

Process Report

Taha Mohamed Alzein, 269055;
Oskars Arajs, 266534;
Dragos Chirtoaca, 253742;
Pascari Liviu, 266094;

Joseph Chukwudi Okika (JOOK) Mona Wendel Andersen (MWA)

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1 Introduction

Since this was our first project and our first team-building exercise we decided to "play it safe" and meet as often as possible during the pre-semester project period. Later it turned out that we were meeting three times a week for seven hours or more. And since the semester project period started we decided to do the best we can and to push ourselves, so we decided to meet every day for at least seven hours or more a day for the duration of the project week. Since we were meeting every day it was not necessary to meet with our supervisors or any company members to help us with the development of our project.



2 Group Description

Our group consists of four members: Taha Mohamed Alzein, Liviu Pascari, Dragos Chirtoaca and Oskars Arajs.

Oskars is from Latvia. He used to study electronical engineering back home but this is his first experience with group work since in Latvia he only had to write individual projects and reports. Since the beginning of the project he did everything he could and always followed the principle which we learned at the beginning of the semester. If you don't know something for 20min. ask someone.

Dragos is from Moldova. This is his first university experience and since high school he hasn't done any projects in groups. Puts a lot of hard work in the project report and always asks questions to improve his ability to contribute to the project at hand. Never says no to a challenge and always goes the extra mile.

Taha is from Syria. Taha is the most knowledgeable person in our group since he has previous experience working in the field of IT and doing group projects for large companies. Taha is the person to whom everybody comes and asks questions regarding programing and web development.

Liviu is from Moldova. He has a lot of experience regarding higher education so he is a born leader. Never backs down from a challenge or refuses to help others in need and always leaves the class last.



3 Project Initiation

The topic for the semester project was given by the supervisors and our duty was to find and form groups of four members with different nationalities. After we were divided in small groups we, first, did personality tests that showed us how efficient our group was supposed to be and what approach should we find in order to succeed.

Every group member did the Belbin Role Test and Swot Test, (for detailed results please see Appendix XX). We started to work on project as soon as the case was given to us.

We planned our meetings so that everyone be able to be present, in order to obtain the highest efficiency of that meeting and fulfill all the tasks given for a specific deadline. Moreover, we also used tools such as slack (for communication) and Github (for sharing information), to manage the workload and keep in touch with each other. Github tool helped us sharing our code, also being a reliable repository through all the semester project. If we did not use Github, we could easily lose our code if something happened with our computers. Moreover, we are very satisfied that we used this tool. Slack gave us the opportunity to speak with each other and also share files between us. With the help of this tool we managed our meetings and shared our files when we were working at home. If we had to choose methods for managing our semester project, we would definitely use these ones again.

When the fulltime project period begun we worked even on weekends for at least 7 hours per day or. Sometimes, we even had to stay more than usually, in order to finish the daily or weekly tasks.



4 Project Description

From the very beginning we were strongly motivated for the semester project.

As soon as the task was given to us we started to brainstorm about the tasks we need to fulfill and how to manage them in the best possible way. We started by thinking on a methodology that fits our desires and also tools that can help us to divide the workload. Our main goal was to make a single user system that can handle events and activities. As the time passed we started to figure out all the requirements that the system need to manage and tried to make them step by step.

We set our goal to make everything work and we can sincerely affirm that we achieved it.



5 Project Execution

Reaching the point where the fulltime period of project work begins we had all the tasks till that moment completed. Having everything on our hand we started to implement the skeleton of our project by making the classes with all the important methods in it.

Among with the use cases and class diagrams we started to code. Having a mind map is a very useful tool because it helps not to forget the requirements that we needed to fulfill.

The method that we used in our semester project is called System Development Life Cycle. This method consists of five parts: Design, Implementation, Testing Evolution and Requirements Analysis. We decided to use this approach because according to this methodology we can go back and make any modifications, which we found useful for our workload.

Even though it was really challenging, our group is very satisfied with the project results because we managed to complete all our tasks.

The main risk in our fulltime project period was to combine the workload needed to complete the semester project with the working hours required to receive SU. On the other hand, we also spent the major part on making the code functional. Having a lot of tasks that we needed to cover, we spent a great amount of time coding and, consequently, struggling with new errors. Nevertheless, we solved all of our problems and managed to make the code functional.

The less successful part of our project is documentation where we spent less time than we intended.



6 Personal Reflections

Taha Alzein

I have been working as a software developer here in Denmark and previously in Syria. I have a wide range of experience and expertise in the field of IT and computing systems. I've had experience doing similar projects before, so this project is not so hard for me as I already know the concept of it. But still I learned a lot and I reviewed a lot more. It was challenging enough for me to make things interesting but easy enough so that I didn't have to search for outside help.

