Vodafone – NID Gaming project User Research

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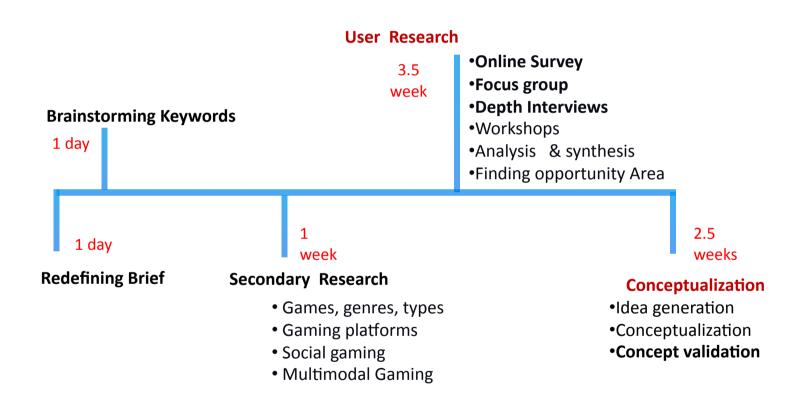
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Project Brief

- "Expanding Social Gaming through Multimodal Interaction".
- Design a mobile social game as inclusive as possible by taking advantage of different interaction modalities.
- The game should be based on actions that take place on a mobile device as well as on a shared, touch based display placed in a public area.
- The game should engage multiple players. Define cross-platform playing contexts (e.g. single user with a single mobile device in a bus playing with / against a user at home playing on the TV screen by using her/his mobile device as a controller).
- The project should encompass some phases of user research, co-design and experience evaluation.

Timeline

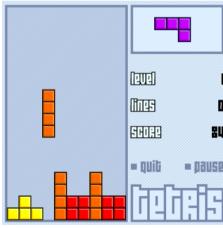


Game Design Workshop by Vodafone, Europe

- Videogame Examples and Overview
- Principles in Game Design and User Motivation
- Examples of Modality in Videogames







Jump and Run

Role Playing Game

Puzzle

Secondary Research

Genres

Action game
Action-adventure game
Adventure game
Role-playing game
Simulation game
Sports game
Strategy game

Gaming Platforms

Arcade game
Audio game
Console game
Handheld game
Mobile game
Online game

Personal computer game

Secondary Research

Mobile Gaming

- A mobile game is a video game played on a mobile phone, Smartphone, PDA, handheld computer or portable media player. This does not include games played on handheld video game systems such as Play Station Portable or Nintendo DS.
- Mobile games are played using the technologies present on the device itself.
- The first game that was pre-installed onto a mobile phone was Snake on selected Nokia models in 1997.

Secondary Research

Mobile Gaming Platforms

Mobile games are developed using platforms and technologies such as Windows Mobile

Palm OS

Symbian OS

Adobe's Flash Lite

DoCoMo's DoJa

Sun's Java ME (formerly branded "Java 2 Micro Edition" or J2ME)

Qualcomm's BREW (Binary Runtime Environment for Wireless)

iPhone OS

Google Android platforms

Other platforms are also available, but not as common

User Research

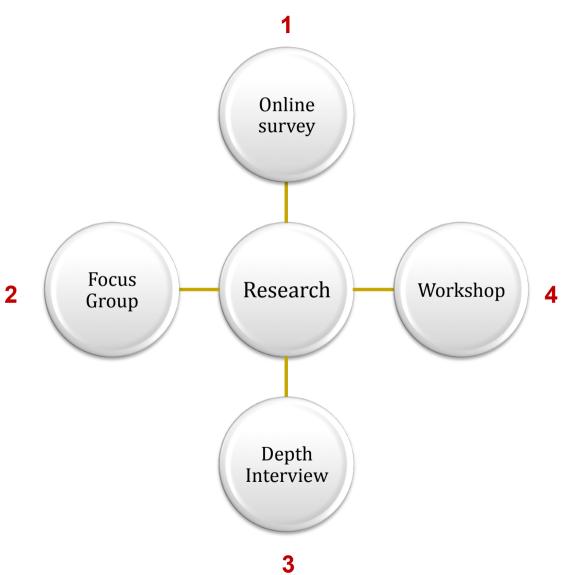
Objective

- To gain insights about user pattern, gaming behavior and motivation factors.
- To gain understandings of usage of multimodal and gesture based technology.
- To gain insights about social gaming popularity .
- To understand the motivation pattern for gamers and barriers for non-gamers

