

Human-Computer-Interaction und Psychologie: HCD – User & Task Analysis





# **Human-Centered Design Process**



Human centered design process (based on ISO 13407:1999).

Image from Kriglstein 2011 (Dissertation)



# **Requirements analysis**

- User analysis
- Context analysis
- Tasks analysis
- Analysis of competitors / competing tools
- Requirements: What should the system do for each user under which conditions?
- Needs prioritization!
- Typical methods used in user/context/task analysis:
  - Interviews of different users
  - User observations (e.g. at work)
  - Surveys and questionnaires
  - Designing and evaluating prototypes





# Who are your users?

# You ???





# **Elastic User?**













User Analysis in Human-Centered Design:

- Success of the system is closely tied to the expectations and needs of the user
- Problem: Necessary definitions and a clear understanding of target users is often missing
- Solution: Create and share a common understanding of target users
- Crucial for driving design decisions:
- Who are my users?
- What tasks do/will they conduct?
- What other criteria will influence the system?
- What similar systems are out there?





- Different people have different requirements for (computer) interfaces
- Analyze differences of potential user groups
  Identify user groups
  - Primary
  - Secondary
  - Border cases
  - Prioritize important user groups!
  - Example: Online travel booking system



- Example: online travel booking system
- Employee at a travel agency that books multiple flights per day
- Business woman that wants to change flights during a business trip
- Teacher that needs to organize a class outing/trip



- Define background information of target users:
- Goals and motivation
- Education, cultural background, specific training/know-how
- Age, gender
- Physical capabilities
- Experience
  - E.g. uses similar systems?



• Who are our users?













- Introduced by Alan Cooper 1999
- A fictive person that represents a larger number of users with similar characteristics, expectations, and motivations
- Personas surrogate real users in the design process
- Persona descriptions need to be clear, concise and short





Quelle: http://www.informatik.uni-bremen.de/frautec/lehre/PSE2007/PSE-Folien7+8.pdf



#### SAP







The Business to Business design gives Paolo access to the forms and information necessary to do his job. A powerful attribute-based retreival system lets him quickly find the right form, vendor, customer, item, or any other object in his business database.



#### Microsoft

#### Carl - The New Guy



#### General Characteristics and Responsibilities:

Carl finished his degree in computer science last year, and has been working as a Software Design Engineer in Test (SDET) at Microsoft for just over six months. Carl has learned a lot in his half year with the company; he is getting more comfortable with his job and more confident in his abilities every day. He likes writing code and spends a good chunk of his time writing automated tests and tools to help with his work and to help the rest of his team. Carl also loves analyzing problems and coming up with solutions. He is currently working on integrating a popular Microsoft internal fault injection tool into his tests. With that, he can exercise more of the error handling code in the application he is testing. Carl uses customer data to influence the design of his test cases. He has relatives who are often frustrated when using the computer; he is proud that he can have so much influence on the design of the software and hopes he can ease his relatives' frustration.

#### Goals and motivations:

Carl has been programming since high school and was initially a bit apprehensive over taking a testing job at Microsoft. Now, however, he finds the work both challenging and exciting. Carl is a great coder, but he has found that his passion for problem solving and analysis make him a great tester. He loves the variety of the job and appreciates the growth paths for testers at Microsoft.



#### Alecha - Product Line Customer General Characteristics and Responsibilities:

Alecha is skilled at knowing the needs and attributes of her customers. She has a knack for seeing things from the customer point of view, but also works closely with program management and marketing to verify her assumptions and clear up ambiguity. She analyzes data from various tools that track customer data and makes sure that the testing effort focuses primarily on customer scenarios and customer pain points. She is also one of the key drivers in determining how these tools are used for her product. Alecha wites some automation, but is most effective when working with the rest of the test team to make sure that their automated tests focus on customer scenarios. She is an excellent exploratory tester, and typically spends an hour or so each day testing end to end scenarios in various areas of the product. While most of her teammates focus on specific technologies within the product. Alecha is valued for always having the big-picture view of the product and for her understanding of how all of the pieces fit together.

