

HCDE 518

Findings and Recommendations

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Project name: Time machine

Tag line: Collapsing time but not communication

Design Solution

We designed a visual representation of a timeline that allows users to graphically compare their life events with close personal relationships. The design allows you to add pictures and icons that represent events, as well as, schedule posts and responses forward and backward in time. Our Summary of Findings represent our users response to a paper prototype we created of this mobile application.

Video Link - Paper Prototype

<https://vimeo.com/244913515>

Refined Iteration:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1eDQ7-x6fXh1K2zd-WYEs4i0Pzxml6F96>

Documentation Link:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1i8MnP9F77zUwiNdqIGkDivPqySCzY4Tg>

Summary of Findings

- Most of our users expressed the need for an option for group discussions
- Users noted a need to see multiple timelines at one time
- Users responded positively to the timeline GUI which visualizes their information and the comparison between the user and their connections.
- Users noted that they would be more inclined to use our app for larger time differences since they could easily call those that are on shorter time differences.
- Users would like to customize privacy settings for different people they communicate with
- Scheduling messages and responses forward and backward in time was a stand out feature with several of our users
- Users would like a graphical solution that makes it obvious when their connections are available so they can schedule a time to communicate
- Users would like to be able to link their social media accounts to our app (Facebook, Instagram, etc)

Changes to our design

- Add ability to have group discussions

- Add ability to see multiple timelines
- Add privacy settings for post and timeline
- Design for both vertical and horizontal orientation
- Make it easier to see shared availability
- Link to other forms of social media like Facebook and Instagram

Research Question:

- Does our user flow confuse them?
- Does the user communicate efficiently with our product?
- Does the sender/receiver prefer a scheduled message? Or do they prefer to send message immediately as soon as they see the new post?
- What kind (category) of post they want to have?
- Do they want the timeline to be private? (privacy group)
- Does our product satisfy their needs?
- What are the pros/cons of our product?
- What can be added/deleted?

User Tasks

1. Your friend is going to attend a marathon. While doing this task you will respond to a notification of a post from a friend, open the timeline, see the new post, and schedule a response “good luck” to that post before they start running.
2. You are going to take a trip. We will ask you to post to your timeline. You will choose an option for the post, schedule the post, and approve that post to be added to the timeline.

Testing Notes

Test 1:

1. User wants to be able to immediately respond to notification (without needing to go deep into the app/timeline)
2. Can I attach pics to the post on the timeline?
3. Attraction:
 - a. Visualization
 - b. Comparison
4. It would be better if it use the default icons of iOS.
5. Icons for message, facetime, and text were confusing however we think it was because of the drawings
6. More options in the post. More details for the post.
7. User desires to see more than one person’s timeline; suggested up to 5
8. User appreciated comparison of timeline and found it important

9. User expressed needs for privacy controls that were individual to each person they shared with
10. Can I see my other friends timeline?
 - a. Parents severals
 - b. Girlfriends
 - c. Groups
 - d. Prefer click button to change person
11. Category:
 - a. Sleep is not necessary
 - b. Add shopping
12. Does our app make you want to post on the timeline?
 - a. Video game record.
13. Small and large time difference.

Test 2

1. It feels real-time thing. (We explained it you can schedule time).
2. Like Facebook, but you can schedule in our app. Biggest difference. Always forget to text people, which is attractive. Being able to schedule is the most attractive part of the design
3. Sleeping is not necessary to show.
4. Rob me when I am travelling. Only want to share with 1 or 2 people. She wants share everything. (privacy setting important)
5. User desires chat room in the app and group messaging/discussion? We explained there would be direct message.
6. Groups/ Bulletin, way to see group and their responses
7. Want to interact with multiple people, but not necessary to see all at the same time.
8. Prefer scrolling and vertical orientation.
9. Don't need to see her own timeline. Can collapse. But cute
10. Can flip? Not need to be horizontal, can also be vertical(multiple people), can have view pages. She prefers vertical layout.
11. small/ big time difference matters(compared to traditional communication). More inclined to add to the timeline for people with larger time differences = 3 hours she can send immediately but longer time difference would like to schedule.

Test 3

1. Confused about direct messaging. Did not know what to do when messaging came up. Possibly because there was a mock history already created.
2. Easily to see openings by having parallel timeline visually.
3. User was unclear how to add to timeline
4. Would want to schedule in times to chat real time when both available
5. Similar comment to user in Test 2: small/ big time difference matters(compared to traditional communication). More inclined to add to the timeline for people with larger time differences = 3 hours she can send immediately but longer time difference would like to schedule.

6. When busy, good to know the other's schedule
7. User expressed a need for this design to be tied to Facebook and Instagram
8. Probably no big event, cuz facebook does it. Import from facebook
9. Good for group project. Depending on context. Ways to switch: when scrolling, his schedule maintain the same position. See opening see whether busy. Shared opening.
10. User felt content was secondary to knowing when people are available to chat. Availability matters, doesn't need to know the content of activities. Doesn't need to show details.
11. Assign groups.

Test 4

1. Easy to be attracted by icon/image. Interesting to see what she/he is doing while I am doing something, interesting to see parallel things.
2. Dashboard of timelines is most attractive, thought it was storytelling. Visualization part is impressive.
3. Want to use with family & lovers, less with friends. Needs of privacy. But set different privacy make her lost.
4. More convenient to link to this app, doesn't have to open this app. (just like what we did with calendar, can pop out a window adding to calendar)
5. Best to see two timelines at the same time, so she prefer to add "+" or switch to another group.
6. Care more about her parents. Cuz her mother would share things all the time, making them more intimate.
7. Lazy to calculate the time difference. Different time zones shown on the timelines, more incentive to communicate & curious about what they did. Cuz her friends are scattered all over the world.
8. Scale of image and time. She care less about the time, less sensitive about time cuz image so attractive. She think it might be larger time, when she hover over the time, image becomes larger.

Test 5

1. The content can be imported or shared from the social media. Good incentive to communicate with others. Weakness will be not as direct as Facebook. Strength is more targeted than facebook, more detailed.
2. Won't post everything to the timeline. Don't want to sleep too late cuz her family will care, so she would fake time.
3. She definitely will post sleep so not available. And post amazing things to show off.
4. When finished task1, she was afraid of making mistake, which means that she wanted to schedule time first, and then make sure she set up the right time, and then send the message.
5. Want to schedule time for video chat based on shared openings.
6. Want to highlight the openings showing her availability inviting people to communicate.