Activity 6

COE17B010

Chosen Search Engine:



Bing

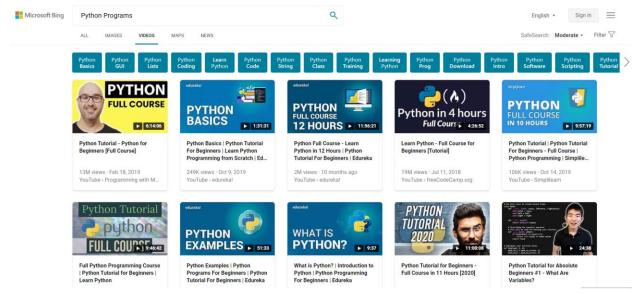
Introduction:

- Search Engine by Microsoft
- Was earlier called MSN Search
- Handles 30% of all US search queries (2nd behind Google)

Bing vs Google:

As google is the only contender with a greater searches, we can compare them to see in which areas Bing does better and in which areas it does worse,

- Bing's video searching is much better than google's as,
 - Bing provides a grid of thumbnails in video search which is best suited for videos and much better than the standard of displaying a set of smaller thumbnails in a vertical fashion (like in text)



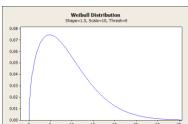
 Videos can also be previewed before clicking by hovering over them (for some videos) thereby helping the user select what he wants

- Google is better regarding shopping suggestions as it is easier in google to find prices of items than in Bing
- Bing provides ability to choose layout of image in image search which can be useful
 - Bing also provides sample images in image search which helps user understand how to use it, whereas google does not provide such features
 - o Bing also allows searching only a part of the input image
- Bing provides the Bing Rewards feature, where users can rack up points while using bing and then later redeem the rewards as gift cards for Amazon, Starbucks, etc which provides a great incentive for users to use Bing, whereas google does not have such reward systems.
- One big separator between Google and Bing is that Google's search times are much faster than Bing's.

Laws:

Weibull's Law:

User interaction time with a website follows the Weibull's distribution where they either stay for very less time or stay for a long time.



Once a user goes to a website, they quickly scan it and see if it has something they want. If no, they immediately leave within a minute. If it has something, they want they stay for a longer time.

Pros

- Bing provides a rewards system where users can rack up points for searching in Bing and later use those points to get Amazon gift cards, etc
- This provides a great incentive for users to keep using Bing and not just leave it after 1 search.

Gestalt's Principles:

Law of Proximity:

Objects which are closer to each other are perceived as similar by humans.

Pros

- News items are grouped together at bottom of page as they are similar items



- Sign in, Account options are placed together at top right corner as they are related



Languages are grouped together below search bar



- Search, Search using voice, Search using image (Search Options) are given together







Law of Similarity:

Objects that are having similar characteristics are perceived as similar or connected.

Pros

- Search options icons have similar look (transparent background with cyan colour) and so it helps connect them together







- News items all have a semi transparent black background



Law of Symmetry:

We tend to group objects that are symmetrical (helps us structure information)

Pros

Video Search Results – Video Image followed by Title followed by Views and Release Date



News Results – Title followed by description



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Law of Completion:

Even if some shapes are missing our brains automatically complete them to give information

Pros

- Simplified Icons – outlines of actual objects are enough to convey a functionality



Search via voice (Microphone)



Search via image (Camera)



Search (Magnifying Glass)

Law of Continuity:

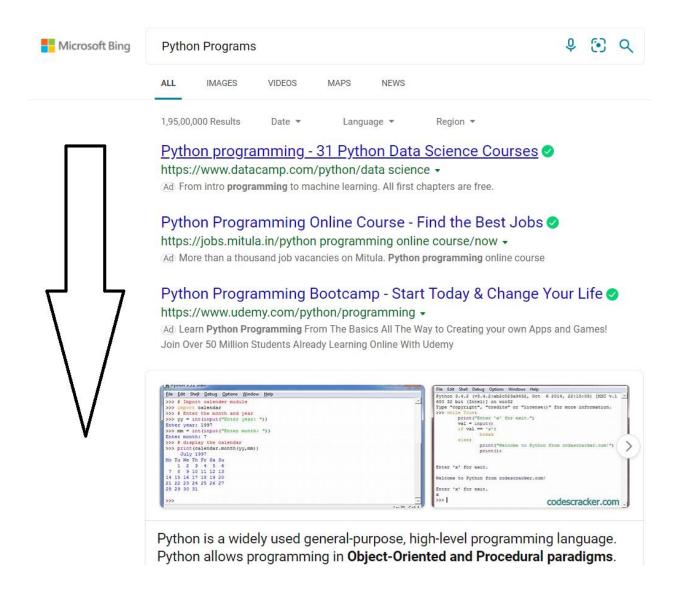
Some elements make us perceive movement or direction

Pros

- List of Video results (Left to Right)



- List of search results (Top to Bottom)



Law of Common Destiny:

Elements pointing in same direction no matter how further apart are grouped together

Pros

 Frequent Questions Dropdown – As all buttons point DOWN, all of them are perceived to do the same function, i.e. expand the question



Colours in Links and Titles
 As all links are coloured green and blue for clickable title, they are perceived to have a common destiny, i.e. lead to a webpage.

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