Team Science Research: Surveying User Groups

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Objective
- Conduct a user study to help Breezio
- Identify new users’ characteristics
- Determine needed functionalities
- Understand competitors

Strategy
- Contacted 48 departments at UMD College Park via email to fill out survey about:
  - Demographics
  - Current collaboration tools
  - Daily Activities & Challenges
- Target a range of fields, ages, and positions

Successes
- Collected 58 survey responses from researchers at UMD
- Project will be presented at SciTS 2016 conference in May

Challenges
- Determining visualizations and statistics that can be used to analyze open-ended survey questions
- Finding a person of contact at UMD research labs that can distribute the survey

Results

Participants
- Most respondents were graduate students (48%) and professors (29%)
- Similarly, 48% were between 18-31 years, and 31% between 31-40 years old

File Sharing
- Papers, Articles, and News are mostly shared via email and Dropbox
- Research data is shared via email, Dropbox, and GoogleDrive

Participants identified challenges they face on a daily basis while working in their respective research labs. This will allow Breezio to prioritize design decisions.

Design Thinking
1. Improve Version Control Feature
2. Prioritize Performance Testing
3. Prioritize Usability & Training Features

Recommendations

To identify future integrations for Breezio, participants were asked to report tools they use to write papers.