Icon

Description automatically generatedMotus

(My Emotion Diary)

Executive summary

Motus is a mood tracker application that features a variety of options to record a person's emotions on a regular basis. This application is meant to aid in the search for patterns in how moods change over time and in response to various events. The name Motus is derived from Latin which mean emotions. Applications that measure people moods can help stop engaging in detrimental habits. According to one study, using a mood tracking app might help teens think less about negatively affecting themselves (Grist et al.2018) and in another research it states that environments may affect people's moods and mental health, and mental health services are dispersed unevenly across communities (Weir,2017). These two statements shows that mood trackers are helpful but what their lacking their ability to track their moods based on their locations. Motus not only offers mood tracking but also the ability be able to track the users moods based on their location this will aid users in understanding their emotions and also determine why such environments affects their mood.

The main goal of this project is to create an application that will help its users understand their emotions and create coping mechanisms to aid users in dealing with bad moods and undesirable actions.

Usability, Requirements and Guidelines

When comes to designing the application, specific factors must be considered for optimum usability. The first factor is navigation, the application must have consistent and easy to use navigation system. This application will have a bottom tap bar which will allow users to navigate between the different pages in the application and the reason for this is that 49% of individuals use their phones with just one thumb. (TECHINASIA,2016). This navigation bar will also include universal icons as well as what these icons are so that users won’t be confused. The mobile application will offer accessibility for its users so that more people could use the application, this means that the font in the application would have a font size of 12-14 pt(Kogitas,2021) and the combination of these fonts will be used Calibri, Helvetica, Arial, Verdana, and Times New Roman(Siteimprove,2022) as-well as using high contrast in colours . The application will be fast and responsive by compressing any images that will be used in the application, this an important factor as according to Google, 70% of users would quit an app if it takes too long to load(Nowak,2021). The application will also offer simple registration by placing placeholders in the textbox so the user would know what is going on when they are signing in or logging in. To prevent aggravating users with extended wait periods, the application will have on-screen material and transitions should be provided swiftly and smoothly.

Constraints & consideration of the wider system

When it comes to implementing this application, constraints are needed to be considered, in regard to how responsive the application will be. The application should be able to run on tablets, phones, and smart watches so that it will be more available to users however realistically since the application will have a feature that can show the user mood based on their location therefore a tablet won’t be needed as most people don’t carry their tablets from a day-to-day basis. Moreover, implementing this application in a smart watch would be ineffective as the screen size is too small to add the core features of the application. Therefore, implementing this application on mobile phones is mostly optimum and mostly the application would be only able to run in portrait mode rather than landscape. One other constraint is to consider is that to function within the limits imposed by the device hardware, mobile devices demand a simplified architecture, simpler UI, and other specialised design considerations therefore this will limit what the final design of the application would be.

One other system constraint is the internet connection as this application is going to use GPS so one of the main features of the application may not work. Moreover, going to places where GPS signal may be weak is another consideration.one other constraint to consider is battery consumption as the application would be using GPS and internet application at the same time. The solution for this is to make the application have pre-loaded maps so the user shouldn’t worry about connection issues

One other major constraint is to consider is the maintenance of databases as there will be a lot of data provided by the users. Moreover, inconsequential data may need to be erased . User information needed to be safely secure and should be easily accessible therefore more maintenance for the database is needed therefore using specific technologies will be costly.

4.Proposed Idea and Impact

**4.1.Proposed Idea**

Motus is a mood tracking application that will allow users from the age of 18 to 45 to track their moods daily. When the user registers to the app the first thing they will encounter is a map with the list of emotions aligned horizontally, the emotions are five which are happy, rad(which means awesome ) . When the user chooses their mood from the list the colour of the mood would register on the map. This will also show on the calendar page and statistics page. In the profile page the user could pick how many reminders they want to receive per day. So, the next time the user inputs a different emotion in the GPS page the application would register that new emotion with the colour of that emotion and the trail that the user made if they are in a new location would change colours from the previous emotion to the next one. The user will also be able to further track their moods by viewing the statistics page which gives them the number of entries per emotion as well as a percentage of the total entries based on different filters. This also supported by a mood chart. The reason for this app is it will allow quick and simplistic methods of tracking users mood without wasting time on making unnecessary and repetitive features like most mood tracking applications.

