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## Using Log-data to Make Web-based interventions more Persuasive

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Thursday, 16 May 2013, 3:15 pm - 3:55 pm  
Chicago, USA

## eHealth – Web-based interventions



- Improving Health via Technology
- Different areas
  - independent and assisted living
  - better use of health data
  - empowerment for self-management of health
- Can be effective, but not always
- Critical factors for adherence

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## Tsunami of Happy Feeling & Well-being Tech low adherence, low impact



Text Driven, limited cues to persuade  
Not tailored to usage and users



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## Low-adherence is a problem

- Not all participants complete an intervention
- Not all participants use all features they can use
- There is a dose-response relationship
- But there is limited insight in how people use interventions



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## What has been done?



- General information
  - Logins, page-views, time on site, average usage of features
- But not (or much less):
  - Individual data (No. actions per participant)
  - Real-time data (Use patterns of individual users)
- Can we use this data to make eHealth more persuasive?
  - Prompts for adherence

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## Case: Living to the full

- People with depressive symptoms
- Intervention based on ACT and Mindfulness (9 lessons)
- Content & System:
  - psycho-education (text and videos)
  - exercises (audio and on-screen)
  - progress monitoring (diary; feedback; success stories)

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Cursus Voluit Leven  
www.cursusemoties.nl/cursus/cockpit

# Omgaan met emoties

Een ontdekkingsreis naar de balans tussen leed en geluk

Les 3: Gebruik *niet* je verstand

Welkom Test3, je bent bij onderdeel 10 van les 3

- Lessen
  - Week 1 - Wat wil ik met het leven? bekijk
  - Week 2 - Ik ben er (even) niet bekijk
  - Week 3 - Gebruik *niet* je verstand ga verder**
  - Week 4 - Hallo onzekerheid: welkom
  - Week 5 - De proefballonnenjes van het verstand
  - Week 6 - Wie ben ik nou eigenlijk?
  - Week 7 - Hoe wil je voluit leven?
  - Week 8 - Ervoor gaan
  - Week 9 - Ervoor blijven gaan
- Gemaakte oefeningen Meer...
- Feedback (2) Meer...
- Dagboek Meer...
- Ervaringen van anderen Meer...
- Mijn gegevens
- Hulp

