



Abschlussvortrag Diplomarbeit

Party Jukebox: Supporting co-located music consumption in a public environment

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Agenda

- Goals
- Related work
- Project thesis „Party Jukebox“
- Concepts
- Implementation
- User Studies
- Conclusion and Future Work



Goals

- Support group playlist generation in a public environment
- Allow interaction with mobile devices
- Intuitive, easy to understand interface and visualization
- Test under realistic conditions
 - practical environment
 - no pre-determined restrictions



Related Work

- FlyTrap
 - Music selection based on previously collected data, no user interaction needed
- MusicFX
 - Based on pre-set preferences
 - Tested in fitness center environment
- AmbientDJ
 - Separate client on users phone to determine preferences



Related Work: PartyVote

- Developed by Sprague et. al.
- Map-based interface
- No wireless access
- Unintuitive interface

The screenshot displays the PartyVote interface, which consists of a map-based interface on the left and a song list on the right. The map shows a cluster of points representing songs, with a tooltip for 'The End (2:19)' by The Beatles. The tooltip includes the following information:

- The End (2:19)
- The Beatles
- Abbey Road
- Genre: Pop
- weight: 0.13
- Bill: 0.03; Scott: 1.1; Pete: 10.02

The song list on the right shows 147 songs available, with a search bar and a 'Vote' button. The interface is annotated with green numbers 1 through 6, indicating specific features:

- 1: Artist selection radio button
- 2: Song list
- 3: Vote button
- 4: Search bar
- 5: Play button
- 6: Song details tooltip

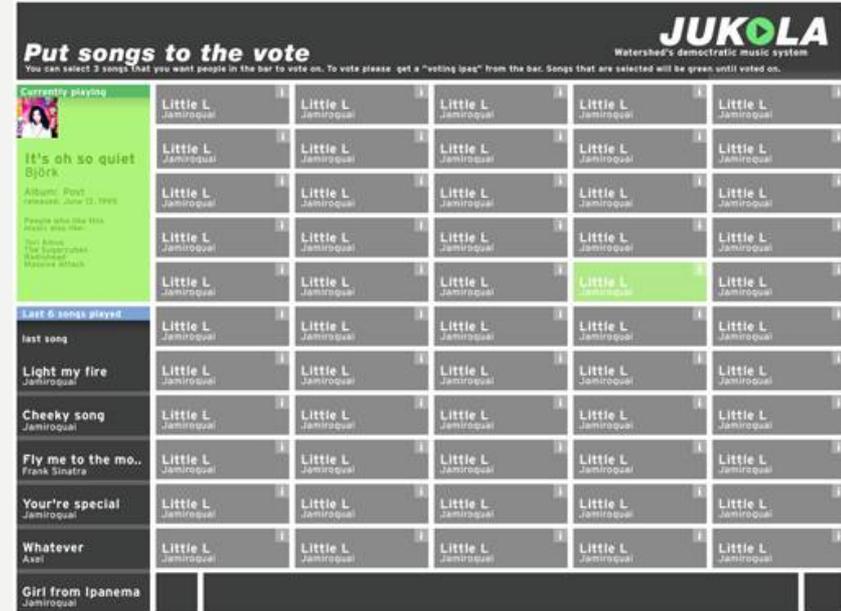
At the bottom of the screenshot, the following information is displayed:

Pete: 0.03; 6 Song: Rockin' The Suburbs | Artist: Ben Folds | Album: Rockin' The Suburbs | Genre: Alternative & Punk | Total Vote Weight: 1.14 | User Vote Weight: Amy: 0.04: 59



Related Work: Jukola

- Tested in a café bar
- Uses pre-installed devices
- List-based interface



Jukola [1]

Project Thesis: Party Jukebox

- Focused on playlist generation and visualization
 - 2 different generation methods (DJ mode, voting mode)
 - visualization:
artist map



Party Jukebox [3]



