

Surveyor 2

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March 3, 2016

Problems to Solve

- clickers in classroom - want to replace with cell phones, tablets and laptops and free software
- faculty-wide surveys - replace SurveyMonkey
- periodic surveys for IT and other service organizations - do we want to be associated with Survey Monkey?

Considerations

- cell phones are very popular, our technology should embrace small form factor of phones
- should look good on all platforms
- should be consistent on all platforms - no bias
- should be no additional cost to students, faculties
- should be small and fast enough for Cell or Wifi
- ability to revisit/change answers until a deadline

More Considerations

- ability to specify a survey password (eg. announce in class)
- ability to set start and end date/time
- ability to specify groups (active directory)
- summaries - in-class on cell, and spreadsheet
- ability to specify a URL leading directly to survey

Version 1

- met most of the considerations, but a little bit sluggish and plain-looking
- was used by about 25 professors
- showed potential, feedback for improvements
- Eng. Dean's office wanted to do a big survey

Version 2 - Feb. 2016

- rebuilt to use advances in last few years
- faster, prettier, more refined, very professional
- intuitive student interface
- greatly improved the administrator's interface too
- open to all UWaterloo employees to create surveys

Overview

- each page is a *slide* with a question and possible answers
- four types of slides
 - single choice answers
 - multiple choice answers
 - text answers (harder to do on cell phones)
 - no answer - useful for section headings

Compatibility

- all modern JavaScript capable phones (iPhone, Blackberry 10, Android tested)
- all popular web browsers on Mac and PC tested
- outputs CSV for Excel, OS/X Numbers, etc.

Network Considerations

- Single Web Page loads once, about 1 MB download including graphics, and a kilobyte per question
- modest network requirements
- fast on Cellular and Wifi networks
- current answer saved on each page change, in case technologies break, or time limit exceeded
- may specify survey in URL

Faculty/Staff

- survey creation ability for all Waterloo employees
- training video available on YouTube.be
- onscreen instructions and intuitive interface
- their input has been essential for version 2



Demo

A demo is worth a thousand words... if it works