SENG 310 - Assignment 5

Richard Wagner (V00767821), Alex Lam (V00195731),
Jonathan Bowen (V00735637), Di Mei (V00783547)

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1 Summary of Changes to Prototype

Before implementing our software prototype, we made changes on the basis of our individual cognitive walkthroughs and feedback from the instructor. The following changes were made to the prototype.

1.1 Changes from Cognitive Walkthroughs

- The instructor gave feedback on our main page that was corroborated by individual cognitive walkthroughs–the link buttons did not map to their respective pages. In fact, the main page, which has the sole function of providing links to the other respective pages, instead appeared to the naive user as a long, complicated data visualization page. The links were visible, but they took the form of graphs and didn't resemble buttons. We completely re-designed these links to have explicitly labelled buttons with symbols. The control now maps to its function as a tappable link.

- On the budget edit page, there was not sufficient feedback when users made changes to their budget plan. The "edit budget" function had poor recoverability, as any movements made on the sliders altered the budget without providing an undo option. To fix these problems, we added a "confirm changes" window, which reviews the changes the user has made and allows the user to undo their actions.

- Our "Detailed Analysis" page was renamed "Analysis" for simplicity.

- On our analysis page, the previous prototype didn't have controls for selecting time period and category parameters for the analysis. This function is required in our task scenarios. We fixed this by adding radio buttons mapped to time period and expense category.

- The main page lacked a logout button. We added one.

- It was noted that our earlier prototype allowed a user to navigate to all of the pages before signing up or adding a budget goal. The "set budget goal"

is somewhat novel, and The "Sign Up" function now enforces a sign-up procedure in which the mandatory "edit profile" fields must be filled in, and a budget goal must be entered before the home page can be accessed. We removed links to the home page for this initial flow.

- On our "analysis" section, it was observed that figures were small and that users may want to expand their view of them. We added the ability to zoom in on a single figure.

- Our previous prototype lacked a link to the "Analysis" page. Such a link was added.