Concept development: User discussion

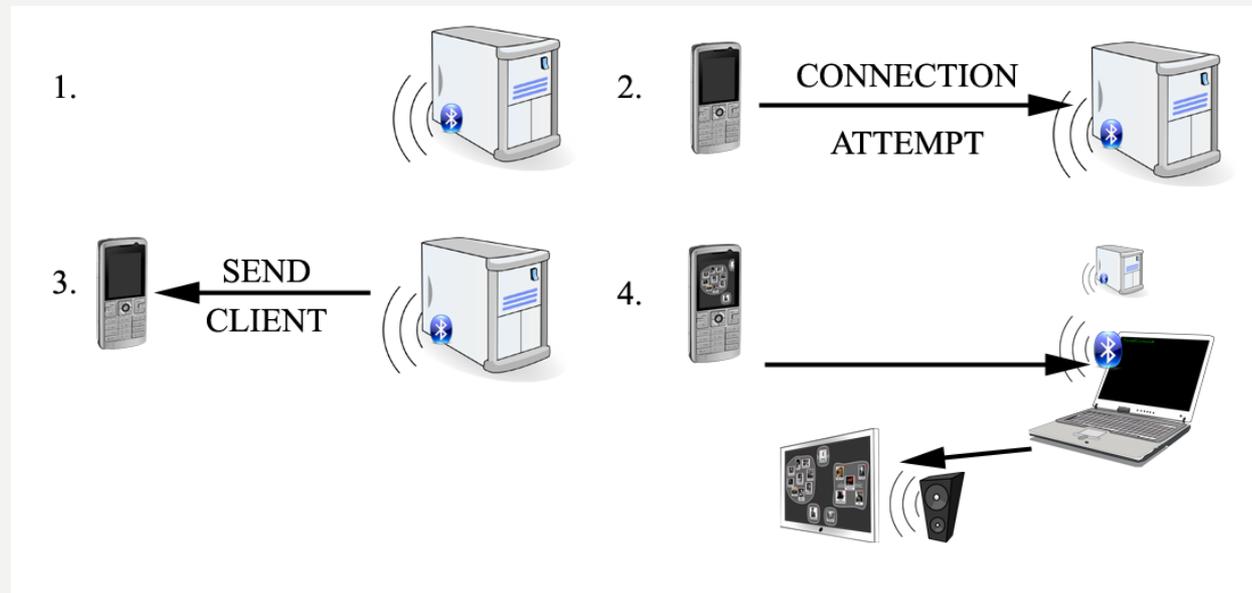
- Interview sessions in the Unilounge
- Open discussion with paper prototype of interaction concepts
- Results:
 - artist map visually appealing
 - usefulness of text list
 - „laid back“ interaction preferred
 - no security concerns





First Concept: Separate Client, Bluetooth

- Separate client, distributed via Bluetooth server
- Client shows artist map identical to public screen





First concept: Separate client, Bluetooth

- Problems:
- Not-authorized connections only partially implemented in Bluetooth-stack
- JavaME not platform independent
→ multiple clients needed may confuse the user
- High computational cost for artist map on most phones



Second concept: WLAN, web interface

- Display web interface in mobile browsers
- Use WLAN to facilitate wireless communication
 - no incompatibilities
 - no additional client required



Implementation: WLAN / web interface 1

- Web interface:
 - HTML, images
 - no Javascript
 - has to transmit data back (→ POST)
- A server is needed for distributing the interface and receiving data from users



Implementation: WLAN / web interface 2

- Server: only processes HEAD, GET, POST
- Data received from users has to be transmitted to Party Jukebox application
 - Implemented as part of Party Jukebox application
 - uses Java networking / socket operations
 - threaded to allow multi-user access



