Individual Diary

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Date: 27/3/2015

We decided to change our projects due to the lack of game developing students among our group. I am a bit disappointed but for the best of the group we shall then work on a new project. We met up with our new advisor today which is Luke to talk about the projects that we can work on. We were shown a long list of projects and we chose the projects that we are interested in and listed them down. After doing so, we then decided which we shall work on. Body Systems and Car System caught our eye and both projects are distributed systems project. We went with Car Systems, that’s a good thing as we had a car enthusiast among us and it might make this easier for us.

Date: 30/3/2015

We met up with the supervisor again today. I happen to be a bit late for the meeting for today as I had a lab. After my lab, I went to find out from my group mates on what was discussed today. I found out that I might have to model a car for the project. I’m not too confident with my modelling skills. The things they discussed today were about how the interface would look like and the different features that might be implemented for the system. A car model where each parts will be highlighted when clicked and the part clicked on will be explained in detail for the users. That seens to be what the first stage of the project would be like

Date: 2/4/2015

We met up with the advisor again today. Dyalan and Elle showed the prototype they have been working on to Luke. Software to be used for development was then discussed. We were discussing whether we should be using Qt or Visual C++. It seems the learning curve for Qt would be much higher compared to Visual C++, and seeing how busy we already are, Visual C++ seems like the most appropriate choice. Kapil then showed Luke the presentation that he has been working on, modified from the previous project and got feedback. We all dished out ideas about the presentation. I think it was a great insight on the project that we will be working on. I will be working on development with Elle and Dyalan.

Date: 24/4/2015

We met up with our advisor today. We confirmed a few things with the advisor. We also discussed how we should approach from this point onwards and we were told that we should work on the final deliverables for the first semester. Submission includes design documents, user manual and also the website. We also discussed how the first phase of the software will be implemented, the process to highlight different components of the car is simple, but can be tedious and time consuming. Hopefully we would be able to implement the first phase of the software and a framework for the quiz. We then allocated work to each other, I was assign the use case diagram and description and to list down possible car parts for the first phase of the software (the infographic section).

Date: 1/5/2015

Today we discussed mostly on the infographics section and the quiz section of our software. We talked about how there would be drag and drop questions for the quiz, how the layout of the quiz part would be like and much more. We also talked about the screen size that we would use for the system. We talk about the infographics part on how we would be registering the mouse clicks of the user. We talk about how the user will be able to view the videos for different components in the system. I think for now, having a good understanding on the 2 other parts first would be good. After that, we can solely focus on getting the simulation part understood. Its going to be busy.

Date: 8/5/2015

Today we started talking more about the simulation part that we would be working on. I did not realize that how good the idea was to have a persistent dashboard for the simulation until Luke gave us the idea. Buttons that will always remain on the main dashboard, and the only thing changing is the simulation windows. We talk about the normal flow of using the simulation part of the system, how we should expect the components to be interacting with each other. I will be working on the use case which will require me to have a fairly good understanding on how the user will be using the system and how the system is expected to give feedback to the user.

Date: 15/5/2015

Today we had a brief meeting with Luke. We talked briefly on the deliverables expected at week 13. We got told of the things that we should continue our work on. We also got a tablet from Luke today which may come in handy when we start editing the photos to be used for the system. We also finally got the computers in the project lab and theres pretty much nothing in them. We plan to get some things installed on those computers soon enough, probably during the break after the exams. Still working on the use case diagrams.

Date: 29/5/2015

I was a bit late for the meeting since I had a presentation going on for another subject. IT turned out good but its totally unrelated to this diary. When I got to the meeting, Kapil was talking about the deliverables with Luke. We also talked about the possibilities of defining abstract classes for the system and different components will inherit from this abstract classes. Components such as lights, wheels can be generalized. Finally got the use cases done, and I shall now work on the state diagrams. I continued where Elle last worked on, modified some of her state diagrams and shall complete it soon enough. I will then be working on modifying the class diagrams.

Week 1 of semester break

We met up during the break to work on the project. I had to come up with a way to sort the infographics into different hierarchies. It took a while to get the algorithm working. After I got the algorithm working, I will then come up with a text file editor to allow easier editing of the text file. Elle is working on photoshopping the photos to be used in the infographics, and Dyalan is to work on the forms in Visual Studio. Kapil will then be working on the simulation side of things.

Date: 30/7/2015

We had our first meeting with Luke today, most of the infographics are already completed at this point, including the photoshopped images and the text file reader. We showed Luke what we have done so far and realized that there were a few bugs that will need fixing. Luke was saying that for the text file, it will be clearer to present the data in XML form, but then once I showed him the text file editor that I was working on, we could hold that idea for now. We also discussed about simulation of different components of the car that will be done in the upcoming weeks.

Date: 6/8/2015

Today we mostly talked about the simulation, we talked about how we should have a simulation manager class which acts as the middle man between different components, work on console before integrating it into Windows forms and also how we should use graphic libraries to represent some data such as the fuel level. We also showed off the website that Kapil has been working on to get feedback. The demo for the project is in the upcoming week so we also found out about what we should prepare for the demo.

Date: 20/8/2015

The week before was the demo, I showed the code that I have and the text file for the infographics and gained valuable feedback on how I should convert it into XML format for clarity. I have converted it into XML format and also updated the code that reads in the text file. The meeting for the week was mostly about the graphics library SFML that we are trying to use for the simulation. It doesn’t work really well with the Windows forms. We will continue looking into how we should approach integrating SFML and the Windows form.

Date: 27/8/2015

Short meeting today. Kapil has managed to finish a part of the simulation and says that he should be able to dish out a subsystem for each of the upcoming weeks. We also decided that instead of having the simulation going through the Windows form and cracking our head over trying to integrate it with SFML, we will have a full SFML window running the SFML instead. We will now then look into how we should get it done with SFML instead.

Date: 3/9/2015

We will be working with SFGUI for the interface of the simulation. I manage to get it working on my laptop and will be working on integrating the completed subsystems into it. We then talked about the simulation and Kapil is currently working on the cooling system and is nearly done with it. We also talked about the icons that we should have on the dashboard for the simulation interface and lastly have start/stop buttons and also not allowing the user to do anything else unless the user has actually fastened his seatbelt.