

Interação Pessoa-Máquina

2024/2025

Synapse

Stage 3: First prototype



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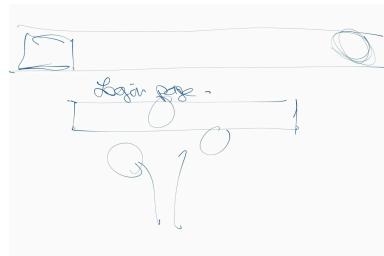
October 30th, 2024

1. Sketches

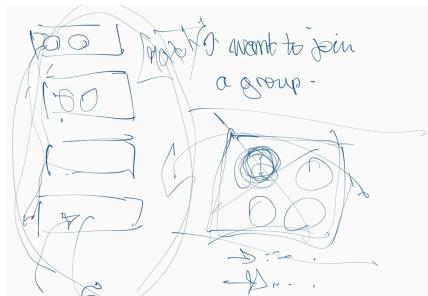
We started by identifying the list of needed pages :

- Student
 - “Joining project with a code” page (like menti/kahoot view)
 - Project/subject selection/I want to join the project
 - Forms to find a group
 - Matching page
 - Group page for uploading files, check composition of the group, teacher's feedback, adding other tasks
- Teacher
 - List of students' groups for a particular project
 - Create a project - put the requirements, tasks
 - Progress view of particular group
- General
 - Menu/header/taskbar
 - Login page
 - User profile
 - List of the groups for a particular project

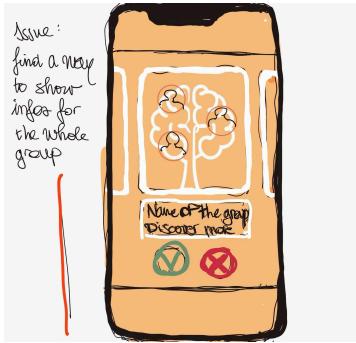
Then, we did quick sketches for each page.



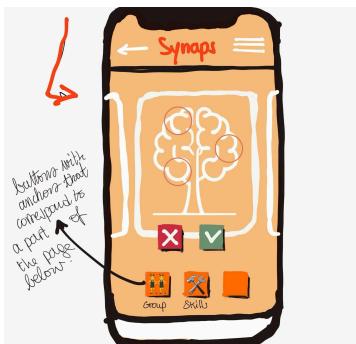
First ideas for the login page and the navbar



Reflexions on how to link the groups view and the matching app



Evolution of the design for the matching page



Here are some issues we faced :

- **Should the users match with a single student every time or a whole group ?**
We decided to go with the groups. To make sure the users can have the desired information (skills, work preferences...) on the groups before choosing one of them, we asked each student to fill a form with his own skills and preferences whenever they join Synapse. If a student wants to directly join a group without using the matching technology, they can do so on the page listing all the groups. The groups are “pre-created” by the teacher (their number and the number of students they allow) and act as rooms the students can join at any time.
- **The matching technology is based on reciprocity : a user “likes” a group and if the group “likes” them back, there’s a match.**
How can the group “like them back” ? We decided a group would have a leader (the one who joined the group first) who would be the one handling the matches.

Step 1: Define the project

- Select subject
- Title:
- Description
- Deadline:
- Resources
- Drag & drop or choose file to upload

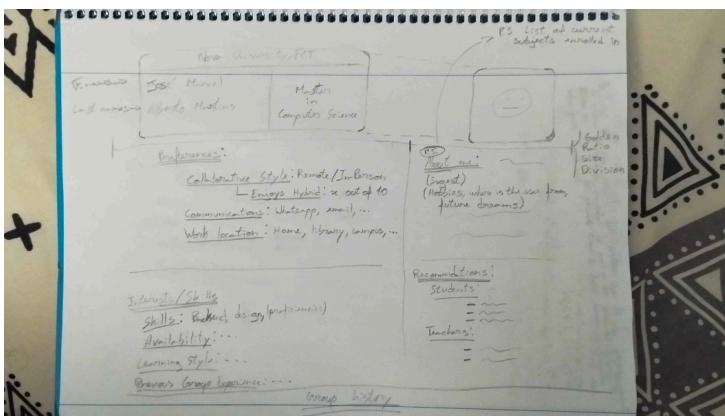
Step 2: Define the groups

Number of groups: [Slider from 1 to 8]

