

1. INTRODUCTION

ProjectOverview:

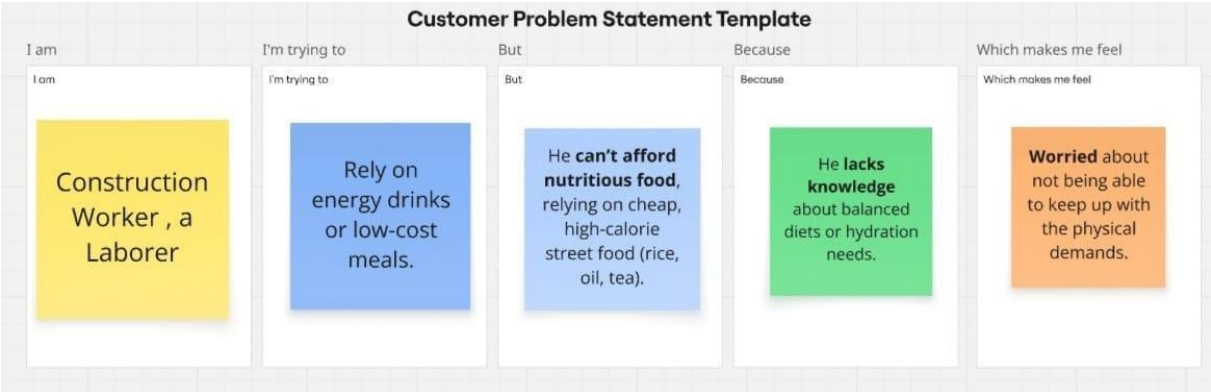
This project, titled "Comprehensive Analysis and Dietary Strategies with Tableau: A College Food Choices Case Study," aims to explore and understand the food habits, dietary patterns, and nutritional behaviors of college students using interactive data visualization tools. With the rising concern for student wellness and mental health on campuses, analyzing food choices can provide significant insights into their physical health, lifestyle preferences, and potential areas for intervention.

Purpose:

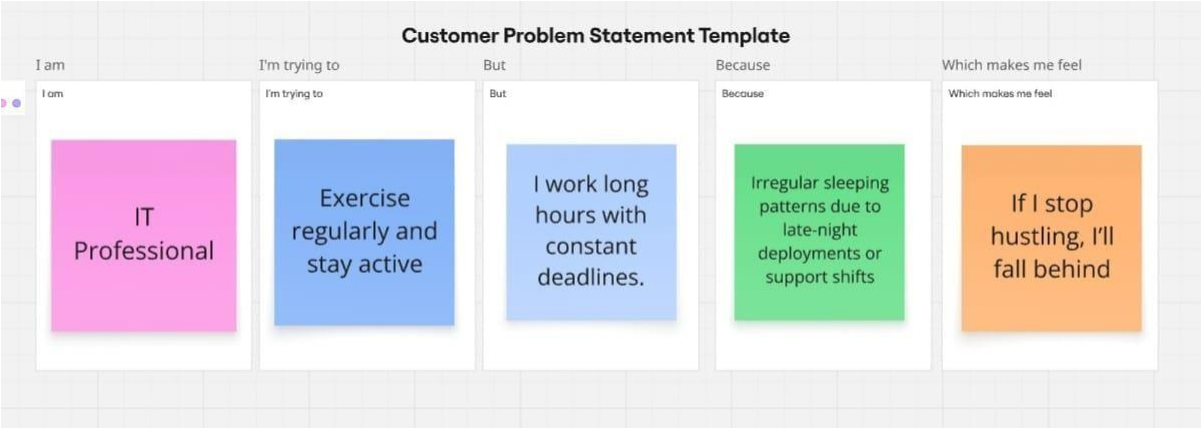
The primary purpose of this case study is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of college students' food choices and dietary habits using advanced data visualization tools like Tableau. By leveraging real-time data collected from student surveys and behavioral patterns, the study aims to identify nutritional gaps, food preferences, cooking frequency, and health perceptions among students. Through visual analytics, the project seeks to uncover correlations between diet patterns and lifestyle factors such as GPA, exercise frequency, stress levels, and well-being.

2. IDEATION PHASE

Problem Statement 1:

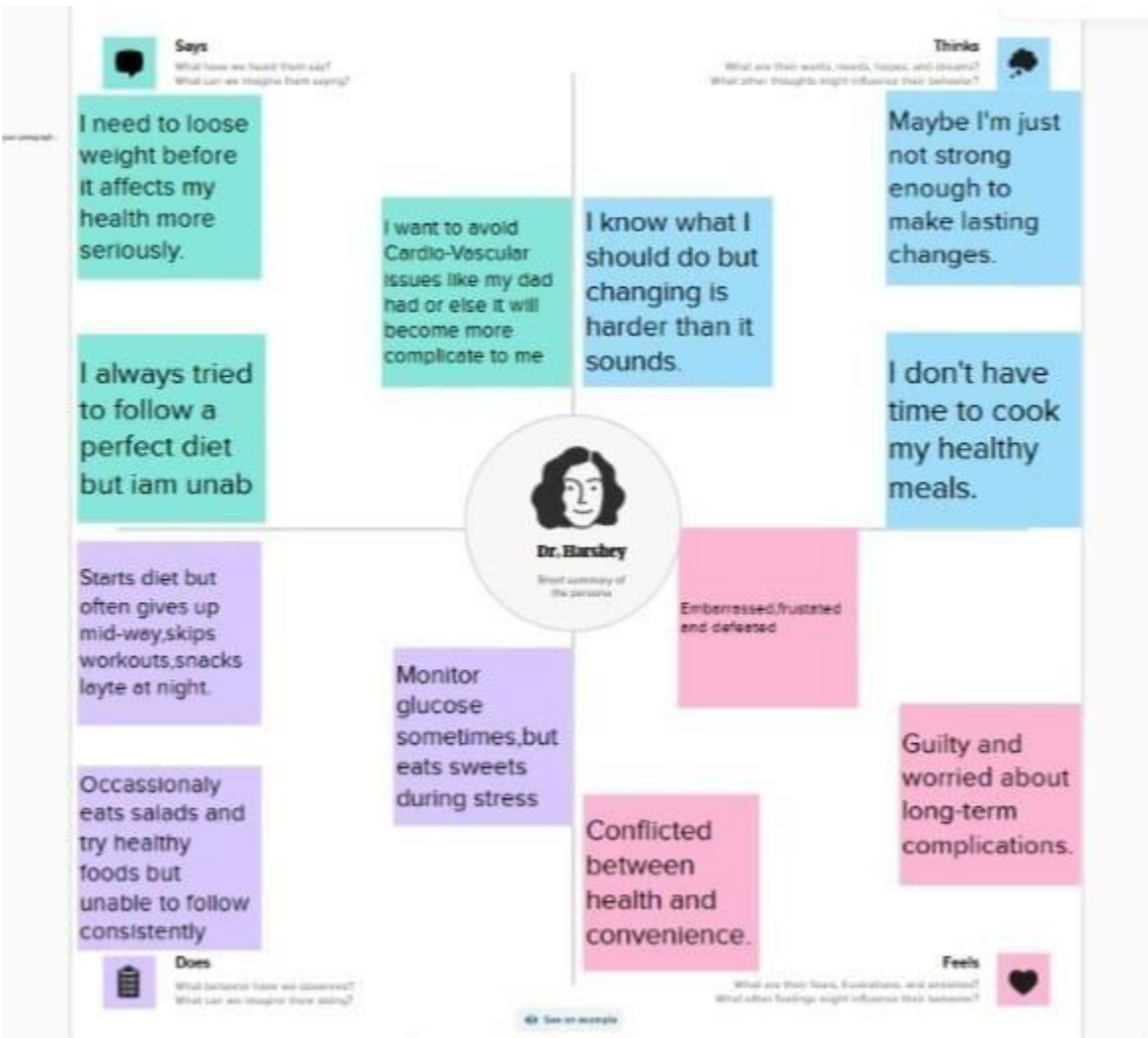


Problem Statement 2:



Problem Statement(PS)	I am (Customer)	I’m trying to	But	Because	Which makes me feel
PS-1	Construction Worker	Rely on energy drinks or low-cost meals	Can’t afford nutritious food, relying on cheap, high-calorie, street food	He lacks knowledge about balanced or hydration needs	Worried about not being able to keep up with the physical demands.
PS-2	IT Professional	Exercise regularly and stay active	I work long hours with constant deadlines	Irregular sleeping patterns due to late-night deployments or support shifts	If I stop hustling, I’ll fall behind

Empathy Map Canvas



Brainstorming
Step-1: Team Gathering, Collaboration and Select the Problem Statement

Brainstorm & idea prioritization

Use this template in your own brainstorming sessions so your team can unleash their imagination and start shaping concepts even if you're not sitting in the same room.

