

Usability and visual attention distribution with complex, dynamic computer systems: Application to financial trading software

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## Previous work on financial decision making

Behavioral economics: decision making under uncertainty

(Tversky & Kahneman, 1974; Kahneman, 2011)

Financial decision-making and heuristics

(Monti, Martignon, Gigerenzer, & Berg, 2009)

The influence of risk taking and stress on physiology

(Coates, 2012)

 Nassim Nicolas Taleb: Various publications on market risks, quantitative finance in general and heuristics



## PhD plans

- 1. Sensitivity of eye movement measures to demands of various task difficulties.
- 2. Screen layout and its impact on gaze variability in complex systems.
- 3. Influence of experts' scan path on novice financial system users.



## 1. Task difficulty & attention distribution

#### Goals

- Eye movement patterns, task difficulty, trading performance
  - Which eye tracking measurement especially sensitive for complex tasks in financial systems?
  - Relationship between trading performance and task difficulty?



### 1. Data and Methods

Lab

Financial Trading simulator

Equipment

SMI mobile eye tracking glasses

**Participants** 

Banking & Finance students





- Independent variables:
  - 3 different tasks
  - 3 task difficulties
- Dependent variables:
  - Eye tracking measurements
  - Task performance: profit & loss statement (P&L)



Usability satisfaction:

After-Scenario questionnaire (ASQ)

(Lewis, 1991)

1. Overall, I am satisfied with the ease of completing the tasks in this scenario. strongly strongly not agree <=========== disagree applicable Comments: 2. Overall, I am satisfied with the amount of time it took to complete the tasks in this scenario. strongly strongly agree <======== disagree applicable N/A Comments: 3. Overall, I am satisfied with the support information (on-line help, messages,

strongly

not

N/A

documentation) when completing the tasks?

agree <============ disagree applicable

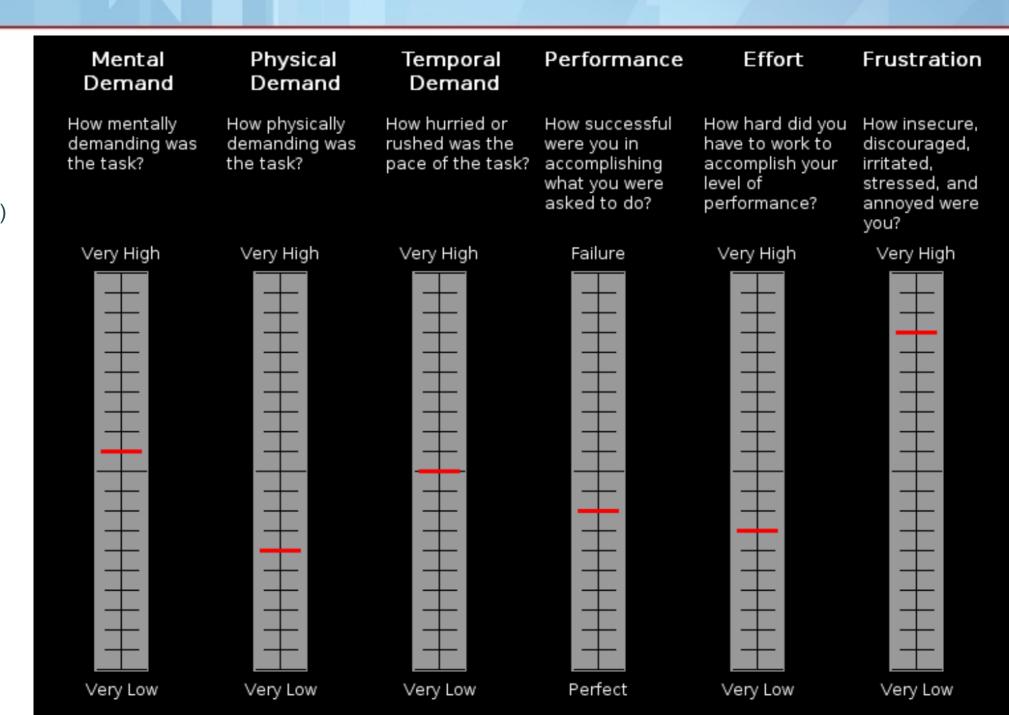
strongly

Comments:

