is essential to highlight. Collecting personal data without proper authorization is illegal in many countries and can lead to severe consequences for the data collector. Therefore, following proper procedures and obtaining permission before collecting personal data is always advisable. [Comnda]

Our initial plan was to conduct in-depth user-tests and interviews, which required the collection of personal data and information (such as key demographic data). We applied for permission from SIKT to collect personal data (see Appendix A.7). However, as we did not get a timely response, we had to resort to our plan B and conduct the user testing anonymously without registering personally identifiable information.

As a group, we planned to distribute a digital survey to the participants for the user survey. The survey was designed to include scaling questions and yes or no answers. We also intended for each participant to receive a digital form or sheet to provide any helpful input or quotes from the tests. Unfortunately, we could not send the survey digitally as intended initially due to time limitations.

6.3 Technical Testing

6.3.1 PhpUnit and Laravel's built-in testing library

PHPUnit is a programmer-oriented testing framework for PHP that allows us to use PHP code to test our application. It follows the xUnit architecture for the unit testing framework. PHPUnit supports various types of testing, including unit testing, integration testing, and smoke testing. At the same time, Laravel's built-in testing library provides tools and functions to test Laravel applications. It simplifies testing by offering test case classes and assertions to verify application behavior and functionality. [Joh23]

6.3.2 Unit Test

"Unit testing involves testing a single method of a class, focusing on a specific contract aspect with stubbed or mocked dependencies." [Fre09]

During PHP Laravel backend development, developers utilized unit tests with PHPUnit to validate the functionality of isolated functions or classes. They employed various assertions, such as assertEquals(), assertTrue(), and assertFalse(), to test code outputs and ensure accurate error messages. [Larnde] [Bernd]

We utilized the PHPUnit framework to test the functionality of the "updateProject" method, which involves retrieving a project's object from the database. First, we prepared a "mock" project data and an expected return value. Then, we evaluated the method to ensure that it returned accurate information and triggered an error message if it failed before testing it with actual data.

Figure 6.1: Example code of Laravel's built-in unit test

Using mock project data allowed us to avoid using actual data from the database in the test, which would have made it more time-consuming to set up and execute. Overall, using the framework PHPUnit and the library Laravel built-in tests for testing during development helped us catch errors early and ensure that individual code units worked as expected, see figure 6.1.

6.3.2.1 Basics of Defect Tracking

We prioritize the sequence in which we address defects and indicate the severity of a bug's impact on the software's functionality. Within software development, priority pertains to the degree of significance of a defect that necessitates resolution before moving on to the next one. In contrast, severity concerns the effect of a bug on the system. Due to its increased criticality, a bug with higher severity requires prompt resolution regardless of its priority level.

As figures 6.2 and 6.3 illustrates, we employed the notion of tracking bugs. We effectively managed and prioritized bugs according to their severity and priority levels, ensuring that we promptly addressed critical issues.

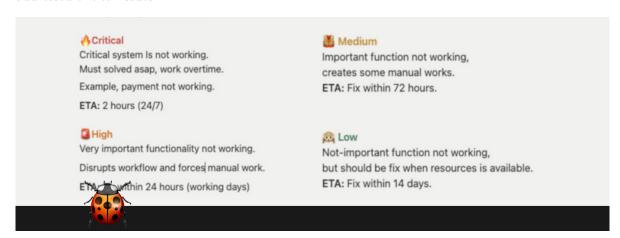


Figure 6.2: Defect tracking rules

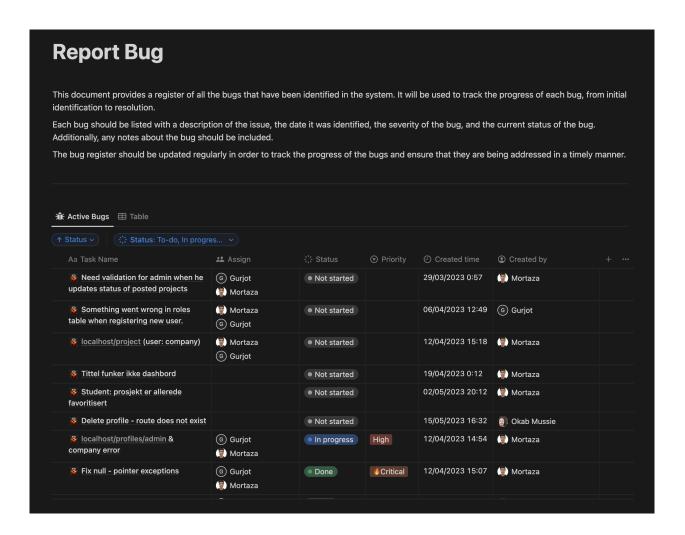


Figure 6.3: Defect tracking overview

6.4 Feature test

"Integration testing ensures proper interoperation between subsystems, ranging from class integration to production environment integration." [Fre09]

Laravel's Eloquent ORM and PHPUnit's integration testing framework enable developers to assess the application's acceptance comprehensively. This includes testing database interactions and other components. [Ind22] Laravel provides an in-memory SQLite database for evaluating application interactions without impacting the live database. [Larndd]

In Laravel, tests in the "Tests/Feature" directory verify route responses. For "updateProject," a PUT request is made to the "project.update" route. Using assertStatus(), we confirm a successful update (code 302) that redirects correctly. assertDatabaseHas() ensures the updated project data is stored in the database, as shown in figure 6.4.

Figure 6.4: Integration Test - course coordinator project update scenario

6.5 Smoke test

"In the software development life cycle, developers perform smoke testing to verify code compilation and core functionality. Only after passing this initial test different levels of testing are conducted."

[Kumnd]

We developed test cases for various situations, including high traffic and adverse conditions, to ensure the application can manage expected traffic volumes and provide a satisfactory user experience.

Figure 6.5 illustrates that the tests involve requesting the application's routes and verifying the correct responses. For instance, a "companyView" smoke test might use the GET request method to the "project" route name and then utilize the assertViewIs() method to ensure that the response value of "project.project.all" corresponds to the appropriate view page.

```
/**
    * @smoke company projectController
    * @scenario list projects
    * @case company is trying to list projects
    * @expectation user, is listed project is, successfully

*
    * @test
    */
    * okabmoss
public function index_method_returns_view_for_company()
{
        // Create a user with a role
        $user = $this->createAndActAsCompanyUser();
        $this->createProfileForUser($user->id);
        // Call the index method
        $response = $this->get(route( name: 'project'));
        // Assert that the response is a view
        $response->assertViewIs( value: 'project.project_all');
}
```

Figure 6.5: Testing Company View Retrieval

Figure 6.6: Testing Project View Under High Request Traffic

As depicted in figures 6.5 and 6.6, the ongoing smoke testing aims to determine whether the application performs accurately under high usage and unfavorable circumstances. This testing helps detect potential issues such as compatibility problems and performance inadequacies.

6.6 Challenges in technical testing

Based on our experience with JUnit testing, it was challenging to set up xdebug (see: 3.3) and start using phpunit testing early in the development phase. This made us uncertain about the differences between smoke and unit tests, as both types could be done at the same time during early implementation. To get started, we had to spend time going through Laravel's documentation. Later, we discovered PHP traits, which could make the testing process easier. Traits are like reusable bundles of code that add functionality and reduce repetition. Our lack of knowledge about traits caused confusion with smoke and unit tests, so we had to rely on the documentation, which slowed down our progress.

We faced additional challenges in our development process, including the need to modify tests due to changing requirements, potentially slowing down our progress. Furthermore, the implementation of the application took longer than expected, extending until mid-May. As a result, we were unable to implement the planned integration tests, which aimed to test the interaction between different components of the system.

6.7 Correspondence between accurate test coverage and ideal test coverage

Although there is no universally mandated minimum percentage of test coverage for software development projects in organizations, certain industries may have specific standards that dictate a certain level of test coverage.

Like many organizations, the Norwegian insurance company requires that its systems have a test coverage of at least 80%. It is worth noting, however, that this is the minimum requirement, and organizations often aim for a higher test coverage. The solution should have implemented considerably higher test coverage for the PHP Laravel application. [Heu21] [Żur21]

Code coverage is a way to measure how well our tests cover the code we write. It tells us the percentage of our code that is actually tested by automated tests. This helps us see which parts of our code are being tested and which are not. Code coverage also helps us find functions in our code that are not being used but are still counted in the coverage report. By aiming for higher code coverage, we can have more confidence in the quality and reliability of our application. Figures 6.7 and 6.8 provide visual examples of code coverage.

```
public function index()
 42
 43
44
              $projects = Project::latest()->get();
 45
 46
              if(Auth::user()->isAn(RoleType::STUDENT)){
 47
                  $projects = ProjectResource::collection(Project::WithStatus(ProjectStatuses::PUBLISHED)->get());
 48
                  return view('project.project_all', compact('projects'));
 49
 50
51
              elseif (Auth::user()->isAn(RoleType::COMPANY))
 52
              {
 53
                  $projects = $this->getUsersProjects();
 54
                  return view('project.project_all', compact('projects'));
 55
 56
              elseif (Auth::user()->isAn(RoleType::ADMIN))
57
 58
 59
                  $projects = Project::latest()->get();
 60
                  return view('project.project_all', compact('projects'));
 61
             }
 62
 63
              else {
64
                  return redirect()->back()->with(Messages::SOMETHING_WENT_WRONG);
 65
              }
 66
         }
 67
```

Figure 6.7: Code Coverage Analysis: Examining Tested and Untested Code

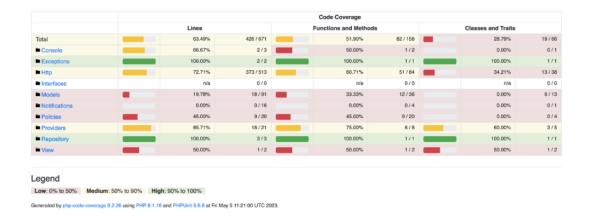


Figure 6.8: Early Stage Code Coverage Analysis for SIM Application

This report, shown in figure 6.8, analyze our application's code coverage (SIM) using the PHPUnit vendor and offers suggestions for enhancing coverage in the future. Our test coverage is 63% for lines, functions, and methods and 28% for classes and properties. This coverage metric typically includes both our application code and the code from the vendor dependencies, which are external

components used by our application. While this is a positive starting point, there is room for improvement, particularly in covering models, views, and controllers within the HTTP context, which currently need more coverage. Additionally, it is essential to ensure that our tests include edge cases and handle potential errors effectively.

Looking at the coverage distribution by functions, methods, and lines, we can see that some areas of our code are well-tested early while others are not. Our controllers (path:http/controllers) have 72% coverage, while our models only have 19%, and the View has 50% coverage. This suggests we write more tests for everyone, especially for views and models, to ensure they behave as expected.

Based on our analysis of the coverage distribution, we have prioritized testing our controllers during the development phase to ensure steady progress. Regarding real test coverage for PHP, our backend controllers currently have a medium coverage of 81.07%. This percentage represents the line of code covered by structured unit testing. For a visual representation of the test coverage, refer to figure 6.9.



Figure 6.9: Code Coverage Analysis for SIM Controllers

Chapter 7

User Guide

7.1 Registration and Login

7.1.1 Common Login Page For All Actors

The login page is the entry point to the Student Intership Matchmaking (SIM) web application. It allows users to log in, reset their password, or create a new account. All three actors have the same login process, while the registration process is only common for the project providers and students. In other words, it is not possible to create a user with the role "course coordinator" for security reasons. Figure 7.1 illustrates the login page layout.

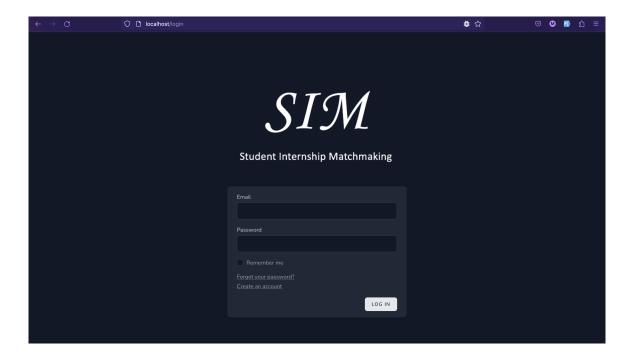


Figure 7.1: The login page

7.1.2 Common Password Reset

If users forget their password, they can initiate a password reset process by clicking "Forgot your password?" on the landing page. The system will prompt them to provide their email address to receive an email for a password reset. Figure 7.2 shows the password reset page.

