Usability Research for KDE at openSUSE

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Motivation

- SUSE wants to drive innovations
- Team analyzed part with best rate of work / benefit
- Start menu was most obvious to us
- Ongoing discussion about the KDE 4 start menu

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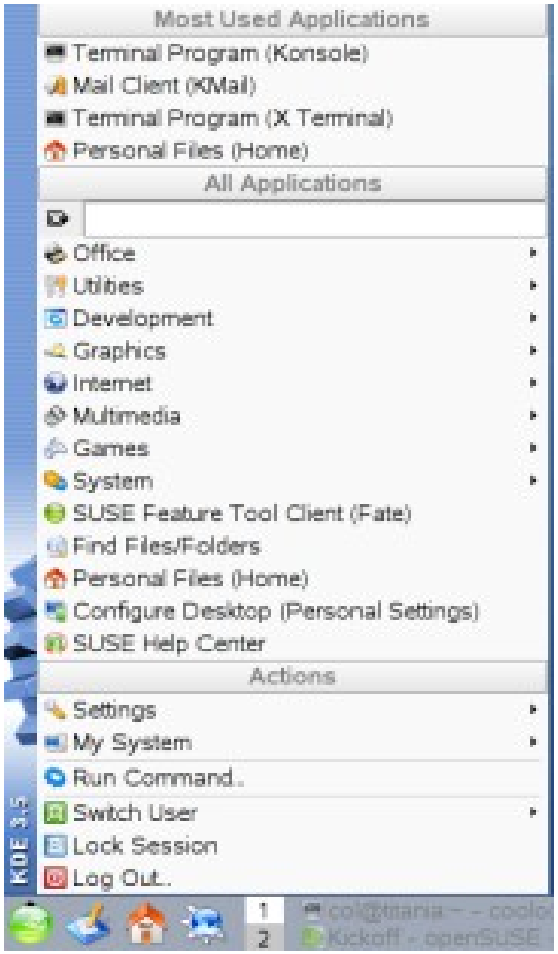
Several Approaches for Menu NG

SUSE Linux 10.x



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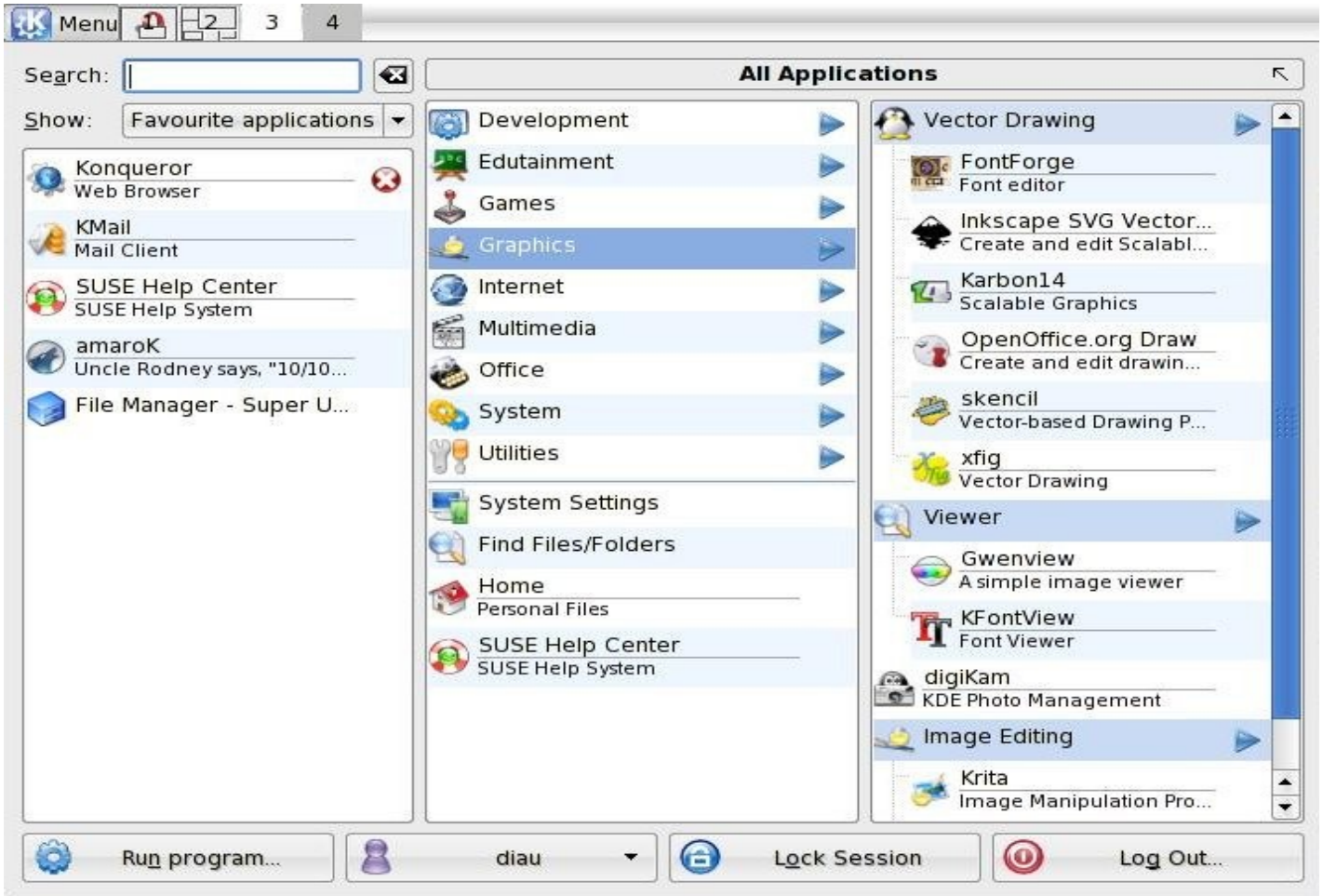
Tasty Menu



