# Final Project CSYE 6200

# NOSTALGIC FOOD AND RECIPES By Team SOFTWARE SIZZLERS

# **TEAM MEMBERS:**

Abhishek Chintapalli - 002837203,

Venkata Naga Sri Sai Sujhata Meghana Tadikonda - 002642314,

Abhinav Eeranti - 002883528

# **COURSE:**

Software Engineering Systems, Northeastern University.

# **EMAIL ID'S:**

<u>chintapalli.a@northeastern.edu</u> <u>tadikonda.v@northeasten.edu</u> eeranti.a@northeastern.edu

# I. ABSTRACT:

This project addresses the common cooking challenges faced by students through the development of a Java-based mobile application. The scope encompasses the creation of a comprehensive solution that allows students to easily access and prepare a wide range of recipes, including those contributed by their parents or favorite chefs. The proposed application offers a recipe repository with features such as user profiles, recipe uploads, and personalized collections. Users can browse, search, and select recipes based on their preferences, while parents and chefs can effortlessly contribute to the growing database.

The project methodology involves leveraging Java as the primary programming language and utilizing the Eclipse integrated development environment. GitHub serves as the version control system, ensuring efficient collaboration among team members. Task management is streamlined through Trello, facilitating organized development and tracking of project milestones. The design focuses on creating a user-friendly interface with modules for recipe management, user profiles, and step-by-step guides.

Key outcomes of the project include a functional mobile application that serves as a centralized hub for diverse recipes. Users can create profiles, personalize their recipe collections, and benefit from a step-by-step cooking guide with images or videos. The app facilitates recipe uploads from parents and chefs, ensuring a continuously expanding and diverse recipe database. Accurate measurements and ingredient list aid users in efficient ingredient shopping. The platform promotes user interaction, allowing individuals to ask questions about recipes and share their experiences with the community. User feedback and ratings contribute to the app's continuous improvement, enhancing the overall user experience.

In conclusion, this project addresses a pressing issue faced by students, providing a solution that not only improves their cooking skills but also promotes healthier eating habits, self-sufficiency, and better concentration on studies. The methodology, design, and outcomes collectively contribute to the development of a user-centric and feature-rich mobile application for an enhanced culinary experience among students.

# II. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION:

Introduction: Cooking is an essential life skill, yet many students find themselves grappling with its challenges, especially when transitioning to new environments where access to familiar recipes may be limited. The fundamental background of this project lies in recognizing the critical role nutrition plays in the overall well-being and academic performance of students. Malnutrition, weakness, and an inability to concentrate on studies are identified consequences of insufficient cooking skills and lack of access to diverse recipes. This project aims to bridge this gap by developing a Java-based mobile application tailored to the unique needs of students, offering a comprehensive solution to enhance their culinary experience and, consequently, their overall health and academic success.

**Scope:** The scope of this project is to create a user-centric mobile application that serves as a centralized platform for a diverse range of recipes. The application goes beyond conventional recipe repositories by incorporating features that allow users to access recipes from their parents or favorite chefs, fostering a sense of familiarity and personalization. The scope extends to facilitating recipe uploads, not only empowering students but also creating a collaborative environment where parents and chefs can effortlessly contribute to the platform, ensuring a continually expanding and diverse recipe database. Additionally, the application's scope includes personalized user profiles, step-by-step cooking guides, accurate measurements, and a feedback mechanism, creating an all-encompassing solution for users with varying cooking skills and preferences.

**Purpose:** This innovative project seeks to empower students, particularly new immigrants, by addressing the dual challenges of adapting to a new environment and honing essential cooking skills. At its core, the mobile application aims to alleviate the cooking obstacles faced by students, promoting healthier eating habits, self-sufficiency, and improved focus on academic pursuits. Rooted in the understanding that being away from home can evoke a longing for familiar tastes, the app is uniquely tailored to store and share cherished home-cooked recipes, providing a comforting connection to one's cultural roots.