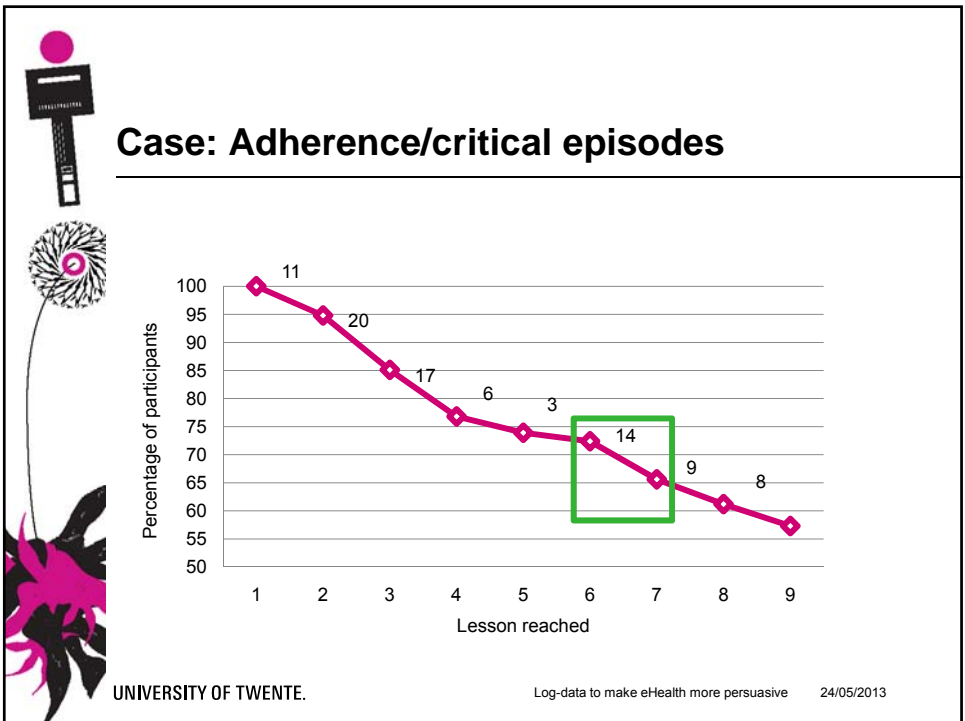
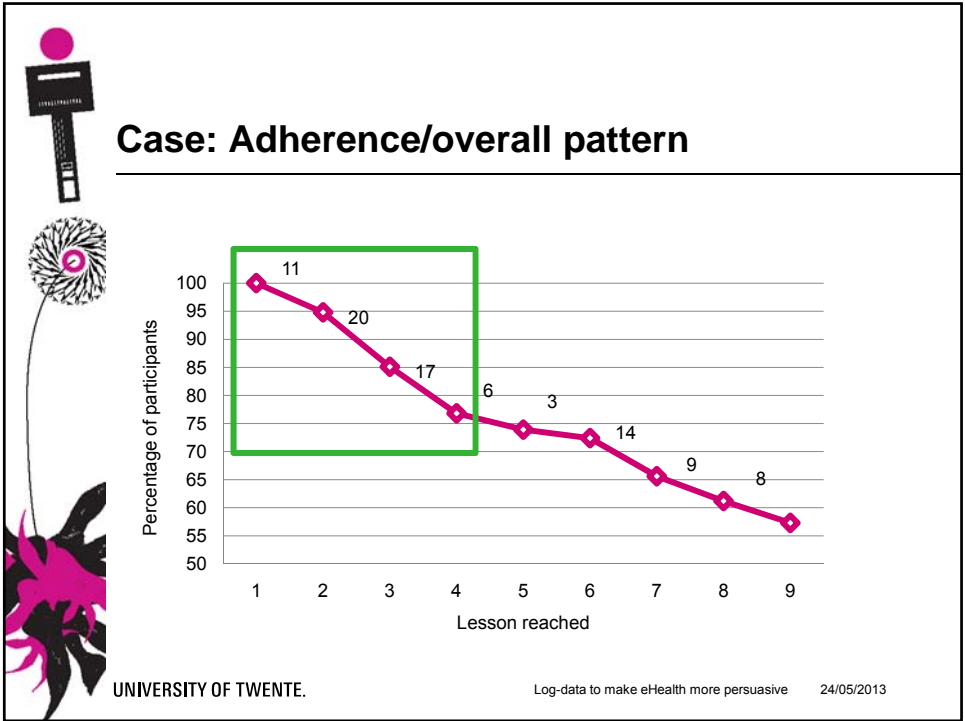
UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. 12 weeks, 9 lessons to complete 24/05/2013

