

# Canvas LTI Student Climate Dashboard

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# Presentation Agenda

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- Project overview
- Project Implementation
- Recorded Demo
- Post-Project Thoughts
- Questions

# *Project Overview*

# Problem Statement/Solution

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## Problem statement:

- Instructors currently create journey maps to chart student resonance with the goal of understanding and identifying shared experiences among students within a course.
- Gathering data and building a graph is an intensive, subjective, and time consuming process.

## Solution:

- Provide instructors with a software tool to automate the most time-consuming aspects of the journey-mapping process (data gathering & visualization).
- Users are provided with an interactive charting tool, and have the ability to aggregate student feedback and statistics from Canvas.

# Requirements / Standards

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## Functional Requirements:

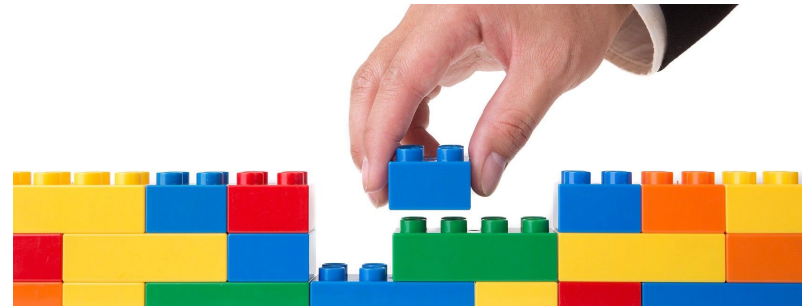
- The system should be able to create Journey Map from data.
- The system should automatically categorize students into groups.
- Professor should be able to view class Journey Map.
- Professors should be able to view journey maps with only a specific set of variables taken into account.

## Non-Functional Requirements:

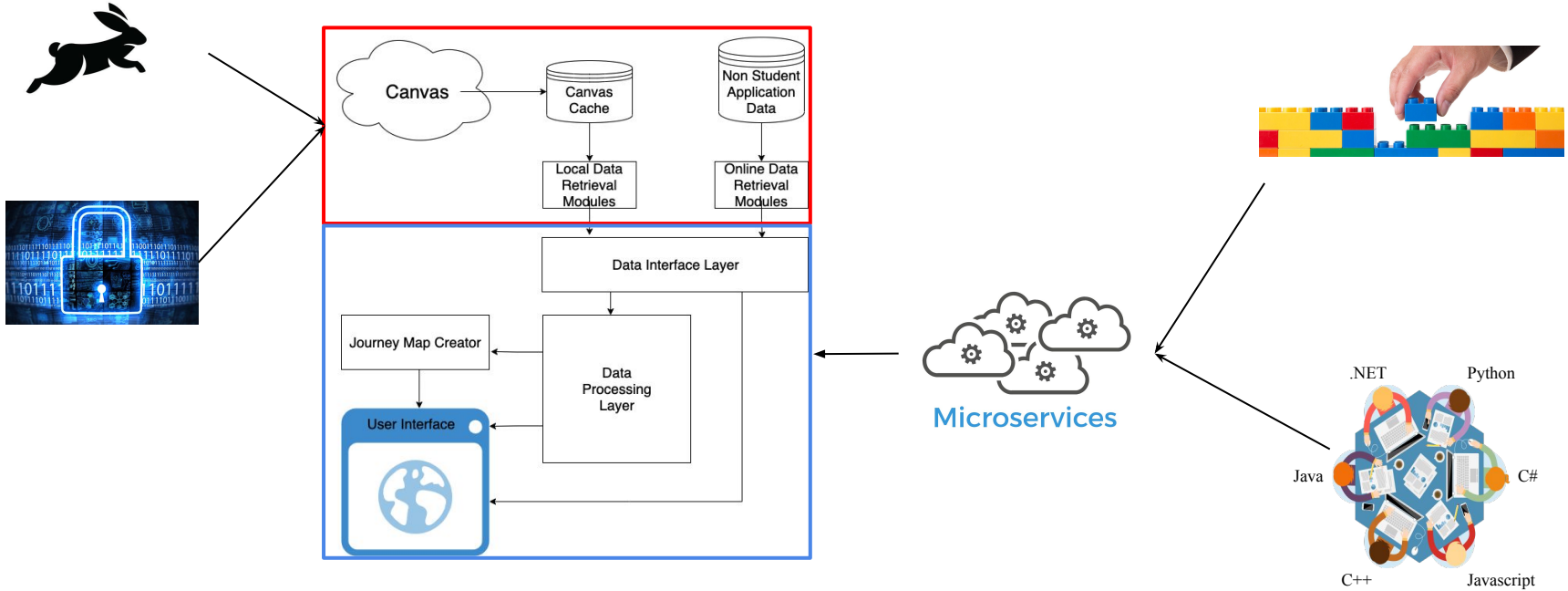
- Data integration should be modular for future extensions.
- Student data should not be accessible by other students.
- The system should be easily extensible.