Target Audience

- Age Group: 16 to 26 yrs (Male Female both)
- Middle and Upper class

Research Methodology



Objective

- Quick research in the area of gaming
- Finding Platforms, Technology, Types of game
- Purpose of Gaming
- Finding Hours of play, and time & occasions

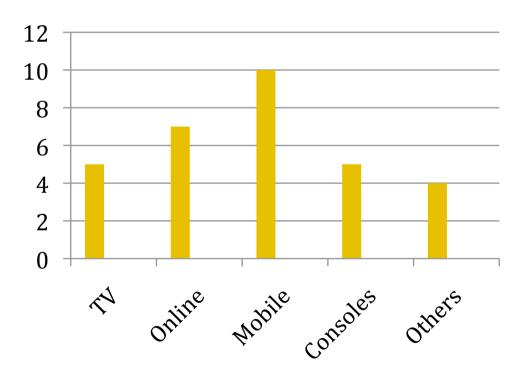
Methodology: Online questionnaire, was done as a initial parallel research activity with Depth interviews

No of people covered: 30

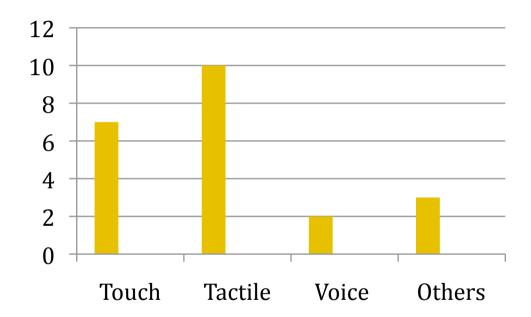
Outcome

- Primary purpose of gaming is fun, and interaction is the secondary purpose if compared individually
- People may prefer multiplayer / multilingual / cross cultural game over games only focusing any single culture.
- Majority of people like racing games over fight games, education games were given least preference
- Tactile (button based) interaction is preferred over touch screen

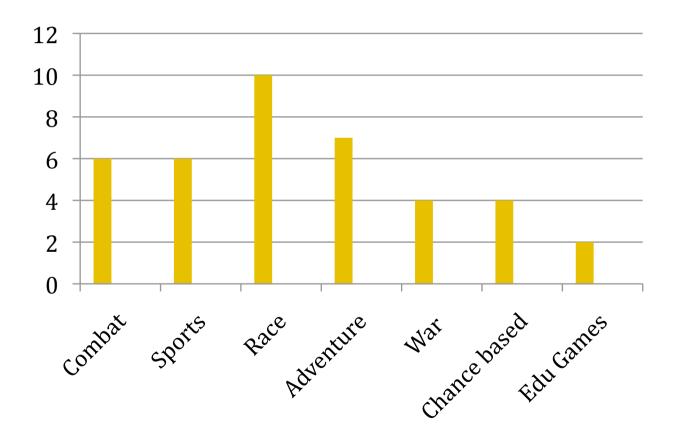
In our online survey maximum people opted for Mobile & Online gaming



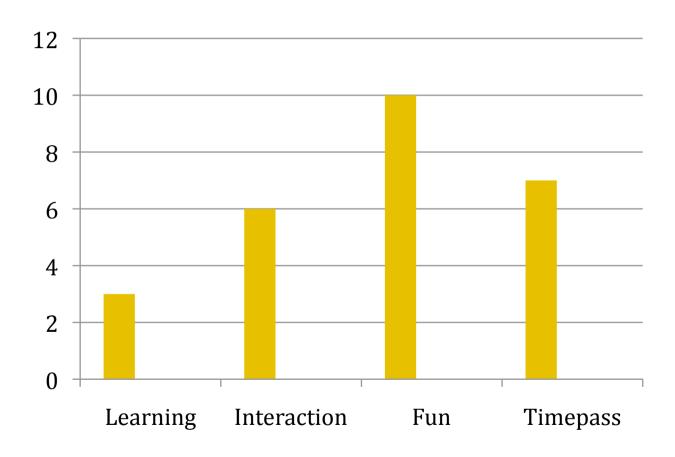
Tactile / Button based technology was favoured over touch for gaming



People like racing & adventure games over fight and educational gamesg



Basic purpose of Gaming is Fun, and not learning or interaction



Comments by Vodafone



"When" and in what particular context people

There are several "killing time" situations (e.g., commuting, waiting rooms) that are normally quite common in western countries.

