

# Analysing Usability and UX in Peer Review Tools

Romualdo Azevedo, Gretchen Macedo, Genildo Gomes, Atacilio Cunha, Joethe Carvalho,  
Fabian Lopes, Tayana Conte, Alberto Castro and Bruno Gadelha

*Institute of Computing, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM), 69.080-900, Manaus – AM, Brazil*  
*romualdo.costa, gtmacedo, genildo.gomes, atacilio.cunha, joethe, fabian.lopes, tayana, alberto,*

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**Abstract:** Due to the pandemic scenario, teachers and students needed to master several technologies such as collaborative tools to support remote learning. Trying and adopting these tools properly in a context can positively contribute to learning, potentially maximizing student engagement. In this sense, this paper presents perspectives from professors and students about aspects of User Experience (UX), on two collaborative tools that support Peer Review: (i) The Moodle Assessment Laboratory (*MoodlePRLab*) and (ii) *Model2Review*. Thus, it was possible to propose improvements to promote a better user experience from professors and students when using these sorts of tools and discuss how UX can affect collaboration during remote teaching.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The pandemic and social distancing imposed by the new coronavirus around the world abruptly impacted teaching methodologies, which migrated from face-to-face to non-presential contexts. As a consequence, classes, lectures, and educational activities were generally affected (García-Peñalvo et al., 2020). Considering this, promoting interaction and collaboration has become a major challenge in non-face-to-face teaching-learning contexts (Khan et al., 2021). Thus, studies on tools that promote the use of techniques that help in the development of group work skills have become necessary in different learning contexts (Al-Samarraie and Saeed, 2018) and, in general, on tools that promote interaction.

In this sense, teachers need to select appropriate tools to support teaching methods that promote interaction between students in remote education, which is not a trivial task (Almukhaylid and Suleman, 2020). Selecting these tools involves several aspects that comprise the features offered, how collaboration is made possible, as well as the results of usability and User Experience (UX) assessments. Thus, evaluating the UX of different tools can help not only in their selection but also in identifying problems to be fixed to improve the UX itself (Wijayarathna and Arachchilage, 2019). These factors influence directly when using virtual learning environments in academic institutions (de Kock et al., 2016).

Quantitative and qualitative techniques, such as *AttrakDiff* and *Emocards*, can be used to assess and understand different aspects of UX (Ribeiro and Providência, 2020; Cokan and Paz, 2018). While the *AttrakDiff* technique collects pragmatic and hedonic aspects of the tools, using a questionnaire on scales and classifying the word pairs into dimensions (Cecacci et al., 2017), the *Emocards* technique uses a non-verbal method that allows users to express emotions during a performance of your activities (Ge et al., 2017).

Thus, this paper presents the evaluation of UX and usability from the point of view of teachers, students, and usability inspectors, in two tools that support the Peer Review collaborative learning technique in the context of remote teaching. To evaluate the Moodle Assessment Laboratory (*MoodlePRLab*) and *Model2Review* tools (Costa et al., 2021), we conducted an usability inspection using Heuristic Evaluation (HE) (Nielsen, 1994), and an usability test with Cooperative Evaluation technique. Besides, we performed a UX evaluation with *AttrakDiff* and *Emocards* techniques, and two open questions about general aspects of the tools.

With the study, it was possible to verify the efficiency and effectiveness of the tools and map the feeling of teachers and students about the different activities carried out in these tools. So, it was possible to identify specific points that resulted in a bad usage experience, indicating aspects where the UX could be

improved.

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 contains the background for this research. Section 3 presents the methodology used at this work. Section 4 presents the results of the study using usability and UX evaluation techniques. Section 5 discusses our results. Lastly, Section 6 presents the conclusions of the study.

## 2 BACKGROUND

In this section, we explore concepts about UX evaluations and collaborative systems. We also address some related works.

### 2.1 Usability and UX Evaluation

Assessing UX and usability is essential to improve system quality and ensure user satisfaction during the experience (Bader et al., 2017). Thus, there are techniques and methods to assess such attributes. For example, usability can be assessed through approaches such as user testing or professional inspections (de Oliveira Sousa and Valentim, 2019).

Testing involves people related to the context of application usage. Usability tests are used to observe and investigate questions about navigation and understanding the interface of a product, service, website or prototype (Hertzum, 2020). Representative users involved in the application context must perform these tests. It requires the establishment of a script of tasks and analysts to observe them. It is necessary to use techniques to carry out usability tests, such as those based on observation, questions and others. Observation techniques include Interaction Rehearsals, Think Aloud and Cooperative Assessment, and post-task Walkthroughs (Armstrong et al., 2019; Khajouei et al., 2017).

