#### Announcements, 3/14/2023

Today: User Interfaces

Break around 11:15am

## Acknowledgements

Some of these slides are from Prof. Alex Kuhn.

## Outline

- Why care about user interfaces (UI) & user experience (UX)?
- User-centered design
- Mockups and prototyping
- In-class UI mockup activity

## First: Definitions

- User interface is the way that a user interacts with an application or device.
- **User experience** encompasses all aspects of the end-user's interaction with the company, its services, and its products.
- **Usability** it is a quality attribute of the user interface, covering whether the system is easy to learn, efficient to use, pleasant, and so forth.

From Don Norman & Jakob Nielsen's Definition of User Experience <a href="https://www.nngroup.com/articles/definition-user-experience/">https://www.nngroup.com/articles/definition-user-experience/</a>

#### Why care about UI and UX?

#### User experience affects market success



"You've got to start with the customer experience and work back toward the technology—not the other way around."

- Steve Jobs

# Good design

- Satisfies the client (if you have one)
- Works for the user (does what they need and want)
  - Easy to use
  - Able to avoid and recover from problems
- Good design is easier said than done

#### **User-centered design**

# User-centered design (UCD)

- Iterative design process
- Takes the needs, wants, and limitations of the actual end users into account during each phase of the design process
- Evaluates the design with empirical measurements with users

From Designing the User Interface: Strategies for Effective Human-Computer Interaction by Schneiderman et al.

## People are very different

- **Demographics** (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity)
- Skill & knowledge levels
- Physical & mental abilities
- **Context of use** (why they will use and in what environment)

# Design for everyone?

No. Design for your target audience.

#### Understand your users

- Needs
- Motivations
- Behaviors
- Limitations
- Context for their problem / activity / task

