Vorlesung
Mensch-Maschine-Interaktion

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Chapter 3
Designing Systems for Humans

- 3.1 Design for humans
- 3.2 Space and territory
- 3.3 Visual perception and reading
- 3.4 Hearing, Touch, Movement
- 3.5 Cognitive abilities and memory
- 3.6 Emotion
- 3.7 Natural and intuitive interaction, Affordance
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Designing for humans
What has to be considered?

- Humans are very complex! Even psychology only explains parts…
- Physiology (e.g. size, strength, degrees of freedom, fatigue)
- Psychology (e.g. memory, perception, cognition)
- Variety (e.g. gender, abilities and disabilities)
- Soft factors (e.g. aesthetics, motivation, pleasure, experience) related to psychology and physiology
Model Human Processor (1)

- Very simple “model” of a human interacting with a computer
- The model describes the human as three sub-systems
  - Perceptual system (acquire input from the real world)
  - Motor system (manipulate the real world)
  - Cognitive system (connection between input and output, basic processing and memory)
- Each subsystem includes
  - Processing
  - Memory
- See Card, Moran and Newell 1983, and Dix chapter 1
Model Human Processor (2)

- Reaction/processing time, example
  - Perception (stimulus); typical time: TP \( \sim \) 100ms
  - Simple decision; typical time: TC \( \sim \) 70ms
  - Minimal motion; typical time: TM \( \sim \) 70ms
  (example for complex motor action see Fitts’ law, KLM)

- Overall time for operation where there is a sequential processing
  - pressing a button when a light comes on is about 240ms
    \[ T = TP + TC + TM \]
  - Matching a symbol and then pressing one of two buttons is about 310ms (2TC because there is comparison and decision)
    \[ T = TP + 2TC + TM \]

- Processing can also be parallel (e.g. phoning while writing, talking while driving, ...)
Model Human Processor (3)

- From Brian P. Bailey, Computer Science 498bpb, Psychology of HCI
  http://www-faculty.cs.uiuc.edu/~bpbailey/teaching/2004-Fall/cs498/
Human abilities

- Abilities of un-augmented users in general do not change a lot over time, e.g.
  - ability to cope with cognitive load
  - willingness to cope with stress
  - time one can concentrate on a particular problem

- Abilities between individual users vary a lot
  - long term, e.g. gender, physical and intellectual abilities
  - short term, e.g. effect of stress or fatigue

- Abilities of one individual users changes over time (e.g. getting old)
Physiology

- **Examples**
  - Size of objects one can grasp
  - Weigh one can lift or hold
  - Reach while seated or while standing
  - Optical resolution of the human vision system
  - Frequencies humans can hear
  - Conditions people can live in
  - …

- **How does this relate to computer science?**
  - Device and systems that are build
  - Processes we expect humans to perform

- **If we ignore it…**
  - People may not be able to use it
  - Performs will be sub optimal
Discussion
3D-Mouse vs. Physiology?

www.vrealities.com
Discussion
Gesture Input vs. Physiology?

- From the movie Minority Report
Example: Wearable Computing

Fig. 1. The general areas we have found to be the most unobtrusive for wearable objects are: (a) collar area, (b) rear of the upper arm, (c) forearm, (d) rear, side, and front ribcage, (e) waist and hips, (f) thigh, (g) shin, and (h) top of the foot.

- http://www.ices.cmu.edu/design/wearability

Figure 4. Aura around the human body that the brain will perceive as part of the body.
General Principle
Designing for humans

- Design systems that fit humans
  - Physiological
  - Psychological
  - Emotional
- Augment the human intellect and the human capabilities
- Basic design guideline
  - Let the computer do what the computer is good at
  - Let the human do what the human is good at
  - Consider human and computer always as one system
    (Sheiderman: concentrating on what people can do with computers)
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### Types of Distance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Approximate Distance</th>
<th>Kind of interaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intimate distance</td>
<td>Up to 0.5 meters</td>
<td>Comforting, threatening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal distance</td>
<td>0.5-1.25 meters</td>
<td>Conversation between friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social distance</td>
<td>1.25-3.5 meters</td>
<td>Impersonal business dealings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public distance</td>
<td>More than 3.5 meters</td>
<td>Addressing a crowd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Territories at a table

