

HUMAN-AI INTERACTION

Eunsuk Kang

Required reading:

Building Intelligent Systems by Geoff Hulten (2018), Chapter 8.

Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction. Saleema Amershi, et al., in CHI 2019.

Optional reading:

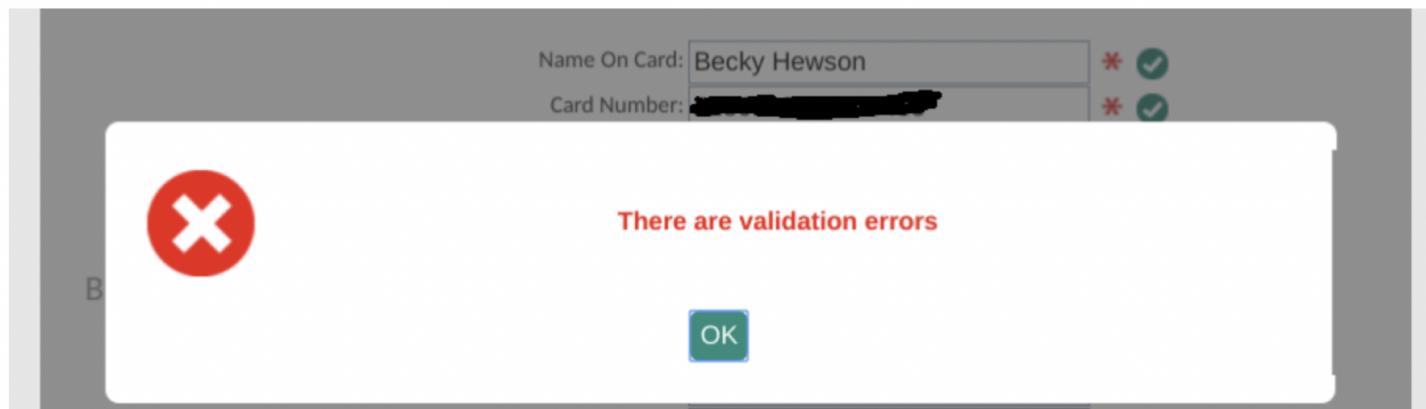
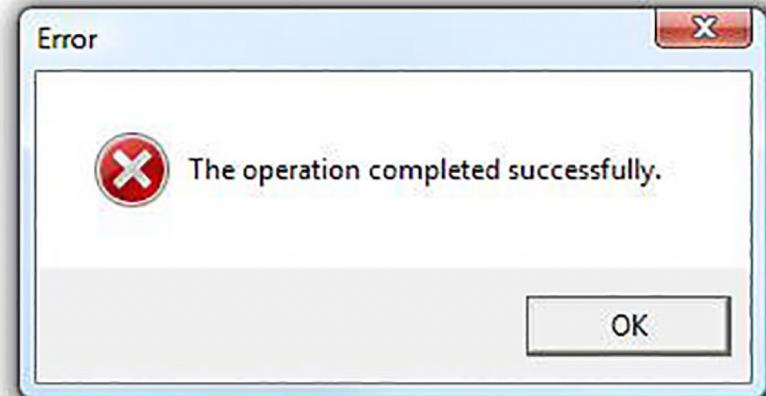
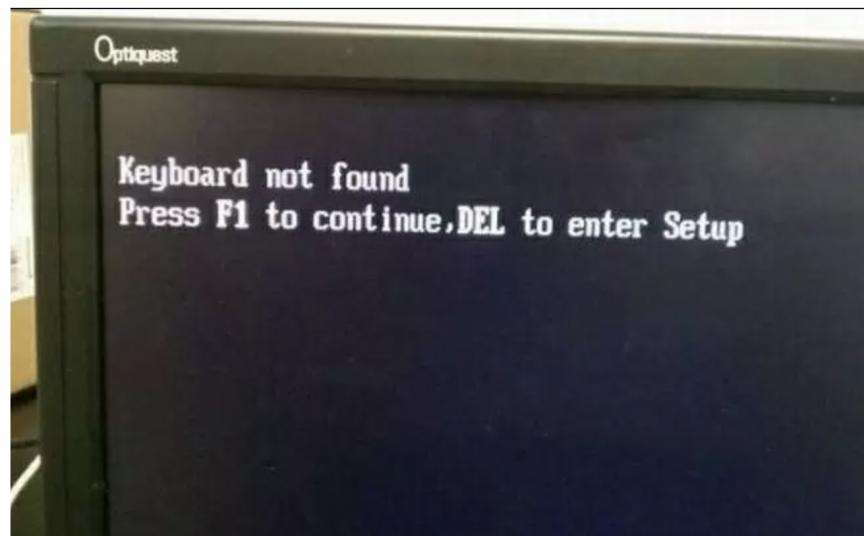
Will You Accept an Imperfect AI? Exploring Designs for Adjusting End-user Expectations of AI Systems. Kocielnik, et al., in CHI 2019

LEARNING GOALS

- Understand the risks of poor interaction design
- Understand the challenges behind designing human-AI interactions
- Understand the basic elements of user interaction design
- Consider design considerations for AI-based systems
 - Modes of interaction: Automate or augment?
 - Mental model: User understanding of what AI is doing
 - Dealing with errors: Guide user towards recovery & prevention
 - Feedback and control: Align user feedback with AI improvement

