Bi-Weekly Report: NeuroResponse

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Overview

Past two weeks were mainly focused on the results of HCI assignment and planning the back-end solution for our app. Results of HCI assignment inspired us to slightly modify our apps' UI design, so that it will conform UI design guidelines of Apple and Google and have larger texts and widget sizes to minimise possible number of mistakes and misclicks done by patients. We did not have meetings with the client, however we had a group meeting to plan our work for upcoming weeks.

Meetings

8th of November 2017
In this group meeting we were discussing which backend solution to use in our app and summarising our HCI research. We decided to use Node JS and Mongo DB for our backend solution. Knowing which database to use, we analysed what data should be stored from Symptom Check and Side Effect Check tests.

We also decided on changes to be made in the UI design for both platforms. After evaluating the prototype for HCI assignment, the size of text and widgets should be increased on both platforms, also instead of current custom views used in Symptom Check and Side Effect check for iOS, we will apply Apple Research Kit for user input.

Achievements

1. Applied UI design changes according to the HCI assignment
2. Made decision on the backend solution of the app
3. Started developing the backend

Problems to solve

1. Try to deploy a prototype of the back-end.
2. Think about security of the data transmission and storage
3. Fixing minor bugs with UI and possible bugs coming with the backend integration

Our plan for the next 2 weeks

1. Have initial components of the backend done for testing
2. Test the backend and its integration with iOS and Android apps

Individual Reports

Sanzhar Aitimov

During the reading week I reworked the structure of the Symptom Check section in the Android app, as well as made few changes in the UI design. Symptom lists are now using custom layout for table cells, instead of standard cells, so now each cell has two text view widgets: first holds the name of a symptom, second for displaying level of symptom. These changes were made in order to increase the text size and readability for patients. I added animations and custom cells layout for a list of locations in a new UI variant of Symptom Check.

Miquel Rigo

I've started implementing the backend server. We are going to use MongoDB and node.js, both for performance and scalability. A basic RESTful api is already implemented. Next step will be to create the authentication protocols.

I'm also considering to start using docker, since it will save us from a lot of headaches in the future, once we want that app to be deployed (solving dependencies and compatibility issues). It's offers us also a nice framework to scale our app if in the future we need to, using containers instead of virtual machines.

Elvinia Cui

Since I did not participate in the development of the apps last year, my primary focus will be on the back-end and its integration with the apps. After the meeting with teammates, I started to learn the technologies we decided to use for the back-end development, e.g., MongoDB and NodeJS. I had also done researches for solutions on user authentication. In the coming two weeks, our team will start the structural design of the back-end prototype and try to implement it for testing.