



EBSCO EDS Usability Report

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Product Introduction

EBSCO by EDS (Branded as Simmons Library Search)

Summon by Proquest (Branded as Tufts JumboSearch)

Simmons Library Search (EDS by EBSCO)

To
7:3
Via



Keyword

Search Create Alert

Simmons Library Home

Basic Search Advanced Search Search History

Refine Results

Current Search

Find all my search terms:

california drought

Expanders

Also search within the full text of the articles

Limiters

Simmons Library Collection

Limit To

- Full Text
- Peer Reviewed
- Simmons Library Collection

1802 Publication Date 2015

Show More Options set

Search Results: 1 - 20 of 146,148

Relevance Page Options Share

1. Causes of the 2011-14 California Drought*



Academic Journal

By: Seager, Richard; Hoerling, Martin; Schubert, Siegfried; Wang, Hailan; Lyon, Bradfield; Kumar, Arun; Nakamura, Jennifer; Henderson, Naomi. *Journal of Climate*. Sep2015, Vol. 28 Issue 18, p6997-7024. 28p. 1 Chart, 4 Graphs, 11 Maps. DOI: 10.1175/JCLI-D-14-00860.1.

Subjects: DROUGHTS; OCEAN temperature; PRECIPITATION variability; CALIFORNIA; EL Nino Current; LA Nina Current; CALIFORNIA -- Climate

Show all 16 images



PDF Full Text (11MB)

2. THE INTERNET VERSUS THE GREAT CALIFORNIA DROUGHT.



Periodical

By: TILLEY, AARON. *Forbes*. 7/20/2015, Vol. 196 Issue 1, p84-92. 5p. 5 Color Photographs. Database: Business Source Complete

Subjects: Plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies merchant wholesalers; Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors; Farm and Garden Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers; Metal valve manufacturing; Other Metal Valve and Pipe Fitting Manufacturing; INTERNET of things; DROUGHTS - California; DETECTORS; WATER use; SPRINKLERS

HTML Full Text

Like 31



Tufts JumboSearch (Summon by Proquest)

Tufts User Off Campus? Log in to access full text and more content.

Tufts Libraries Feedback Help English

Tufts california drought Search

225,882 results sorted by [relevance](#)

REFINE YOUR SEARCH

- Any
 - Full Text Online
 - Scholarly & Peer-Review
 - Peer-Review
 - Library Catalog

CONTENT TYPE

- Any
 - Book / eBook
 - Journal Article
 - Government...
 - Magazine A...
 - Dissertation
 - More...

DISCIPLINE

- Any
 - history & ar...
 - economics
 - agriculture
 - ecology
 - languages ...

1. Revisiting the recent California drought as an extreme value
by Robeson, Scott M
Geophysical Research Letters, 08/2015, Volume 42, Issue 16
[Permalink](#)
Spatially weighted averages of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) over central and southern California show that the 1...

2. California drought worst in the past millennium
by Fahrenkamp-Uppenbrink, J
Science, 02/2015, Volume 347, Issue 6222
[Permalink](#)
Journal Article: [Full Text Online](#)

3. California Drought
Space Daily, 02/2014
[Permalink](#)
... for this time of the year." The drought is so

Read Online Cite Email

Revisiting the recent **California drought** as an extreme value
by Robeson, Scott M
Spatially weighted averages of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) over central and southern California show that the 1 year 2014 drought was not as severe as previously reported, but it still is the most severe in the 1895–2014 instrumental record. Using the typical adjustment procedure that matches the mean and standard deviation of tree ring PDSI values to those of instrumental data shows over 10 droughts from 800 to 2006 that were more severe than the 1 year 2014 drought, with the 2014 drought having a return period of 140–180 years. Quantile mapping allows for a closer correspondence between instrumental and tree ring PDSI probability distributions and produces return periods of 700–900 years for the 1 year 2014 drought. Associated cumulative 3 and 4 year droughts, however, are estimated to be much more severe. The 2012–2014

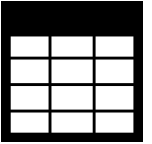
Test Objectives

1. Compare functionality and usability of EDS and Summon
2. Use Summon as a competitive benchmark
3. Identify specific usability problems with EDS
4. Assess user preferences and satisfaction
5. Create recommendations for improvement

Usability Testing Sessions

- Pre-Session Questions
- Test Scenario
 - Undergraduate first-year researching the causes/impacts of drought in California.
- Tasks
 - Basic Search and Resource Selection
 - Limiting Results
 - Advanced Search
 - Known Item Search (search for a specific resource)
- Post Task Questions
- Post Session Questions

Other Methods Used to Evaluate Usability



- Heuristic Evaluation
- Content Inventory
 - Wireframing

Demographics



First-year undergraduate Simmons students



Health sciences heavily represented (6 of 7)