She designs end to end customer scenarios for entire team, and also is extremely knowledgeable in customer scenarios. She consolidates customer data and works with the test team to design test cases that reflect customer scenarios, and with program management and development teams to ensure that designs and implementations match customer usage patterns. The influence of her work spans all disciplines in her division.

Alecha contributes to product design reviews where she provides valuable input on how the customer will see and interact with the proposed feature set. She is well versed in customer focused design techniques and works with the appropriate cross discipline owners to apply these techniques across the product. She is concerned with all aspects of the customer experience including usability, reliability, security, performance and general product effectiveness. Alecha spends a to fime working with other team members to ensure everyone maintains that customer connection that enables her team to create a quality product that the customer wants and needs.

#### Primary responsibilities include:

- Analyzes customer data from a variety of sources
- . Represents the customer in design and usability reviews
- » Mentors and educates the test team in customer based testing approaches and the needs of the customer
- Is Active in customer discussions such as newsgroups, conferences, or special interest groups
- Provides immediate and accurate feedback on customer impact of bugs
- Designs end to end testing scenarios based on customer usage data.

#### Goals and motivations:

Alecha enjoys coming to work every day knowing that she directly shapes the product in a way that ensures the customer's needs will be met. She enjoys being a product expert and feels valued and respected by her team members as someone that is completely knowledgeable about their product and industry. She loves her product and the difference she directly makes in customer's lives by the work she does for them.

Quelle: http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/testing/bb414765.aspx



#### • Kivio



| Name        | Alexander Weiß                                                                                                                         | Donald M. Berry                                                                             | Kristian Larsson                                                                                                                                | Eric Neville                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Age         | 30                                                                                                                                     | 30                                                                                          | 26                                                                                                                                              | 24                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Location    | Germany                                                                                                                                | US                                                                                          | Sweden                                                                                                                                          | France                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Social Life | Alexander lives with his<br>girl-friend in a flat in<br>Hamburg.                                                                       | Donald lives with his wife<br>and 1-year old daughter<br>in a house in Portland.            | Kristian shares an<br>apartment with two<br>friends in Stockholm. His<br>girl-friend lives in<br>Uppsala. They see each<br>other every weekend. | Eric lives with his parents<br>in a small city close to<br>Lyon. He visits the<br>university there. Often, he<br>stays at his friend's<br>apartment for playing PC<br>games and programming. |
| Work Life   | He works at centre for<br>environmental systems<br>research and designs<br>plans for replacable<br>energies in a EU-funded<br>project. | He is a lead system<br>administrator in a huge<br>network solutions<br>company in Portland. | A software developer with<br>a dayjob in a medium-<br>sized software company.<br>Works on KDE in his spare<br>time.                             | He is a student of<br>computer science.<br>Besides university, he<br>performs small<br>programming jobs for<br>people in his<br>peighbourbood                                                |

Quelle: http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/testing/bb414765.aspx





#### Sends 12 documents/week at nearly 100 MB each **via FTP**

Sends 8 documents/week under 5 MB each **via email** 

Receives 15 documents/week under 5 MB each **via email** 

Receives 15 hand-edited CAD drawings/week **via fax** 

Exchanges primarily PDF and Microsoft Word files

Employs couriers only for shipping physical goods

Internet use is mostly limited to a website that hosts discussion groups for civil engineers. Purchases flights, hotels, and conference registrations twice per year.

#### **Timothy Powell**

P. Eng, Civil Engineer GeoLine Engineering Age: 52

"Speed trumps security when it comes to exchanging documents. It's not worth jumping through hoops to protect a document that nobody's interested in but me and the client."

Goal: Get everything done before heading home. Timothy has a lot of work to stay on top of and firm deadlines that cannot be missed. Speed is a competitive advantage for GeoLine, so it's essential that delays do not occur. Timothy hates working at night, too, so he makes the most of his hours at the office.

Goal: Cover his back and avoid blame. In Timothy's industry, projects usually go far over budget and are completed late, at which point all the subcontractors involved begin pointing fingers at each other. Timothy needs detailed records that prove he completed exactly what was expected of him and his company.