RISKS OF POOR INTERACTION DESIGN

POOR INTERACTION DESIGN CONFUSES USERS



POOR INTERACTION DESIGN ANNOYS USERS



POOR INTERACTION DESIGN CAUSES HARM

Alexa recorded a woman's private conversation and sent it to a random contact

Kyle Wiggers

@Kyle_L_Wiggers

May 24, 2018 7:38 AM

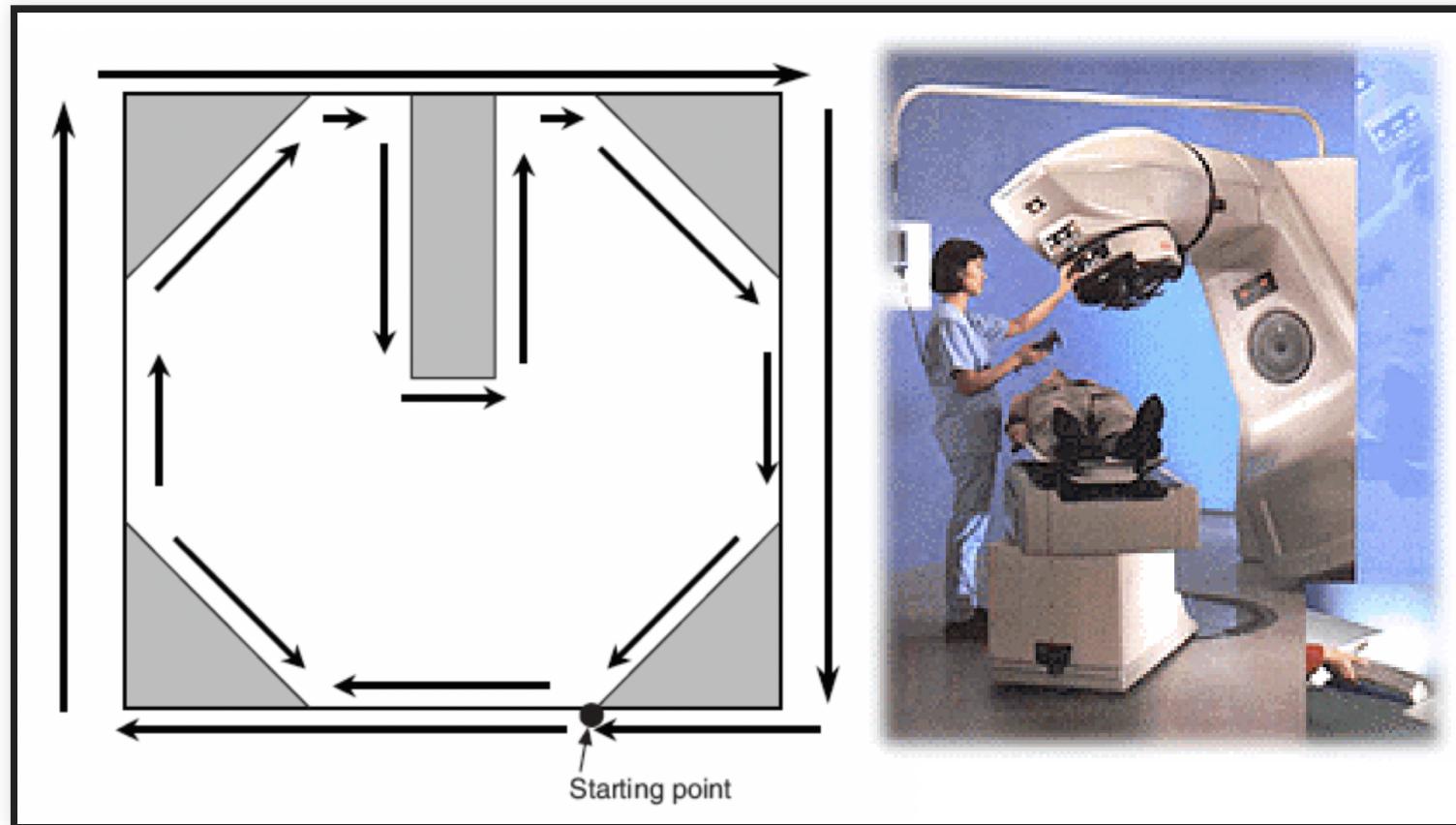
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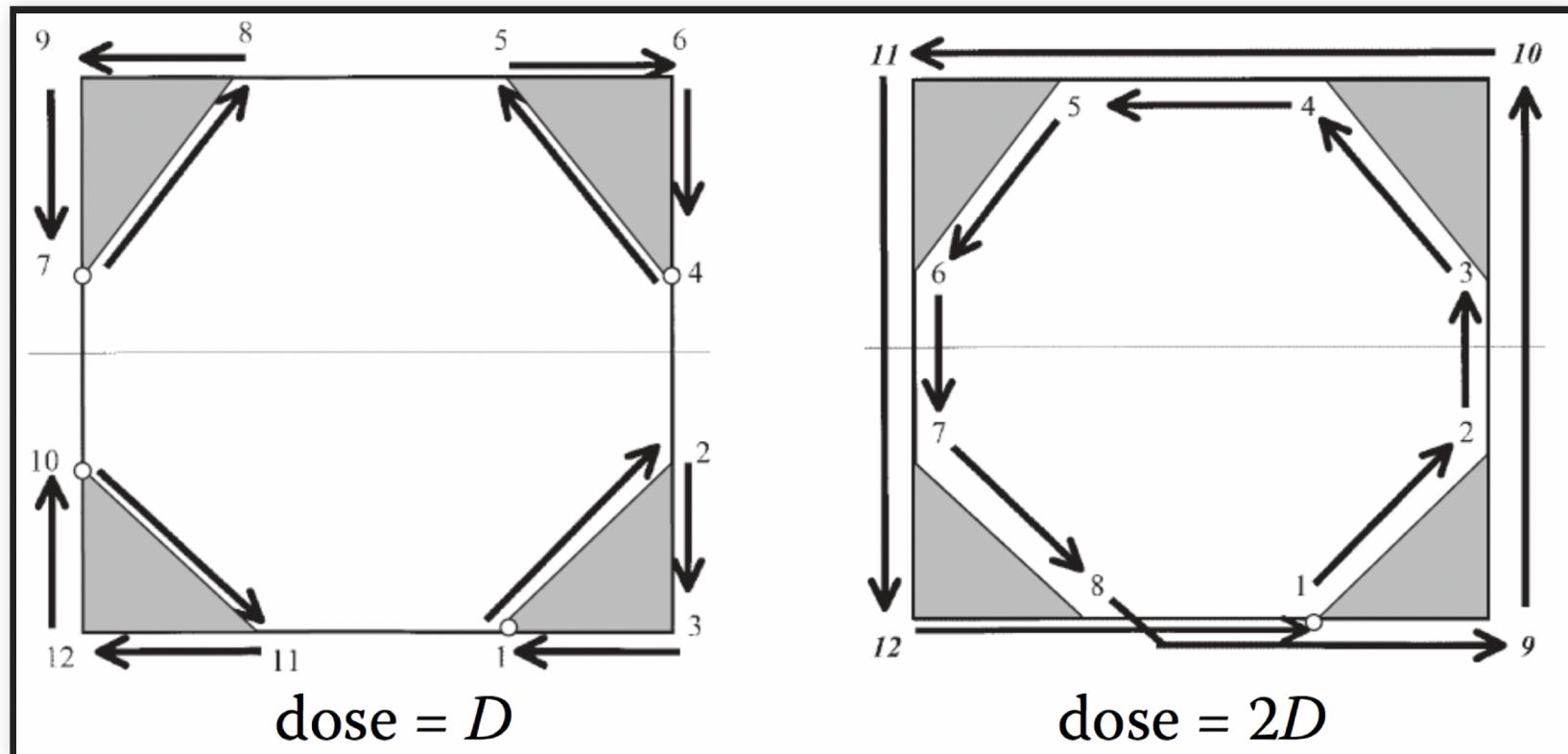


POOR INTERACTION DESIGN CAUSES HARM



- Radiation therapy system at Panama City public hospital (2001)
 - Therapist draws block shapes to determine treatment area
 - Software computes final radiation settings

POOR INTERACTION DESIGN CAUSES HARM



- Same shape drawn in different order, double the radiation dose
- 28 patients overdosed; 8 dead
 - Therapists charged with 2nd degree murder (but are they really to blame?)

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 - Contribute to security or privacy issues
 - Cause physical (injuries, deaths) and societal harms (bias, misrepresentation)

USABILITY CONCEPTS

DIMENSIONS OF USABILITY

<https://www.nngroup.com/articles/usability-101-introduction-to-usability/>

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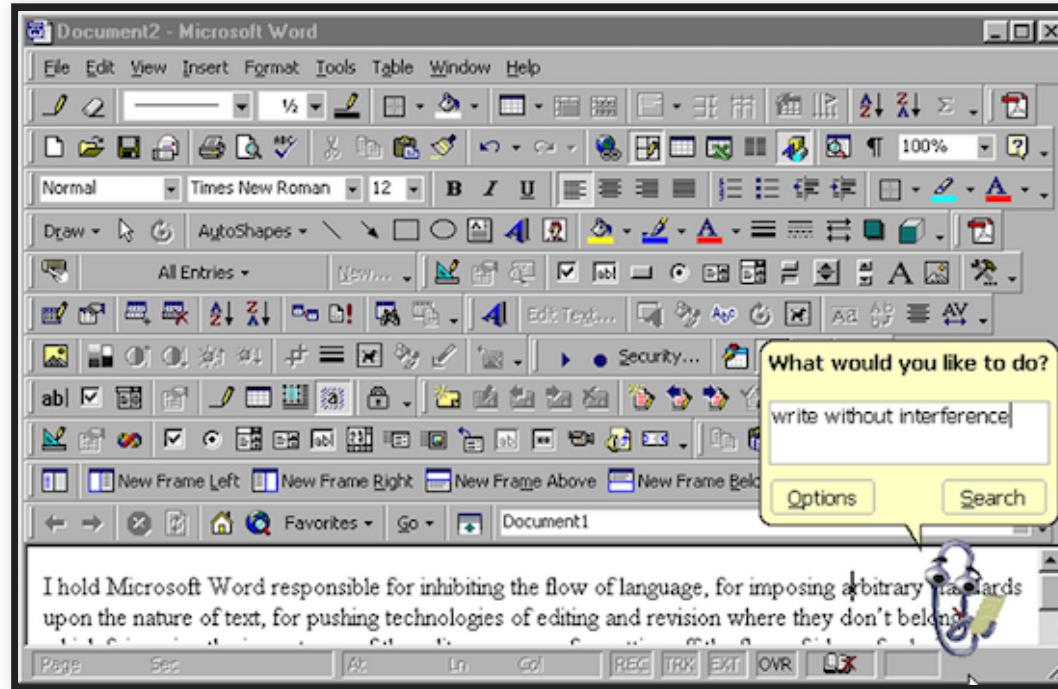
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- Errors: How often do users make errors, how severe are these errors, and how easily can they recover from the errors?
- Satisfaction: How pleasant is it to use the design?

