



Adding Preference Information to Meeting Polls

Imagine you are invited to a meeting poll and asked to specify your availability for a weekend trip. You would like to let the initiator know that you are available on most weekends, but some are less favorable for you to attend than others, e.g., because you have already planned another trip close to that weekend. With most poll providers, you could enter "maybe" or "only if necessary" for these dates or leave a comment, but this does not sufficiently reflect the complexity of your reasoning. What if we could add more detailed preference information to meeting polls?

We, the [chair of Visual Analytics](#), research graphical interfaces that help people express their personal preferences for the purpose of decision-making or consensus-finding. We are seeking a curious and committed student to work with us at this exciting intersection. Your thesis or project will center around the following question: What could a meeting poll look like that captures not only availability but also individual preferences, and consolidates both information into a final date recommendation?

Your job

- Get an overview of poll providers that are already out there and what types of information they allow users to specify
- Explore the design space that opens up when additionally considering preferences:
 - What can people's personal preferences about meeting dates look like and how can they be represented?
 - What graphical user interfaces could be used to retrieve these preferences?
 - What are different ways to collapse availability and preference information into a single meaningful date recommendation? What are their benefits and limitations? What trade-offs are involved?
 - How to ensure ease of use for everyone?
- Assess your design options and implement the chosen meeting poll mechanism
- Evaluate the practical value of your proposed tool

Your background

- Enrolled student in the field of visual computing, computer science, or a comparable field of study
- Interest in graphical user interfaces, human factors, and data visualization
- Experience with web-based programming (e.g., TypeScript, React, D3.js)

How to apply If you are interested, please introduce yourself to Dr.-Ing. Lena Cibulski (lena.cibulski@uni-rostock.de). We look forward to receiving your application!