Regarding my strengths, I believe I am a hard worker since I tend to see everything to the finish and not let my lack of knowledge stop me from finishing my duties. Since I have previously worked in the field of IT I consider myself to be above average in programing and I continue improving my ability's. And since I have attended a similar program before joining VIA UC it's not to difficult to transit from working to studying full time.

As for my weaknesses I would say that the fact that I live in a different city makes things a bit more difficult since I have to spend a lot of time traveling to and from the city I live in. And also I have to mention that I attend language courses in order to better understand the people I'm sharing a country with and thus it makes my schedule really tight and it leads to my main problem which would be stress management.

As for the opportunity's I bring to the group I would have to say that the fact that I have worked at a similar project helps a lot. Since I know some things that we should do and I know how to do them helps a lot.

By checking the appendix you can see that my Belbin Team-role is a specialist. With which I agree since I do possess a love for learning and I hate if my time is being wasted.

For detail description see Appendix: T

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Process Report Template - VIA Engineering Guidelines/Title of the Process Report

Oskars Arajs

This is a completely new experience for me since I have zero to little experience programing and it is somewhat difficult to keep up with my colleges. But I try my best and they help me as best they can and together we made this fully functioning project and leaned a lot of new things regarding the field of IT.

For my strengths I would have to mention the fact that I am a good listener, because I am a strong believer in the saying that you can't learn anything while you are talking. This is the second place of higher education I have attended and one thing I know for sure is that I like learning about new ideas and new ways of how to realize the ideas.

Another one of my strengths would be my communication skills because since we are studying IT we will have to work with people from different countries and different nationalities. And it helps a lot if you are an easy going person that doesn't have a problem finding a common word with unknown people.

And the last but no least my strength is my high work ethic. I don't like those moments when my team is doing the work for me. I like to put my own effort towards conclusion of the project.

As for my weaknesses I would have to say that RWD and SDJ is proving to be pretty difficult since it's a completely new field for me and I have no experience in the field.

For detail description see Appendix: O

7

Process Report Template - VIA Engineering Guidelines/Title of the Process Report



Dragos Chirtoaca

I was surprised to find out that even from the beginning of the semester project period the group worked outstandingly. The main point that I understood is that everyone has weak points, so it is crucial to assign them the right task.

I do not succeed in writing long and fancy reports, therefore I wanted to do the coding part but anyway I also took care of some formalities on the project and process report and worked on them as much as I could. I liked that the motivation which we had from the beginning of the semester project persisted till the last word of the process report. The main thing is that everyone was present and worked on the tasks during the whole project period, which motivated me.

At the middle of the project period I felt two risks that might happen: one is that the program will not work and second is that we will not have enough time for the project and process report. Yet we managed to do them both thus I am very pleased.

We arranged a very confident time table with breaks and also challenging tasks that we need to complete. It helped us a lot because we could feel how the work is done step by step and we are near the finish line.

In conclusion I would like to underscore the idea that I really enjoyed working in group and I faced a lot of new challenges which are beyond the knowledge we learnt in the first semester. This makes me very ambitious and prepared for new upcoming challenges.

For detail description see Appendix: D



Liviu Pascari

Our main goal for the semester project was to create an event handling system that is helping the event manager of the company to manage the current and past events; on the other hand, a part of our goal was to make something that will help manage members, lecturers and sponsors. We competed our goal and we added something more like manage non-members that are a part of organisation as well. At very beginning, it was very hard to accomplish small task due to the fact of different personalities and cultural differences, but as project went on, we adapted ourselves very fast in order to accomplish the needed task. In the first days of work we found out which of us is good at, and we started to divide the task between each others. In the very beginning the work load was very big, and we were scared that this project will be the end on our career as ICT students, but by accomplishing small tasks we learned a lot, and we understood that all that was done, it was a big amount of work, but on the other hand it is just a small project for experts in the domain.

Working in a group is a very challenging type of work. In a group is very hard to identify yourself as an individual, and every step that is done may create an impact of the whole group. From the personal point of view, working in-group is a very good way of learning, because everybody has experience in something and everybody as individuals thinks to make their self-better, and everybody is trying to do something in order to find out his place in the group and not to be the last one.

The competitiveness and motivation of the group shows up that everybody at every single moment was involved in working process and everybody for themselves was deciding when and how to do the needed task in order to meet-up the deadline. Of course there was not only perfect moments, and every one of us has to learn a lot during the working process and of course, we helped up each other when we were in a dilemma. The problems in-group were solved by asking a question and as a result, if nobody knew the answer we were trying to find time in order to search over internet the answer that is stopping the whole working process.



From the beginning of December the serious way of working on the project started, and with the help of group members we have in the end a working product that is working properly and has the ability to satisfy the customer's requirements. We involved a lot of ourselves in this project, and the result are worth it.