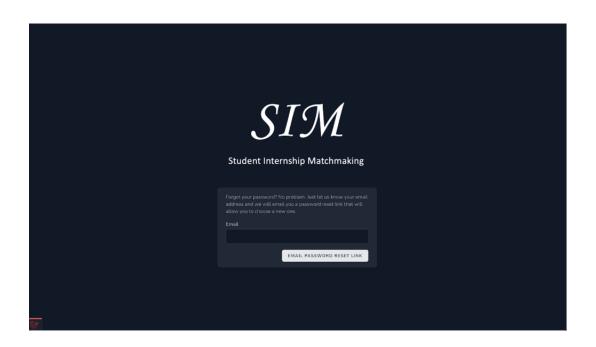


Figure 7.2: The password reset page

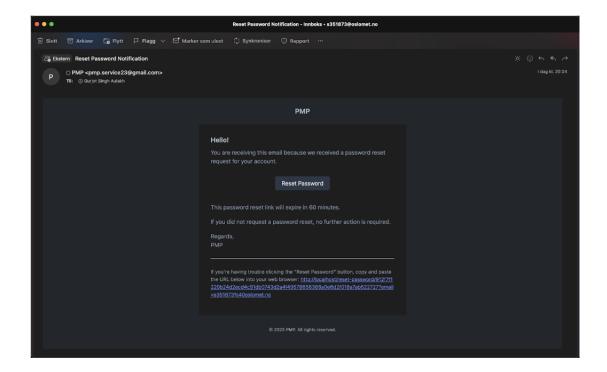


Figure 7.3: The password reset mail

7.1.3 Create an Account

Users who do not have an account can easily create one by selecting "Create an account" on the login page.

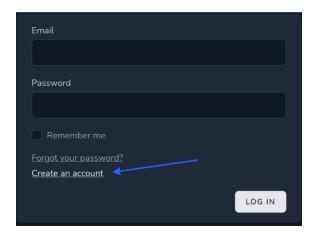


Figure 7.4: Link to the account creation form

In order to proceed, individuals are required to fill in the form and complete the registration process. They can either register as a company or as a student.

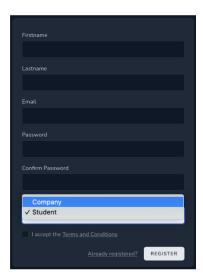


Figure 7.5: Here, you can specify the type of account you wish to create

To complete the registration process, individuals must adhere to the validations rules of the application which we already discussed in chapter 5.5.4.

After registration, users receive an email to verify their email address. Figure 7.5 displays the registration page, and Figure 7.6 shows the verification email.

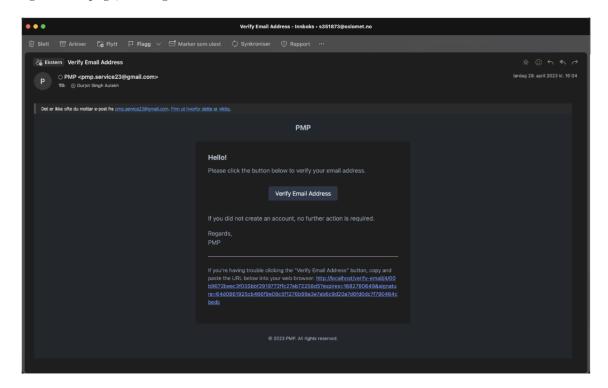


Figure 7.6: The verification email

7.2 The Core Flow Of The Application

Company Flow

After freshly creating a company-user, also referred as company-representative, and logging in the company-user will be directed to the dashboard. Currently, you won't see any content as no projects have been created yet.

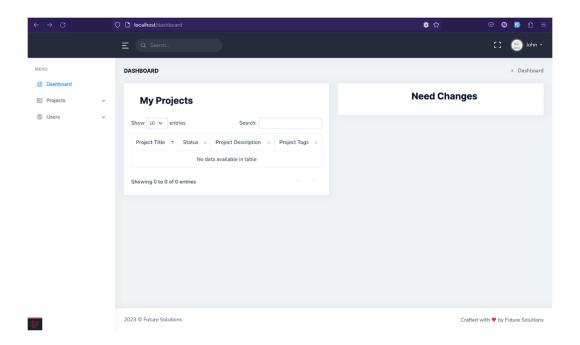


Figure 7.7: The company's dashboard

To create a project proposal, the user can select the 'Add Project' option from the side navigation.

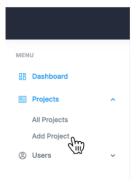


Figure 7.8: 'Add Project' option from the side navigation

To create a project, the user must first create a company as the newly created account does not have a company yet.

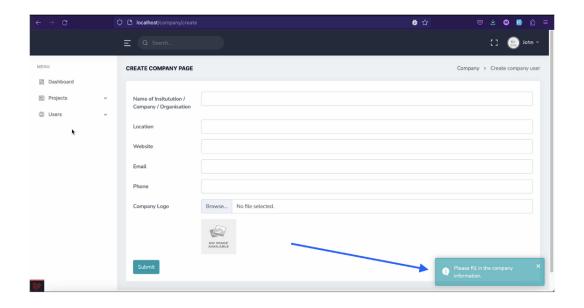


Figure 7.9: Create a company first

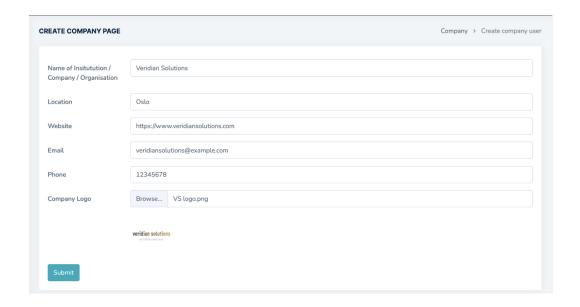


Figure 7.10: Example data needed to create a company

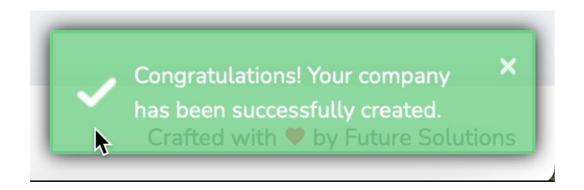


Figure 7.11: Company created successfully

Having a company allows the user to create projects, ensuring validation and ownership by the company rather than the user. This approach accommodates future changes in personnel or representation within the company while maintaining project continuity. Thus, it is more advantageous to link projects to companies rather than directly to users.

Create project proposal

The user must complete three sections to create a project proposal. Some inputs are required, while others have validation rules that must be followed in order to successfully create a project description. The company-user will now create a project proposal.

Note "Aims" input field is empty, which will cause a validation error. However, this error occurs after we have been on page 4 and clicked on the submit button.

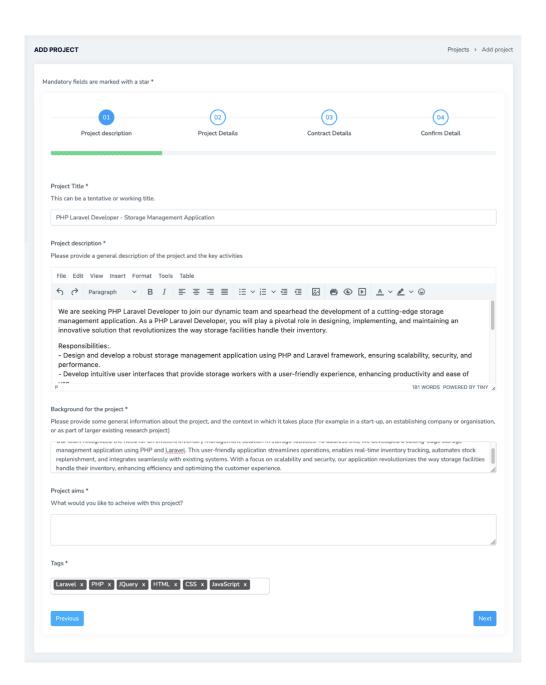


Figure 7.12: Page 1, General project information

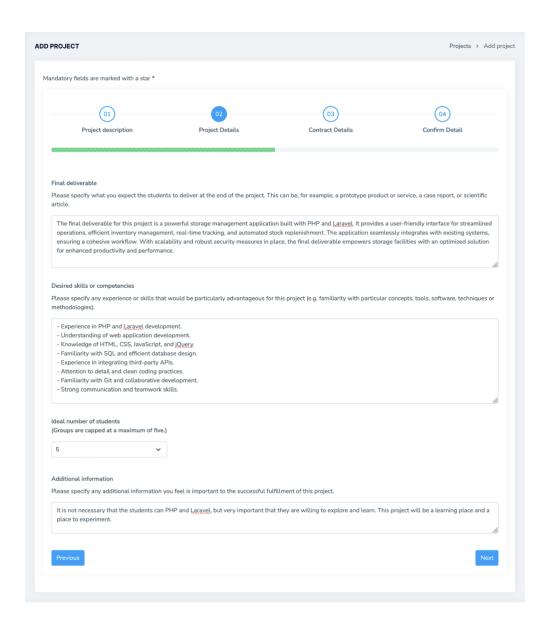


Figure 7.13: Page 2, Project details

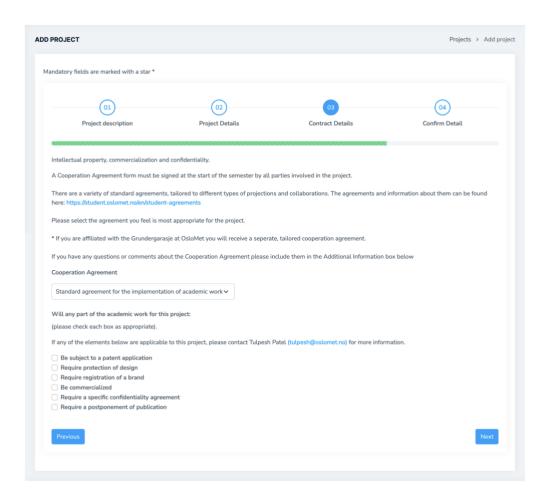


Figure 7.14: Page 3, Project agreements page

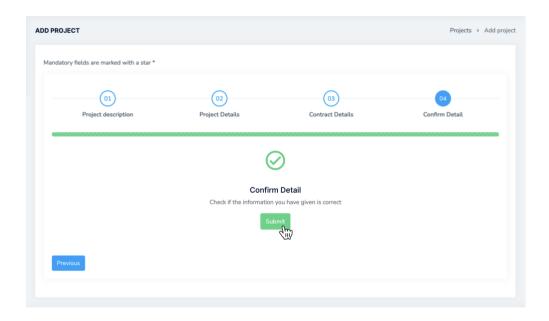


Figure 7.15: Page 4, final step to submit the project proposal

As mentioned above, missing a required field will prevent project submission, resulting in a validation error. The existing input will remain unchanged and unaffected.

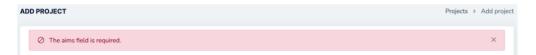


Figure 7.16: Back to page 1, validation error message

After creating the project, it appears under "All projects."

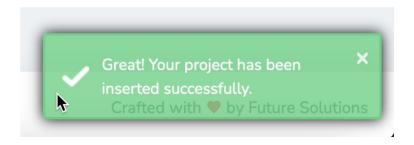


Figure 7.17: Project proposal created successfully

Upon creating a project, it is displayed under the section labeled "All projects." However, for company users, we have renamed it to "My projects" as we believe it is more meaningful in that context.

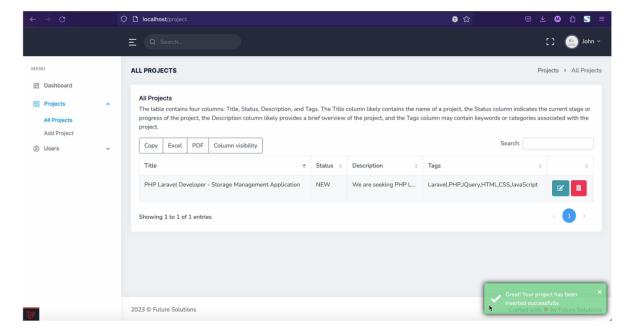


Figure 7.18: Project proposal appears in "All Projects" table with status "NEW"

Course Coordinator Flow

After logging in, the course coordinator is directed to the Dashboard, which offers a comprehensive overview of vital information. This version of the dashboard was developed through multiple reviews and discussions to identify its most essential components. It presents various statistics and provides an overview of new and updated projects.