Usability inspections, on the other hand, must be carried out with professionals evaluating the system according to the defined activities script (Pérez-Medina et al., 2021). Therefore, Nielsen's Heuristics are commonly used so that inspectors perform inspection in web applications (Nielsen, 1994). In this way, the heuristics violated by the systems and the severity of the problems are verified.

Unlike inspections, UX assessments must take place with users. Thus, it is intended to observe the emotions and satisfaction of users about the steps of using the tools. For this, there are techniques such as Emocards, Emofaces, AttrakDiff, TRUE - Tracking Realtime User Experience and others (Ribeiro and Providência, 2020; Cokan and Paz, 2018).

### 2.2 Educational Collaborative Systems

Collaborative systems are artifacts that allow interaction between people (Wouters et al., 2017). With the advancement of technology and the imposition of isolation restrictions during the pandemic, the use of collaborative systems to promote interaction and collaboration in online education contexts has increased (Rahiem, 2020).

Some systems implement collaborative learning techniques in undergraduate courses, encouraging the development of group work skills. The *MoodlePRLab* and the *Model2Review* tool are some of such tools (Costa et al., 2021). Environments such as learning management systems allow the definition of activities for asynchronous learning. Some have interaction forums, such as Moodle (Rabiman et al., 2020).

Thus, instructors can leverage collaborative systems to promote synchronous and asynchronous interaction during teaching-learning (Bailey et al., 2021). Asynchronous interactions use emails, forums, and group activities. Synchronous interactions involve chat for instant messaging and videoconferencing environments, for example.

### 2.3 Related Works

Several works evaluate collaborative learning tools with a focus on the functionalities necessary for this purpose (Søndergaard and Mulder, 2012; Sharp and Rodriguez, 2020; Jeong and Hmelo-Silver, 2016; Evans et al., 2017; Cheng et al., 2016; Biasutti, 2017). In this section, we present some details of these researches.

Søndergaard and Mulder (2012) analyze, in their work, peer assessment tools focusing on the formative character of knowledge in collaborative learning. According to them, Peer Assessment promotes the development of critical thinking, improvement in the quality of work, increased autonomy and deeper learning, and the development of social and affective skills. In their analysis, the results indicate that these tools should make the Peer Review technique simple and intuitive, in addition to enabling the mediation of the technique, such as automation of task distribution, anonymity of participants, configuration of categories, accessibility, among others.

Sharp and Rodriguez (2020) also recognize in their work the value of Peer Review as a way to promote critical thinking and improve writing ability. Thus, a study was carried out to evaluate the impact of technological tools on the design of Peer Review activities. They considered the following tools: Eli Review, aimed at Peer Review, Word and Google

Docs, for collaborative text processing. Thus, the results were evaluated through questionnaires and data from the evaluations of the work carried out by the students.

Jeong and Hmelo-Silver (2016) developed a framework composed of 7 possibilities (Evans et al., 2017) of collaborative learning environments, based on studies of how these technologies are used and the design strategies adopted in these tools. In this work, a set of pedagogical, social and cultural aspects were identified for each accessibility to be used in the design of tools that promote collaborative learning.

Cheng et al. (2016) used *thinkLets* in their work to help design collaborative online learning processes. Thus, the interaction-based satisfaction assessment was complemented with the Yield Shift Theory, a theory to perform a causal analysis to explain user satisfaction. A comparative analysis of two categories of collaboration tools, wikis and forums, was carried out in the work of Biasutti (2017). The analysis used quantitative indicators for different cognitive activities and questionnaires with open questions to qualitatively assess the characteristics of the tools based on the users' perception.

Considering the presented works, the evaluation of collaborative learning tools focused on functionality and user satisfaction. Therefore, there is a lack of usability studies and UX evaluation, which can be configured as interference factors in the satisfactory use of these tools. In this paper, we performed a UX assessment to help identify problems that directly impact user satisfaction in a teaching-learning environment.

### 3 METHODOLOGY

This study was carried out by evaluating the User Experience (UX) of *MoodlePRLab* and *Model2Review* from the perspective of four usability inspectors, five professors and five students from the Federal University of Amazonas, who needed to adapt their face-to-face activities for the remote learning context.

Thus, in the planning phase, support materials were developed: (i) Informed Consent Form (ICF), guaranteeing the preservation of the identity of the participants and the availability of data for the study; (ii) List of Tasks the participants should perform on the tools; (iii) Emocards, which were used for each task performed in the tools and; (iv) AttrakDiff questionnaire. With the materials prepared, the researchers performed a pilot study to assess the suitability of the materials for the study to be carried out.