As individuals, group members were fighting for their part and for their point of view in order show up that his work is important, and every one of us was coming with pros in order to fight for our point of view. The problems in-group were solved in a democratic way, by voting, and the majority was winning. The work load we divided equally in order to take into consideration our capacities. Every time when someone gets done with their tasks, they had the possibility to take something else, and to help up other group member. We decided to split the work load equally in every step of the project implementation and project report writing, in order to get this indispensable knowledge that was accumulated during the work process.

From the personal point of view, I would like to say that me personally, I learned many new things, of course it's about time management and project management, but most important is that working in group is not about personal interests, working in group is about helping the person next to you, in order to make the whole group to succeed. I am very happy that I had the possibility to work with such a nice people that are hungry for work, of course with small exceptions in the morning, but overall the project taught us how to work as members of a group not as selfish individuals, and in the close future you will not be able every time to choose with whom to work with, you have to be able to work with every type of person. If we had a little bit more time to work on the project and not to spend nights of not sleeping it would be better, even though we accomplished everything in time.

For detail description see Appendix: L



7 Supervision

We have no thoughts on the supervision since we didn't ask for help from our supervisors.



8 Conclusions

The semester project was for us a unique experience. During the whole process we learnt how to deal with different problems and gained a great deal of experience. We had to choose between different development methods of keeping track of the workload of the semester project. The most efficient one in our opinion is the Agile mythology which consists of the Software Development Life Cycle. It helped us with keeping track of our project and forced us to review the project multiple time during the project development. And in doing so it helped us to make a fully functioning source code, and for us to meet the requirements.

We wanted to use the Waterfall approach which consists of making, first of all, the diagrams then to start coding. However, this method was not reliable for our group thus we decided to continue working with SDLC. One of its biggest disadvantages was that if we made a mistake in the beginning of our project then that would mean that we have to start over and to try making the project without mistakes.

The SDLC method looked like a prolific approach mostly because we ran the code and found the errors which we could correct later in the project. This saved us a lot of time and therefore we were able to successfully finish the program with a maintainable code.

One big issue that we faced during the project period was that we had to connect the Java FX interfaces with the Java code. During this process we faced a lot of new errors that we did not experience before. For instance, the program would not run if there is no information in the binary file. Another problem was that when we tried to add a method that is printing out the information in the console the program also would not run. Another issue we had with JavaFX was adding information to the "Table view" since it required for us to make an "Observable list" which we simply didn't know how to do.

Making the methods for the combo box was another issue that consumed a lot of time because we were not used to make it and we spent extra time to know how to make them properly.



In conclusion I would like to emphasize the idea that our group members did enjoy working on the semester project. We became friends and we felt delighted to help each other. As a consequence, the joyful group atmosphere facilitated the overall work load and gave us strength to finish it. We are happy to state that our project is successful and can be implemented in real life.

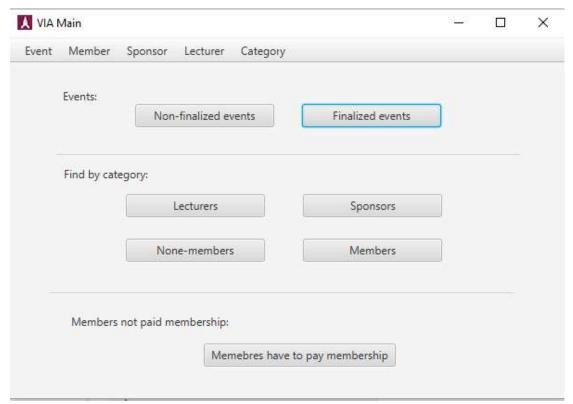


9 Appendix A. The user guide



User guide

This guide is meant for the user of this system. To help them navigate through the interfaces and successfully complete their intended actions.



This is the main frame for VIA. Here it is shown a menu bar that is located in the top horizontal part of the main window. Below the menu bar there are multiple buttons for multiple actions.

From this window it is possible to access every necessary action the user choses to initiate.

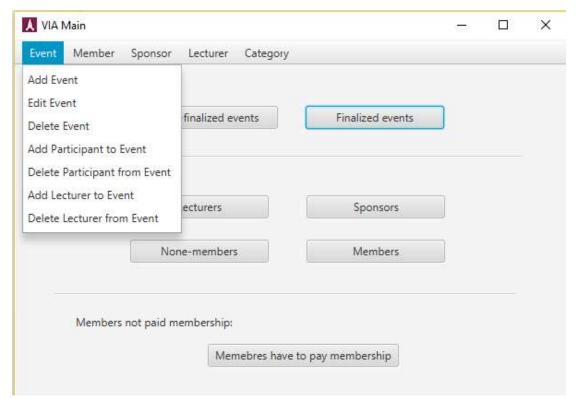


Using the menu bar



From the menu bar it is possible to access "Event", "Member", "Sponsor", "Lecturer" and "Category". Clicking on any of these menu bar elements, a drop down list of menu items will appear.

