

Wesam Manassra

6.813 HW2: Heuristic Evaluation – Traxx

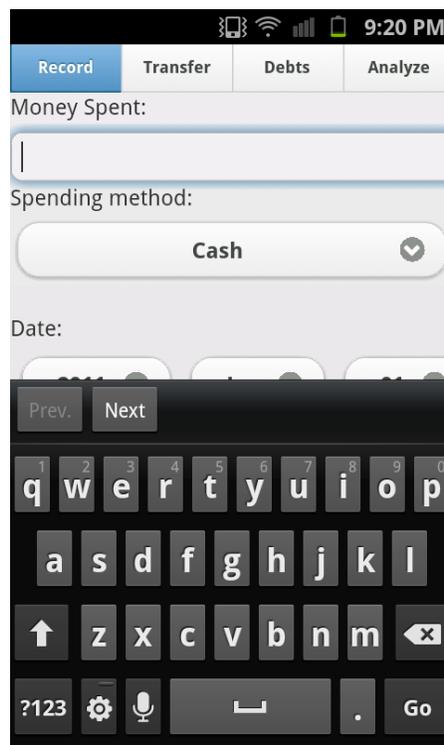
Evaluator's Platform: Windows 7, Chrome, Android 2.3.6

I. Application Wide Comments

1. Money related input text fields allow the users to enter non-number characters.

Severity: Minor

Heuristic: Error Prevention, Consistency and Standards



2. Currently, the user cannot delete nor update any spending item violating the CRUD principle of user interfaces. Thus, I suggest that you add appropriate buttons that would allow the users to delete, or edit any of their spending items.

Severity: Major

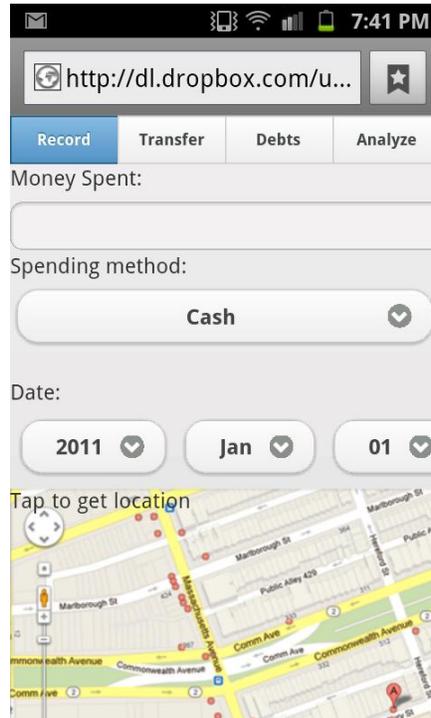
Heuristic: User Control and Freedom

II. Record Page Comments

3. The records page is very crowded: Labels and input fields are very close to the edges of the screen. Thus, in order to improve the readability of this page proper margin size should be used consistently all over the application

Severity: Minor

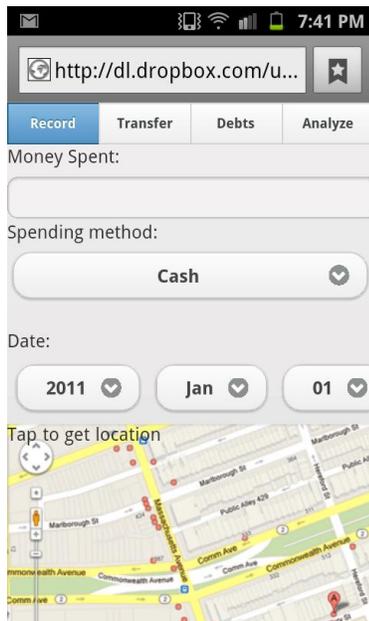
Heuristic: Graphics Design, aesthetics and minimalistic design