- Humans have territories
- Example for territories at a table for a single person and for groups


*Figure 4.* Territories on a tabletop display. The left picture illustrates an arrangement of territories with only one user located at the table, thus no group territory is necessary. The centre and right pictures illustrate 2 and 3 users at the tabletop, respectively.
Space matters

- Humans use space to ease tasks
- Computer systems often do not support this well

“How we manage the spatial arrangement of items around us is not an afterthought: it is an integral part of the way we think, plan, and behave.”

http://icl-server.ucsd.edu/~kirsh/Articles/Space/AIJ1.html
The intelligent use of space

Motivation

The intelligent use of space (1)

- Space is used to
  - Simplify choice
  - Simplify perception
  - Simplify internal computation

- Some effects
  - Reduce cognitive load (space complexity)
  - Reduce number of steps required (time complexity)
  - Reduce probability of errors (unreliability)

  [http://icl-server.ucsd.edu/~kirsh/Articles/Space/AIJ1.html](http://icl-server.ucsd.edu/~kirsh/Articles/Space/AIJ1.html)

- Nicolas Nova, Socio-cognitive functions of space in collaborative settings: a literature review about Space, Cognition and Collaboration
Use of space

- Organizing storage
- Arranging tools
- Easing processing (e.g. sorting)
Designing with space
Example: assembly line

- Pre-structured environment
- serially decomposed tasks
- dividing task into subtasks
- Subtasks are done in a certain space
- Limited availability of tools and parts in a space

“...by regionalizing subtasks we restrict the kind of actions an agent will consider undertaking. Only certain inputs find their way into each region, only certain tools are present, and so only certain actions are afforded.” (Kirsh, intelligent use of space)
Equivalent to an assembly line in computer science / software?

- Wizards
- Guided tours
- (Distributed) workflow
- Tools that have support for different roles
- User interfaces that restrict choice as appropriate for a given context
- Different applications for different tasks
- Different work environments for different tasks (e.g. CAD workstation, video editing station, POS terminal)
- …
General principles
Designing with space

- When designing systems and solutions
  - Utilize space as much as possible
  - Use space in the physical world and on screen
  - Allow users to customize special arrangements
  - Provide interactive means for manipulation of objects in space

- The physical space and spatial arrangement
  - provides constraints and guidance
  - implies behavior
  - eases categorization
  - Search and retrieval
  - Allows to make (internal human) computation easier

- Segment problems and task
  - Spatial
  - Temporal
  Think of the assembly line
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  - 3.3.5 Change blindness
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The human eye

- See *Digitale Medien (Grundstudium)*

- Basics again
  - Very high dynamic range
  - Bad color vision in dark conditions
  - Best contrast perception in red/green
  - Limited temporal resolution (reaction speed)
  - Good resolution and color in central area (macula)
  - Maximum resolution and color only in the very center (fovea)

Images from wikipedia
Temporal resolution of visual perception

- Images to movie
- Flicker
Vision

Two stages in vision
- physical reception of stimulus
- processing and interpretation of stimulus

The Eye - physical reception
- mechanism for receiving light and transforming it into electrical energy
- light reflects from objects
- images are focused upside-down on retina
- retina contains rods for low light vision and cones for colour vision
- ganglion cells (brain!) detect pattern and movement
Interpreting the signal

- Size and depth
  - visual angle indicates how much of view object occupies (relates to size and distance from eye)
  - visual acuity is ability to perceive detail (limited)
  - familiar objects perceived as constant size (in spite of changes in visual angle when far away)
  - cues like overlapping help perception of size and depth
Interpreting the signal (cont)

- **Brightness**
  - subjective reaction to levels of light
  - affected by luminance of object
  - measured by just noticeable difference
  - visual acuity increases with luminance as does flicker

- **Colour**
  - made up of hue, intensity, saturation
  - cones sensitive to colour wavelengths
  - blue acuity is lowest
  - 8% males and 1% females colour blind
Interpreting the signal (cont)

- The visual system compensates for:
  - movement
  - changes in luminance.

