



Team project management tutorial

2.009 Blue × 🗘 • 2009slack	#electronics S Q Search Q Search ☆ ≗ 11 ☆ 0 Ø Add a topic November 27th 2017 Q Search Q Search		
≣a Jump to	5:26 PM Lab is closed m so i went to grab food		
= All Unreads	Will be back at 6		
All Threads	5:33 PM Yes we got the circuit almost working - if we can get a gain then we will draw and send to PCB team for next iteration		
Channels	5:36 PM		
# ask-the-tas	Did you work on the vibration motor adjusting?		
# electronics	5:37 PM		
# finalpresentation	I have the parts out on the table and found a tutorial for it		
# finding_users	but haven't started working on it		
# general 🛛 🚺	https://www.precisionmicrodrives.com/tech-blog/2016/05/16/how-drive-vibration-motor-arduino-and-genuino		
# housing	Precision Microdrives		
# random	How to Drive a Vibration Motor with Arduino and Genuino Precision Microdrives Looking to drive a DC vibration motor using an Arduino or Genuino? In this article you'll find simple circuitry, suggestions on using PWM, and example code to download.		
# team-leads			
Direct Messages 🛛 🕀	5:37 PM		
💙 slackbot	Okay. Also, did you see the button that we never finished attaching to the bracelet and pin housing?		
2009slack (you)	6:02 PM		
o Alaisha	Lab just opened back up		
o Emma DeSoto	6:41 PM		
o Georgia Van de Zande	https://www.pololu.com/file/0J793/tps6306x-datasheet.pdf		
o Jani Adcock	+ Message #electronics		

Apps for Slack



Primary research questions

- How do the online communication patterns of student product design teams vary?
- Do these patterns relate to the strengths of their design processes?



Hypotheses about how communication patterns would relate to design process strength

Quantity of communication would change with respect to course milestones, increasing throughout the semester

High quantity of total team messages would not necessarily correlate with a stronger design process

Analysis methods

What defines the "strength of a team's design process?"

Teams with **stronger** processes:

- Made decisions efficiently
- Delivered prototypes in line with the design process
- Sought resources appropriately
- Worked well together

Teams with **weaker** processes:

- Had trouble making decisions
- Delivered prototypes that didn't contribute to learning
- Didn't seek help effectively
- Had concerning team dynamics

Observed staff meetings, milestone debriefs

Used these criteria to sort the teams in this study: 8 stronger teams and 8 weaker teams

Hypotheses about how communication patterns would relate to design process strength

Quantity of communication would change with respect to course milestones, increasing throughout the semester

High quantity of total team messages would not necessarily correlate with a stronger design process

Uniformity of a team's online communication would correlate with a stronger design process

- **Consistency** of daily team messages sent throughout the semester
- Equality of percentages of team messages sent by individuals

Analysis methods

First way I analyzed communication: Daily messages sent by team



Analysis methods

Second way I analyzed communication: Percent of team messages sent by individuals

		Image: second	e slice represents individual
Quantity	29% messages sent by most communicative individual	12% messages sent by most communicative individual	
Uniformity (equality)	Standard deviation of 7 Less equal	Standard deviation of 3 More equal	

Quantity of communication changed throughout semester

Total daily Slack activity of all 2016 and 2017 teams (282 students) throughout the semester compared to course milestones



High quantity of online communication didn't correlate with time spent working

Reported timesheet hours with quantity of Slack messages of 282 students over the course of the semester, normalized Normalized daily timesheet hours versus daily quantity of Slack messages of all teams. $R^2 = 0.2$



Quantity of Slack messages

Timesheet hours

Low communication doesn't mean low progress (if progress correlates with time spent working)

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Lower quantities of communication might suggest a stronger team process



Quantity of messages stronger teams	Quantity of messages of weaker teams
7160	5606
9593	14,966
8207	6511
4619	7295
7847	11,210
4174	10,204
10,046	4965
10,069	9978

Time (days)

Stronger teams

Weaker teams

Quantity of messages

Bootstrap resampling 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Bootstrap resampling

Bootstrap resampling

Lower quantities of communication might suggest a stronger team process

Bootstrap distributions of stronger and weaker teams' quantity measurements



Consistency of communication might suggest a stronger team process



o of stronger teams	O OI WEAKEI LEAIIIS
74	57
82	143
76	77
57	57
92	87
45	119
98	50
82	87

Time (days)

Consistency of communication might suggest a stronger team process

Bootstrap distributions of stronger and weaker teams' consistency measurements



Equality of communication might suggest a stronger team process



One slice represents one individual

σ of stronger teams	σ of weaker teams
4.8	6.1
4.8	4.1
3.1	4.1
4.2	3.5
5.5	3.4
7.0	3
4.4	3.6
3.2	3.6

Equality of communication might suggest a stronger team process

Bootstrap distributions of stronger and weaker teams' equality measurements



System Integrators are among the most communicative individuals

Equality of communication by team System integrator (SI) Other team member All teams had at least one SI in the top three most communicative members **Communication patterns of** SIs are important to study

Slack communication: Take-aways

Communication patterns were quite varied between teams

Quantity of communication isn't necessarily an indicator of progress; low communication doesn't always mean low project progress

Uniformity of communication is possibly a better indicator; teams with uniformity have tended to follow stronger design processes and have better outcomes

Now for four year's worth of data!

Analysis of virtual communication within engineering design teams and its impact on team effectiveness. Lauren Adolphe, Georgia D. Van de Zande, David Wallace, Alison Olechowski

Central leadership style: Team leads are most central to the network



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Value of Nonverbal Communication: Stronger teams use emojis at a higher rate



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Other ways to communicate















Questions?