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[Travel advisor]

[Lucija Domljan 325591

Zsolt Nóvé 326345

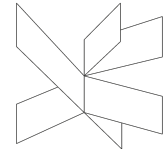**Joan Tammo 325753**

Ameya Mahankal 326157]

[Troels Mortensen]

[Jørn Martin Hajek]

[Software Technology Engineering]
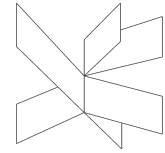
[Semester III.]

[25/02/2023]

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Table of content

1 Introduction

We had to establish a group for a semester project at the start of the semester, as is now customary. Since Joan, Ameya, and Zsolt had already worked together during the first and second semester, and Lucija had joined for this semester's project, the group's foundation was initially friendship.

We talked about how motivated each person was, and we all agreed that we were all quite motivated to outperform last semester's performance. This team came up with a solution for tourists in that situation.

The team used a project management strategy that combined elements of SCRUM's agile approach and the Unified Process.

We preplanned, tallied the criteria, performed a rudimentary analysis of the Travel Advisor, and then specified the domain model and tests during the Inception phase, just as it is done in practice. Analysis, designing, implementation, and some testing are all completed during the Elaboration and Construction phases through sprints, all within our estimated time frames/schedule.

The team worked together to provide the greatest outcomes while maintaining a supportive working atmosphere during the whole project's duration.

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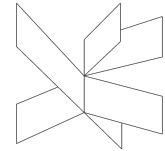
2   Group Description

The team's success in the workplace is a result of the individual strengths that each team member brings to the table.
 The group consists of:

- Ameya Mahankal, 19 years old, India
- Lucija Domljan, 27 years old, Croatia
- Joan Tammo, 23 years old, Syria
- Zsolt Nove, 24 years old, Hungary

Ameya

Ameya had some prior experience with SQL and Python before joining the course with minimal experience in group work aside from projects in previous semesters

Zsolt

Zsolt is a 24 years old Hungarian who had very minor knowledge about programming prior to his studies. He has experience with group work. He had gained an in depth view into programming.
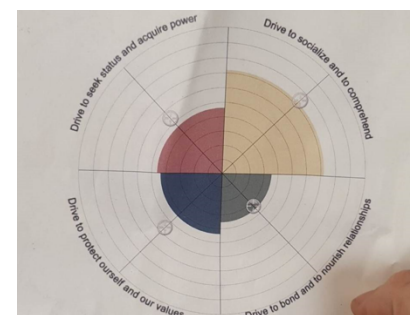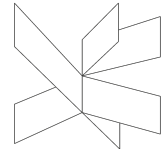
Joan

Joan is an immigrant from Syria that has been living in Denmark for almost 8 years. He has developed a much better understanding of programming in general after the last two semesters.
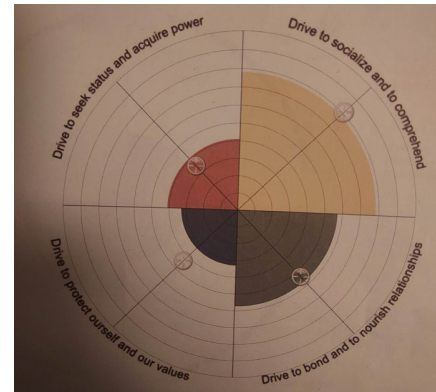
Lucija

Lucija is a 27 years old from Croatia. Studied textile engineering for several years, then decided to move to Denmark and learn how to code. I have no experience in coding and group work, but there is some gained experience in the past year studying at VIA.

Lucija instead of a personality test read the book "Surrounded by idiots". She concluded that she is mostly green and yellow, with some of the characteristics of red.
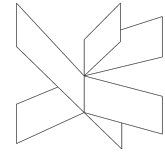
2.1 Culture

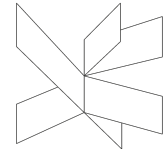Four people from diverse ethnic backgrounds make up our group. There are differences in communication methods, societal standards, and ways of approaching many parts of life from the Middle East, India, and Europe. We have the chance to discover, value, and absorb one other's traditions, values, and viewpoints.

As we found, Lucija and Zsolt frequently employ a more straightforward communication style that prioritizes precision and effectiveness. They welcome the expression of various viewpoints and are open to debate. Joan approaches communication with a heavy emphasis on respect and directness. Ameya upholds the peace in the group by his calm demeanor and compassion, ensuring that everyone gets along well with one another.

Despite the cultural variances among group members, we discovered that our collaboration was not negatively impacted by these differences. Our common objectives were to make significant contributions to the project and make sure that everyone was happy with the results.
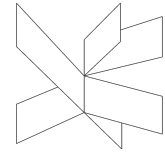
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3   Project Initiation

Each team member offered a special suggestion during the brainstorming stage of the project this semester. The team finally chose to pursue the Travel Advisor project, albeit, under the supervisor's advice, because of its difficulty. The Travel Advisor project is a perfect fit for the team since although they are from different regions of the world, they all like traveling.

