

Brief Proposal: Scratch WiKi/Whiteboard for Academia

Anthony Y. Fu

Email: ayf@mit.edu

Affiliation: Dept. of CS, CityU of Hong Kong, and CSAIL, MIT, USA

Background

People here constantly have meetings. Seating in the meeting room around the table, everybody has a laptop/tablet, but they just draw on the whiteboard. After the meeting, everybody is busy typing the information on the whiteboard to computer. About 10 minutes later. They will leave. Some important information may have already been erased, so may not be typed in. All people are drawing on the same whiteboard and have to (1) stand up, (2) go to the board, (3) draw/write something, (4) next to (1). Problems turn out: the color pens are out of ink, drawings are bad looking, unrecognizable words, error spelling, physical-energy consuming, time consuming (draw-erase-draw, typing info from whiteboard to computer, standup-go-come-seatdown), other people will give way to the walker if room is crowded.

How does it Work

People have done a lot of scratch recognition. It could be a good idea to implement into a tool like wiki for Academia Meeting use? For instance, after seating down, open the laptop/tablets, using scratch tool to draw and type in the information while spelling errors will be checked online. People use different color to represent themselves. There are insert, delete, redo and undo functions implemented, so you can easily revise your input. The meeting voices could even be recorded. The process of the virtual whiteboard can be replayed. Easy to save into file and the summarizing function can be used to generate meeting cahier automatically. We can also use speech summery module to generate the cahier.

How do you think? I just think the prototype will not be difficult to be implemented. Personally, I would like to have one tool like this and also it could become a “killer application” in universities. It is just for fun for me, but I think it is interesting idea for the CHI research people.