<https://www.nngroup.com/articles/usability-101-introduction-to-usability/>

INTERACTION COST



- Mental and physical effort needed to perform a desired task
 - Task memorization & recall, context switch, track system state
 - Reading, scrolling, clicking, typing, waiting for UI changes
- **Goal of usable design:** Minimize interaction cost while allowing users to perform their tasks

USABILITY & AI



- AI has potential to greatly reduce interaction costs
 - Automate tasks through personalization & predictions
- But also introduces new challenges
 - **Unpredictability:** AI makes mistakes, sometimes unexpectedly
 - **Opaqueness:** User has difficulty understanding how system works
 - **Evolution:** AI behavior changes over time, surprising users

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR AI

- **Modes of interaction:** Automate or augment?
- **Mental model:** User understanding of what AI is doing
- **Dealing with errors:** Guide user towards recovery & prevention
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- Augment when:
 - High stakes & accountability needed
 - Difficult to communicate user's need to AI
 - User enjoys performing the task (e.g., driving)

AUTOMATE OR AUGMENT? WHY?

The screenshot shows a Microsoft PowerPoint slide titled "Measuring Progress?" with slide number 47. The slide contains a bulleted list of text. The "Design" tab is selected in the ribbon, and the "Design Ideas" button is highlighted. A "Design Ideas" pane is open on the right side of the screen, displaying two versions of the slide with different backgrounds and layouts.

Slide Content:

Measuring Progress?

- "I'm almost done with the app. The frontend is almost fully implemented. The backend is fully finished except for the one stupid bug that keeps crashing the server. I only need to find the one stupid bug, but that can probably be done in an afternoon. We should be ready to release next week."

Design Ideas:

Two versions of the slide are shown:

- Version 1 (Top):** Features a white background with a dark, abstract circular graphic on the right side. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.
- Version 2 (Bottom):** Features a dark, textured background with a circular graphic on the left side. The text is in a white, sans-serif font.

PowerPoint Interface:

- Top Bar:** Shows AutoSave (Off), file navigation icons, and the title "02-te... - Save...".
- Ribbon:** File, Home, Insert, Design (selected), Transitions, Animations, Slide Show, Review, View, Help, Tell me.
- Design Tab Options:** Themes, Variants, Customize, Design Ideas.
- Left Sidebar:** Slides 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56.
- Bottom Navigation:** Notes, View modes, zoom controls (29%).

Design transformations in PowerPoint

AUTOMATE OR AUGMENT? WHY?



Fall detection in a smartwatch

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 - Periodically (e.g., suggest action every hour)
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- Cost: What is the effect of a wrong prediction?
 - If possible, provide a way to undo the action of AI

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Slide design transformations:

A screenshot of a Microsoft PowerPoint slide titled "Measuring Progress?". The slide contains a bulleted list: "I'm almost done with the app. The frontend is almost fully implemented. The backend is fully finished except for the one stupid bug that keeps crashing the server. I only need to find the one stupid bug, but that can probably be done in an afternoon. We should be ready to release next week." Below the list is a quote from Christian Kaestner: "I'm almost done with the app. The frontend is almost fully implemented. The backend is fully finished except for the one stupid bug that keeps crashing the server. I only need to find the one stupid bug, but that can probably be done in an afternoon. We should be ready to release next week." The slide is numbered 47 of 74 and includes a footer for "15-313 Software Engineering" and "isr INSTITUTE FOR SOFTWARE RESEARCH". The "Design" tab is selected in the ribbon, and the "Design Ideas" panel is open, showing two variations of the slide design.

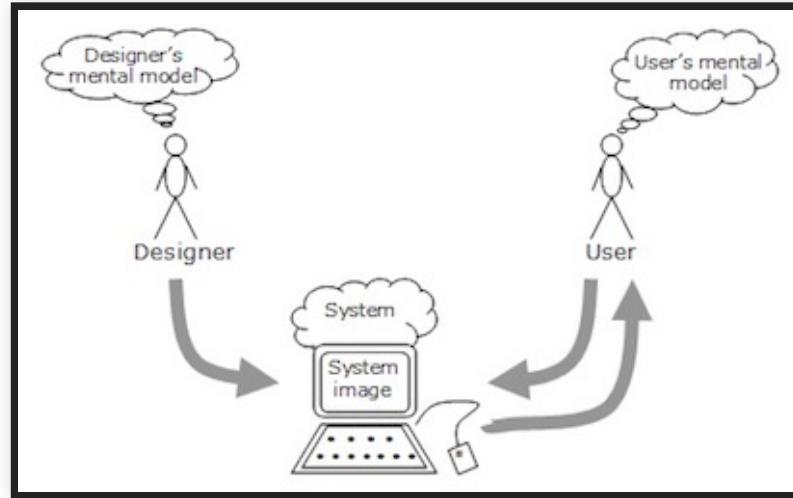
Fall detection:



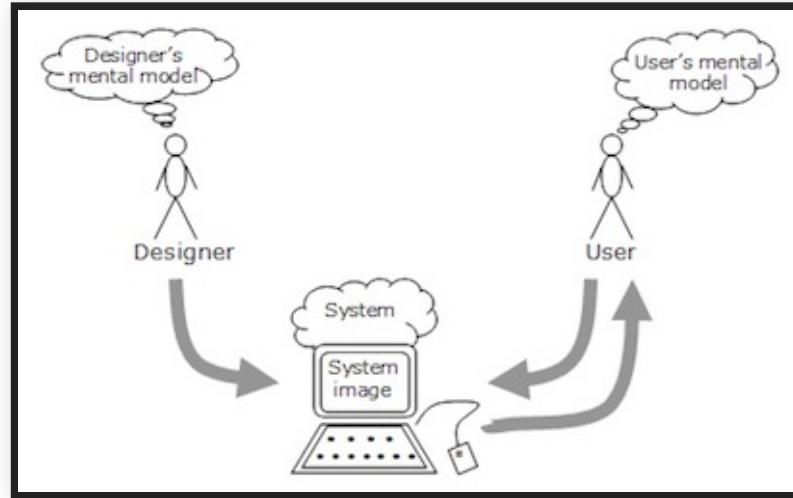
Q. Forcefulness, frequency, cost?