Participants received an invitation by email with

a link to ICF. After acceptance, a meeting call was scheduled with each participant to perform the usability test, using the Cooperative Assessment technique, which took place via Google Meet. The execution of the study began with the responsible researcher giving a presentation on the use of Peer Review in remote teaching contexts. Then, the researchers informed the links to the tools and sequentially dictated the tasks that each one should perform.

In *Model2Review*, teachers performed the following tasks: (i) register with the tool; (ii) register an evaluation form; (iii) view the evaluation form; (iv) edit evaluation form; (v) record activity; (vi) view activity; (vii) edit activity; (viii) register class; (ix) view class; (x) edit class; (xi) associate the activity to a class (ensure the creation of the class); (xii) check activity status and; (xiii) distribute activities (choose / design reviewers).

The students executed the following tasks using *Model2Review*: (i) register with the tool; (ii) join a class; (iii) check class activity; (iv) present an activity; (v) review an activity and; (vi) check peer reviews and submit final version.

In *MoodlePRLab*, teachers performed the following activities: (i) create an activity; (ii) create an evaluation form; (iii) move to the submission stage; (iv) assign submissions; (v) move to the assessment phase and; (vi) disable editing.

The students performed the following activities using the same tool: (i) present activity and; (ii) review another student's submission.

At the end of each task, researchers asked participants which Emocards represented their feelings. At the end of the study, participants were asked to answer the AttrakDiff questionnaire and two open questions about general aspects related to the experience of using both tools.

The usability inspection of the *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* tools involved, according to the steps of the Heuristic Assessment method (Nielsen, 1994), the steps of Preparation, Detection and Collection to generate a report with the results and analysis of the obtained data.

The Preparation step included using the characteristics of each Nielsen Heuristic to compose a spreadsheet with the necessary information. The Detection step involved the collection and interpretation of data by team members.

The Collection step consisted on consolidating data from each inspector and data grouping. During preparation, *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* were analyzed considering their context, classifying their user profiles and defining the activities that would be supervised. Thus, the study results could be reflected

in suggestions for improvements in the tools, indicating which aspects should be observed to provide a better UX in the Peer Assessment tools.

## 4 RESULTS

In this section, we present the results of the usability inspection and testing and the satisfaction aspects of teachers and students linked to the results of EmoCards and the pragmatic and hedonic aspects related to the AttrakDiff results, as well as the perceptions about the tools under evaluation.

### 4.1 Usability Inspection

With the definitions ready, the researchers assessed the tools by performing the tasks defined in the preparation stage, accessing the screens and options defined in the preparation. The researchers, as inspectors, filled out a spreadsheet with information on location, heuristics, severity, justification or description of the reason for choosing the heuristic and a possible recommendation regarding the choice, generating an extensive list of justifications / descriptions. The degrees of severity ranged from 1 to 4, as follows: 1 - Only aesthetic problems, which do not need to be corrected unless there is time available; 2 - Small usability problem, which should have low priority; 3 - Important usability issue, which must be given high priority and; 4 - Usability catastrophes, those that must be corrected.

When consolidating and grouping the data, defects and false positives were sorted according each inspector’s justification/description to avoid duplications. The criterion of union between description, heuristic, and severity was used for this consolidation. In this way, a description can be related to one or more heuristics if necessary. Parts of this consolidation are shown in Table 1 with results from *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab*.

After this consolidation, we performed a comparative analysis between the heuristics and the tools. General defects, present in various screens, were classified separately. The Figure 1 presents the arrangement of heuristics in the *Model2Review* (M2R) and the *MoodlePRLab* (Moodle). The complete table can be found in the supplementary material <sup>1</sup>.

During tool comparison, we identified that *Model2Review* has major problems in its activities in all heuristics and that *MoodlePRLab*, as a more experienced and robust tool, has fewer usability problems.

<sup>1</sup><https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.19333457.v1>

Table 1: Inspection - Consolidated Data.

MoodlePRLab				
ID	Local in Application	Heuristics	Severity	Description
1	Create Activity	1,6	3	There is no option available. Before, you must use the option "Enable editing" for the option to appear.
2	Create Activity	8	3	To create a peer review activity, you have to use the option "Assessment laboratory". It was necessary to look at type by type of activity and read the description of each one to find this option.
3	Create Activity	8	2	Very extensive form. Tired of filling.
4	Allocate Shipments	1,7	1	In manual allocation, it does not have a button to confirm or complete the allocation.
5	Login	2	2	English login screen.
Model2Review				
6	Login	9	4	Message from: "This user already exists" does not give details that the field used for user identification is SIAPE or registration.
7	Create Activity	7	4	There is no alternative to include the form during the Activity registration process. It was necessary to cancel everything I had already done to register the Form.
8	Create Activity	5,9	4	The system allows me to add the "end of activities" date before the start of the activity.
9	Allocate Shipments	3	2	Back Navigation.
10	Register Form	7	2	Registration button with difficult identification.

