Protocol (Final)

Justin Sheu

1. Pre-Study Interview

What is your name and affiliation?

* Justin Sheu, undergraduate

What is your field of research or study?

* Computer Science - Machine learning

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?

* I usually read abstract first and then the rest of the paper top to bottom. After that I reread sections that I might have had trouble understanding or needed the rest of the paper to understand the context for.

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

* Good organization and distinct sections help me understand papers better. Visual guides also help (e.g. diagrams). The readability of a paper doesn't necessarily affect how I view its contributions but it allows me to not have to consult other sources to understand its impact.

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?

* Not really, I do think some kind of tool to highlight what parts of the paper are important or what order I should read the paper in would be helpful.

2. Think-aloud Study

* scroll through to get length of paper
* start with abstract
* first and last sentences + title of section
* drawn to bold words - the identification of the research questions
* focusing more on technical terms
* repetition of technical terms makes them more drawn to it
* investigating common terms - cross-lag regression and shapley values
* but less technical terms that are still novel he relies on inference - ex: text mining
* focus on sentences that including wording that signifies statistical significance
* also drawn to italicized text
* doesnt read figures first. only goes back to them once he see a reference to them in the text.
* focused on last section because it distills all of the qualitative data.
* skipped big table because didnt underant the context

3. Post-Study Interview

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

* discussion (section 5) and methodology (section 3)

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?

* mostly linear flow - all the sections in order. abstract and intro closely. background skimmed. read aims of the study closely. methodology looked for key terms, not in depth. skimmed results. looked for keywords. skipped over diagrams until saw reference in text. discussion section - skipped table then read section linearly all the way through. read the conclusion. then went back to the big table in section 5 was to connect it your understanding

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

* a lot of unknown terms. had to go back and reread
* understand what the numbers actually mean. graphic itself was fine. but contextualizing it was hard

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 at first. but after reading entire paper he could go back and understand it.