MENTAL MODEL

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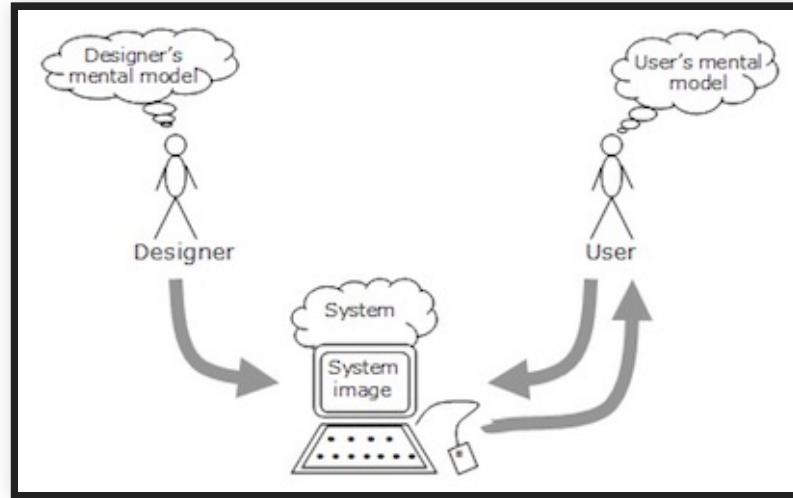


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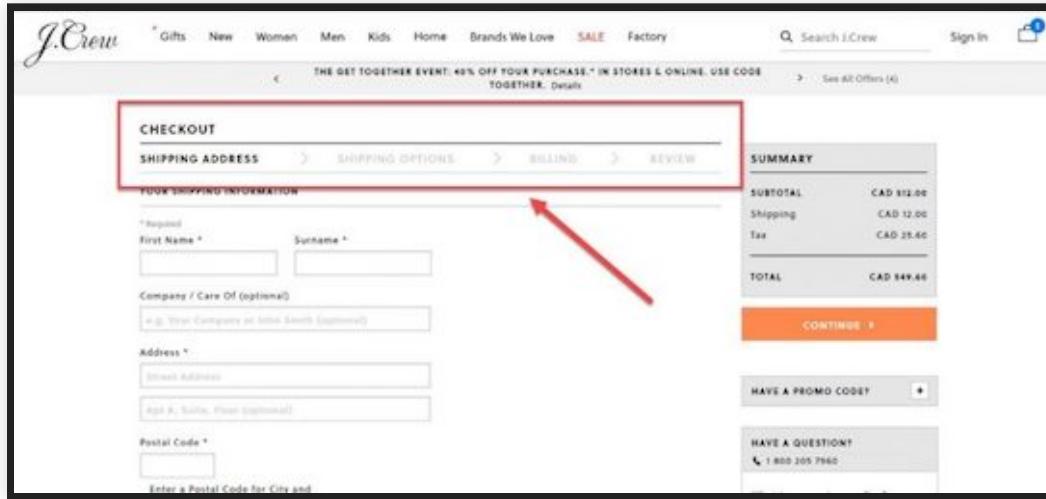
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MENTAL MODEL



- What the user believes about the system
 - "How does the system work? How does it respond to my actions?"
 - User plans actions and reacts to system based on this mental model
- Challenge: Aligning system with the user's mental model
 - Inherent mismatch between user's & designer's models
 - User's model may be preconceived based on prior experience
 - User's model and/or system evolves over time

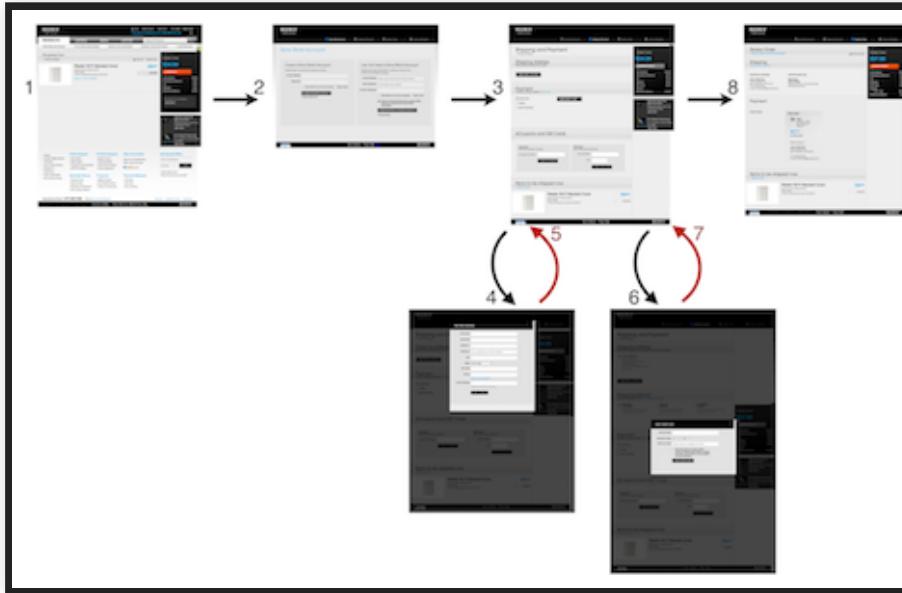
EXAMPLE: SHOPPING CART CHECKOUT



Mental model for shopping cart = A linear sequence of familiar steps

1. Browse for items
2. Add items to cart
3. Choose checkout
4. Enter shipping & billing data
5. Press submit
6. Get confirmation

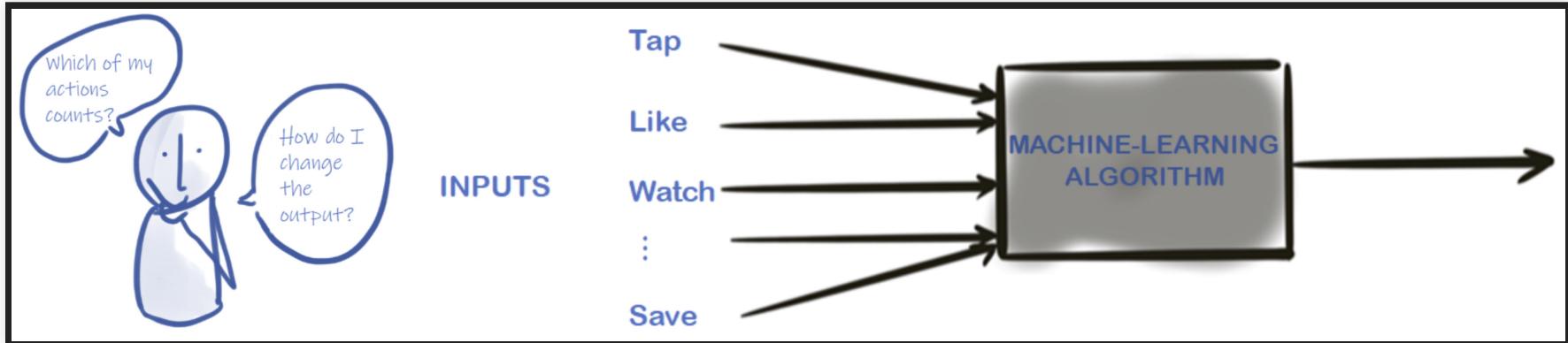
BREAKING MENTAL MODEL



- Anti-pattern: Interrupt linear flow & bring user back to a previous step
 - Create an account, open a new dialog to enter preferred address...
 - Breaks user's mental model => failure to convert into sales
- ~60% of customers abandon their shopping cart

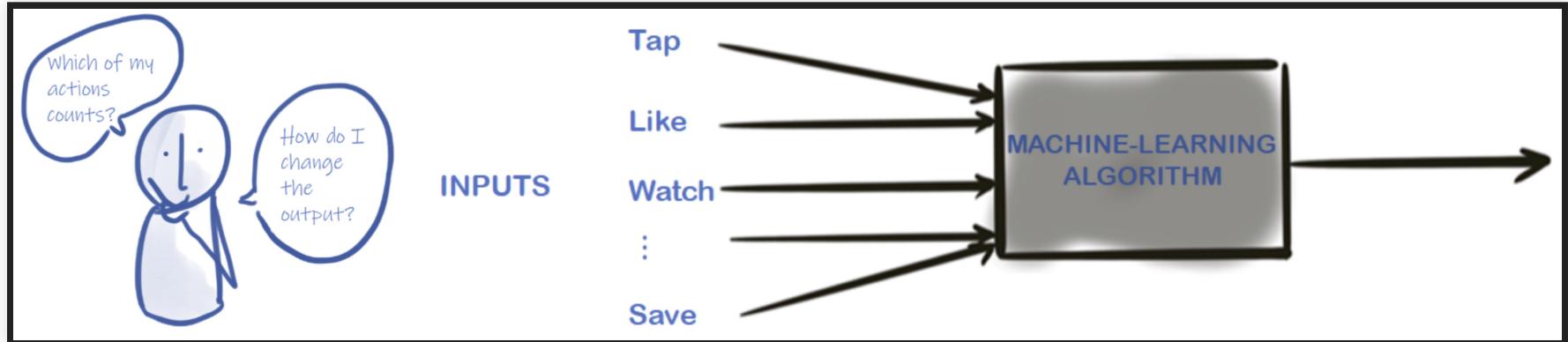
<https://baymard.com/blog/checkout-process-should-be-linear>