It would be good to take a **closer look at people's motivation, differences in motivation between ages and genders**, so as to understand what engages different people.

Memory games, or cultural quiz, for example, might engage women more than fight games. A game designs could leverage such a fact to engage women in strategic games, just to make an example...

Share with us how you plan to conduct the next research steps e.g., quetsionnaire, focus of research, target group.

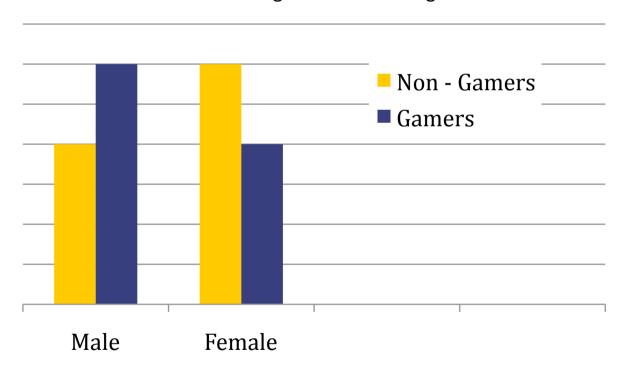


Objective

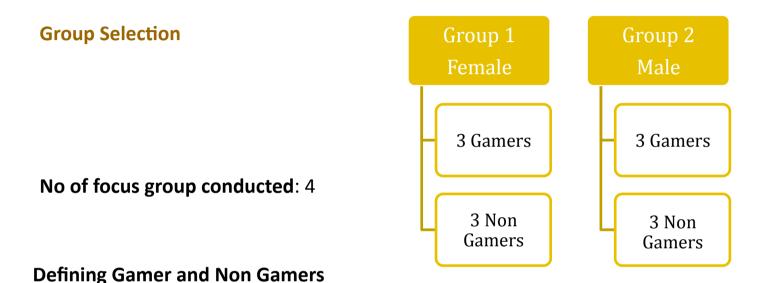
- To understand difference in gaming context, choices and degree of involvement in different kinds of game.
- Gaining insights from interaction between gamers and non-gamers (amongst participants)
- Also to understand motivation and barriers for gamers and non- gamers, taking in account the choices of game played in past and factors which motivates for multiplayer and social gaming.

Group Selection – Male and Female or Gamers and Non-gamers

Although Gender may or may not be the factor for generalizing the gamers and non gamers . It does not differentiate gamers from non gamers



Ref: Research on 'Gender and Computer Games' by Department of Journalism and Communication Research, Hanover University of Music and Drama



Gamers: Gaming is an activity which exists in their daily/priority list (taking time out to play) have information about current trends in gaming and take interest in latest games.

Non Gamers: Gaming is not in priority, not involved and doesn't have information about latest games and popular ones, may play at times to burn time.

Methodology

No of focus group conducted: 4

Group Size: 6 Participants, 1 moderator, 1 observer / analyzer

Duration: 40 – 50 minutes

Process: - Introduction of topic

- Raising points of discussion
- Noting key points / Participants viewpoint
- Blank Slips distributed to participants for giving additional note on topic discussed.
- Collection of slips and concluding the discussion



Points of discussion

- Different games played
- What motivates game playing
- What stops to play game
- Context of game play
- To what degree involvement is there
- Future trend in gaming
- What can add to excitement of gaming
- •Technology on which games are played



Comments by Vodafone



Keep the **questions quite open** and understand what people associate with playing and what motivates or keeps them from doing so.

The interview should possibley be a **sort of in depth interview** in which the **technology comes in the end**, because at this stage you mostly what to understand **motivations and barriers**, and in principle technology should just serve as tool

I agree that some kind of interaction techniques, like touch, might motivate people to play in some cases

In order to achieve your deisgn goal motivate people to play and get back to the game, you need to maximize motivations and/or weaken blocks.