Timothy Powell is famous among his coworkers for once visiting a construction site and remarking to the client, "Look, you may build bridges, but I design them. And that's the most critical part!" He may not have made a friend that day, but Timothy was unconcerned. He doesn't suffer fools, just as he won't put up with anything that stands in the way of getting his job done. Timothy's work is extremely deadline-driven. His clients demand aggressive schedules and expect him to stick to them, as timing is crucial when coordinating subcontractors and suppliers on a large construction project.

"On a great day, I'm able to get everything out the door and into our client's hands. Never, ever let anything come between you and that door!" Timothy struggles with this all the time. With at least three major projects underway, it takes an enormous effort to produce his CAD drawings on schedule. As a result, he ships most of his documents at the end of the day, just before leaving the office around 5:30 pm.

#### CLICKDOX

Quelle: http://chopsticker.com/2007/06/08/download-an-example-persona-used-in-the-design-of-a-web-application/



- Allow to share target user understanding across entire design team
- Number of personas needs to be **manageable** 
  - Only specify personas that are actually needed
- Personas should not be too complex, so they can be internalized by designers
- Usually 1 page is enough
- Persons should describe **typical** usage scenarios
- Personas must **not** be an **average** user!

Quelle: http://www.mprove.de/events/roundtablehh/\_media/OLS04\_Personas.pdf



#### Benefits

- Helps defining a system
- What does the system need to support/do?
- How should it "act"?
- Helps evaluating designs
- Avoids developing for "own" goals
- Avoids developing for the "elastic user"
- Gives a "face" to the user (powerful!)
- Costs are comparably low



Potential problems?

Quelle: http://www.informatik.uni-bremen.de/frautec/lehre/PSE2007/PSE-Folien7+8.pdf



- Potential problems:
  - How to find/select the right personas?
  - Plausibility and trustworthiness?
  - Need to be communicated well, otherwise not useful
  - Tendency towards "re-using" personas for multiple projects

Quelle: http://www.informatik.uni-bremen.de/frautec/lehre/PSE2007/PSE-Folien7+8.pdf





Quelle: https://www.slideshare.net/cwodtke/interaction-design-and-goal-driven-design-using-personas/132



# Personas: structure

- Description of "Body":
- Photo
- Age
- Gender
- ..
- Description of "Background":
- Education
- Experiences





Quelle:http://www.hceye.org/HCInsight-Nielsen.htm



# Personas: structure

- Description of opinions and desires
- Typical statement / motto
- Typical scenario
- ...
- Structure not set in stone, can vary between different
  projects and systems



## **Personas: structure**

• Example



### Where do Personas come from?



## **10 steps to Personas**

Based on the method "Engaging Personas and Narrative Scenarios" (2004) by Ph.D. Lene Nielsen



- Imagination of Designers (?)
- Epistemic distance?
- User interviews
- •
- Field studies
- Full-blown ethnographic study

https://www.interaction-design.org/ encyclopedia/personas.html



# Aufgabe

### Diskussion: Typische Profile der Studierenden in der LV



Ihre Aufgabe:

•Sie wurden engagiert um moodle zu re-designen

•Erstellen Sie in kleinen Teams eine entsprechende Persona zu einem Profil.

#### 15 Minuten











Name Geschlecht Alter Wohnort Beruf

"Typisches Zitat"/Motto

Foto

Erfahrungen, Einstellungen, Wünsche ...

Beschreibung eines typischen Nutzungsszenarios



# Context analysis (short)



# **Context analysis**

- Analyze the context a system will get used in:
  - Environment: weather, light conditions, noise
  - Usage of the system
  - While seated, standing ...
  - At work, at home, on the go, ...
  - Frequently / rarely
  - Hectic / calm
- Typically studied in the field





# **Context analysis**





#### http://one.laptop.org



# Task analysis



# Task analysis

- Important note: Only a system a user can use will be sold
- → What are the user group's tasks to be solved with the system?
- A task is a meaningful unit during a user's activity; they lead to a meaningful (partial) results
- Quasi-Synonyms: Task, Scenario, Use-Case





