**Weekly report 3**

Name and student number: Mohammad Sina Kiarostami (2703855)

Practical training course name and code: Advanced Practical Training (521027S)

Employer: Prof. Simo Hosio & Dr. Aku Visuri

Working period (start-end, number of hours): Monday 14th June – Friday 18th June, 37.5 hours

Main tasks and duties during the period:

During the third week, another project was added to my current projects. We had some meetings remotely to discuss the topic with my supervisor, a PhD student, and a professor from KAIST. We agreed on working and writing a survey about metaverse and empathy, namely "Empathy as incentives for the Metaverse?" I also read some related papers about the topic to proceed further. Besides, I worked on my Down Syndrome project to extract data from the selected articles.

Challenges faced during the period:

The most prominent challenge that I faced with it during this week was adding the empathy survey to my current projects since I had not only to update my plans for the rest of the internship but also to change my schedule during the week for the initial meetings and investigation. I needed to read some papers to understand better the concept of the project. Besides, extracting specific data from many articles was time-consuming and tedious. I had to have a break after each one hour.

Solutions and successes:

During this demanding week, when I suddenly faced a new project on my agenda, I could finally manage my time to participate in the meetings and do the initial work for the new project. Also, I employed my experience in planning to reschedule the upcoming week in detail and revise other weeks by considering the empathy project. Since the data extraction was a repetitive task, I decided to work on it for one hour and have a break for fifteen minutes in each session.

Personal development:

As I explored above, the third week was awe-inspiring since I could handle several new working sessions during this week besides my current works. I attempted to develop a new plan for the rest of the internship using my previous experience. I read most parts of extracted papers which concluded to a further horizon exploration of HCI. I learned about empathy, sympathy, differences, and functionalities with XR systems to their approaches to help civilized people.

Knowledge and skills from university studies that I was able to utilize in my work:

I had a course at the university, namely "VR Systems and Humans." So, I used my gained knowledge of VR, AR, and CAVE systems there to read and understand some related papers to the empathy survey project. The concept of empathy was explained to me for the first time at the HCI course. Like always, some of my long-term gained skills such as coding, reading, and writing at the university helped me during coping with the data extraction task for the Down Syndrome survey project.