

EECS 3461: Assignment 4

Due: Tuesday, November 18, 2014
(6 % of the final grade)

Motivation

This assignment will allow you to practice using one of the usability evaluation techniques – heuristic evaluation.

Introduction

Heuristic Evaluation is a method of evaluating user interfaces in which an “expert” analyzes the interface based on some heuristic rules developed by other researchers and practitioners in the field, such as consistency, visibility of system status, or error prevention.

Description

In this assignment you will have to do the following:

Step 1: pick a software product that is sufficiently popular and which impact a sizeable population. For example, it's a product with a large user population, with more than a few thousand downloads from online depositories (e.g., Google Play); a product that has a substantial market share (in terms of sales, for example), etc. Motivate your choice briefly.

Step 2:

Evaluate your product based on the heuristic rules you chose. List the rules you used, briefly describe why you used them, and why they were important to apply to your application. For each of the rules, state how well your application adheres to them. Feel free to use screenshots for illustrations.

Step 3:

Present your findings in a report, similar to assignment 4 (you may write in a single column format).

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the instructor (andriyp@cse.yorku.ca).

Grading

The assignment is worth 6 % of the final grade. The points will be given as follows:

- 2 points: the choice of application and the heuristic rules;
- 4 points: quality of the evaluation;
- 6 points: Presentation. You *may* use the *HCI Archive Format* as a template (<http://chi2012.acm.org/cfp-formatting-instructions.shtml>). However, templates

from other scientific conferences or journals are acceptable. Neat general formatting is also acceptable.

Submission

Submit your report as a Word or PDF document electronically via `submit` by the deadline, name it **Report.<extension>**. Insert any screenshots, and other illustrations into your main report.

Late penalty is 20 % per day. Submission 5 days or more after deadline will be given a mark of zero. Contact the instructor *in advance* if you cannot meet the deadline explaining your circumstances.

Academic Honesty

Direct collaboration (e.g., sharing results) is not allowed (plagiarism detection software may be employed). However, you're allowed to discuss the requirements, approaches you take, etc.

State any sources you use (online sources, books, etc.).