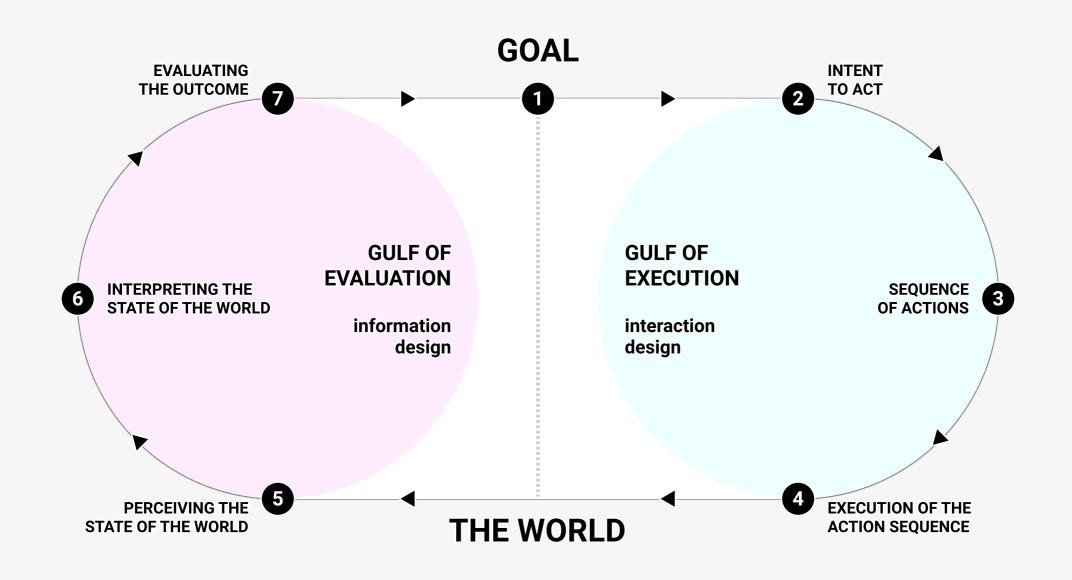
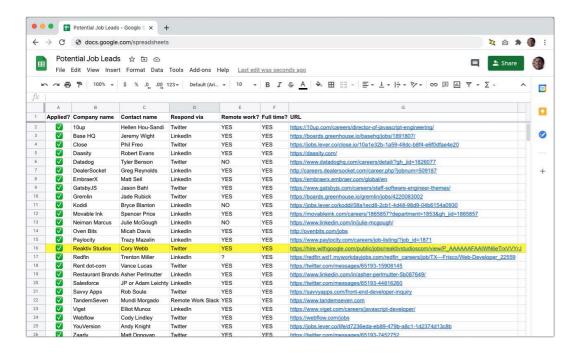
USER STORY: As a NATHAN SMITH, I wanted to FIND A NEW JOB, so that I WOULD HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE AFTER BEING LAID OFF FROM INVISION. SPRINT: SPRING 2021. EPIC: ADES 5430.



- 1. Oct. 29, 2019 I was laid off from InVision, a start-up focused on design tooling. It just so happened to be the same day my wife was diagnosed as having had a stroke (on Oct. 23). My immediate goal was to find employment, without having a gap in health insurance coverage.
- 2. Once she was in stable condition at the hospital, I began trying to generate job leads. I started planning what to say, how to say it, and making sure my résumé was up to date.
- 3. I started by posting on LinkedIn and Twitter. I also emailed friends and former coworkers. Thankfully, this led to an outpouring of support. My attitude was "no lead is a bad lead" and I saved every possibility in a spreadsheet.



4. I pared down the list, sorting on the criteria of "allows for remote work" - a must, now that my wife could not drive and full-time. Out of 48 potential leads, I applied to 27 jobs over the span of approximately two weeks.

"THE WORLD" — Then I waited... but not for long! 🙌



- 5. I perceived by their replies that some companies were interested. I had a number of promising interviews, and felt that several of the conversations had gone quite well.
- 6. By mid-November, I had two job offers and was moving on to second or third round interviews with a number of other companies. But I had to adjust my expectations.

It was becoming clear that I would need to settle for considerably less pay than I had made at a VC funded start-up. So, I adjusted my goal. My priority shifted to an acceptable base salary, with good health insurance. I also wanted to ensure it was a company with longevity.

7. Knowing that most businesses tend to freeze their interviewing and hiring over the Thanksgiving to New Year stretch, I did not want to wait until mid-December hoping for a "maybe" and still not be gainfully employed.

I decided to go with my gut and accepted a job at Reaktiv Studios. I have to say, I feel like it was the right choice.