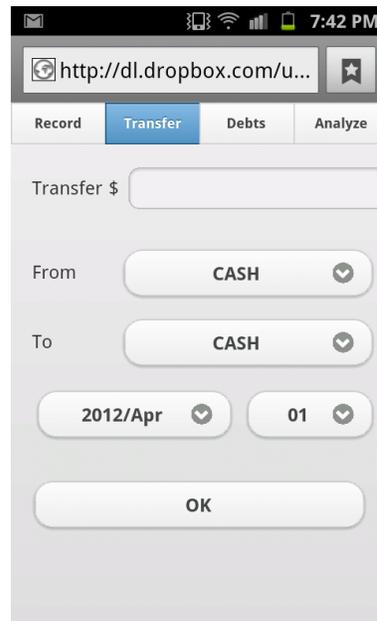
4. Labels and input fields are laid out vertically in the records page, while in it is laid out horizontally in the Transfers page. This inconsistency in the layout may affect the readability of UI elements and the aesthetics of the design.

Severity: Minor

Heuristics: Consistency and Standards, aesthetics and minimalistic design



Records Page (Vertical Layout)



Transfer Page (Horizontal Layout)

5. No information scent on input fields that deal with money. It would be expected to consistently have a dollar sign (\$) next to any input field where the user enters monetary values.

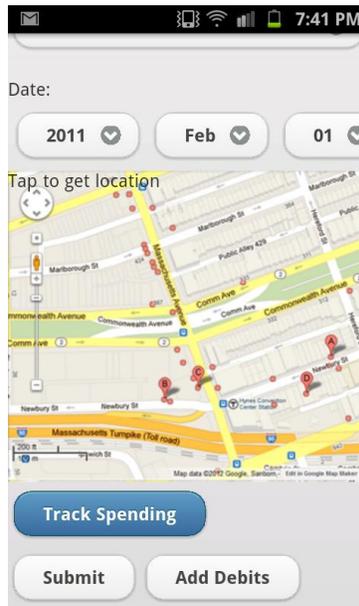
Severity: Minor

Heuristic: Visibility of the System Status

6. It is ambiguous what the “Track Spending” button does given that the map above it says “Tap to get location”. When it is clicked, however, an alert shows that the application is retrieving the user’s GPS location. This may create some description errors as some users may think that it saves their spending, while it actually retrieves their location. I suggest that you change it to “Track Location” or “Track Spending Location”, or provide a clearer description that matches the functionality of the map above it.

Severity: Major

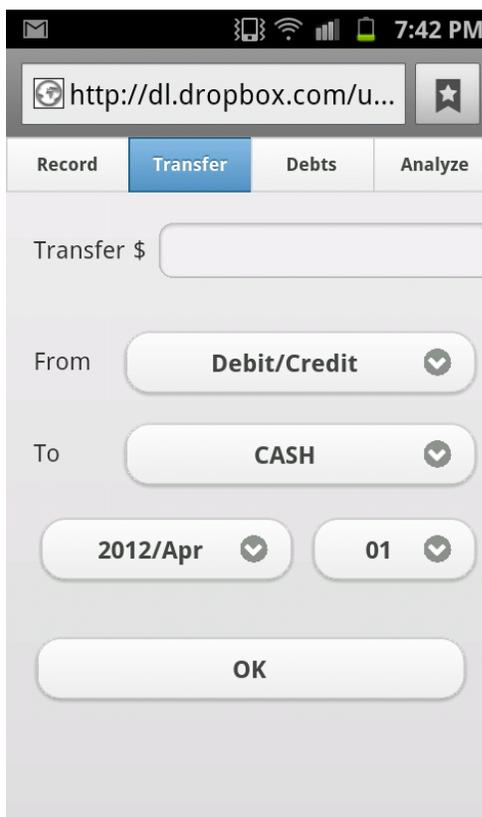
Heuristic: Consistency and standards, Error Prevention



7. In the Transfers page, the selection fields of the “from” transfers and the “to” transfers is not consistent with real world transactions. It would be much better if terms such as “Deposit” or “Withdrawal” are user since there are familiar to the user.