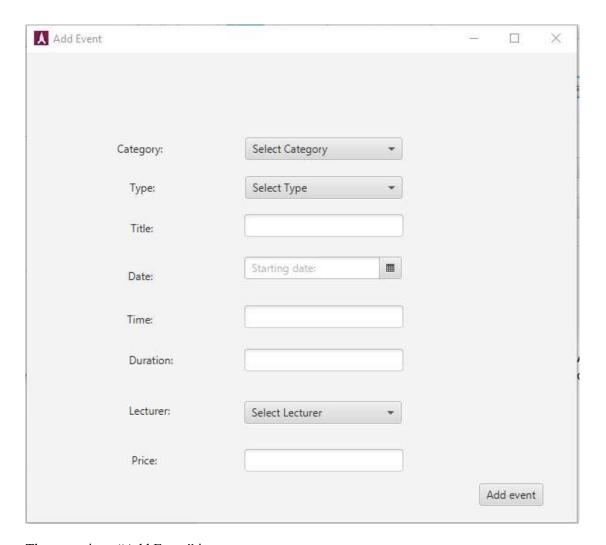
Using the menu items (Event)



Clicking on the menu item element named "Event" it is possible to Add, edit and delete a event. In addition it is possible to add participants and lecturers to certain events and delete them.



Add Event

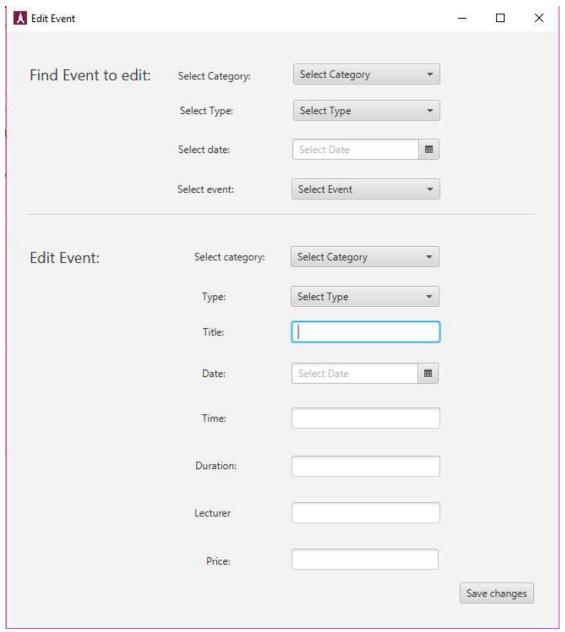


The menu item "Add Event" is meant to create events.

Next to items (i.e. Category, Type, Title, etc.) there are fields that need to be completed in order to create an event. If one of these fields is not completed it is still possible to create an event but it will be categorized as a, "Non-Finalized event".



Edit Event



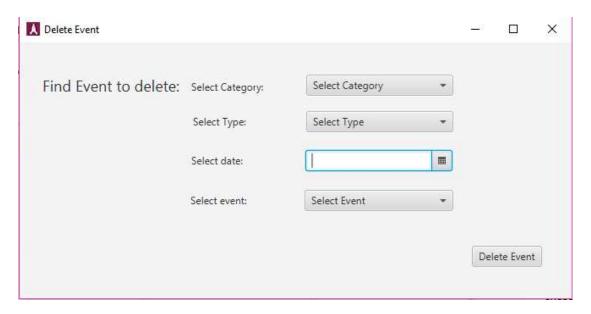
The menu item "Edit Event" is meant to edit events.

In this section the user can find the respective event they wish to edit.

At the top half of the interface it is possible to search for an existing event. When the Event is chosen, all of its corresponding information will be showed in the "Edit Event" section of this interface. From there it is possible to add missing information and to finalize the event. When all of the needed changes are made then it is necessary to press the button "Save changes" to store the changes in the system file for future use.



Delete Event

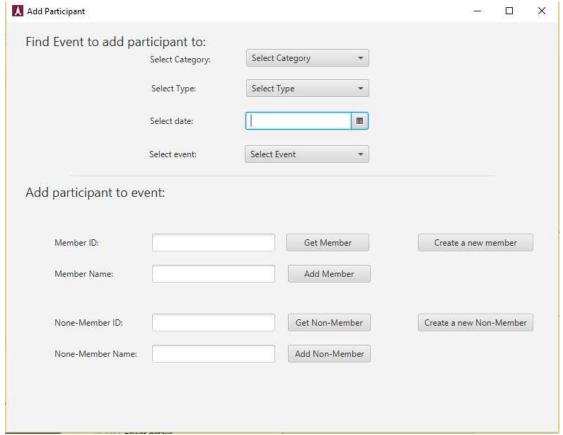


In this interface it is possible to delete an existing event.

