**Confluence**

Connecting language learners across the globe

**Problem**

Learning a foreign language is a difficult task which can be aided with the help of a someone who knows the language. However, many people live in areas where native speakers are scarce.

**Target Users**

Foreign language learners who:
- don’t know any native speakers
- have basic grammar proficiency
- want to improve their fluency or pronunciation

**Solution**

Confluence helps language learners crowdsource their pronunciation questions so they can help each other.

As a mobile application, Confluence enables users to practice their language, ask questions, and receive answers from anywhere.

The community upvotes more informative answers to create a richer, more reliable answer base.

**Final Prototype**

Users can post questions to a public feed or answer others’ questions — both with audio recordings.

Users can also log in and personalize their language preferences on profile pages.

Confluence’s backend is written in node.js, using MongoDB and express.js (with MongooseJS for the DB interface).

**Design Evolution**

We found two issues with private messaging:
- response latency
- unverifiable accuracy

User research revealed similar concerns, so we chose to focus on building a social platform which creates a community around crowdsourced knowledge.

We moved from separate recording screens to having audio recording directly integrated in order to simplify the process of adding audio and create a cohesion between the user’s text and audio inputs.

We also implemented a subtle progress bar to give the user feedback about available time left for recording.