

Team Work

As progress in the project progressed throughout the semester, group members became more focused on their individual responsibilities. In ways this had both positive and negative impacts on the functioning of the group. For example, as a project where a copious amount of extra learning was required to understand the problem and carry out an effective solution, there is utility in splitting up and specializing in certain areas. However, this also resulted in a lack of understanding at times in what others were doing, as it becomes easy not to devote effort to any responsibilities but your own.

In future projects, I would like to have higher standards for the level of communication within the group, so that members can get the full benefit of the insight others may have. More frequent communication also would cause a better understanding of goals and expectations, increasing the likelihood that they will be met.

Life Long Learning

I think the strengths of the work I did in this semester were in taking a methodical approach to problem solving, where priorities are well defined so that positives and negatives of possible solutions can be seen clearly. I gained new knowledge in the areas of heat transfer principles and using computational fluid dynamics software to model our device. Some of my weaknesses were my inconsistencies in when I set time aside to get work done, and the amount of times I communicated with group members to see how they were doing and if they needed help with anything.

Two skills I would like to work on:

Time management: I would like to increase my organization, so I can set clearly what my goals are and what I want to have done when. This makes it easier to tell when things are behind schedule or headed in the wrong direction, so that the right adjustments can be made to get back on track.

Communication: I would like to work on having more organized meetings, where the agenda is clear and the expectations for the next meeting are set in advance. This will help to ensure that the time invested into the project is used more efficiently.