Team Assessment Report

Harsh Patel and Ayo Afon were both amazing group members. Their diligence and determination to produce a working final prototype really showed this entire semester. Before I analyze them both individually, I just wanted to say that it was how we worked as a group which really led to our ultimate success this semester. Our project in comparison to others doesn’t seem as complicated, but in reality, it actually was very difficult due to the software implications and all the hardware that had to be figured out in order to make everything work.

Harsh was the software engineer in this project. This was mostly due to the fact that he had completed CSCI 1301 and is currently enrolled in CSCI 1302. Ayo and I unfortunately had not completed both of those. This was too our advantage as Harsh took full responsibility on all of these implications and it was not an easy task at all. There were many times when Harsh would work outside of our group meetings in order to figure out the code which was needed in order to engage the motor in either a forward or reverse motion as well as the Bluetooth module that was added which could engage the umbrella from a mobile app. This was probably the hardest thing to do because we used an app that had already been developed to use with our module. While this seems like cheating, the time frame that we had for the project did not allow us enough time to get an app developed and reviewed by the appropriate app store. Even though this is the case, the app did allow us to program functionality for forward reverse as well as on and off. Overall, Harsh was an exceptional teammate and he made the whole process a lot easier due to his hard work and intelligence.

Ayo was just as good of a teammate as Harsh, but he handled more of the hardware aspects of the build along with me. Ayo helped me find the parts that we needed in order to make the system work as well as helped with the entire assembly process. A lot of the parts that we were working with involved a lot of moving parts that could often involve things breaking or causing other issues. We learned in the process that you can take most motors and reverse the wires to send the motor to run forwards or backwards. That is what allowed Harsh to write the code for the switch between those wire orientations. Ayo made it to every meeting and worked hard to make sure the whole project was built quickly and efficiently. Overall, he was a great teammate who was very responsible and worked hard to finish the project quickly while still making sure it had functionality.

The reason that both of these boys’ roles were important was due to several factors. Given that we were a team of three people, we had to divide the work in a way that best suited our needs. Computer Systems is the application of computer based systems into things that are built. Given that computer systems involve both hardware and software programs, we made sure that both of these had a place in our group. However, there still had to be a group leader or project manager who had their hand in both sections in order to maintain the progress of the group and the project. Both Harsh and Ayo were very communicative during the entire process which made it quite easy to get the project done in a timely manner. While we got the project finished, our group could have relieved stress by not procrastinating, but that is expected from a group of college students who have a long time to work on a project. I think staying on schedule and spreading out the work load is a concept that we will take with us for a long time. It would have made the entire process a lot easier. Overall, the group was amazing, and everyone worked together to reach a common goal.