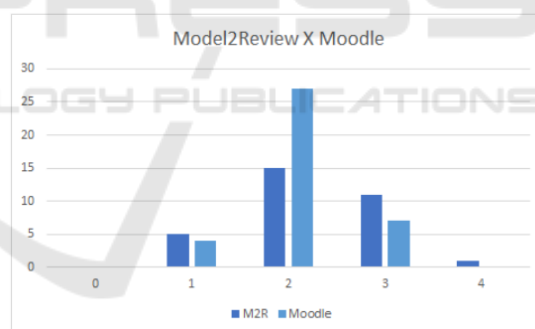


Figure 1: Comparison of Violated Heuristics.

### 4.2 Usability Test

For this work, a variation of Think Aloud was used: the Cooperative Evaluation technique (Nørgaard and Hornbæk, 2006). This technique was used during the usability test. Its usage was based on observation, where tests and interactions occurred according to the user’s needs. Cooperative Evaluation was chosen because it is used most of the time when you already have a ready-made or partially built interface, during the iterative development cycle, either for the creation or re-creation of the software which is the case of *Model2Review*. Unlike other techniques that provide long lists of issues to fix, Cooperative Assessment lets

you check out the most important issues.

For Cooperative Evaluation, the evaluator must know the software and perform the tests through observation in cooperative environments. The Cooperative Evaluation in this work was applied and registered during the usability tests. Thus, users were encouraged to perform the tasks guided by the researchers. Besides, the test administrator performed an intervention for each question or need, and wrote down the problem verified in the instrument.

In *Model2Review*, the most frequent questions were about the tool's menu, students finding their tasks and teachers recording the activity. In *MoodlePRLab*, the most frequent interventions were about the registering activities of the form, carried out by the teachers and the evaluation of the activities of colleagues, by the students.

Analyzing the feedback from participants of both profiles used in the usability test in *Model2Review*, it was possible to see that, despite reporting that they would use the tool within their remote teaching-learning routine, the application's usability problems generated a bad experience.

Problems such as (1) main menu display bug that allows navigation through the application, (2) lack of instructions while using the tool, (3) lack of back button in some screens, (4) no clarification of the sequence of activities and (5) the lack of visibility in the execution of the review steps and the evaluation of the activities greatly affected the use of the tool during the usability test.

Among the main reasons for dissatisfaction with *Model2Review* is the obligation to register the evaluation form before the activity, which is not obvious or intuitive. Another frustration is related to bugs present in the tool that hinder navigation. Concerning *MoodlePRLab*, the biggest difficulty was with the great amount of resources of the tool and fourteen configuration options available, being necessary to read about each one of them to continue using it.

The management of transitions between the submission and evaluation phases was a challenge, with participants with a student profile who were unable to perform the task of evaluating their colleague's work, as they were unable to view the review. The usability metrics defined for this study were chosen to analyze effectiveness and efficiency. Table 2 presents the results.

Table 2: Efficiency.

Overall Average Time in Minutes			Overall Average Time per Task in Minutes		
Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab	Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab
Professor	34,8	18,6	Professor	2,7	3,1
Student	26,4	9,8	Student	4,4	4,9

The results presented in Table 2, show that the average time to carry out the activity in *Model2Review* was greater than the *MoodlePRLab*. Effectiveness was measured by observing errors in the application and frequency of help requests, and the results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Effectiveness.

General Effectiveness			Tasks Completed Successfully		
Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab	Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab
Professor	89,23%	100,00%	Professor	50,77%	53,33%
Student	96,67%	90,00%	Student	46,67%	40,00%

Tasks Completed with Error			Critical Error Rate		
Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab	Profile	Model2Review	MoodlePRLab
Professor	38,46%	46,67%	Professor	10,77%	00,00%
Student	50,00%	50,00%	Student	3,33%	10,00%

With the results of effectiveness, we understood that from the teacher's point of view, the tasks, both with success and with errors, were better completed in *MoodlePRLab*. As for the students, the efficiency of tasks completed with errors was greater than in the *MoodlePRLab* and the rate of corrected error errors was lower.

### 4.3 EmoCards

This method is used using a sheet of paper or *flash cards* with images that represent the feelings, which can be positive or negative where any emotional characteristic demonstrated by the user about the interaction with the system is considered an emotion (Cokan and Paz, 2018). For this study, Emocards have been adapted to Emojis. This decision was taken because of the greater familiarity of the study participants with Emojis that are commonly used in electronic messages.