MENTAL MODEL FOR AI-BASED SYSTEMS



- User: "What is AI doing, and how do I use it?"
 - Typically less transparent than traditional applications
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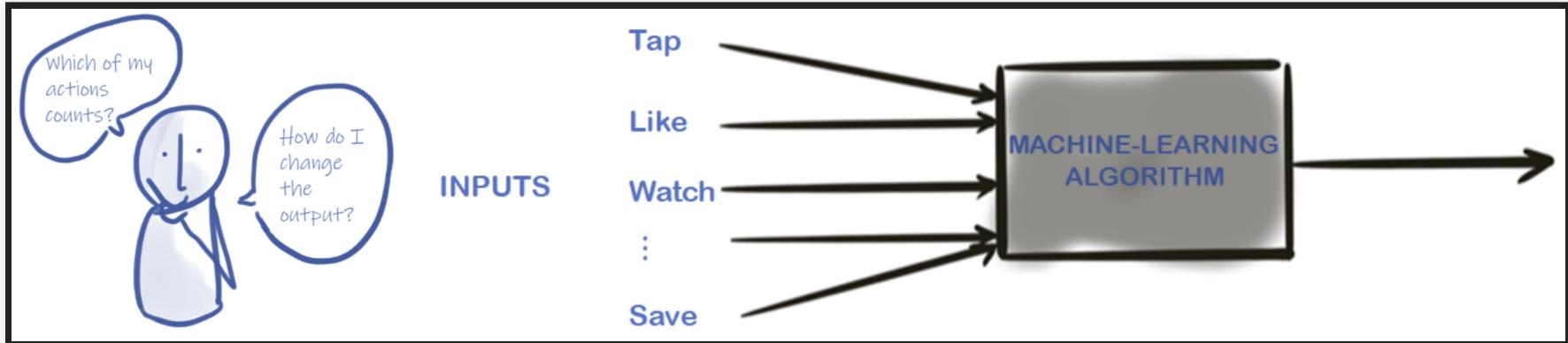
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- Lack of control over output: Why am I being given these recommendations? Why is the output displayed in this order?
- Lack of trust over output: How do I know the output is correct?

MENTAL MODEL FOR VOICE ASSISTANTS?



Q. Can you describe what it does? What it can't do?

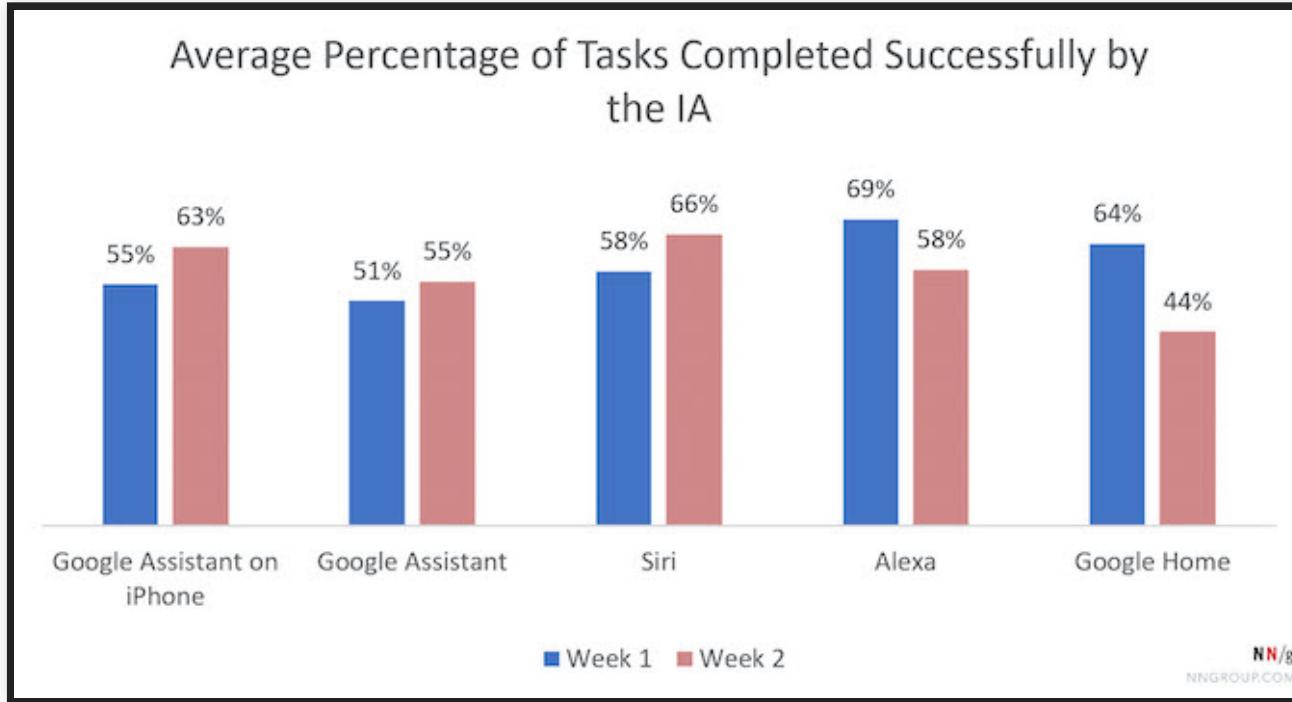
MENTAL MODEL FOR VOICE ASSISTANTS?



- Unclear, inconsistent mental model
 - An interface for other services?
 - "Handy helper"?
 - Knowledge repository? Fact-finding tool?

<https://www.nngroup.com/articles/mental-model-ai-assistants/>

MISALIGNMENT IN VOICE ASSISTANTS



- AI often fails to meet user expectations
 - (1) User doesn't know how to get AI to do X
 - (2) User says X, but AI can't do X well
- Users settle on simple tasks over time; small but limited improvements

MISALIGNMENT IN MENTAL MODELS

“So, this week, I realized that I don't use my IA nearly as much as I thought I did. I do use it often. However it's very much normally the same like five things over and over again.”

- User settles on a suboptimal mental model & fails to benefit from the full capabilities of AI

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- Improve/adjust the user's mental model
 - Set the user's expectations through onboarding
 - Increase transparency and explain decisions made by AI
 - Allow user to adjust system behavior to match their expectations

