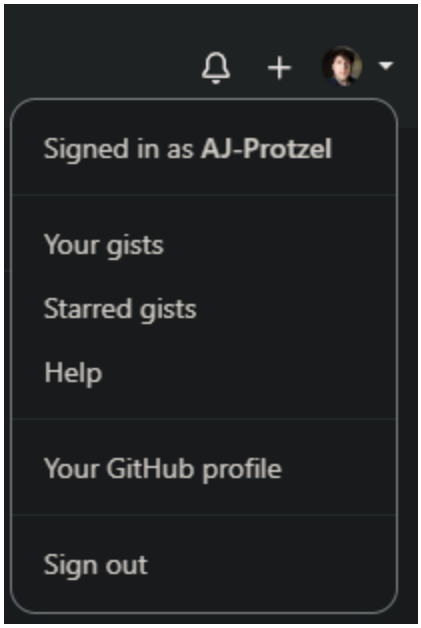
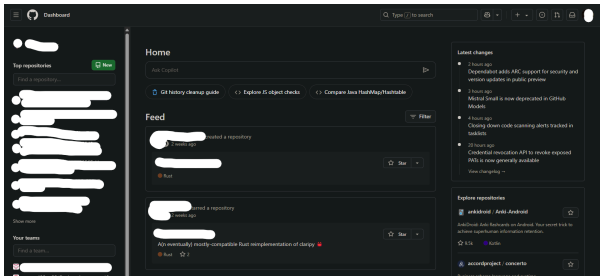
Adrien Protzel

Try Nielsen's Heuristics

GitHub

Heuristic	Example
Visibility of System Status	
Match Between System and Real Life	Some people have symbols or badges on their profiles, but it's unclear what they represent. This violates the heuristic because the system uses abstract or unfamiliar symbols that don’t align with real-world conventions or user expectations. Without labels or explanations, users can't easily understand their meaning, which creates confusion and a disconnect between the interface and real-life understanding.
User Control and Freedom	
Consistency and Standards	When navigating to “Your Gists,” the menu layout changes, which breaks consistency. This inconsistency makes it harder for users to predict how to return or navigate elsewhere, violating the standard of keeping similar elements consistent across the platform.

	
Error Prevention	If I upload a file to a repository by mistake, it's not clear how to remove just that file or undo the action. This lack of clear options for correcting mistakes increases the chance of user error and frustration.
Recognition Rather than Recall	Most functions are hidden behind icons like the menu burger or user avatar. Since these icons don't clearly indicate their contents, users must remember where specific features are located, increasing cognitive load.
Flexibility and Efficiency of Use	There's no way to group related projects or organize repositories into folders. This limits efficiency, especially for users managing many projects, as it becomes difficult to find or categorize them.
Aesthetic and Minimalist Design	The GitHub dashboard displays multiple columns of information—repositories, activity feeds, and suggestions—making the interface feel cluttered. This can overwhelm new users and detract from a clean, focused experience.

	
Help Users Recognize, Diagnose, and Recover from Errors	
Help and Documentation	Links to documentation are not easily visible from the main dashboard. Users must search or navigate away to find help, which can slow down learning and troubleshooting.