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Evaluation studies at Leeds

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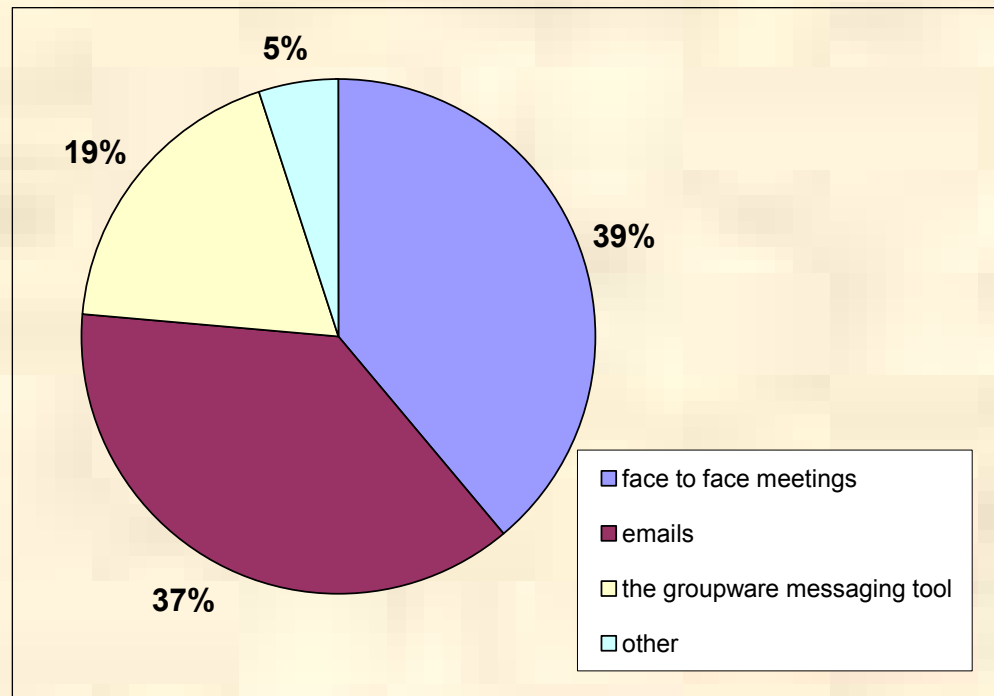
User study 1: Preliminary evaluation of ConDOR

- ◆ Researchers and students sharing articles and writing papers
- ◆ Tools used: ConDOR
- ◆ 3 students working on their dissertations at Leeds University, and 4 members of staff from Leeds University
- ◆ Will not be released outside the project
- ◆ Mostly for testing the system, informal feedback gathered, comments used for improving the development

User study 2: Evaluation of ConDOR

- ◆ **Students** working in **groups of 4 or 5** created **teaching materials**, including resources and a collaboratively written report
- ◆ Tools used: ConDOR and GISMO, course delivered in Moodle
- ◆ **55 Computing students** (12 groups), 1 teacher, 1 technical assistant
- ◆ Content material prepared by the students included in the course on user-adaptive systems
- ◆ The evaluation was conducted by Ellie Davis as part of her final year dissertation in the School of Computing

Study 2 Results: ConDOR usage



| | Agree |
|---|--------------|
| Overall, I am satisfied with how easy it is to use this groupware | 71% |
| I would use the groupware to assist me in future group projects | 50% |
| I would not recommend the groupware to other students to use | 24% |
| I would have not used the groupware if I had the choice | 41% |

Study 2 Results: user satisfaction

| ConDOR speed and efficiency | Agree |
|---|--------------|
| The groupware helped me complete my work quickly | 43% |
| The groupware helped me complete my work efficiently | 46% |
| I would have finished my work much quicker if I did not have to use the groupware | 27% |
| It took me too long to figure out how to use the system | 25% |
| The time to upload documents was too long | 64% |
| The time to download documents was too long | 55% |

| ConDOR interface | Agree |
|---|--------------|
| The interface was frustrating to use because I found its behaviour confusing | 28% |
| It was clear to me what to do in the groupware browser | 68% |
| Accessing the repository browser was straightforward | 60% |
| It was clear which tool to use for communicating with my group | 83% |