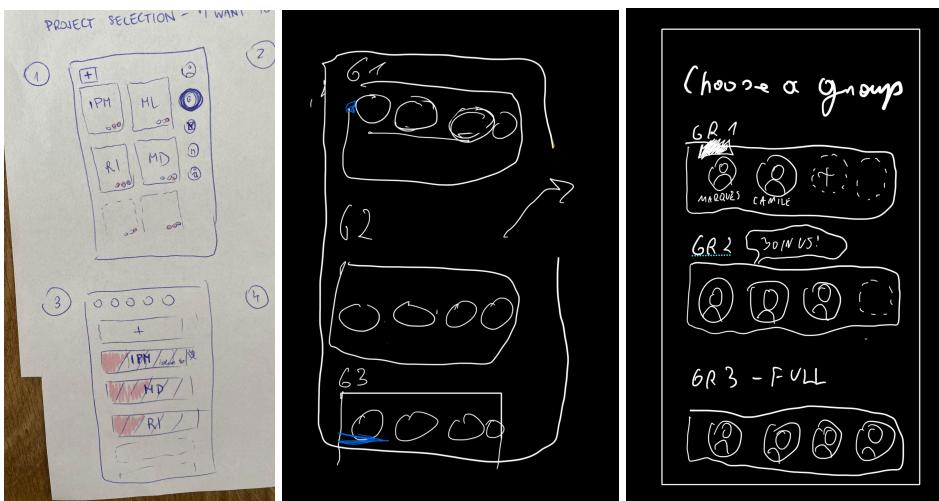
Number of students per group: [Slider from 3 to 8]

drag & drop

Forms for the teacher to create a new project

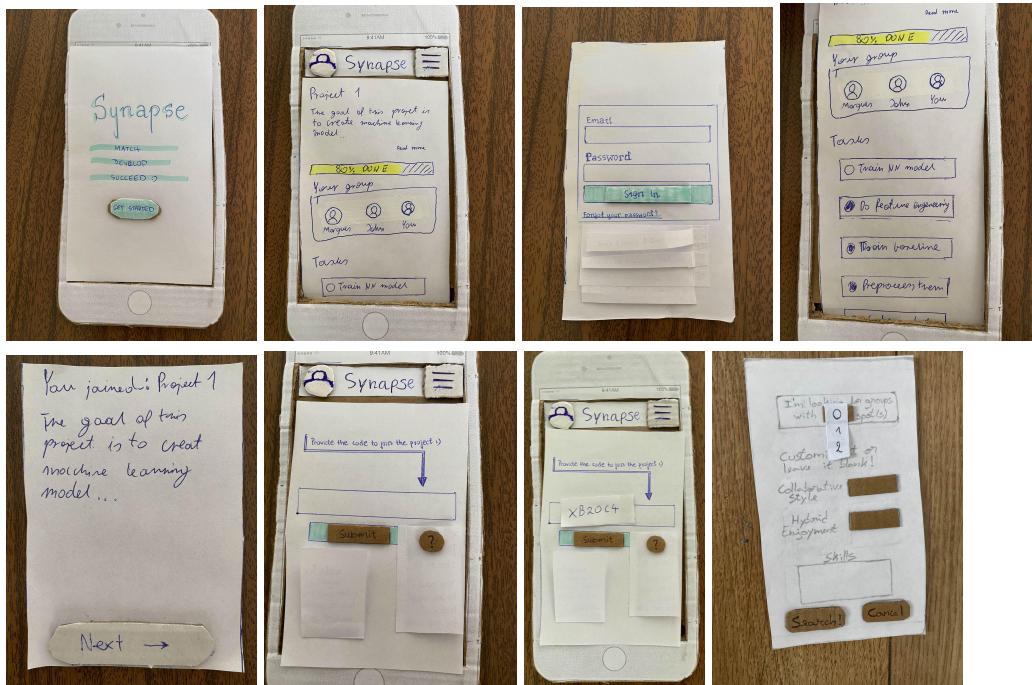


Profile page

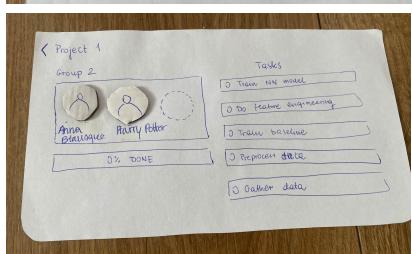
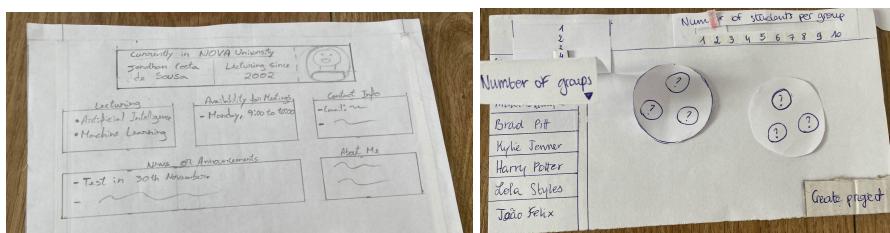


