Microsoft Spot Market Team 1

Maya Afshar, Raymond Tan, Alex Hale   2nd November 2016

Past Weeks

In the past few weeks, we looked into the the main objectives of the project, which are coming up with the best interface for the bot framework and how to handle the relations to the user of the app. We built up a set of resources regarding Microsoft Bot framework and few other bot frameworks available, and also looked into possible interfaces that we can get use of for the best user experience. We discussed the general requirements for the app and came up with the requirements table and MoSCoW document and delivered to our client in client meeting and also through email discussions, and finalised the set of requirements. At the moment we have made each of our roles clear as website leader, research leader and general team leader.

In the sense of project management, we are going to get use of Visual Studio Team Services (VSTS) and use Scrum methodology as our main approach.

Meetings

Team Meetings

- 18th October 2016 – *All Team members present*
  Discussion on multiple software engineering methodologies and project management, such as Agile, scrum, and Kanban. Deciding on usage of Microsoft VSTS for the source control and Software Engineering methodology handler based on previous works on the project and client preference.

- 21th October – *All Team members present*
  Choosing Scrum as the main methodology for project management after the Design lecture given at UCL, as it seemed the most relevant and widely used methodology and straightforward, also supported by VSTS. Further discussion on Interface and bot resources research and research structures on website.

- 25th October – *All Team members present*
  Discussion on the website management and possible platforms to be used for the website. Also the format of experiments was discussed. We decided to bring it up in the team meeting with our client as well. Initial set pf requirements were built.

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- 31th October – *All Team members present*
  Discussing the points made by client regarding the requirements set and their feedback, and coming up with the final version of the MoSCoW document, planning for the later weeks.

Client Meetings
- 31th October – *All Team members present*
  Asked the prepared questions regarding the spot market engine abilities and how we can rely on that based on the set of requirements, getting a clearer description on the main tasks and presenting the MoSCoW document to the client.

Tasks Completed
- Client relationship were fully setup
- Continued work on research and resources
- Cleared up team roles once more
- Set of requirements made and finalised with the client
- Software development methodologies and tools were chosen
- Structure of research and website has been discussed

Estimations
We had few issues regarding our client meeting time, which led into getting a bit off-track in terms of finalising the MoSCoW document. But at the moment everything is back on track and we seem to be going on smoothly.

Problems
We did face few issues regarding not having access to the spot market engine repository and also few authorisation issues on VSTS. We also had our client meeting a later than most of the teams, but all of these problems got quickly solved and at the moment we are not facing any special issues with the project progress.

Plan for Next Weeks
In the next few weeks we will focus on the project of the Scenario week, and during reading week we will majorly focus on designing the structure of experiments on multiple user interfaces and possible platforms for the bot, and also the actual interactions that the user will have with the bot. We will come up with ideas based on how our bot will is supposed to integrate with the whole system.

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Individual Paragraphs

Maya Afshar

I tried to focus on the selection of software engineering methodologies and trying to find the best option for us amongst a number of possible solutions such as Jira and VSTS. Based on the points mentioned above and discussion with the team I decided to choose Scrum on VSTS. Also I worked in parallel with other teammates to come up with a good structure of experiments and also MoSCoW document. I tried to handle the client relations and make sure everything is running smoothly, and also checked if everyone is focusing on the objectives they are assigned to do.

Raymond Tan

Following our second meeting with the client, I worked with the rest of the team to finalise our requirements document. I continued to explore how we could leverage the Microsoft technology stack to best develop a multi-platform chat bot, while still capitalising on features of certain platforms that were not available to others (e.g. social media profile integration with Facebook Messenger) so that we can provide the best experience possible on each target platform.

Alex Hale

Over the past two weeks I have continued to familiarise myself with the software stack we will be using. I have also investigated various software engineering methodologies that the group could implement. To allow us to log experiments that we carry out I have also worked on creating the project site. Over the next two weeks I hope to complete this site and begin to investigate the structure of the experiments we will need to carry out.