Comments by Vodafone

Some quick comments on the questionnaire:

- I would not limit the gaming platform to mobile, but ask the question about games in general (fixed and mobile)
- For those that do not play games and for those that play only few times, also ask
 what would lead them to play/play more (e.g. the motivators) as an example
 someone who might think games are not interesting, because they see them merely
 for 'burning time', might be interested if other motivators (such as fitness, etc) would
 be fulfilled
- The reason for this is that an interesting game design resulting from this workshop might not just be the emulation of something that already works, but maybe a new idea that would lead people that are currently not interested in video games to play games

Kind regards, Julian

Depth Interview

Objective

To get understanding of barrier and dislike factors for male & female behind gaming

No of males & female : 11 (6 male & 5 female)

Methodology

Duration of interview: 30-40 minutes

Video recording was done to ensure availability of every point covered.

Outcome of focus group and depth interview was analyzed at the end together after conducting workshop with same audience

Workshop

Objective

- To get insight about the gaming on public displays in public area
- Insights about using mobile devices, types of games, playtime, interaction with devices, physical response while playing, gestures and expressions etc

No of male: 6 (3 Gamer & 3 Non Gamer)
No of female: 6 (3 Gamer & 3 Non Gamer)

Methodology

- HP Touch Smart PC and active board was used for gaming and was placed at a public place
- Observing the handheld devices such as Gaming Console, (Tactile), Nintendo Wii Remote which were used for play
- The games which are were played were Racing, PRG, MRPG, MMORPG, Small games, Casual touch based games.



1	Female		Male	
	Non – Gamers	Gamers	Non- Gamers	Gamers
Category	Casual games Arcade - puzzle	Casual games Arcade - puzzle Arcade - strategy Arcade - adventure Racing RPG, MRPG	Casual games Arcade – puzzle Racing	Arcade -strategy Arcade - adventure Racing RPG, MRPG
Example of maximum game played	Tetris, Snake	Tetris, Snake, Minesweeper, Mario, Prince NFS, Contra, Counter strike, Farm Villa - facebook	Snake, Car/bike racing games NFS	Mario, NFS, Counter strike, Quake3, IGI, Age of Empires, Mafia wars & Farm Villa-facebook
Context / Duration / Involvement	Waiting for train / bus, travelling, Waiting anywhere 10-15 mins	Group gatherings Friends place, 30-40mins	Depends on environment and when compelled by peer group, Friends place Waiting for train / Bus travelling, Waiting Anywhere, at times while visiting malls 20 – 30 mins	Gaming Parlors Playing on LAN in college PC labs, more than 1 hour, For Social networking on facebooks Regularly
Platform	Mobile phone,	PC, Online, Consoles- Wii, Hanheld devices- Mobile	PC, Online, Mobile	PC, Lan, Online, Consoles-Wii, Xbox, Play station, Handheld devices-PSP, Mobile,

	Female		Male	
2	Non-Gamers	Gamers	Non-Gamers	Gamers
Motivation	Kill-time, getting entertained, game playable on handheld or accessible games, stress relief from casual play	Thrill of wining, Breaking highest score, simple and easily understandable games, less complex rules,	Time-passing and getting entertained while waiting, any game playable on handheld or accessible, Peer compelling, engaging games, recreation means	Scoring more than friend / collegue, competing with peers, real life situation, real life graphics, war experience, Ability to perform tasks which are not possible in real life
Barriers	Requires too much of engagement Waste of time , it's a distraction Just gaining scores and winning doesn't excite, not having any other benefits ("what will get from this? Lets do something productive"), Game life / virtual life doesn't seem true , less exciting gaming subjects, complex rules	Accessibility of games and platform, less motivation from female counterparts, loosing game on male counterparts, not able to relate with game life / virtual life prevents continuous excitement	Waste of time Just gaining scores and winning doesn't excite, not having any other benefits	Accessibility of games and platform.

