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User experience driven design of the Helmholtz KG User Interface

User experience (UX) is a critical component when developing an intuitive and informative user interface (UI). According to Garrets 5 elements of UX Design [1] development should orient as per the needs and requirements of use cases and users.

The Helmholtz Knowledge Graph (Helmholtz KG) is being developed since late 2022, as a light-weight interoperability layer between Helmholtz Infrastructures. It aims to connect Helmholtz (meta-)data, which is currently stored in a disconnected and silo-ed fashion within the infrastructures of the respective centers. With aggregating information about Helmholtz's digital assets we intend to increase data findability and offer their full value to scientists, strategists and administrators, in and outside of the association.

In order to create a suitable user interface, we started requirement engineering by defining stakeholders, sketch fictive use cases and extract potential requirements from this exercise. Our first UI, based on these requirements, went online (link) in 10/2023 and provides an easy and systematic access to the data currently in the graph.

In our poster we will present the current state of the Helmholtz KG UI, and how its components relate to the 5 elements of UX Design. We will further give an outlook of our recently started second phase of requirement engineering that includes our stakeholders directly. For this, we conducted multiple structured workshops to establish feedback from differing stakeholder group in our communities. This allows us, to corroborate our work from the initial phase as well as, identify new features for further development. The structure of the workshop was based on the tools and methods available under Service Design [2], extending on the previously mentioned UX design principles.

[1] The Elements of User Experience: User-centered Design for the Web and Beyond. (2011). United Kingdom: New Riders.

[2] Stickdorn, M., Hormess, M. E., Lawrence, A., Schneider, J. (2018). This Is Service Design Doing. United States: O'Reilly Media.

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