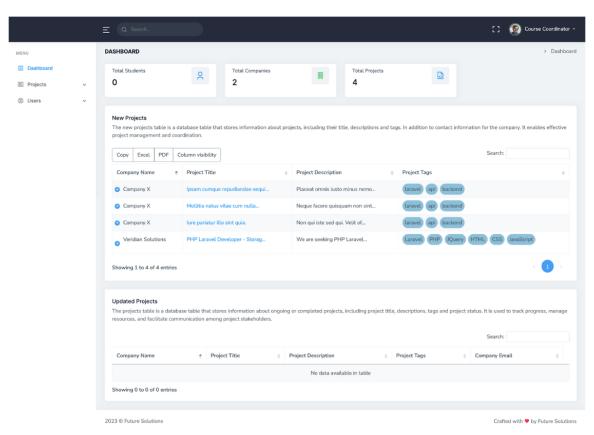


Figure 7.19: Course coordinator dashboard where there only projects with status "new"



Figure 7.20: Overview of various statistics

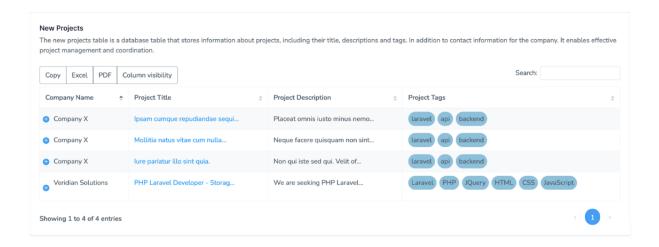


Figure 7.21: Overview over all projects with status "NEW"

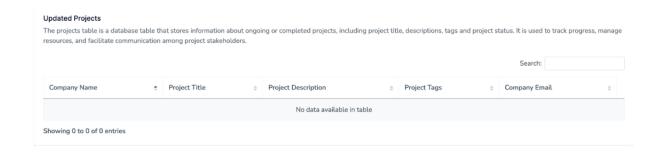


Figure 7.22: Currently there are no projects with status "UPDATED"

Extra functionality: The dashboard for the course coordinator also contains a toolbar giving the opportunity to edit the table view (column visibility), filter projects, copy projects to excel or save it as a PDF's.



Figure 7.23: Toolbar

Quality ensuring project proposals

Creating project descriptions from project proposals used to be a slow and manual process for our course coordinator. It involved copying and pasting from Nettskjema to Microsoft Word and then exporting as PDF for students. Our application automates this entire process, providing a highly efficient solution. This view shows the project description, which will be visible for students once the project is published.

This view shows a project proposal. The course coordinator can choose to "Approve," "Edit," or request changes by clicking on the "Need Changes" button.

If the course coordinator chooses to "Approve" a project, the project will become visible and published to students.

If the course coordinator chooses to "Edit" a project, he can add the necessary information they believe is required before it is published to students.

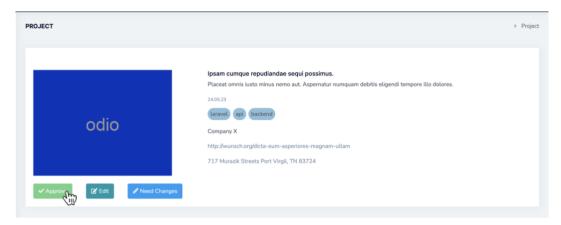


Figure 7.24: Course Coordinator approves a project

The course coordinator can request changes to the project by clicking on the "Need Changes" button. This opens a modal form where a message to the company can be created which addresses what changes are needed. Once the modal is submitted, the project will get status "NEED CHANGES" and the message attached as a comment, which the company user can view.

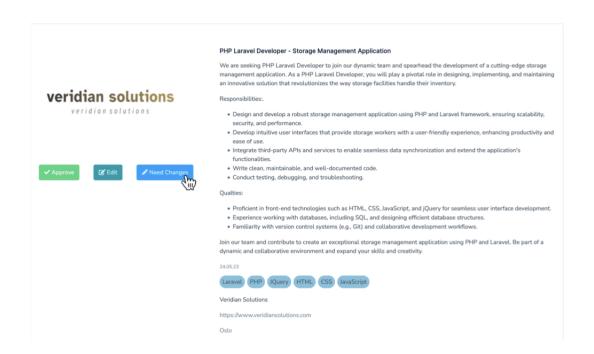


Figure 7.25: Course coordinator requesting changes

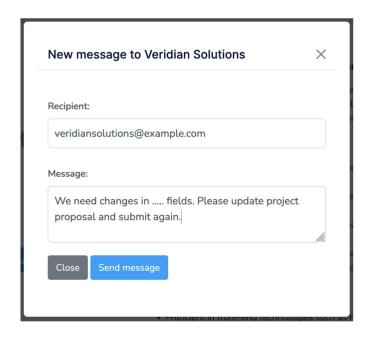


Figure 7.26: Course coordinator addressing changes needed to the project proposal

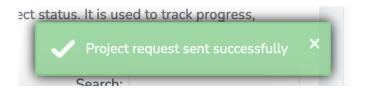


Figure 7.27: Change request sent successfully

The course coordinator can conveniently access an overview of all projects and their current status by simply clicking on "All projects" in the side navigation.

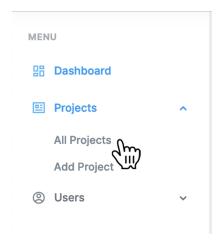


Figure 7.28: "All projects" link in the side navigation

If it says "Published," it means the project has been processed and quality checked by the course coordinator and is now visible to students.

If it says "New" under the status, it means the project is new and requires quality assurance/approval from the course coordinator.

If it says "Needs Changes," it means the course coordinator has requested changes to the project proposal and sent it back to the corresponding company for modifications.

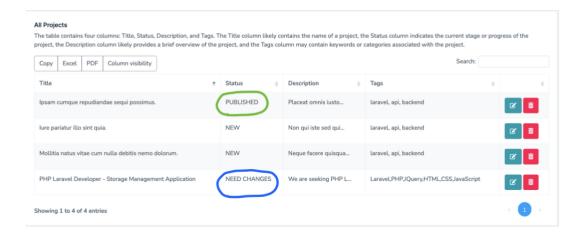


Figure 7.29: Overview over all projects

Back To Company Flow

After a change has been requested from the course coordinator, the company user can view the request in the dashboard. On the left side, all the projects owned by this company appear, while on the right side, a window specifically for the projects that need changes is displayed.

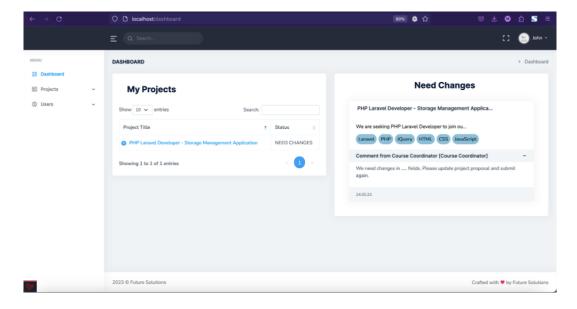


Figure 7.30: Company dashboard after receiving a change request on a project proposal

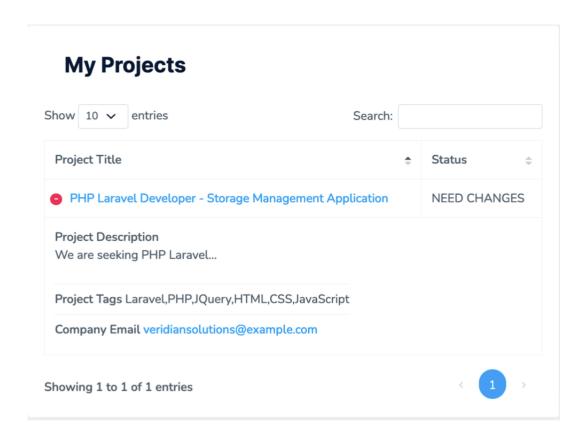


Figure 7.31: More details about the project in the dashboard

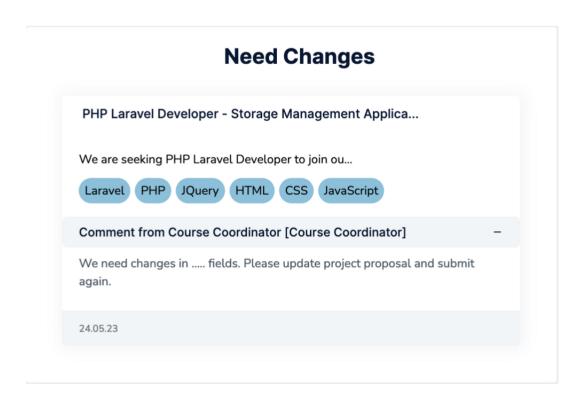


Figure 7.32: The changes have been done by the company

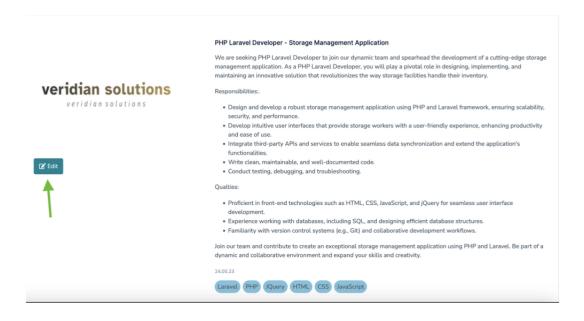


Figure 7.33: Company representative modify an existing project proposal



Figure 7.34: Company representative modify tags of an existing project proposal

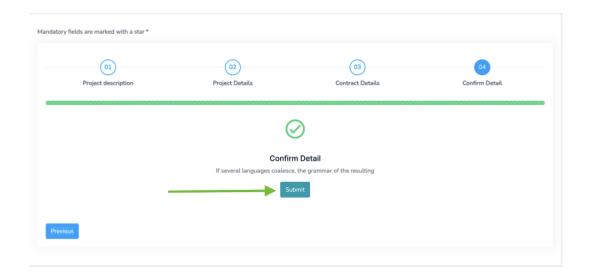


Figure 7.35: The company representative submits changes to existing project proposal



Figure 7.36: Project updated successfully

Company representatives have multiple means to verify the successful update of a project. Firstly, they receive a clear indication of success through a success message following the submission of changes. Additionally, they can gain an overview of all projects owned by them by navigating to the "All projects" section in the side navigation. They can confirm the update by observing the changed status of the project proposal, which should now reflect as "UPDATED." Furthermore, they have

the option to double-check by accessing the edit view and thoroughly reviewing the updated project proposal.

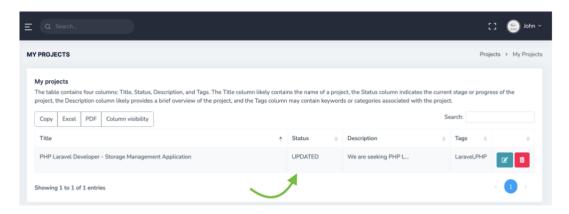


Figure 7.37: Company-representative views all projects owned by them

Back To Course Coordinator Flow

After changes have been made to an existing project proposal by the company, it appears under the "Updated projects"-table on the course coordinator's dashboard.

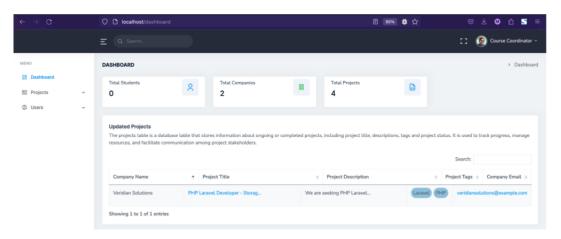


Figure 7.38: Overview of the updated projects on the course coordinators dashboard

The course coordinator approved the project and published it. It will now be visible to the students

as well.

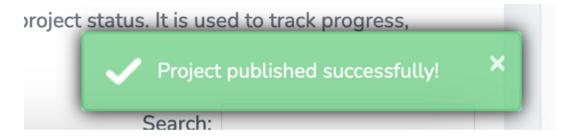


Figure 7.39: Success message, project proposal submitted

Student Flow

After that the project was approved by the course coordinator, it appears on the students' dashboard.

That students can apply for one or multiple project proposals. After a student applies for a project, they will be added as an applicant to the project and become visible to the company. The company can then either confirm, approve, or reject the student's application.