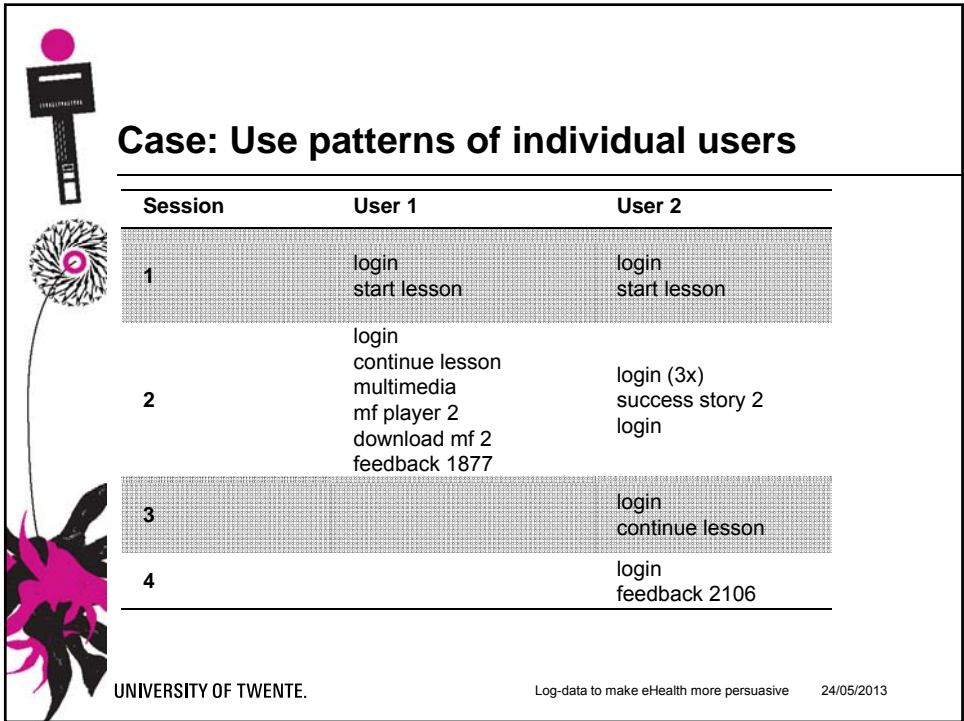
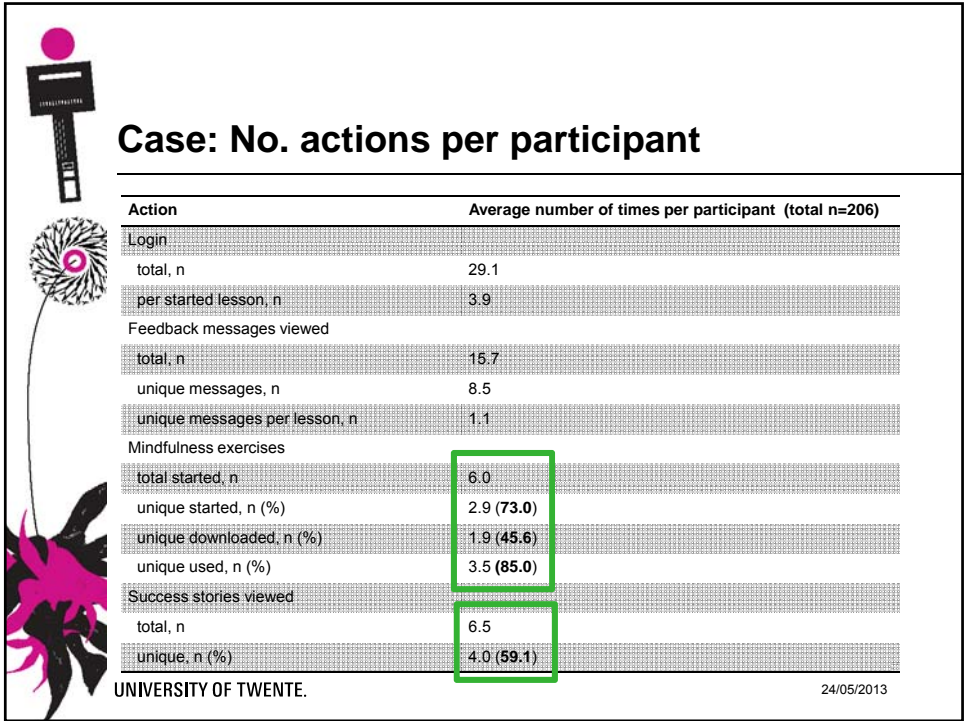
## Case: Log-data to open black box

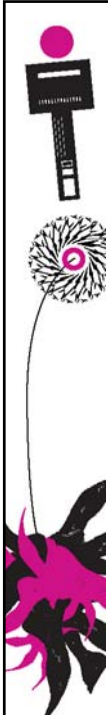
user-id	action type	specification	time and day
1096	logged in	1-11	30-3-2011 11:35
1096	viewed text-message	2	30-3-2011 11:35
1096	logged out	1-11	30-3-2011 11:35
1081	logged in	0-0	30-3-2011 11:39
1064	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 11:49
1064	viewed text-message	3	30-3-2011 11:49
1064	logged out	2-1	30-3-2011 11:50
986	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 11:59
986	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 12:21
1093	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 12:25
798	logged in	1-12	30-3-2011 12:27
798	viewed text-message	1	30-3-2011 12:27
798	logged in	1-12	30-3-2011 12:28
1072	logged in	1-1	30-3-2011 12:28
798	logged out	1-12	30-3-2011 12:31
898	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 12:58
812	logged in	1-1	30-3-2011 12:59
898	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 13:01
1079	logged in	0-0	30-3-2011 13:09
812	logged out	1-1	30-3-2011 13:10
895	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 13:12
814	viewed success story	15	24-4-2011 21:49
818	logged in	2-1	30-3-2011 13:13