Projects view

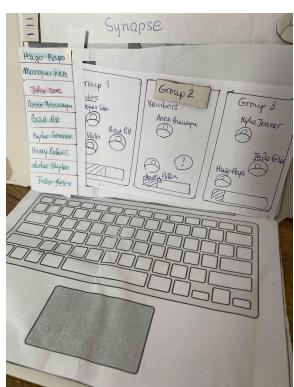
2. Prototype photos



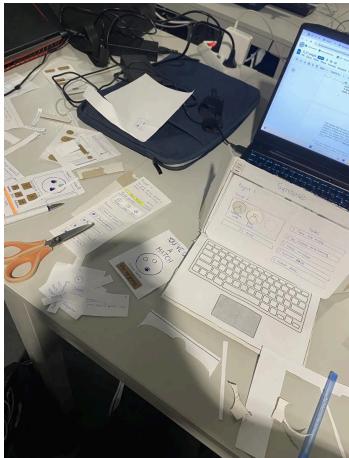
Photos of different screens for the phone prototype.



Different screens for the web application



Full prototype of the computer

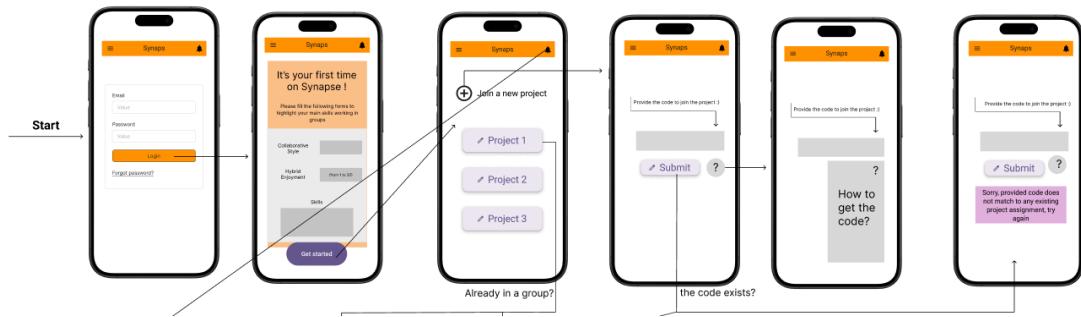


Work on the prototypes

3. Storyboards

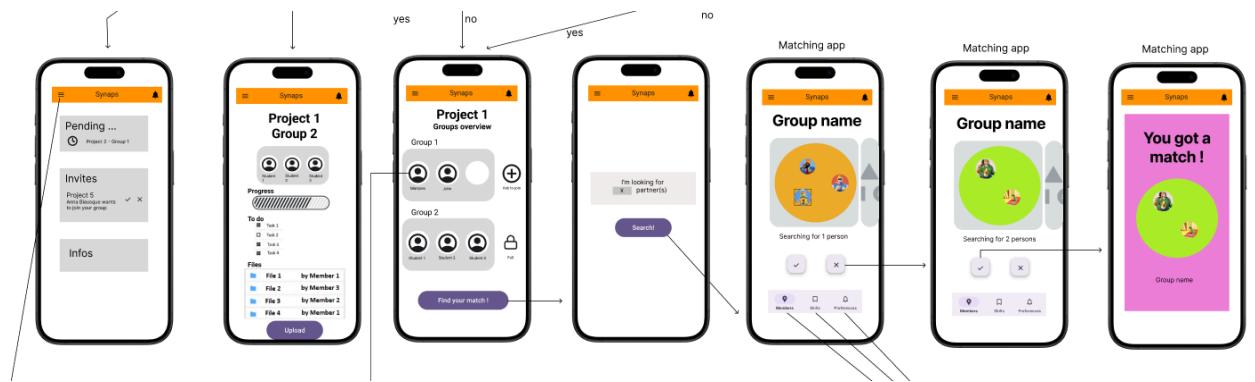


Whole storyboard for the student app



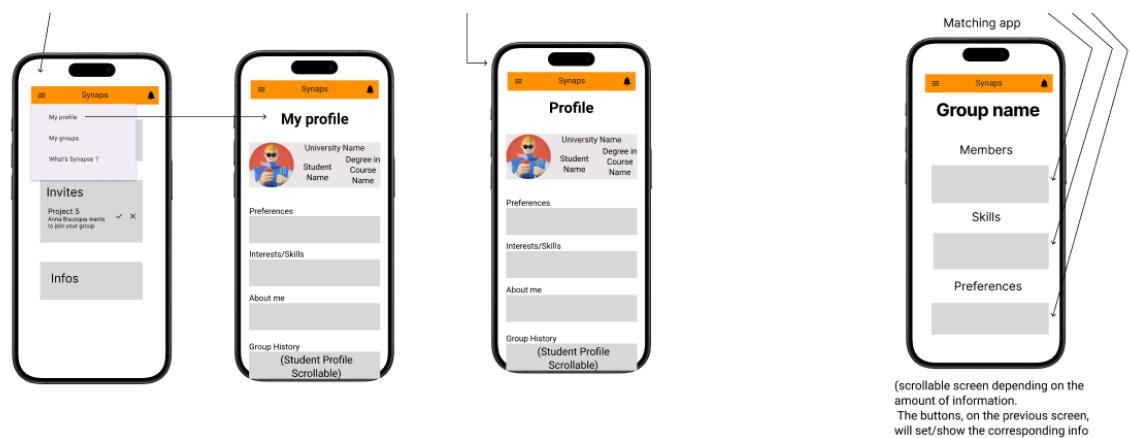
Upper part of the storyboard :

- how to login
- view the different projects you are already assigned to
- join a new project.



Middle part of the storyboard :

- how to view your notifications
- your group or all the groups for the project depending on if you already have a group or not.
- access to the matching technology



Down part of the storyboard :

- View of the menu
- View of the profiles

4. Briefing

The goal of our application, "Synapse", is to facilitate the organization of project work for students and teachers.

Among the functionalities:

- The ability to centralize group creation and project management on the same platform.
- A better user experience for anyone working on a university project.

PS: Every ultimate button is made of cardboard.

Enjoy! 😊

5. Scenarios

- 1) You're a computer science student who needs to make a group of three for a project in the human computer interfaces course. You don't know anyone in the course, and the deadline to form a group is by the end of the week. You're looking for teammates with strong programming skills since you're more interested in graphic design. The teacher has decided to use the Synapse app for this project and has given you the project code: XB20C4. Your task is to use this code to join the project and form a group. Your email is jose.silva@gmail.com, and your password is 8 asterisks (*****).
- 2) You're a teacher who wants to start a new group project for your students during the practical Machine Learning classes and the topic is '3 body problem'. The deadline for giving out the project is due October 30th, 2024. Your students are already signed for your class (they are in database). You require that no one does the project alone, however the number of students should not exceed 3. The max number of all the groups in this project is 4 (there are 8 students participating in this class). You want the students to upload their groups and reports directly on the Synapse platform. Your teacher's email is maria.silva@gmail.com and your password is *****.
