

Lab 2 – Task and Features

Submit by the end of lab on Brightspace

Instructions:

Find two (2) apps that fit your topic theme (for example, if it was maps you could use apple maps and google maps). Then explore both the applications in detail. Try out all the features of each app with your team. Discuss and figure out the variety of tasks and which features would support these tasks with both applications. Based on this comparison, decide on one application that you want to focus on.

The number of features/tasks may be quite extensive so you should focus on useful or unique ones (four total) that as a team you think are the most important.

Then come up with 4 well-written and specific tasks that you could ask a user to do on the application that would require the then to use at least two of the features of the application.

For example, if you were examining google maps, you might have identified two features of the application as 1) provides verbal directions 2) directions for different modes of transportation (e.g., car, bus, walking) and types of tasks as 1) find a fast route between two points 2) find route between two points that avoids traffic 3) find points of interest near me. A potential task that uses features 1 and 2, and task 1 could be:

"You need to get from your apartment on 6567 Quinpool Street in Halifax to the Halifax Airport for flight home for the holidays. Use google maps on your mobile phone to find the fastest route if you were to drive there and the fastest route if you needed to take the bus to the airport."

Note: task is very specific so that you can compare how different people use the application to do the same task and it gives the user a notion of what type of features they can use on the app to do the task (without telling exactly how to do it).

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Present Members:	Radhey, Dharmay, Sagarkumar, Tejaswini, Jayashree
Topic Theme and Device:	Banking: spending/saving/ bill tracking

Applications

List the two applications that you found that 'fit' your topic theme. Try to pick ones that are popular not ones that are unknown.

App1: Money Manager Expense & Budget
App 2: YNAB (You Need A Budget)

Shared Features

List useful or features that both applications have (8 to 10 – if there are more than 10, choose the most relevant or important ones)

Feature Description	
1	It estimates expenses over a wide range of pre-defined categories like bills, frequent, non-monthly expenses, goals, and quality of life.
2	It provides various currency and sub-currency options.
3	Provides daily, weekly, and monthly transaction data.
4	Goal tracking - provides daily, weekly, and monthly budgeting options.
5	It also shows expenses according to categories in the form of charts (pie, line, bar)
6	Passcode feature, which enables users to access the account when the correct passcode is entered.
7	It supports a wide range of language options for users.
8	Filter options are available in the app which uniquely shows the expenses and income for each category.
9	It provides real-time synchronization over devices like computers, tablets, and laptops.
10	Provides statistics of Income and expenses.

Unique Features

List useful or features that are unique to one the applications

Feature Description		App1	App2
1	Carry-over setting which allows the previous month's outstanding balance to be reflected on the total for the current month.	✓	
2	Quick add option that allows the user to manage, add search expenses, and many more from the notification bar.	✓	
3	This app links the bank account of the user with the expense manager.		✓
4	This app gives a reminder for budgeting and controlling expenses depending on the analysis of the expenses done by the user which compares the current balance available in the account.		✓
5	Encryption of 128-bit is provided with Two-factor authentication which secures the app.		✓
6	A loan calculator is a feature that calculates the interest amount and suggests how to save money by increasing the installments by a certain amount.		✓

**Note you can add more rows to the table if needed. Try not to go beyond 10.

Chosen Application

Choose one of the two applications to use. Give 3-4 points justification using the above information. For example, you may choose the one that has the most features or maybe you will focus on one that has a lot of features but may be confusing.

The chosen application is YNAB. This application is easy to use and customer-centric because it can be directly linked to the bank account which gives insights into assets and liabilities. Also, it is more secure compared to other applications in the market. The graphical representation of the expenditures and income in the app is more detailed and easier to comprehend by the user.

Types of Tasks

Pick the top four tasks that you think people would use the application (e.g., for google maps: find directions, find restaurants near my current location, etc.) and list the **current** features of the application that would help a user do that task (e.g., for finding directions, features could include be the search bar, the map, time to go from A to B for walking, driving, etc.).

Tasks	Features used
Add, remove, update, and view expenses.	Manage expense
Estimation of spending for specific categories.	Statistics
Estimate the savings in the loan feature.	Loan Calculator
Reminders for the bill due dates.	Alarm/ Reminder

Specific tasks that you could ask users to do with the application

Using the above the table, come up with four well-written and relevant tasks that a user could do on the application (see the instructions for level of detail but **do not tell** the user **how** to do the task). For each task make a note of which feature/s covers

	Tasks	Features
T1	You have a credit card bill to pay at the end of the month and you want the reminder, or the alarm set two days prior due date. Use the alerts and alarm feature of the app to get a reminder also you can modify the occurrences of the reminder.	Reminder
T2	Last month you have spent too much in restaurants and cafes. Due to this, your budget is disrupted, and you want to track expenditures for the coming months. For this, use a bar chart and get statistics.	Statistics

T3	You want to buy a car and need to start saving money. For this, you need to set a Goal which is provided in this application that encourages you to save money for buying a car.	Goal Tracking
T4	You bought a house that is having loan installments for 25 years. Consider that now you get a promotion in your job and your salary has increased so you are able to pay 1000 bucks more each month. It will become a tedious task to calculate manually or ask a loan agent for new estimations. This application gives insights into the amount of interest that you will save and how early you can pay off the loan.	Loan Calculator