SearchAssist experiment procedure

1. Introduction, signing consent form

2. Pre-questionnaire: backgrounds and topic (1)

3. Short introduction to the used system

4. Calibration eye tracker

5. Short example task to get familiar with the SearchAssist system

6. Main study task (part 1)

7. Short questionnaire (2)

8. Main study task (part 2)

9. Short questionnaire (3)

10. Main study task (part 3)

11. Final questionnaire (4)

12. Conclusion and short interview

Questionnaire 1 (Background and topic)   Date/ID:

Age: □ 18-25   □ 26-35   □ 36-45   □ 46-55   □ 56+

Gender: □ M   □ F

In which year did you start your study?

………….………

If 1 stands for "novice", and 7 for "expert", how would you characterize your computer proficiency?

Novice   Expert

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

How frequently do you conduct online searches:

□ Annually   □ Monthly   □ Weekly   □ 1-5 times a day   □ 5+ times a day

If 1 stands for "novice", and 7 for "expert", how would you characterize your expertise with searching?

Novice   Expert

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

How many years have you been doing online searching?

…………. years

In which language do you usually search the web?

………………………………

Please indicate the search engines you use regularly:

□ Google   □ Yahoo!   □ Bing   □ Others, please specify: ………………………………

What was the last time you struggled to find something?

……

……

What was difficult about it?

……

……

What was the last topic that you researched on the internet?

……

……

History   Bookmarks

Filters

Results

Knowledge graph results

Related searches
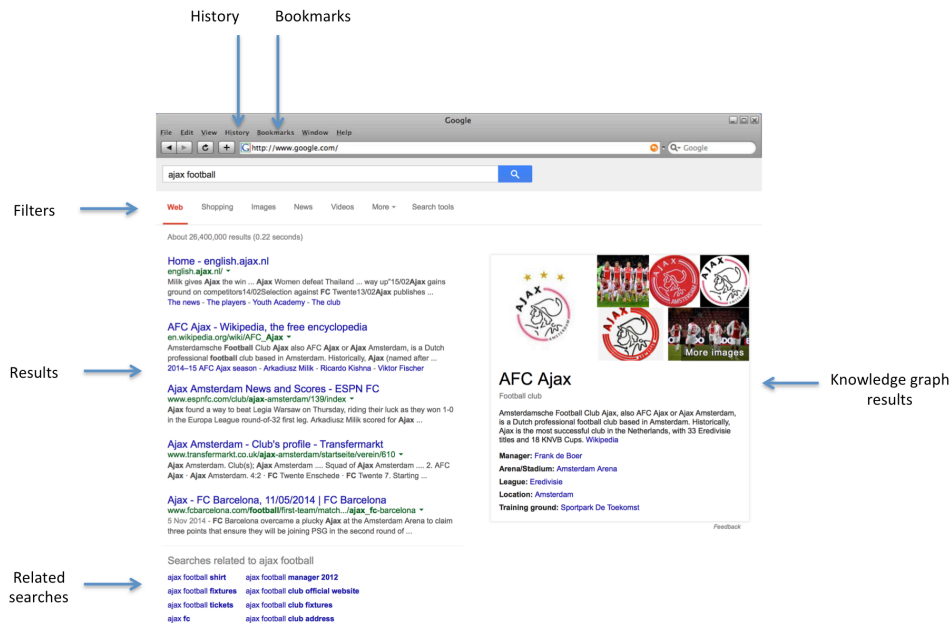
Please rate the features in your preferred search engine and browser in terms of usefulness for complex search tasks, from 1 (least useful) to 7 (most useful):

	Least useful						most useful
Search box and results (search engine)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Filters (search engine)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Related searches (search engine)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Knowledge graph results (search engine)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bookmarks (browser)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Search history (browser)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Topic:

In the study, you will look at a specific topic. Please indicate your familiarity with & interest in these 2 topics:

<u>Virtual reality</u>

Novice   Expert

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Unfamiliar   Familiar

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Very Boring   OK   Very interesting