🕒 10 minutes to prepare
🕒 1 hour to collaborate
👤 2-8 people recommended

➔ **Before you collaborate**

A little bit of preparation goes a long way with this session. Here's what you need to do to get going.

🕒 10 minutes

A Team gathering
Define who should participate in the session and send an invite. Share relevant information or pre-work ahead.

B Set the goal
Think about the problem you'll be focusing on solving in the brainstorming session.

C Learn how to use the facilitation tools
Use the Facilitation Superpowers to run a happy and productive session.

[Open article](#) ➔

1 Define your problem statement

What problem are you trying to solve? Frame your problem as a How Might We statement. This will be the focus of your brainstorm.

🕒 5 minutes

PROBLEM
How might we [your problem statement]?

Key rules of brainstorming
To run a smooth and productive session

- 🗣️ Stay in topic.
- 💡 Encourage wild ideas.
- 👂 Defer judgment.
- 👂 Listen to others.
- 🗣️ Go for volume.
- 👁️ If possible, be visual.

Step-2: Brainstorm, Idea Listing and Grouping

Brainstorm

Write down any ideas that come to mind that address your problem statement.

🕒 10 minutes

Person 1

- Weekly meal planning helps avoid last-minute unhealthy food choices.
- Include all food groups: **vegetables, fruits, lean proteins, whole grains, and healthy fats**
- Stick to regular meal times to maintain **blood sugar balance**.

Person 2

- Ensure your diet includes all three macronutrients: carbohydrates, proteins, and healthy fats.
- Use smaller plates or measure servings to avoid overeating.
- Replace with complex carbs (sweet potatoes, brown rice) and natural sweeteners (fruits, stevia).

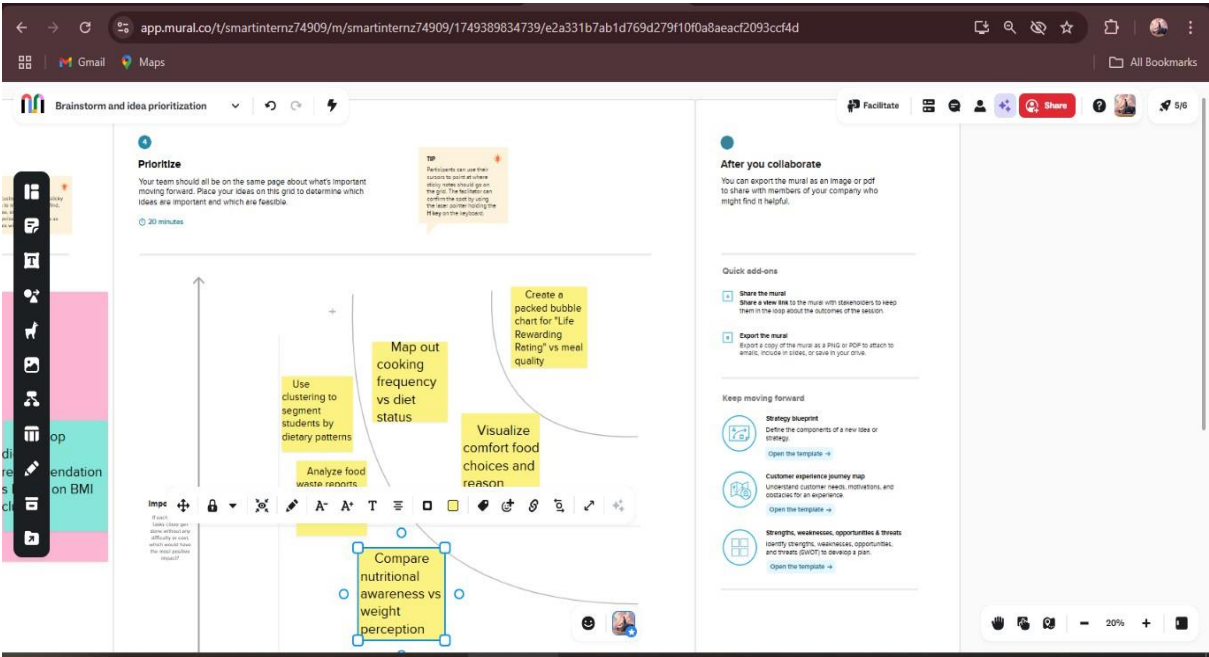
Group ideas

Take turns sharing your ideas while clustering similar or related notes as you go. Once all sticky notes have been grouped, give each cluster a sentence-like label. If a cluster is bigger than six sticky notes, try and see if you can break it up into smaller sub-groups.

🕒 20 minutes

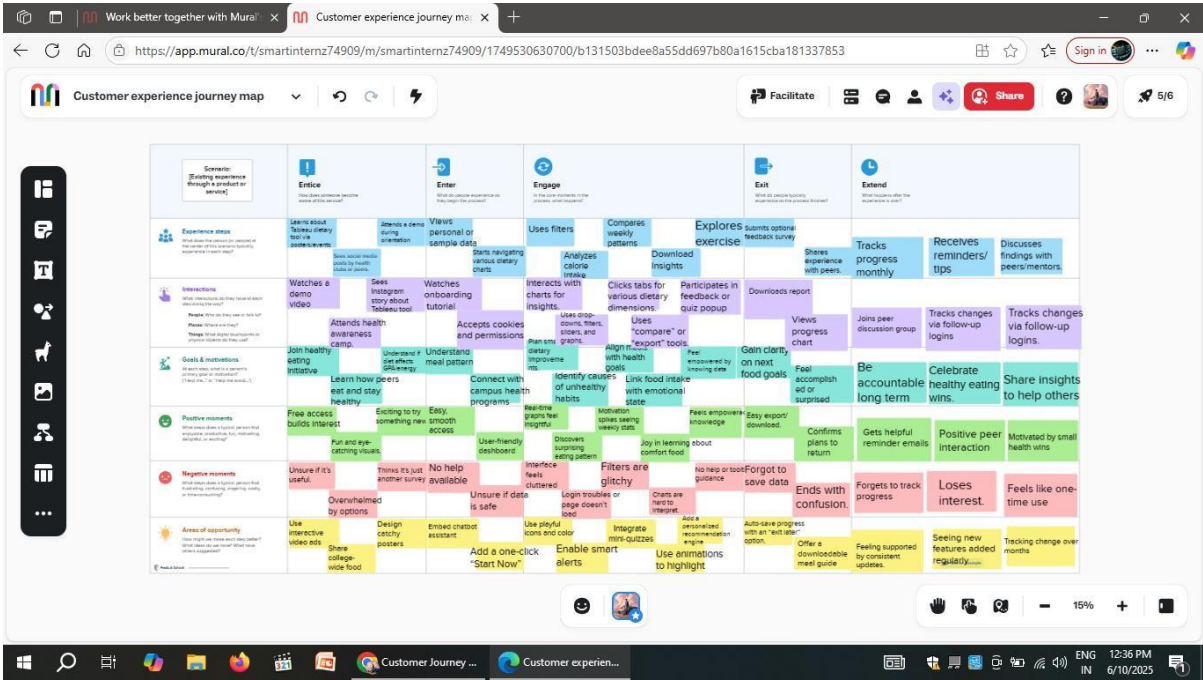
- Analyze payment methods for food (cash/card/subscription) vs consumption habit.
- Detect trends in eating out frequency and its impact on academic performance.
- Visualize comfort food choices and reason.
- Analyze calorie intake per student by meal type (breakfast/ lunch/dinner).
- Identify popular cuisines and dietary preferences by demographic group.
- Develop dietary recommendations based on BMI clusters.