- Context is used to resolve ambiguity

- Optical illusions sometimes occur due to over compensation
Eye movement

- Eye movement can be visually detected and used for eye-tracking
- You can tell where someone looks
How much resolution do we need?

- Assumption: viewing distance = horiz. image width
- Horiz. Viewangle = 2*atan 0.5 = 53 degrees
- Max. angular resolution of the eye = 1/60 degree
- → Max. horiz. resolution = 53 * 60 = 3.180 pixels
- Viewing distance of A4 paper = 10 inch → 300dpi
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Optical Illusions

the Ponzo illusion

the Muller Lyer illusion
Match the gray squares
Match the gray squares

A \neq 1
B \neq 2
C = 3
Color keys can be really difficult

<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1mg
- 2mg
- 5mg
- 10mg
- 20mg
- 50mg
- 80mg
- >200mg
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Reading

- Several stages:
  - visual pattern perceived
  - decoded using internal representation of language
  - interpreted using knowledge of syntax, semantics, pragmatics

- Reading involves saccades and fixations
- Perception occurs during fixations
- Word shape is important to recognition
- Negative contrast improves reading from computer screen
Reading is a central activity when using a computer

- Reading: controls, labels, information chunks

- Background on reading and online reading

- Some basic facts
  - Typical reading speeds are 100 (memorizing) to 1000 (scanning) words per minute
  - Reading skills differ to a great extend (according to PISA more than 20% have difficulties in reading)
  - Reading speed has for many tasks a significant impact on overall user performance
  - Good readers “recognize” words (they do not read them letter by letter)
  - Providing a visual presentation that supports reading is important (font, size, color, length of lines, structure, …)
  - Reading from a computer screen is in general slower than from paper
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Gestalt Perception

- Grouping items into groups based on:
  - Proximity
  - Similarity
Gestalt Perception

- Grouping items into groups based on:
  - Proximity
  - Similarity
Gestalt Perception

- Grouping items into groups based on
  - Proximity
  - Similarity
Gestalt Perception Example

- Keep red
- Off line
- ????
Gestalt Perception Example

- Keep off red lines

- !!!
Chapter 3 - designing for humans

MMI 2005/2006
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Change Blindness

- phenomenon in visual perception
- large changes in a scene are not noticed
- Happens when there is a short distraction, e.g.
  - “mud splashes”
  - “brief flicker”
  - “cover box”

http://niveapsycho.univ-paris5.fr/ECS/ECS-CB.html
Change blindness
example: mud splashes
Change blindness
example: flicker
WinZip

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Seeing in 2D and 3D
Views and Displays

- Everything on a 2D display is 2D!
  - If we see it 3 dimensional we imagine it…
  - Expectations and experience as basis
  - Displaying a projection of a 3D model

- “real” 3D needs requires a image for each eye
  - Happens naturally when looking at 3D objects in physical space
  - Can be simulated by providing a separate image for each eye using technology

- Options to visualize 3D graphics
  - Create a 2D image that the user translates in 3D in his head
  - Provide images (that represent a 3D model from a particular view point) for both eyes
  - Create 3D structures (static or dynamic)
2D drawing: Make it conclusive…

From A. Maelicke, Vom Reiz der Sinne, VCH 1990
2D drawing: Make it conclusive...