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

<u>Autonomous vehicles</u>

Novice   Expert

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

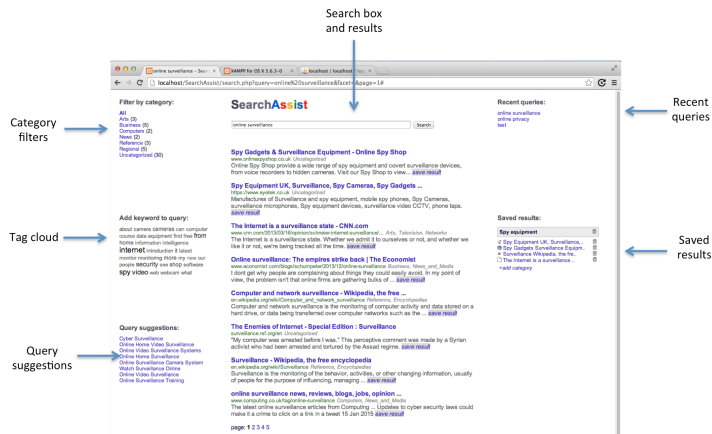Unfamiliar   Familiar

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Very Boring   OK   Very interesting

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

For the participant with the best task outcome in this experiment, we plan to award an additional £25 Amazon voucher. Would you like to be eligible for this prize?   **Yes / No ***

4

Please rank the search features in terms of usefulness for this phase, from 1 (least useful) to 7 (most useful):

Search box and results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Category filters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Recent queries	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Query suggestions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tag cloud	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Saved results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Did you have the feeling that the search system was properly supporting this task phase?

poor support   excellent support

          1   2   3   4   5   6   7

What could be better?

………..

How does this system compare to your regular search engine in similar tasks?

Better   Similar   Worse

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

How much do you know about the topic at this moment?

 Novice   Expert

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Unfamiliar   Familiar
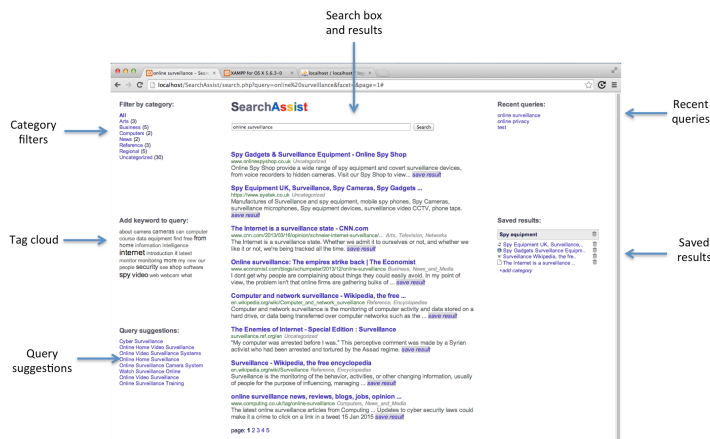
     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Circle the words which best describe your search activities during this task phase:

I was …   focusing   exploring   choosing   gathering

                   collecting   becoming informed   formulating   getting an overview

Circle the words which best describe your state of mind near the end of this task phase:

I was …   Sure   Disappointed   Confident   Frustrated   Confused

                   Relieved   Uncertain   Doubtful   Optimistic   Satisfied

Which types of information were you looking for? Tick the box(es) that apply:

☐ General Information   ☐ Specific information   ☐ Focused Information

Please rank the search features in terms of usefulness for this phase, from 1 (least useful) to 7 (most useful):

Search box and results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Category filters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Recent queries	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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How much do you know about the topic at this moment?

