**Group Reflection**

Towards the end of the assignment period, you should reflect as a group on how well you think you have performed in this assignment. You should include whatever evidence you may have about the groups processes (such as commit trails from GitHub, or project meeting minutes). Each member of the group should contribute up to 200 words about their own perception of the group, and the group as a whole should contribute around 400 words. This should include the following attributes.

* ● What went well
* ● What could be improved
* ● At least one thing that was surprising
* ● At least one thing that you have learned about groups
* ● Remember to include in your section on Tools: how well you think your Github log of activity reflects your group’s work on this assignment.

Cinzia:

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Gavin:

This assignment gave me a real insight into how real life projects and proposals work. With an open ended topic at hand, it opened up a completely new avenue of creativity. However, that also meant that an increased level of self education and group cohesion was required. There was an incredibly positive and motivating amount of group participation, and ideas were flown around, with meaningful discussions smoothly following after. While there aren't too many negative remarks to be made on this assignment, it is worth noting that with increased freedom of topics, a strong leader is required. Because without it, the group makes ideas but noone is there to actually decide, or start the vote for a particular idea. Due to this, it took longer than necessary to begin research and work on the actual project. Also, this assignment required a level of self discipline and self control that I believe I lacked, pushing some parts of work aside in favor of other tasks. However, the biggest distraction was exams looming, and studying started to take priority so it is nobody’s fault that some members sometimes dip in and out of conversations. I think that groups need to be able to consistently meet up and share ideas and progress to be able to function optimally, because a lack of communication may lead to errors in the collaboration stage at the end. Ultimately though, the assignment went along very well and was completed on time without any major setbacks.

Hayden:

A lot of the positive points for this assignment are the same as they were for our last assignment. Everyone has demonstrated a good work ethic and collaborated in a constructive manner. The only significant drawback that I can really comment on would be a decrease in group cohesion, meaning, there has been noticeably less focus on this assignment than the previous one. This is due to outside influences such as exams and individual responsibilities such as work. This isn’t at the fault of any of our members though as these are things outside of our control. One thing I can praise about our group is that despite the complexity of our project idea, this hadn’t disheartened our members from making an effort anyway. As a result, we still managed to accomplish what we originally set out to do. These setbacks have not held us back from producing good amounts of work and seeing this assignment through to the end.

Liam:

For our group, our mentality was on point with consistent work completion and open communication asking what is to be done next. In order to improve however, more meetups would be required or conferences to catch up, although not needed, it would have improved the quality of our work for this Assignment. What was surprising was again the same as the last project, the sheer amount of work put into this assignment was amazing. However, groups can become an issue especially around exam time when everyone is doing different courses, similar to how being in a different job would affect a group task in the work environment, everyone is out of sync and losing focus on the task at hand. Github, although not the best means to store and share work (google drive was better for us), it is better overwall because it shows accomplishments of our work to future employees.

Ray:

As a group, I believe we have performed well for this assignment in terms of commitment and agreeability- both of which enabled us to work adeptly. Coming from a loose idea of a project that incorporates sophisticated and complex [to me, at least] mechanisms, the approach to this task was evenly distributed. We had some communication issues which were to be expected surrounding end-of-semester time, and had only part of the group able to make it to the presentation day. Our use of Google Drive made our assignment accessible, easily edited, and readily shared: far better than GitHub [Google Drive was the surprising part of this task, as I had never used it before this project and enjoy how easy it is to update information in a shared document, rather than having to upload and then reupload].

Overall:

We all are in agreeance that the proximity to exam time limited our focus on the final piecing-together or our assignment report. This diminishing focus towards the end of semester was more than made up for by the hard-working personalities of our group. Together, a mindset of dividing up the work assisted us in overcoming our lack of a ‘leader’ type personality.

GitHub, whilst generally disliked, has served its purpose. There is still an inappropriate representation of the work done as many documents were pulled from our Google Drive shared space and put into the repository by one person; others contributed their own files, thus the crossover between uploads has led to inaccuracies for the audit trail.

Despite classes coming to end, sickness, travel, work, family matters, and whatever else coming in to play, I believe that we share a satisfaction in completing this project on time and to the best of our abilities.