**4.2.Impact**

This application is categorized as a mental health application and the market for such applications has boomed based on what Harvard Medical School associate professor of psychiatry John Torous said. Moreover, research done by the American Psychological Association stated that mental health applications have existed for as long as the gadgets that provide them, but beginning in 2016, the quantity and popularity of digital tools skyrocketed. There are about 10,000 to 20,000 mental health applications accessible (American Psychological Association,2021). Therefore, this application would increase the profit due to its demand on the market.

5.App features

The app features are determined by the project concept, user needs, personas, and usability. The table below demonstrates the main technical features of the application

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Feature | Outcome |
| -Signing up | Allows the user to create an account in the application if they haven’t had one. |
| -Logging-in | Allows the user to log in their account if they created one |
| -Logging-out | This allows the user to logout of the application |
| -GPS system | User will be able to track their mood in |
| -Reminder system | Can allow the user to customize their experience in the app by letting them choose how many reminders they will receive per day |
| -Percentage chart | Will give important information to the user regarding the percentage of emotion they have entered based on the time duration available |
| -Mood chart | Will allow users to see information regarding the emotions they have used throughout a specific time |
| -Calendar system | Will show a calendar to the user and show the last emotion recorder by the user on the dates that the user has used the app on. As-well as the calendar will give a message to the user based on the emotion |
| -A database | To store the user data |
| -A bottom tap bar | Users can navigate the main pages easily in the application without much work |

**6.Evaluation of Paper prototype**

Two users have used the prototype created to test its functionality and usability then to see if the design is suitable for this type of application

* User 1

This user particularly enjoyed the design as well as the simplicity of the application, they have stated that they felt the colours pallets were welcoming and was giving them a calm sensation. However, user 1 stated that the emotion icons that are in the GPS page should have names indicating what they represent as they didn’t feel confident when picking how they felt since the emotion icons used where not familiar to them, also the user stated that they couldn’t log-out as there were no logout functionality as-well as a functionality that can let them return to the login/sign-up screen .The user also stated that age should be in the sign-up page . In terms of fonts and their size user 1 stated that they had no issue with the fonts used and was familiar with icons in the tap bar.

* User 2

This user enjoyed the application navigation wise. They stated that they feel the application is familiar and the minimalistic design as well. The user also stated that there is no way for them to edit their profile and less information in the profile page regarding the user . A suggestion was made to make a page to edit the profile of the user. User 2 also stated to add more analysis to the statistics page as one diagram isn’t enough. User 2 stated that there is a lack of consistency with the font colour.

**7.** Appendices

Personas

This diagram below will show the target audience of this application in details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A person with his arms crossed  Description automatically generated with medium confidence**   * Michel Angelo * 30 * Lives in New York | **Behavioural demographic information**   * Job: Art Director * Graduated from NYU * Single: * Goal: To measure aspects of his life and to improve his mood during work |
| **Requirements (needs)**  Keeps a journal about his life, however he finds it hard to document how he feels throughout the day therefor he can’t determine the cause | **Potential solutions**   * Making him document effectively his mood based of his location. * Provide statistics on his moods based on the time duration he wants * Provide a calendar that would document his mood based the last emotion he picked * Can document his mood up to four times a day |

Prototype before user testing.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

In this figure above it shows the prototype of the application before user testing, when the user loads up the application they are welcomed and presented with the option to either sign up or login, if the user selects sign up, they are taken to a page where they input their username, email, and password. If the user clicks on login, they are taken to a page where they input their email, and password . If the user succeeds in signing up /logging up they are taken to the main page which is the GPS page which is represented with a highlighted segment and pin point icon where the user can see their location and click the emotions depending on their mood.

At the bottom of the screen there is a tap bar where the user can use to navigate within the application, the user can navigate in which ever order they desire. The next page is the calendar page which is represented by the calendar in here the user can see data about their moods in terms of specific dates. The next page is the analytics page which is represented by the statistics icon, here the user can view extensive details about their moods as well as see numerical data about their moods in general. The last page is the user profile page which is represented as an avatar icon here the user can change their photo and customize how many reminders they want per day.

Prototype (Minimal Viable Product) after testing.

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

In this figure above shows the updated wireframe after user testing. Like the first wireframe but with a few changes. The GPS page now shows the definition of the emoji icons, the sign-up page now asks for the age and the analytics page shows a new diagram called the mood chart which depicts the mood of the user based on their entries, the graph place their entries against the date. Finally the user page now shows the username, email and age. There is also a logout functionality which will allow the user to log-out returning them to the main screen as well as a edit profile

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**Images**

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