ONBOARDING: SET USER EXPECTATIONS

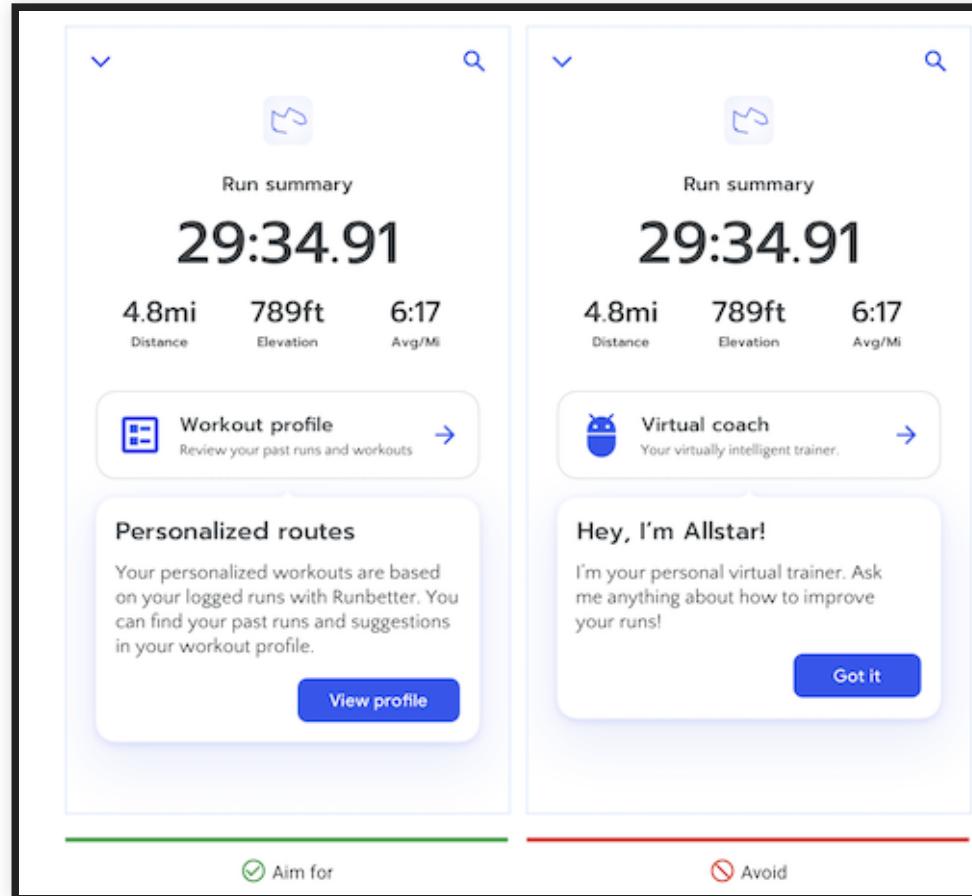
The image displays two screenshots of a digital writing application's interface, illustrating its onboarding process through user annotations.

Screenshot 1: This screenshot shows a document titled "Demo document". A blue callout box on the left says: "This is presumably what a document you've loaded into the app would look like. It seems like a really nice and simple interface!". A blue callout box on the right says: "Ooh! A pulsing hotspot! appears on the first highlighted grammatical error! Let me click...". The document text includes several underlined errors: "eight year old", "grown up", and "a inch".

Screenshot 2: This screenshot shows the same "Demo document" with a tooltip appearing over the underlined word "eight year old". The tooltip is titled "In-line corrections" and contains the text: "Hover your mouse over underlined words to fix issues with one click." A blue callout box on the right says: "Clicking the hotspot, I get a little tooltip explaining how this all works!" and "Ok, what's next? Let me close...".

