The Star interface plays an important role in the computer industry, we can learn a lot from it (Jeff 1989). The first aspect is the architecture, for example, it has a high screen refresh rate by using different logics, and it points items quicker by applying a two-button mouse, which means when designing UI, we should pay closer attention to the external devices. The second is the design methodology, the Star interface built the user model first then started programming. During the first stage, there is an essential step but is usually easily overlooked called task analysis, it helps UX designers avoid implementing unnecessary functions (Andreas, 2020). Finally, the principles it used are also worth learning. The Star interface introduced a novel conceptual model that using analogies or metaphors. In order to bring less learning trouble to users, it made the interface just like users are sitting in front of a real office desk (Jeff 1989). It is a really interesting idea that people can borrow from: using analogies to make things more familiar to users can broaden the population of users. For instance, it is more difficult for the elderly to adapt to a completely new and complicated interface so they may not willing to use it. In addition, the advantages of visual communication were highlighted in the Star interface because it will improve work efficiency.

User-interface design never has the correct answer or an unchanging model. The Star interface provides some interesting ideas that other designers can borrow but some adjustments need to be done according to different circumstances, such as the way we maintain consistency and simplicity.

References

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