COMPSCI STUDIFY APP

CS 497H - Winter 2017

Task Analysis

JZDOUBLER PRODUCTIONZ

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1. **Discuss what tasks will be supported in your prototype. You must mention all tasks that you consider to be central to your system.**

    We will support the layout of our features for users. The tasks that our prototype will support include prioritizing tasks, display the priorities, memory storage, and updating events.

2. **Provide a detailed task analysis for tasks that users will perform using your system.**

    The first main task we have that we believe to be central to our system is viewing the Calendar. Since this is a scheduling app, the ability to view your schedule is of the main purpose of the application. With this in mind, another crucial task is the ability to easily create new things to add to the calendar, with as little work for the user as possible. Upon asking our peers about why some of them did not use scheduling apps with their busy lives, the overwhelmingly common response was it is just too much work to keep updating it. For this reason, we want to be able to create new tasks as easily as possible. We have decided on breaking up tasks into different types, we will have events which include meetings and class, homework and tests which have strict deadlines, and non obligatory tasks which include studying for future tasks, or cleaning ones room.

    The next couple things that are extremely important for this application are saving and loading the application's state in internal storage. If we do not serialize the data each time we add to the application, then upon the android turning off from lack of battery, or the user fully closing the app, the app will delete everything that has been done and the user will lose their full schedule. We believe serialization will be a difficult task for us as designers but is completely essential to counteract this problem. With these several main tasks in mind, we will be able to build a fully functional scheduling application for computer science students.

3. **Explain in detail your process of conducting task analysis. (Did you observe any users using the system? Did you analyze existing similar systems? How did you collect the data?)**

    We asked multiple students in the computer science department how they organize and manage their course material. We recorded these findings to figure out what was most important to the students and how we should incorporate this into our app. The second step was to compare existing successful calendar apps and see why they are successful and what could be changed.

4. **Using task analysis,**
    1. **Please list a subset of tasks that you think you will include in your system and orders in which the tasks must be performed (HTA model)**

1. To manage your time
   I. Prioritize tasks
      A. Add title
      B. Add date
      C. Add Type
         a. Add an event
         b. Add homework assignment
         c. Add project
   II. Display Priorities
      A. Display chronological order (date/day/time/data type)
      B. Display date
      C. Display day
      D. Display time
      E. Display Priority Type
      F. Display Color Coordinated scheme
   III. Memory Storage
      A. Saving to Internal Storage
      B. Loading from internal storage
   IV. Update event dust/dirt container
      B. Turn on the "Empty the dust container" is
      A. Delete an event
      B. Mark projects/homework as completed

Plan 1:
Do III(B) load program when user opens application
Do II next to display app
Do I periodically when user wants to add new events followed by all subtasks of I. Whenever I is performed perform III(A) immediately after, followed by II
Do IV A and B periodically as needed, followed by III(A) and then II

5. **What were the most challenging aspects of conducting your task analysis process?**

   Prior to doing task analysis, we had huge plans for a revolutionary application. Upon doing task analysis, we slowly realized our limitations as a team as we have very little Android development experience. While breaking tasks into subtasks, we really realized how much work had to go into all the little pieces that make up one big task. For instance, we had not thought about how we were going to serialize our data. Adjusting our plans for the application and really trying to figure out the essential components that we could realistically complete was the hardest part of this process.

6. **Contributions:**

Document was contributed as a whole group in two writing sessions. We evenly distributed the work of writing it out and all came up with our answers together. Rimika wrote question 1,5, Jay wrote question 2, Ross wrote question 3,4 and Zellie wrote question 4.