Figure 2 presents the results of the Emocards for the teacher and student profiles in the two tools. The Emojis are displayed in Figure 2 which includes the results according to the following meanings: 1 - Surprised; 2 - Amazed; 3 - Lightly Smiling; 4 - Relieved; 5 - Smiling; 6 - Depressed; 7 - Discontented and; 8 - Angry. The results obtained were assessed according to the perspectives of teachers and students in each of the tools during the performance of the activities.

**a) Model2Review According to the Professors:** note that the professors are not enthusiastic about some activities, such as registering an activity and registering a class. However, the frequency of feelings of Amazed, Slightly Smiling and Relieved reveals some discomfort to this virtual environment. Negative emotions draw attention and make it possible to identify opportunities for improvement in the tools.

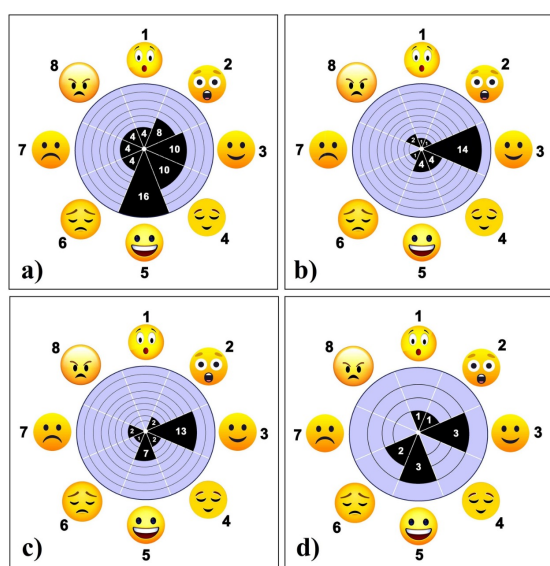


Figure 2: EmoCards Results - a) *Model2Review* according to teachers; b) *Model2Review* according to the students; c) *MoodlePRLab* according to the teachers; d) *MoodlePRLab* according to the students.

**b) Model2Review According to Students:** the vast majority of students showed some sympathy during the performance of submission tasks and association with the class. However, the report of some feelings of annoyance indicates that the environment is not as satisfactory or that an activity is not very interesting or not very motivating for the students, such as finding an activity to be reviewed.

**c) MoodlePRLab According to the Professors:** the most demonstrated emotions were Slightly Smiling and Smiling. With that, a certain satisfaction in the execution of the tasks is demanded. However, some negative emotions demonstrated that some teachers are unlikely to perform some activities such as changing the submission phase and setting up the assessment form as expected.

**d) MoodlePRLab According to Students:** Slightly smiling and Smiling emotions were the most mentioned. However, we verified during the study that the excessive amount of information contained in the virtual environment made it difficult to carry out activities, such as finding the evaluation form.

#### 4.4 AttrakDiff

To assess the UX, the participants were asked to answer a quantitative questionnaire that included pragmatic and hedonic aspects of the tools. Thus, the idea was to understand which UX attributes influence the learning and acceptance of the tool. While the pragmatic aspects are related to functionalities that help

the user to reach their goal, the hedonic aspects highlight the emotions and pleasures of the user (Hassenzahl, 2008).

For this study, we used the *AttrakDiff* method with twenty-eight (28) items in *Likert* scales, through a set of word pairs. The results are shown in Figure 3. The ten study participants answered the questionnaire. Upon analyzing the results, the contrast between hedonic and pragmatic aspects can be seen in Figure 3. Figure 3-a, represents the *Model2Review* (orange line) and *MoodlePRLab* (blue line) tools from the teacher’s perspective, while Figure 3-b represents the student’s perspective.

In this graph, it was possible to see that both from the point of view of teachers and students, the use of the two tools was predominantly positive. However, the oscillation of the results between the word pairs indicates a divergent experience. Analyzing the negative results from the teacher’s perspective, *MoodlePRLab* stands out for being considered a “technical”, “complicated” and “unpredictable” tool. The same result can be observed from the student’s perspective, adding a “conventional term” the tool.

Looking at *Model2Review* from the teacher’s perspective, participants highlighted that it was “technical”, “confused”, “unprofessional”, “tacky”, “not demanding” and “ugly”. From the students’ perspective, distinct oscillations between word pairs are observed, in contrast to the professors’ perspective. Students find it “inventive”, “confused”, “conventional”, “dull”, “not demanding” and “unpleasant”.

