Social Foodies

Senior Design

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Background

Social Foodies is mobile app that helps people meet and eat together. It connects users nearby who want to try new restaurants or just grab a meal with someone. The app shows local food spots, lets users match with others, and tracks where they've eaten. After each meal , users can leave a review and earn points for rewards like discounts or free food. Social Foodies makes it easy to meet new people and explore good food at the same time.

Key Requirements

Social Foodies is a mobile app designed to bring people together through shared dining experiences. In response to rising social isolation and the ongoing recovery of local restaurants post-pandemic, our team developed a solution that encourages users to connect with others nearby and explore new places to eat. The app features real-time location-based matching, restaurant tracking, user reviews, and a point-based reward system. Our goal is to make meeting new people and supporting local food spots easy, enjoyable, and rewarding. Through this project, we aim to build community, promote social engagement, and showcase how thoughtful technology can address real-world challenges.

Specifications:
• The app must allow users to match with others based on location.
• It must display nearby restaurants using Google Maps API.
• Users should be able to track visits, leave reviews, and earn points.
• Needs to keep user information safe.

Constraints:
•Can only run on mobile services
•Can only run in a 5 mile radius

Initial Analysis:
• Analyzed existing apps like Tinder, Yelp, and Dutch Bros.
• Reviewed technical requirements for Firebase, Expo, and Google API integration.

Architectural Design

Conceptual Design:
• Brainstormed multiple UI/UX layouts and current applications in use that use similar features.
• Research and Sketched flow diagrams to visualize user interactions.

Down-Select Justification:
•Selected React Native with Firebase for rapid mobile development.
•Integrated Google APIs for reliable location and map data.

