

HCI: Perception and motor behaviour

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Outline



- ► Perception and HCI
- ► Motor behaviour and HCI
- ► Results
- ► Guidelines and examples
- ► General conclusions

Perception and HCI



- ► Perception theory well developed
- We should put an adequate amount of focus on perception in HCI
- ► Here we focus on visual perception, but sound and other senses are also relevant within HCI related theory

Stages in visual perception



- ► Stage one: early vision
- ► Stage two: pattern perception
- ► Stage three: Objects

Early vision



- ▶ guidelines about colour, motion, form etc.
- ▶ motion
- ► colour (mostly studied)
- ► texture
- ▶ 3D
- ▶ form
- preattentive processing theory, i.e. what draws attention to something

Guideline examples, level 1



- ► To draw attention to an object, use a unique attribute (colour, form, direction, movement)
- ► Movement is especially suitable when objects are not in immediate focus
- ► Make sure the contrast between objects (text) and background is big enough. Different colours might not be enough

Pattern perception



- ► Stage two in the perception process
- ► Related to Gestalt theory
- ► Supports problem solving by external representation, methods for visualising

Conflicts in Gestalt theory



- ► Grouping conflict
- ► Proximity is overweighed by region



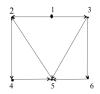
► Proximity is overweighed by connectedness



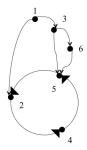
More conflicts



► Symmetry emphasises structure



► Continuity emphasises information flow



Guideline examples, level 2



- ► Place links, icons or functions/tools close to indicate that they are related
- ▶ Use frames if proximity is not enough to indicate relationship
- Be aware of conflicting signals and patterns that may appear unintentionally

Objects, level 3



- ► related to working memory
- relate an objects attribute to form, colour, texture, where form is primary and colour and texture are secondary (cf. lowest level where colour is primary)

Some guidelines for level 3



- ► Humans can only remember a few objects at a time, objects could be combined to form few but more complex objects
- Use colour and texture to represent the attributes of the object
- when looking at simple objects, form is more important than colour and texture

Implications for design



- ► Theories on the lowest level of perception give us distinct guidelines for design
- ► On higher levels humans are more unpredictable and design decisions must involve other aspects

Motor behaviour and HCI



- ► Predictive models
- ▶ Descriptive models Questions to ask:
- ► What is done?
- ► How do we do things?
- ► How long does it take?
- ► How well does it work?

Models



- ► Simplify the reality
- ► For the purpose of
 - designing
 - evaluating
 - understanding
- ► Descriptive or
- ► Predictive

Predictive models



- ► Quantitative results
- Analysis based on the model, not on results of an experiment or studies
- ► Does not need a working systems
- ► Hick-Hyman law
- ► Fitts'law
- ► Keystroke level model

Descriptive models



- ► Help describing and thinking about a situation or a problem
- ► Key-Action model
 - Symbol keys
 - Executive keys
 - Modifier Keys
- ► Buxton's 3 state model
- ► Guiard's 2 hands model

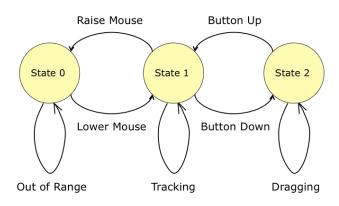
Buxton'smodel



- ► Graphical input
- ► Three states:
 - out of range
 - tracking
 - dragging
- ► To explore pointing devices and what they afford

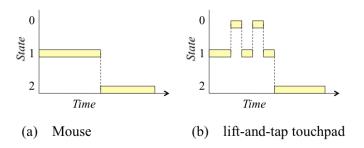
3-state model of graphical input





Use of Buxton's model





Dimensions and degrees of freedom



- ➤ A model that clarifies the relation between dimensions and degrees of freedom
- ▶ Makes obvious that a mouse is not fully 2D
- ▶ Inspiration for alternative ways of input

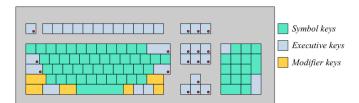
Guiard's model - two hand interaction



- ► Yves Guiard 1987
- ► Focus on the roles of the hands (cf. Buxton and Myers, 1986)
- ► Analysis of the location of keys in an ordinary keyboard related to the mouse for pointing
- ► Three unique keys to the left, 15 to the right
- ► Ordinary keyboards more suitable (less unsuitable) for left-handed people

101-Style keyboard





People



Perception

- ► Colin Ware
- ► Anne Treisman
- ► David Marr (Vision)

Motor behaviour

- ▶ I. Scott MacKenzie
- ▶ William Buxton
- ► Yves Guiard

Summary



- ► Theories on the lowest level of perception give us distinct guidelines for design
- ► Higher levels of perception involves interpretation
- ► Predictive models for motor behaviour when design alternatives are compared and evaluated
- ► Descriptive models help us understand interaction situations, think about design suggestions and how to study them