Diversity of user behavior patterns and preferences observed

Data Processing, Measurements and Analysis

Effectiveness

- Task Completion Rate
- Task Error Rate

Efficiency

- Time on Task
- Mouse Clicks

Satisfaction

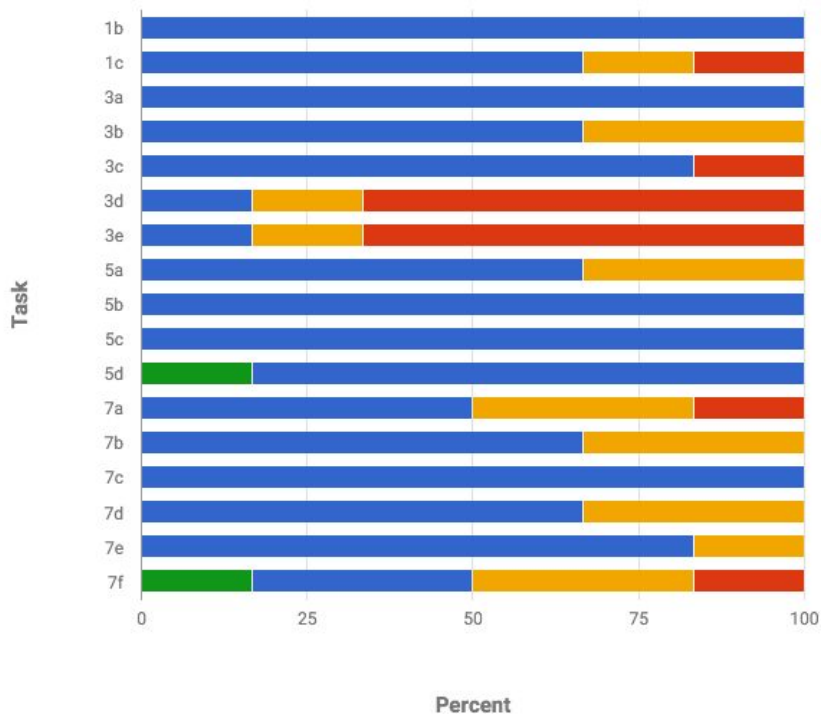
- 7 point Likert scale

Limitations

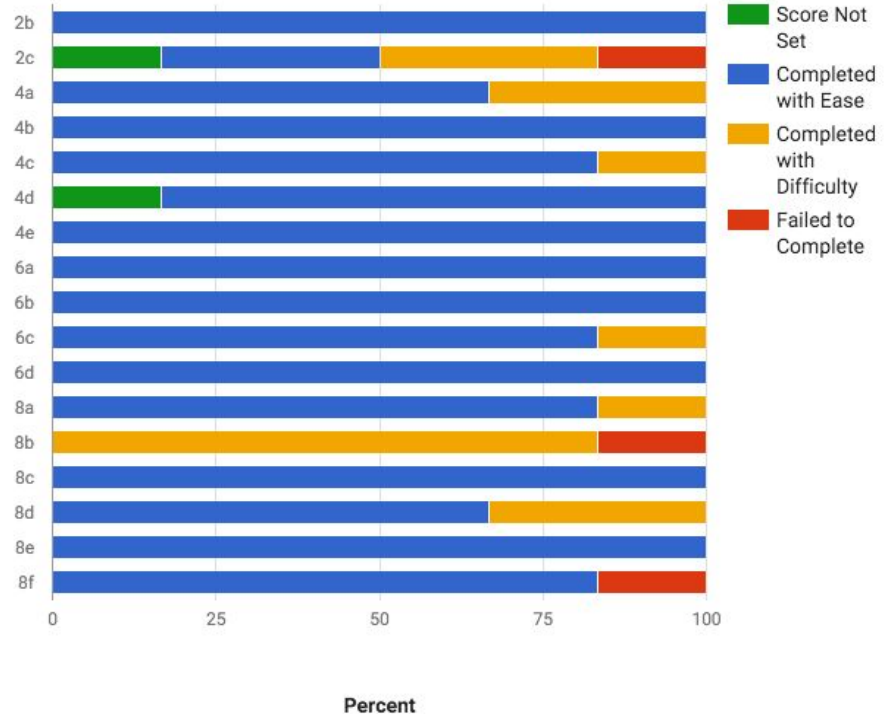
- Convenience Sampling - All participants were Simmons affiliated
- Learnability and comparative testing
- System errors during testing