## Engineering Standards

- Agile
- Acceptance / Integration testing
- Docker Containerization
- SOLID Principles
- Kubernetes

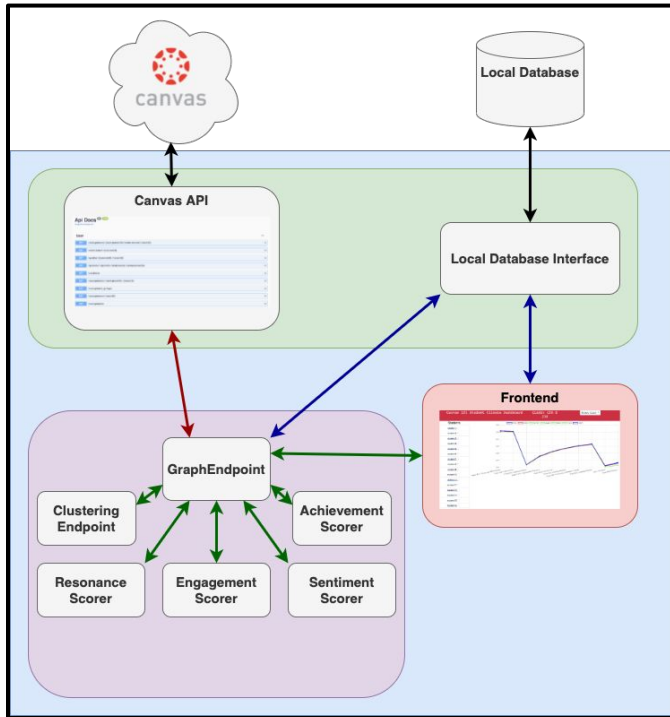


# Technical Constraints/Considerations



# *Project Implementation*

# Overall Application



## Application Components

- Canvas API Wrapper (Green - Left)
- Data Analysis Pipeline (Purple)
- Data Storage (Green - Right)
- Frontend UI (Red)

## Implementation

- Microservice-Based Architecture
- Containerized Modules
- Deployed in Kubernetes Cluster on ETG VM



# Canvas API / Wrapper

- Used to interact with the Canvas API
- Written in C# and uses .NET Core framework
- Gets custom aggregate objects for the Data Analysis pipeline
- Caching to greatly decrease times of requests for application
- Completely documented on swagger
- Does not store data into database for security purposes
- Dockerized into its own container that is hosted on ISU's resources
- Can be spun up without needing the other services to make API calls

GET /{courseId}/assignmentSubmissions

Parameters

Name	Description
courseId *required	

integer (32-bit signed integer) (required)

