There have been no major changes in my project since the last status meeting.

Since my last bi-weekly status meeting, I familiarized myself with the work of a postdoc in my group on detectors, a set of tools that can be used in a tutoring system to track student improvement on skills, system abuse by the student (i.e. repeatedly asking for hints until the answer is shown), and student idleness and unproductivity. I hope to be able to utilize the detectors to trigger the system generation of a pairing, using a combination of detector outputs and skill levels to determine which student needs help, and if so, which student would be best suited to help them from the information that is available to the system. Following the advice of the postdoc who created the detectors, I am focusing on the wheel spinning (indicator of unproductive persistence by a student) and help model (indicator of a student's help-seeking behavior) detectors for the pairing instances.

There have been no major surprises in my project since my last meeting.

I did meet my bi-weekly milestone, which was to begin prototyping methods for dynamically switching between individual and collaborative assignments. I focused on when and how the system should generate suggested pairings between students who were currently working individually.

Over the next few weeks, I plan on integrating the wheel spinning and help model detectors into the individual assignments we used during the pilot study of the peer tutoring software, and to see what types of outputs they produce. This will allow me to define output thresholds that trigger the need for a student to be paired, as well as detector outputs that deem the student a good fit for another student. For example, if the detectors show that a certain student is wheel spinning, or unproductively persisting, on a problem and is not making good use of the help provided by the system, the detector might pair this student with a student who is not wheel spinning and is effectively able to integrate help from the system. I also plan on determining what combination of skill progress and detector output I should use to create the most effective system suggested pairings. After this, I will present a suggested scheme for creating system suggested pairs to my group and get feedback.

I am not revising any of my upcoming milestone goals from my last meeting.

I have all of the resources needed to complete my project.