 Novice   Expert

          1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Unfamiliar   Familiar

          1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Circle the words which best describe your search activities during this task phase:

I was …   exploring   focusing   formulating   collecting

                       gathering   becoming informed   choosing   getting an overview

Circle the words which best describe your state of mind near the end of this task phase:

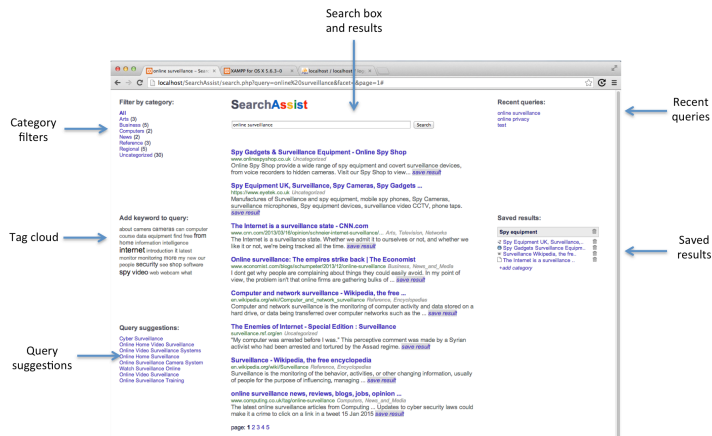*I was …*   Frustrated   Doubtful   Confused   Relieved   Disappointed

                       Satisfied   Sure   Uncertain   Optimistic   Confident

Which types of information were you looking for during this task phase? Tick the box(es) that apply:

☐ General Information   ☐ Specific information   ☐ Focused Information

7

Rate the search features in terms of usefulness for this task phase, from 1 (least useful) to 7 (most useful):

Search box and results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Category filters	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Recent queries	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Query suggestions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tag cloud	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Saved results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Did you have the feeling that the search system was properly supporting this task phase?

poor support   excellent support

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

What could be better?

……………………………………………………………………….…………………………………………….………………….…

How does this system compare to your regular search engine in similar tasks?

Better   Similar   Worse

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

How much do you know about the topic at this moment?

Novice   Expert

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Unfamiliar   Familiar

1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Circle the words which best describe your search activities during the task phase:

I was …	exploring	focusing	formulating	collecting
	gathering	becoming informed	choosing	getting an overview

Circle the words which best describe your state of mind near the end of this task phase:

I was …	Confident	Disappointed	Relieved	Frustrated	Sure
	Confused	Optimistic	Uncertain	Satisfied	Doubtful

Which types of information were you looking for during this task phase? Tick the box(es) that apply:

☐ General Information   ☐ Specific information   ☐ Focused Information

*At which moment were the search features **most** useful to you during the **whole** experiment? Tick the box(es) that apply (multiple selections are possible):*

	Beginning (phase1)	*Middle (phase 2)*	*End (phase 3)*
Category Filters	☐	☐	☐
Search box and results	☐	☐	☐
Query suggestions	☐	☐	☐
Tag cloud	☐	☐	☐
Recent queries	☐	☐	☐
Saved results	☐	☐	☐

*How much did you learn about the topic of this assignment during the **whole** experiment?*

None   Some   A great deal

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Did you have the feeling that the search system was properly supporting all tasks during the experiment?

poor support   excellent support

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

How did the system help you?

……

……

What could be better?

……

……

How does this system compare to your regular search engine in similar tasks?

Better   Similar   Worse

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Experience

How satisfied are you with the final question you formulated in your task?

Not at all   Somewhat   Extremely satisfied

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Why?

……

How much experience do you have with the kind of tasks performed in this experiment?

None   Some   A great deal

    1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Interface

For this task, I found the interface:

Frustrating   Satisfying

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Unhelpful   Helpful

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Simple   Complex

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Not Useful   Useful

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Not Distracting   Distracting

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

I enjoyed using this interface

  Agree   Disagree

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

I found the interface engaging

  Agree   Disagree

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

The interface features slowed me down in this task

  Agree   Disagree

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

I did not need to use some of the features on the interface

  Agree   Disagree

     1   2   3   4   5   6   7

Do you have any other comments on the search interface in general?

………

………

………

Do you have any other comments on the experiment in general?

………

………

………