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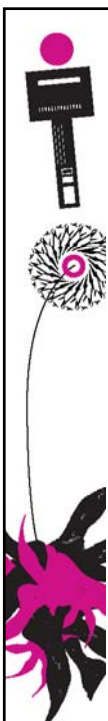




## Case: Use patterns of individual users

- Notable use patterns
  - Session: login; logout; < 1 minute (check, able to start next lesson)
  - Feedback not viewed when available
  - Adherers are more engaged
    - ↑ logins, ↑ sessions to complete lessons; ↑ use of available features; in later lessons: less sessions to complete lesson)
  - female, ↑ need for cognition,

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## Case: Log-data & Persuasion

- Lesson 6: critical episode (adoption of new behaviors)
  - Persuasive triggers: praise, suggestion, social support?
- Actions
  - success stories: embedded in the lessons? (less cognitive load; task support)
  - hot trigger to access other non-visited features
  - feedback not read: notification on login? not supportive? format of dialogue support?

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# Omgaan met emoties eMental Health

Een ontdekkingsreis naar de balans tussen leed en geluk

## Prompts for persuasive features

The screenshot shows a user interface for 'Omgaan met emoties'. On the left is a 'Cockpit' sidebar with 'Les' selected. The main content area displays a welcome message and a list of user-related items: 'Mijn motto', 'Mijn waarden' (with sub-items: 'Zelfstandigheid (dingen zelf en alleen kunnen)', 'Plezier', 'Logica (rationeel doordenken)'), 'Mijn top 5', 'Lessen', and 'Gemaakte oefeningen'. On the right, there are several menu items: 'Feedback (9)', 'Sms berichten (27)', 'Dagboek', and 'Ervaringen van anderen'. Overlaid on this are several blue and red callout boxes with labels: 'Personalization' (pointing to 'Mijn motto'), 'Dialogue Support' (pointing to 'Feedback (9)'), 'Reminders' (pointing to 'Sms berichten (27)'), 'Self-monitoring' (pointing to 'Dagboek'), 'Social learning' (pointing to 'Ervaringen van anderen'), 'Social facilitation' (pointing to 'Mijn top 5'), and 'Tunneling' (pointing to 'Lessen'). A larger blue box at the bottom right contains the text: 'Fractional factorial design; effect individual factors, what works best for whom...'. The top right corner of the interface shows 'uitloggen'.

## Experiment: Dialogue support (living to the full)

automated support vs human support

Outcomes  
CES-D  
HADS-A

Baseline/post/follow up

The screenshot shows the 'Feedback' section of the application. It features a profile picture of a woman and a text-based feedback message. Below the message is a play button icon and a progress bar. The text includes instructions for a mindfulness exercise: 'In de afgelopen week heb je geoefend met de bodyscan. Schrijf hieronder een paar activiteiten op:' followed by a text input field. Below that, it says: 'Voor deze oefening is het nodig dat je de kunsdprenters van de computer aanzet. Let ook op dat het volume ervan goed staat.' There is another play button icon and a progress bar. At the bottom, there is a section titled '197 je de mindfulness op je mp3-speler beluisteren, dan kan dat ook door naar rechter muisknop te klikken en het mp3-bestand te streamen door op 'Doe!' te klikken.' and a note: 'NB. In sommige browsers staat in plaats van 'Doe!' opstaan als iets anders zoals 'logging onstaan'. We spijker of 'doen' geprobeerd te staan'.

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## Discussion



- With log-data:
  - Insight in adherence, no. actions, use patterns; adherers
  - Prompts for persuasion in treatment program: willingness, awareness, adoption of new behaviors/skills
- Next steps:
  - Smart ways to handle log-data are needed
  - Real-time => personalised adaptive interfaces
  - Intervene for people 'at risk'
  - Persuasive Triggers => profiles, timing, dose, duration,

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## No diversity



Photography by Peter Stern

## High educated , conscientious women



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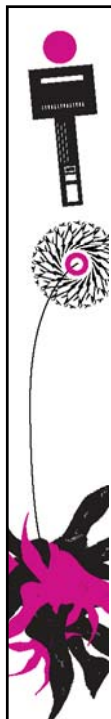


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**Thank you for your attention**

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## Why do we need insight in usage?

