Project 6
Usability and Utility of a Network Visualization of Document Topics

Pre-final Presentation

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The goal

TopicNets: Information Visualization Tool

Goal:

1. Test Usability and Utility of the system

2. Get feedback based on usability studies

3. Give recommendations for improvement
Methods
Cognitive Walkthrough

All individuals in the team tried to use and experiment with the system

Initial sense of problems

Designed the usability tasks
Preparations for Usability Tests
Test Materials

Prepared Manual (no help available)
Brief overview of system
Functionality of tabs and buttons
Oral presentation (no audio in demo provided)
Tasks

Based on our understanding, two kinds of tasks. Why?
Complex system
Expected target audience

Judge comfort and comprehension levels of various kinds of users
Basic Tasks:

Task A
1. Select the Health dataset
2. Name three topics related to health

TaskB
1. Search for all documents related to flu
2. Visualize a graph that has topics related to flu

TaskC
1. Switch to Calit2 dataset
2. Name three topics in the dataset

Advanced Tasks:

TaskD
1. List the following document nodes based on time:
   - Research committee
   - Amended striking
   - Hospital payment

TaskE
1. Reload the health graph
2. Create graph for only the documents related to quality measures
3. Open up and read contents of any one document related to quality measures
Initial Questionnaire

Decide which subgroup the participant belongs to
Assign tasks accordingly
Initial Questionnaire

Thank you for being a volunteer for our Usability Test. The results from our Usability Test will be used to help improve a computer software product's ease of use.

Please answer the following questions. We will use your answers to determine which type of task you will participate.

1. What is your knowledge background?
   A. Undergraduate    B. Graduate   C. Faculty

2. How much experience have you had with computers and computer applications?
   A. More than 10 years  B. 3-10 years  C. 1-3 years  D. Novice

3. Have you ever used a Web browser?
   A. Yes    B. No    C. Possible

4. How often do you search information online?
   A. Every day    B. Every week  C. Every Month  D. Rarely

5. How long have you been involved in research?
   A. More than 10 years  B. 3-10 years  C. 0-3 years  D. Never

6. Have you ever used an information visualization program?
   A. Yes    B. No  C. Possible
   If yes, what is the software you used?

7. Have you ever heard about TopicNets?
   A. Yes    B. No    C. Possible

8. Is this your first time with TopicNets?
   A. Yes    B. No    C. Possible
   If not, when is the last time you using TopicNets?
Running Usability Test

1. Introduce the system
2. Provide manuals and tutorials
3. Oral presentation
4. Explain the tasks
5. Start screen recording
6. Observe and take notes
7. Aid when they need
Post Questionnaire
1. How do you think about the following parts regarding TopicNets?

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<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
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<td>Others</td>
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</table>

2. In relation to other software you have used, you found the TopicNets to be:
   A. Very difficult to use   B. Kind of difficult to use   C. Neutral
   D. Easy to use             E. Very easy to use       D. Not Applicable

3. Which features of TopicNets do you like most and which parts you don’t?

4. Could you please explain briefly why you like or don’t like that features?

5. Do you feel that you successfully completed all the tasks on the task sheet?
   A. Almost all of them   B. Majority of them
   C. Part of them         D. It’s very hard to complete the tasks

6. Which of the following words are the best to describe your feeling about
Progress
Initial findings

- The processing speed is slow
- Too many options (can be confusing)
- Complicated and ambiguous
Timeline

Week 8: Run six more user tests

Week 9: Analyze the data and provide recommendations

Week 10: Compile everything and submit final report
Thank you!

Questions?