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Kbfx

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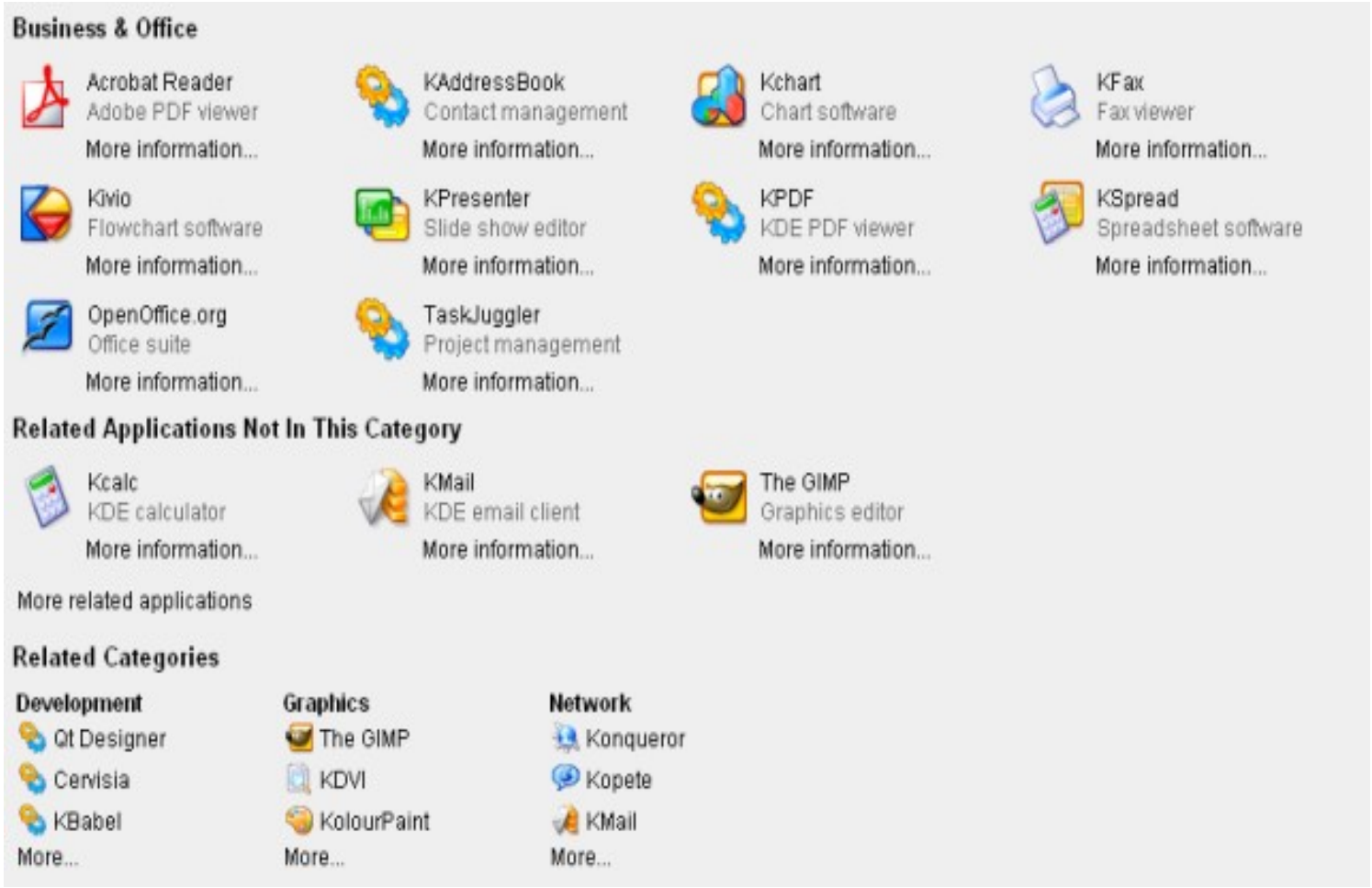
Celeste Paul's Application Browser