- Provide examples of how it works

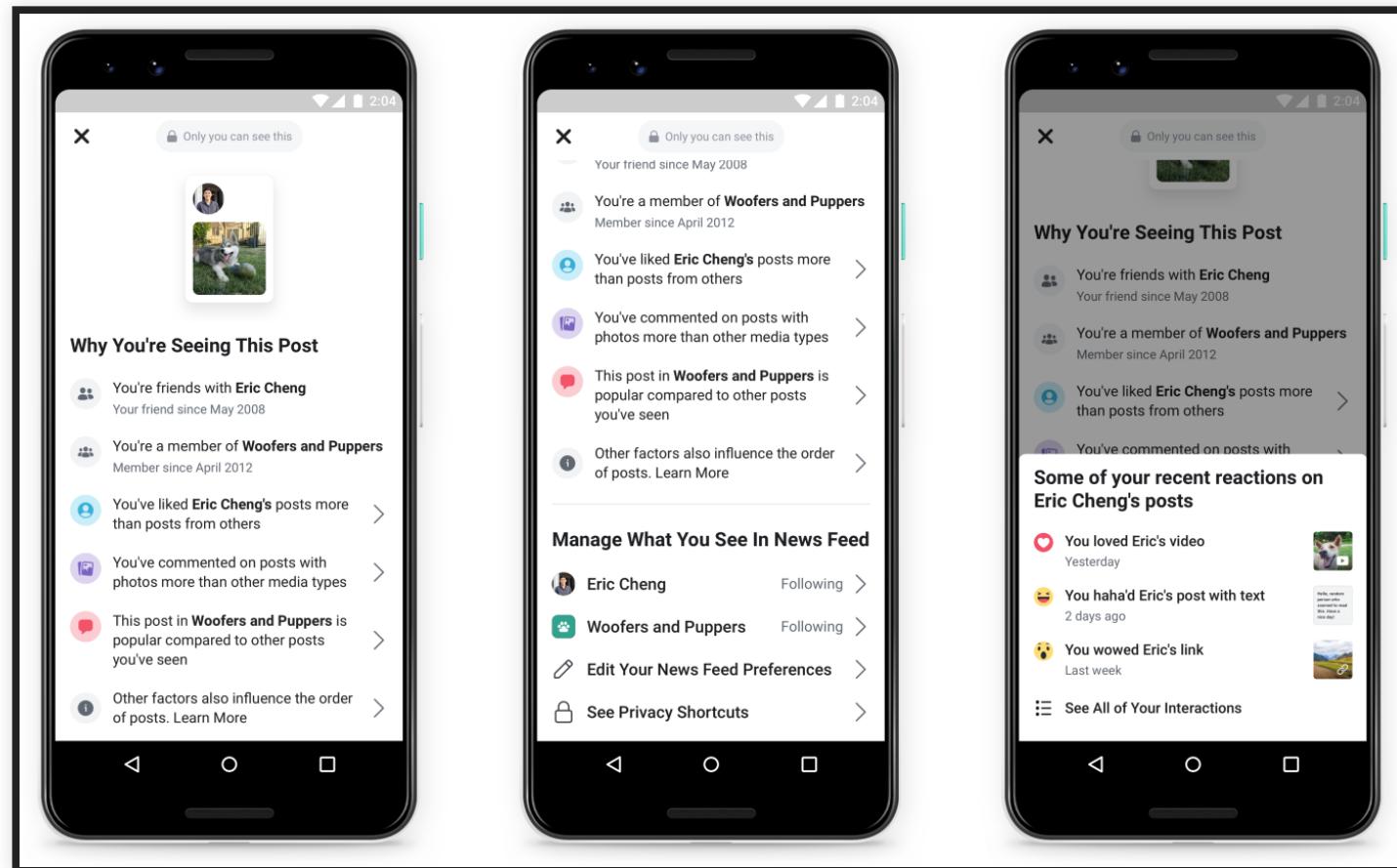
ONBOARDING: SET USER EXPECTATIONS



- Be clear about what system can(not) do

<https://pair.withgoogle.com/chapter/mental-models/>

TRANSPARENCY: EXPLAIN HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE



- Explain how the user's actions influence output

DEALING WITH ERRORS

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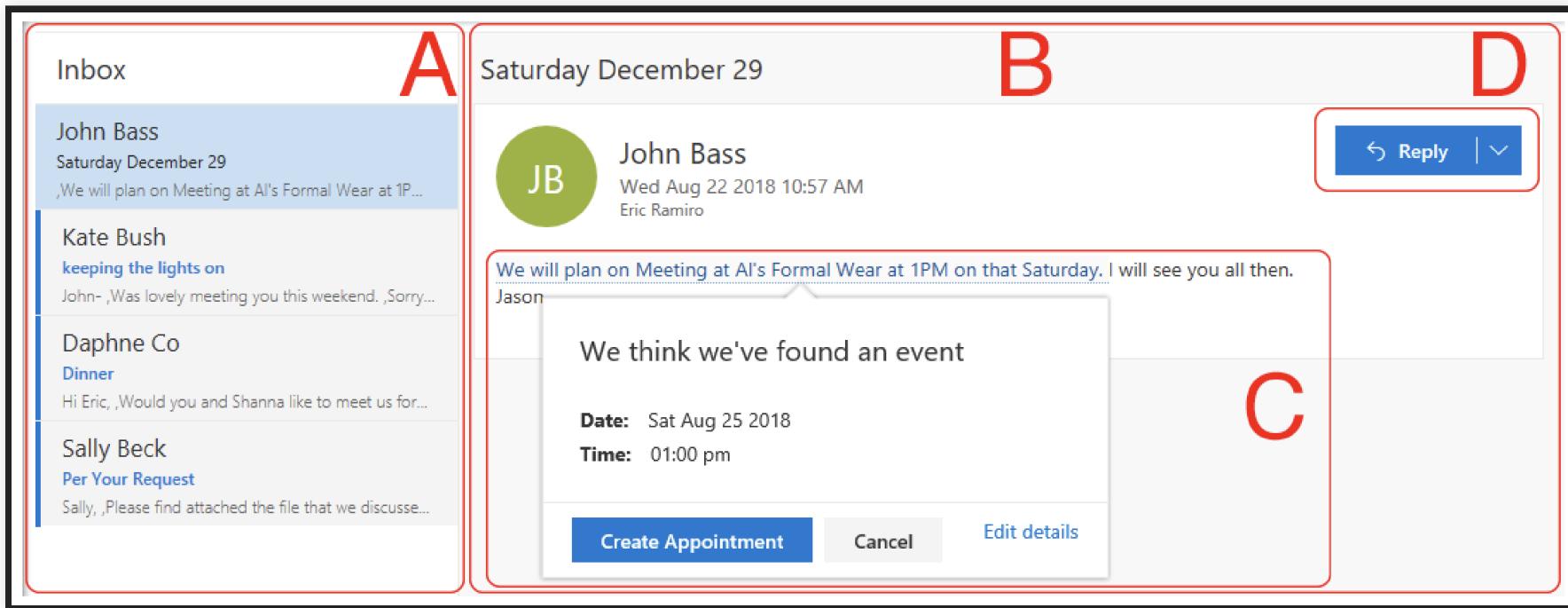
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- User errors: Mistakes made by users (e.g., click on a wrong button)
 - Lots of work in cognitive science & human factors
 - Error taxonomies, human performance modeling, task analysis, ergonomic analysis, etc.,
- System errors: Failure to provide an outcome expected by the user
 - Our focus in this class

EXAMPLE: SCHEDULING ASSISTANT



- Analyze e-mail content for possible meeting scheduling
- Suggest creating a new meeting based on inferred information

Will You Accept an Imperfect AI? Exploring Designs for Adjusting End-user Expectations of AI Systems. Kocielnik, et al. (CHI 2019)

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 - Provide an explanation for the error
 - Suggest actions to fix the error (e.g., "Edit details" option)

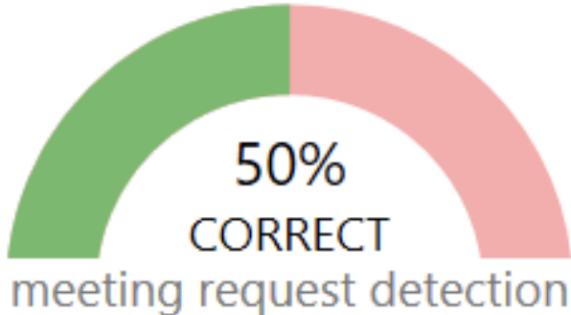
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- Give user controls to recover from and mitigate the effect of an error
 - e.g., delete or modify incorrect meeting schedule

SETTING USER EXPECTATIONS FOR ML ERRORS



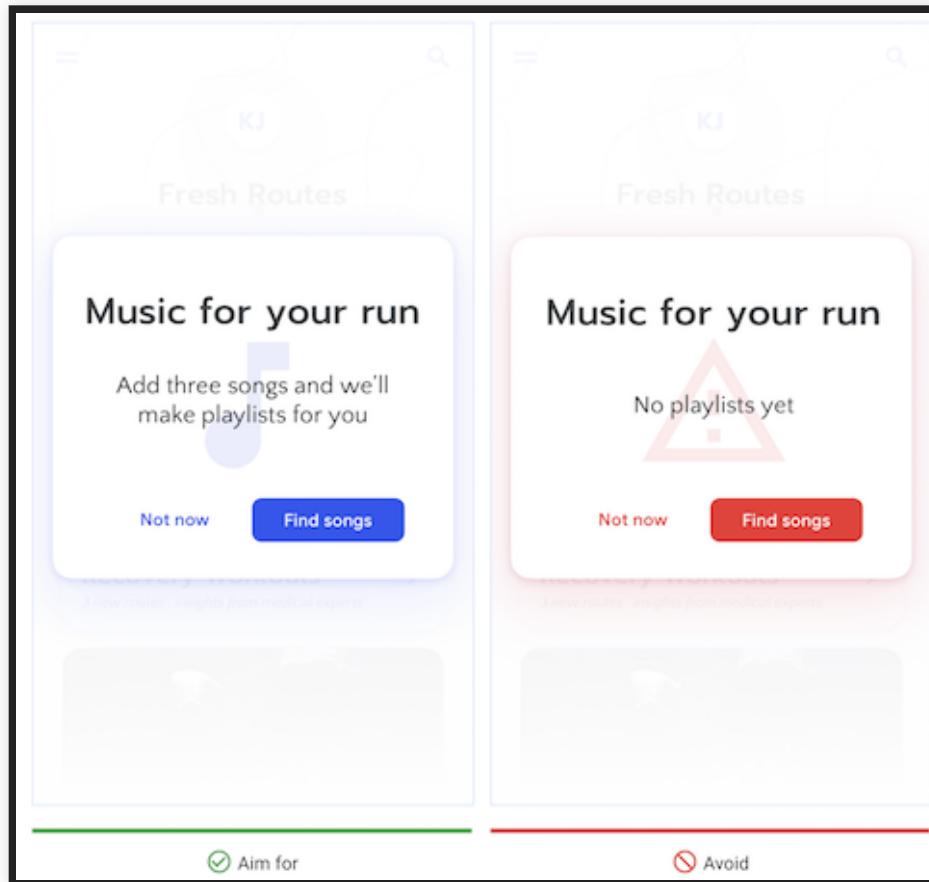
The Scheduling Assistant can correctly detect meeting requests about 50% of the time.



- Be upfront about how well the system performs (e.g., model accuracy)
- Temper the user's expectations and avoid surprises

Will You Accept an Imperfect AI? Exploring Designs for Adjusting End-user Expectations of AI Systems. Kocielnik, et. al. (CHI 2019)

ERROR MESSAGES: SUGGEST USER ACTIONS



- Tell the user what the AI needs in order to behave as intended
- Guide the user towards ways to recover from/prevent further errors

<https://pair.withgoogle.com/chapter/errors-failing/>

ERRORS IN VOICE ASSISTANTS

CHANGE TO DIFFERENT EXAMPLE



“...sometimes it says it does – like the reminders and the sending messages. It says it will do it. But then at the end we found that it didn’t really send the message.”

- Q. How do we detect an error?
- Q. How can we notify/guide the user when an error occurs?

<https://www.nngroup.com/articles/mental-model-ai-assistants/>

FEEDBACK AND CONTROL

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 - Surveys, ratings, thumbs up, feedback forms, etc.,

