# Individual reflection: Devin Shingadia

# Contribution

I have contributed consistently throughout the duration of this coursework. In the early stages of the coursework, I helped to mediate the roles that were set, ensuring a cohesive working environment for group members was set up. During the early stages of the group work, I broke down the specification into tasks and deadlines that could be accomplished before the deadline.

I have helped to create the CRC Cards, as part of a group task, and I have also helped with creating some of the documentation for the classes. I also contributed towards the creation of the UML diagrams in the early stages of the group project.

During the duration of the coursework, my main focus has been on the GUI. The GUI is where I feel most comfortable working, and therefore my role was assigned to helping create the user interface and implementing some of the functionality behind it. I helped to create the grid that is shown on the interface, carrying out research and helping to implement the code which creates the grid based on the slider values, as a group activity.

I created the file loader, and helped to implement some of the scanner functionality, which reads the file and creates the grid based off that. Furthermore, I also created the labels that would update when the user loads a file. The labels would display useful information, such as the robot ID, and the coordinates. I also did this for the packing stations.

I helped to lay out a strategy which could be implemented, for the path finding algorithm. This strategy is the Manhattan distance. Although we did not opt to use this, my contribution was valuable as it helped to show the weaknesses of Manhattan distance.

During the earlier and later stages of the project, I contributed on the testing, making sure that the tests passed, and that they were able to test the functionality of distinct aspects of the simulation effectively.

I also worked on the report which is included in the submission, attempting to test how the system performs when we modify the parameters to various values. I have attempted to perform every test possible, based on what the system can currently carry out.

I have carried out a fair amount of research which contributed greatly to making the simulation work. Without my research we would not have known how to implement the grid.

# How the team has operated

Throughout the task, I feel as every single member has tried their best to complete this simulation. Each team member is dedicated, and will work to the best of their ability to carry out the required task that they have been allocated. From an early stage, the team set up a WhatsApp group chat so that we can communicate with each other and help each other out.

Each group member instantly got along, there was no clashes between group members. When a group member disagrees with another group member, they work together to resolve the issue and find a solution that is agreeable by both individuals.

Each group member strives to help each other out. If one group member has been stuck on an issue for a while, and asks another group member for assistance, the group member providing help will provide as much help as possible.

Even during the UCU strikes, we worked on the group project through Google Hangouts, ensuring that we make the most of our time and that we try to get the project completed well before the deadline.

After the strike period, we booked a room and we often spent 7-8 hour days in that one room, at least once a week, working on this piece of coursework. Getting nearer to the deadline, instead of spending one day, we spent multiple days of a week, each day consisting of at least 5-6 hours of work, solely focused on the group project.

When there is a major change in the simulation, the team member who is carrying out the change will ask the other team members for their view on the change, and if the group, as a whole, after communicating, feels as if the change is justified, then the change will go ahead.

I feel as if I have expanded my knowledge and skills with Java, working with this group. I would happily work with this group again, as each group member strives to help each other out as much as possible, creating a real productive environment.