



DEVELOPING DIVERSE PERSONAS FOR CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY

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At a glance



Background

Perceptions of technology, motor skills and cognitive behaviour are some key factors that vary between people of different ages. As such, children and elderly users interact differently with the same software interfaces.



Goal

Better understand the characteristics of children and elderly users that influence their interactions with software.



Strategies

Conduct a systematic literature review of personas of children and the elderly to understand their unique characteristics.

Develop an automated tool for persona generation and evaluation.

Key outcomes



Literature review

A total of 39 papers were reviewed to collect 59 personas of elderly people and children.



Identified facets

Through our research, we identified facets for children with special needs: Interaction with technology and general characteristics.

Facets for elderly users were: Technical proficiency, interaction with technology, technology expectations and general characteristics.



Web-based tool

Based on our findings, we developed a tool to generate personas for children and elderly users.

Summary of findings



Technology usage proficiency of the elderly users are leveled as “low”, “moderate” and “advanced” category.



Some elderly users are “welcoming” to new technology whereas some has “minimal” interests.



Elderly users expect the technology to be “comfortable”, “interesting” and “be familiar with elderly traits”.



Software designed for special needs children should consider their unique needs.



Automated persona generated by our tool are very detailed, dot point presentation with graphics would be better.

Learn more

Contact the [HumaniSE Lab](#) or scan the QR code.



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