Protocol (Final)

Gavin Wong

1. Pre-Study Interview

What is your name and affiliation?

* Gavin Wong, undergraduate

What is your field of research or study?

* Computer Science

What types of research papers do you typically engage with? (E.g., topics and contribution type)

* Deep Learning, Computer Vision

How do you read a paper? Do you read it through multiple times? Which section(s) do you focus on the first time, second time, etc. and why?

* Mainly reread certain sections until I have a certain level of understanding before moving on to the next example.

What makes a paper easier to digest/read for you than others?

* How it introduces and explains the foundational topics, especially if its in a field that I don't understand. Often times having an analogy makes understanding certain topics easier. The readability and the flow of the paper is super important too as well. If its convoluted and jumps around a lot, it will be harder for me to understand.

Have you used any tools or techniques to help you read papers? Are there any tools that you wish existed that you think would help you?

* I will look up certain terms and conceptual understandings. Or some background of certain context to get a better understanding for certain papers. Maybe having a chatbot that I can interact with regarding the paper would be helpful.

2. Think-aloud Study

* highlighting random words that draw attention
* reading through introduction
* reading titles of each section
* after introduction read, started scrolling more randomly, not really sure what to look for
* focusing on things that seem interesting - background was not interesting. but aims of the study were
* rereading more technical sections
* found that after reading results, wanted to go back to read methodology
* also found that figures were helpful to read only after reading a textual summary of them in the paper so that they could verify → figures used as a verification tool, not a delivery of new information
* Noticed: these subjects do not talk very much during the think-aloud study
* depending on level of familiarity approaches differ. these participants were a lot more experienced so they tried to read through everything
* had a very linear method of reading. but the pace was low

3. Post-Study Interview

Which sections of a research paper do you consider most important for understanding its content?

* 3 and 5

When summarizing a paper, which sections provide the most useful information?

* 3 and 5 for this too

What aspects of the summarization process do you find most challenging?

* understanding methodology and technical sections

Can you describe how you typically navigate through a research paper?

* first look at title, then author of papers, then abstract and introduction, skimmed thru background, read through each section’s title after the background. but read aim of the study more. skimmed methodology until analytics methods where he slowed down. skipped over tables. read thru results. saw terms like significant relationship and read more around there. slowed down for discussion. bolded areas liked. and also italicized. skimmed limitation and future direction. going thru the tables again to read those areas

What aspects of interpreting charts and statistical data in research papers do you find most difficult?

* difficult to understand unknown terms. required a lot of reading

Do you find it challenging to connect data presented in charts to real-world implications? If so, what do you think contributes to this difficulty?

* yes on first read. but results and discussion section helped clarify that.
* examples helped to give more meaning to it