On the other hand, there is a predominance of positive variations in the tools. Regarding attributes that can influence the acceptance of the system as a tool for teaching, the *MoodlePRLab* stands out as “practical”, “professional”, “styled”, “brings me closer to people”, “creative” and “attractive”. Regarding *Model2Review*, the attributes “simple”, “integrating”, “manageable”, “brings me closer to people”, “innovative” and “captivating” stand out positively. Considering it to be an unfamiliar tool, it was important to evaluate both the teacher and the student.

#### 4.5 Perceptions Found

After Emocards and *AttrakDiff*, teachers and students were also invited to comment on general aspects regarding the two tools, namely: (i) - Comment on the experience of using *Model2Review* and; (ii) - Comment on your experience using the *MoodlePRLab*. With these open questions, it was possible to gather the aspects to be improved to each tool that can provide a better user experience in the context of remote learning. Table 4 lists these aspects.

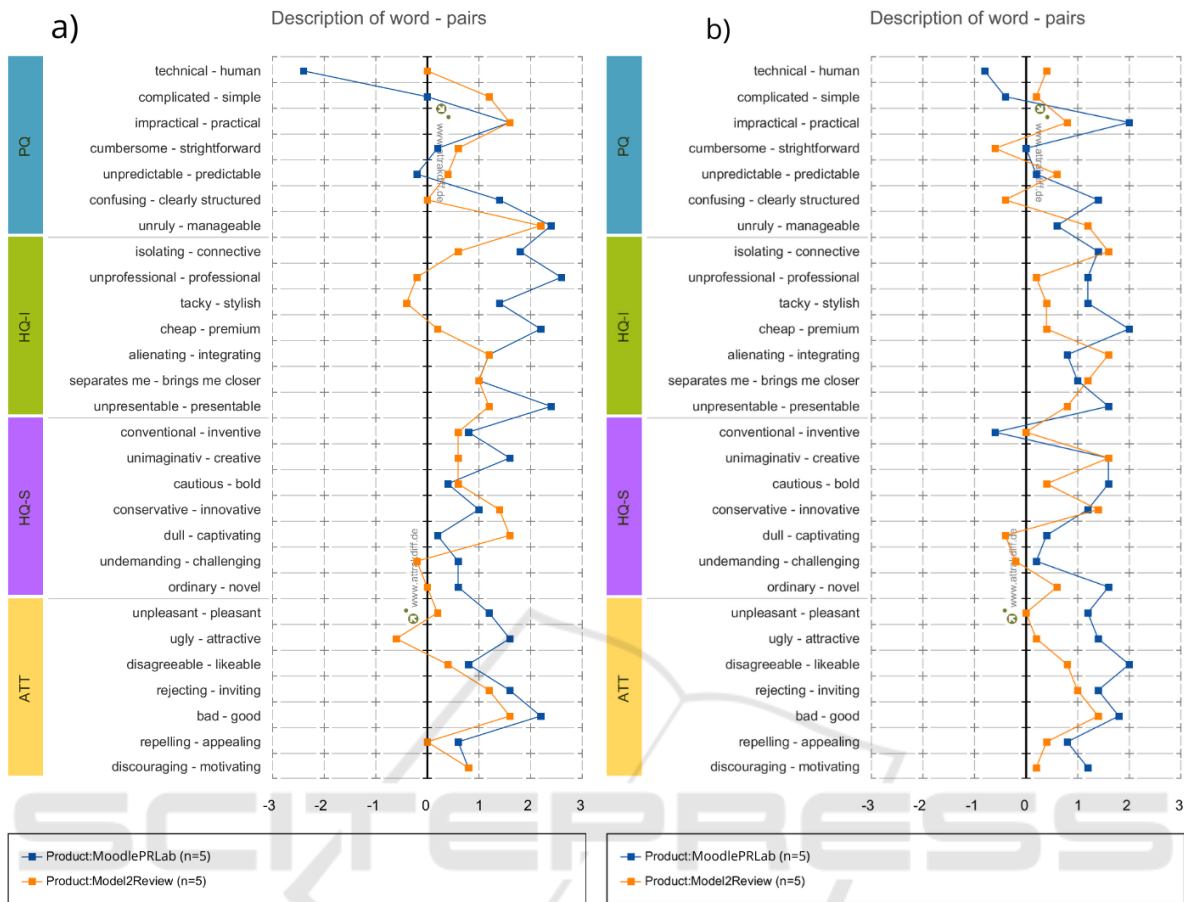


Figure 3: AttrakDiff results - a) *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* from the teachers' point of view; b) *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* from the students' point of view.

Students reported that, despite being easy to understand, *Model2Review* contained errors that hindered the performance of activities. One of the students commented: “Submitting the activity was very simple, however, the action of reviewing the activity was hard to find, as well as commenting on the review” - It is understood that the students had difficulties during the review process for both finding and assigning comments.