# Task analysis

- Various ways of documenting tasks:
- Table: User groups X tasks
  for each note down frequency of the task
- Table: Objects X tasks
- For complex tasks, e.g., sequence diagrams (UML)
- Describe a task according to a given schema (not mandatory)







# Task profile – Example 1

Table with user groups and tasks, as well as the relative frequency of each task

| User             | Typist | Secretary    | Administrator |  |
|------------------|--------|--------------|---------------|--|
| Task             |        |              |               |  |
| Create<br>letter | often  | often        | occasionally  |  |
| Create<br>report | never  | occasionally | often         |  |
| Insert<br>figure | never  | occasionally | often         |  |
| print            | often  | often        | often         |  |
|                  |        |              |               |  |



# Task profile – Example 2

Table with objects assigned to tasks

|               | Bill | Letter | Article |  |
|---------------|------|--------|---------|--|
| Create        | +    | +      | +       |  |
| Print         | +    | +      | +       |  |
| Insert table  | -    | -      | +       |  |
| Insert figure | -    | -      | +       |  |
| Spellcheck    | -    | +      | +       |  |
| Reminder      | +    | -      | -       |  |
|               |      |        |         |  |



#### Additional Information for task analyses - overview

- Types of tasks
- Derive task profiles from user needs and goals
- Tasks vs. functions
- Examples for task frequencies



# **Types of tasks**

- Specific types of tasks
  Collaborative tasks
  - Collaborative tasks
  - in sequential order
  - In parallel (cooperative)
  - Can be described with flow diagrams
  - Unstructured and explorative tasks:
  - Do not restrict the range of operations too much! Allow user to "experiment"!
  - Content-driven tasks
    - Multimedia, games, etc.



#### Derive task profiles from user needs and goals

- Aim: Find out what the user wants to do!
  User needs, goals, and resulting tasks
- Users think in 'tasks', not in 'functions'!
- Example
  - Task: I want to change my address
  - Function:
    - First, I need to log in,
    - then I need to navigate to settings,
    - select the item "change address",
    - change address,
    - and then click on "save"









# Task profiles – guidelines

- Tasks that need to be supported should be determined first
- (Unnecessary) tasks should not be added just because they are easy to implement
- Task frequency (according to the user profiles) should result in design decisions
- <u>The more frequent a function is used,</u> <u>the easier it should be to access</u>.



Quelle: http://mitschau.edu.lmu.de/video\_online/vorlesungen/wise2006\_2007/mensch\_maschine/index.php



# On task frequency

- Bold can be found directly in the sidebar
- Subscript needs extra clicks
- The assumption is that users need more often **bold** than **subscript**
- (Customization and/or shortcuts can be used for users with specific demands)

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# Task frequency – discussion!

- Tradeoff between fast access and cluttered/crammed design
- Example toolbar:

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Quelle: http://mitschau.edu.lmu.de/video\_online/vorlesungen/wise2006\_2007/mensch\_maschine/index.php



# **Task frequency**

- Tradeoff between fast access and cluttered/crammed design
- Example toolbar:
  - The more functions are directly visible, the faster the access
  - However, the time to find them gets longer (at least initially)
  - More screen space is used up (trend: larger displays AND smaller displays)

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# How to gather information?

- Interviews
- Surveys
- Discussions
- Observations

With these informations, **Personas** and **Tasks** can be described.



### Task description (1) Schema for task specification

- Pre-conditions for the task
  - *Example:* state of objects: to revise a document it must already exist
- Goals of the task
  - Can be expressed via status of objects
  - Example: generate a letter with the content that was just dictated to the secretary
- "Breakdowns" in current workflows
  - What are problematic steps in the current system
  - Room for improvement in the new system
- Post-condition of the task
  - States of objects that were involved in the task
  - *Example:* after generating a letter, the author becomes the file owner



### Task description (2) Schema for task specification

- Definition of actors/agents
  - Classes of people that are involved in the task
  - Agents describe roles of users
  - Example: typist, manager
- Definition of objects
  - In the current and envisioned system
- Steps in task execution
  - Task decomposition in its elementary components
- Critical characteristics of the task
  - Important steps, even though if they might get automated in the new system