How To Improve on File Management?

Sebastian Faubel
Boston, 8.October 2008

Usability Basics

Human *Communicate* ⟷ Machine
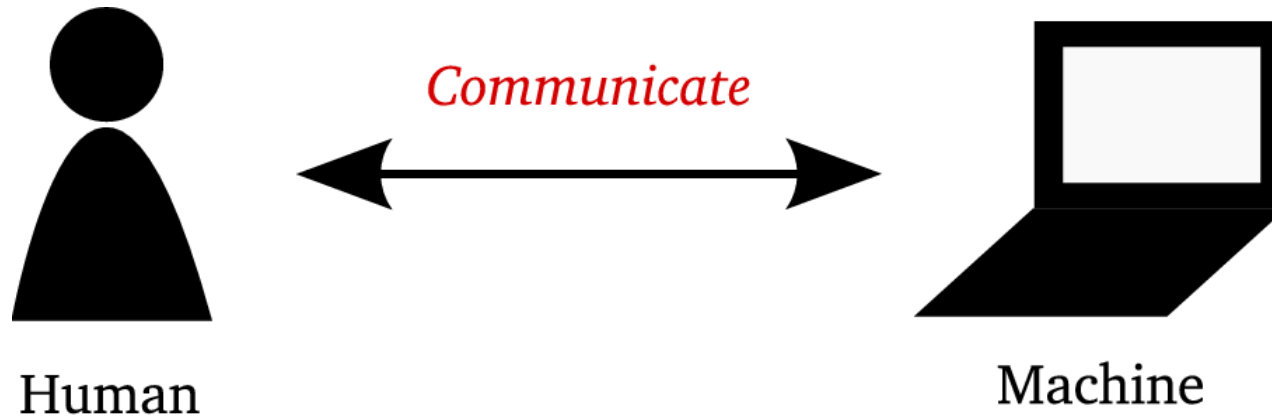
INPUT

• Pointing

• Typing

OUTPUT

• Visual

• Acoustic

Best Practises

- Use as many communication channels as possible!

- **But do it in a reasonable, natural way!**

GOOD

- Present images visually

- Support human recognition

BAD

- Show dogs in search dialogs

- Not helpful, Annoying

File Management

People tend to think in Categories / „Drawers"

- ODT File: Document

- OGG File: Music

Knowledge Discovery Metaphors

- **Search** – requires knowledge

- **Browse** – lets you discove knowledge

- **Support both!**

Hierarchical File System

Organise Framework

Technical / **Abstract data structure**

- People don't get it

- Causes problems

- No Metadata

Hard to maintain

- Large file base today

- Works for only one device (locally scoped)

- **Not future proof**

Successor?

Requirements

- Target a broad user audience
    - Experienced users
    - Intuitive users
- Support individuals and corporations
- Interoperable, Portable
- **Real world solution!**

My Idea

- ISWC Poster, Layer overview

Further reading

- **Towards Semantic File Management Interfaces**
Sebastian Faubel, Christian Kuschel
Proceedings of ISWC 2008

- **A Semantic Web Primer**
Grigoris Antoniou, Frank van Harmelen
MIT Press 2004

Demo

- **Organise Desktop Live Presentation**

Please Note

- Focused on implementation/technology

- Presented interfaces are really raw

- **Expect a computer to help you?**

  – You need to tell him how!

- **Imagine a robot helping you with your housework**

  – Would you paste tags on everything? The fridge, doors, windows, lockers...

Organise Framework

Thank you very much!

- Are there any questions?