Step-3: Idea Prioritization



3. REQUIREMENTANALYSIS

CustomerJourneymap



SolutionRequirement

FunctionalRequirements:

Followingarethefunctionalrequirementsoftheproposedsolution.

FR No.	FunctionalRequirement(Epic)	SubRequirement(Story/Sub-Task)
FR-1	DataCollection&Extractionfrom Database	Downloadingthedatasetofthetask
FR-2	Collectthedataset	Collectingtherequired datasetforperformingthefollowingtask
FR-3	Connect datawithTableau	Connectingthedatasettothetableaupublicdesktoptoperformvisualizations.
FR-4	DataPreparation	Preparingofthedataset inordertoformvisualizations
FR-4	PreparetheDataforVisualization	Completepreparationofdatasetwhichincludes: 1. Cleaning 2. Pre-Processing 3. Data Interpretation 4. Assigningtherowsandcolumnstothedata
FR-5	Data Visualizations	Withusingthedatasetcreatinginteractivevisualizations
FR-6	NoofUniqueVisualizations	Creatingthefollowingvisualizations: 1. GPADistribution 2. GenderDistribution 3. Breakfast distribution 4. CalorieConsumptionperday 5. FavouriteComfortFoods 6. ComfortFoodReasons 7. CookingFrequencyperweek 8. Cuisine Preferences 9. DietStatus 10. ExerciseFrequency 11. EmployeeStatus 12. HealthyFeeling 13. LifeRewarding Rating 14. Marital Status 15. NutritionalCheck 16. ParentalCookingHabits 17. Meal PaymentHabits 18. WeightSelfPerception 19. SportsParticipation 20. VitaminIntake 21. Weight Distribution 22. Eating out 23. CoffeeConsumption
FR-8	ResponsiveandDesignof Dashboard	Creatingwell-designed,user-friendly,andinteractiveinterfacethatadjustsintelligentlyto differentscreensizes,userneeds,anddata insights
FR-9	NoofScenes ofStory	Creationofdistinctvieworvisualegmentofyour story—typically, eachdashboard tab

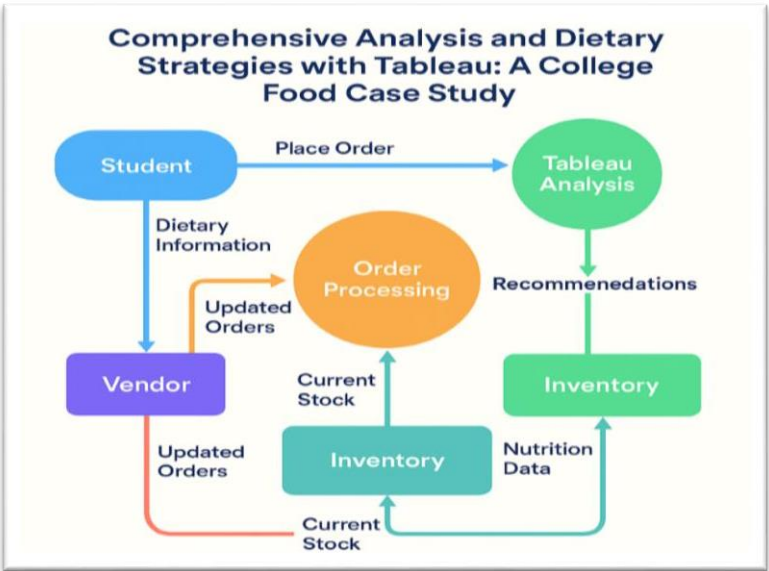
		or narrative step into tools like Tableau.
FR-10	Performance Testing	Load Testing Simulate multiple users or large dataset to test response time & limits Query Performance Analysis Measure query speed, indexing, joins, filters, and aggregations Dashboard Rendering Speed Track how long visualizations take to load/render in Tableau, Power BI Data Refresh/ETL Timing Time taken to extract, transform, and load data (ETL pipelines) Resource Utilization Monitoring Track CPU, memory, disk usage while running queries or dashboards
FR-11	Utilization of Data Filters	1. Remove irrelevant or noisy data (e.g., females, only high GPA, only 2024 data) exploration by end users 2. Focus on specific groups (e.g., only 3. Enable dynamic
FR-12	No of Calculation Fields	• Create new metrics (e.g., BMI = weight/height ²) Simplify complex expressions in charts • Categorize or group data logically Customize visualizations and filters
FR-13	No of Visualizations/Graph	Making of different visualizations depending on the different fields
FR-14	Web Integration	Embed Dashboards into Websites: Use iFrames or embed code (e.g., Tableau Public) to show dashboards directly on a webpage Share via Web Links: Publish dashboards to Tableau Server, Public, or Power BI service and share link Create Embedded Portals: Build internal web portals that centralize dashboards and filters for user. Use Tracking and Analytics: Embed Google Analytics or logging scripts to track how users interact with dashboards.
FR-15	Record explanation Video for project end to end solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Define Your Objective Decide your goal: showcase insights, explain process, or present to recruiters?➤ Create a Script or Storyboard Plan what you'll say for each section (introduction, problem, process, output)➤ Set Up Your Tools Install tools like OBS Studio, Zoom, PowerPoint Recorder.➤ Open All Project Files Open Tableau dashboards, dataset (e.g., Excel/CSV), and any code if applicable➤ Record Voice + Screen Start screen recording with your narration explaining:
FR-16	Project Documentation- Step by step project development procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Project Title Choose a clear, meaningful title (e.g., <i>Comprehensive Dietary Analysis with Tableau</i>)➤ Introduction Write a brief overview of the problem, goal, and why it matters➤ Objective State the aim (e.g., "To analyze eating habits and health patterns of students")➤ Dataset Description Explain the source, format (CSV), size, columns, and what each field represents➤ Data Cleaning Document how you handled missing values, outliers, irrelevant columns➤ Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) List initial observations using basic charts (counts, averages, etc.)

Non-functional Requirements:
Following are the non-functional requirements of the proposed solution.

FR No.	Non-Functional Requirement	Description
NFR-1	Usability	Students can reflect on their eating and fitness behaviours. Researchers can use visual trends to publish findings on youth nutrition
NFR-2	Security	Remove or mask personal identifiers (e.g., names, student IDs) Ensure that even combined field identifiers
NFR-3	Reliability	Follows visualization and design best practice Includes documentation and transparent insights

Data Flow Diagram

A Data Flow Diagram (DFD) is a traditional visual representation of the information flows within a system. A neat and clear DFD can depict the right amount of the system requirement graphically. It shows how data enters and leaves the system, what changes the information, and where data is stored.



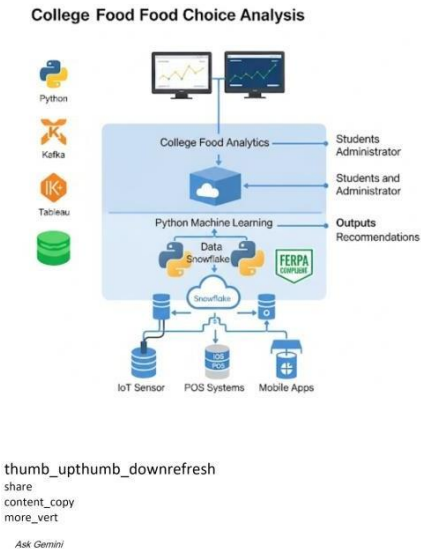
Entities:

- Customer(ExternalEntity):**The student or college user providing inputs such as food preferences, health data, or placing a food order.
- Inventory(DataStore):**Contains available food items, ingredients, nutritional information, and stock levels.
- Tableau Analysis(Process):**The core analytical system that processes and visualizes data.
- Order Process(Process):**Handles selection, customization, and fulfillment of food orders.

