

Exercise 6: User Study – Comparison of Text Input Methods

This exercise can be done in groups of up to 5 students.

Part 1: Plan the User Study

Plan a user study to compare text input methods. We suggest using the example given in the lecture on Feb. 5th 2004 and compare. Here the idea is to compare text input using T9 on a mobile to a standard keyboard. Other options are to compare Graffiti, handwriting, or different types of keyboards.

Task: Specify the experiment:

- Goal
- Hypotheses, Null-Hypotheses
- Participants, who, how many
- Independent variables
- Dependent variables (how to measure)
- Exception handling
- Experimental setup
- Consent form

Deliverable:

- Specification of the experiment
- Experimentation plan
- Consent form

Part 2: Run the User Study

Run the user study according to the specification and plan you made.

Task: Run the experiment

- Measure variables
- Document the result
- Observe

Deliverable:

- Raw data from the experiment
- Important observations
- List of problems encountered

Part 3: Analyse the Results

Perform a statistical analysis of the data gathered in the experiment. In particular evaluate if one of the methods is significantly faster than the other.

Task: Analyse the results

- Perform a statistical test
- Summarise your overall results

Deliverable:

- Results of the study