

Towards best practices for a visualization chatbot

Maria Ferman

August 9, 2017

Project Description

The project consists of three main phases. The first is the design of a Chatbot's best practices. The second phase is the creation of a visualization chatbot in order to test the first phase. Finally the third section is the user case study. This study will be carried out to verify the chatbots' efficiency in interaction with the users in order to create effective visualizations.

Chatbot Best Practices' Design: The best practices are created to allow people like Chris (Figure 1) to design an effective chatbot. These best practices give developers the most important aspects about the chatbot's design. Therefore, from the beginning they will have a specific structure to follow of how to design their chatbot.

Chatbot: The goal of the chatbot is to help people like Laura (Figure 2) to create a meaningful visualization about their data. Laura can use natural language statements in order to communicate with the chatbot. In response, the chatbot will provide her with several visualization options.

Chatbot's Tasks on Visualization: The Visualization goal of the chatbot is to help users to analyse data by using visual context images (graphs). The chatbot will offer different options to visualize data. The options will be oriented to allow users to see patterns, trends, and correlations that might be not detected by the use of data tables of excel sheets. Therefore, the chatbot will allow users to easily analyse their data in order to have deeper insights.

Developer

Name: Patricia
Age: 21
Work: Developer
Marital status: Single
Location: Victoria, BC

Bio

Works as a Developer in a startup in Victoria, BC
Holds a Computer Science degree
Has good programming skills
Does not have experience designing chatbots

Frustrations

- Lacks skills and knowledge on software design
- Has little time and lacks motivation to read blogs and best practices online
- Finds the amount of chatbot blogs overwhelming

Goals

- To find a set of guidelines that help her to design a chatbot effectively

Figure 1: Best Practices' Persona

Visualization novice

Name: Laura

Age: 25

Work: Project Manager

Family: Married, 2 kids

Location: Victoria, BC

Bio

Works as a Project Manager for a mid-sized company in Victoria, BC
Holds a Business degree
Does not have any background creating visualizations
Has managed several projects successfully
Uses her computer, iPad and her mobile phone for work on a daily basis

Frustrations

- Has problems in creating visualizations to explain her ideas and project results
- Has little time to devote to visualization creation
- Struggles in learning new technologies
- Finds the amount of visualization tools overwhelming

Goals

- To find a good way to create an effective visualization
- To be able to use her phone to create a visualization
- To get help in visualization creation and data analysis

Figure 2: Chatbot's Persona