Human-Computer Interaction

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TESTING PAPER PROTOTYPING
• Problem:
  – On one hand, you want to be able to get feedback from people as soon as you possibly can.
  – On the other, in order to be able to get that feedback you need to make something that works.
Wizard of Oz

A research experiment in which subjects interact with a computer system that subjects believe to be autonomous, but which is actually being operated or partially operated by an unseen human being
Wizard of Oz

• It makes sense when it is faster, cheaper and easier than building the real system

• Sometimes you can build an interface that people don’t even know is being powered by a wizard
Roles

• User:
  – Test the systems

• Facilitator:
  – Talks to the user
  – Provides instructions to the user
  – Collects information about the user

• Wizard of Oz:
  – Simulates interactive behaviour and machine functionality by manipulating the prototype
  – Does not talk to the user
Method

• Define scenarios:
  – Build a prototype for a limited set of functionality
  – Define some tasks

• Optional:
  – Apply think-aloud feedback: users using the prototype speak aloud what is going through their mind, what decisions they are making and why, what they are confused, etc.

• Practice with a friend before the real test