Some students may have given up on reviewing because they had difficulty finding this feature. Another student commented: “The tool is buggy, making it difficult to use.” - In this case, students spent more time looking for and adapting to bugs. Despite the difficulties, one of the students replied: “Much more intuitive and even in situations where you might be uncertain about, just dragging the cursor to the button would show a brief description of what the button did.” - That is, the tool handles some aspects of UX, but it still needs the user to look for the features.

Professors, about *Model2Review*, reported that the

interface was simple, but that the defects hampered the use process. While a teacher commented: “Easy to understand and use but with many errors in navigation and dates. The queries lack information and the return button is missing.” and another “I found the interface very simple, which ends up deceiving the user and seems to be easy, but requires many steps during the performance of an activity and demands a long time. Imagine having to make several revisions. Too complex for simple tasks.” - It is believed that teachers may give up using or selecting another tool because of these difficulties.

Another professor replied: “I think the tool suffers from 3 aspects: 1) the sequence of activities is not clear; 2) the system does not lead to the correct order; and 3) there is no feedback on the activities. The navigation button only works if it is on the main page, forcing you to change the URL. When listing classes, it is not clear that you have to associate an activity. The feeling I have is that there is only registration, we cannot keep up with the students in the class, or

Table 4: UX improvements to *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* (Moodle) tools.

ID	Improvement	Model2Review	Moodle
ML1	Clear description of data fields when requested	X	X
ML2	Data fields that can only accept specific values must already prepare in their presentation the listing and specification of such values	X	
ML3	Login data fields must be clear during the registration of this information and during the request for it	X	
ML4	For activities that have steps, the UX of the application must be planned to meet the same vision	X	X
ML5	Help fields at each stage to clarify them	X	X
ML6	Completion steps of some flow need to ensure visual feedback to the user	X	X
ML7	Activities that have stages must allow the user to move between stages without loss of information already completed	X	
ML8	Step data that have already been saved and that are essential for planning other parts of an activity should be displayed when planning them	X	X
ML9	Application UX must ensure that fundamental steps that depend on data that can be duplicated, the user profile that registers them must be notified of the impact of this for the next stages of the problem in development	X	
ML10	Application glossary according to the context of the solved problem		X
ML11	Applications that have many steps or require a lot of data due to the generalization of the problem solved must ensure that each of these steps and data group have a clarification of its need for its entire context		X
ML12	Applications that have separate viewing and editing profiles must make the status and the switch between profiles evident		X

the assessments. A little tricky to understand.” - This shows the need for improvements in the tool, with the inclusion of other sequences of actions, *feedbacks* and monitoring of steps.

Despite the problems, one teacher commented: “It’s definitely a tool I would use in my classes. But it needs to improve the step-by-step that must obey the following creation order: Forms, Activities, and Classes. I recommend an initial screen with brief instructions for using the tool, each page can have a representative icon for the Registration of Forms, Activities, and Classes, in addition to the representative icons, I recommend a logo for the system. The menu has problems, so it doesn’t allow navigation in the system. Some features could be better explained in the system.”. This comment indicates that, even with the UX problems and the need to reformulate the task flows, the tool is an option of choice to promote collaboration in non-teaching classes.

Students reported that the *MoodlePRLab* is faster and simpler, but that the step of reviewing activities was more difficult. One commented: “Submitting the task was very quick and simple, but doing the proof-reading was more difficult. I couldn’t see the image submitted for review.” While another reported: “Overall, it was quite easy to see how to perform the activities within Moodle but I couldn’t actually perform the activities, for example, right away I couldn’t evaluate another student’s activity, as I didn’t have the option to assign a comment or grade, so it didn’t get graded.”. This difficulty related to not being able to review or not assign a comment or grade hindered the interaction between the students.

The processes of criticism and self-criticism, made possible by the Peer Reviewing, are not properly covered, interfering with collaboration. However, one student said that “The tool is very intuitive, which makes it easy to use.”. This could be because Moo-



dle is a very popular tool to use in academic environments.

Professors reported that *MoodlePRLab* features were more complex and had many options and information that hindered finding what was needed, as shown in the following comments: “*All the options I had to go through were full of lots of information and options that made it difficult for me to find what I needed.*”; “*More complex but interesting interface and features.*” and: “*MoodlePRLab has a lot of interesting and self-explanatory features, it’s certainly a very powerful tool, but the learning curve can take a long time precisely because an account of the number of existing features. In this sense, Model2Review proved to be much more practical in creating and configuring the activities of a class, as it goes straight to the point. But it needs to improve some functionality and be more self-explanatory.*”.

