Group 29 -Microbiology Lab Information Management and Visualization System (GraphKey)

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Client: Karrie Daniels

Introduction

Problem Statement

- Many scientists and researchers dedicate large amounts of time towards organizing, maintaining, and visualizing the data they collect.
- The solution should be able to automate the process of organizing, maintaining, and visualizing data.



Project Goal

- > Free and easy to maintain app
- > Import data and create graphs with ease
- > Won't require knowledge of underlying mechanics to use



System Design

Requirements (Functional)

- Ability to import Excel data
- Support bar graphs, box plots, and scatter plots
- > Allow basic statistical analysis of data
- > Multiple graphs can be created simultaneously
- > Graphs will be saved to file system and be exportable as images
- Supports the creation of projects
 - > Collation of multiple graphs from similar data sets

Requirements (Non-Functional)

- > System will be easily maintainable
- Data should be secure
- Utilizes Python libraries for data visualization
- User Interface should be intuitive and easy-to-use

Related Products

GraphPad

- Expensive
- > Lack of options for a robust suite of graphs
- > Can only create one graph at time

GraphKey

- Free to use
- More robust suite of graphs (bar graphs, box plots, and scatter graphs)
- Ability to create multiple graphs at once



Resources/Cost Estimate

- No physical materials or equipment are required to complete the project
- No additional equipment will be required for our client to use the end product
- Project does require the use of Python and some Python libraries

Bottomline: Project ultimately did not require any financial resources

Risks and Mitigation

Risk: Unfamiliarity with Python and some of the needed packages.

Mitigation:

- Practice coding in Python and using the libraries before beginning on developing the solution
- Communicate with each other and the client to identify misunderstandings as soon as possible

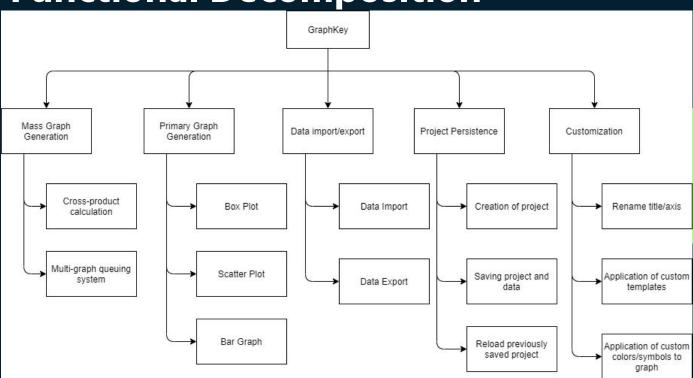
Risk: COVID-19 forces us to work remotely.

Mitigation:

- Hold virtual meetings frequently
- > Communicate with each other often

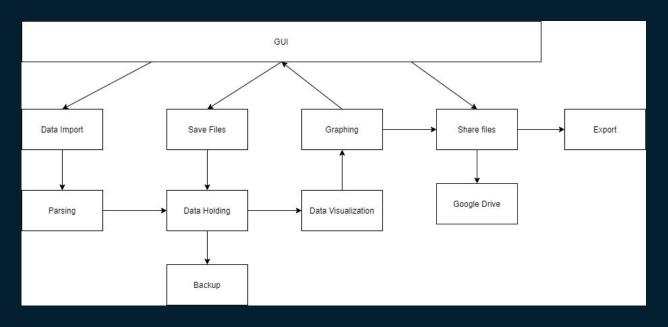


Functional Decomposition



Detailed Design

System Design (Old)

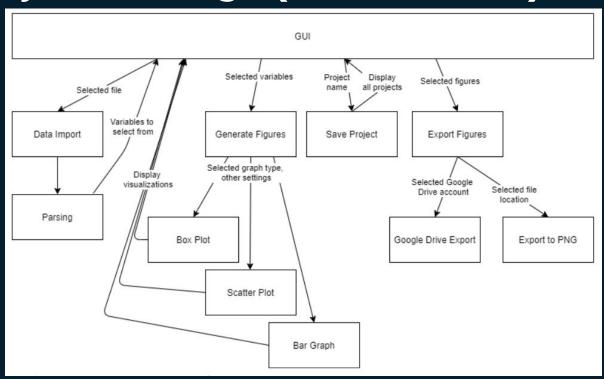


System Designs (Alternatives)

- Machine Learning Implementation
 - Extremely complex
- Web Application + Database
 - Storage and calculations on a server
- Raspberry Pi
 - > Small, local device that contains the code
 - > Pros:
 - Independent of client's machine
 - Data is localized into the RPi
 - > Cons:
 - Lower computing power
 - Costs for RPi



System Design (Current/Final)