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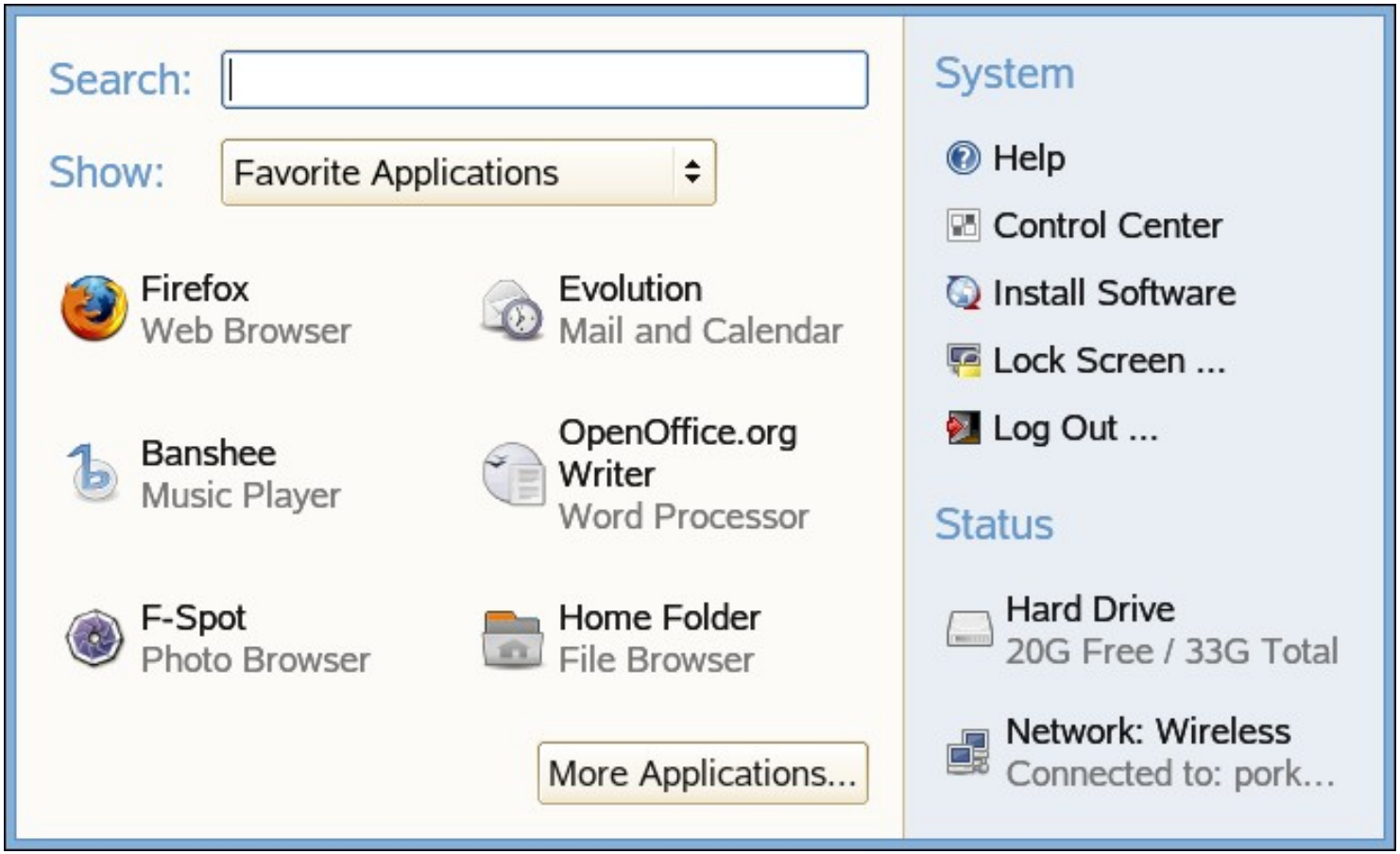
SLED 10: GNOME Desktop Menu