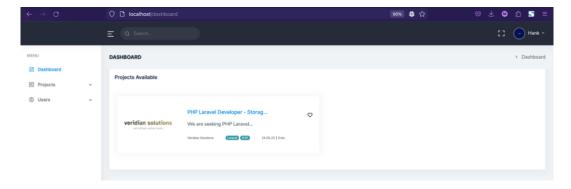


Figure 7.40: Overview of the projects on the student dashboard

That students can apply for one or multiple project proposals. After a student applies for a project, they will be added as an applicant to the project and become visible to the company. The company can then either confirm, approve, or reject the student's application.

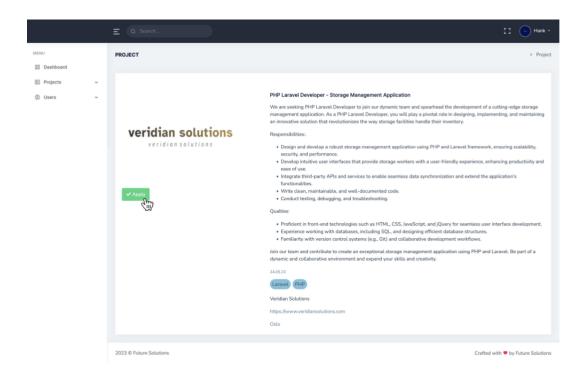


Figure 7.41: Overview of one of the project's proposals

7.3 Common Functionalities for all actors

Profile functionality

Before:

The profile can be seen here. Changes can be made to it by simply clicking on the "Edit Profile" button.

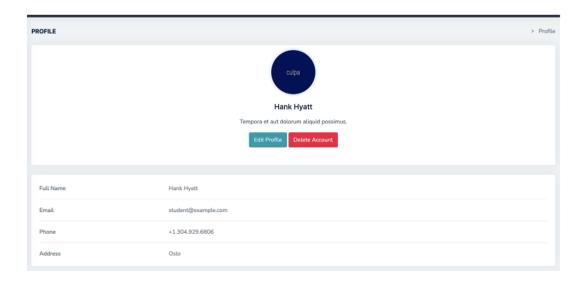


Figure 7.42: Overview of the profile page

A new window will be opened with profile details that can be changed.

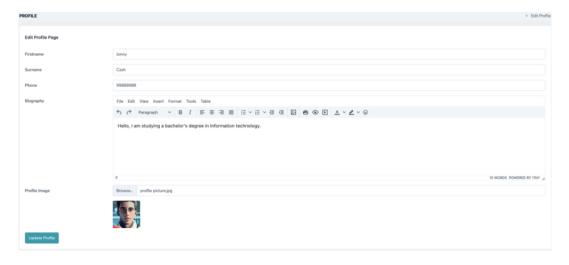


Figure 7.43: Overview of the profile details

The profile after the changes have been made.

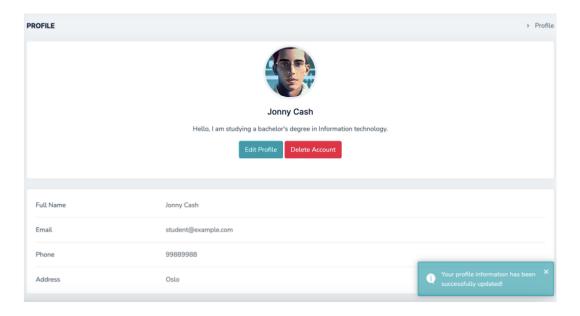


Figure 7.44: Overview of profile page after changes

If the wrong password is used, an error message will appear.

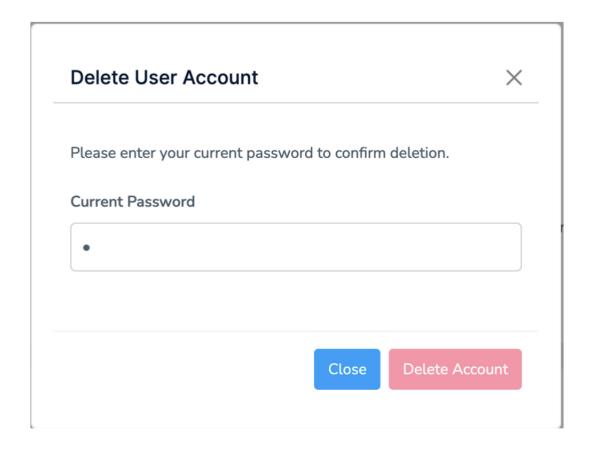


Figure 7.45: Overview of the input field

Here is the error message: "Incorrect password. Please try again."

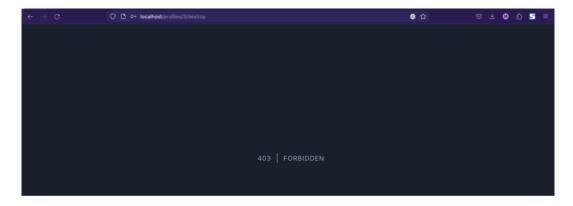


Figure 7.46: Overview of the error message

This shows that the student is no longer registered.

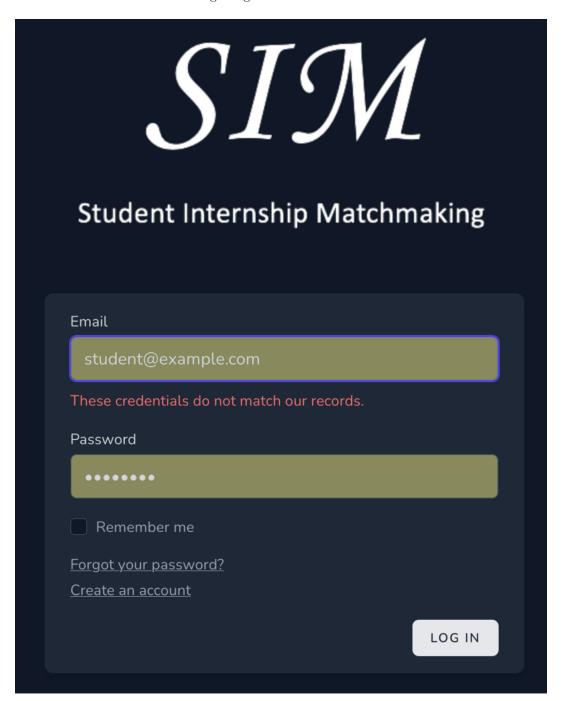


Figure 7.47: Showing that the student has been deleted

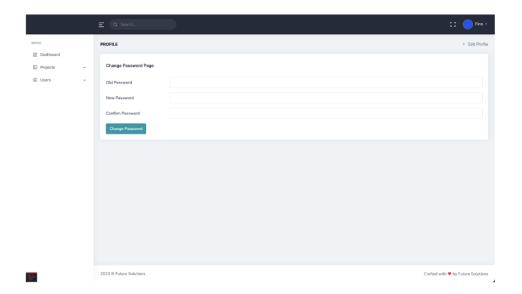


Figure 7.48: Change password page

User functionality

The "Users" section overviews registered users, categorized by role (course coordinator, companies, and students). All roles can view contact information, while administrators have additional privileges. Figure 25 through Figure 28 display the user pages of the web application.

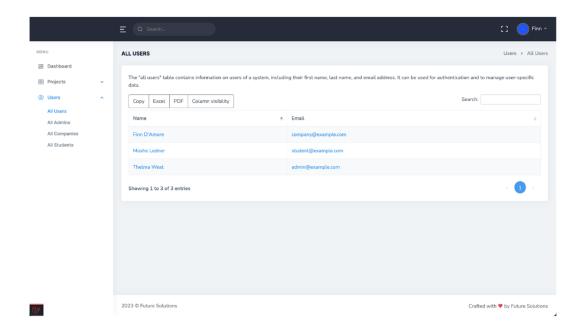


Figure 7.49: The "All Users" page

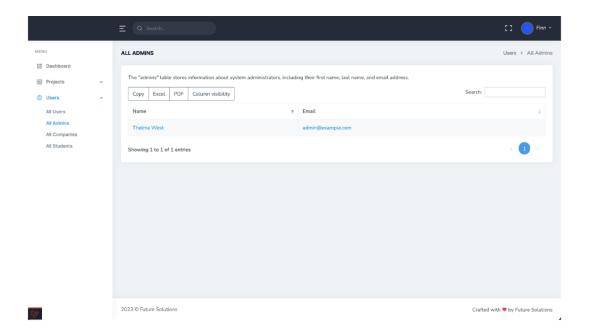


Figure 7.50: The "Admins" page

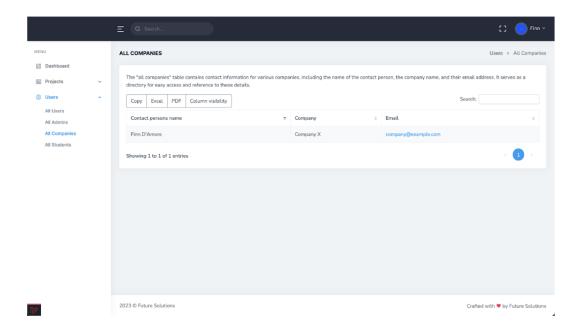


Figure 7.51: The "Companies" page

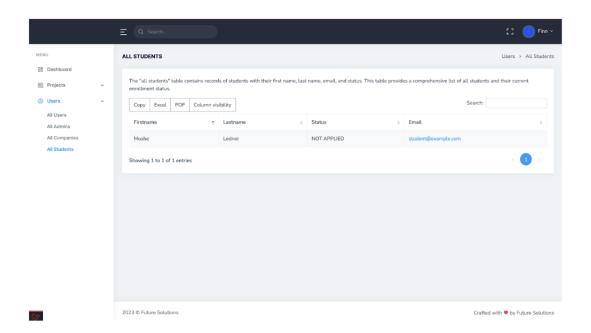


Figure 7.52: The "Students" page

The search bar functionality

The search bar enables users to search for projects, project descriptions, or tags within the web application. Search results are displayed on a separate result page. Figure 35 demonstrates the result page after performing a search.

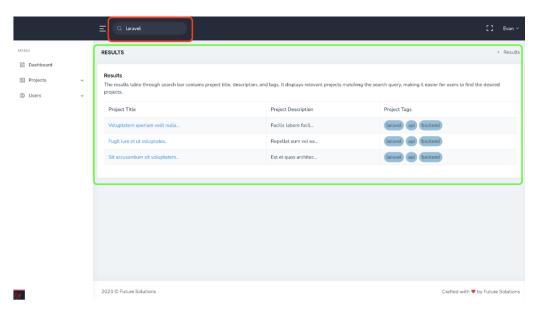


Figure 7.53: The result page after searching

Chapter 8

Conclusion and discussion

8.1 Learning Outcome

Working on this project has greatly benefited our team. It has given us a real sense of working in a team and a taste of working on real-life projects in the workplace. Although we did not have direct contact with a company throughout the project, our client acted as a supervisor, making us feel like we were collaborating with a business.

Another advantage is that we always had to come up with solutions when we encountered challenges, which taught us a lot about confidence and strengthened our skills and experiences. Each team member contributed to the project well, and the whole team functioned as a unit, even though it was sometimes challenging to keep communication at the same level.

Despite being unable to fulfill all the requirements 100%, especially the non-functional ones, we are satisfied with the effort we put in. We are now excited to see our work being used in practice and the positive impact the application can have.

8.2 What is the product's utility value?

This application has shown more advantages and usefulness than we initially anticipated. Although it was primarily developed to make administrative tasks more manageable for administrators, it has the potential to benefit businesses and students greatly. The main benefit of the platform is that course coordinators can scale up the number of projects, companies and students, without increasing the resources needed to manage things.

Communication is improved with this application. This saves time and gives students a more excellent overview of available opportunities. It can also help to find projects more aligned with the student's interests and skills. Overall, this application will be of great benefit to all parties involved.

8.3 What would we have done differently?

If we were to do this project again or work on a similar type of project, we would initially use the experience we had learned through this project and make some changes. First of all, we would use a different type of planning for implementation and documentation. Although we did well with this project and planning, we would have saved much more time if we had executed this project with, for example, the waterfall method, where the requirements are determined from the start. Changes in requirements caused the actual implementation not always to follow the project plan we had created.