Severity: Minor

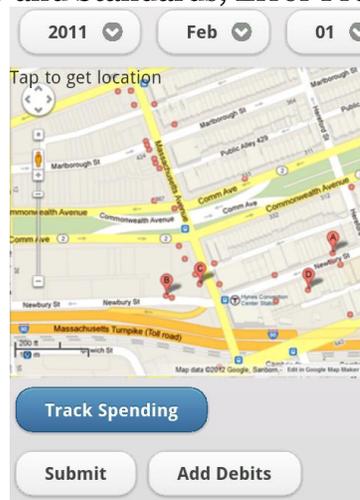
Heuristic: Match the Real World, Consistency and Standards



8. In the records page, the current layout of the buttons in the bottom of the page is very confusing to the user. It is unclear how “Submit” differs from “Add Debit”, and users may have different expectation of what each button does. I would suggest having one button “Submit” and a “Debit” checkbox that the user checks if the monetary transaction includes lending or borrowing.

Severity: Major

Heuristic: Consistency and Standards, Error Prevention

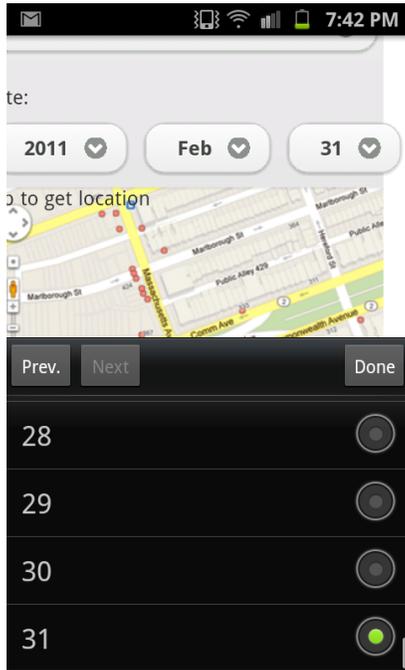


III. Transfer Page Comments

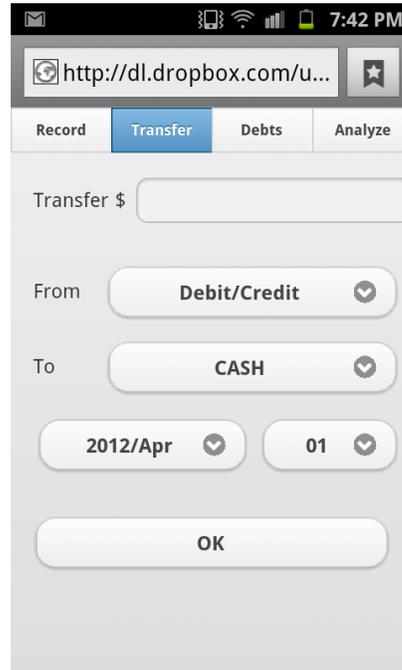
9. Date selection is inconsistent between the record page (Year, Month, Day) and the transfer page (Year/Month, Day). It would be better if a calendar like widget is used to enter the date, which provides the user with further flexibility and efficiency. Additionally, the current UI for entering dates does not prevent the user from entering invalid dates such as February 30th, and thus it lacks error prevention techniques

Severity: Minor

Heuristic: Consistency and Standards, Flexibility and Efficiency, Error Prevention



Record Page (Year, Month, Day)



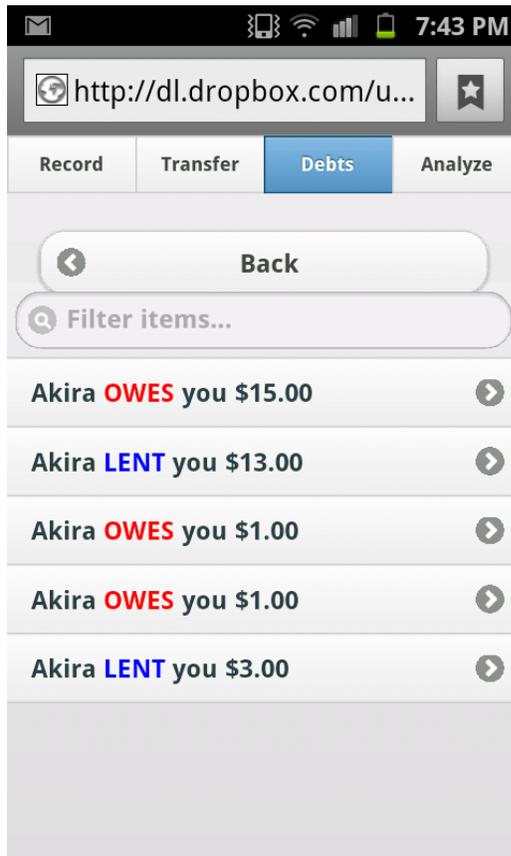
Transfer Page (Year/Month, Day)

IV. Debts Page Comments

10. The back button and the input field associated with filtering items are crowded at top. Perhaps you should consider creating some space between them to improve the scannability of the debts page. Even better, the back button can be placed in the bottom of the screen.