Designed with the student experience in mind, the application not only serves as a comprehensive recipe repository but also fosters a sense of community. Users can interact, ask questions, and share their cooking experiences, creating a space for collective learning. Recognizing cooking as a vital life skill, the platform goes beyond preserving recipes; it actively encourages users to enhance their culinary expertise. This dual functionality not only addresses the practical challenges of cooking in a new

environment but also contributes to the overall well-being and nutrition of students. By leveraging the wisdom of revered chefs, particularly mothers, the app ensures a continuous exchange of cultural and culinary knowledge, fostering a holistic development that goes beyond the kitchen.

# III. ANALYSIS:

**Summary of the Project:** The project addresses the cooking challenges faced by students through the development of a Java-based mobile application, aiming to provide a comprehensive solution that includes a diverse recipe repository, user profiles, recipe uploads, and personalized features. The analysis focuses on understanding the fundamental issues students encounter in cooking and proposes a user-centric platform to enhance their culinary skills.

**Previous Works:** While various recipe apps exist, the majority lack a personalized touch and the ability to incorporate recipes from parents or specific chefs. Existing solutions often do not cater specifically to the needs of students, and the lack of a collaborative recipe upload feature limits the diversity of available recipes.

**Findings:** The analysis identifies the primary challenges faced by students in cooking, emphasizing malnutrition, weakness, and a lack of concentration on studies. The findings suggest a need for a solution that not only provides recipes but also addresses the personalization aspect by including contributions from parents and chefs.

**Shortcomings:** Common shortcomings observed in existing solutions include a lack of personalization, limited diversity in recipes, and a disconnect between users and their preferred sources of recipes. Additionally, many apps do not offer a collaborative platform for recipe uploads, limiting the variety of recipes available to users.

**Existing Solutions or Technologies:** Current recipe apps often focus on providing a vast collection of recipes without considering the personalization factor. Few platforms incorporate collaborative features for users to contribute recipes. Some existing technologies include machine learning algorithms for personalized recipe recommendations and interactive cooking guides.

# IV. SYSTEM DESIGN:

**Addressing the Identified Problem:** The primary problem identified is the lack of cooking skills among students, leading to issues such as malnutrition and an inability to concentrate on studies. The proposed system design aims to address this problem by providing a user-friendly mobile application that serves as a centralized hub for diverse recipes, including contributions from parents and chefs. The system emphasizes personalized user profiles, collaborative recipe uploads, and step-by-step cooking guides to enhance the cooking experience for students.

**System Architecture:** The system architecture comprises three main components: the mobile application interface, the backend server, and the database.

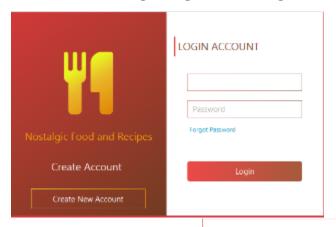
- **Mobile Application Interface:** This is the front-end component accessible to users. It includes features such as recipe browsing, user profiles, and interactive cooking guides.
- Backend Server: Responsible for processing user requests, managing user profiles, handling recipe uploads, and facilitating communication with the database.
- **Database:** Stores user data, recipes, and related information. It provides the necessary data to the backend server for seamless user interactions.

The communication between these components follows a client-server model, ensuring a responsive and scalable system.

**UI Design:** The user interface (UI) is designed to be intuitive and user-friendly, catering to users with varying cooking skills. The main screens include:

- 1. **Login Screen:** The project begins with a user-friendly login popup, enabling users to either log in with existing credentials or seamlessly create a new account by providing essential information. The interactive design, featuring hover effects and transition animations, enhances the user experience, ensuring a visually engaging process with the option to backtrack if needed.
- 2. **Home Screen:** Displays featured recipes, personalized recommendations, and quick links to user profiles and recent activities.
- 3. **Recipe Browser:** Allows users to search and browse recipes based on categories, ingredients, or personal preferences.
- 4. **User Profile:** Enables users to create and manage their profiles, including preferences, favorite recipes, and personal contributions.