Some choices we made regarding implementing the application could also have been different. A specific example is if we had dropped using Blade and instead used a different frontend framework like Angular or React. We could have done several things differently, such as implementing the application. Dropping Blade for the frontend and using a frontend framework like Angular/React/Vue would have been better because:

- API application testing would have been much more accessible.
- The frontend would have been more dynamic. It would have been much easier to implement, for example, the favorite function. (here, we need a reference to it)

- It would have enabled better separation of concern.
- We would have had more choices regarding the frontend because we could have used several libraries for components in frameworks like React.

Regarding user-testing the application, we would have planned it much earlier than we had done. This is because we did not know it would take time to get the application approved by SIKT and TSD. Instead, we could have also spent more time testing the application with actual companies and having more tests with employers to avoid as many change requests as possible.

8.4 Feedback from the Course Coordinator

The course coordinator had only one day per week available to work on the project due to limited time in the project schedule. This could be challenging for our team, so we needed to adapt to the course coordinator's schedule. One of the solutions discussed was to schedule meetings of different lengths depending on the necessity, allowing the team to work more efficiently and use time better. Another solution suggested was to find external mentors who could assist us with the project, providing extra support, expertise, and an outside perspective.

It was decided that questions requiring immediate answers should be communicated via Slack to ensure good communication within the team. In contrast, questions that could wait a day should be sent via email. This helped reduce disruptions and maintain focus on the work being done.

Most of the feedback from the course coordinator was upbeat throughout the project. The course coordinator was quite satisfied with creating the requirement specification and how we collaborated with him to realize his requirements in practice. During the project, course coordinator identified some challenges related to project planning and the need for faster feedback and answers to questions. Course coordinator's feedback was positively received, and the group worked together to overcome the challenges, which helped strengthen teamwork and ensure the project's successful completion.

The course coordinator has issued a certificate for the work we carried out during the project period. This certificate can be found in its entirety in Appendix A.14.

8.5 Status of further development and production setting of the product

The course coordinator plans to have the product ready for production and testing by July, following the final changes. Our next step is to attempt to deploy it on Microsoft Azure or AWS to achieve this goal. Additionally, during the development process, we were contacted by a representative from the Department of Behavioral Psychology at OsloMet, as they are working on a similar solution for their master's program, enabling students to find external collaborators for research projects. We discussed the possibility of collaboration in the fall of 2023, based on the MVP we have developed and are currently in the planning phase for. Furthermore, we aim to further enhance the product after the summer and make it available to more schools and programs. Another significant aspect of future development is the implementation of Feide authentication, which can be utilized more efficiently in Norway since Feide access is available to everyone in the country.

We can also continue to work on developing the frontend and separate it from the backend so that we can focus on frontend tasks separately from backend tasks.

Regarding quality assurance of the product, we need to work more on this in the other development phase. The extra focus should be on testing, including Test Driven Development (TDD), system testing, integration testing, and automated testing. We also need to structure the folder in a more organized and clear way according to "Clean structure."

8.6 Summary and Conclusion

Our idea turned into reality in the form of a web application. This was achieved through hard work, collaboration, and consistency. All group members contributed to the project, working in parallel and together. We did this with agile development, working in sprints, and having retrospective meetings. All the members agreed that the project was insightful, instructive, and exciting. We have gained much new knowledge and experience through the software development process in practice.

We are very proud of our solution, even though we did not manage to host the application on OsloMet's server within the project's time frame. However, the project course coordinator was pleased with the final result and looks forward to potentially using the application the following semester. The application will contribute to the "IT project in practice" course being available for more students since the internship matchmaking process is faster and administration is more accessible. Our group is looking forward to continuing this application's development after the bachelor project.

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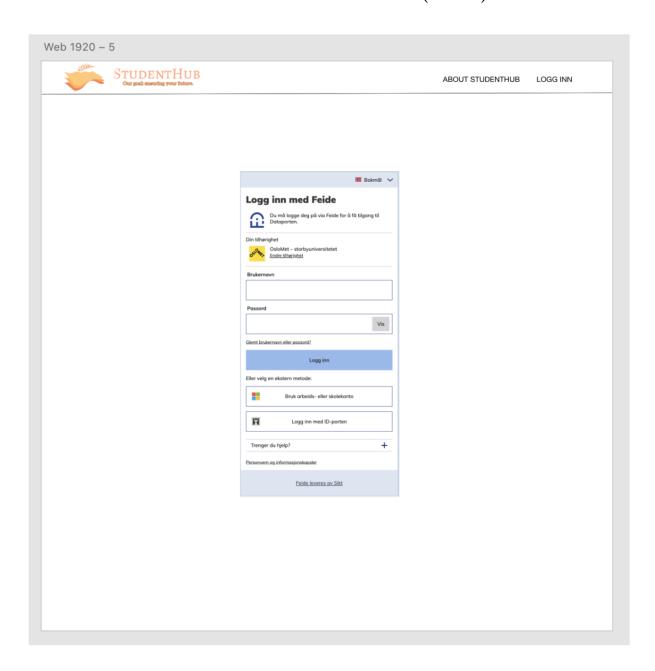
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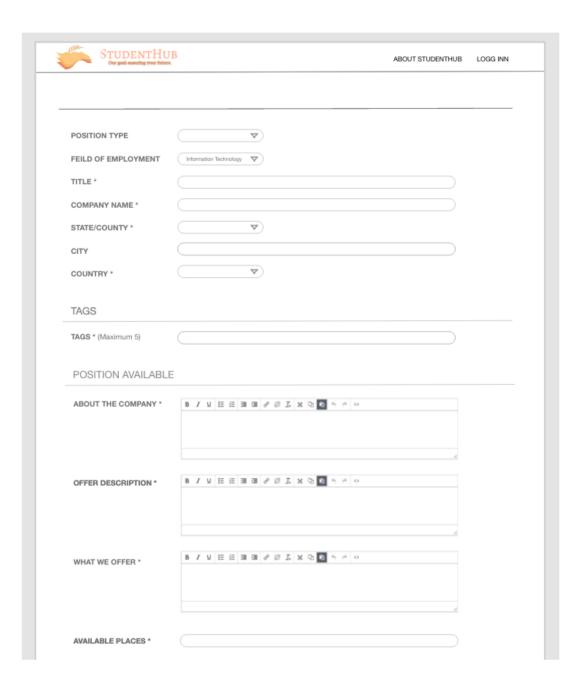
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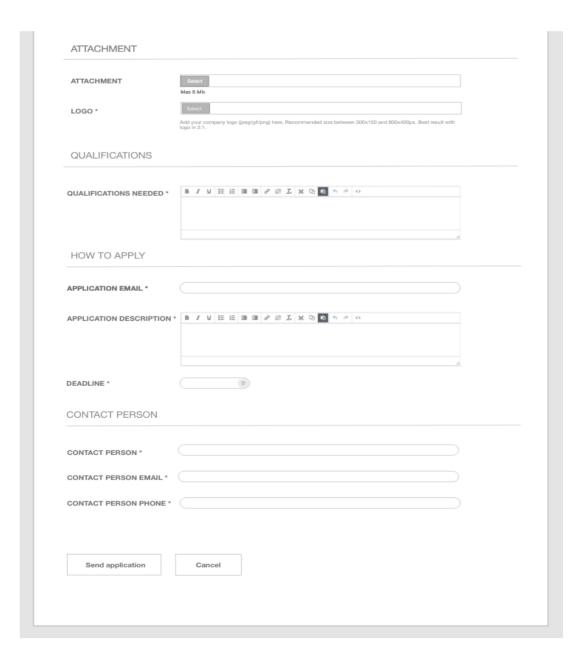
Appendix A

Appendix

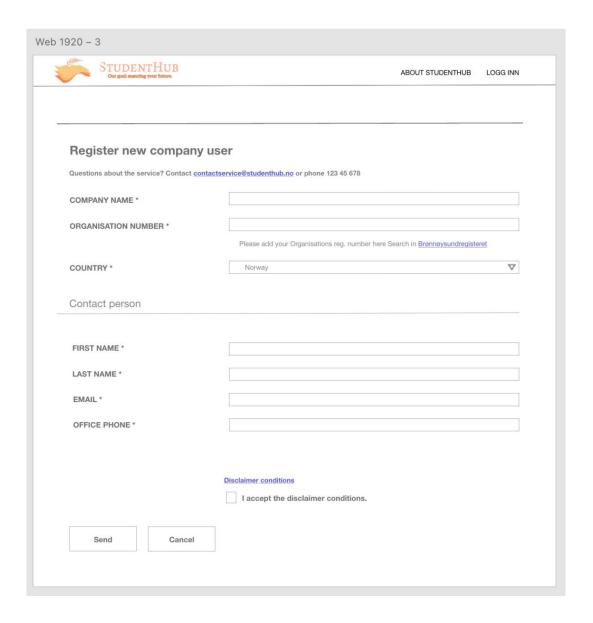
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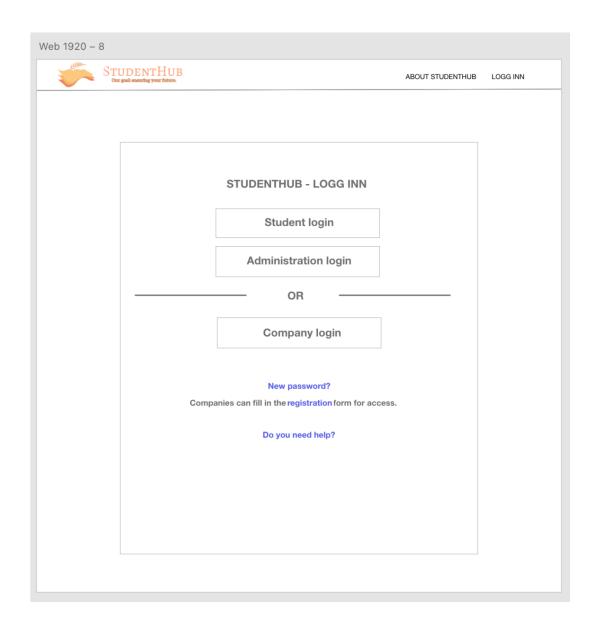


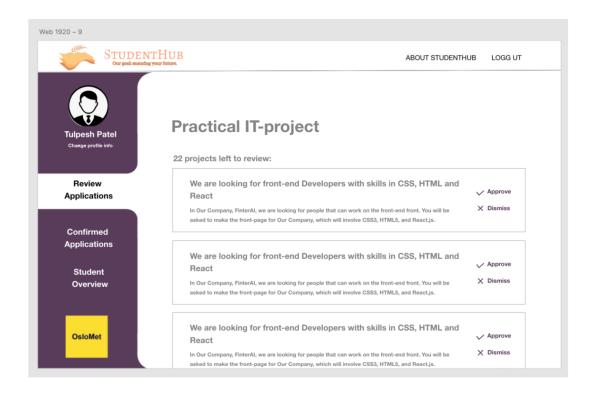


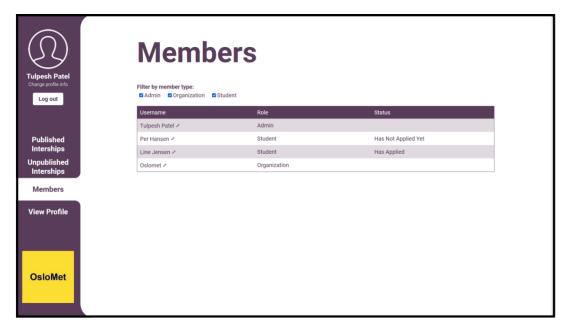


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NB! You will receive an email with a temporary password. That password will be available for 24 hours. By clicking on the link, a new page will appear where you can create a new password.		
Enter your username and a new password will be sent to your email address		
Username :		
SEND		
What is username?		
Students use their assigned student number when logging in.		
Companies use e-mail when logging in.		
Questions about the service? Contact contactservice@studenthub.no or phone 123 45 678		