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Interfaces and Application Team

Picture taken on usual work day...

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Interfaces and Applications Team

- Team Lead
- KDE Developers
  - contribute to KDE project, work on openSUSE integration
  - Kickoff, Kerry, KNetworkManager, sysinfo:/, ...
- Usability Experts
  - Kickoff, openSUSE Survey, Novell Customer Center testing, YaST card sort study, YaST style guide, ...
- Internationalization Specialist
  - Font rendering, input methods, ...
- Web Designer
  - openSUSE updater icons, new wiki layout proposal, ...

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Start Menu Usability Study

Setup of the Usability Study

- Testing different start menus
- Finding strengths of them using comparable tests
- 10 users per test cohort
  - Form about user habits
  - Video-Taping of 13 tasks
  - Another form about impressions
- Development of a prototype that tries to unify the seen strengths
- Another 10 users test prototype
- Inclusion of results in final product

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Tasks

Task 1: Change desktop background and use file ...

Task 2: Find, open and close a PDF document with name ...

Task 3: Find and open a recently used office text document with name ...

Task 4: Find and open a mp3-file located in the CD-ROM drive with name ...

Task 5: Lock screen

Task 6: Open web browser, open and close web page with URL ...

Task 7: Search for all office text documents containing name ...

Task 8: Change start menu: remove entry with name ...

Task 9: Change start menu: add application ... to the start menu

Task 10: Find rules of the game ...

Task 11: Find information about "how to add a printer to the system"

Task 12: Change start menu: Add office text document with name ...

Task 13: Shut down system

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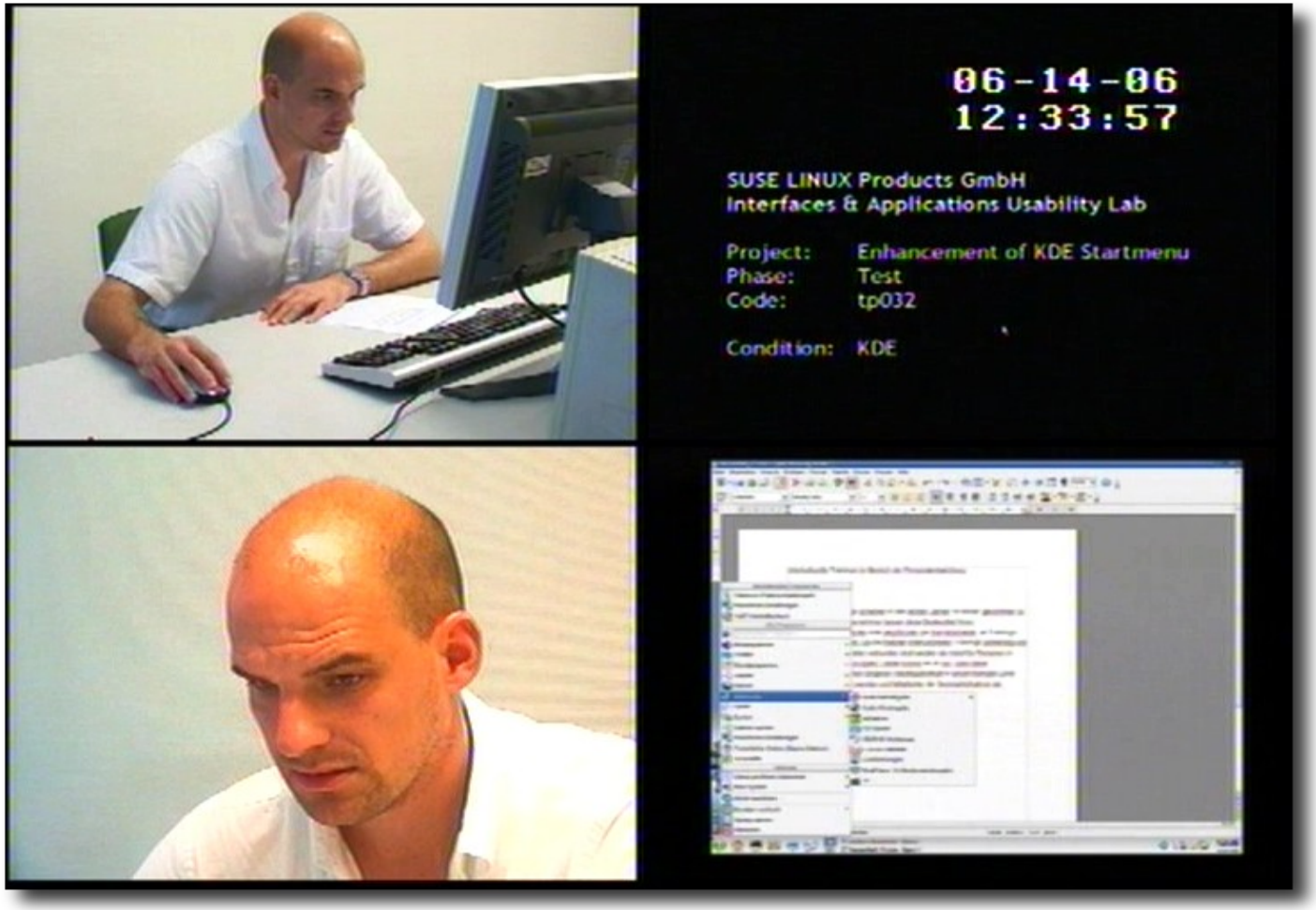
Example