User Stories:

UserType	Functional Requirement (Epic)	User Story Number	UserStory/Task	Acceptancecriteria	Priority	Release
Student(Mobile User)	Registration	USN-1	. As a user, I can register by entering my name, email, and	I can successfully create and log into an account.	High	sprint1
	Data Input	USN-2	As a user, I can enter my daily food intake and mood.	I can save and view my input for each day	High	Sprint2
	Dashboard	USN-3	As a user, I can view visual reports of my food preference	Visualizations are personalized and reflect data	High	Sprint3
	Diet Suggestion	USN-4	As a user, I can get personalized dietary suggestions	I receive a weekly meal recommendation.	Medium	Sprint3
	Feedback	USN-5	As a user, I can submit feedback about the food quality or dashboard usability	Feedback is stored and acknowledged.	Medium	Sprint3
Researcher (Web User)	Dashboard Analytics	USN-6	As a researcher, I can analyze student dietary trends using Tableau dashboards.	I can filter data by gender, GPA, or dietary habit	High	Sprint1
	Export Report	USN-7	As a researcher, I can export visuals and summary reports for research publications.	Reports are downloadable in PDF and Excel format	Medium	Sprint2
	Data Comparison	USN-8	As a researcher, I can compare food trends across semesters or departments	Comparative charts are generated from historical data.	Medium	Sprint3
Nutrition Analyst/Admin	Food Inventory Insight	USN-9	As an admin, I can review and moderate data submitted	I can approve or flag entries that are inconsistent or inappropriate	High	Sprint1

Technology Stack
Technical Architecture:



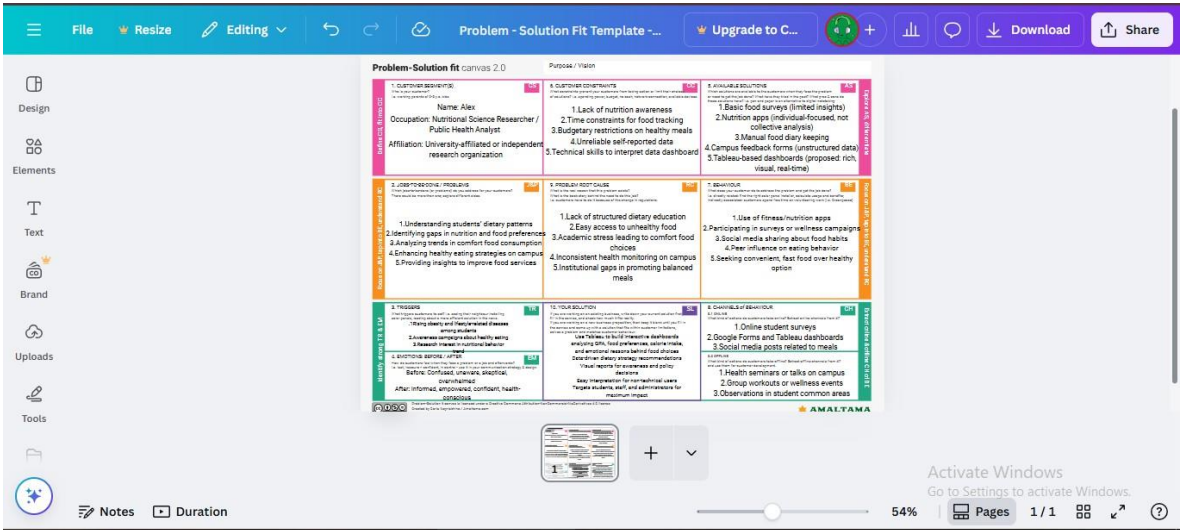
S.No	Component	Description	Technology
1.	User Interface	How user interacts with application	ReactJS,HTML5,CSS3
2.	ApplicationLogic-1	Logic to process and analyze user input	Python(Flask/Django
3.	ApplicationLogic-2	Data visualization and dashboard logic	Tableau Public/Tableau Desktop
4.	ApplicationLogic-3	Recommendation logic for dietary suggestions	Python with Scikit-learn
5.	Database	Storage of user inputs, food logs, and feedback	MySQL
6.	Cloud Database	Scalable cloud-based data storage	.Firebase/ AWS RDS
7.	File Storage	Store uploaded food photos or reports	AWS S3/Local Filesystem
8.	External API-1	Nutrition analysis API for food logging	Edamam Nutrition API
9.	External API-2	GPA and academic data for correlation	University Academic Portal API
10.	Machine Learning Model	Suggest healthy eating patterns	.Diet Recommendation ML Model (Sklearn)
11.	Infrastructure (Server/Cloud)	Cloud-based deployment	AWS EC2/Azure Web Apps

Table-2: Application Characteristics:

S.No	Characteristics	Description	Technology
1.	Open-Source Frameworks	Front-end and back-end frameworks	ReactJS, Flask, Python, MySQL
2.	Security Implementations	Authentication, encryption, access control	OAuth2.0, SHA-256, HTTPS, Firebase Auth
3.	Scalable Architecture	Expandable across institutions using microservices	3-tier Architecture with Docker
4.	Availability	High availability with distributed architecture	AWS Load Balancer, Multi-Zone Deployment
5.	Performance	Fast rendering and data fetch	CDN, Tableau Extracts, In-memory cache

4. PROJECT DESIGN

Problem Solution Fit



Proposed Solution

Proposed Solution for the topic: Comprehensive Analysis and Dietary strategies with tableau: A college food case study.

S.No.	Parameter	Description
1.	Problem Statement (Problem to be solved)	College students often face issues related to unhealthy dietary habits due to poor food choices, limited nutritional awareness, and stress-related eating. There is a lack of a unified system to analyze and improve their dietary behaviour using real-time data.
2.	Idea/Solution description	The project proposes a Tableau-based interactive dashboard system that aggregates student dietary data, including GPA, meal types, calorie intake, comfort food reasons, and more. The visualizations will reveal hidden trends, support informed food decisions, and help university authorities craft effective dietary strategies
3.	Novelty/Uniqueness	This solution uniquely combines academic performance, emotional food behavior, and nutrition analysis in a user-friendly Tableau's capabilities to present personalized insights and cross-functional analysis
4.	Social Impact/Customer Satisfaction	By improving awareness of food choices and their consequences, this project can enhance student well-being, reduce obesity and mental health issues, and drive campus-wide initiatives for healthier eating. Students, researchers, and institutions benefit from actionable insights
5.	Business Model (Revenue Model)	The model can be monetized by licensing the dashboard system to universities, wellness centers, and nutrition consultancies. Additional revenue can be generated via workshops, analytics subscriptions, and collaborative research grants
6.	Scalability of the Solution	The solution can scale to multiple campuses and integrate with other datasets like mental health scores, sports activity logs, and wearable device data. The Tableau system can be expanded with real-time mobile input and multi-language support

SolutionArchitecture

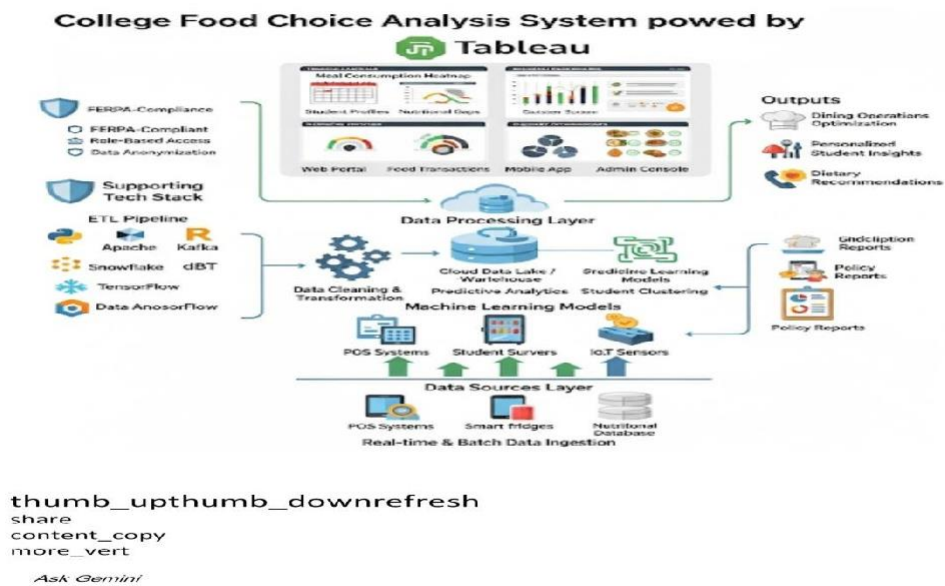


Figure 1: Architecture and data flow of the

Comprehensive Analysis and Dietary strategies with tableau: A college food case study.

