Emily MacDonald and Chris Pereyda

Snaptext Beta

Exercise 2:

Our app will be made available for all smartphones with an app store (take that Windows!). Overall, the app will recognize hand written equations, export that data to Wolfram Alpha (where it will be solved), and then sent back to the user, with a final answer. The app will consist of a simple, user-friendly interface designed to visually recognize written symbols, words, and numbers. Similar to a mobile deposit screen of any bank app, the user will open up the app to see a camera. The user will press a button to focus and “take a picture” of the equation. The app will then connect to Wolfram Alpha, input the text (as if the user were using it directly), use Wolfram to solve the equation, and then send the information back to the user. The app will be simple and non-techy, simply because we can. Our ideal audience is pretty much anyone who is involved in any science that has an emphasis on math, or anyone in math, or anyone who uses Wolfram Alpha but is too lazy or impatient to pull up Wolfram and type out the problem into the bar Wolfram provides. Let’s be real. Those parentheses are a real pain. We want to make it easier, with less hassle. We will also consider adding other features, based on suggestions from our interviews.

Exercise 3:

My friend Joey, a Mechanical Engineer in Florida: “It sounds very useful! Image processing is a huge pain, though. I would use such a product. The ability to save equations.”

My sister, Astrophysics: “yes that sounds useful, yes I would use it because it would save be a lot if typing time. I would use it near daily if it had an added function where you could also copy and paste the input other places and if it had an "export the answer" option that would save the answer as like a PNG. That way I could write out my equations for papers and just paste them in. Also if it output the input and/or solution to latex style so I could paste that in my paper or homework. I would use that app so much. Make me that app.”

Husam, Physics: “I would use it! Not as often though because it wouldn’t help with showing the steps. Also, most of the time wolfram alpha gives answers with some crazy simplifications which make them look very different from the answer you have. And sometimes it uses complex analysis to solve things that can be solved with algebraic tricks. But it would a helpful tool!”

Stephen, not a math/science/cs major:

-Keep and change formatting options (paragraphs, fonts, bullets)

-Separating options (titles, paragraphs, headers, footers)

-Compatibility with other Word-like programs/products/applications

-List of easy-to-change options and settings (customization per user)

-Yes, would use. Will download (will even pay for it!)

Felicia, secondary-education major:

-Share with other devices (tablet to phone, etc.)

-Share with friends

-Yes, would use. Will download

Kristiana, secondary education:

-Tutorial

-Easy to use

-Easy access (changing through pages on app quickly)

-Keep it fast

-Compatible with all devices

-Yes, would use. Will download