

Prototyping Rosson & Carroll Chapter 6







Steps in method (note: iterative!)

Planning

 Scope of project, investigate user population (document analysis, interviews, surveys, observation) & related systems

- Analysis (R&C Requirements Analysis)
- Task analysis, problem scenario development, requirements for usefulness and usability
- Design (R&C Activity, Information & Interaction Design)
 Specifications (yes!) for the human-computer interaction (UI?)
- Implementation (R&C Prototyping)
- Storyboards, mock-ups, software prototypes
- Usability Evaluation (R&C Evaluation)
- Evaluation without users: cognitive walkthrough, guidelines, GOMS, Keystroke Level Model (KLM)
 Evaluation with users (usability testing, interviews, questionnaires)

UI Prototypes

• Definition: A concrete but partial implementation of a system design built to explore usability issues.

• Why prototype?

- Support creativity
 - · Exploring the design space: generating alternatives
 - · Contracting the design space: selecting alternatives
- Encourage communication
- Permit early evaluation of design
- Cheap!

Dimensions of Prototypes

- Representation
 - Paper or computer product
- Precision
- Level of detail (rough or highly polished)
- Interactivity
 - Can user actually interact with the prototype?
- Expected life cycle
 - Rapid (throw-away) vs. evolutionary

Types of UI Prototypes
Rapid Prototypes Non-computer Paper sketch Paper mockup Storyboard Video animation Computer Electronic mockup
 Computer animation Wizard of Oz Evolutionary software prototypes Similar to Extreme Programming (Kent Beck) UI Toolkits UI Builders UI Development Environments (UIDE)

Types of UI Prototypes

* http://www.macromedia.com/
 Computer animation(interactive)
 Macromedia Director
 Scripting languages: Tc/Tk (also for Python)
 * Www.scriptics.com
 MacProto (Awe & Jessen)
 Wizard of Oz
 Wizard of Oz
 workstation connected to invisible human assistant who simulates input, output or processing functionality not yet available

Apple's Lisa (1979-1983) First GUI personal computer



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Tool Command Language TCL

- Scripting language for developing & using GUIs
- Allows generic programming – variables, loops, procedures
- Embeddable into an application
- Extensible
- Interpreter written in C called Wish - Advantages? Disadvantages?

Toolkit for Tcl

ΤK

• Cross-Platform UI Widgets

- X Window, Microsoft Windows, Mac

- Can program widgets with Tcl scripts
- Written in C
- Extensible
 - new UI widgets
 - new geometry managers

Tcl/Tk Example

button.dialogbox.ok -text OK -command {destroy.dialogbox}

- Creates a button, called ".dialogbox.ok" with the label "OK". It deletes its parent window ".dialogbox" when the button is pressed.
- Traditional language would take 5 to 20 lines to create same button.

Tcl/Tk Benefits

• Rapid development

- interpreter wish (windowing shell)
- higher level language than C, C++ or Motif Tk
 - 1/10 less time to code
 easier to learn
- Can call Java or C programs
- Can "glue" together many library packages
- Convenience
 - cross-platform
 - shareware, freeware

Tcl/Tk

Disadvantages

- Interpreter creates slow code - 8.0 has compiler
- Replace with Java?
 - probably not: Tcl/Tk is much faster to learn and code

• Text oriented

 GuiBuilders available: SpecTcl (see /local/apps/tcltk/SpecTcl-1.1 directory and Visual Tcl

> MacProto (Awe & Jessen)















CVCK Prototype Examples Videotapes

- Paper mockup
- Rapid prototype in LISP
- Final usability testing on Mac in C