5. PROJECT PLANNING & SCHEDULING

Project Planning
Product Backlog, Sprint Schedule, and Estimation (4 Marks)

Use the below template to create product backlog and sprint schedule

Sprint	Functional Requirement(Epic)	User Story Number	User Story/Task	Story Points	Priority	Team Members
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Sprint-1	DataCollection&Cleaning	USN-1	.Asauser,Icanimportandcleancollegefood choice data from survey datasets	3	High	Member1
Sprint1	DataStructuring	USN-2	Asauser,Icancategorizedatabyfieldslike Cuisine Preference, Calorie Count, etc.	2	High	Member1
Sprint2	VisualizationSetup	USN-3	Asauser,IcancreatechartslikeGPAvs. Diet Status, Comfort Food Reasonsusing Tableau	3	High	Member1
Sprint2	Interactive Dashboard	USN-4	Asauser,Icanfilter visualizationsbased ongender,frequency,cookinghabits,etc.	3	Medium	Member1
Sprint3	Analysis& Insights	USN-5	Asauser,Icananalyzedietimpactonstudent well-being using visual patterns	4	High	Member2
Sprint3	Recommendation System	USN-6	Asauser,Icanviewpersonalizeddietary recommendationsbasedonstudentgroup profiles	3	Medium	Member2
Sprint4	ReportGeneration	USN-7	Asauser,Icanexport visualsandinsights	2	Medium	Member2

Sprint	Functional Requirement(Epic)	UserStory Number	UserStory/Task	StoryPoints	Priority	Team Members
			intoasummarizedreport			
Sprint4	FinalPresentation	USN-8	Asauser,IcanviewthecompleteTableau story for presentation to stakeholders	2	Medium	Member2

ProjectTracker,Velocity&BurndownChart:(4Marks)

Sprint	TotalStory Points	Duration	SprintStartDate	SprintEndDate (Planned)	StoryPoints Completed (as on PlannedEndDate)	SprintReleaseDate (Actual)
Sprint-1	5	3 Days	172025	192025	5	19June2025
Sprint-2	6	3 Days	20 2025	222025	6	22June2025
Sprint-3	7	3 Days	232025	24 2025	6	24June2025
Sprint-4	4	3 Days	252025	26 2025	6	26June2025

Velocity:

Imagine we have a10-day sprintduration,and the velocityof the teamis23 (pointspersprint).Let’s calculatetheteam’s average velocity(AV)per iteration unit (story points per day)

$$AV = \text{SprintDuration} / \text{Velocity}$$

🔍TotalStoryPointsCompleted= 5+6+6+6=23points

📅TotalSprintDays=3+3+2+2=10 days

Velocity=23storypoints/10days

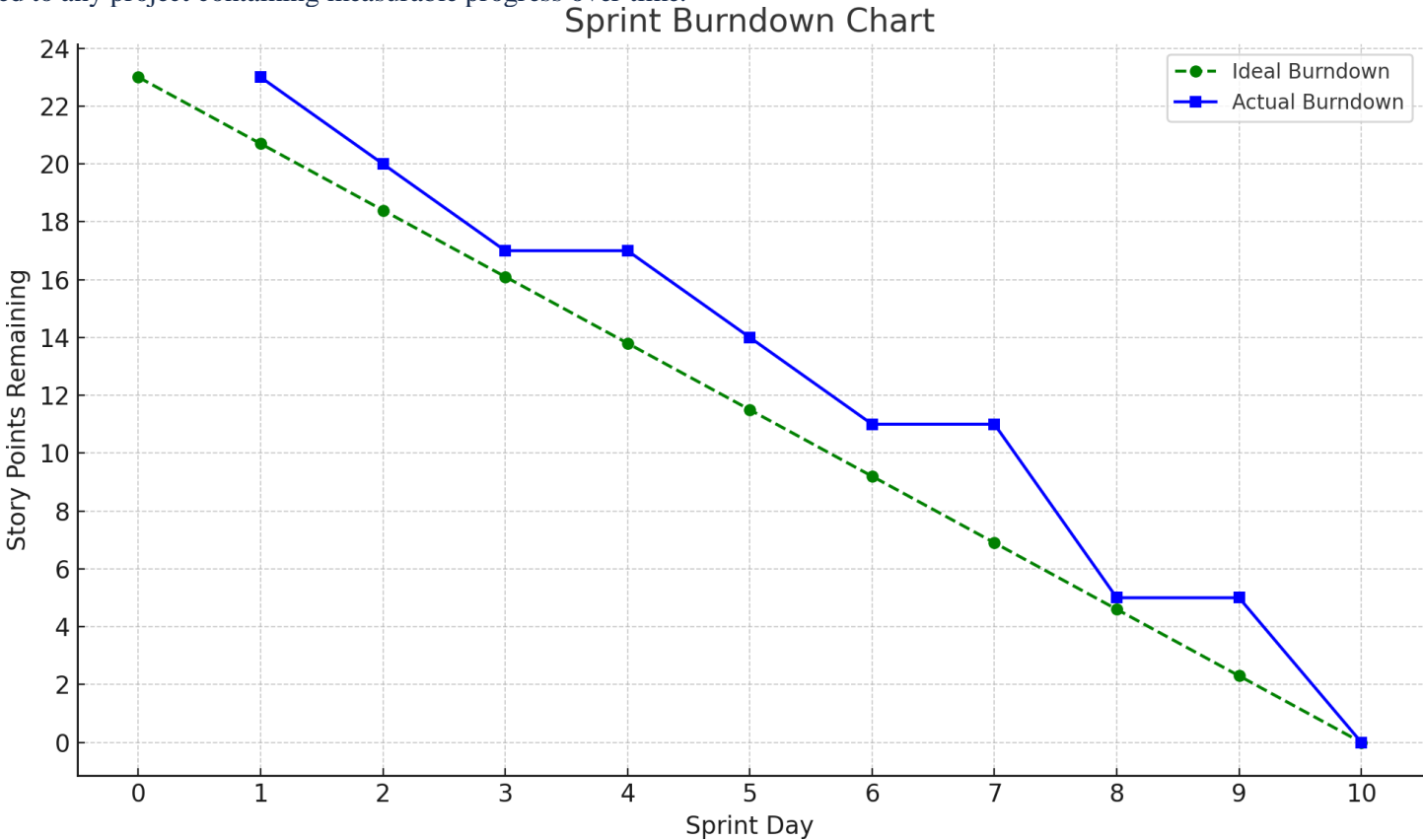
= 2.3story points/day

🔍FinalAnswer:

TeamVelocity=2.3 storypointsperday

BurndownChart:

A burndownchart is a graphical representation of work left to do versus time.It is often used in agile software development methodology such as Scrum. However, burn down charts can be applied to any project containing measurable progress over time.



Here's the **BurndownChart** for your project:

- **Green dashed line:** Ideal progress assume in steady velocity of 2.3storypoints/day.
- **Blue line:** Actual progress based on your sprint completions.

The chart shows that our team maintained a consistent pace and slightly out performed the ideal velocity near the end.

6. FUNCTIONALANDPERFORMANCETESTING

6.1PerformanceTesting

ModelPerformanceTesting:

S.No.	Parameter	Screenshot/Values
1.	DataRendered	CSVdatafromcollegefoodpreferencesurvey(food_coded.csv)wasrendered into Tableau. Dataset Size: 6MB No.ofRows:125 No.of Columns:61
2.	DataPreprocessing	1)Removednullvalues 2)Standardized categories (e.g., comfort food types). 3)Convertednumericfields(e.g.,calorieintake,GPA).