Implementation: changes to the original Party Jukebox application

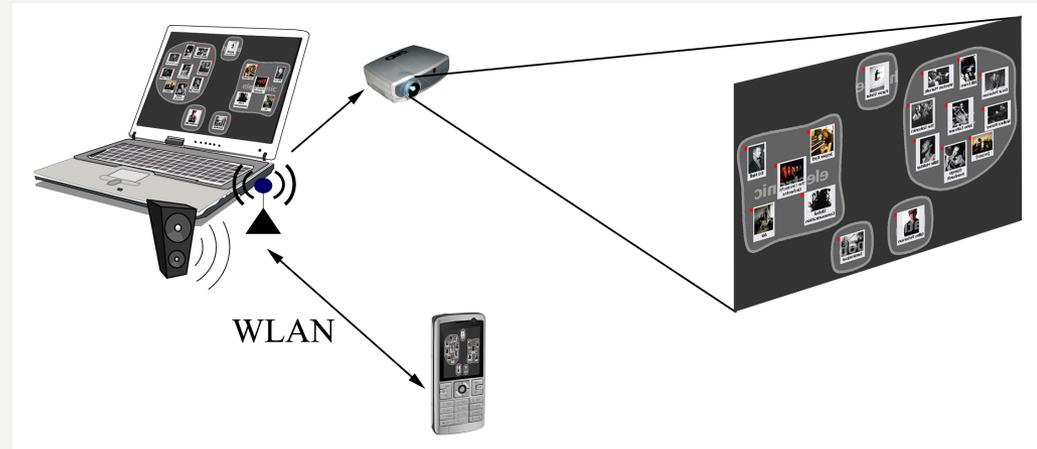
Additional changes needed:

- Reduce reliance on Last.fm API
- Include alternative to streaming media
 - Playlist generation needed to be refactored
- Allow usage of local audio files
- Use tag data to identify audio files
- Media playback



User Study: Laboratory Study

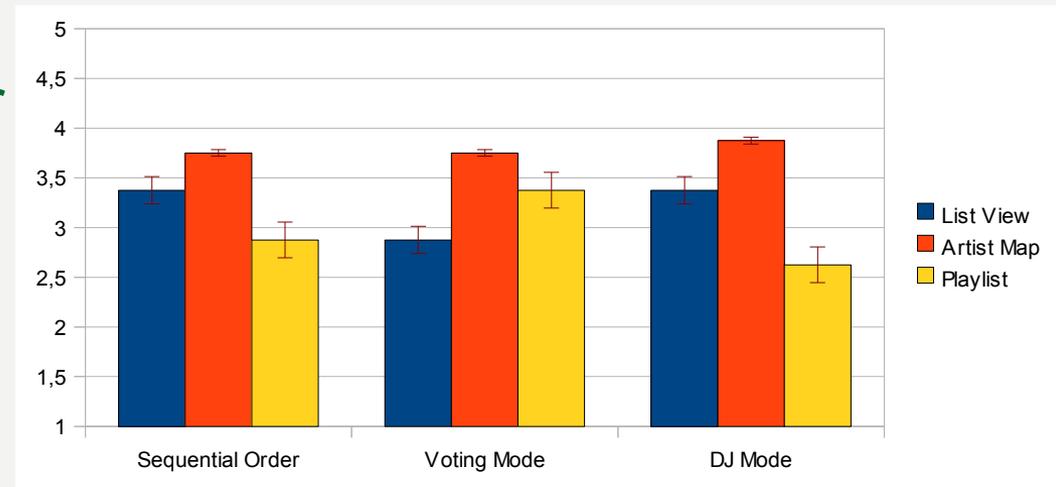
- Performed under controlled conditions
 - 8 participants
 - music collection similar to Unilounge
- Focus:
 - evaluate interface and playlist generation modes
 - evaluate system performance





Results

- Interface: generally appreciated
- Playlist generation: sequential and voting mode preferred
- System performance:
 - internal web server unable to handle multiple requests
 - incompatibilities with different browsers





Modification: switch to Apache Tomcat

- Internal web server replaced by an external, dedicated web server
- Data received from user is extracted and transferred to Party Jukebox application
 - Apache Tomcat servlet container
 - Servlet for extraction and transmission of data
 - Transmission of data using `awt.datatransfer`
 - Improved performance
 - Easier data extraction

