

Supervisor's opinion of master thesis

Privacy management system for specific user groups using ICT

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Topic

The master thesis aimed to analyze the privacy issues connected to the usage of ICT by older adults and to design and implement a solution that will tackle them.

Solution

The student researched existing literature analyzing older adult, their interaction with ICT, and related issues. This research was conducted in cooperation with Dr. Lynsay Shepherd, member of Division of Cyber Security at Abertay University, focusing on human-centered security. Based on these consultations, the list of key privacy and security issues were identified.

The analysis of existing solutions in the field of privacy and security is rather brief but sufficient. However, I am missing a summary with an evaluation of the pros and cons and lessons learned for future design.

During the design phase, scenarios and use cases were defined. The scenarios are brief and missing narrative dimension essential for it. The high-level concept of the future system is very interesting and innovative. The introduction of "alternative-identity" is a promising concept for solving privacy issues. Another interesting idea is the usage of USB flash drive as a metaphor for a physical key used for authentication. Finally, the idea to build its own controlled desktop environment seems to be an approach to protect the user from various malware and other cyber attacks from the internet environment. Moreover, the accessibility of the user interface can be better controlled and adapted to the user needs, which is for the selected target group very important.

During the implementation of the designed system student solved several non-trivial software engineering issues and thus has shown the ability to implement a complex software solution.

The final implementation was tested in the form of usability tests with real users from the target group. The test results indicate that the chosen design and its implementation is viable and goes in the right direction.

Based on these results, we decided together with Dr. Shepherd to offer Mr. Maccocian a double degree Ph.D. study opportunity.

The text, unfortunately, contains not a small number of misspellings and grammatical errors.

Final statement

I have no crucial objection against the quality of this master thesis.

I evaluate this thesis with classification grade **B (very good)**.

Prague, 6. 6. 2019

doc. Ing. Zdeněk Míkovec, Ph.D.