- 3) You are a teacher who supervises 9 students. The deadline for group formation among students just expired yesterday, and you required that each group should have exactly 3 people.

Today you want to make sure that the groups meet the minimum number of students per group.

Seems like Group 2 does not meet the requirements. You should be able to check all students' contact information so that you can get in touch with them, outside of Synapse.

6. Observation

Scenario 1:

- Easy login
- Knows how to join new projects
- Confused what to enter on group questionnaire (not really sure what happens after clicking number input)
- Confused which to select (in person/remote)
- A bit of confusion between ask to join button and find me a group button.
- Intuitive screen with group matching option. Easy to follow from point.
- User states: Assumption that on projects he already joined the project on the home page (might be the issue with not using real project names but Project1, Project2)

Scenario 2:

- Confusing part with creating the new project - student wanted to choose existing project
- Login screen: user is curious what are folding options
- Home Screen: takes a brief while to get to now the screen but then finding „create new” button is easy
- Create new project: slider is intuitive, selecting number of groups made a little confusion but maybe because of already unfolded paper
- User states: Scenario is big and explicit reason of being slow
- Good job with number of students per group slider
- No need to highlight which number to select with cardboard.
- Confusing number of students and groups but it makes sense but takes a bit
- **Overall : straightforward, understandable interface**

Scenario 3:

7. student did not put the resource while creating a new project assignment
8. student did not know what to choose after choosing number of groups
9. scenario described as big, explicit
10. good idea with slide bar
11. there was no need to put additional cardboard (with number 4) while choosing number of groups
12. a bit confusing part with number of groups and students per group, it was the matter of good understanding the task