First the user has to match the corresponding information regarding to the event in mind. When the event is found the user has to select it form the combo box and press the button "Delete" to delete the event.



Add participant (same steps as for Add lecturer to event)



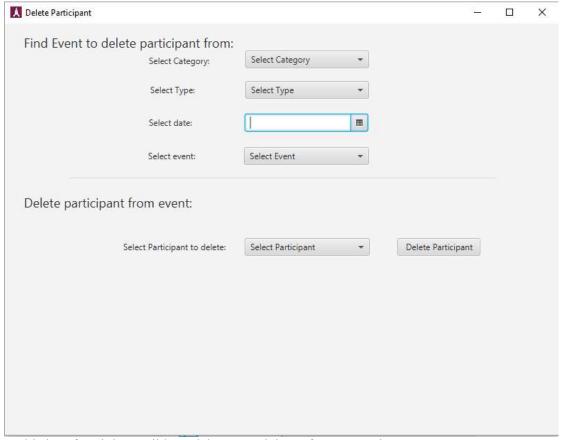
This interface is meant to add a participant to an existing event.

First the user has to fill out the necessary search criteria and select the event from the combo box. After the event is selected the user can start to add participants to the event.

The lower part of the interface is meant to add participants to the chosen event. To add a participant to an event the user first has to input the ID of the participant it wishes to add. After the user has entered the ID, the next step is to press the button "Get member", after that the members name will be displayed in the text field below and the by pressing the button "Add member" the participant will be added to the event.



Delete Participant (same steps as for Delete lecturers from event)



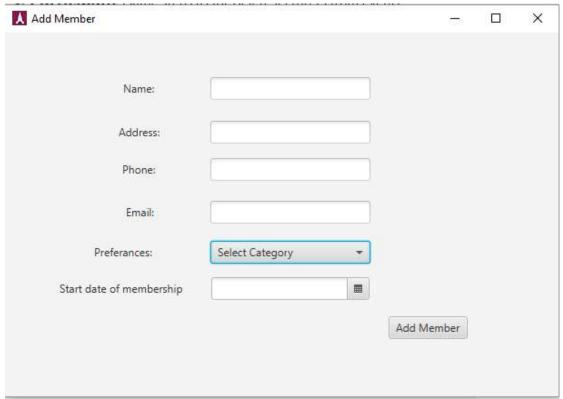
In this interface it is possible to delete a participant from a certain event.

By filling out the fields at the top part of the interface the user select the event from which to delete a participant from.

When the event is chosen the next step is to select the participant from the event. After the participant is selected the user has to press the button "Delete Participant" to remove the participant from the event.



Add a member (Same steps for "Add sponsor" and "Add lecturer")

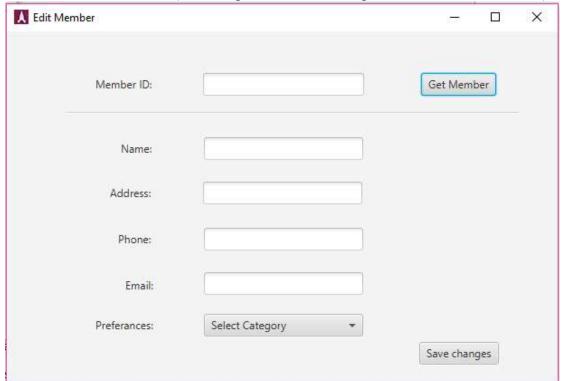


In this interface it is possible to add a member to the systems.

The user has to fill out all of the required fields in order to create a new member. When all of the fields are filled out the next step is to press the button "Add member" to add the newly created member to the system.



Edit a Member (Same steps as for the "Edit sponsor" and "Edit Lecturer")



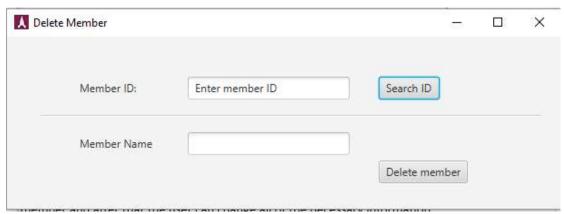
In this interface it is possible to edit information regarding to a particular member.

First the user has to find the member it wishes to edit. In the text field next to "Member ID" the user has to input the corresponding members ID. After that the button "Get member" has to be pressed in order to find the member in question.

After the member is found, all of the required text field will be filled out with information regarding the member and after that the user can change all of the necessary information. After the changes are made the user has to press the button "Save changes" in order to save all of the edited information to the system.



