DEVICE, METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR LOGGING THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS

No. 35

Citizen

[75] Artist: **Antoinette J. Citizen**

[21] Invention No: 35

[22] Filed: 17/10/2011

[23] Edits: 14/11/2011

ABSTRACT

A method for logging thoughts and actions is disclosed, in which the artist or other user makes daily loggings of two to five variables using an electronic device. The data collected is transmitted in real time via an intermediary device to a pie chart system displaying the relative results. The device, method and system are intended to be utilised over a pre-specified time period, where the artist or other user logs a different set of variables each day.

4 drawings

FIGURE 1

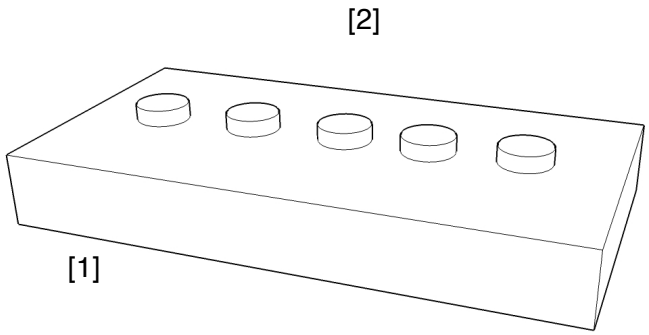


FIGURE 2

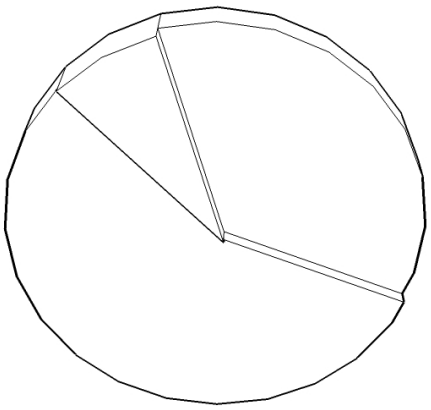


FIGURE 3

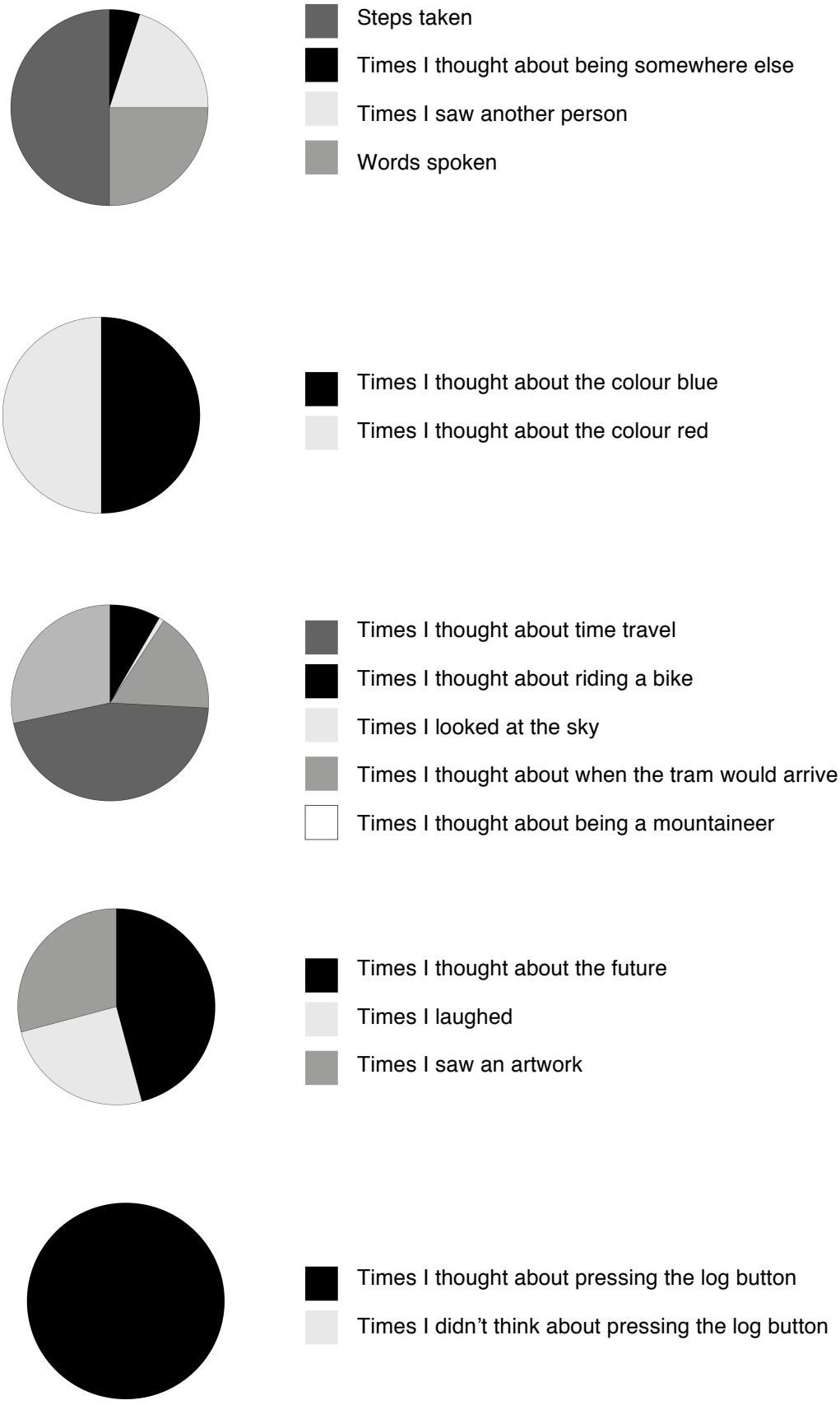
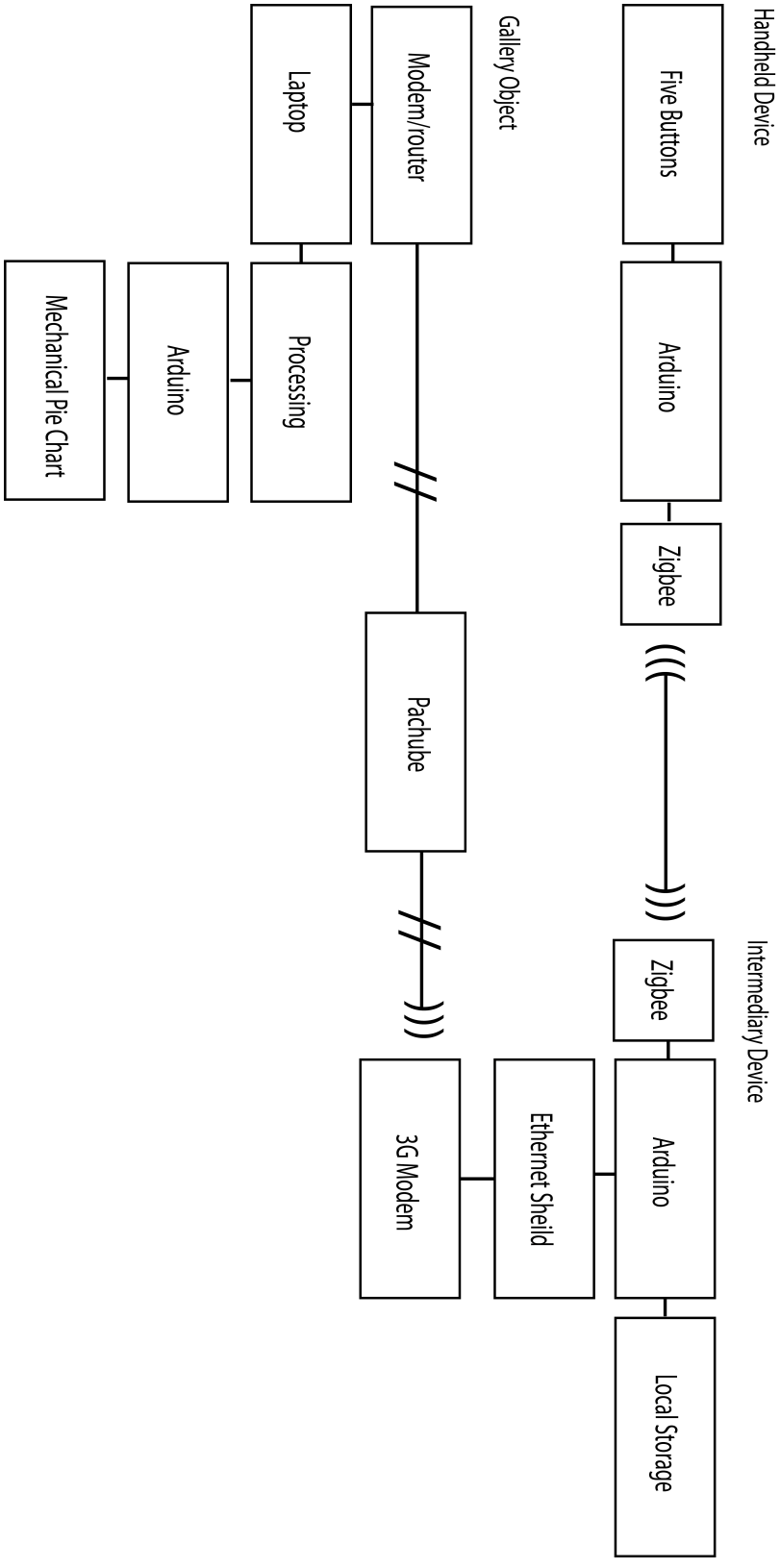