#### How can you understand and interact with users?

Observe

- Interview and survey
- Prototype
- Run usability studies

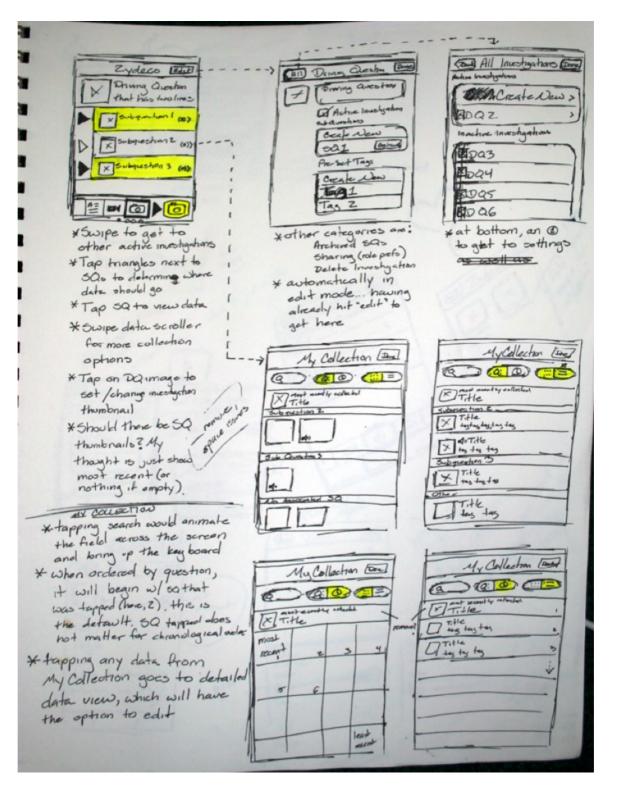
# **Designing for Users**

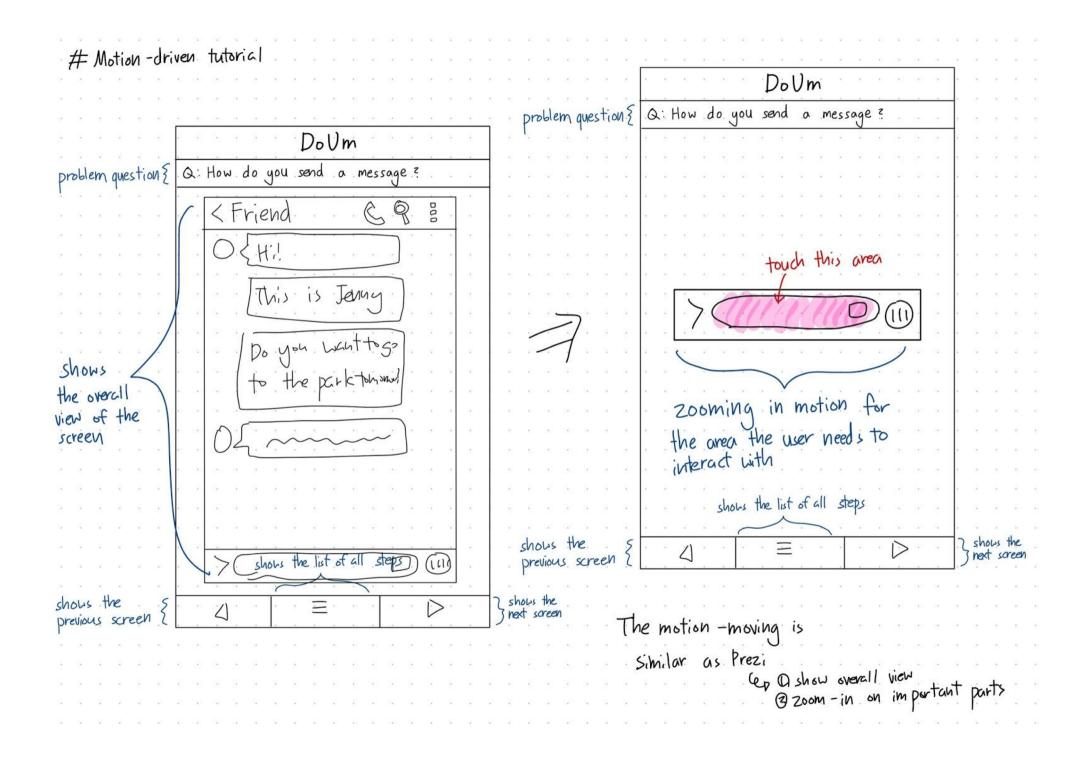
# Different levels of fidelity

- Paper sketches, paper prototyping
- Wireframes
- High fidelity or pixel perfect mockups
