

# Design and implementation of a web-based application for the maintenance of tags in social bookmarking services

Diploma Thesis Final Presentation

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Florian Matthes

Advisor: M. Sc. Alexander Steinhoff

#### Joan Boixadós Sanuy

Software Engineering betrieblicher Informationssysteme (sebis)

wwwmatthes.in.tum.de

### **Plan**



- Change of the thesis title
- Tagging
- TACKO
- Goal
- Usability Evaluation Methods
- Plan and execution of the tests
- Demo
- Versions and improvements
- Table of main features vs groups
- List of main issues
- Conclusions
- List of possible improvements
- Challenges

### Change of the thesis title



- No sense to try the interface with hundreds of people when the main problems could be found by a small group of people
- Interface Usability Evaluation
- It is still true you can maintain the tags of diverse social bookmarking websites (delicious, flickr) and easily add importers for new websites

### **Tagging**



- Allows users to assign text labels to resources in order to facilitate the retrieval of these resources in the future
- Tags are more flexible while hierachies are more structured
- Became popular with large content based websites like flickr or delicious among others
- Social tagging: Collectively classify and find resources

### **TACKO**



- System that uses the advantages of hierarchies on tags
- Improve navigability through tags
  - TACKO vs TagClouds

france friends fun garden geotagged germany girl graffiti green halloween hawaii holiday house india instagramapp iphone iphoneography island italia italy japan kids la lake landscape light live london love macro me mexico model museum

- Main ideas
  - Subsumptions
  - Facets

### Goal



- Does the interface help the users understand the system?
- Can users effectively use the system to search, organize and discover?

- Do the users understand the interface/system?
- Which is the minimum information users need to understand the system?
- Is it easy to learn?

### **Usability Evaluation Methods**



### Inspection Methods

- Heuristic Evaluation
- Cognitive Walkthrough
- Action Analysis

### Test Methods

- Thinking Aloud
  - Constructive Interaction
- Field Observation
- Questionnaires/Interviews
- Logs Analysis

### Plan and execution of the tests (i)



- Preparatory work
- Development of a web-based application that integrates TACKO's interface
- Pool of tags: Import tags from Delicious and Flickr
  - Use of external libraries: delicious J and FlickrJ



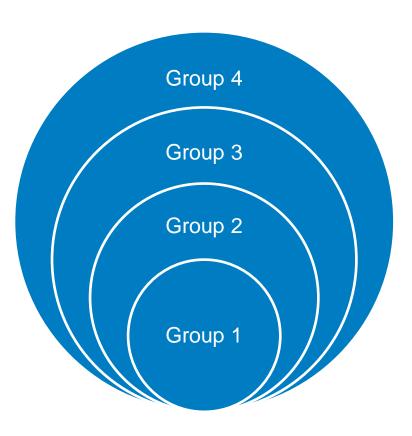


- Dataset
- 506 well-tagged pictures
- Flickr group with 40000 pictures
- Some users have used their own accounts

### Plan and execution of the tests (ii): Groups



- 4 groups of 4 people with different starting information



- Group 1

Without information nor facets

- Group 2

Predefined facets

- Group 3

With explanation but no facets

- Group 4

Predefined facets, explanation and examples

### Plan and execution of the tests (iii): Interviews



Version 1

- One of each group tries v1
- 4 interviews

Version 2

- Same 4 persons try v2 together with 4 new persons (one of each group)
- 8 interviews

Version 3

- Same 4 persons of v1 try v3 together with 4 new persons (one of each group)
- 8 interviews

Version 4

- Same 4 persons of v1 try v4 together with 4 new persons (one of each group)
- 8 interviews

Total

• Total: 4+8+8+8: 28 interviews for 4 different versions and with 16 different persons.

### Plan and execution of the tests (iv): Tasks



### Search

- Search for concrete resources
- Provide a picture and ask the users to find it

### Organize

 Organize the small dataset of tags using the facets

### Discover

 Explore the resources in the system using facets defined by other users

#### Demo



- Examples:
  - One with none of these
  - One with subsumption
  - One with the faceted tag suggestions
  - Define facets and show the dragging options

### Versions and improvements (i): Version 1



- List of selected tags by order of selection
- More limited breadcrumb
- Edit mode in the facetMenu
- Facets can be removed at once

### Versions and improvements (ii): Version 2





- Selected tags
- Tags without occurrences don't appear in the facet
- Limited number of suggestions

### Versions and improvements (iii): Version 3





- Doesn't show selected tags anymore (only breadcrumb)
- Faceted suggestions
- More suggestions

### Versions and improvements (iv): Version 4





- Shows tags without occurrences in the facet
- All drag&drop options are available
- None of these now shows other facets as well

### **Table of main features vs groups**



Impact of the previous knowledge on the understanding of the system.

Version 4	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Breadcrumb	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FacetMenu	Not at all	Slight idea	Yes, but with misuses	Yes
None of these	Slight idea	Slight idea	Yes, but with misuses	Yes
Add/rm all	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Resource edit mode	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Faceted suggestions	Not at all	Slight idea	Yes, but they search for alternatives	Yes, but they search for alternatives
Drag & drop	Noone noticed	Noone noticed	Yes, but with misuses	Yes, but they make mistakes

#### List of main issues



- Tags without occurrences not being shown on facets
- Suggestions are very dependant on the quality of the tags
- No initial facets make the facet menu totally unintuitive
- Drag&drop indicators are totally overlooked
- Drag&drop can have multiple meanings: copy, cut, move in...
- Hierarchy in both directions can easily mislead
- Removing a tag from a facet removes it from all the other facets where that tag is
- No indicator for the deduced tags via subsumption
- Hard to undo some operations
- Inability to reorder facets
- Faceted suggestions are not representing their utility in a proper way
- Facets need to be deleted tag by tag

### **Conclusions**



- Users are totally dependant on examples and an explanation
- The interface alone is powerful but no one really knows how to use it properly without previous knowledge
- Users generally agree on finding the system useful but not so easy to understand
  - Search: Traditional search complements the facetMenu, users being generally successful at this task
  - Organize: Varied approaches, some may conflict with the implementation
  - Discover: Very random, but users appreciate the knowledge of other users when it comes to group tags

### List of possible improvements



- Rollback option
- Possibility to organize facets within a context
- Possibility to collapse facets (within a context)
- Indicators for deduced tags via subsumption
- Better indicators for the drag&drop options
- Alphabetical order is not always the best one
  - Possibility to reorder tags within a facet
- Editable resources without an edit mode
- Option to select resources from the list to execute an operation
- Improve the representation of the faceted suggestions

### **Challenges**



- Tricia
- Reuse of a lot of changing code
- Always evolving interface
- Few examples of usability evaluation on tag navigation systems



## Thanks for your attention!