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6.813
HW 2

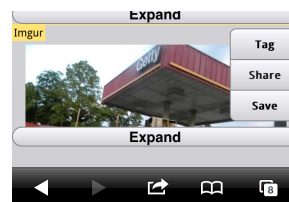Heuristic Evaluation

Reading - Heuristic Evaluation

- **Expand problem**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristics: visibility, aesthetics

  In many other applications, the message or image displayed is not chopped off midway down the post. In this case, seems that efficiency in searching for a post is improved by making posts shorter, but this method is not consistent with email applications or meme generators. Apart from consistency, it is not aesthetically pleasing to view cut off messages and pictures.
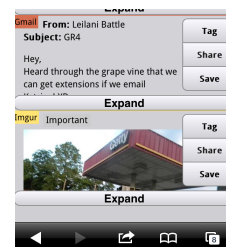
- **Tag, shared, and save buttons cover pictures**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristics: visibility

  Visibility of the image is reduced.

- **Visibility of Tags**
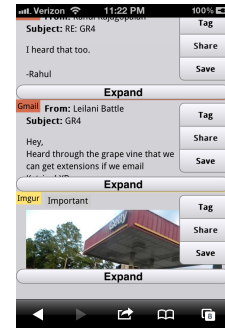 severity: *minor*
  heuristic: visibility

  It is hard to tell that "Important" is a tag here, even with its gray background. Users may not differentiate regular text and tags.

- **'back' consistency**
  severity: *major*
  heuristic: efficiency, consistency

  Whenever you leave the page via "tag" or hyperlink, hitting back does not go to the most recent post. It resets to the top of the list, and the user must search through the entire list again. Most other applications allow users to immediate view the part of the page they were most recently viewing.

- **Share, save buttons large and bolded**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: minimalist design

  GR4 says that the share and save buttons are not important for the three tasks, yet they are on equal importance to the tag function. Are they needed to be that large?

- **List of posts extension**
  severity: *major*
  heuristic: flexibility and efficiency

  How would 100+ posts be displayed? To go to post 150, the user would scroll to post 150.

Filtering - Heuristic Evaluation

- **Filtering button not visible**
  severity: *cosmetic*
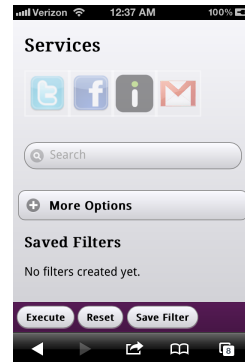 heuristic: visibility

  Users cannot immediately access the filter feature while reading later posts. Previous screenshots dictate this problem.

- **Cannot edit saved filters?**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: flexibility, error recovery, efficiency

  Users cannot effectively change a saved filter, they must create a new one
  entirely**.**

- **Execute / Reset errors**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: error prevention

  I accidentally hit reset instead of execute
  several times. Maybe put them on opposite
  sides of the screen?

- **Imgur/gmail/facebook/twitter errors**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: error prevention

  I also accidentally touched neighboring incorrect icons. The icons are very
  responsive and too close together.

- **Search box: file not found?**
  severity: *major*
  heuristic: learnability, help and documentation

  I could not figure out what the search box (shown above) was for. I tried
  searching for filters, but 'files were not found'. I could not find any instruction
  otherwise.

- **Filter list extension and visibility**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: visibility, recognition

  How does a user remember which saved filter was which? The user cannot
  remember what a filter did just by a simple tag name.

- **Filter instruction**
  severity: *cosmetic*
  heuristic: help and documentation, learnability

  How does novel user know what a filter does? There is only a name 'filter' that allows the user to guess what it does. The effect may not be immediately apparent.

Saving news items - Heuristic Evaluation

- **Deletion**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: flexibility

  In GR-1, one of the tasks was to organize posts. Should one be able to delete posts?

- **Saving**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: flexibility, feedback

  What exactly does 'Saved!' feedback mean? Is the post permanent once saved? How can the post be unsaved?

- **Mark as Read**
  severity: *minor*
  heuristic: visibility, recognition

  Should the user be able to mark posts as read? GR-1 said that users would have that ability. Visibility and recognition of relevant posts would improve.