- Functional prototypes

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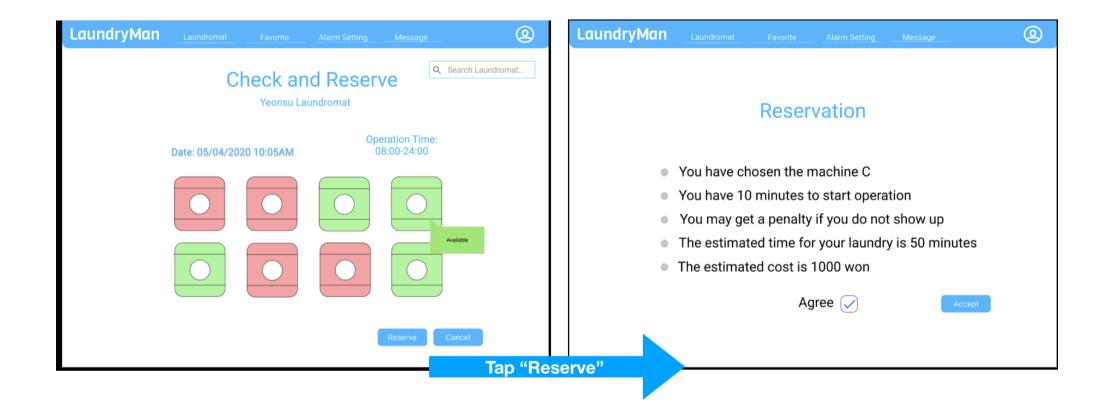
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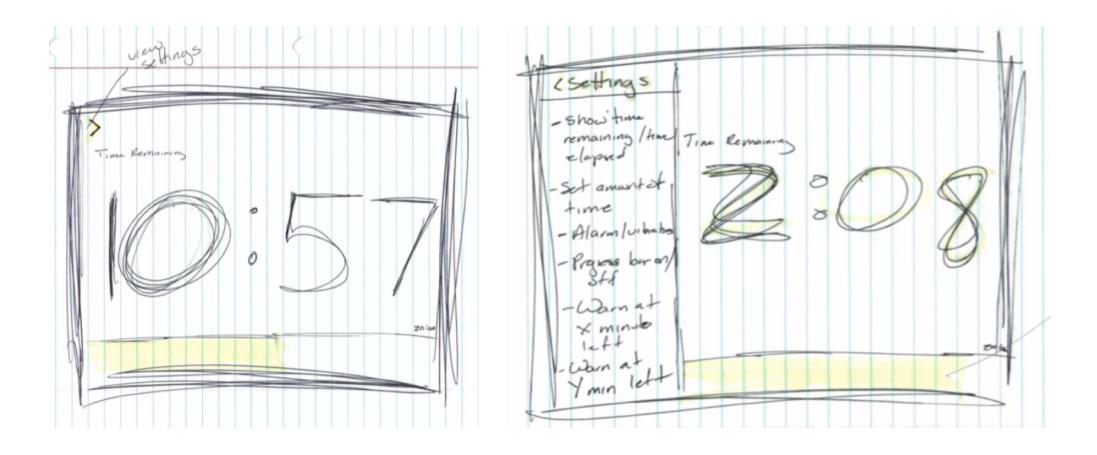
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#### Interactive prototype via tool (Mid-fi prototype)