From A. Maelicke, Vom Reiz der Sinne, VCH 1990
2D drawing: Make it conclusive…

From A. Maelicke, Vom Reiz der Sinne, VCH 1990
Stereo 3D Vision Basics

From A. Maelicke, Vom Reiz der Sinne, VCH 1990
Stereo 3D Vision Basics

- Image for each object is dependent on the spatial relation between object and observer
  - changing viewpoint changes the images
  - Different people at different viewpoints see different pictures
General principles
Designing for human visual perception

- Visual design guidelines result from how humans perceive visual information
- Be aware of visual perception when designing non-standard UI components (e.g. in games and on the WWW)
  - Consider color perception
  - Consider central and peripheral vision
  - Gestalt Laws
  - Change blindness
  - Visual 3D impressions
- Be careful to make reading easy as it is an import time factor in many applications

- For more see Advanced topics in HCI (information visualization) and Smart Graphics
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Human Ear

Hearing

- 2 Ears
  - information about the environment
  - type of sound source
  - distance and direction

- Physical apparatus:
  - outer ear – protects inner and amplifies sound (3khz-12khz)
  - middle ear – transmits sound waves as vibrations to inner ear
  - inner ear – chemical transmitters are released and cause impulses in auditory nerve

- Sound
  - pitch – sound frequency
  - loudness – amplitude
  - timbre – type or quality

Threshold of hearing/pain

- Fletcher-Munson equal-loudness contours
Threshold of hearing for different age groups

Thresholds of hearing for male (M) and female (W) subjects between the ages of 20 and 60 (for details see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Absolute_threshold_of_hearing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Absolute_threshold_of_hearing))
Hearing –
Words and conversations

- Examples:
  - You are in a noisy environment like a crowded underground train and you can still have a conversation. You can even direct your attention to another conversation and “listen in”.
  - You are in a conversation and somewhere else someone mentions your name. You realize this even if you have not been listening actively to this conversation before.

- The auditory system filters incoming information and allows selective hearing
  - Selectively hearing sound in environment with background noise
  - Spotting keyword, e.g. cocktail party phenomenon
Spatial hearing

- Caused by:
  - Interaural time difference (ITD)
  - Interaural intensity difference (IID)
  - Head related transfer functions (HRTF)

- Better for high than for low frequencies
Touch

- Provides important feedback about environment.
- May be key sense for someone who is visually impaired.
- Stimulus received via receptors in the skin:
  - thermoreceptors – heat and cold
  - nociceptors – pain
  - mechanoreceptors – pressure
    (some instant, some continuous)
- Some areas more sensitive than others e.g. fingers.
- Kinesthesis: the ability to feel movements of the limbs and body
- Proprioception: unconscious perception of movement and spatial orientation arising from stimuli within the body itself.
- affects comfort and performance.

(see http://www.isr.syr.edu/course/neu211/lecture_notes/lec14.html)
Movement

- Time taken to respond to stimulus: reaction time + movement time
- Movement time dependent on age, fitness etc.
- Reaction time - dependent on stimulus type:
  - visual ~ 200ms
  - auditory ~ 150 ms
  - pain ~ 700ms
- Increasing reaction time decreases accuracy in the unskilled operator but not in the skilled operator.
- See Fitts’ law

(experiment for visual reaction time see: http://biology.clc.uc.edu/fankhauser/Labs/Anatomy & Physiology/A&P202/Nervous System Physiology/Visual Reaction.htm)
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Motivation: basic calculation

- Calculate: $35 \times 6$

- How do you do it?
Human Memory

“Memory is the process involved in retaining, retrieving, and using information about stimuli, images, events, ideas, and skills after the original is not longer present.” (Goldstein, p. 136)
Memory Model

Figure 5.3 Flow diagram for Atkinson and Shiffrin’s (1968) model of memory. This model, which is described in the text, is called the *modal model* because of the huge influence it has had on memory research.