Severity: Minor

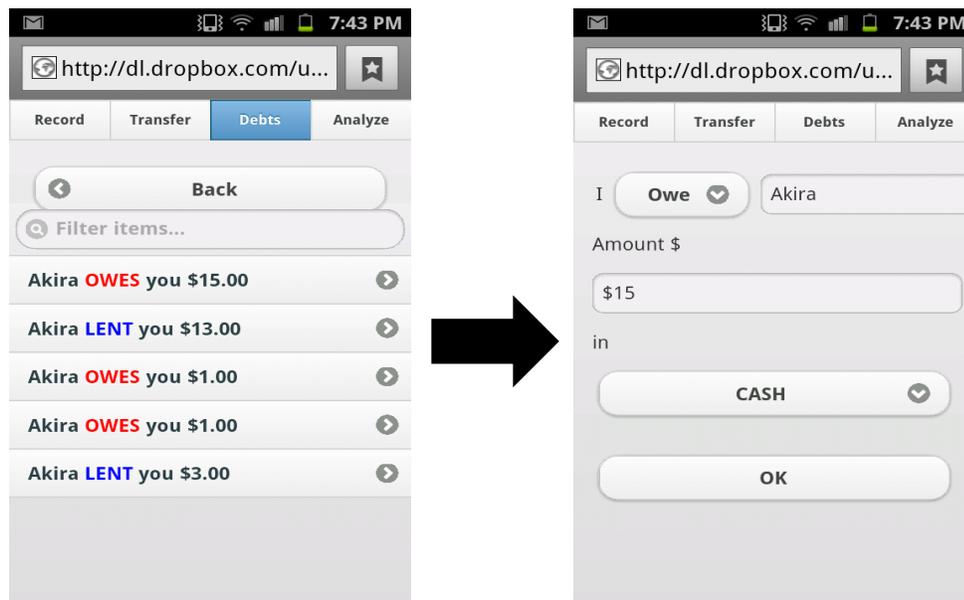
Heuristic: Aesthetic and Minimalist Design



11. Clicking on Debts and Spending (in Debts and Analyze pages) items directs user to the records and transfers pages accordingly prefilled with the item's monetary value indicating an editing process. This, however, is not clear the user and I suggest instead supplying a button or an icon that has an affordance of editing.

Severity: Minor

Heuristic: Error Prevention, Consistency and Standards.