From these comments, we can see that the teachers synthesized important aspects about UX problems, but they also reported that the excess of information can harm learning, as seen in this other comment: “*The tool is not as intuitive given that you need to read about what each thing means. It’s like it has a lot of functionality in a way that makes the experience difficult. Once one understands what it has to do, it’s easier because it has a pattern of activities and a lot of feedback about things. I found it interesting.*”.

## 5 DISCUSSION

The use of UX assessment techniques combined with open-ended questions about the user experience allowed the impact verification of UX on collaboration initiatives. The analysis of feelings with the Emocards technique captured the satisfaction of teachers and students during activities. It was noted that the difficulties from the teachers’ point of view in carrying out activities such as changing the submission phase in the *MoodlePRLab* and following the activity in *Model2Review* harmed teacher satisfaction. For professors, registering the activity in *Model2Review* caused more positive feelings than registering the activity in the *MoodlePRLab*, perhaps because it is a more punctual task on *Model2Review*. This shows that the user experience can affect the willingness to carry out collaborative activities.

The results of the UX analysis with the AttrakDiff technique reflect the difficulty of teachers and students in handling the tools, in addition to indicating the need to improve communicability between profiles, facilitating student learning, and the professors’ manipulation of the tool. These data indicate that the

interface and the *affordances* of the tool, in both perspectives, may not have pleased the users and, consequently, impaired the experience of use during learning. In this way, it was possible to visualize which aspects need to be improved to increase the acceptance of teaching platforms. Although most results are positive, there is a predominance of positive variations about *MoodlePRLab*. This can be explained by the fact that Moodle is a consolidated tool in the world learning context, while *Model2Review* is recent and not known.

Concerning the tools general aspects, we noticed that *Model2Review*, despite being easy to understand, contained errors that hindered the conduct of activities from the perspective of the students. The *MoodlePRLab*, on the other hand, despite being easier and faster, made it difficult in some cases to complete the review task, hampering collaboration. In the professors’ perception about *Model2Review*, it was noticed that this tool took a long time to carry out the proposed activities. It was also verified that the tool’s flows could be improved, including the feedbacks of help and monitoring of students during activities, as the teacher needs to accompany students during interactions. Regarding *MoodlePRLab*, the features were more complex and had more options, but the excess of information on the screen hindered the user experience when trying to find something more punctual.

Overall, participants reported that *MoodlePRLab* provides more features and has a self-explanatory view. Even with this advantage, it was noticeable with the feedback that the Laboratory was planned to require more information to be filled in by the teacher profile so that the review process is possible. This factor made usability a little difficult during tests, but all participants were able to carry out their activities. Only one student profile participant was unable to complete an activity review step, but for not understanding the Peer Reviewing process.

In the general comparison of the two tools, *MoodlePRLab*, being a more general and widely known tool, showed a greater potential in promoting interactions. On the other hand, it is a much more complex tool than *Model2Review*, having less intuitive subtasks that only users who already knew the tool knew how to perform. The point that stood out most positively in *Model2Review* was its simplicity, which allowed participants to easily find the tasks proposed in the activities script, facilitating the interaction process.

However, the tool is under development on an experimental basis and still has several inadequacies that need to be corrected, which harmed the user experience. *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab* are not

the only tools available to mediate Peer Review in remote contexts. Similar studies can be carried out using other tools, making it possible to recommend the most appropriate tool for each context.

A negative user experience can hamper student engagement, directly influencing student performance and overall learning. However, these techniques do not cover all aspects to be evaluated in a collaborative system. In the case of Peer Review tools, it is interesting to carry out more specific assessments regarding the quality of the feedback obtained during the reviews, and also to assess how the user experience occurs during interactions between teacher and student.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

This article presented a study about *Model2Review* and *MoodlePRLab*, which can help teachers and students when choosing tools that promote interaction in remote learning. For that, a usability inspection was applied with Nielsen's Heuristics, a usability test with Cooperative Evaluation, and a UX evaluation with the *AttrakDiff* and *Emocards* techniques, in addition to two open questions for understanding user satisfaction.

Even though the tools developed are of origin and quite different (such as popularity, organizational development time, development correction), both presented several adaptations that could be problematic and/or were identified by the procedures used in the study. Thus, variations in the usage scenario would change the indication of one or another tool for teachers and students. If the focus is on adherence to a minimum set of resources for use by students self-organized in independent groups, *Model2Review* would be more suitable, while if the focus is on integration with other activities in a course developed on the Moodle platform, *MoodlePRLab* would be the most suitable. As next steps, we intend to investigate similar scenarios, since the procedures adopted were not developed or adapted to the complex context that involves environments and Web-based tools to support collaborative learning.

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