

Assignment 1

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Deliverable #1

Generally, the software development model is chosen in response to the circumstances of the software's development. Our client is a real-world client – Professor Jason Donev, who is an individual and understandably has a busy schedule. He can meet up with us around once a week, but it would be difficult and unreasonable to remain in constant communication. There are difficulties for us as well as students going to classes on a set schedule, thus any method which requires constant client input and interaction on every aspect of development appears unsuitable. This difficulty eliminates the Scrum model, due to it being an agile model which requires such constant communication.

Next, we must consider our requirements, or lack thereof. As we currently understand it, our client has a general trajectory as to what sort of software product he wants, but not the full specification of what exactly is desired down to the last detail. Furthermore, future improvement ideas have been discussed and thought of as early as the very beginning of the project, such as integrating a similar but not identical device – the Geiger counter. These facts strongly point away from incremental models, towards iterative models.

Furthermore, we are all inexperienced in this project, not knowing the full details of what we might need to learn to complete this project, thus we cannot easily and evenly divide up the project – ruling out the concurrent model directly. The waterfall model requires a more intensive discussion with the client period before dropping off the radar and just building the software, where the first half might demand more attention than can be reasonably provided and the latter half squanders our ability to contact him for more questions, clarifications, and demonstrations of prototypes. As such, the Waterfall model is no fit either.

Phased release might fit, but it suffers from the fact that it is an incremental model when we do not actually have all the requirements detailed and specified down to the last. It also suffers from the same intense requirements gathering phase needed in the beginning, and the rolling out of the releases do not actually factor in input from the client, again squandering a major advantage of being able to meet with and discuss the project with our client. As such, phased release is also not a reasonable model.

We are now left with the Spiral and Opportunistic models. Of these, the Opportunistic model doesn't factor in client communication, and is not a clear and reliable software development plan for any external client or larger project. The scope of our project is not so small that the opportunistic model can work, since an app with multiple parts is much larger than projects suited for opportunistic, such as brief Computer Science class assignments or small segments of code. This leaves the Spiral model.

Rather than being the last one standing, the Spiral model is good fit for its own reasons. Consider our criteria: Brief meetings approximately once a week, undefined project requirements, possibilities for future upgrades. The spiral model's quick cycles complete with risk assessment, planning and development stages appear to fit perfectly for this setup. In these brief meetings, we can gather requirements from our client and demonstrate the project as it currently stands; as it is an iterative model we can accommodate for changes in the project requirements and for future upgrades. As such, Spiral is a near perfect fit for our situation, and as such will be used.

Deliverable #2

2-1: Functional Requirements (FRs)

1. "The app must be able to receive data from the muon detector."

This app must be able to communicate with the external piece of hardware in order to meet the criteria given by the client.

2. "The app must be able to display a 'live' reading from the muon detector."

Along with receiving input from the detector, it then must be able to display the stream of values outputted by the detector onto the phone.

3. "The app must be able to average out the last 10 readings when pressing the 'get reading' button"

While a live reading is displayed, the 'get reading' button takes a snapshot of the readings average and displays a constant value underneath the live readings.

4. "The app must be able to record the averaged 'get readings' in a table."

Upon pressing the 'get reading' button, the value is averaged and stored into a table that is accessible in another part/menu of the application.

5. "The app and all of its relevant code must be open source to further future academic endeavours."

The client has specified that the code must be accessible to the public. This would progress the learning experiences of future students who want to extend on the work (ie make an iOS version).

2-2: Non Functional Requirements (NFRs)

1. "The app should present the readings with two significant digits."

This allows the user to experience a non cluttered UI, removing unnecessary information This NFR would fall under the usability.

2. "The app should record the readings by making a smooth visual animation."

A transition animation is often desired to express the information in a clearer way. This NFR would fall under the usability category.

3. "The app should record the readings within 0.5s after pressing the 'get reading' button."

This ensures the user doesn't have to wait an unusually long amount of time to get the reading. It also stops the user from getting frustrated and pressing the button again needlessly. This NFR would fall under the response time category.