3	Female	Male		
3	Non-Gamers	Non-Gamers		
Opportunity Area	1) Multiplayer /AI casual games, playable on handheld device	Single player competitive games, playable on handheld device		
	3) Game with social interaction & fun4) Fun filled game competing with	2) Gaming on public displays using handheld device (mobiles) in trains during long journey for 'kill time' situation.		
	friends /colleagues	3) Quick level games & less time consuming.		
	7) Less complex rules and quick ending games	5) Subjects from real life scenarios, highly		
	5) Subjects which female can relate to	competitive.		
	6) Subjects- mind ,puzzles and logic	5) Adding benefits and real life reward / gifts		
	based exercises.			
	7) Parallel activity/ communication possible while Playing			

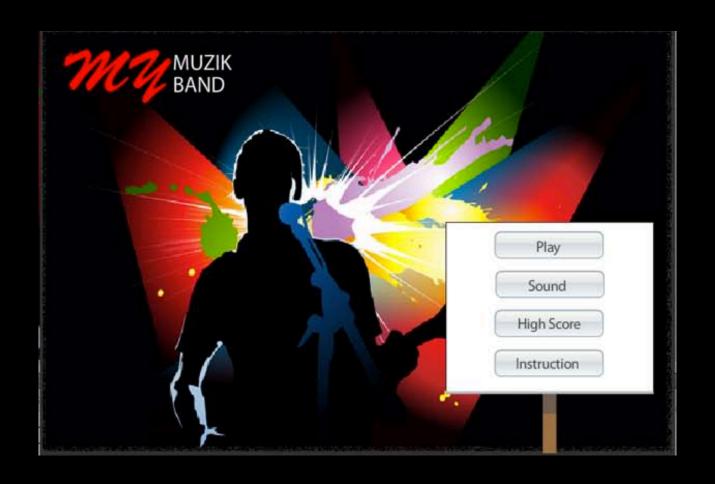
Thank You



NID-Vodafone Game Design

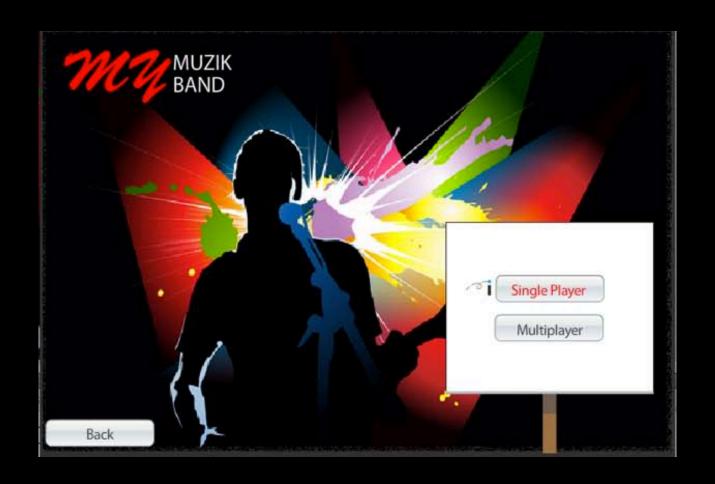
Single Player Scenario

- The user has to select the instrument to create music, in a given limited time.
- Then user can Listen & download the music to their phones.
- User Can Share Music to get rewards.





































































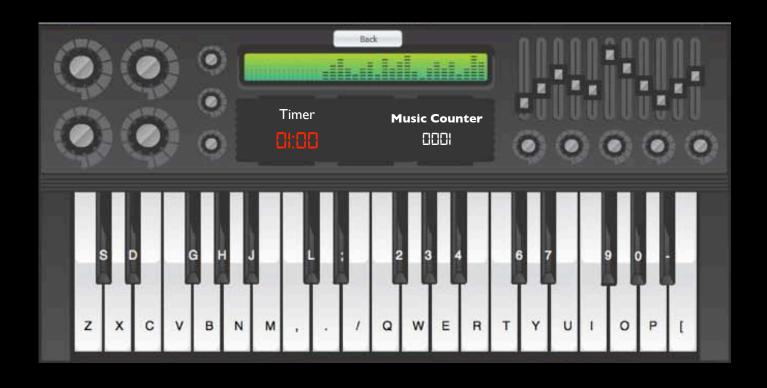






































































NID-HP-Vodafone Game Design Project

Multi Player Scenario

- The user has to select the instrument and join the band to create the music.
- The time is limited to 5 minutes for composing a music.
- Then members in the band can Listen & download the music to their phones.
- User Can Share Music to get rewards.