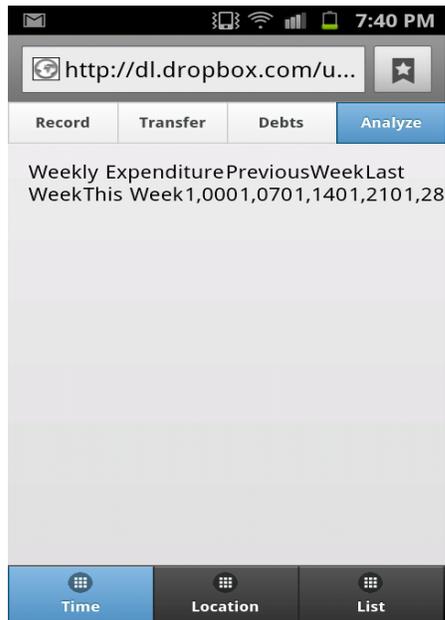


V. Analyze Page Comments

12. Time Analysis of spending in the Analysis page does not work when viewed in the browser of a mobile device.

Severity: Major

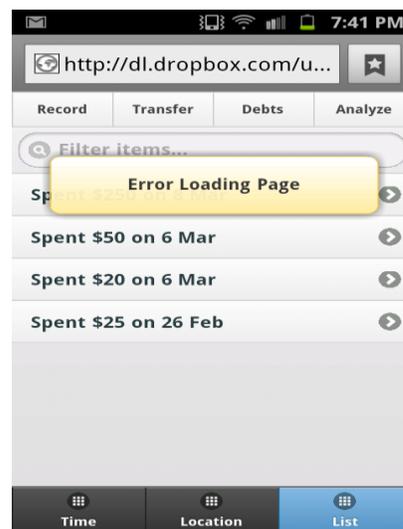
Heuristic: Consistency and Standards



13. The user cannot reach the Transfer tab when navigating from the Analyze Tab.

Severity: Minor

Heuristic: User Control and Freedom, Consistency and Freedom



14. In the “Analyze” tab in the “location” section, margins around the map are not consistent and the map does not cover the whole pane.

Severity: Major

Heuristics: Aesthetics and Minimalist Design

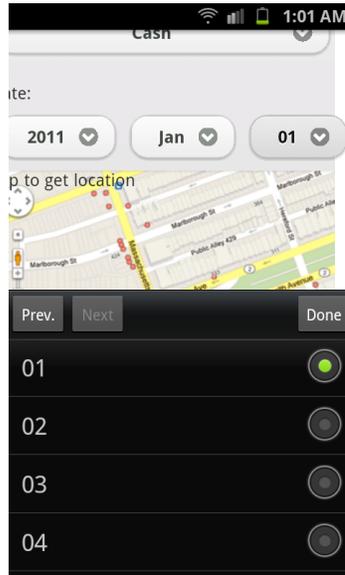


VI. Good Features

15. A great feature in my opinion was utilizing the mobile’s native UI elements when browsed in an Android phone while still maintain the same functionality when browsed from a regular desktop browser.

Severity: Good

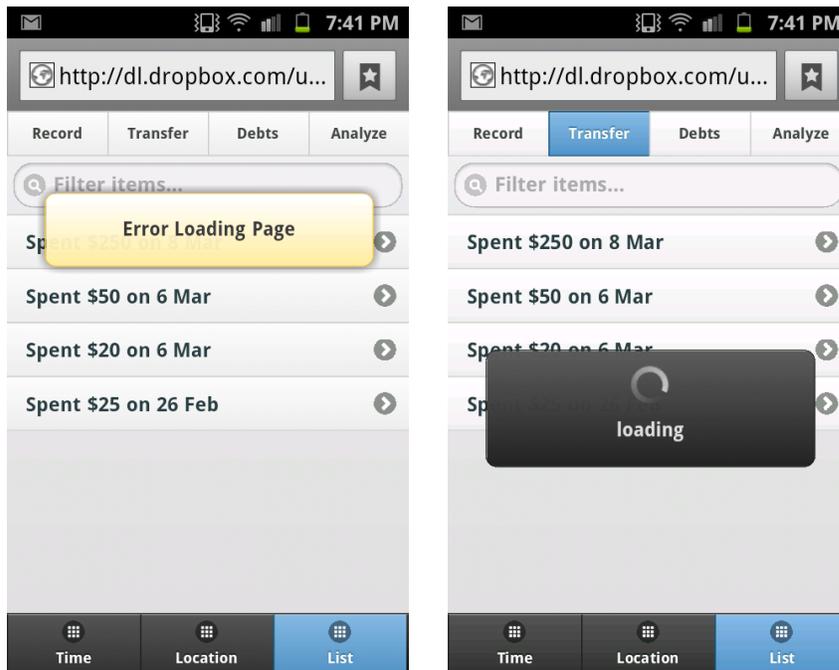
Heuristic: Consistency and Standards



16. Another great feature is the use of animation when moving from one page to another and when loading new content. Additionally, I noticed that when the broken link was clicked (as explained in the previous link), an error bubble appeared indicating that something wrong took place.

Severity: Good

Heuristic: Visibility of the System Status, Error Reporting, Diagnosis and Recovery



Examples of animation and feedback

17. The interface adapts horizontally when the mobile device is used in horizontal (landscape) layout

Severity: Good
Heuristic: Consistency and Standards