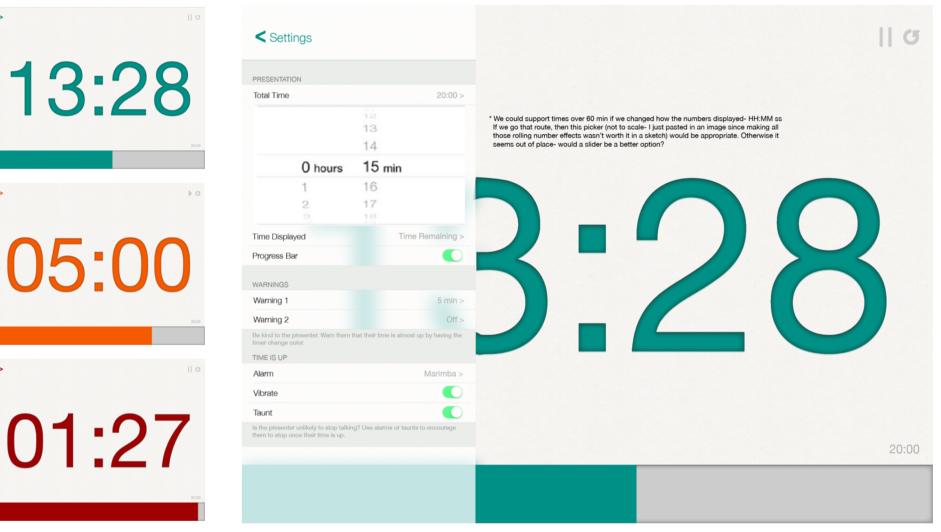


#### Example: **Big Presentation Timer** An iPad App to time presentations (Released in 2013)

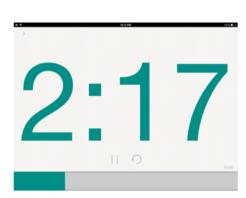
# Early sketches



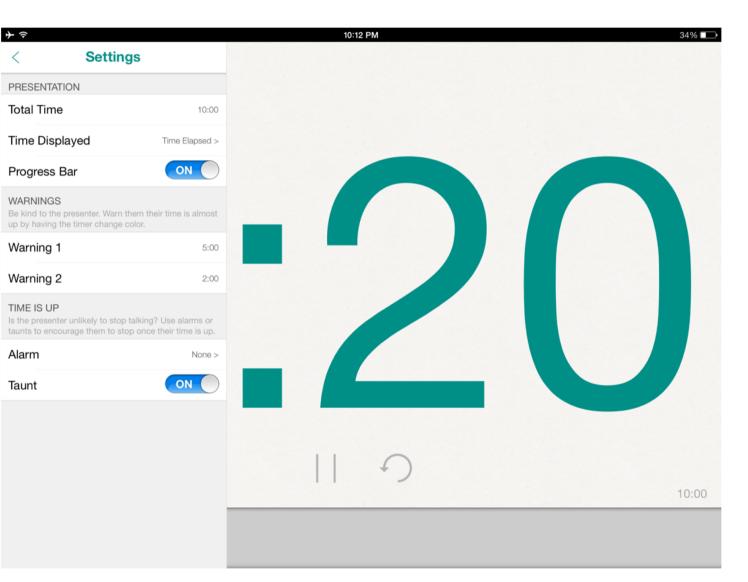
# Higher fidelity digital mockups



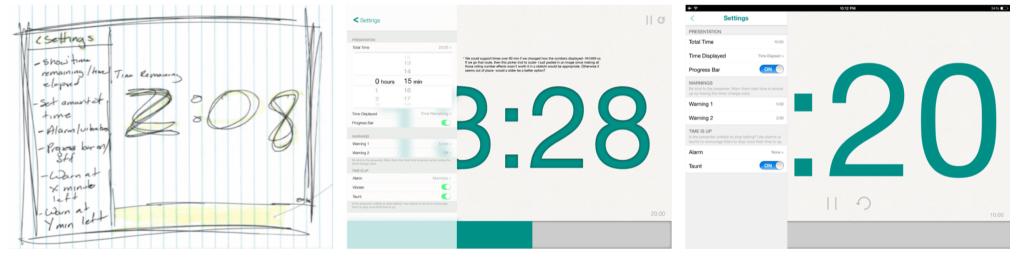
#### Released app







# Progression over time



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Sketch

#### Higher Fidelity Mockup

Rolossed App

#### Released App

#### Example: **Colibri** An iPhone app to learn German (Released in 2014)

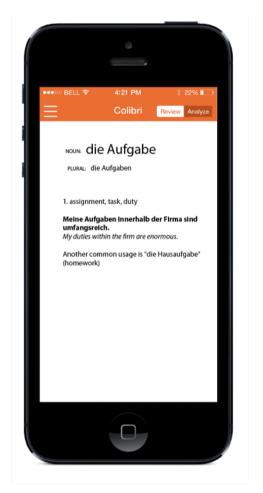




## Increasing fidelity over time



Paper prototype





Higher Fidelity Mockup

Released App

# Tradeoffs on fidelity level

- Low fidelity mockups and prototypes
  - Quick and cheap
  - People more comfortable suggesting edits
  - May be unacceptable to present to stakeholders
- High fidelity mockups and prototypes
  - Communicate what the final design will look like
  - May be clearer to stakeholders
  - More expensive and time consuming
  - May make design seem more finalized than it actually is

# **Design tips**

# General design tips

- Learn from existing software
- Follow design patterns for the platform
- Create mockups and prototypes and see how the system works and feels
- Test and get feedback from your target audience

## Additional resources

- Usability 101: Introduction to Usability by Jakob Nielsen
- <u>Tognazzini's First Principles of Interaction Design</u>
- <u>10 Usability Heuristics for User Interface Design</u> by Jakob Nielsen
- Ben Schneiderman's 8 Golden Rules of Interface Design
- Google Mobile Web Design & User Experience Guide
- <u>Apple UI Design Do's and Don'ts</u>

# **Questions?**

#### Reminders

- Draft of Product Description, Scope, Functional Requirements, UI Mockups due by March 14 (may change depending on our progress of lecture)
  - 5-10 minute presentation on your project in-class (showoff mockups)
  - This is NOT graded, but to confirm your project and scope is appropriate for the course and get early feedback

# **In-class activity**

# User interface mockups

 In your teams, have each person choose a different important functional requirement for your project:

(e.g., The customer should be able to book a flight between any two cities.)

- Each member should individually make user interface mockups for their chosen requirement
- Create a <u>rough</u> sketch or mockup of each screen needed to complete the requirement
  - Show the progression between the screens (with arrows or some other method)
- Show the mockups at the end of class
  - If not finished by end of class: email the instructor by end of day (take a photo of paper sketches)
  - On the mockup, list out in 1 sentence bullets all the different tasks a user can do or access when they are on that UI screen
- If your requirement takes only 1-2 screens, sketch out a second alternative design for the same requirement