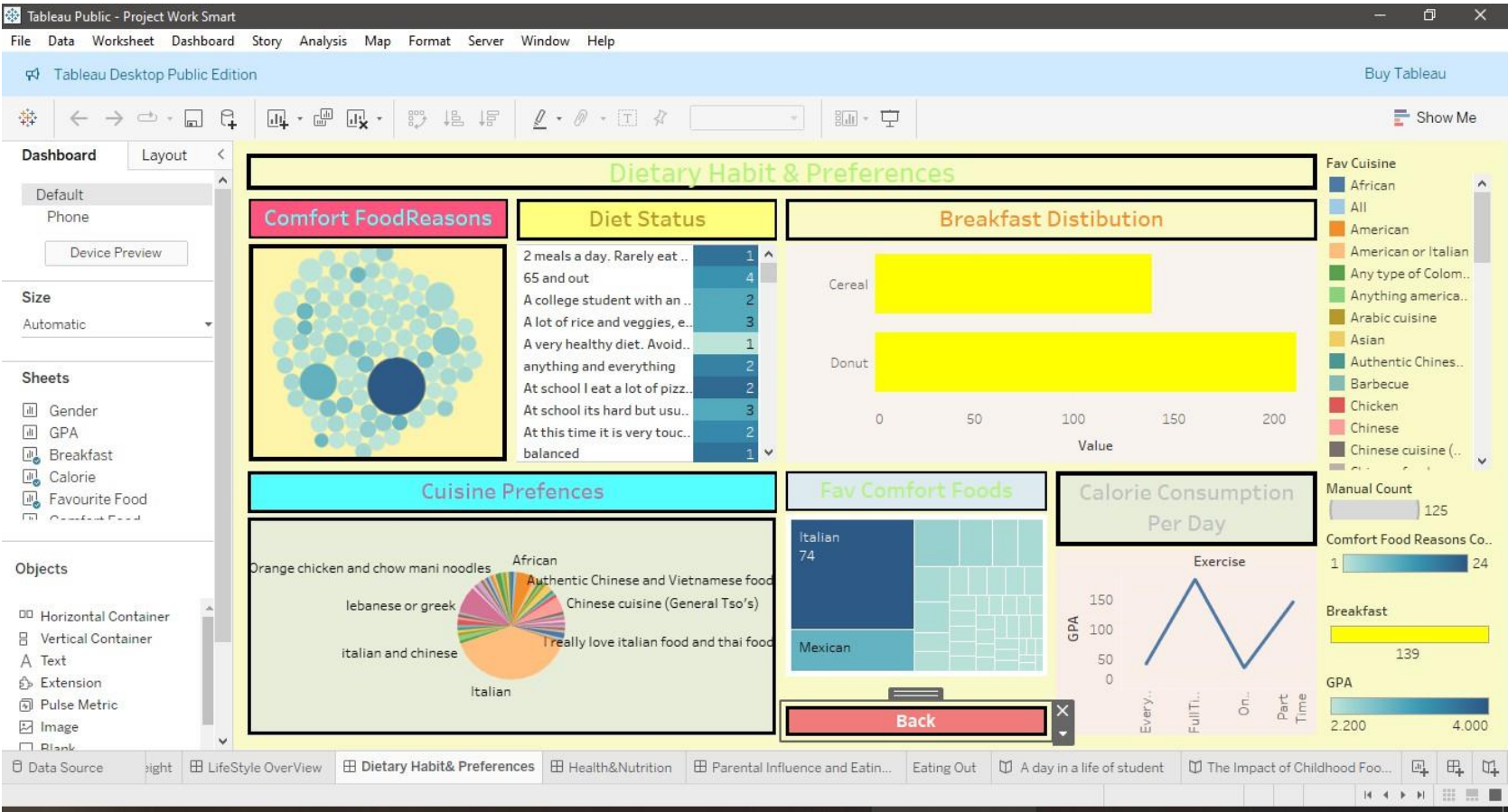
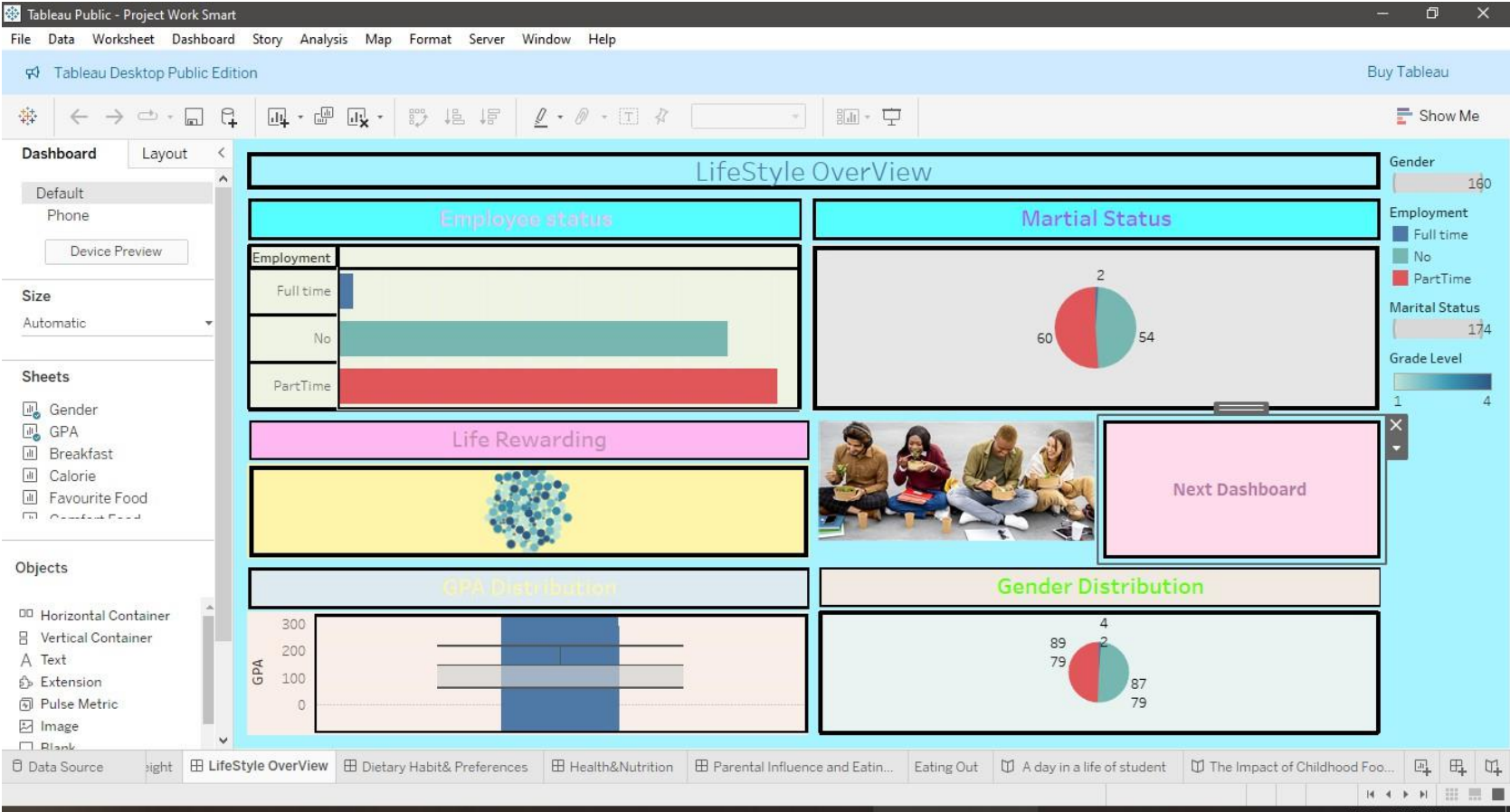
3.	UtilizationofFilters	<p>Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender• DietType/ Status• Cooking Frequency• CuisinePreference• ComfortFood Types• MealPayment Method• ParentalCooking Habits• WeightSelf-Perception• ExerciseFrequency• VitaminIntake• Healthy Feeling• LifeRewardingRating• MaritalStatus• StudentGPA(usingranges)
4.	CalculationfieldsUsed	<p>Createdcalculatedfields: BMI Category ComfortFoodCount HealthyEatingIndex.</p>
5.	Dashboarddesign	<p>NoofVisualizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. GPADistribution2. GenderDistribution3. Breakfastdistribution4. CalorieConsumptionperday5. FavouriteComfort Foods6. ComfortFoodReasons7. CookingFrequencyperweek8. CuisinePreferences9. DietStatus10. ExerciseFrequency11. EmployeeStatus12. HealthyFeeling13. Life RewardingRating14. Marital Status15. NutritionalCheck16. ParentalCookingHabits17. MealPaymentHabits18. WeightSelfPerception19. SportsParticipation20. VitaminIntake21. WeightDistribution22. Eatingout23. CoffeeConsumption <p>No.ofDashboards:</p> <p>1. ResponsiveandDesignofDashboard:6visualizations</p> <p>2. DietaryHabitsandPreferences:6Visualizations</p> <p>3. HealthandNutrition:5Visualizations</p> <p>4. ParentalInfluenceandEatingOut:3Visualizations</p>