- 5. **Recipe Details:** Provides detailed information about a selected recipe, including ingredients, step-by-step guides, and user ratings.
- 6. **Upload Recipe:** Allows parents and chefs to contribute recipes, including text instructions, images, and additional details.
- 7. **Interactive Cooking Guide:** Displays step-by-step instructions with images or videos, guiding users through the cooking process.



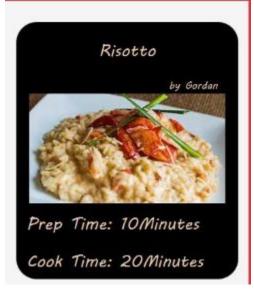




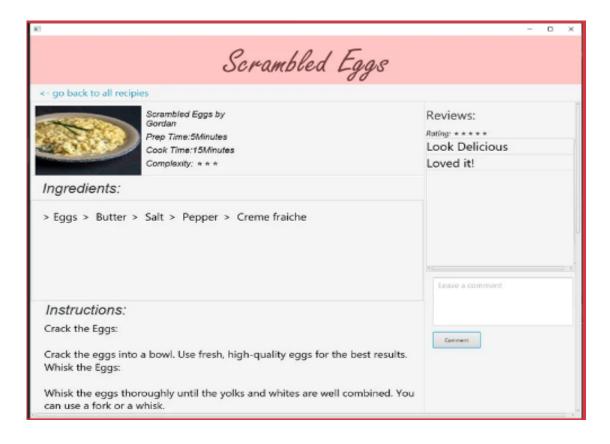


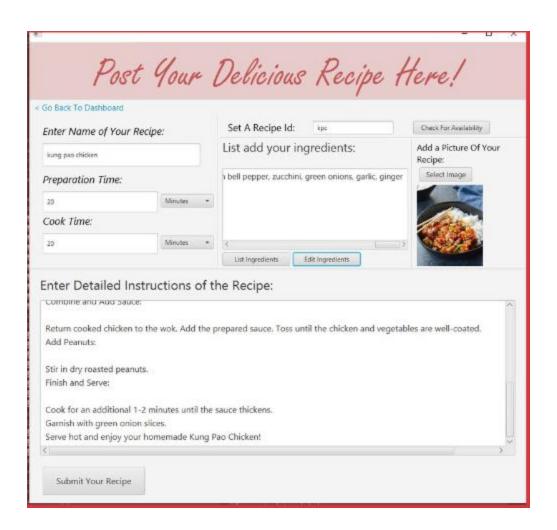


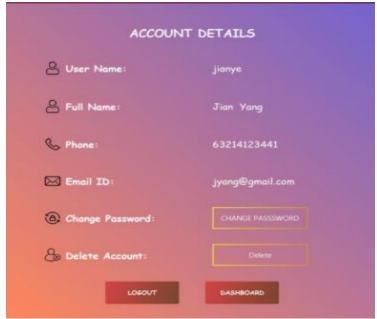












# V. IMPLEMENTATION:

# **Structure:**

# 1. Application Package:

Main: The main class responsible for initializing the code and launching the application.

LoginDesign.css: A CSS file for styling aspects across the project.

2. Controller Package:

AccountController: Manages the account-related functionalities.

CommonMethods: Contains reusable methods shared across controllers. FoodCardController: Controls the behavior of food card components. HomePageController: Handles events and actions on the home page.

ListRecipesController: Manages the listing and display of recipes.

LoginController: Controls the login functionality.

PostRecipeController: Manages the posting of new recipes.

RecipeDisplayController: Handles the display of individual recipes.

3. DataHandlers Package:

DbConnection: Establishes and manages the database connection.

RecipeHandler: Manages interactions with the recipe-related data in the database.

UserHandler: Handles user-related data operations.

4. FXML Package:

Account.fxml: The FXML file for the account page.

AccountPage.fxml: FXML file for the account details page.

Dashboard.fxml: FXML file for the dashboard.