- (from: Goldstein, p. 139)
Memory

- Involves encoding and recalling knowledge and acting appropriately
- We don’t remember everything - involves filtering and processing
- Context is important in affecting our memory
- We recognize things much better than being able to recall things
  - The rise of the GUI over command-based interfaces
- Better at remembering images than words
  - The use of icons rather than names
Motivation: memorizing

- Memorize

2 7 5 9 2 8 1 2 9 1 6 3

49 179 23 89 481

49 1 pizza now

hehousew asg reen a ndb igt
The problem with the classic ‘7±2’

- George Miller’s theory of how much information people can remember
- http://www.well.com/user/smalin/miller.html
  (The Psychological Review, 1956, vol. 63, pp. 81-97)
- People’s immediate memory capacity is very limited
- In general you can remember 5-9 chunks – and chunks can be letters, numbers, words, sentences, images, …
Wrong application of the theory

- Many designers have been led to believe that this is a useful finding for interaction design
  - Present only 7 options on a menu
  - Display only 7 icons on a tool bar
  - Have no more than 7 bullets in a list
  - Place only 7 items on a pull down menu
  - Place only 7 tabs on the top of a website page

- But this is wrong!
  Why?
  - Inappropriate application of the theory
  - People can scan lists of bullets, tabs, menu items till they see the one they want
  - They don’t have to recall them from memory having only briefly heard or seen them
Motivation: Wason's cards

If a card has a vowel on one side it has an even number on the other

Is this true?

How many cards do you need to turn over to find out?

…. and which cards?
Sensory Memory

- “Sensory Memory is the retention, for brief periods of time, of the effects of sensory stimulation.” (Goldstein, p. 140)
- E.g. Persistence of vision

(Image from Goldstein, p. 142)
Sensory Memory functions

1. collecting information for processing
2. holding information briefly while initial processing is going on
3. filling in the blanks when stimulation is intermittent

(from: Goldstein, p. 145)
sensory memory

- Buffers for stimuli received through senses
  - iconic memory: visual stimuli
  - echoic memory: aural stimuli
  - haptic memory: tactile stimuli
- Examples
  - “sparkler” trail
  - stereo sound
  - watching a film
- Continuously overwritten
Short-term memory (STM)

- Scratch-pad for temporary recall
  - rapid access ~ 70ms
  - rapid decay ~ 200ms
  - limited capacity - 7± 2 chunks
Coding of information

- Visual – image of a person
- Phonological – sound of a voice
- Semantic – meaning of what a person is saying

Coding in Short Term Memory
  - Sound is most efficient

When users have to remember something in the application → make it possible to code it phonological
Long-term memory (LTM)

- Repository for all our knowledge
  - slow access ~ 1/10 second
  - slow decay, if any
  - huge or unlimited capacity

- Two types
  - episodic – serial memory of events
  - semantic—structured memory of facts, concepts, skills

semantic LTM derived from episodic LTM
Long-term memory (cont.)

- **Semantic memory structure**
  - provides access to information
  - represents relationships between bits of information
  - supports inference

- **Model: semantic network**
  - inheritance – child nodes inherit properties of parent nodes
  - relationships between bits of information explicit
  - supports inference through inheritance
Motivation: Decisions and long term memory

- *Do dogs bark? Yes/No*

- *Do dogs breathe? Yes/No*

- The second question takes longer to answer → this indicates semantic coding!
LTM - semantic network

- ANIMAL
  - breathes
  - moves
  - is a
  - barks
  - has four legs
- DOG
  - has tail
  - is a
- SHEEPDOG
  - works sheep
  - size: medium
  - colour: [brown/white, black/white, merle]
- COLLIE
  - instance
  - instance
  - colour: brown/white
- HOUND
  - tracks
  - is a
- BEAGLE
  - size: small
  - colour: [brown/black/white]
  - instance
- SHADOW
  - book character
  - colour: brown/white
- SNOOPY
  - cartoon/book character
  - friend of
- CHARLIE BROWN
  - film character
  - colour: brown/white
LTM - Storage of information

- rehearsal
  - information moves from STM to LTM

- total time hypothesis
  - amount retained proportional to rehearsal time

- distribution of practice effect
  - optimized by spreading learning over time

- structure, meaning and familiarity
  - information easier to remember
LTM - Forgetting

decay
• information is lost gradually but very slowly

interference
• new information replaces old: retroactive interference
• old may interfere with new: proactive inhibition

so may not forget at all memory is selective …

… affected by emotion – can subconsciously `choose' to forget
LTM - retrieval

recall

• information reproduced from memory can be assisted by cues, e.g. categories, imagery

recognition

• information gives knowledge that it has been seen before
• less complex than recall - information is cue
Thinking

Reasoning
deduction, induction, abduction

Problem solving
Deductive Reasoning

- Deduction:
  - derive logically necessary conclusion from given premises.
  e.g. If it is Friday then she will go to work
       It is Friday
       Therefore she will go to work.

