1. Reflective Essay (Franky)

In the beginning, when I knew I can have opportunity to choose project related to aviation, I was excited. Although I was excited, I felt a little bit afraid once I heard that this project requiring programming skills because I have never tried in programming in my whole life. Finally, I found this project is not as difficult as I thought.

During this project, I experienced and learned programming skills, which is important to me because programming skills is one of the fundamental skills towards a person who want to enter aviation industry and it can be applied to many aspects in aviation, like navigation, UAV, flight control system, etc.

I found a way to learn programming effectively which is to observe the combination of each command and test each command incessantly and respectively. By trying type in different commands, I could get instant responses from Python and improve my programming skills.

I got involved in task 3 in this project. As I had no knowledge on programming at the beginning, so I had to guess the meanings and test the results of each command downloaded from professor’s github. I felt difficult on task 3 especially on creating an irregular shape minus cost area. After testing the commands, I realized the logic behind most of the tested commands and started to create the area. I was delighted and satisfied when I found the way to achieve my idea on python. Finally, I learned programming and problem-solving skills during the process.

Meanwhile, I also understood that having a good communication between team members can facilitate the work efficiency. All the members have given their own opinions and suggestions towards each task. For example, our group leader is good at programming, so he gave us numerous of tips in doing our task. As a result, most of our tasks were finished smoothly. Also, we helped each other to check their work. For example, when one of us had finished the responsible part, we helped them to check the answers. Hence, we can probably avoid making mistakes.

Moreover, this project makes me role played as a flight dispatcher to design a path for the aircrafts. During the project, I finally knew that programming can be applied on collaborative path planning towards UAV, separating the aircraft to avoid collision as well as increasing the airworthiness and reliability of aircrafts. These knowledges are what I have learnt during the lecture.

Last but not least, this project is really meaningful that provide a chance to engineering students from different departments to collaborate and share own knowledge with each other. I have learnt several things from this project, including programming skills, problem-solving skills, the importance of having a good communication and the importance of programming in aviation discipline.