FoodCard.fxml: FXML file defining the structure of the food card.

HomePage.fxml: FXML file for the main home page.

ListRecipes.fxml: FXML file for listing recipes. LoginPage.fxml: FXML file for the login page.

PostRecipe.fxml: FXML file for posting new recipes.

RecipeDisplay.fxml: FXML file for displaying individual recipes.

RecipeList.fxml: FXML file for listing multiple recipes.

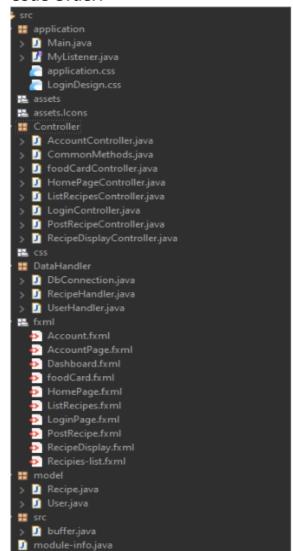
5. Model Package:

Recipe.java: Represents the structure of a recipe. User.java: Represents the structure of a user.

# **Project Execution:**

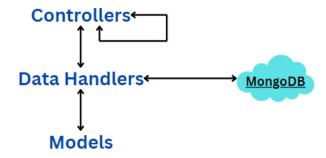
Upon successful implementation and execution, the project seamlessly integrates the specified packages and functionalities, providing a well-organized, modular, and maintainable architecture.

# **Code Order:**



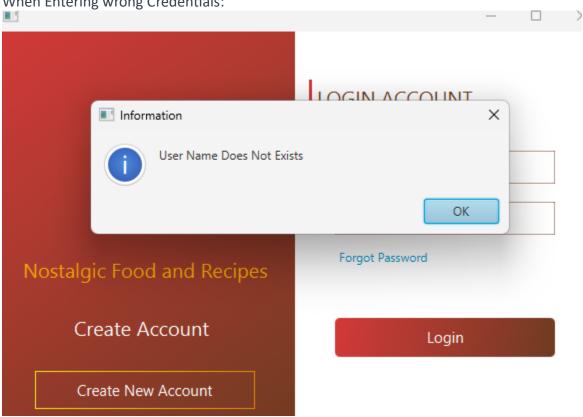
# VI. EVALUATION:

The Working flow of the project is:

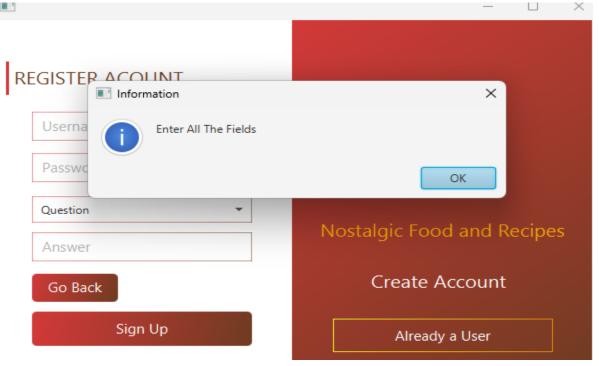


# Testing:

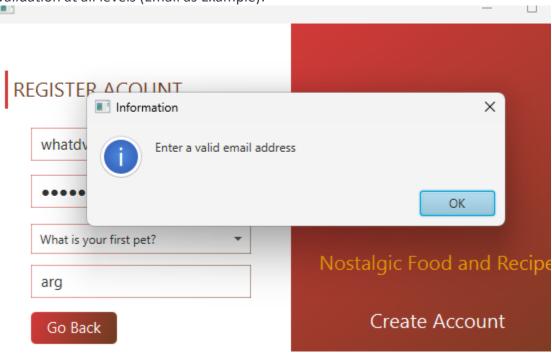




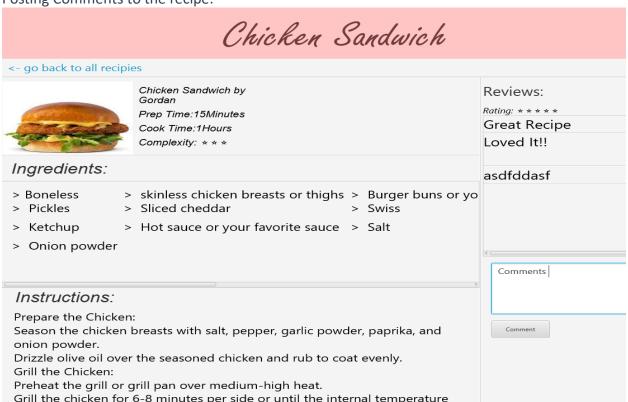
# When all the fields are not entered:



Validation at all levels (Email as Example):



# Posting Comments to the recipe:

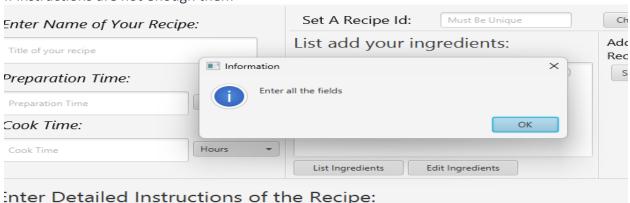


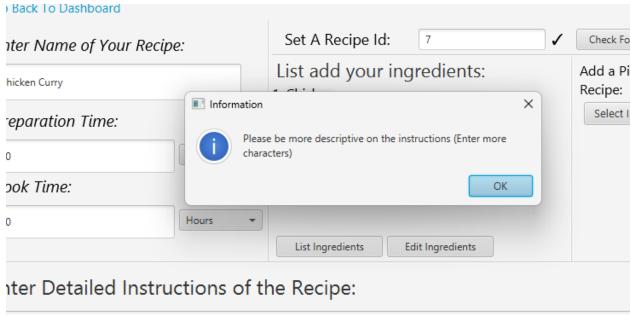
Posting recipe:

# Post Your Delicious Recipe Here! < Go Back To Dashboard Set A Recipe Id: Must Be Unique Check For Availability Enter Name of Your Recipe: Add a Picture Of Your List add your ingredients: Title of your recipe Recipe: Type your ingredients seperated by commas(,) Select Image Preparation Time: Preparation Time Hours Cook Time: Cook Time Hours List Ingredients Edit Ingredients Enter Detailed Instructions of the Recipe:

If instructions are not enough then:

Submit Your Recipe





ou should cook first

# **Primary Codes:**

# Main.java

```
package application;
import javafx.application.Application;
import javafx.fxml.FXMLLoader;
import javafx.stage.Stage;
import javafx.scene.Parent;
import javafx.scene.Scene;
    @Override
               Parent root =
FXMLLoader.load(getClass().getResource("/fxml/LoginPage.fxml"));
               Scene scene = new Scene(root, 610, 400);
    scene.getStylesheets().add(getClass().getResource("applicat
ion.css").toExternalForm());
               primaryStage.setScene(scene);
               primaryStage.show();
          } catch(Exception e) {
               e.printStackTrace();
```

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
        launch(args);
}
```

# LoginDesign.css

```
-fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#d33939, #6f3b21);
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to top right,
#ff7f50, #6a5acd);
     -fx-border-color: black;
     -fx-border-width: 10;
    -fx-background-color: #fff;
    -fx-border-color: #d33939;
     -fx-border-width: 0 0 0 3px;
     -fx-padding: 0.0 0.0 0.0 5px;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#d33939, #6f3b21);
     -fx-background-radius: 5px;
     -fx-text-fill: #fff;
     -fx-font-size: 15px;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#ee4848, #a45a3b);
               cound-color: transparent;
```