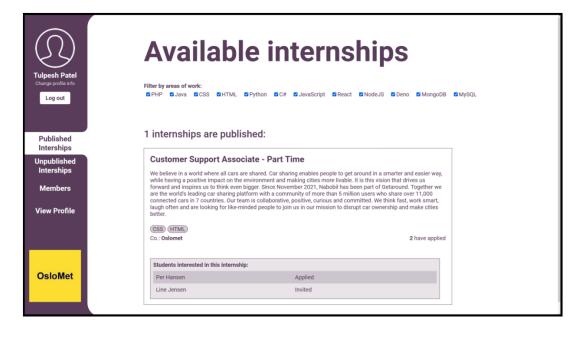






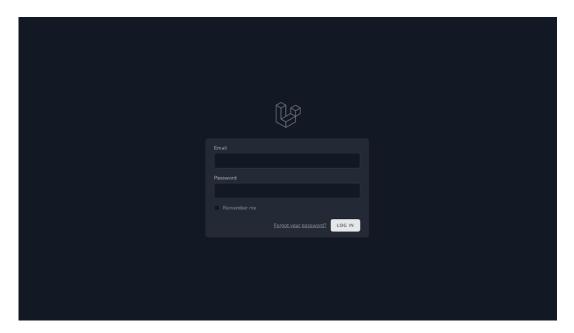


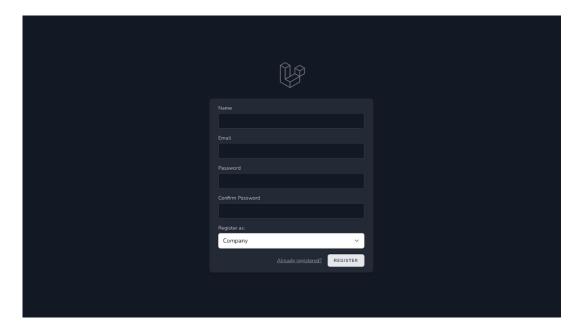


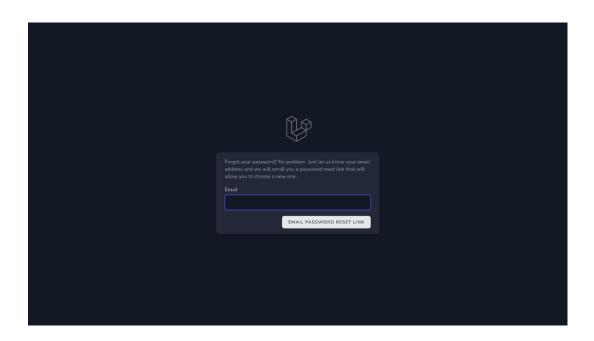


A.2 Final version of the prototype

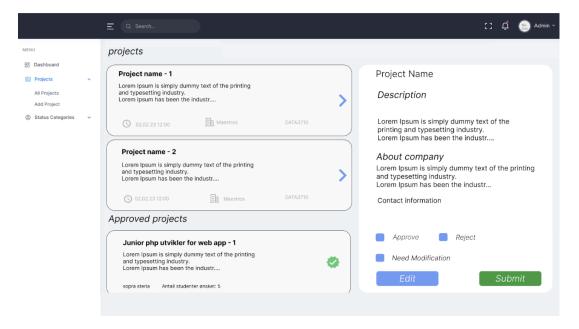
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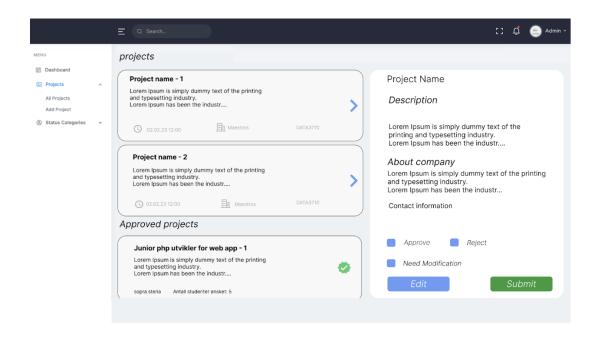