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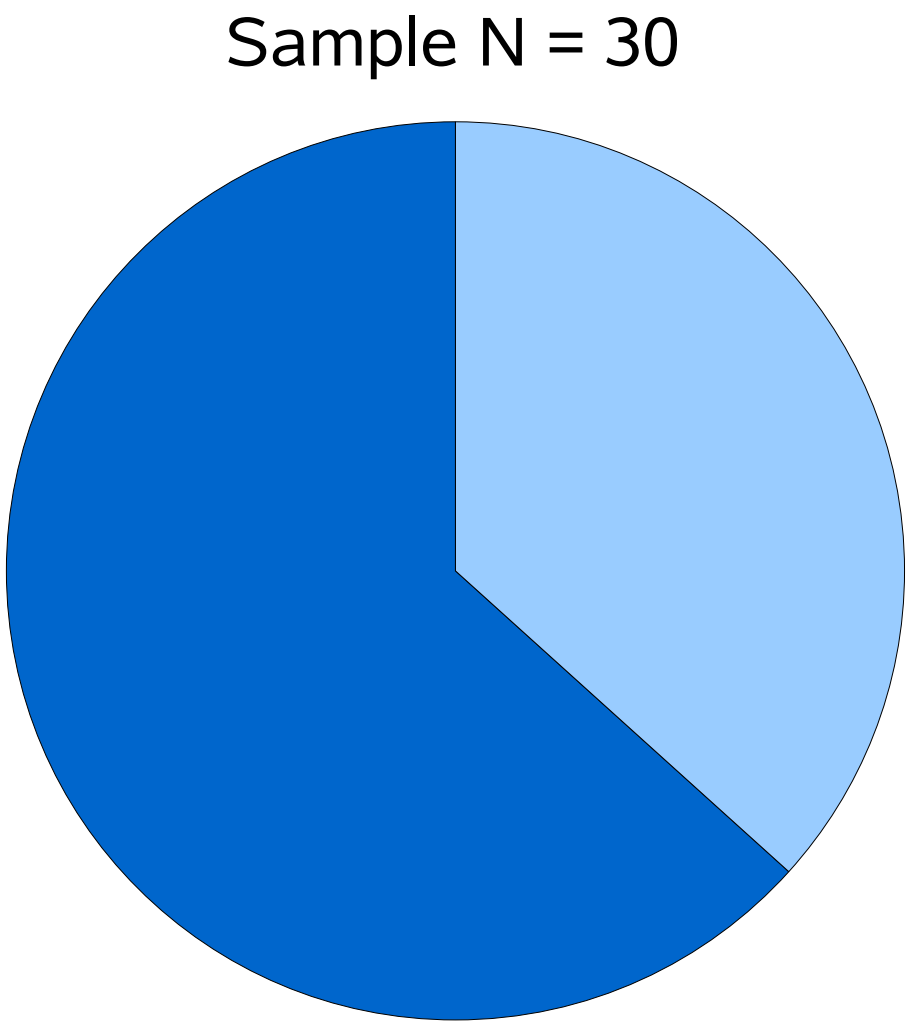
The Participants