```
fx-border-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right, #d33939,
#6f3b21);
     -fx-border-width: .5px;
     -fx-background-color: transparent;
     -fx-cursor: hand;
     -fx-text-fill: #fff;
     -fx-border-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right, #e8f522,
#e1880b);
     -fx-border-width: 1px;
     -fx-font-size: 15px;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#e8f522, #e1880b);
     -fx-text-fill: #dd2c08;
          packground-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#e1880b, #e8f522);
     -fx-background-color: #000000;
     -fx-background-radius: 100;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#d33939, #6f3b21);
     -fx-background-radius: 0 30 30 0;
     -fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#ff6262, #ab6544);
     -fx-cursor: hand;
      -fx-prompt-text-fill: #000000;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#e1880b, #e8f522);
```

```
-fx-background-radius: 30 0 0 30;
     -fx-background-color: #000000;
     -fx-background-radius: 30;
     -fx-cursor: hand;
     -fx-background-color: rgba(0,0,0,0.92);
       ix-effect:dropshadow(three-pass-box, #e1880b, 10, 0, 10,
10);
     -fx-effect:dropshadow(three-pass-box, #d33939, 10, 0, 10,
10);
     -fx-background-radius: 100;
      fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#e1880b, #e8f522);
     -fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#f3951c, #e8e618);
     -fx-background-color: #000000;
     -fx-background-color: rgba(0,0,0,0);
           ckground-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#d33939, #6f3b21);
```

```
}
.dash-boardButtons:hover{
    -fx-background-color: linear-gradient(to bottom right,
#ee4848, #a45a3b);
    -fx-cursor: hand;
}
```

# Logincontroller.java

# **DataHandlers:**

### **DbConnection:**

```
package DataHandler;
import org.bson.Document;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoClient;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoCollection;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoCursor;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoDatabase;
@SuppressWarnings("unused")
public class DbConnection {
// URI of the mangodb cluster of our database
```

# **UserHandler:**