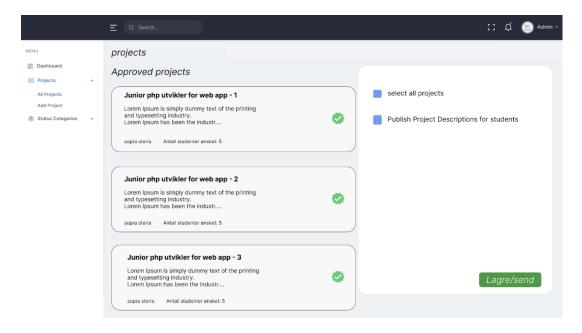


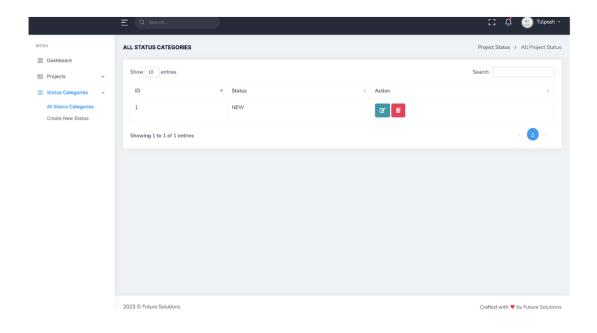


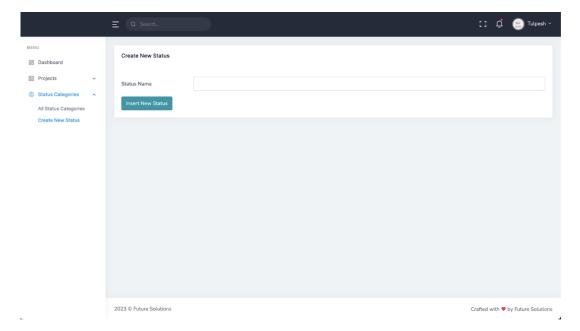
Prototype - Admin

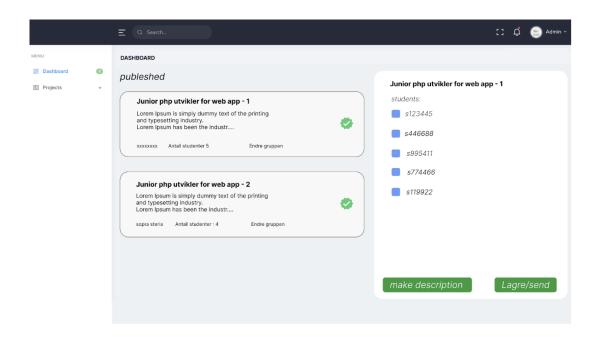


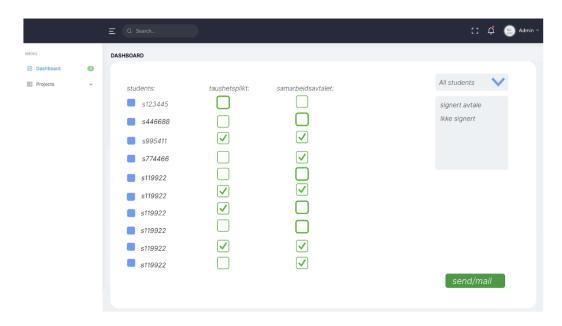




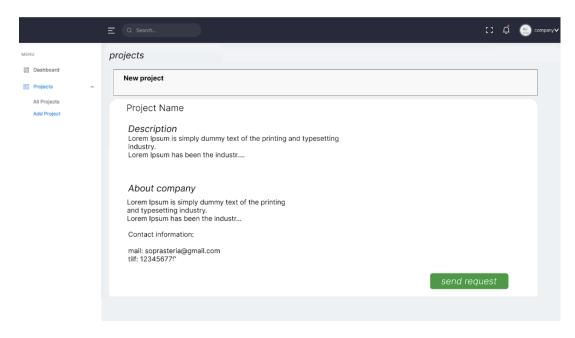


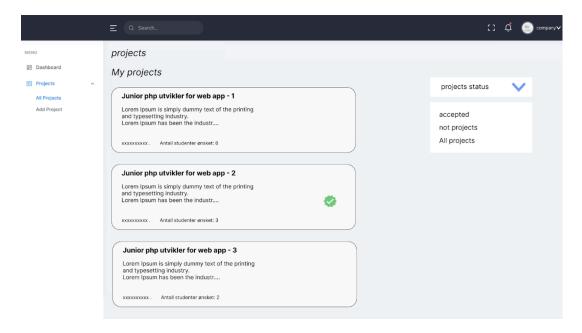


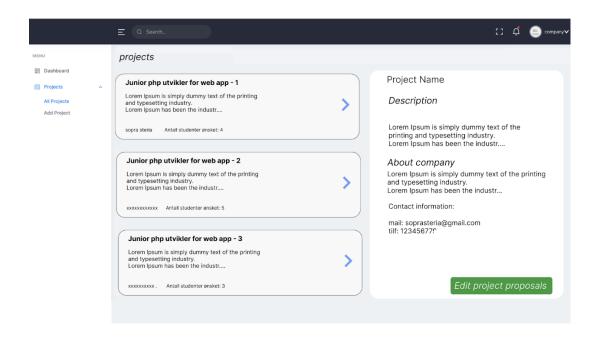


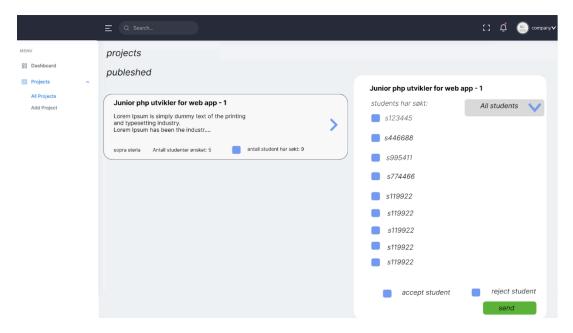


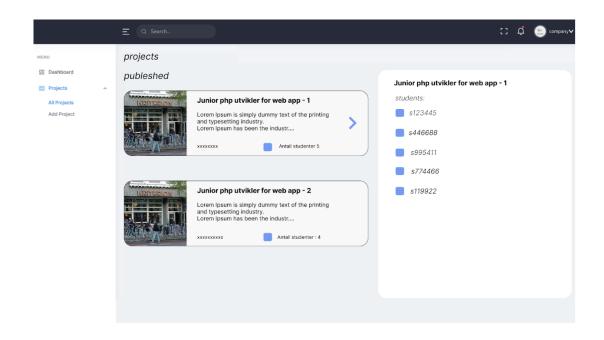
Prototype - Company

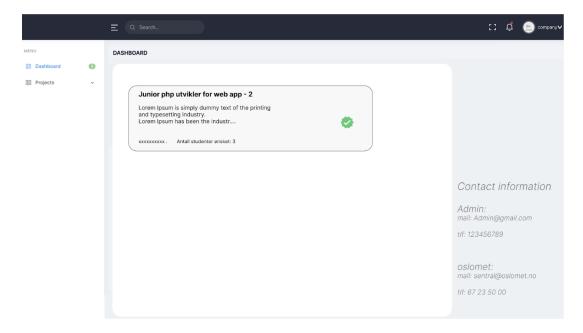




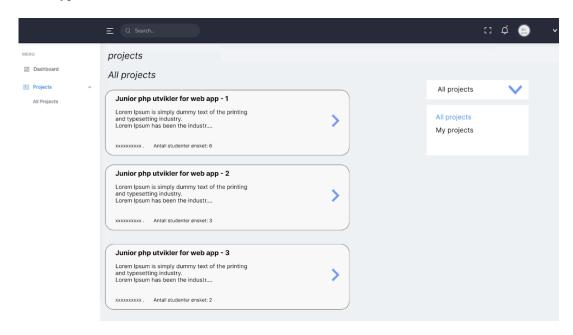


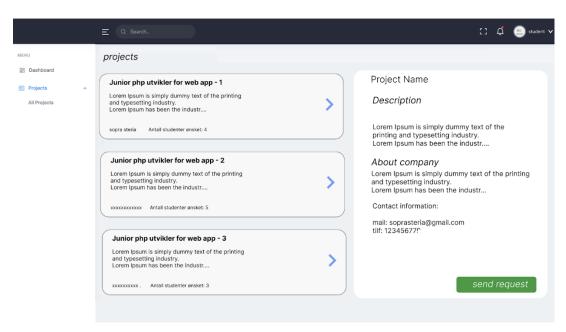


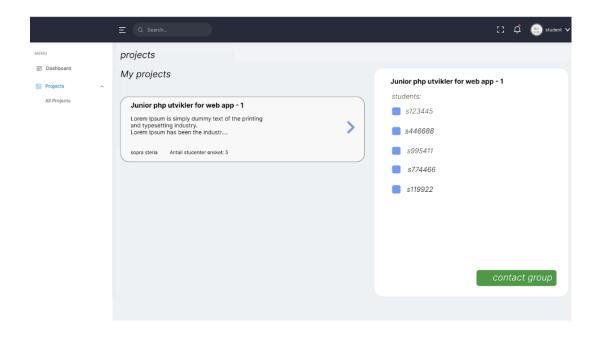


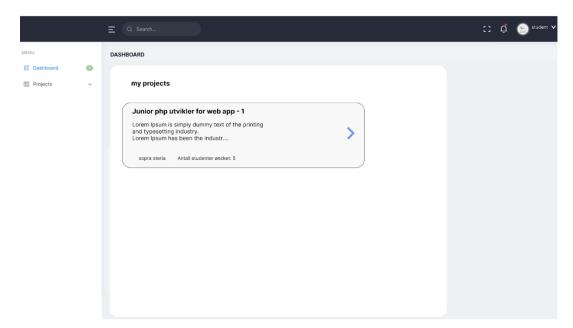


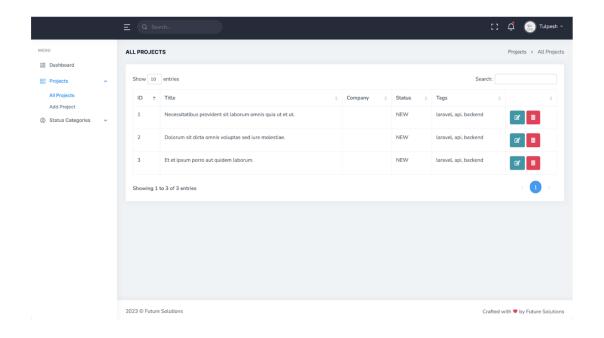
Prototype - Student

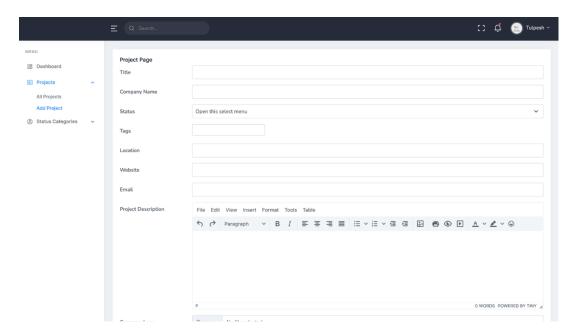












A.3 User Test - Template from IT project in practice

User Test - Template

Companies' overview

Execution:

1. Create an internship.

Understand use-case:

- 2. How do you know you created an internship?
- 3. Is the internship published to students yet?

Execution:

4. Look through students and invite one of them to an internship.

Course Coordinators' overview

Execution:

1. How can you publish internships to students? Publish one.

Understand use-case:

2. Verify that the internship got published.

Students' overview

Understand use-case:

1. Where do you find internships that you can apply to?

Execution:

- 2. Apply for an internship.
- 3. Either accept or decline an invitation for a job.
- 4. Change your profile information.

Understand use-case:

1. How do you find out if you've been accepted for an internship?

Execution:

2. Roleplay "Let's say, you changed your mind or made a mistake where you sent an application for a job you do not want. How do you unsend the application?"

A.4 User Test - Template

User Test - Template

Use Case 1: Project proposal is accepted and published

Companies' overview

Execution:

1. Create a project proposal.

Understand use-case:

- How do you know that you know that your project proposal was created successfully
- How do you check the status of your project proposal?
- How do you check if your project published for the students?

Admin's overview

Execution:

- 1. Find project proposals
- 2. Accept and publish a project

Understand use-case:

· How can you verify that the project is published

Post requisite (to be implemented):

• Company user gets email from the application that their project has been accepted.

Students' overview

Execution:

- 1. Find all projects available
- 2. Favorite a project

Understand use-case:

• Find the favorited project.

Use Case 2: Project proposal is not accepted by admin and changes to the project proposal is made

Prerequisite:

A project proposal is made.

Admin's overview

Execution:

- 1. Find project proposals
- 2. Request changes to a project

Understand use-case:

· How can you make sure that the project change has been requested

Companies' overview

Execution:

- 1. Find your project proposal that have got
- 2. Request changes to a project

Use Case 3: Admin creates a project and publishes it

Admin's overview

Execution:

- 1. Create a company (only for first time)
- 2. Create a project proposal
- 3. Publish your project

Understand use-case:

• Double check that the project is published

A.5 Interview guide

Introduction

- Introduction of the interviewing team
- Outline of basic information about the project and the aims of the user-test and interview
- Confirmation that the participant understands what they have consented to, that their
 information and data will be stored securely and that they can withdraw their participation
 at any time.

Interview guide

Warm-up questions

- Can you tell me a bit about your background and experience related to the platform that you
 just used?
- 2. Have you used similar products or services before? If so, could you briefly describe your experience with them?

Task related questions

- 1. What are you thinking as you view the navigation bar?
- 2. If you were looking for [information], where would you expect to find it?
- 3. How was the experience of
 - · hiding the navigation bar?
 - editing your phone number
 - listing all the projects offered by [company X]
 - filtering out two of the projects
 - finding the latest available projects
 - adding a project to your favorites
 - applying for a project you found interesting.

Probe questions

- Tell me more... How so?
- What is this? What is this for?
- What did you notice? What do you think of that?
- What would you expect that to do?

General impressions

- 1. How would you describe your overall experience with the platform?
- 2. What did you like the most about using the platform?
- 3. What did you like the least?
- 4. What, if anything, surprised you about the experience?
- 5. What, if anything, caused your frustration?

A.6 User Guidelines

To help ensure a positive user experience, please read, and follow these guidelines:

1. Create a Strong Password

When creating an account, using a strong password that combines a minimum of eight letters, at least one number, an uppercase character, and a unique character is essential. The use of such a password will help establish a secure account.

2. Keep your account information up to date

It is important to keep account information such as email address and password up to date to receive important notifications and maintain access to the account.

3. Protect your privacy

One should be mindful of their privacy and refrain from sharing sensitive data such as email addresses or passwords with anyone.

4. Report inappropriate behavior

Encountering inappropriate behavior while using the application should be reported immediately to one of the staff members. Doing this will create a safe and welcoming space for all users.

5. Use the application responsibly

One should use this application responsibly and comply with all relevant laws and regulations. This application has a specific purpose and using it for illegal or malicious activities is unacceptable.

6. Contact support

If any questions or concerns arise regarding the application, contacting the application support team for assistance is recommended. The support team aims to provide a positive experience for application users. Please follow the provided guidelines to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience using this application.

Thank you for choosing to use the Student Match-Making application.

Safety and Protection of Data

The data provided through the application will be stored safely at OsloMet's servers. The security and privacy of the provided information are taken thoughtfully, and reasonable safety measures have been implemented to safeguard this information from unauthorized access and disclosure. It is crucial to note that no Internet or electronic storage transmission method is 100\% secure. As such, the absolute security of your information cannot be guaranteed. Recognizing and accepting these inherent risks are necessary when utilizing our web application. It is agreed that any damages resulting from a security breach will not be held against us.

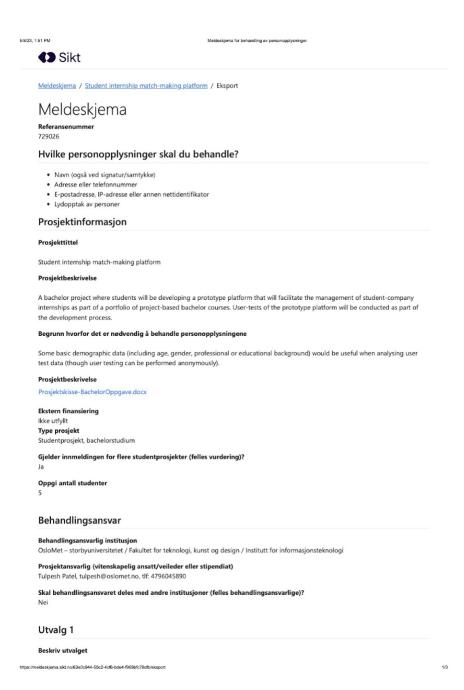
Termination clause

Either party may terminate these terms and conditions at any time, for any reason, by providing written notice to the other party. It will be possible if any user wants to delete their account permanently. All the data that OsloMet's database has collected from that person will be deleted.

Disclaimer for third-party applications/services

We are using third-party services to assist us in operating our web application. OsloMet's servers have access to the information you provided to us to store the data in their database. They are obliged not to disclose or use this data for any purpose other than storage. We do not warrant, guarantee, or assume responsibility for the reliability or legality of any third-party service. We disclaim all liability for any harm or damages from data storage at OsloMet's servers.

A.7 Notification form for the processing of personal data



Bachelor students at OsloMet

Beskriv hvordan rekruttering eller trekking av utvalget skjer

The group will recruit students from their own network (fellow co-students and acquaintances)

Alder

18 - 50

Personopplysninger for utvalg 1

Personlig intervju

Hvordan samler du inn data fra utvalg 1?

Vedlegg

Interview guide - Student internship match-making project.docx

Grunnlag for å behandle alminnelige kategorier av personopplysninger

Samtykke (Personvernforordningen art. 6 nr. 1 bokstav a)

Informasjon for utvalg 1

Informerer du utvalget om behandlingen av personopplysningene?

Ja

Hvordan?

Skriftlig informasjon (papir eller elektronisk)

Informasjonsskriv

INFORM~2.DOC

Tredjepersoner

Skal du behandle personopplysninger om tredjepersoner?

Nei

Dokumentasjon

Hvordan dokumenteres samtykkene?

Elektronisk (e-post, e-skjema, digital signatur)

Hvordan kan samtykket trekkes tilbake?

Participants can send an email or give verbal withdrawal at any time.

Hvordan kan de registrerte få innsyn, rettet eller slettet personopplysninger om seg selv?

Participants can send an email or verbally request access to delete or edit the information. Information in the platforms database that the students and provide can be editing without request.

Totalt antall registrerte i prosjektet

100-999

Tillatelser

Skal du innhente følgende godkjenninger eller tillatelser for prosjektet?

Ikke utfyllt

Behandling

https://meldeskjema.sikt.no/63e0c944-50c2-4cf6-bde4-f969bfc78cfb/eksport

Hvor behandles personopplysningene?

Maskinvare tilhørende behandlingsansvarlig institusjon

Hvem behandler/har tilgang til personopplysningene?

- Prosjektansvarlig
- Student (studentprosjekt)

Tilgjengeliggjøres personopplysningene utenfor EU/EØS til en tredjestat eller internasjonal organisasjon?

Nei

Sikkerhet

Oppbevares personopplysningene atskilt fra øvrige data (koblingsnøkkel)?

la

Hvilke tekniske og fysiske tiltak sikrer personopplysningene?

- Flerfaktorautentisering
- Adgangsbegrensning
- Adgangslogg
- Personopplysningene anonymiseres fortløpende

Varighet

Prosjektperiode

01.02.2023 - 01.08.2023

Hva skjer med dataene ved prosjektslutt?

Data med personopplysninger oppbevares midlertidig til: 01.08.2023

Hva er formålet med den videre oppbevaringen av dataene?

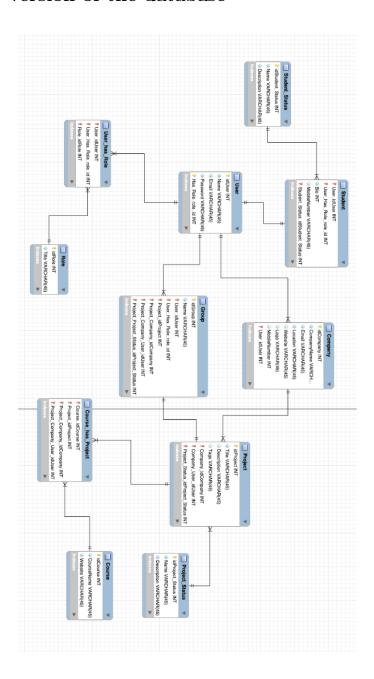
Langtidslagring og/eller arkivering for deling av data

Vil de registrerte kunne identifiseres (direkte eller indirekte) i oppgave/avhandling/øvrige publikasjoner fra prosjektet?