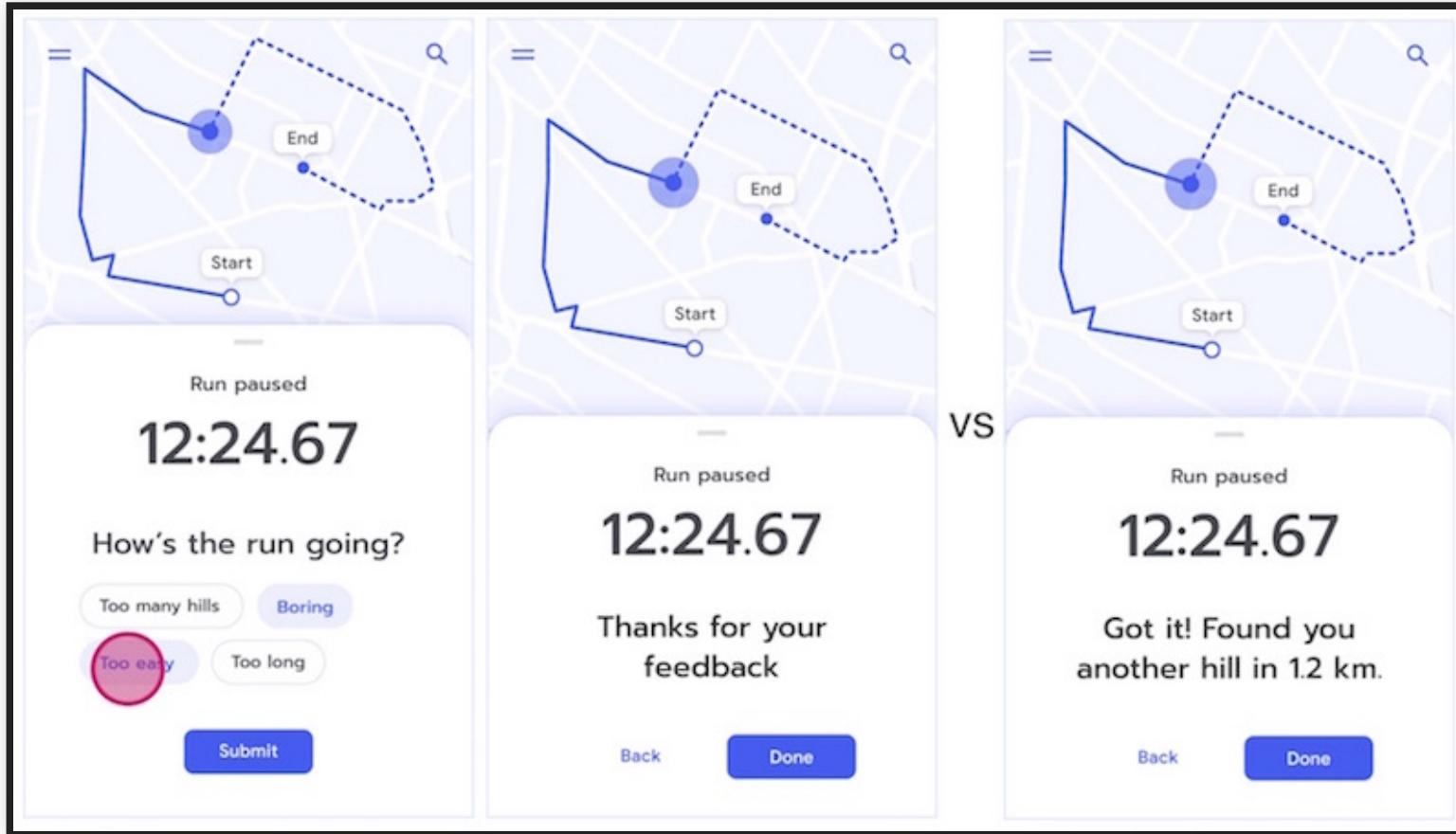
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 - e.g., times of day, duration of usage, recommendations accepted/rejected, click patterns, etc.,
- Explicit feedback: Prompted or deliberately provided by user
 - Surveys, ratings, thumbs up, feedback forms, etc.,
- Design considerations for feedback
 - Align feedback with improving interactions (and AI)
 - Acknowledge user feedback & respond immediately

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 - Align feedback with improving interactions (and AI)
 - Acknowledge user feedback & respond immediately
- In addition to feedback, provide a way for user to adjust AI behavior

RESPONDING TO FEEDBACK



- When possible, respond to feedback with an adjustment to AI behavior

<https://pair.withgoogle.com/chapter/feedback-controls/>

GIVING USER CONTROL



- Provide a mechanism for user to adjust system behavior

GIVING USER CONTROL OVER ML BEHAVIOR



Adjust how aggressive you would want the Scheduling Assistant to be in detecting meetings in your emails:



Fewer detections
some requests
might be missed



More detections
more non-requests
might be suggested



- Provide a mechanism for the user to control the types of ML errors
- Scheduling assistant: Adjust thresholds to achieve trade-offs between precision vs recall

USER FEEDBACK IN VOICE ASSISTANTS

"All of the things that even Siri herself said she could do — for example 'I can send money via Venmo, just try and say this.' I tried and it didn't work, and maybe there are settings that I need to fix. But when those types of things happened, there was no button that said 'Hey, in order to make this work in the future, click this and we'll take you to the permissions or whatever'"

- Q. How do we collect user feedback? Implicit? Explicit?
- Q. What kind of control do we provide to the user?

<https://www.nngroup.com/articles/mental-model-ai-assistants/>

GUIDELINES FOR HUMAN-AI INTERACTIONS

Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction

INITIALLY	1  INITIALLY Make clear what the system can do. <small>Help the user understand what the AI system is capable of doing.</small>	2  INITIALLY Make clear how well the system can do what it can do. <small>Help the user understand how often the AI system may make mistakes.</small>					
DURING INTERACTION	3  DURING INTERACTION Time services based on context. <small>Time when to act or interrupt based on the user's current task and environment.</small>	4  DURING INTERACTION Show contextually relevant information. <small>Display information relevant to the user's current task and environment.</small>	5  DURING INTERACTION Match relevant social norms. <small>Ensure the experience is delivered in a way that users would expect, given their social and cultural contexts.</small>	6  DURING INTERACTION Mitigate social biases. <small>Ensure the AI system's language and behaviors do not reinforce undesirable and unfair stereotypes and biases.</small>			
WHEN WRONG	7  WHEN WRONG Support efficient invocation. <small>Make it easy to invoke or request the AI system's services when needed.</small>	8  WHEN WRONG Support efficient dismissal. <small>Make it easy to dismiss or ignore undesired system services.</small>	9  WHEN WRONG Support efficient correction. <small>Make it easy to edit, refine, or recover when the AI system is wrong.</small>	10  WHEN WRONG Scope services when in doubt. <small>Engage in disengagement or gracefully degrade the AI system's services when uncertain about a user's goals.</small>	11  WHEN WRONG Make clear why the system did what it did. <small>Enable the user to access an explanation of why the AI system behaved as it did.</small>		
OVER TIME	12  OVER TIME Remember recent interactions. <small>Maintain short-term memory and allow the user to make efficient references to that memory.</small>	13  OVER TIME Learn from user behavior. <small>Personalize the user's experience by learning from their actions over time.</small>	14  OVER TIME Update and adapt cautiously. <small>Limit sensitive changes when updating and adapting the AI system's behaviors.</small>	15  OVER TIME Encourage granular feedback. <small>Enable the user to provide feedback indicating their preferences during regular interaction with the AI system.</small>	16  OVER TIME Convey the consequences of user actions. <small>Immediately update, or convey how user actions will affect future behaviors of the AI system.</small>	17  OVER TIME Provide global controls. <small>Allow the user to globally customize what the AI system monitors and how it behaves.</small>	18  OVER TIME Notify users about changes. <small>Inform the user when the AI system adds or updates its capabilities.</small>

The Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction will help you create AI systems and features that are human-centered. We hope you use them throughout your design process – as you evaluate existing ideas, brainstorm new ones, and collaborate with the multiple perspectives involved in creating AI.

These guidelines synthesize more than 20 years of thinking and research in human-AI interaction. Learn more: <https://aka.ms/aiguidelines>.



HUMAN-AI INTERACTIONS

Human-AI interactions must be considered throughout the entire ML lifecycle!

- Requirements & design
 - Understand user needs & their mental models
 - Explicitly design system to match the mental model
- During interaction
 - Consider factors for interaction (automate vs augment, forcefulness, frequency)
- When errors occur
 - Provide an explanation & actionable information
 - Provide ways for user to adjust AI behavior
- Maintenance and evolution
 - Collect user feedback and improve model
 - Adjust system design to reduce mental model mismatch

SUMMARY

- Goal of usable design: Minimize interaction cost
 - Automation does not necessarily imply reduced cost!
- Interaction design considerations for AI
 - Modes of interaction: Automate or augment?
 - Mental model: User understanding of what AI is doing
 - Dealing with errors: Guide user towards recovery & prevention
 - Feedback and control: Align user feedback with AI improvement