Assignment 1: Reflections, ideas, and planning Jash Gandhi (02048850)

- 1. Based on the reports of your fellow classmates during our last class (2023-09-25), please briefly summarize any new ideas for apps to solve people's problems that you have come up with as a result of listening to other students.
- Of all the ideas presented during our last class, I particularly liked the idea of having an app to remind you about your medications. I think it could be really helpful to people who have several medications for their health condition. There could be many features implemented in the app such as it could remind when you have to take your medication, it can also tell a person in what order they need to take their medication and additionally it can also give refill reminders ensuring that people do not run out of their medications.
- 2. Several people mentioned the "conflict" between the desire to have a free app, and developers' desire (and need) to get compensated. Can you suggest any ways by which developers can reap their creativity's and efforts' rewards without alienating their "customer base" by inundating them with ads and/or charging them.
- To resolve this conflict, we can offer in-app purchases in the app. These in app purchases wouldn't necessarily improve or add any new features in the app, the features would be same for all users but the users who pay would have the ability to improve the looks of their profile and overall, the looks of the application, its theme and layout etc. One example of this is the Among Us game. It has in-app purchases which gives you ability to customize your character and profile better but during the game these purchases do not give you any ability or additional boost to your performance.
- 3. Please point to any app/software/website that offers in your opinion an excellent UI/UX. Briefly explain in what ways you find its UI/UX to be so good.
- The one app which offers an excellent UI/UX is Microsoft Teams. It is an enterprise communication and collaboration application. It has a smooth UI where users can chat and share files/folders flawlessly and not only that it allows users to get into video calls and set meetings and collaborate together. It integrates all the Microsoft apps quite well and its UI is similar to that of Microsoft apps so users are easily familiar with it and can navigate easily in the app.
- 4. Have last class's discussions and/or items #1-3 gotten you closer toward a page / app you would like to pursue as a project for this course? Please discuss briefly.
- The one app which I would like to pursue is the "TripIt" app. It is an app which reads from your inbox and syncs all your trip itinerary in one place so that the user does not have to login into different apps to see the status of its bookings. One feature which I believe can be implemented that is not available in the app is to collaborate in groups. Most of the time when we go on a trip, it is in a group. So, by implementing this feature we can have the whole group's itinerary in one place so we can view the status of each and every person in that group. Also, another feature that can be implemented in the app is recommendations. It could recommend

restaurants/hotels or other places to visit to a user based on how other users. Another feature which is a bit of a longshot is the ability to book planes, hotels, restaurants from the app itself. If this is somehow possible in the future, then that would erase the need to user to ever going into another app to book a reservation.