courseId

Responses

Code	Description	Links
200	Success	No links

Media type: text/plain

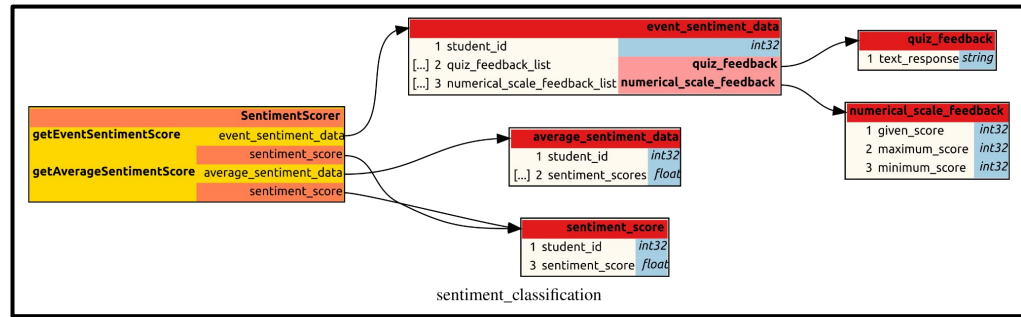
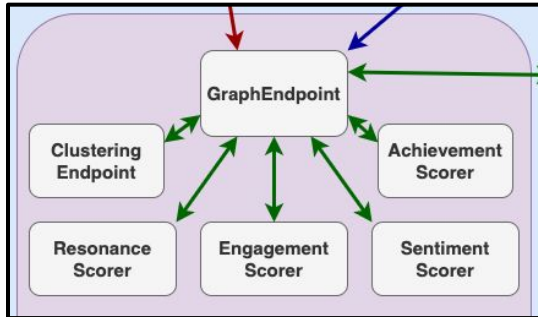
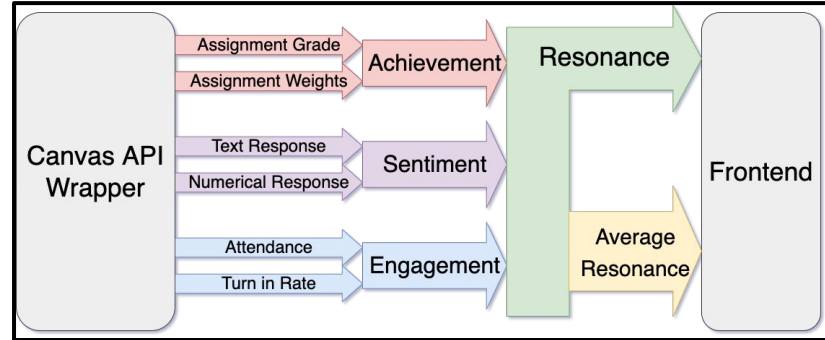
Example Value | Schema

```
{
  "additionalProp1": [
    {
      "name": "string",
      "assignment_id": 0,
      "user_id": 0,
      "correct": "string",
      "points": 0,
      "question_id": 0,
      "text": "string",
      "more_comments": "string",
      "answers": [
        {
          "id": 0,
          "text": "string",
          "comments": "string",
          "comment_id": "string",
          "weight": 0,
          "numerical_answer_type": "string",
          "start": 0,
          "end": 0
        }
      ]
    }
  ],
  "additionalProp2": [

```

# Data Analysis Pipeline (DAP)

- Converts student data to resonance data
- Six microservices written in Python
- Each microservice is a GRPC servicer
- Communication is done through Protobufs
- Main entrypoint is through GraphEndpoint



# Backend Database

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- MySQL database running on the VM
- Storage for non-sensitive information such as groups and filters
- Python Flask application as the REST API for GET/POST requests from the frontend
- Persistent deployment on a Docker container



# Frontend

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- Node JS - Express framework mixed with asynchronous requests
  - Utilizes connection to database and session storage
- Responsive layout, Bootstrap 5, single-page application style
- Okta authentication for session security
- Journey map implemented through Chart.js library
- Toggleable view of each student and group's resonance data
- Interface for modifying resonance weight by assignment type
- Clickable expansion of data points for more detailed student information

# *Project Demo*

# Video

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(see video in website)

# *Post Project Thoughts*

# Major Design Changes

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- User no longer needs to have docker installed on their local machine to run application.
- No longer need to predict student resonance using trend lines - data analysis was deemed enough.
- The system cannot update real time because of the cache-ing used to speed up subsequent updates. Instead a 'force refresh' button has been added to the UI which forces the cached data to update.



# Lessons Learned

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- How to interact with external APIs
- How to interact between microservices in a medium-sized project
- Containerization makes application deployment and dependency checking easy
- Usefulness of modeling during planning stages
- Spending time on a good design pays huge dividends
- Setting arbitrary internal milestones helps keep project on track
- Software project constantly change throughout their lifecycle

# Future Work

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- Hand-off to Client
- Add a larger testing infrastructure to the application for CI/CD
- Implement student resonance prediction tooling
- Expand the statistical analysis presented to the professor