We made an effort to complete all of the DNP assignments together with an eye toward their potential applicability to the project because it was obvious from the beginning that the group would benefit from them. The team blended several SCRUM, Agile, and Unified Process elements, choosing the ones that would best help us plan and develop our project.
We picked this strategy because it allowed us to collaborate and change course swiftly in response to changes in the project's requirements or scope.
We chose not to name a Scrum Master or Product Owner, which made our Scrum implementation distinct. Instead, we collaborated and took decisions as a team to make sure the project was moving in the proper path.
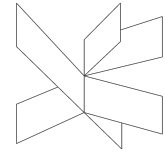
4   Project Description

The first assignment for the group was to create a Group Contract. All participants were familiar with the process, and there were no difficult limitations or limits to deal with, thus the process went smoothly. The team allocated each member particular tasks based on the Project Description. The team then got together in person to go over the specifics of their allocated assignments.

The team members were able to precisely outline the project's goals by developing a problem statement. Helping tourists choose the best places to go and the best amenities will make their vacation more fun and memorable.

For the project, we established a challenging yet practical objective.

 The objective was to successfully introduce users to the cities and their offerings, to advertise, and possibly to link company owners with the right clients.

5   Project Execution

This semester, we were given the freedom to organize the various stages of our project according to our preferred framework. We also included elements of the Scrum approach into the Unified Process. We held cooperative group sessions to plan our project throughout the Inception phase. These meetings included lengthy discussions aimed at comprehending and defining the project's problem domain. Before moving forward, we carefully examined and talked over every component of the project description to ensure that we had a complete grasp. The project was described in person during meetings, and we got to work on our use case diagram, user stories, and a preliminary domain model. We also started drawing our initial diagrams while keeping in mind that we might improve them as the project moved forward.

The processes of elaboration and construction were combined and carried out concurrently.

The creation of the Java server marked the start of the period. We concentrated on adding the required features over the course of a few days, making sure they were compatible with the project's specifications.
The construction of the database came after the Java server was finished. We focused all of our efforts up until May 7th on developing and constructing a solid database structure.
After putting the database in place, we focused on creating a secure connection between the database and the gRPC server.
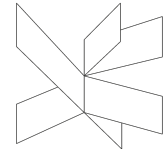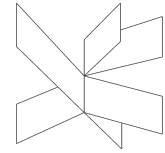
Configuring the appropriate protocols and protocols to allow effective data flow between the server and the database took place up until May 11th.

After that, from May 15 to now, we have been concentrating on expanding the project's capabilities by adding additional features. During this stage, new functionalities that would improve the user experience and support the project's goals had to be designed and put into place.

After adding new features, we focused on resolving any problems or defects relating directly to the city view. For the users' convenience and proper representation of the city view, we discovered and fixed any issues as of May 15. After addressing the city view issues, we started building a new database. This phase, which lasted from May 18 to May 23, required designing, developing, and testing a new database structure, which brings us to the last step, transition. Along with the completion of testing, documentation, and user guide creation, the transition period came to an end.

In this project, seven sprints were completed. Without a set end date, sprints took place for a few days as was evident. Due to the stress that the members were experiencing when there was a lack of motivation, the group decided to remove this component of SCRUM. As previously said, there were no roles, and we convened meetings to discuss the sprint review and retrospective following each sprint. Meetings could last anything from 15 to 20 minutes to many hours.

Our sprints and burndown chart are detailed in the Appendix-E-Logbook.

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6 Personal Reflections

Lucija

Being a member of a team that worked hard motivated me to work even harder than before, which was an exciting experience for me. We attempted to code together since everyone wanted to do it, and then we separated the labor so that everyone could contribute. We all completed our fair share of documentation after that.

Choosing our own management for this semester's project was a hurdle. As a result, we had to assume greater accountability ourselves, which was novel and thrilling. I could always approach my teammates for assistance when I wasn't sure how to complete a task, and we always encourage one another.

Due to mood swings, group conflicts, or simply a lack of interest during the project's very lengthy development phase, other group members had to fill in for the other members' unfinished work. We all sought assistance and clarification from our supervisor when we felt confused or stuck about our task.

Working in this group was a genuine pleasure for me since I felt valued and heard. I learned from this experience how important it is to develop my communication skills and pay attention to my coworkers. I think I did much better than before on this assignment. Future collaboration with my teammates would be enjoyable.
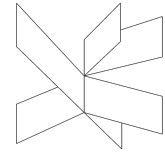
Ameya

As a de-facto leader of the group, it was a very enriching but stressful experience managing the meetings and assigning tasks appropriately to every member.We made some mistakes and could always depend on each other for assistance.It was exhausting researching the network technologies to accommodate the heterogenous aspect of the project and making a base for others to build on.There was a degree of uncertainty of what to focus on due to the ambitious nature of the project paving the way for a number of features which could all not be completed in time in order to accurately document our work.