4. "The app should emit a feedback sound when the user presses the 'get reading button'"

Giving the user direct confirmation of their action being applied is helpful and again stops user from pressing the button unnecessarily. This NFR would fall under the usability category.

5. "The app should present a message if the muon detector is connected or not."

This makes sure that a precondition of using the app is met, which is having the miniUSB cable plugged into the phone and detector. This NFR would fall under the learnability/usability category.

Deliverable #3

Deliverable #4

4-1: Overview Sketches

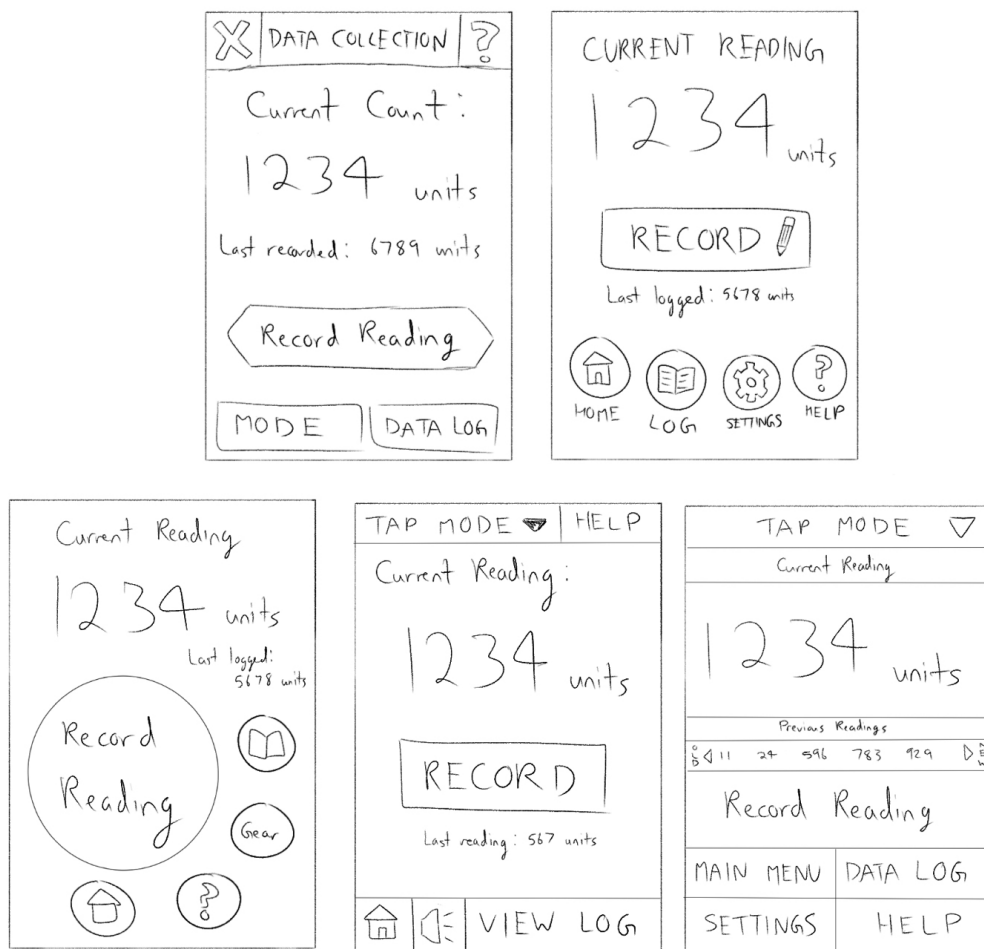


Figure 1: A variety of design approaches to the recorder screen

4-2: Elaborating Sketches

4-3: Storyboard Sketches

Storyboard: Recording a new value to the Data Log

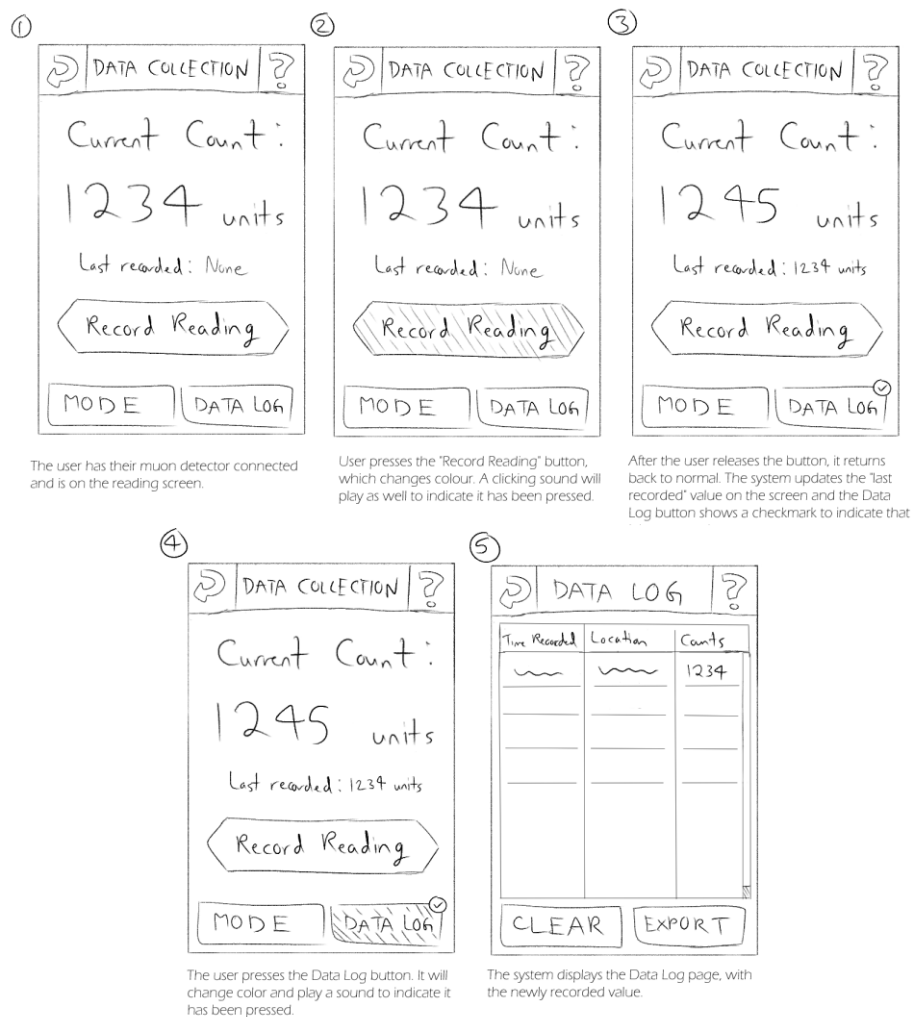


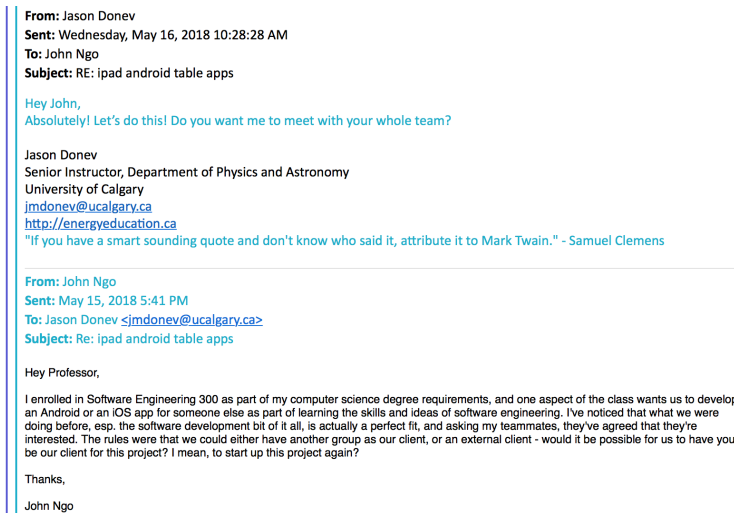
Figure 2: The recording screen responding to user input