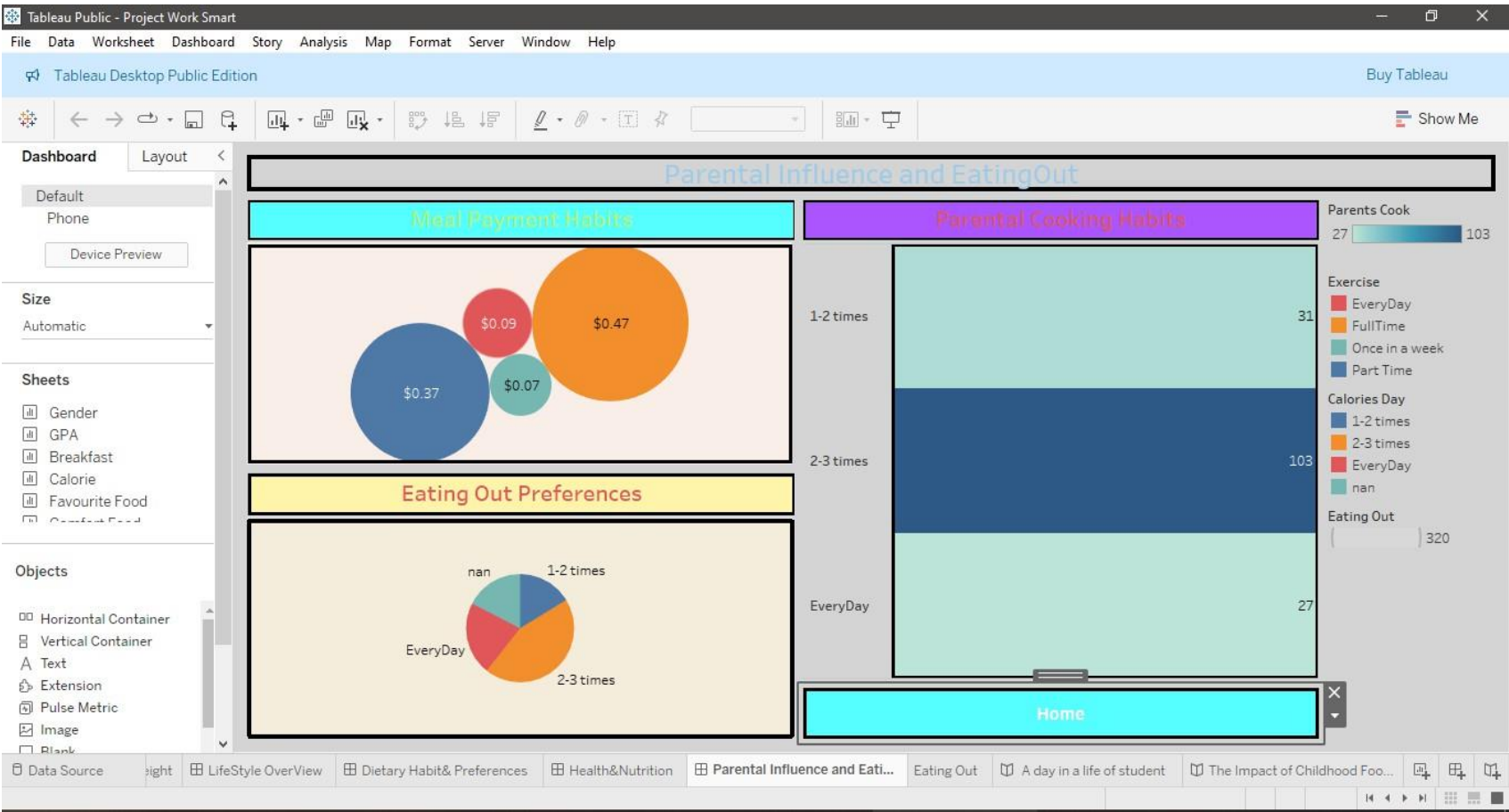
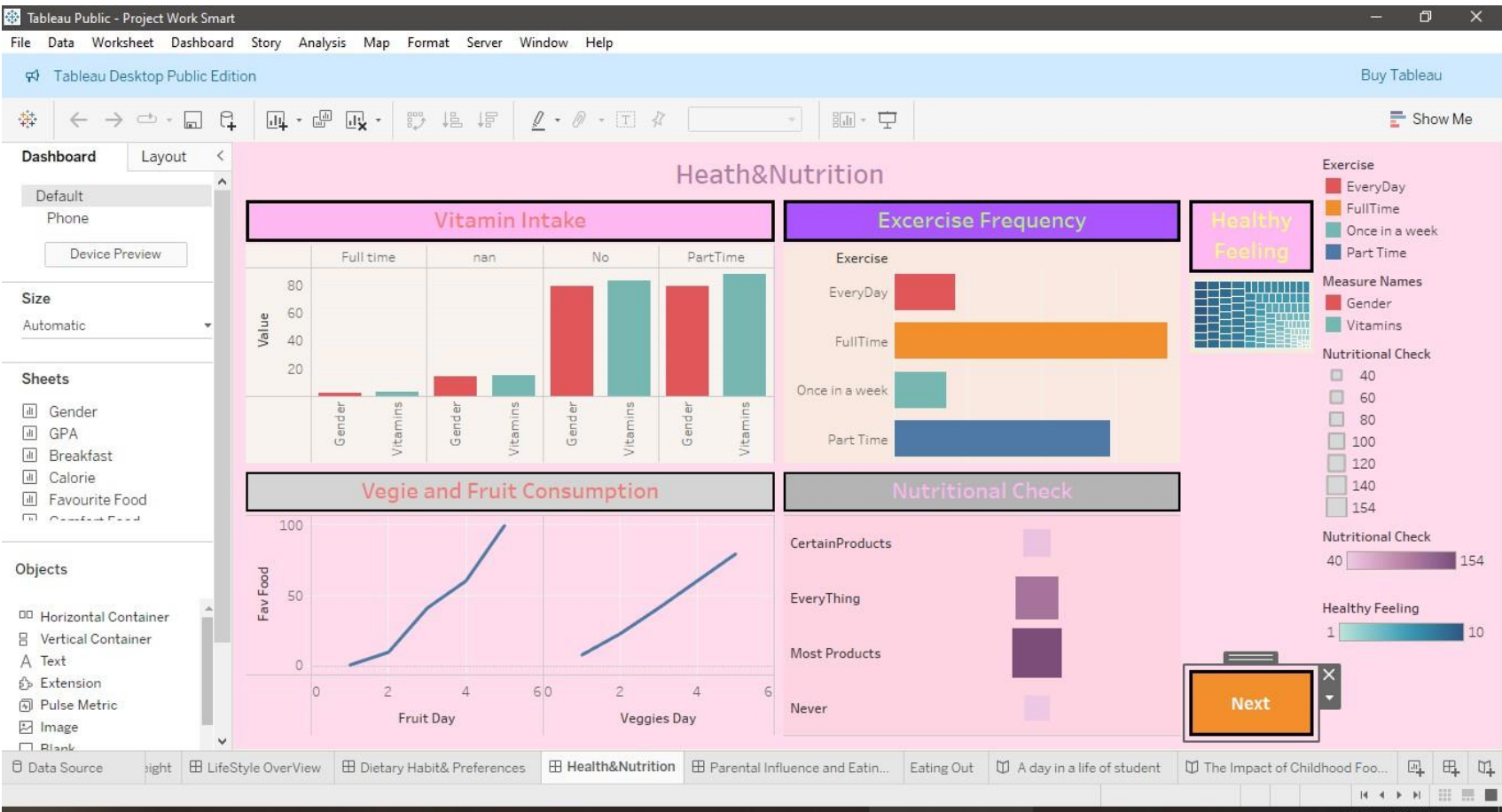
6	StoryDesign	<div>Noof Stories:<div><div>1) AdayinalifeofStudent:5Visualizations</div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div>2)The Impact of Childhood Food Preferences on Adult</div></div><div>Choices:</div><div>4 Visualizations</div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div>
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7. RESULTS