There were times where I had to finish the tasks of others which was disappointing and slowed down the project.We often reached stage 4 of Friedrich Glasl's model of conflict escalation which lead to mild hostilities with a group member.With the help of our supervisors we could clarify doubts with our documentation and settle possible arguments on how to proceed with a section which proved useful.The programming section of the project went very well for me as it formulated completely in my mind on how to proceed with working on a feature which flowed very well.I gave everyone an opportunity to code and explained in detail the process of my work to everyone after every daily sprint review.Overall, it was great and useful experience where most members performed to their fullest and accommodated each other and am satisfied by the final end product.
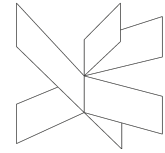
Joan

This project gave me and the group an opportunity to take liberties with how we approach our work, and this helped me in developing more skills in regard to programming, managing the group work and all in all properly organizing our project.

The researching of the technologies used in the project was my preferred part of it, as it allowed me and my group mates the chance to develop our own vision for how our project should function.
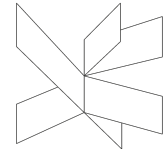
the group work was pleasant for most parts, as it was filed with conflict and time wasting periods of stagnation on one hand(mostly due to some of our members conflicting vision on how the project should be run), but on the other hand the project was the best to work on out of the three semesters so far because of the sense of independence that was prevalent through the project.

although some members failed to honor their part of the work, it turned out positively since their lackness provided me with their part of the work, and this gave me the a larger part of the work, which helped me immensely in developing my own skills in regard to designing, coding, and implementing the theories covered in this semester.

my favorite part of the project was that I was able to overcome many adversities in regard to the implementation of networking technologies by researching them in more details, and learning about how to implement them properly, and by enforcing a sense of solidarity within the group through the management of the group work, I was able to solve many problems regarding the un-organized nature of the working approach adapted by the group in the initial phase of the project.
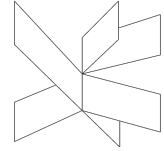
All in all the group members provided a sense of equality that lacked any form of superiority which felt refreshing, and with the exception of some aspects of the group's collective mentality(mainly the argumentative part, and the chaotic nature of the work management in the initial phases of the project), this group would be my preferred group to work with in the future.
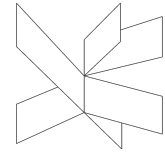
Zsolt

In the group work every member had their main thing that they concentrated on to maximize our input into the project. This semester there was a lot to research in order to understand project structure and to use all the different programming languages to create a multitier architecture program.

This semester had its conflicts as well. Problems with time and preparation of the project but nothing the team could not handle. Unfortunately, the team had a difference in vision since the begening as well that did not help the start of the project. It could be because it was an open question at the beginning what to create unlike the previous semesters where we had specific assignments.

Despite the conflicts and initial differences in vision, our team was able to adapt and find common ground to ensure the success of the project.

To overcome the challenges associated with researching and implementing a multitier architecture program, we divided the tasks based on each member's expertise. This division of labor allowed us to manage our individual knowledge and maximize our work on the project.

In conclusion, working in this team has been an engaging, fulfilling, and a very good experience. At the end the combination of diverse perspectives, supportive group members and the challenging projects made it truly memorable.

7   Supervision

We had the chance to meet with our manager, Troels, a total of five times over the project duration. These meetings were tremendously helpful to us since they gave us direction and evaluations of how we were doing.
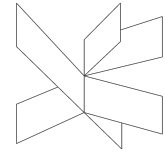
When it came to setting up these meetings, Troels was consistently helpful and flexible, which was really appreciated by the entire team. His suggestions and counsel were really helpful in guiding our selections and advancing the project.

One of the most important lessons we learned from our meetings with Troels was the value of keeping in touch with him frequently throughout the project's duration.

We understood that by seeing him early in the semester, we had been able to spot possible problems or areas of concern and address them before they grew to be significant issues.

Overall, we would like to express our gratitude to Troels for his help and direction during the project.
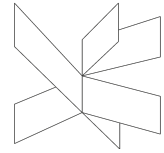
8   Conclusions

Working as a team on this project has been a rewarding experience for us throughout our trip. Our team's main goal while embarking on this project was to create a travel advisor. We faced a number of obstacles during the project, but with the help of our collaboration and tenacity, we were able to prevail. Together, we established a synergistic environment that encouraged creativity, collaboration, and invention. Each group member played a crucial part by sharing their special skills and expertise. The success of our project also depended on our capacity for time management and meeting deadlines. With the help of our supervisor, we carefully organized our assignments, established reasonable deadlines, and distributed responsibilities properly. This degree of accountability and communication made sure that we stayed on task and finished the job by the deadline. We have also come to understand the value of flexibility, open-mindedness, and the efficacy of teamwork.

 Our group effort has, in general, been a great success. It has shown our abilities, highlighted our strengths, strengthened ideas and abilities from SDJ3, DNP1, and NES, and given us the chance to make a lasting impression.

Appendices