

Convert ✕

Enter an amount

From this currency

- Euro - EUR
- United States Dollars - USD
- United Kingdom Pounds - GBP
- Canada Dollars - CAD

To this currency

- Euro - EUR
- United States Dollars - USD
- United Kingdom Pounds - GBP
- Canada Dollars - CAD

Convert

# Keystroke-Level Model

# Learning Goals

- Know what KLM stands for
- Know the KLM operators
- Being able to predict how long tasks take using KLM

Convert ×

Enter an amount

6

From this currency

Euro  
US Dollar  
British Pound  
Canadian Dollar

To this currency

Euro  
US Dollar  
British Pound  
Canadian Dollar

Convert

- Task: Convert 12 Euro in US Dollar
- One hand on the mouse, nothing selected
- What do we need to know?

- Task: Convert 12 Euro in US Dollar
- One hand on the mouse, nothing selected

Convert

Enter an amount

6

From this currency

Euro  
US Dollar  
British Pound  
Canadian Dollar

To this currency

Euro  
US Dollar  
British Pound  
Canadian Dollar

Convert

select text field

delete value

enter value

select Euro

select Dollar

select Convert



# Keystroke-Level Model (KLM)

- Simplified version of the "**G**oals, **O**perators, **M**ethods, and **S**elections rules" (GOMS) Model
- KLM predicts how much time it takes to execute a task
- Execution of a task is decomposed into primitive operators
  - Physical motor operators
    - Pressing a button, pointing, drawing a line, ...
  - Mental operator
    - Preparing for a physical action
  - System response operator
    - User waits for the system to do something

Operator	Description	Associated Time
K	Keystroke, typing one letter, number, etc. or function key such as 'CTRL' or 'SHIFT'	
H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	
P	Pointing with a mouse to a target	
$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	
$R(t)$	System response time, time during which the user cannot act	

Operator	Description	Associated Time
K	Keystroke, typing one letter, number, etc. or function key such as 'CTRL' or 'SHIFT'	Expert typist (90 wpm): 0.12s Averaged skilled typist (55 wpm): 0.20s Average non-secretarial typist (40 wpm): 0.28 Worst typist (unfamiliar with keyboard): 1.2s
H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	
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H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	0.4s
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	
P	Pointing with a mouse to a target	
$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	
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H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	0.4s
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	0.1s / 2*0.1s
P	Pointing with a mouse to a target	
$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	
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H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	0.4s
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	0.1s / 2*0.1s
P	Pointing with a mouse to a target	0.8s to 1.5s with an average of 1.1s Can also use Fitts' Law
$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	
R(t)	System response time, time during which the user cannot act	

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K	Keystroke, typing one letter, number, etc. or function key such as 'CTRL' or 'SHIFT'	Expert typist (90 wpm): 0.12s Averaged skilled typist (55 wpm): 0.20s Average non-secretarial typist (40 wpm): 0.28s Worst typist (unfamiliar with keyboard): 1.2s
H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	0.4s
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	0.1s / 2*0.1s
P	Pointing with a mouse to a target	0.8s to 1.5s with an average of 1.1s Can also use Fitts' Law
$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	$0.9s * n_D + 0.16 * l_D$
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	
R(t)	System response time, time during which the user cannot act	

Operator	Description	Associated Time
K	Keystroke, typing one letter, number, etc. or function key such as 'CTRL' or 'SHIFT'	Expert typist (90 wpm): 0.12s Averaged skilled typist (55 wpm): 0.20s Average non-secretarial typist (40 wpm): 0.28 Worst typist (unfamiliar with keyboard): 1.2s
H	'Homing', moving the hand between mouse and keyboard	0.4s
B/BB	Pressing (B) or clicking (BB) a button	0.1s / 2*0.1s
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$D(n_D, l_D)$	Drawing $n_D$ straight line segments of length $l_D$	$0.9s * n_D + 0.16 * l_D$
M	Subsumed time for mental acts; sometimes used as 'look-at'	1.35s
R(t)	System response time, time during which the user cannot act	Dependent on the system

- Task: Convert 12 Euro in US Dollar
- One hand on the mouse, nothing selected

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| select text field | P, BB       |
| delete value      | H, K        |
| enter value       | M, K, K     |
| select Euro       | H, M, P, BB |
| select Dollar     | M, P, BB    |
| select Convert    | P, BB       |

select text field	P, BB
delete value	H, K
enter value	M, K, K
select Euro	H, M, P, BB
select Dollar	M, P, BB
select Convert	P, BB

Operator Times:

$P \approx 1.1s$

$B = 0.1s$

$H = 0.4s$

$M = 1.35s$

$K = 0.28s$

$$4 * P = 4.40s$$

$$8 * B = 0.80s$$

$$2 * H = 0.80s$$

$$3 * M = 4.05s$$

$$3 * K = 0.84s$$

$$\text{Total} = \mathbf{10,89s}$$

### Version 1

Mail  
 Text  
 Web  
 Photo

Go

### Version 2

[Mail](#)  
[Text](#)  
[Web](#)  
[Photo](#)

Hand on mouse, nothing selected, go to photo:

- Which is the fastest interface?
- Which is the slowest?

### Version 3

Mail  Go

### Version 4

Go



# Wrap-up

- The Keystroke-Level Model predicts task completion time for simple dialogs
- Assumes a trained average user
- Especially useful to compare alternatives
- Using KLM by hand can become lengthy and complex
- KLM is not useful for tasks that require reasoning

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