

Team_design_ngurram
Due Date: 10/14/14

I was not exactly sure where to start so I decided that I would try a specific case for our project and then see if it can be generalized to MyWay. One case that was mentioned was how we can use MyWay as a means for social route planning to jog around the Charles River. Basically, the point of our app is to allow for people to meet up to perform a common activity; in this specific case, running.

So, here are the main points needed for phase 1.

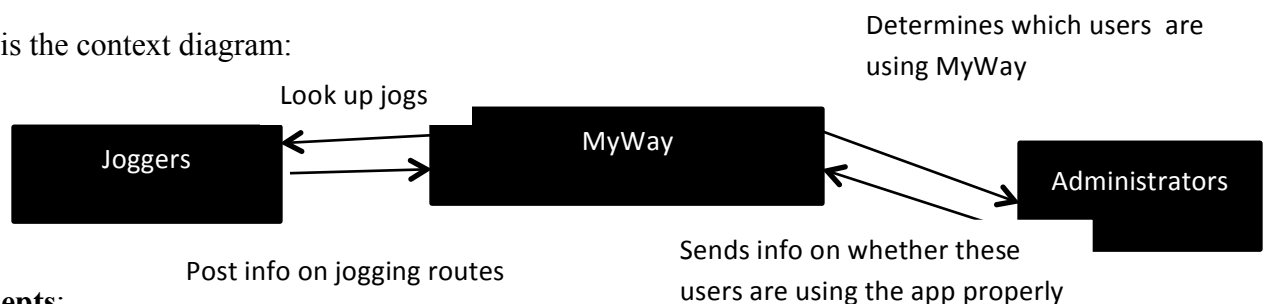
Purpose:

First, we focus on the purposes of this app. We see that we want users to spend time together doing a common activity (running). Also, we want to give users the chance to report good paths to travel on that make good running routes (for example, based on traffic and physical hazards). Also, presumably this app will need external service, such as a map guide, so this could also provide updates to the external service for any unexpected changes on the map when the users go for a run.

Context:

We next have to talk about the contexts associated with our app. First off, it is clear that the people who will use the app are just the users (those who want to meet up with others and go running). I am not sure yet who would administer this app, but it would probably be a group of people that we do not know about yet, just like websites normally do. They will need to make sure they administer website properly so that users are using the app properly. Other systems for this app could include an identification system, as we need to make sure no one abuses the app by posing as a fake person. Physical peripherals would basically include hanging out with people you meet on jogging, and the social connections would be friending those people you became jogging partners with. Failures can also occur. For example, a user may post an invalid statement about the jogging path, which would not be good. Therefore, we need to instill responsibilities in the user that he or she be completely honest about whatever they post.

Here is the context diagram:



Concepts:

We then focus on the concepts of the app. The concepts include “jog” (or some other jargon) that just represents a user discussing a running route and things to notice on this running route. There will also be a concept of partnership (or friendship) to indicate two users have gone on a jog with one another after having met up. We could also have some sort of hashtag as Twitter uses to have one user to indicate to another user that one route had something to look for after posting a jogging route.

Data Model:

Here is our data model. It is rather simple, but it emphasizes exactly how the users interact with the app. Basically, users can become friends with other users after they meet up with one another for a jog, and users are allowed to post jogs to see if other users are interested in running in the jogs. Notice that every jogger is a friend with himself, which is why we need to have plus signs on both ends. In addition, joggers do not need to have posts, but once a jogger makes a jog, it cannot be changed, as denoted by the immutability marking.



Other Deliverables:

Finally, we also have to deal with components not already covered in the **Design** Section, namely those in the **Overview**, **Design Model** and **Challenges** components. I have already covered above the **motivation** and **context diagram** components from the **Overview**, as well as the **concepts** and **data model** from the **Design Model**, so now I will focus on the **design challenges**.

Namely, we first have to deal with the data model. Could the data model be any different? I didn't think so, since MyWay seems to be mainly concerned with planning social routes, in this case jogging possibilities for people. So, this would make sense that joggers would post information about jogs. In addition, the other main aspect is the social aspect, which deals with the friendship between joggers, as indicated in the data model. It is possible we can add more to the data model, but what is presented is a good start to the data model for a specific use of MyWay.

Then, we need to also consider how the problems that are the focus of this app are resolved by concepts. First, we see that a problem is how does one present information about a jogging path for others to keep track of. The simplest way is to present it as a "jog", which is just a route and any information that can go with the route. There are other possibilities, but those seem like they would involve more work to do. Then, one may also want to know how he can find out information about good routes. The best way for this is to get information from a reliable source, which is where friendship comes about. Friendship allows users to become friends with specific people (such as those they became running partners with) to see information regarding routes. We technically don't need to worry about this concept, but this allows for a specific way of associating a subset of all users with each user. Lastly, one may want to tell specific friends how good a route is. This involves the concept of a hashtag (as in Twitter). The concept of hashtag can be dealt in other ways, but all the ways are pretty similar (they each would involve highlighting a specific user from a list of friends).