Test Monitoring Tool

Reflection

**Bachelor Applied Computer Science
Specialization Digital Innovation**

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1 REFLECTION

The goal of this project was not only to create a working application but also to experience professional working life. Interaction with colleagues, team collaboration, and various other factors played crucial roles in this endeavor.

1.1 Reflection on the application

In my opinion, the application I created has certainly achieved its scope. Initially, the freedom regarding the architecture and design was daunting. However, after a few weeks, I gained a better understanding, and the larger picture became clear.

I certainly learned a lot about various technologies. While I had previous experience with queues and Next.js, it was only in a cloud environment, not on-premises. The differences between an application designed to run fully on-premises versus one that runs in the cloud are substantial. Many factors I hadn't considered in cloud-based work became crucial, such as the performance of the deployment machine, the scalability of the application, and isolating the application from the core system.

The application was a Proof of Concept (PoC) but felt more like a real product. Of course, there is still room for improvement, as not everything is fully optimized. It was interesting to make decisions about priorities since there was no time to optimize everything. Sometimes, making the application work was more important than optimizing it. Especially when working towards the bi-weekly (internal demos), it was sometimes more important to get it to work than to have it perfectly optimized.

The optimizations that are necessary would most notably be:

- Scalability
  This hasn't been fully tested. This hasn't been fully tested. What if we use two GPUs, multiple AI services, etc.? This is certainly an area that can still be explored.

- The flow
  The flow, in my opinion, is not optimal. When I look back at the code, I sometimes feel like elements have been 'added' rather than integrated naturally. This can also be attributed to the dynamic scope, as good feedback sometimes required the application to be extended.

This is also a critical point for me. I think it will be beneficial in the future to better estimate the scope in advance. For this project, I worked very agile, which allowed for many adjustments, but also sometimes led to pitfalls. For example, I definitely lost a few days on components that ultimately weren't relevant to the application. Although the project ended well, it's important to keep this in mind for long-term projects.

1.2 Reflection on the coaching

From the first weeks, it quickly became clear that the team is very welcoming. Everyone is very friendly and helpful. What is also interesting is that within the department where I worked, there are various projects, and different people work on different projects. This means that insights from each person often vary, which is very useful for getting feedback. After a few weeks, I truly felt

like I was just a part of the team, which was ultimately the goal of the internship company. In my opinion, this was definitely achieved, as I went to 'work' almost every day feeling motivated.

I always knew where I could go if I had any questions. An important part of asking questions is daring to do so. Since the team was very embracing, this wasn't hard. I want to thank the entire team and especially Martijn Degrève for the great coaching.

During my internship, we also had the opportunity to do a kata. A kata is a coding exercise that helps improve skills through practice and repetition. This exercise provided me with a different perspective and valuable insights. My only wish is that in future years, these katas are done even more frequently, as I believe their value is significant.

1.3   Personal growth

During the development of the application, it was not only important to technically piece everything together but also to make the overall narrative coherent and useful for the end user. The focus was on making the application genuinely useful, and this perspective was quite interesting. Although this was also important in my 'Digital Innovation' elective track, where I have built several projects, the internship was the ultimate test for me.

I derive great satisfaction from knowing that I can build an application from start to finish, which has given me a lot of confidence.

The demo sessions and regular conversations with colleagues also provided me with opportunities to improve my soft skills. One challenge I encountered during my internship was explaining technical terms in plain language. This was not always easy and is an area where I can still improve.

Overall, I believe this internship has given me a good taste of the job market and has provided me with confidence in my abilities to start my career.