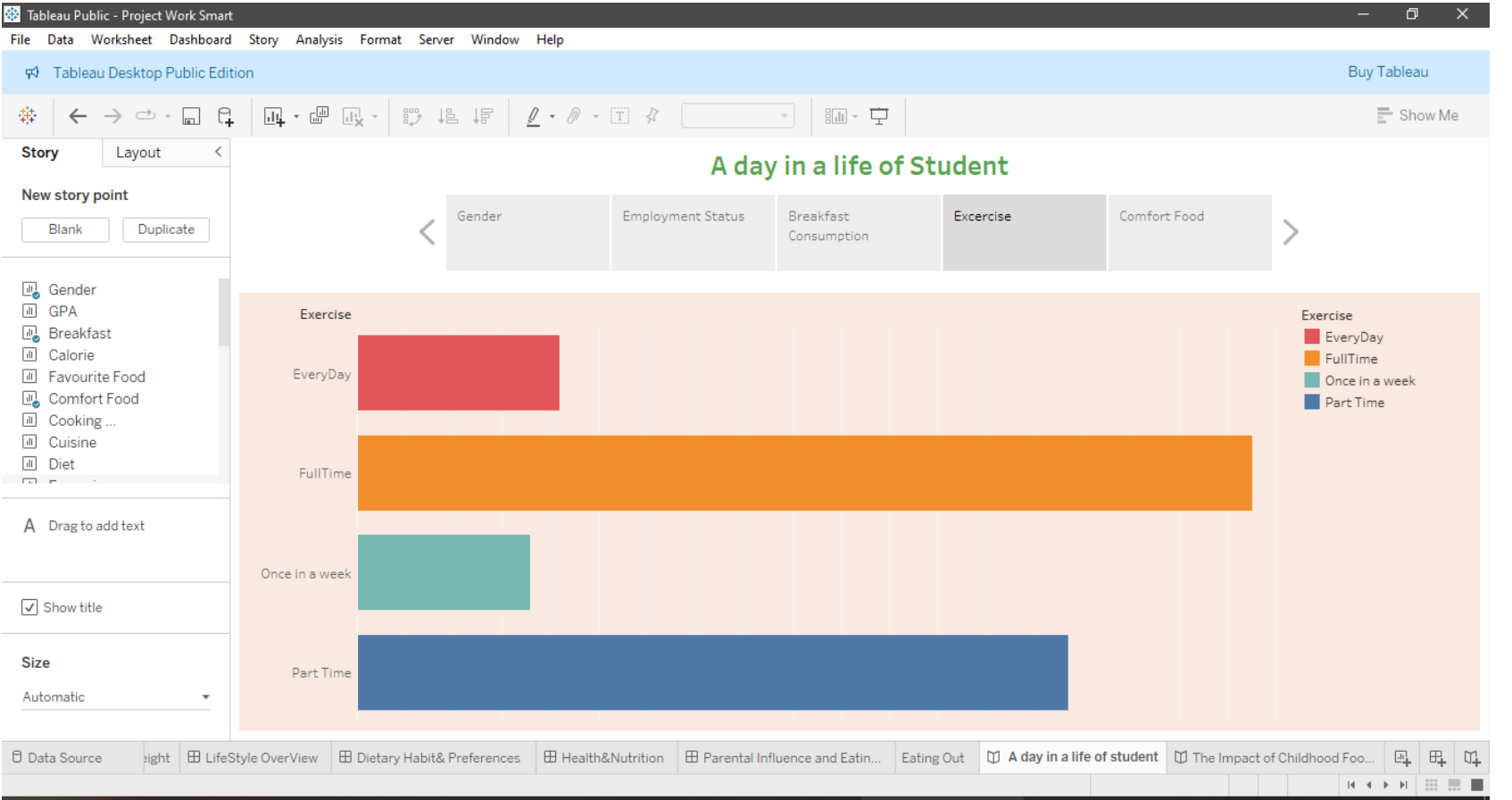
OutputScreenshots

DASHBOARDSCREENSHOTS





No.OfStories





8. **ADVANTAGES&DISADVANTAGES:**

Advantages:

1. **Data-DrivenInsights**

- Enables in-depthanalysisofstudents’ foodhabits, dietarypatterns, andnutritionalbehavior usingreal-timedata visualization.

2. **VisualClaritywith Tableau**

- Tableauprovidesinteractivedashboards thatsimplifycomplexdata,makingpatternsandtrendseasierto understandforall stakeholders.

3,**Identification ofHealth Trends**

- Helpsinidentifying issueslikelowvitamin intake,highjunkfoodpreference,orirregularmealtimingamongstudents.

4. **CustomizableDietaryStrategies**

- Facilitatesthecreationofpersonalizeddiet plans basedonstudent groups(e.g.,bygender, exercise level, mealpreference)

Disadvantages:

1. **DataCollection Challenges**

- Gatheringaccurate, consistent,andhonestresponses fromcollegestudentscanbedifficultandtime-consuming.

2. **PrivacyConcerns**

- Handlingsensitive informationabouteating habitsandhealthwithoutproperanonymizationmayraiseethicalandprivacy issues.

3. **SkillRequirements**

- RequiresproficiencyinTableauanddataanalysis,whichmightbeabarrierfornon-technicalusers.

4. **DynamicBehaviorChanges**

- Studentfoodchoicescanchange frequentlyduetostress,budget,orschedule, making it hardto maintainconsistent analysis

9. **CONCLUSION**

- 1.Thecomprehensiveanalysisofcollegefoodchoices usingTableaurevealssignificantinsightsintothedietaryhabits, preferences, and nutritional awareness of students
- 2.Thevisualdashboardeffectivelycommunicatehowdemographic elementssuchasgender, academicstress,andexerciseroutines influence diet quality and nutritional choices.
- 3.This study emphasizes theimportanceofbalanced diets andtargetedinterventions topromotehealthier eatingbehaviors incollege environments.
- 4.TheTableauplatformenabledclear identificationof gaps—suchaslowvitaminintakeor irregular mealpatterns—andsuggested strategies to improve student well-being through informed food planning and education.

Overall, this case study demonstrates the power of data analytics in driving awareness, encouraging healthier lifestyles, and supporting decision-makers—suchas campus diningservices and healthcounselors—increatingimpactfuldietarystrategies tailoredtotheneeds of

the student population.

10. FUTURESCOPE

The integration of data analytics and visualization in dietary strategy development holds immense promise for shaping healthier college environments. Based on this study, several future directions can be explored:

- 1. **•Personalized Nutrition Recommendations**
Advanced analytics can be combined with machine learning algorithms to offer personalized meal suggestions tailored to an individual's health profile, dietary preferences, and academic schedule.
- 2. **•Integration with Real-Time Health Monitoring**
Wearable devices and mobile health apps can be integrated with Tableau dashboards to track calorie intake, physical activity, sleep patterns, and stress levels for real-time feedback and intervention.
- 3. **•Predictive Modeling for Health Outcomes**
Using historical and demographic data, predictive models can be developed to foresee potential health risks such as obesity, diabetes, or nutritional deficiencies among students.
- 4. **•Behavioral Pattern Recognition**
Incorporating behavioral data can help identify triggers of unhealthy eating habits (e.g., exam stress, late-night cravings), allowing for the design of targeted educational interventions.
- 5. **•Scalability to Other Institutions**
The study framework can be adapted for other colleges or universities, enabling benchmarking and comparative studies across different demographics and geographies.
- 6. **Policy-Making and Institutional Planning**
Findings can inform campus food service planning, menu redesign, and policy changes to promote sustainable, nutritious, and culturally inclusive food choices.

11. APPENDIX

Source Code (if any) Dataset Link:

https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/borapajo/food-choices?select=food_coded.csv

Team Git Hub Link: <https://github.com/harshidunthala/Comprehensive-analysis-and-dietary-strategies-with-Tableau-a-college-food-choices-case-study>.

Team Leader Github Link: <https://github.com/harshidunthala/Comprehensive-analysis-and-dietary-strategies-with-Tableau-a-college-food-choices-case-study>.

Team Member Github Link: <https://github.com/shaikabid123/comprehensive-analysis-and-dietary-strategies-with-tableau-a-college-food-choices-case-study>

Video Demo Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ygbMMsi7B06RcC5Zk_4bW_MAfVgFd5Ph/view