

Password Usability Data Analysis

The provided data file contains data from a text password study where the research question was “how does password recording (i.e. writing it down) affect the memorability and usability of text passwords?” The study had two conditions: one where participants were instructed to write down their password, and one where they were instructed *not* to write down their password. The study lasted one week, and during that time, participants were asked to log into a website (which necessitated password entry) four times.

Table 1: The headings in the provided data file.

user	participant identifier
cond	the password condition: pm for “password memorized”, pw for “password written”
successes	number of successful logins over the study duration
failures	number of failed logins over the study duration
resets	number of password resets over the study duration
slogintime	average time taken to log in successfully (includes any failures or password resets that happened before the login attempt was successful) - in seconds
maxmemtime	longest duration over which it could be shown that a participant positively remembered their password (i.e. longest time between password creation and successful password entry with the same password) - in seconds
totallastingsuccess	binary variable showing whether the participant used the same password for the duration of the study (1 if successful, 0 if not)
avgLeadingFailures	average number of times that the user had a failed password attempt before successfully logging in