

Team Organization Evaluation and Plans – Team 2

Evaluation:

The team organization was more or less a democracy in that everyone decided who would do what. This organization was easy because we only have 3 members. Joshua Shuller was to do the hardware and construction. Amandeep Gill and Paritosh Chokandorkar were to do the programming.

Our strong points include:

1. Good communication – everyone called each other whenever they needed to.
2. Good coordination – while working on the robot, good coordination was making itself apparent.
3. Good decision making – we could all agree on something, partly because we have three members, which makes a good tiebreaker.

There are a lot of strong points for each of our team members as well, but that is beyond the scope of this paper.

Our problems break down as given below:

1. Our groups first difficulty was meeting each other:
 - a. One of our team members works more than 60 hours a week, making it extremely difficult to meet at anytime.
 - b. Another one of our group members lives off campus and does not always have access to a car, and also has a job to go to directly after class which is one of the only times the other members can meet.
2. Our second difficulty came along when we started running out of time:
 - a. Final robot design not completed until 30 hours before the demonstration.
 - b. Programming was sloppy and debugging was more or less grabbing at straws than sitting down and thinking about the problem.
 - c. Running out of time is mostly the result of not getting a head start on testing.
3. Our third difficulty was that one of our team members responsible for programming could not meet at all until Thursday.
 - a. This would have been okay, but because of all the testing and being out of time the other two team members had already started working on the programming.
 - b. At that point it was not the programming that was the problem, it was the hardware.
 - c. And it was a little bit too late to be teaching the tardy member the code already written.

Our tardy team member, agreed to do the final report to make up for being too late to help with the programming.

Plans:

We plan on getting an earlier start on the next project. We have decided to allow the tardy member mentioned above to construct the robot and hardware during the first week of every following project. That way, he will have plenty of time to work at his own pace. As long as the hardware is completed, that would be a fair share of the work of a project, and he should be free of all other responsibilities unless he chooses to help out.

We will keep the democratic group decision making scheme up and running for our group for the next project. We will change the tasks allocated to each member as planned during the first project, with one exception – hardware will all be done by a single member. Overall, the team structure will remain more or less the same as before, except more emphasis will be placed on the timeline.