Evaluation of Smart Phone Applications Accessibility for Blind Users

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Abstract

Smart phones are becoming ubiquitous in this globalization era. Number of recent studies focused on web accessibility for blind users and also tries to address problems faced by the vision impaired people. However there is a prominent lack of research on smart phone accessibility for such people. The objective of this research is to review the accessibility of smart phone’s features and applications by the visually impaired people. This study highlights the problems faced by such people in accessing the android smart phones. Hypothetical analysis was conducted through survey and different task-sets were designed to evaluate open-source android phones accessibility applications. Some visually impaired users performed task-set to analyze the smart phone usability. The evaluation takes place on the basis of Nielson’s design principles. The results conclude that the recent android phone applications still do not meet the requirements and challenges faced by the visually impaired people. Therefore this research recommends designers to build an easily accessible application.
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Index Terms

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Keywords

Accessibility, usability, smart phones, visually impaired, android applications