Delete Member (Same steps as for "Delete sponsor" and "delete lecturer")

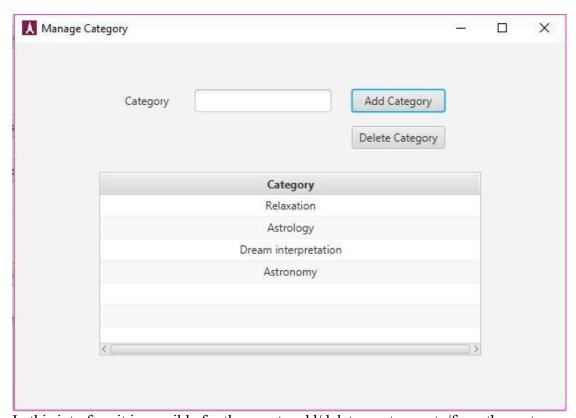


In this interface the user can delete a member from the system.

First the user has to input the ID of the member it wishes to delete. After entering the ID, the user has to press the button "Search ID" to find the member in question.

After the member has been found the user the presses the button "Delete member" to remove the member for the system.

Manage Category

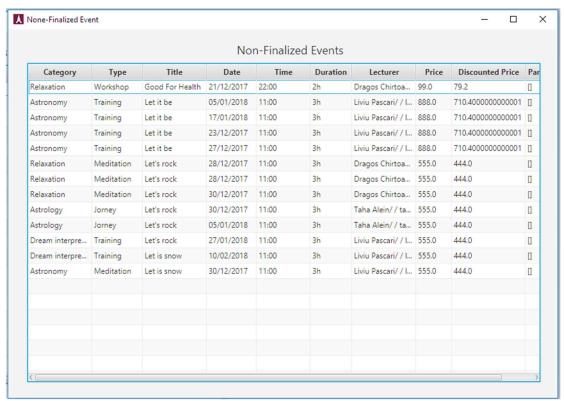


In this interface it is possible for the user to add/delete a category to/from the system.



The user has to enter the title of the category and the press either the button "Add category" or "Delete category".

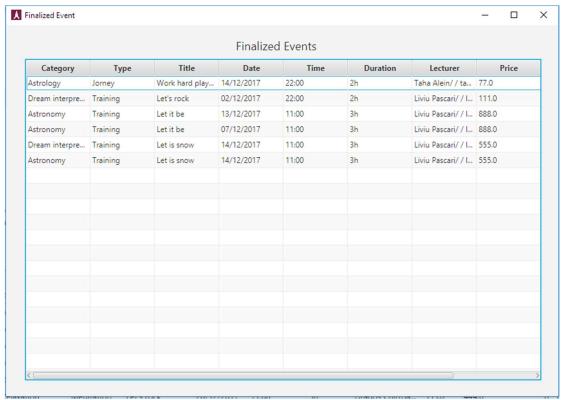
Find none-finalized events



When press on "None-finalized Event" button in main window, the none-finalized events window, will appear, this window all none finalized events will appear one by one, there is a possibility to sort the column, when press on column head.



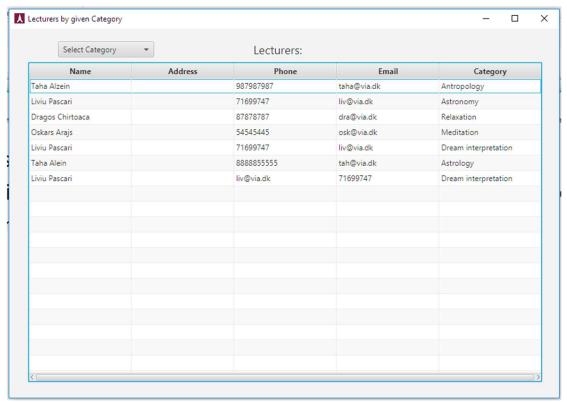
Find Finalized events



When press on "finalized Event" button in main window, the finalized events window, will appear, this window all finalized events will appear one by one, there is a possibility to sort the column, when press on columns' head.



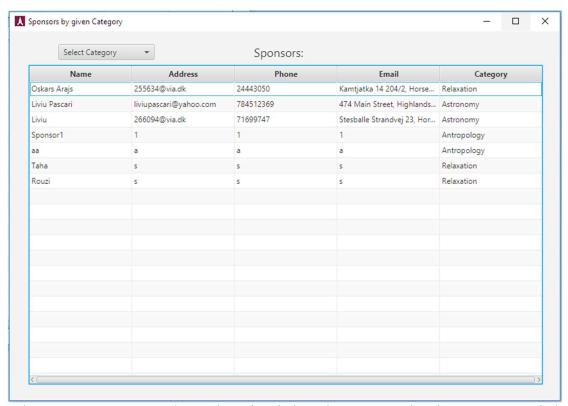
Find Lecturers by category



When press on "Lecturers" button in main window, the "lecturers by given category" window will appear, in this window all lecturers will appear one by one, by selecting a category from the "combobox" the lecturers for given category will be shown, otherwise, selecting "show all" will result to show them all again.



