This semester in general has included a lot of new topics and lessons that I have learned, not only in the topicd discussed, but also in what works best for my own practices when it comes to time management, communication and diligence. Working through my group project helped to enhance the lessons learned through the course, as well as teaching me the importance of communication, task delegation, leadership and patience when it comes to working with a team. A lot of these lessons came from things that worked well within our team, and those aspects as well as the aspects that could’ve gone better will be things that will help me in my future in software development.

My group had some string points that I think helped us work well as a team. Katie really took on a leadership role early into the project, and having someone to help delegate tasks was really helpful with keeping the project momentum going at a steady pace. Communication was also very clearly done within our group, especially when it came down to figuring out schedules, making changes, and giving updates with progress on aspects of the project. This clear communication made it easy for the members to have patience with one another when it came down to getting tasks done, and it was nice to have that trust within our group.

Some things that I believe could have been done better are giving friendly reminders and criticism, and also scheduling clear deadlines. While our group was able to properly delegate tasks, in our first week we didn’t set clear deadlines, and it could have led to the project being delayed if there were errors that we couldn’t get fixed (which luckily wasn’t the case). In our second week, Katie helped to breakdown a loose schedule for when to have tasks done, and I think that helped us keep a good pace with completing our project before the deadline. Friendly reminders of those tasks are something that I think would have been beneficial to check in on the members and their current progress if they weren’t volunteering updates.

What I learned from this project is that having someone step as a leader was very beneficial to our team, and I took a lot of notes and pointers from how Katie helped to lead our project so that I can help provide that support in the future. Keeping honest and clear communication was also helpful, especially when I was out for a family emergency, so that my team wasn’t waiting around for tasks that I wouldn’t have been able to submit on time. Which leads me into preparedness being important as well. Though I couldn’t have predicted having to fly to a different state for a family emergency right after a work trip, I could have been extra prepared and packed/borrowed a laptop in case something happened, and that’s something that I will do in the future.

Overall, I enjoyed working with my group. Katie was a strong leader, and the others in my group collaborated well with one another. This group has taught me a lot of things that I think will help guide me in my journey as a software developer, like the importance of communication, honesty, and diligence, and in my future roles/projects, I’ll know how to take the charge as a leader to delegate tasks, create deadlines, provide feedback, and do check ins on my team members to ensure the productivity of the project is on par with our overall deadline. I’m super appreciative of my group members and all the hard work they put in, not only for the project but for helping to teach/reinforce these lessons.