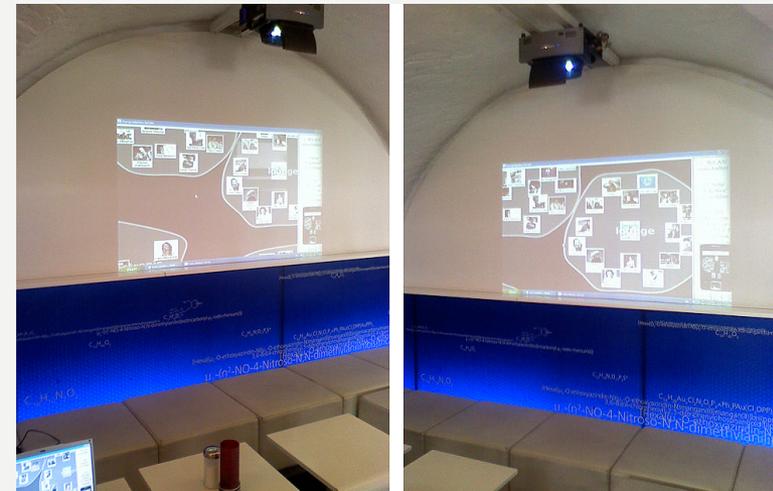


User Study: Unilounge test

- Realistic conditions / live environment
 - 5,5 hours
 - Music collection equal to usual playlist
 - No direct invitation to customers
- Evaluate impact and customer reception
 - Qualitative data: interviews
 - Quantitative data: logs



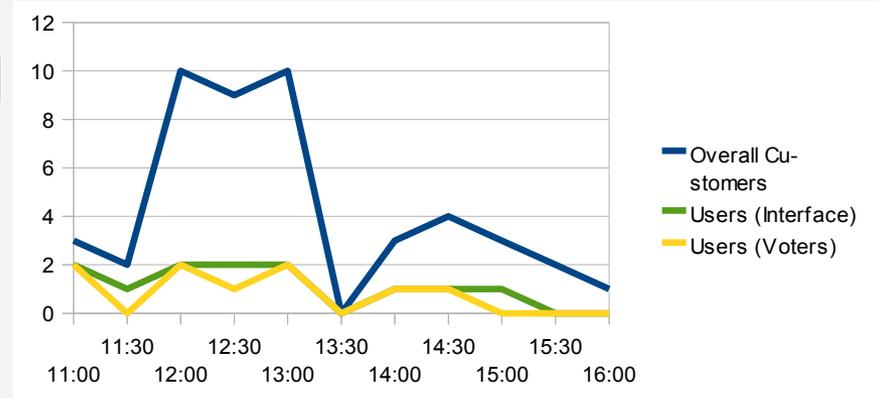
Unilounge [4]





User Study: Unilounge test

- Results:
 - About 20% of customers used the system
 - Generally well received
- Reasons for not participating:
 - Lack of WLAN device
 - Not interested in the application
 - Collection of artists (uninteresting / unknown artists)





Implications

- Overall favorable reception of the concept
- Biggest hinderance: lack of WLAN device
- Application under different circumstances may increase user participation
- Adjusting music collection may increase user participation



Conclusion and Future Work

- Development of an application to support co-located playlist generation, tested in a practical environment
- Complete transfer to web application (→ „captive portal“)
- Long-term, in-depth studies in different venues
- Privacy of user information
- Increase user awareness
- Allow different (mobile) devices



Thank you for your attention!



References

- [1]: O'Hara, Lipson, Jansen, Unger, Jeffries, Macer: Jukola: Democratic Music Choice in a Public Space
- [2]: Sprague, Wu, Tory: Music Selection Using The PartyVote Democratic Jukebox
- [3]: Berwein: Party Jukebox: Support Group Playlist Generation In A Public Environment
- [4]: Unilounge: <http://www.unilounge-muenchen.de/>