Implementation Details

Modules/Environment

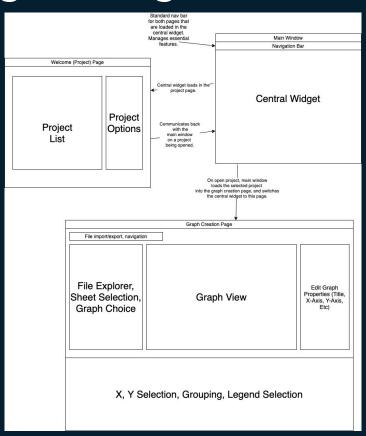
- > Python 3.8 development environment
- > Plotly Express for graph generation
- PyQt5 for user interface design
- Python Pickle files
- > Pandas for data importing and manipulation
- > PyDrive for interacting with Google Drive API
- Unittest for testing in Python



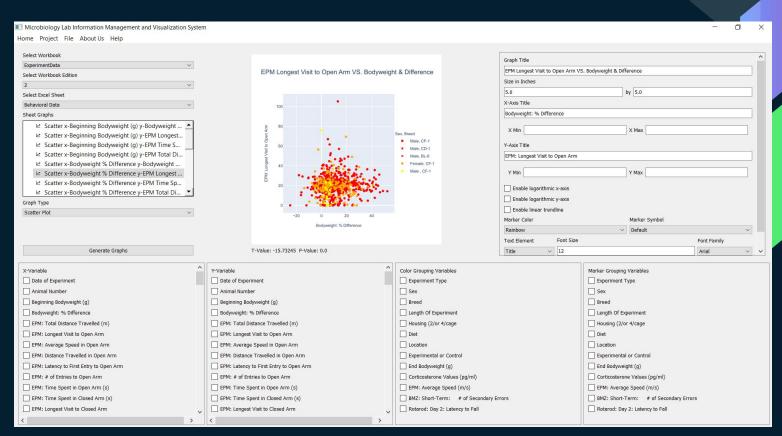
Reworking the Frontend

- We previously had several different prototypes of the UI with different features implemented on each one
 - Disjointed UI windows from prototypes are streamlined and managed by window manager; additionally, a standardized menu bar also toggles actions
 - > Needed to rework the UI so it isn't so cluttered
- We also wanted the user to have the ability to create projects
 - So the data and graphs generated for one experiment wouldn't get mixed up with another experiment
 - > So the user could save a project and then open it back up later

GUI Page Manager



Reworking the Frontend - Result

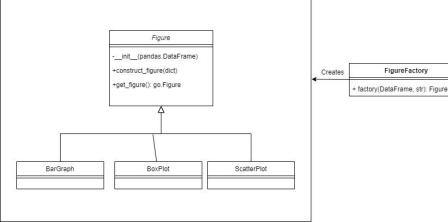


Data/Project Persistence

- Projects
 - Creating/Importing/Exporting Projects
 - Loading Projects from session to session
- Pickle files
 - Graph configurations and settings
 - Imported data
- By separating imported data from a graph's configurations, it allows us to import revisions to a project workbook as a data-set grows while using same graph configurations.
- > Also significantly reduces a project's size.

FigureFactory - Abstract Graphing

- Figure Abstract class each graph function will implement
- Individual graphs Implement a construct_figure() method
 - User passes a dictionary that holds parameters such as names, data, colors, shapes, etc.) into the method
- Factory method GUI calls the FigureFactory with their desired figure and gets a Figure object
 - No more recursive changes throughout the GUI, only in the Factory class



Testing and Results

Testing

- Unit Testing
 - Using Python's unittest
 - Ensure stability on back-end
- Integration Testing
 - Hand-testing verification of connections to front-end and back-end
 - Done by developers and the client
- CI/CD
 - Set up in GitLab
 - Pipelines could not be merged unless unit tests passed

```
import os
import unittest

from GraphKey.app.modules.data_import.edit_data import DataEdit

class TestDataEdit(unittest.TestCase):
    def test_raises_error_when_given_invalid_file(self):
        invalid_file = 'C:\\dummyfile.txt'
        with self.assertRaises(FileNotFoundError):
        DataEdit(invalid_file)

def test_raises_error_when_given_directory(self):
        working_directory = os.getcwd()
        with self.assertRaises(FileNotFoundError):
        DataEdit(working_directory)
```

Results/Demo



Conclusion

Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Original work was very segmented between team members, each was working on their own project
- Should have spent more time on determining specific requirements before development
- User interface diagram could have been more refined and detailed
- Needed to create more unittests throughout the second semester
- Finishing a project remotely with a compressed time schedule due to COVID-19

Things We Couldn't Get To

- More security
- Fixing executable generation
 - Currently we have "support", but executable can get to over ~500 mb and the paths for certain files breaks when generating
 - Decided to leave the hooks in, but not support it at launch do to time constraints
- Automatic data backups
- Dark Mode

Conclusion

- GraphKey meets all of the required goals we set out for ourselves
- > The product is an easy-to-use application
- Through testing we guarantee our design works and meets our client's needs
- Overall, we believe that we have completed an application that confirms the exceptionality of our design choice and solves our client's problem

Questions?