- Assumptions about usage are made
- Features are added on the presumption that they will be used
- Tailoring and personalisation: what works best for whom?

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## Methods



- Adherence / attrition
- No. actions per participant
- Use patterns of individual users



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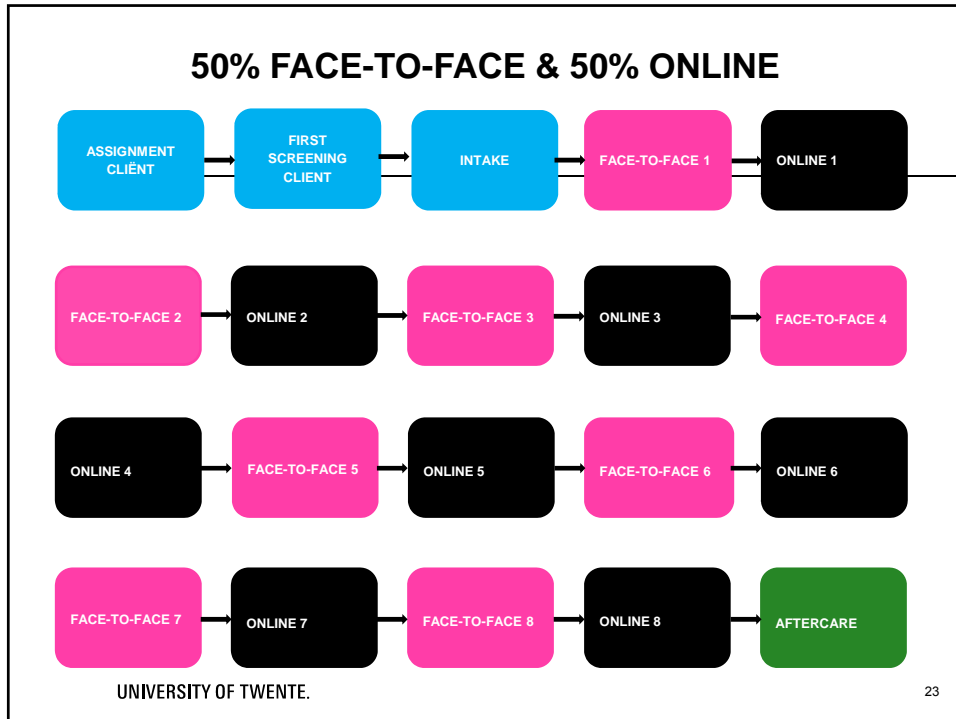
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## Critical episodes for persuasive features

- Within 4 weeks traceable
- Triggers based on user profiles
- Magic moment (drop out)
- Awareness and adoption of new behaviors
- Commitment with new behaviors
- Relapse



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## Persuasive Therapy : Fit between content and PSD

- **What are the critical episodes for PSD?**
- Before intake
- Intake
- Treatment & Interaction (*mode, modality, triggers*)
  - Acceptation
  - Cognitive defusing
  - Conceptualized self
  - Mindfulness
  - Values
  - Commitment
- Post treatment
  - Avoiding relapse



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## Persuasive technology and personalities (Halko&Kientz, 2010)

- More or less persuadable (Big Five Personalities)
- Conscientiousness successful for tech-persuasion (realising goals)
- Extraversions hard to persuade via tech
- Openness more likely to favour competitive or authoritative tech
- Agreeableness not very successful to persuade via tech
- Neuroticism no cooperation, enjoyment of negative reinforcement

*Welk persuasief design past bij welke persoonlijkheid?*

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## Automated feedback matters...

- Reduction in depression and anxiety CES-D;HADS-A (post/follow up)
  - Resp. with human support improved more during intervention; improvement stagnated between post-followup-time
  - Resp. with automated support showed less improvement during intervention, improvement carried on between post-followup time
  - Automated vs Human support no difference in adherence, effect (follow up)

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## Case: prompts for persuasion



- Log-data show prompts for persuasion in treatment program: willingness, awareness, adoption of new behaviors/skills
- Log-data show prompts for support during usage
  - hot triggers to use other non-visited features
  - personalized persuasive features to support progress