```
package DataHandler;
import static com.mongodb.client.model.Filters.eq;
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;
import org.bson.Document;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoClient;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoClients;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoCollection;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoCursor;
import com.mongodb.client.MongoDatabase;
import model.Recipe;
import model.Recipe;
import model.User;
```

# VII. DISCUSSION:

**Problems Faced:** Traditional relational databases may not always be the best fit for modern, flexible data structures, leading to complications in data modeling and retrieval.

As your application scales, coordinating and managing concurrent code execution becomes challenging, especially when dealing with complex operations.

Redundant code can lead to maintenance issues, code duplication, and increased chances of errors.

JavaFX UI might lack modern and visually appealing icons, making it challenging to create an aesthetically pleasing user interface.

**Overcame Methods:** To bridge the gap between our JavaFX application and MongoDB, we employed the MongoDB Java driver. This driver served as the key facilitator in seamlessly integrating MongoDB into our JavaFX architecture. It allowed us to interact with the database using Java, making the data access layer of our application more intuitive and efficient.

# VIII. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK:

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, the envisioned Java-based mobile application presents a comprehensive solution to the culinary challenges encountered by students, particularly new immigrants. This innovative tool not only offers a user-friendly interface and an extensive recipe repository but also proposes a significant enhancement to the user experience through the incorporation of video tutorials. By featuring visual guidance, especially from cherished chefs like mothers, the app strives to make the cooking process more intuitive and enjoyable. This addition aligns with the project's core objective of fostering a sense of home in a foreign setting while promoting healthier eating habits and self-sufficiency.

Moreover, the application's emphasis on user personalization, diverse recipes, and interactive features sets it apart as a holistic tool for novice cooks. With step-by-step guidance and a community-driven platform, the app goes beyond being a mere recipe repository, empowering students to develop essential cooking skills and build connections with their cultural roots. In essence, the proposed Java-based mobile application not only addresses the practical aspects of cooking challenges but also enriches the overall well-being and nutritional development of students, contributing to their holistic growth.

# Advantages and Benefits of the Solution:

- 1. **Nutritional Improvement:** The application addresses the risk of malnutrition by facilitating access to a wide range of recipes, promoting healthier eating habits among students.
- 2. **Enhanced Learning Experience:** The step-by-step cooking guides, coupled with interactive features, create an engaging and educational experience for users, fostering culinary skills and self-sufficiency.

- 3. **Community Building:** The platform encourages a sense of community by allowing users to share experiences, ask questions, and provide feedback, fostering a collaborative learning environment.
- 4. **Convenience for Recipe Contributors:** Parents and chefs benefit from a streamlined recipe upload process, contributing to the diversity and richness of the application's recipe database.

# **Problems Found During Development but Not Explored:**

- 1. **User Accessibility:** While the proposal outlines feature for personalization, additional attention to accessibility features would ensure inclusivity for users with varying levels of cooking expertise and diverse needs.
- 2. **Security Measures:** As the application involves user profiles and community interactions, further exploration into data security and privacy measures is essential to protect user information.

# If the Team Has More Time, What to Improve:

- 1. **Enhanced User Experience:** Invest additional time in refining the user interface and overall user experience to make the app more intuitive and visually appealing.
- 2. **Integration of Artificial Intelligence:** Explore the integration of AI algorithms to enhance recipe suggestions based on user preferences and provide more personalized recommendations.
- Offline Functionality: Implement offline functionality to allow users to access recipes and cooking guides even without an internet connection.
- 4. **Gamification Elements:** Introduce gamification elements to make the learning process more engaging, such as achievement badges, challenges, or rewards for completing cooking tasks.
- 5. **Cross-Platform Compatibility:** Extend the application's compatibility to multiple platforms (iOS, Android) to cater to a broader user base.

In summary, the proposed application not only addresses immediate cooking challenges but also lays the foundation for continuous improvement, ensuring a dynamic and evolving solution that meets the evolving needs of its users.

### IX. JOB ASSIGNMENT:

# Abhishek (002837203):

I played a pivotal role in the project, focusing on the design and functionality of login-related components. My contributions encompassed working on crucial elements such as LoginDesign, Login Page, Controllers, Dashboard, and Explore Food Section Recipes. I took an active role in creating and managing the following FXML files:

Account

AccountPage

Dashboard

FoodCard

HomePage

ListRecipes

LoginPage

RecipeDisplay

In terms of controllers, I specifically handled HomePageController, ListRecipesController, LoginController, HomePageController, PostRecipeController, and RecipeDisplayController.

# Abhinav (002883528):

I served as a linchpin in the backend development of the application, delving into Controllers, DataBase, and DataHandlers. My contributions spanned various critical aspects of the project, and I actively participated in the creation and management of the following FXML files:

Account

**AccountPage** 

Dashboard

FoodCard

HomePage

ListRecipes

LoginPage

PostRecipe

RecipeDisplay

Recipe-List

In the realm of controllers, I took charge of AccountController, CommonMethods, FoodCardController, HomePageController, ListRecipesController, LoginController, PostRecipeController, and RecipeDisplayController. Additionally, I managed DataHandlers, overseeing DbConnection, RecipeHandler, and UserHandler.

# Meghana (002642314):

I played a pivotal role in crafting and implementing the Account Page, channeling my efforts into design and controllers. My specific involvement extended to the creation and management of the following FXML files:

Account

Dashboard

FoodCard

AccountPage

RecipeDisplay

Recipe-List

In terms of controllers, I handled AccountController, HomePageController, CommonMethods, HomePageController, and ListRecipesController.

Collectively, our distinct and valuable contributions ensured a well-rounded and cohesive application, bringing together expertise from different facets of the project.

### X. REFERENCES:

Every material provided in the canvas under csye6200 and additionally: Transition Slides:

https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/2/api/javafx/animation/Transition.html

List of animation packages:

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/javafx/api/toc.html

Font awesome icon references:

https://www.w3schools.com/icons/icons\_reference.asp

JavaFX CSS References:

https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/2/api/javafx/scene/doc-files/cssref.html

JavaFX Controllers:

https://docs.oracle.com/javafx/2/fxml\_get\_started/custom\_control.htm