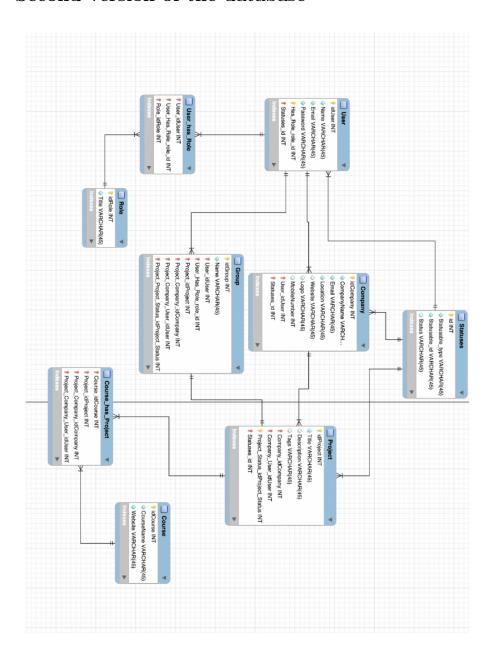
Nei

Tilleggsopplysninger

A.8 First version of the database



A.9 Second version of the database



A.10 Hosting throw OsloMet VM

```
[root@bachelor-v2023:/home/ubuntu# ls
docker-compose.yml docker.sh vendor
[root@bachelor-v2023:/home/ubuntu# cd vendor/
[root@bachelor-v2023:/home/ubuntu/vendor# ls -l
total 232
```

```
Step 1/19: FROM ubuntu:22.04
22.04: Pulling from library/ubuntu
2ab09b027e7f: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:67211c14fa74f070d27cc59d69a7fa9aeff8e28ea118ef3babc295a0428a6d21
Status: Downloaded newer image for ubuntu:22.04
  ---> 08d22c0ceb15
Step 2/19 : LABEL maintainer="Taylor Otwell"
    --> Running in 604ba7eda3fb
Removing intermediate container 604ba7eda3fb ---> 1a9d1721d8de
Step 3/19 : ARG WWWGROUP
---> Running in e88ceaa0eb8c
Removing intermediate container e88ceaa0eb8c
     -> c83b0bf85e59
Step 4/19 : ARG NODE_VERSION=18
---> Running in b87d677b6371
Removing intermediate container b87d677b6371
---> da0592a2662f
Step 5/19 : ARG POSTGRES_VERSION=14
     -> Running in b5b9118b702d
Removing intermediate container b5b9118b702d ---> 21c4a0a91edb
Step 6/19 : WORKDIR /var/www/html
---> Running in ee550c5a4869
Removing intermediate container ee550c5a4869
    --> 828c08a08368
Step 7/19 : ENV DEBIAN_FRONTEND noninteractive ---> Running in aa9924136df1
Removing intermediate container aa9924136df1
    --> 233b17174b9a
Step 8/19 : ENV TZ=UTC
---> Running in d2030058affd
Removing intermediate container d2030058affd
     -> 7db34adce1d8
Step 9/19 : RUN in -snf /usr/share/zoneinfo/$TZ /etc/localtime && echo $TZ > /etc/timezone ---> Running in 93fcd9bcd871
Removing intermediate container 93fcd9bcd871
    --> 249209c3ac68
```

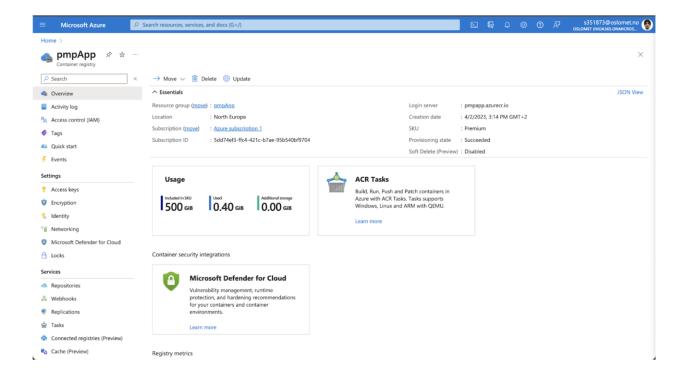
```
[root@bachelor-v2023:/home/ubuntu# docker-compose up
WARNING: The WWWGROUP variable is not set. Defaulting to a blank string.
WARNING: The WWWUSER variable is not set. Defaulting to a blank string.
Creating network "ubuntu_sail" with driver "bridge"
Creating volume "ubuntu_sail-mysql" with local driver
Creating volume "ubuntu_sail-redis" with local driver
Creating volume "ubuntu_sail-meilisearch" with local driver
Pulling mysql (mysql/mysql-server:8.0)...
8.0: Pulling from mysql/mysql-server
6a4a3ef82cdc: Pull complete
5518b09b1089: Pull complete
b6b576315b62: Pull complete
349b52643cc3: Pull complete
abe8d2406c31: Pull complete
c7668948e14a: Pull complete
c7e93886e496: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:d6c8301b7834c5b9c2b733b10b7e630f441af7bc917c74dba379f24eeeb6a313
Status: Downloaded newer image for mysql/mysql-server:8.0
Pulling redis (redis:alpine)...
alpine: Pulling from library/redis
f56be85fc22e: Pull complete
10889393d00d: Pull complete
4bfd915173f8: Pull complete
4902c1f811fb: Pull complete
d284f724869a: Pull complete
c1ac59df4c6d: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:da0cc759968a286f9fa8e3a0d8faca70e4dcf8ffc25fd290a041c59a9eb725c7
Status: Downloaded newer image for redis:alpine
Pulling mailhog (mailhog/mailhog:latest)...
latest: Pulling from mailhog/mailhog
df20fa9351a1: Pull complete
ed8968b2872e: Pull complete
a92cc7c5fd73: Pull complete
f17c8f1adafb: Pull complete
03954754c53a: Pull complete
60493946972a: Pull complete
368ee3bc1dbb: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:8d76a3d4ffa32a3661311944007a415332c4bb855657f4f6c57996405c009bea
Status: Downloaded newer image for mailhog/mailhog:latest
Pulling selenium (selenium/standalone-chrome:)...
latest: Pulling from selenium/standalone-chrome
47c764472391: Pull complete
13aa5d2dc1c2: Pull complete
d98249c08033: Pull complete
606d4140028b: Pull complete
e63617ec364c: Pull complete
b36fe5097318: Pull complete
9cfd4c0ef4fb: Pull complete
7d48d8e8d3ea: Pull complete
77bf5577ec48: Pull complete
848670200eba: Pull complete
f97d7fbbf663: Pull complete
5a3f0e5473db: Pull complete
8e3228f7f0c3: Pull complete
ef8e95b03d6f: Pull complete
d3bf98c23296: Pull complete
efd261030b68: Pull complete
07a028b52e68: Pull complete
```

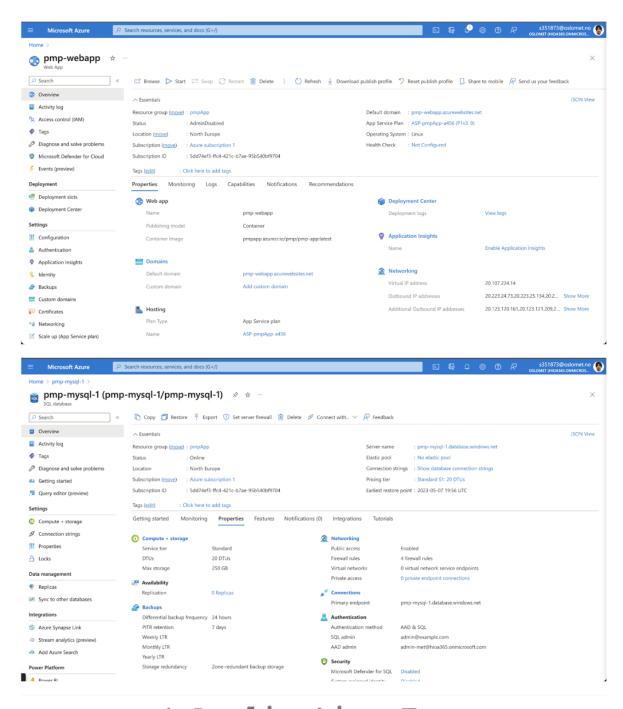
```
Creating ubuntu_redis_1 ... done
Creating ubuntu_mysql_1 ... done
Creating ubuntu_mailhog_1 ... done
Creating ubuntu_selenium_1 ... done
Creating ubuntu_pmp_1 ... done
```

```
mailhog.1 2023/04/26 10:11:44 Using in-memory storage mailhog.1 2023/04/26 10:11:44 Serving under http://o.e.0.2025/ mailhog.1 (HTTP) Binding to address: 0.e.0.e.02025/ mailhog.1 Croating API v1 with wobPath: mailhog.1 Croating API v2 with wobpath: mailhog.2 Croating API v2 with wobpath: mailhog.2 Croating API v2 with wobpat
```

A.11 Hosting throw Microsoft Azure

Resources Recent Favorite Last Viewed Name Type pmp-webapp App Service 2 weeks ago pmp-test App Service 2 weeks ago pmpApp Container registry 2 weeks ago pmpApp Resource group a month ago app Resource group a month ago pmp-mysql-1 SQL database a month ago SQL server pmp-mysql-1 a month ago ASP-pmpApp-a456 App Service plan a month ago





:(Application Error

If you are the application administrator, you can access the diagnostic resources.

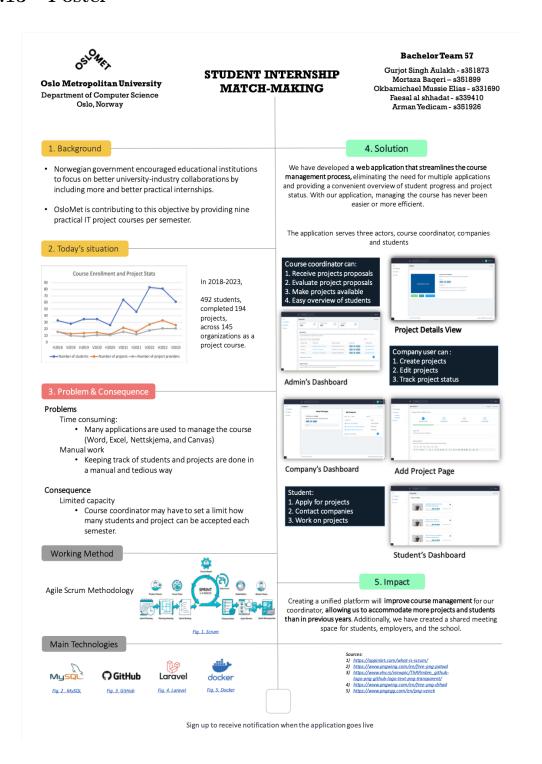
A.12 Modified docker-compose.yml file

```
ersion:
           - '.:/var/www/html'
           - mysql
       image: 'mysql/mysql-server:8.0'
           MYSQL_PASSWORD: '${DB_PASSWORD}'
MYSQL_ALLOW_EMPTY_PASSWORD: 1
           - 'sail-mysql:/var/lib/mysql'
```

```
test: ["CMD", "mysqladmin", "ping", "-p${DB_PASSWORD}"]
   test: ["CMD", "redis-cli", "ping"]
    - '${FORWARD_MAILHOG_PORT:-1025}:1025'
    - '${FORWARD_MAILHOG_DASHBOARD_PORT:-8025}:8025'
platform: linux/amd64
   - '/dev/shm:/dev/shm'
```

```
driver: local
sail-meilisearch:
driver: local
```

A.13 Poster



A.14 Certificate from the course coordinator



Attest

Gurjot Singh Aulakh, Mortaza Baqeri, Okbamichael Mussie Elias, Faesal Al Shhadat and Arman Yedicam completed their bachelor thesis *SIM – student internship match-making platform* in Spring 2023, with myself as both the collaborative partner and internal supervision.

The bachelor thesis project built on the work four of the students (Gurjot Singh Aulakh, Mortaza Baqeri, Okbamichael Mussie Elias, Faesal Al Shhadat, and Krystian Karol Mazurkiewicz who did not continue the project) completed as part of a project-based course (DATA3710) in Autumn 2022.

The aim of the project was to build a prototype platform from the ground up that could make it easier to manage and coordinate student-industry collaborative projects and the students have achieved this. The MVP the students have produced will be further developed and refined and become an integral part of how The Department of Computer Science at OsloMet will organise its industry project offerings for over 80 students a semester in the future.

Throughout their time working on the project, Aulakh, Baqeri, Elias, Al Shhadat and Yedicam have shown a great deal of initiative and willingness to suggest and implement their own ideas, to the betterment of the final solution. The students have produced an impressive amount of work on a complex and demanding project. They have shown both a willingness and ability to receive and act on input and feedback, test themselves with unfamiliar tools and methods, and work independently, both as a group and on an individual basis. Challenges that arose during the project, both technical, logistical, and collaborative, were handled with focus and maturity.

I would like to thank the group for their efforts and for a fruitful collaboration.

Tulpesh Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, OsloMet.