- Logical conclusion not necessarily true:
  e.g. If it is raining then the ground is dry
       It is raining
       Therefore the ground is dry
Deduction (cont.)

- When truth and logical validity clash …
  
e.g. Some people are babies
  Some babies cry
  Inference - Some people cry

Correct?

- People bring world knowledge to bear
Inductive Reasoning

- **Induction:**
  - generalize from cases seen to cases unseen
  - e.g. all elephants we have seen have trunks therefore all elephants have trunks.

- **Unreliable:**
  - can only prove false not true

  … but useful!

- Humans not good at using negative evidence
  - e.g. Wason's cards.
Abductive reasoning

- reasoning from event to cause
  
  e.g. Sam drives fast when drunk.
  
  If I see Sam driving fast, assume drunk.

- Unreliable:
  
  - can lead to false explanations
Problem solving

- **Analogy**
  - analogical mapping:
    - novel problems in new domain?
    - use knowledge of similar problem from similar domain
  - analogical mapping difficult if domains are semantically different

- **Skill acquisition**
  - skilled activity characterized by chunking
    - lot of information is chunked to optimize STM
  - conceptual rather than superficial grouping of problems
  - information is structured more effectively
Chapter 3
Designing Systems for Humans

- 3.1 Design for humans
- 3.2 Space and territory
- 3.3 Visual perception and reading
- 3.4 Hearing, Touch, Movement
- 3.5 Cognitive abilities and memory
- **3.6 Emotion**
- 3.7 Natural and intuitive interaction, Affordance
Emotions

Attractive Things Work Better

- **Experiment**
  - Six ATM identical in function and operation
  - Some aesthetically more attractive than others
  - Result: the nicer one’s are easier to use…

- Aesthetics can change the emotional state
- Emotions all us to quickly assess situations
  - Positive emotion make us more creative

- Attractive things make feel people good
  → they are more creative
  → things are easier to use…

- See D. Norman, Emotional Design (Chapter 1)
Emotion

- Various theories of how emotion works
  - James-Lange: emotion is our interpretation of a physiological response to a stimuli
  - Cannon: emotion is a psychological response to a stimuli
  - Schacter-Singer: emotion is the result of our evaluation of our physiological responses, in the light of the whole situation we are in

- Emotion clearly involves both cognitive and physical responses to stimuli
Emotion (cont.)

- The biological response to physical stimuli is called *affect*

- Affect influences how we respond to situations
  - positive → creative problem solving
  - negative → narrow thinking

  “Negative affect can make it harder to do even easy tasks; positive affect can make it easier to do difficult tasks”

  (Donald Norman)
Emotion (cont.)

- Implications for interface design
  - stress will increase the difficulty of problem solving
  - relaxed users will be more forgiving of shortcomings in design
  - aesthetically pleasing and rewarding interfaces will increase positive affect
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Affordance Theory

- Affordance is the perceived possibility for action

- Objective properties that imply action possibilities - how we can use things – independent of the individual. (Gibson)

- Perceived Affordance includes experience of an individual (Norman)

- Example: vandalism at a bus stop
  - Concrete → graffiti
  - Glass → smash
  - Wood → carvings


Natural and Intuitive User Interfaces?

- Very little is intuitive and natural with regard to computer user interfaces!

- To make it feel intuitive and natural
  - Base UIs on previous knowledge of the user
  - Use clear affordances and constraints

Donald A. Norman, Affordance, conventions, and design, *Interactions*. Volume 6, Number 3 (1999), Pages 38-41
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