4-3: Wizard of Oz Demo Video

4-4: Requirements Change

Deliverable #5

Our project first began with John consulting us about a program an external client, Dr. Donev, might need. We agreed and this led to John emailing Dr. Donev for confirming the project. The following emails show the first steps in the project;



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. It displays two email messages. The first message is from Jason Donev to John Ngo, dated Wednesday, May 16, 2018, at 10:28:28 AM. The subject is 'RE: ipad android table apps'. The body of the email says 'Hey John, Absolutely! Let's do this! Do you want me to meet with your whole team?' followed by Jason Donev's contact information and a quote from Samuel Clemens. The second message is from John Ngo to Jason Donev, dated May 15, 2018, at 5:41 PM. The subject is 'Re: ipad android table apps'. The body of the email says 'Hey Professor, I enrolled in Software Engineering 300 as part of my computer science degree requirements, and one aspect of the class wants us to develop an Android or an iOS app for someone else as part of learning the skills and ideas of software engineering. I've noticed that what we were doing before, esp. the software development bit of it all, is actually a perfect fit, and asking my teammates, they've agreed that they're interested. The rules were that we could either have another group as our client, or an external client - would it be possible for us to have you be our client for this project? I mean, to start up this project again?' followed by 'Thanks, John Ngo'.

From: Jason Donev
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 10:28:28 AM
To: John Ngo
Subject: RE: ipad android table apps

Hey John,
Absolutely! Let's do this! Do you want me to meet with your whole team?

Jason Donev
Senior Instructor, Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of Calgary
jmdonev@ucalgary.ca
<http://energyeducation.ca>
"If you have a smart sounding quote and don't know who said it, attribute it to Mark Twain." - Samuel Clemens

From: John Ngo
Sent: May 15, 2018 5:41 PM
To: Jason Donev <jmdonev@ucalgary.ca>
Subject: Re: ipad android table apps

Hey Professor,

I enrolled in Software Engineering 300 as part of my computer science degree requirements, and one aspect of the class wants us to develop an Android or an iOS app for someone else as part of learning the skills and ideas of software engineering. I've noticed that what we were doing before, esp. the software development bit of it all, is actually a perfect fit, and asking my teammates, they've agreed that they're interested. The rules were that we could either have another group as our client, or an external client - would it be possible for us to have you be our client for this project? I mean, to start up this project again?

Thanks,
John Ngo

Figure 3: Initial exchange of emails to get the project started

Once the project was confirmed, Dr. Donev and John chatted briefly on the phone to go over some project specifications very briefly. John told us a little about the app requirements such as it needing to communicate with an external piece of hardware. After some discussions of our own, we then met with Dr. Donev as a group after confirming a time;

Hey Professor,

I just got in contact with my other teammate, Omar. He has a tutorial at 4, so 4PM doesn't work. We are currently considering 12PM instead, though I haven't gotten into contact with Celina over this. Is 12PM a possible time?

John

From: Jason Donev
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 8:12:50 AM
To: John Ngo; Celina Ma
Subject: Re: ipad android table apps

John,
4PM should work, but not much later!
Jason

On 2018-05-16 10:57 PM, John Ngo wrote:
Hey Professor,

I haven't been able to get in contact with both my team members today, but if we can meet with you it will be tomorrow after class at 4PM or so. I'll ask them in class.

John

From: Jason Donev
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 6:50:00 PM
To: John Ngo; Celina Ma
Subject: Re: ipad android table apps

Figure 4: Setting up a stand up meeting with Dr. Donev as a group

During this meeting we focused solely on requirements and what was the applications intended purpose. Some of the major requirements that were deduced were displaying a reading of the muons and being able to record that reading for data processing.

Approximately two weeks after the initial consult, we met with Dr. Donev again with a low fidelity prototype. This was the meeting where we recorded our Wizard of Oz style demo.