First UI/UX Test

Jordan Dehmel, UI Design, Spring '25

Stakeholder Stories / Test Cases

- 1. "I am an intro to applied math student and I want to create a new document to edit, then a new file in the current document"
- 2. "I am an intro to applied math student and I want to find out what the 'Dockerfile' option means in the export menu, then open an existing document named 'hello.jmd'"
- 3. "I am a teacher and I want to demonstrate how to create and export a document to markdown format in my class"

Measuring Success

- 1. Test case 1 will be considered a success if they are able to create a new document. It will be a partial success if they cannot create a new file. It will be a failure if they are not able to create a new document.
- 2. Test case 2 will be considered a success if they are able to navigate to the help menu, then to the 'Docker' menu. Then they should be able to navigate back to home and open an existing document. It will be a failure if they are unable to find help or to escape the help menu and open an existing document.
- 3. Test case 3 will be considered a success if they are able to create a new document, then successfully reach the export screen. It will be a partial success if they stop at this point, and a full success if they are able to change the default document type and export. It will be a failure if they are unable to create or export a document.

Experimental Design

• Only the vaguest follow-up questions will be asked after the fact so as not to retroactively influence their opinions

The following are both experimental design points and things I will say to the subject before beginning:

- I will ask them about their experience in CS and math, especially in writing reports
- I will have my paper design and simulate the computer
- I will instruct them to narrate their thoughts and actions, and I will simulate those actions
- I will give them a task that they will try to complete
- For text blocks and dropdowns that I have not detailed in my paper model, I will narrate what will be displayed.

Choosing A Subject

Test subject criteria:

- College student
- In a math / CS class (preferably applied math)
- Not an experienced CS person

Post-Test Reflection

- 1. Task 1 was a partial success: She was able to create a new document, but there was no clear way to make a new file in that document's folder, and she made a second document instead.
- 2. Task 2 was a success with notes. She found it unclear how to find help for a specific keyword, and suggested a search function. She was able to navigate back to the home menu and open an existing document, although she suggested different verbiage for the button doing so.
- 3. Task 3 was a partial success. She was able to create a new document and navigate to the export menu, but was unable to proceed without further direction. She found this menu overly technical.

The overall impression was that the app was overly technical and lacking in help. A search bar for keyword help and an "advanced settings" submenu would likely solve these problems. The menu's "edit" button should also say something more like "open", and the help menu should be more intuitive.