Group reflection: Team

For the first two weeks of the assignment the team had low levels of communication. This was due to the unfamiliarity of each member working in a team environment and with each other. To start, the team had low performance in areas of communication, coordination of tasks, and assignment task completion. To further negatively affect our team's cohesion was the loss of two members from our group. One of the members who left had also organised our Github, and although minimal contributions had been made to it, this further impacted team coordination resulting in a lack of GitHub use. Github as a result is a poor reflection of our contributions and activity. Despite group performance issues and loss of team members during the assignment, we managed to improve our teamwork which resulted in assignment completion.

To describe these issues in further details, communication was infrequent and mostly consisted of text-based discussion. Through the Teams application we started with low amounts of communication with infrequent use of meetings and text-based discussion. Compounding this lack of communication was the long easter holidays which is typically a time where communication decreases. With these communication issues being self-evident to the group we endeavoured to improve. These improvements came in the form of increasing text-based communication in addition to scheduled meetings. Text-based based communication proved to be surprisingly effective even with our limited audio-visual meetings on Teams. The group hopes to improve the frequency and quality of their future communications by organising more meetings during assignment 3.

Further improvements were also needed in coordination of tasks which was affected by communication and two students withdrawing from our group. The team identified this need for improvement and we started with the equally distributing the four reports required of the IT technologies section. With four report tasks allocated, we still needed to assign the rest of the assignment tasks equally. In addition to the shared sections of group reflection and feedback, James recommended we each take an additional 15 marks worth of tasks resulting in a total of 21.25 marks contribution:

-Anish did the presentation (10 marks), tools (5 marks), and the IT technologies report: Autonomous Vehicles (6.25 marks)

-Aaron did IT work (15 marks), and the IT technologies report: Language processing and Chatterbots (6.25 marks)

-James wrote the project idea (15 marks), and the IT technologies report: Clouds, Services, Servers (6.25 marks)

-Jacob did Industry Data (10 marks), team profile (5 marks), and the IT technologies report: Raspberry Pis and other small computing devices (6.25 marks)

This task delegation was the team's attempt to coordinate better and equally contribute. We recognise that in addition to equal contribution that we also must improve in communication and further revise contribution based on the time commitments of task.