Notabilia

2011
Flash

Notabilia is a visualization of the 200 longest Article for Deletion discussions in the English Wikipedia. It’s the result of a collaboration with Moritz Stefanera (visualization) and Dario Taraborellib (data and analysis) and it was launched on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Wikipedia. Article for Deletion discussions are represented by a thread starting at the bottom center of the screen. Each time a user recommends to keep, merge, or redirect the article a green segment leaning towards the left is added. Each time a user recommends to delete the article a red segment leaning towards the right is added. As the discussion progresses, the length of the segments as well as the angle slowly decay. Further analyses of deletion discussions in Wikipedia are available in a separate paper.d

Facts & figures

Notabilia is part of the InForm exhibit (2011), curated for the Adobe Museum of Digital Media by Thomas Goetz. It has also been featured in BoingBoing, FlowingData, Co.Design (‘infographic of the day’), Visualizing.org, Information Esthetics, DataVisualization.ch, NetzPolitik, BigThink, Bright Magazine (38/2011), Page Magazine (6/2011), Information Architects, Zooz Magazine and PopTech.

a http://moritz.stefaner.eu
b http://nitens.org
c http://ten.wikipedia.org
d http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/SASOW.2010.26
Ultimatum game web experiment

2011

Django and jQuery

The ultimatum game is a two-persons experiment that is used by economists and sociologists to explore the nature of altruism and cooperation, usually in the context of monetary bargains.\(^a\) This web application implements a specific version of the ultimatum game, in which participants bargain over the time needed to perform a certain repetitive task (summing small numbers) which, upon completion, will make them eligible of a fixed monetary reward.

The web app was developed as part of a research project at the Chair of Sociology, in particular Modeling and Simulation of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Zürich, Switzerland.\(^b\)

Facts & figures

Deployment on Apache + MySQL. HTTP and Ajax Message exchange was optimized for low latency: on a single-processor virtual host the webapp could handle around 40 concurrent games. Some additional features:

- Game stage redirection using HTTP sessions and cookies
- Real-time Ajax game interface
- Custom login procedure using session pass-codes
- Monitoring interface for the experimenter
- PDF payment coupons (using \texttt{<HTML>DOC}\(^c\))
- Browser detection middleware

\(^a\)\url{https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultimatum_game}
\(^b\)\url{http://www.soms.ethz.ch}
\(^c\)\url{http://www.htmldoc.org}
Programming skills

Compiled languages: Java C • Scripting languages: Python Cython BASH ZSH JavaScript • Markup: XHTML CSS XML JSON reStructuredText • Query languages: SQL • Scientific packages: R MATLAB NumPy + SciPy • Network analysis: graph-tool, Gephi • Server administration: Apache • Revision control: Subversion Git Darcs • Digital typesetting: \LaTeX\ Xe\LaTeX

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