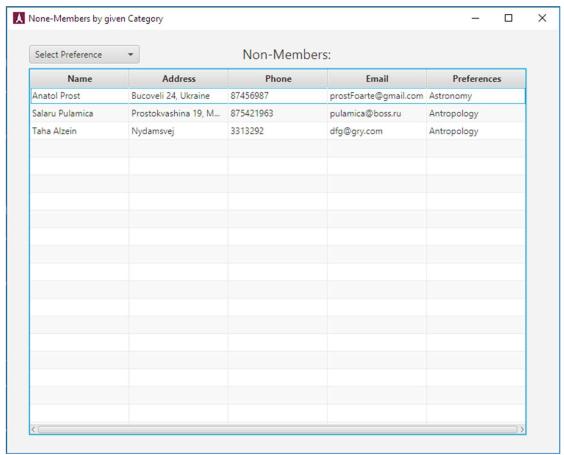
Find Sponsor by category



When press on "Sponsors" button in main window, the "Sponsors by given category" window will appear, in this window all Sponsors will appear one by one, by selecting a category from the "combobox" the Sponsors for given category will be shown, otherwise, selecting "show all" will result to show them all again.



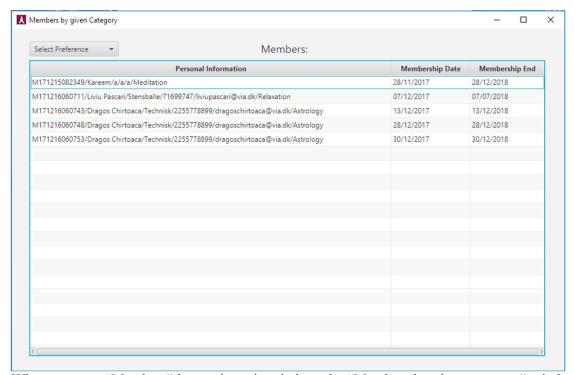
Find None-Members by category



When press on "None-Members" button in main window, the "None-Members by given category" window will appear, in this window all None-Members will appear one by one, by selecting a preference from the "combobox" the None-Members for given preference will be shown, otherwise, selecting "show all" will result to show them all again.



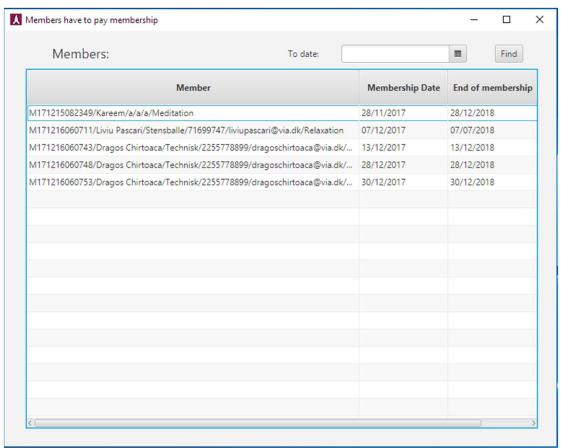
Find Members by category



When press on "Members" button in main window, the "Members by given category" window will appear, in this window all Members will appear one by one, by selecting a preference from the "combobox" the Members for given preference will be shown, otherwise, selecting "show all" will result to show them all again.



Find Members have to pay membership

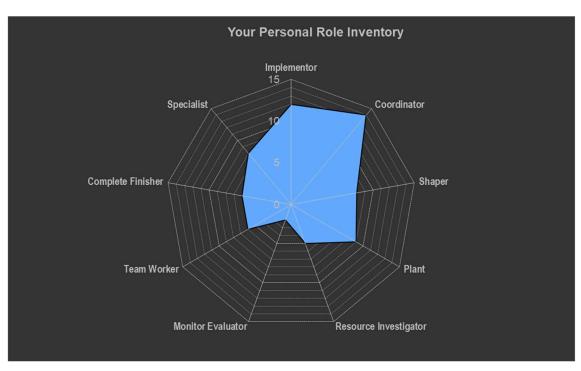


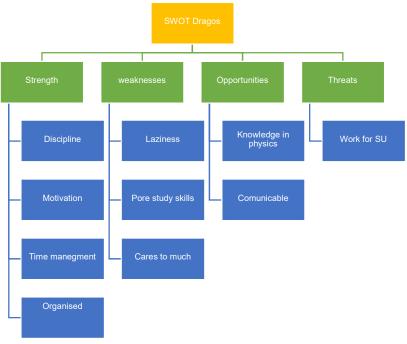
When press on "Members have to pay membership" button in main window, the "Members have to pay membership" window will appear, in this window all Members will appear one by one, there is a possibility to find them by date of ending membership.