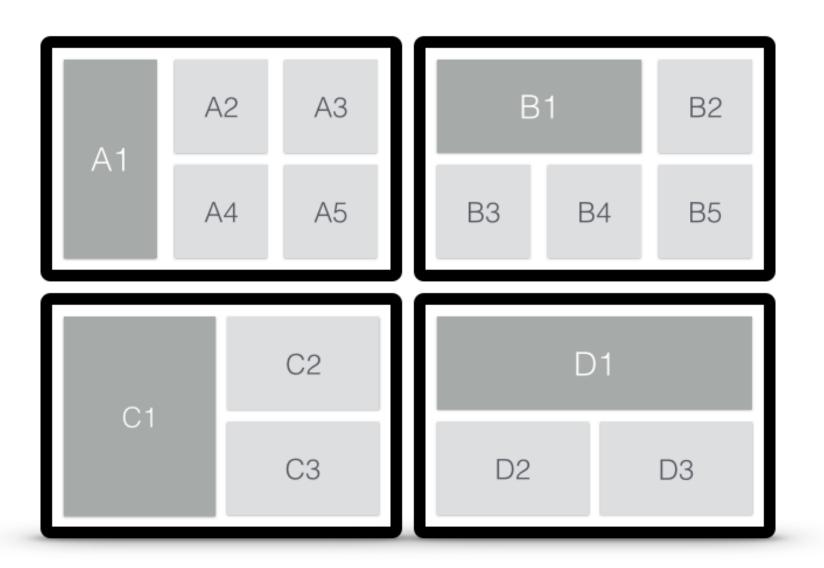


# Cognitive Load: NASA-TLX

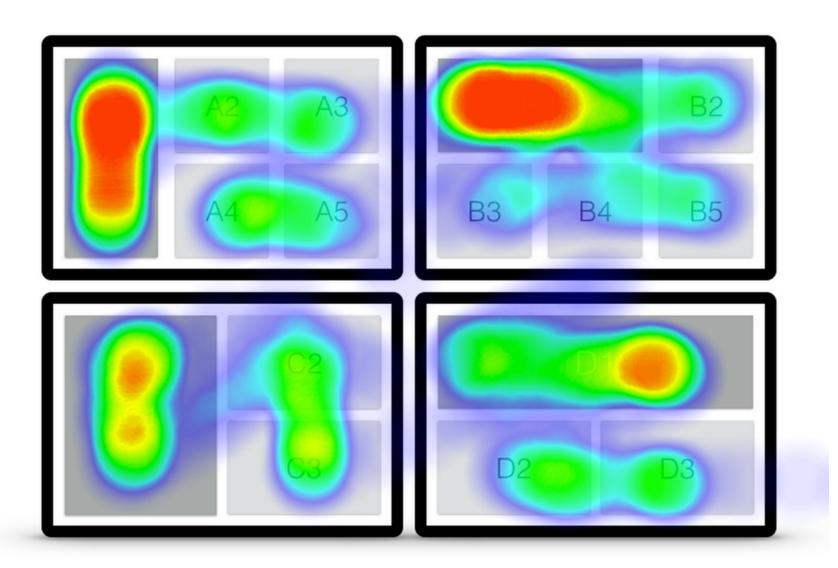
(Hart & Staveland, 1988)







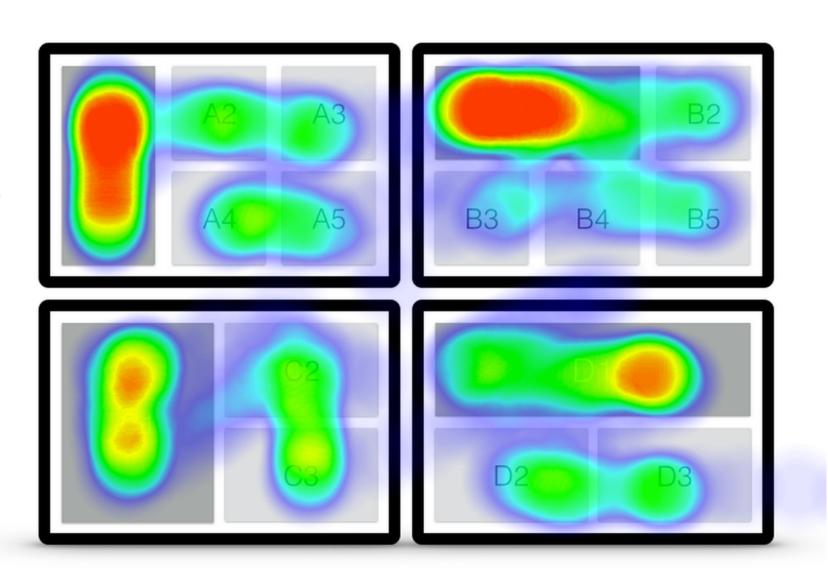






Trading performance is expected to suffer when task difficulty increases

(e.g. Topi et al., 2005; Rice et al., 2012)