Figure 1: System architecture
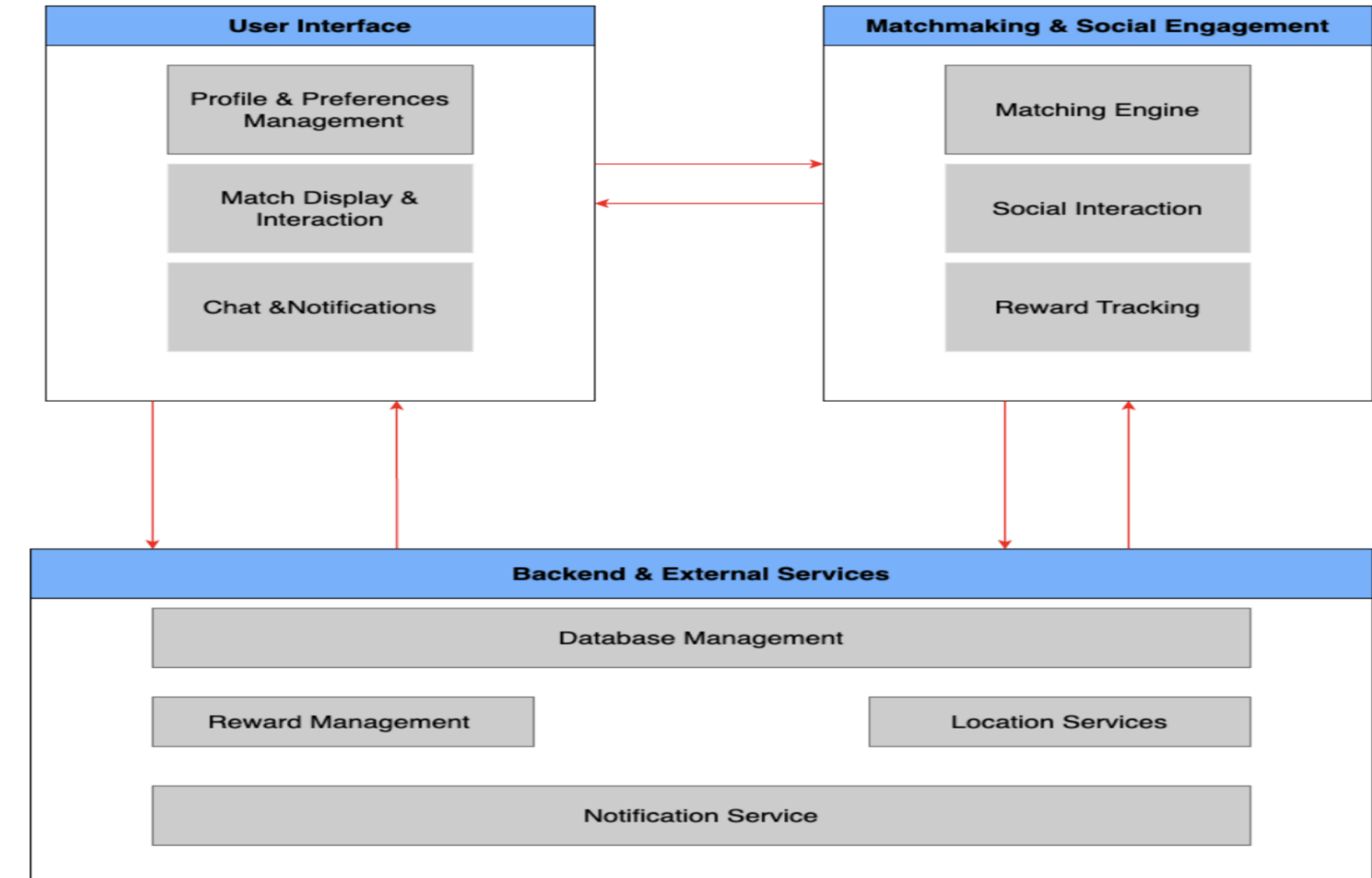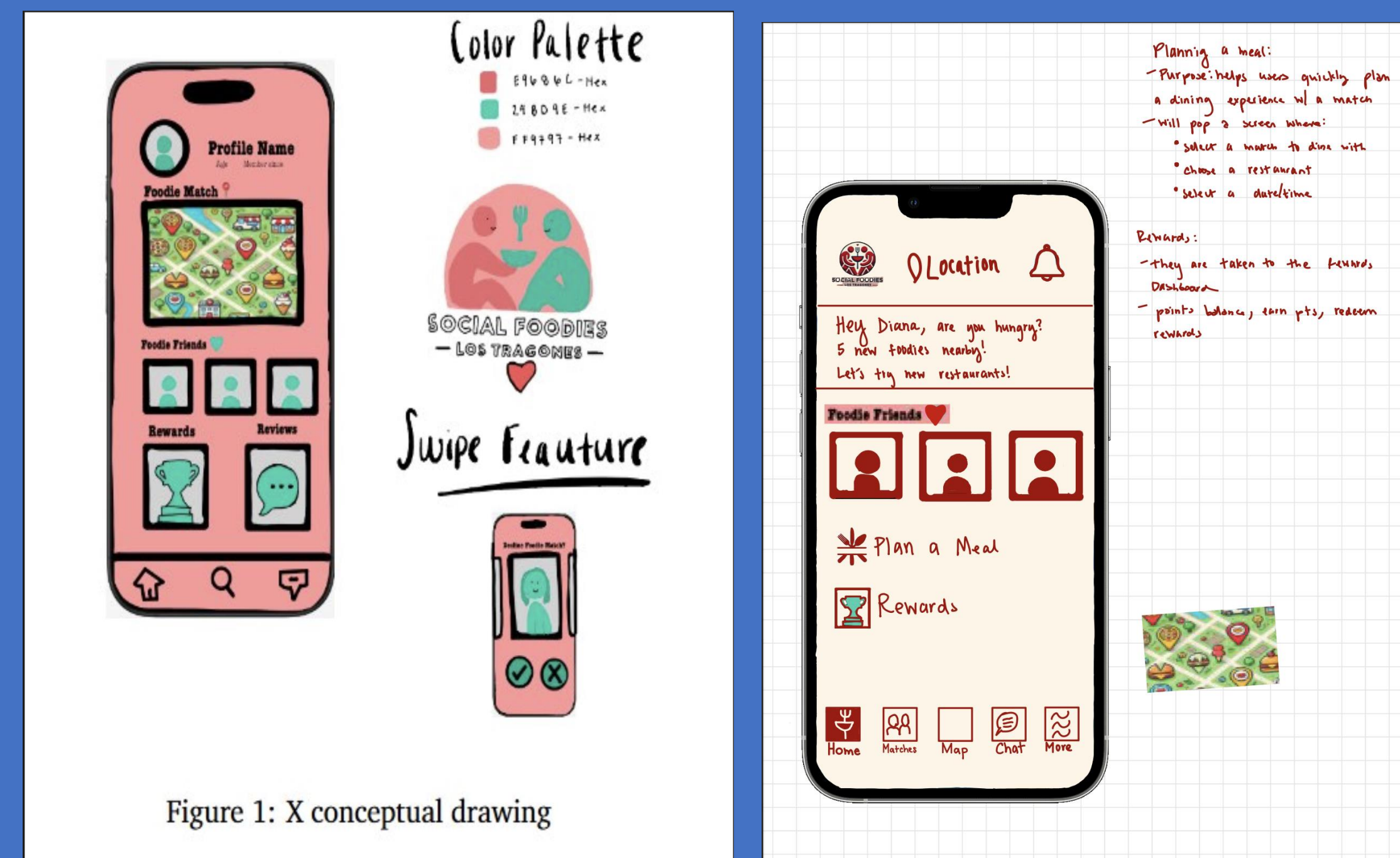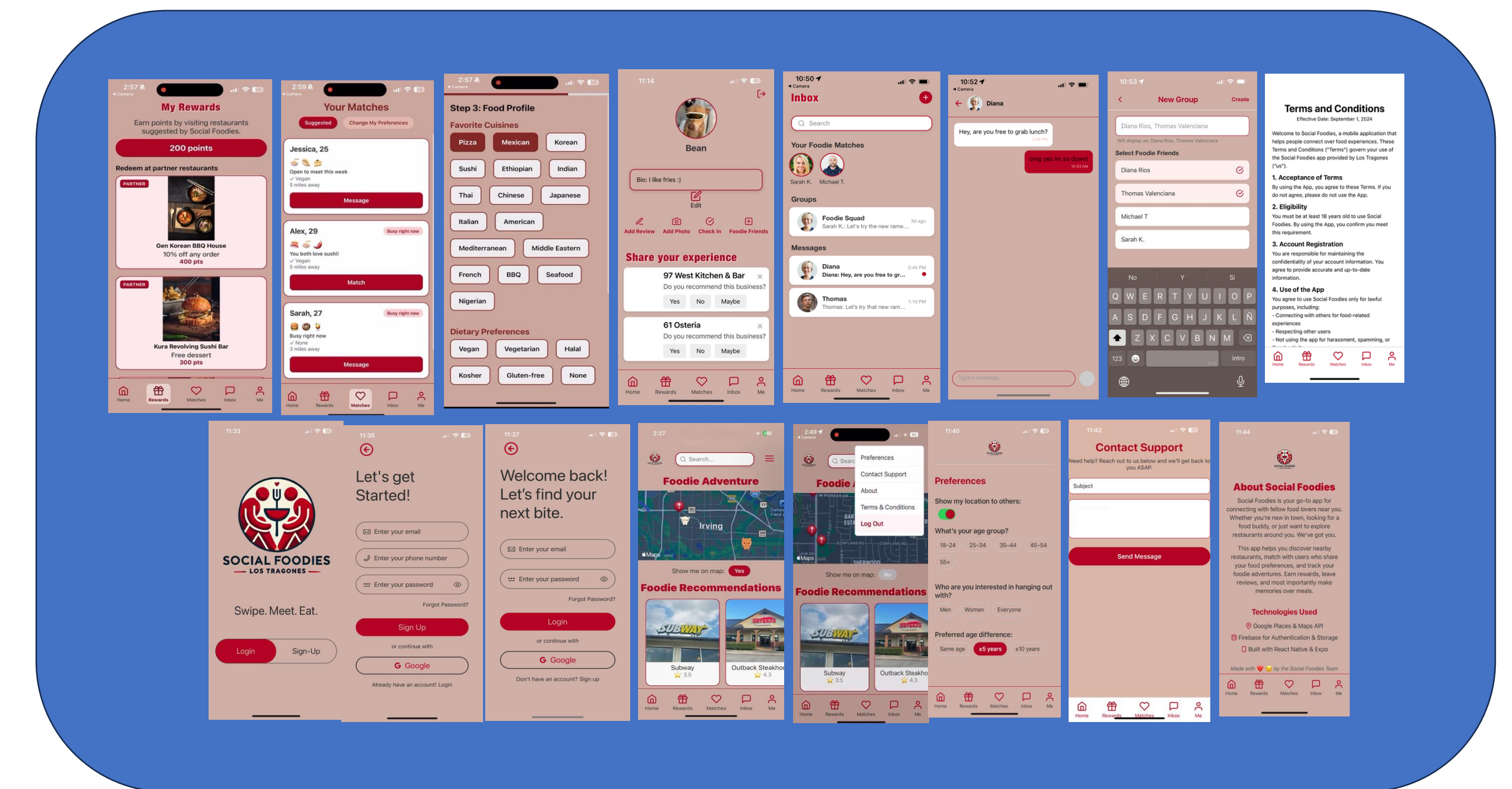
Implementation Details and Test Plan

Figure 1: X conceptual drawing

Conclusions and Future Work

As both the designers and clients of this project, we're proud that most of our goals have been met or are on track to be completed. Social Foodies allows users to track restaurants, meet new people with similar food interests, and earn rewards all of which are part of our original vision. Some advanced features are still in progress, but we have a clear plan to finish them in future updates. Through this project, we learned a lot about building mobile apps, designing for users, and working with real-time data. We also learned how important it is to test often and improve as we go.

References

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