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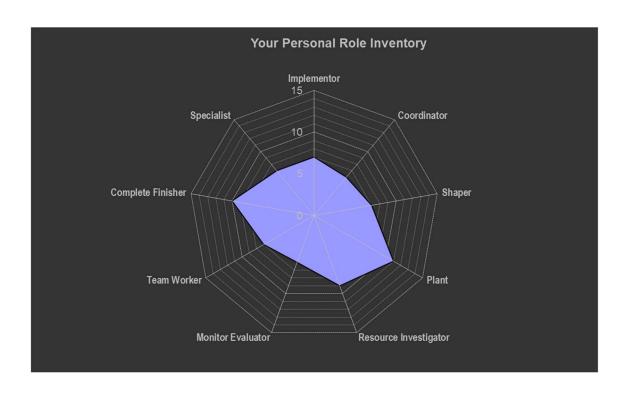
10 Appendix D: Graphs







11 Appendix L: Graphs



Strength

- Teamwork;
- Knowledge:
 - MS Office
 - SDJ1
- Good at communication;

Opportunities

- Strong Network;
- Educational opportunities;
- Living near VIA UC
- Already worked in very similar projects;

Weaknesses

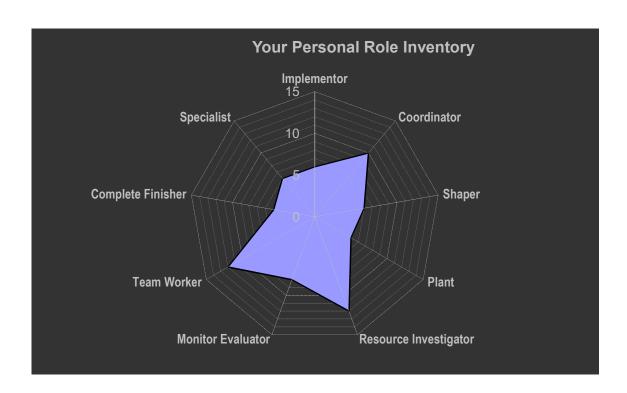
- Time management;
- Forgetfulness;
- Attending language course which make my schedule so

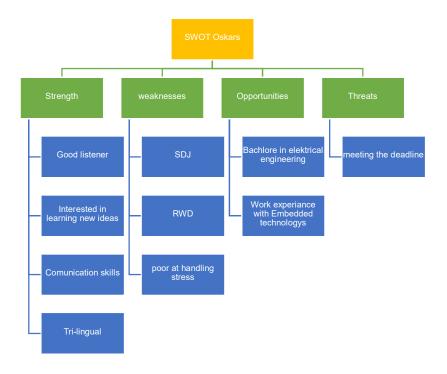
Threats

- Lack of planning;
- Obstacles in Group:
 - Lack of discipline;
 - Lack of Motivation;
 - Lack of



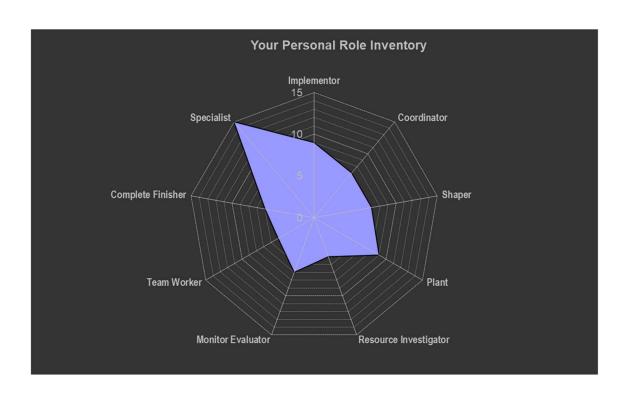
12 Appendix O: Graphs

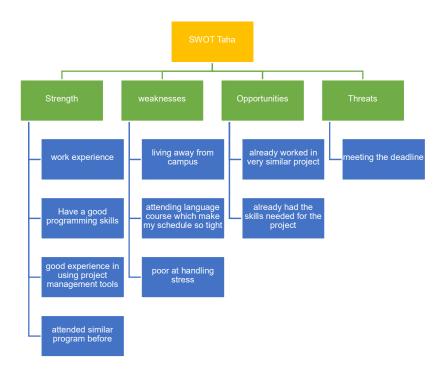






13 Appendix T: Graphs







14 Appendix G: Graphs

Tasks	Group Members	
Requirements	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Use Case	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Use Case Diagram	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Use Case Description	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Activity Diagrams	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Class Diagrams	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
GUI	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Java code implementation	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
User Guide	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Test	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Results	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Introduction	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Abstract	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
List of references	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
SWOT	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Individual SWOT	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Policy of the group	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Individual reflection	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	
Before writing report consideration	Liviu, Dragos, Taha, Oskars	