**Group Statement**

Link to the Repo:

<https://github.com/MichaelHaughian/Group1TaxiCompany>

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Starting the project, as a group we decided on creating a GitHub account to allow us to track everything, we then made a repository to store our work and within that repo we made sure that everything is uploaded for everyone to use without having to transfer folders via email, it gives us the opportunity to track what everyone is doing, we are able to view any changes that have been made using GitHub’s UI and Git Bash, to allow more practice on the command line, when it comes to doing new branch changes.

We each had our own individual feature branches where we made changes using command git branch and git checkout, to create the branches and have them checked so we could start working on them. We also created a develop branch where we would push our changes to share them with the rest of the group, we did this as our secondary base line to show development from the branches into the develop branch. Once those changes were finalised and we had decided the files are ready to submit we moved them to the master branch as our main baseline so it means that one has the previous changes, should something happen during the develop branch. This essentially means that we have branches linked to Develop, and then develop linked to master.

Every time we stared working on something we’d have to fetch, and pull any changes that may have been made so that we do not override each other’s changes. We also made sure that we were working on different parts of the project to prevent any major changes before we worked on updating and merging. We also did pull requests to allow other collaborators to check the changes and comment if needed, and merges.

Although our team all had experience using VCS, such as Subversion and SourceTree, some members were lacking in experience with Git and GitHub. Recognizing this the two more experienced members of the team helped the others to get GitHub set up on their machine and guided them through the process of creating a branch, pulling it to their own machine, and committing it back to GitHub.

The ability to track each other’s work also allowed us to identify who was struggling with tasks and offer help. For example, we saw that the branch for task 16.28 was becoming (relatively) long-lived, due to build issues. We identified that although there was an issue within the code, IntelliJ’s tools made it difficult to track to the source of the problem. We then decided to try another IDE (BlueJ) to see if this gave us more detailed information about the build issues, or otherwise gave us more to work with in identifying the problem. Working through this issue as a team was only possible as Git gave us the ability to track how each task was progressing.

Despite the numerous benefits that come along with using GitHub to manage a project it can still be argued that with such a small project and only 4 contributors it can add extra complexity where it’s not needed. With just the four of us it was easy to split the tasks to the point where we weren’t working on the same thing and having to deal with any merge conflicts. The same amount of work could have been achieved with using something like google drive to share the files, but at the very least it’s good practice for learning GitHub which is used so ubiquitously in the industry.