

Project Skills Essay

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Introduction

This essay is made up of four different parts that will subsequently be addressed. The first part will give something away on the project and the entire team that conducted the project and several properties of the individual team members. In addition the project on its own is discussed and some background information about the context is provided. The second part consists of some information about process losses during the project. The focus herein is on the which types of process losses were applicable and how I think they're originated. The third part focusses mainly on the result of my social value orientation (SVO) test. In this part I will shine a light on whether or not I consider the results as a reflection on my personality. In the final part results of my fellow project members will be taken into consideration and I will review this shortly

The Project

Psychosis refers to an abnormal condition of the mind described as involving a "loss of contact with reality". People that suffer from psychosis are described as psychotic. Experiencing this may exhibit some personality changes and thought disorder. Depending on its severity, this may be accompanied by unusual or bizarre behaviour, as well as difficulty with social interaction and impairment in carrying out daily life activities. The non-medicinal treatment of psychosis involves psychological therapies and social support. CleVR, the company this project was conducted for is involved in making those treatments possible by using virtual reality (VR). To mimic a real world setting as realistically as possible, four hardware components are used in this specific case. The full hardware kit consist of an Oculus Rift head-mounted display, a Leap Motion device, a Microsoft Kinect and a set of ManusVR gloves. The problem we were asked to tackle is to integrate these separate components in a seamless way, that is, search for an optimal combination in which they function as one product in its entirety. Either in an synergistic or serendipitous manner.

The Team

The team that I function in, consist besides myself of four fellow group members. Their backgrounds are quite identical but different from mine. As I completed another bachelor study prior to this one I am slightly older than my team members and may have more experience in working on such projects. I think the roles were more or less evenly divided, our product can be decomposed into multiple sub-parts and everyone had it's own parts which they were more into than others and of course, also parts that were less attractive per individual. I see my own role in the team just as regular with every now and then some coordinating and leading aspirations. Because of my experience in other project I sometimes felt the need to guide my group into certain directions to prevent process losses in any form whatsoever.

Process Losses

As can be expected in university project group, process losses are noticeable when evaluating at the end of the project. The process losses in this project where in my opinion mainly due to coordinative deficiencies rather than of a motivational origin. In order to evaluate the arise of these process losses in a proper way, we have to discuss our product in terms of steiner's model. To start with, the observation that it can be broken down into a handful of sub tasks can be made. For that reason it should be categorized as divisible rather than unitary. The consideration between quantity and quality is easily made since we focus just on optimizing instead of maximizing. The interdependence between the different functional models. According to my humble opinion our individual inputs are combined both in an additive and a disjunctive way. The first reason that caused process losses is handling separate inputs somewhat in a disjunctive way. The consequence of this is simply that some work is discarded. Also the fact that we aim primarily for quality rather than just quantitative matters as lines of codes (LOC) is contributing to some process losses because this simply takes time to determine the exact path you want to take in a certain situation.

Personal SVO test results

The graph that resulted from the SVO test that I took is shown in the figure below. My score was 45,3 The feeling I have towards the results is neutral, maybe a bit relieved. It is quite in line with my expectations since I consider myself as prosocial

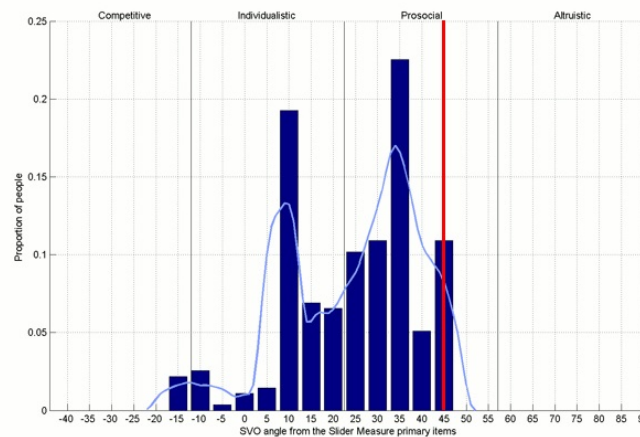


Figure 1: SVO test results

Other SVO test results

The majority, namely three people in our group were considered as pro-social, only one proved to be slightly individualistic. I expected it everything to be just fine as I do not consider anyone individualistic and I think our group process was just fine. Also I feel very satisfied about how we acted as a group and do not think that any losses that occurred in the last couple of weeks are extraordinary.