Usability Test Results: Task Completion Rate

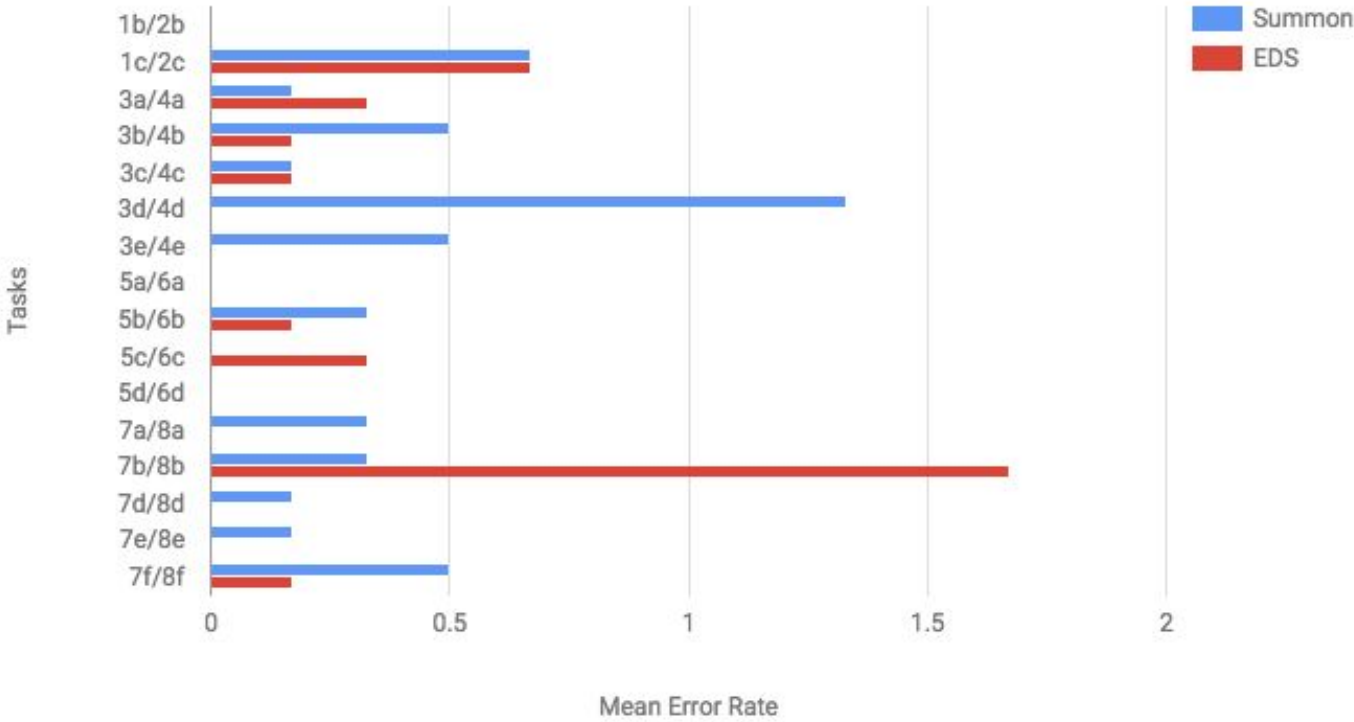
Summon



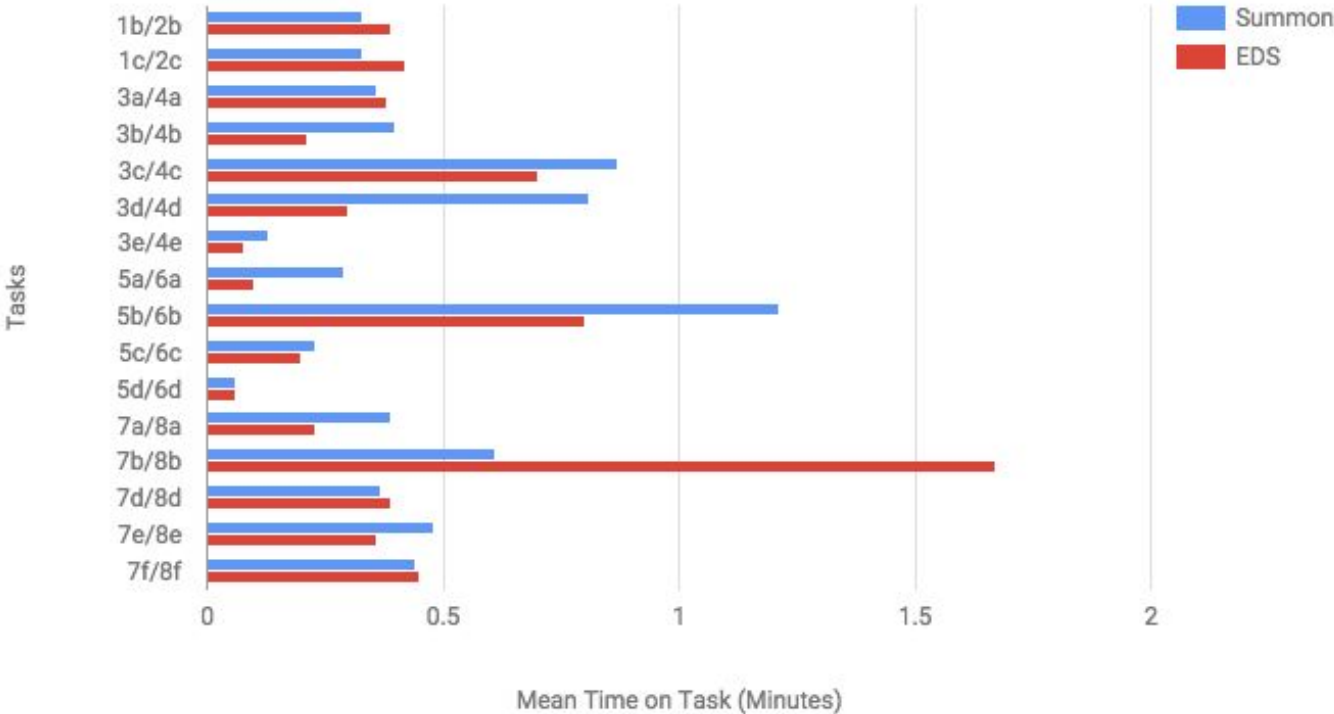
EDS



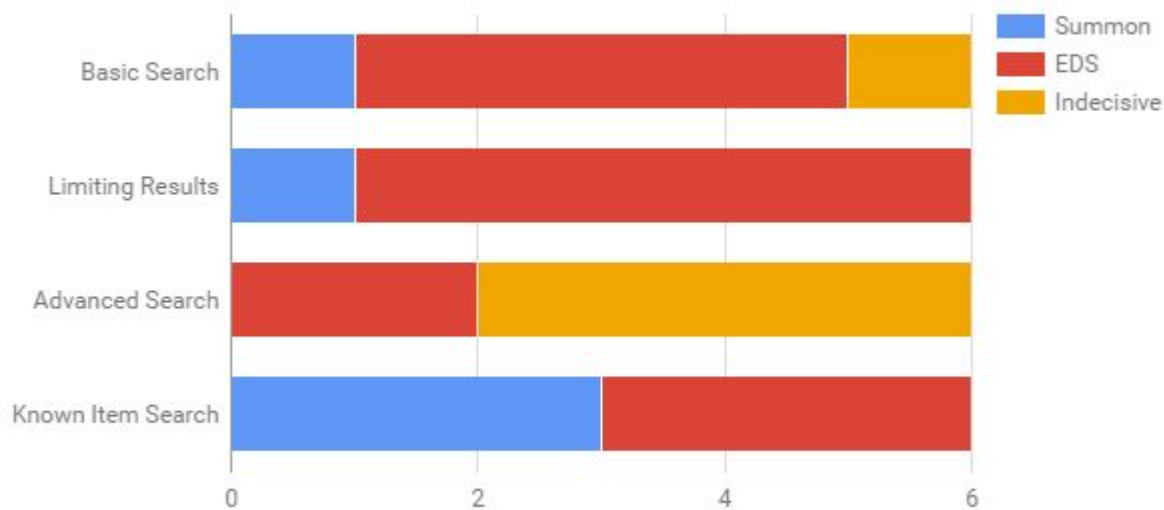
Usability Test Results: Error Rates



Usability Test Results: Time on Task



Post Task Preferences

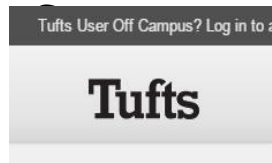


Overall - 5 of 7 participants preferred EDS

Post Session Survey Results



Frustrating Features



Publication date slider disappearance

Difficulty of finding advanced search



Known item search

Simmons Library Search icon

Arrangement of advanced search

Post Session Survey Results



“If I had a magic wand, I would change...”



1. Known title search relevance (3 participants)
2. Simmons logo would redirect to Library homepage
3. More description on the search result page
4. Better organization of sorting options - for example, “placing newest to oldest close to where you can limit by publication date”

Summary of Results



EDS outperformed Summon



Mental Model Disconnect



Labelling, Visibility and Navigation

Recommendations



1. Improve known item searching.
2. Reorganize “Refine” Results bar.
3. Revise unnamed “Sort by” dropdown
4. Increase visibility of “Help” using iconography

What We Would Do Differently

- Test design errors
 - Order
 - Semantics of questions
- Into the real world...

What We Want to Do Next

- Explore flexible methods and design like contextual inquiry
- What to do with all the data?

Questions?



Thank you!

