

Lab 12 – Expert Evaluation Using Heuristics

Human Computer Interfacing

(BESE 14)

Heuristic Evaluation

Today you will be using Neilson's 10 heuristics for evaluating interfaces on given tasks. You may consult the heuristics list that is available on a separate file. For each task, you will try to evaluate each heuristic rule. If you find any usability violation you can rate the overall severity of a found problem on a scale of 0-4 as discussed during the lectures.

0= I don't agree that this a usability problem at all

1=Cosmetic problem only: need not be fixed unless extra time is available on project

2=Minor usability problem: fixing this should be given low priority

3=Major usability problem: important to fix, so should be given high priority

4=Usability catastrophe: imperative to fix this before product can be released

Note that all heuristics may not be applicable in all scenarios.

Task 1

Pick any of the interfaces that you have designed in the earlier lab sessions, select **two** representative tasks and perform the heuristic evaluation. For each heuristic answer whether it is satisfied, violated (in that case rate the severity of the problem) or not applicable in a particular scenario. The output of your evaluation would be a Table like the following for each task:

Heuristic	Validity: Yes / No / NA	Problem Severity

Task 2

You are provided with a reference manager software named JabRef. When you are writing a technical report/thesis you generally download material from the Internet which could be in the form of books, research papers, theses or tutorials. A reference manager software allows you to arrange this material so that you may easily manage/search/refer to a resource.

Double click the provided file JabRef.jar to launch the software. Get yourself familiarized with the interface and then perform heuristic evaluation for the following tasks:

1. Creating a new database.
2. Adding 2 journal and 2 conference proceeding papers to the database*.
3. Creating your own (customized) entry type with some required and optional fields.
4. Exporting the database to an html file.

*To add journal and conference proceeding papers, you could for example google for the following articles:

A Writer Identification and Verification System.

Relevance feedback: A power tool for interactive content based image retrieval.

Impact of Alphabet Knowledge on Online Writer Identification.

Real Time Hand Tracking and Gesture Recognition System.