Study 2 Results: development guidelines

List with 16 guidelines prepared. Example given here

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Suggestion No 5 | |
| Feature: Document Repository | Usability Dimension: Layout |
| Priority Level: High | |
| Problem: The structure of the repository is impractical. Folder content cannot be viewed as there is no directory tree. | |
| Justification: An inability to quickly access files and folders may deter the user from continuing to use the groupware and search for the required file. | |
| Solution: Change the structure of the repository to allow folder contents to be seen as well as all other folders and their contents. A structure similar to that of Windows Explorer would be more suitable. | |

Study 2 Results: suggested improvements

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a groupware interface. The page title is "Ellie's Groupware Resources". The interface includes a navigation menu on the left, a central document repository, and a table of documents. Red boxes and arrows highlight specific areas of interest, with text boxes providing suggestions for improvements.

Renamed page title and title bar points to the page title "Ellie's Groupware Resources".

Underlined column names highlighted in blue suggest the column can be sorted alphabetically or chronologically points to the underlined column headers "Name (view file)", "Last author", and "Last uploaded".

Highlighted section to indicate location points to the "Resources" section in the left navigation menu.

Functionality to search the documents points to the "Search" button in the document repository.

Details of time and date the document was last uploaded points to the "Last uploaded" column in the document table.

| <u>Name (view file)</u> | <u>Last author</u> | View history | Add to My Resources | Upload a new version | <u>Last uploaded</u> | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ahealth_greg.doc | greg Jones | | N/A | | 19/04/2005 14:01 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G132.swc | Martin Solly | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | 02/03/2005 14:01 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G132Final.doc | Ellie Davis | | N/A | | 22/02/2005 09:03 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G132_cover_sheet.doc | greg Jones | | N/A | | 01/03/2005 11:42 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G132_cwk1.doc | Katie Iles | | N/A | | 01/03/2005 11:46 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Devices_for_ahhealth.pdf | Martin Solly | | N/A | | 11/03/2005 16:28 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

All suggestions are being taken into account in the new version of ConDOR

User study 3

- ◆ **Students writing essays collaboratively** as part of course assessment
- ◆ Tools used: ConDOR
- ◆ **20 students**, 1 teacher, 1 technical assistant
- ◆ Topic: IT and Politics, students from various departments, not necessarily with Computing background
- ◆ Change from a standard essay-based assessment to a more collaborative, active assessment

Study 3: Initial results

- ◆ **Overall positive** enough to make the teacher want to use more of Moodle with or without ConDOR.
- ◆ The biggest problem was trying to get students to fully engage with the site in time to complete the assessment. This is more of a problem with elective modules but the tools were not used at their full potential.
- ◆ There were **no major problems with ConDOR**.

Study 3: Initial results (cont.)

- ◆ Participant's comment: **"The requirement to use Open Office in order to get full functionality is - I'm afraid – simply silly."**
- ◆ **Most students worked from home and did not want to install OpenOffice (note that these were non IT students).**
- ◆ There were **authentication problems**
- ◆ The **repository seemed unstable** - as evinced by the fact that at the moment the teacher **CANNOT** access the course work reports!

Remaining evaluation work at Leeds

- ◆ **Finish the analysis of user study 3**
- ◆ **Prepare a report on study 2 and study 3 as the evaluation deliverable from Leeds**
- ◆ **Provide the questionnaire used on Study 2 to other partners to use for their evaluation studies, if appropriate**
- ◆ **It will be nice to compare results, e.g.**
 - Use of ConDOR in different countries (e.g. Leeds/Karlsruhe)
 - Use of ConDOR and COLLAB (e.g. Leeds/Madrid)

Edukalibre evaluation report

- ◆ **Each partner shall prepare a detailed description of the evaluation study they have conducted**
- ◆ **Structure:**
 - Tools evaluated
 - Experimental settings (users, task, etc)
 - Results
- ◆ **Leeds will compile all partner descriptions within one deliverable and may add a chapter with discussion**
- ◆ **Suggested deadline for receiving the partners' reports:**
November 2005.