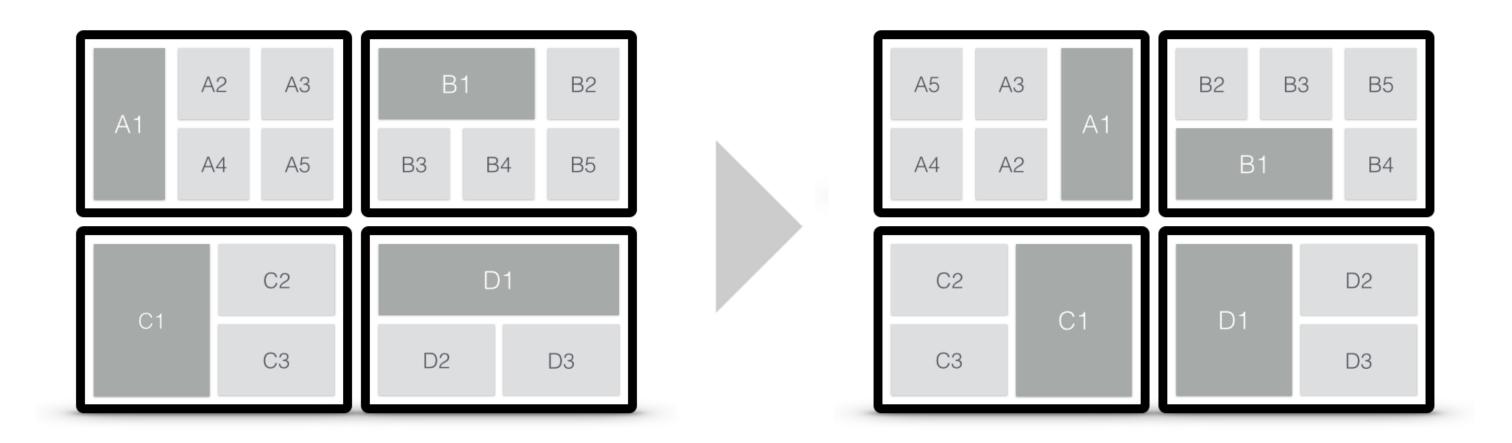
## 2. Effect of screen layout

#### Goals

- To investigate the influence of the screen layout on users' gaze variability, cognitive load and performance
- Findings from previous study to inform the layout variability
  - Move relevant areas of interest (AOIs) to the center according to task proximity
  - 3 screen layouts



## 2. Effect of screen layout





### 2. Data and Methods







- Independent variables:
  - 3 different tasks
  - 3 screen layouts
     Original from study 1, central positioning with 4 screens, central positioning with 6 screens.

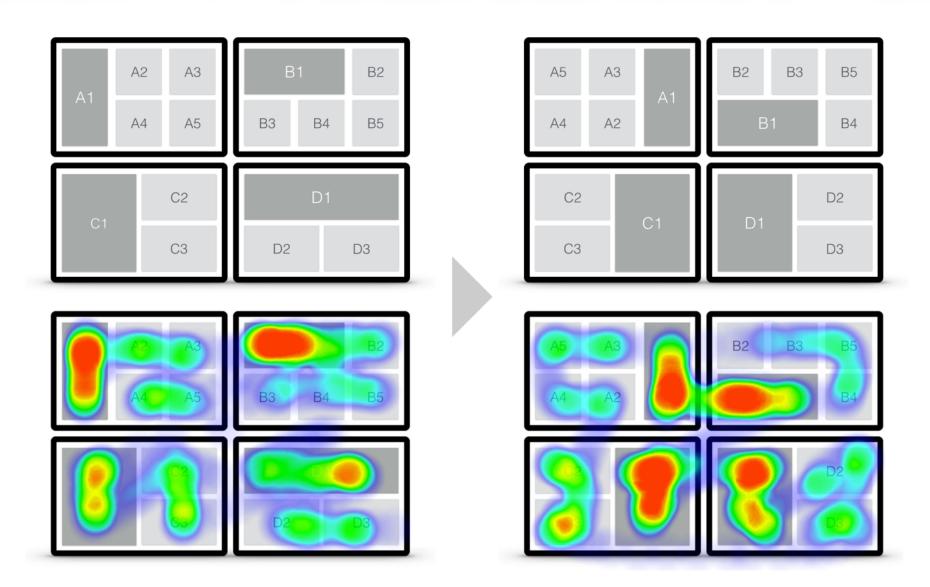


- Dependent variables:
  - Eye tracking measurements
  - Task performance: profit and loss statement
  - Usability: After-Scenario questionnaire (ASQ)
  - Cognitive Load: NASA-TLX
  - Retrospective verbal protocols

(Lewis, 1991)

(Hart & Staveland, 1988)







## 3. Novice training with experts' scan path

#### Goals

- Can the gaze of novice's be guided to by showing them the scan path of an expert system user?
- Influence of experts' scan path video on novices' visual behavior and their respective performance



## 3. Data and Methods

#### **Expert**

Record gaze video and verbal protocols

#### **Novice**

Show expert's gaze video and evaluate learning effect



#### Overview

- 1. Sensitivity of eye movement measures to demands of various task difficulties.
- 2. Screen layout and its impact on gaze variability in complex systems.
- 3. Influence of experts' scan path on novice financial system users.



## Questions & Discussion



#### References

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- Topi, H., Valacich, J. S., & Hoffer, J. A. (2005). The effects of task complexity and time availability limitations on human performance in database query tasks. International Journal of Human- Computer Studies, 62(3), 349-379.
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