Steps taken
Times I thought about being somewhere else
Times I saw another person
Words spoken
Times I thought about the colour blue
Times I thought about the colour red
Times I thought about time travel
Times I thought about riding a bike
Times I looked at the sky
Times I thought about when the tram would arrive
Times I thought about being a mountaineer
Times I thought about the future
Times I laughed
Times I saw an artwork
Times I thought about pressing the log button
Times I didn't think about pressing the log button

FIGURE 4


Handheld Device
Five Buttons
Arduino
Zigbee
Intermediary Device
Zigbee
Arduino
Ethernet Sheild
3G Modem
Local Storage
Pachube
Gallery Object
Modem/router
Laptop
Processing
Arduino
Mechanical Pie Chart

DEVICE, METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR LOGGING THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

[001] The present invention is related to the current practice of individuals using technology to collect and analyse their own personal data in an attempt to quantify the self.

[002] The relativity recent field of self data-acquisition through personal informatics technologies is umbrellaed under several different terms, a few being *Life Logging*, *Self-Tracking or the Quantified Self* - adopted after the foremost networking site on personal informatics 'The Quantified Self: Self-knowledge through Numbers'. Life loggers record and archive extensive amounts of information about their own lives. The information collected ranges from health related data (heart rate, weight, calorie intake, sleep patterns etc) to location tracking, time based records (time spent at work, home, travelling, showering etc) or any quantifiable activity the person wishes to record.

[003] While forms of *Life-Caching* (personal information in the form of writing or photos that are made publicly available on the web) or *Sousveillance/Life-Casting* (continual streams of first person video or audio) may fall within this field, this invention relates to technologies that seek to 'quantify' specific actions or behaviours.

[004] The availability of powerful portable computing devices has increased dramatically in the past few years. The availability and low cost of these technologies has made data logging and analysis available to individuals where previously they were restricted to laboratory environments. Web based servers such as *Pachube*, and *Your.Data.Flow* have opened up possibilities in the field of the 'internet of things'. This relates directly to life-logging technologies as it has enabled methods for life-loggers to track personal data whilst continuing with daily living.

[005] The present invention takes the method of using an Internet enabled device to transmit, update and analyze data in real time. However in its preferred embodiment it separates the user from the display of the quantified data, whereby the user is only privy to the input device and not the display system.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[006] The present invention relates generally to digital methods artists have used to track data of personal life experiences.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

[007] The invention relates to a method and means to obtain personal data about thoughts and actions of the artist or other user. The invention more particularly relates to a device and system for logging this data and subsequently displaying this data in a different location in real time. The invention can log up to 5 thought and action variables on any given day.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[008] FIG. 1 Depicts a hand held device for logging data.

[1] Rectangle ABS enclosure to hold electronic components.

[2] Five different coloured pushbuttons mounted within [1].

[009] FIG. 2 Depicts the electric-mechanical system for displaying collected data in the form of a pie chart. This figure will be updated in future edits of the document.

[010] FIG. 3 Examples of the potential variables that may be used each day.

[011] FIG. 4 Outlines the communication method from the hand held device [FIG. 1] to the electric-mechanical system [FIG. 2] through an intermediary device .

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

[012] The present invention comprises three parts; a handheld device, an intermediary device, electric-mechanical system for display, and a method for use.

[013] The handheld device (FIG1) features five coloured buttons [2] enclosed in a small rectangular ABS case [1]. The user selects between two and five

variables to log at the beginning of each day. These variables are chosen at the discretion of the user and may be any personal activity, thought or action that could possibly be encountered in that day. FIG 3 provides a series of examples of different variables. Variables within the same day do not need to have a direct correlation; they can comprise a mixture of thoughts and actions of completely unrelated topics. Each variable is assigned to a button and the user can then press the corresponding button when the variable is encountered.

[014] The handheld device transmits the button selection to the intermediary device through the zigbee protocol. The handheld device does not store any information about the button presses unless there is a communication error between the hand held device and the intermediary device. In the case of an error, the handheld device will tally the button presses until it resumes communication with the intermediary device.

[015] (FIG 4) The intermediary devices is comprised of a zigbee to receive data from the hand held device, a microcontroller with wifi or Ethernet shield and a 3G mobile modem. The microcontroller transmits the collected data to a server to collate the information. The intermediary device also contains a micro SD card for storing the information collected.

[016] The pie chart (FIG. 2) is a wooden electric-mechanical system. Details on the mechanics of this system to be added in future updates. The pie chart is updated when it receives information that the user has inputted new data. It uses a computer running a Processing application to access the collected data from the server. Processing is then used to update the pie chart relative to its current position.

[017] The intermediary device and the hand held device is carried by the artist or the other user for a specified period of time. While it is to be determined by the user, the suggested time period is for longer than one month and up to a year. The user should commit to daily loggings for the specified time period before proceeding with using the device.

[018] The pie chart system is to be displayed at a gallery or other public space. It is to be mounted upon a wall or using a supporting vertical structure close to the wall. An optional interface to allow viewers to scroll through previous pie chart loggings can be made available but is not disclosed within this document.