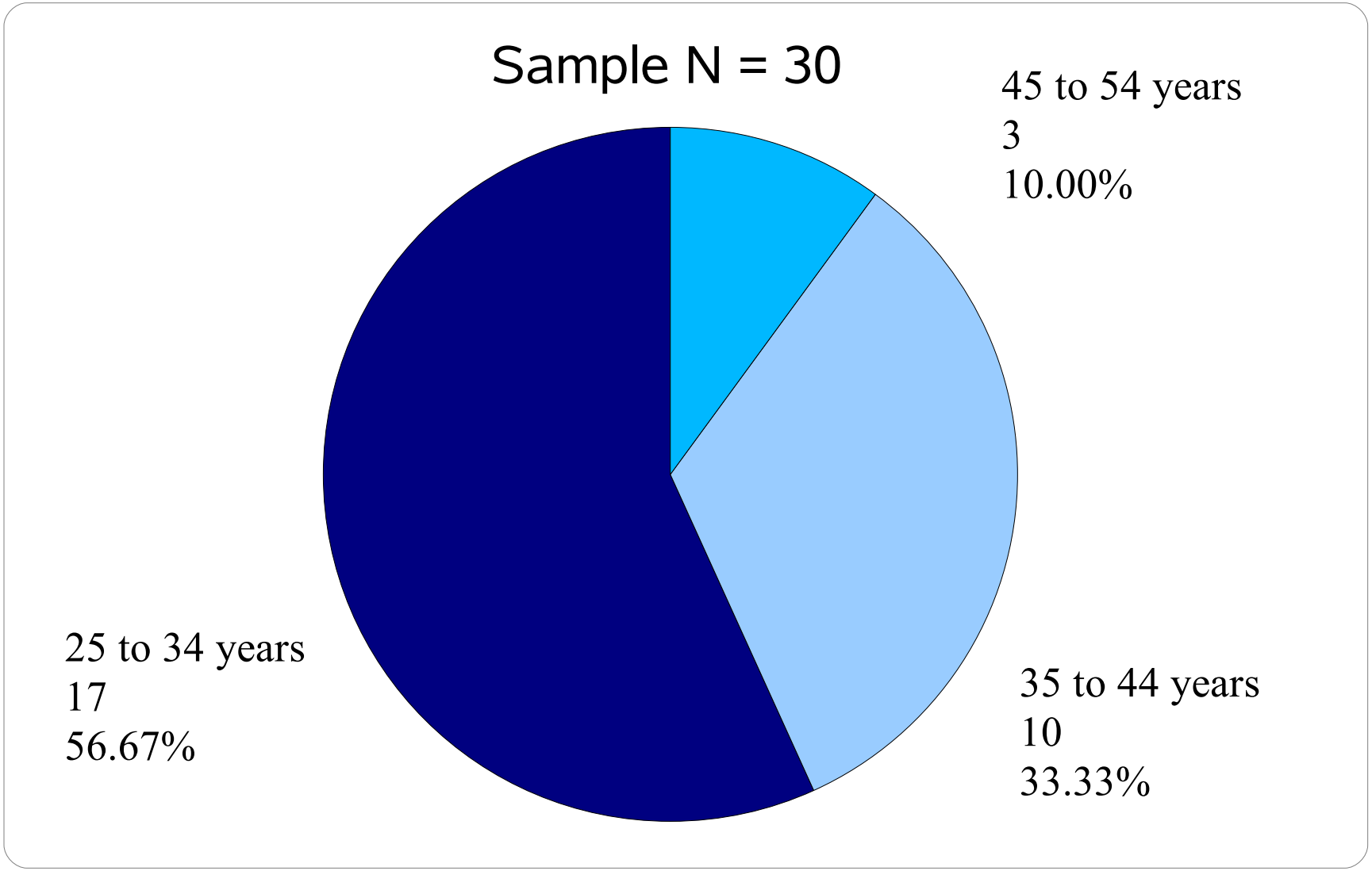
Sample Description

Gender Dispersal (Groups: KDE Classic, KDE Kick Off, Vista)



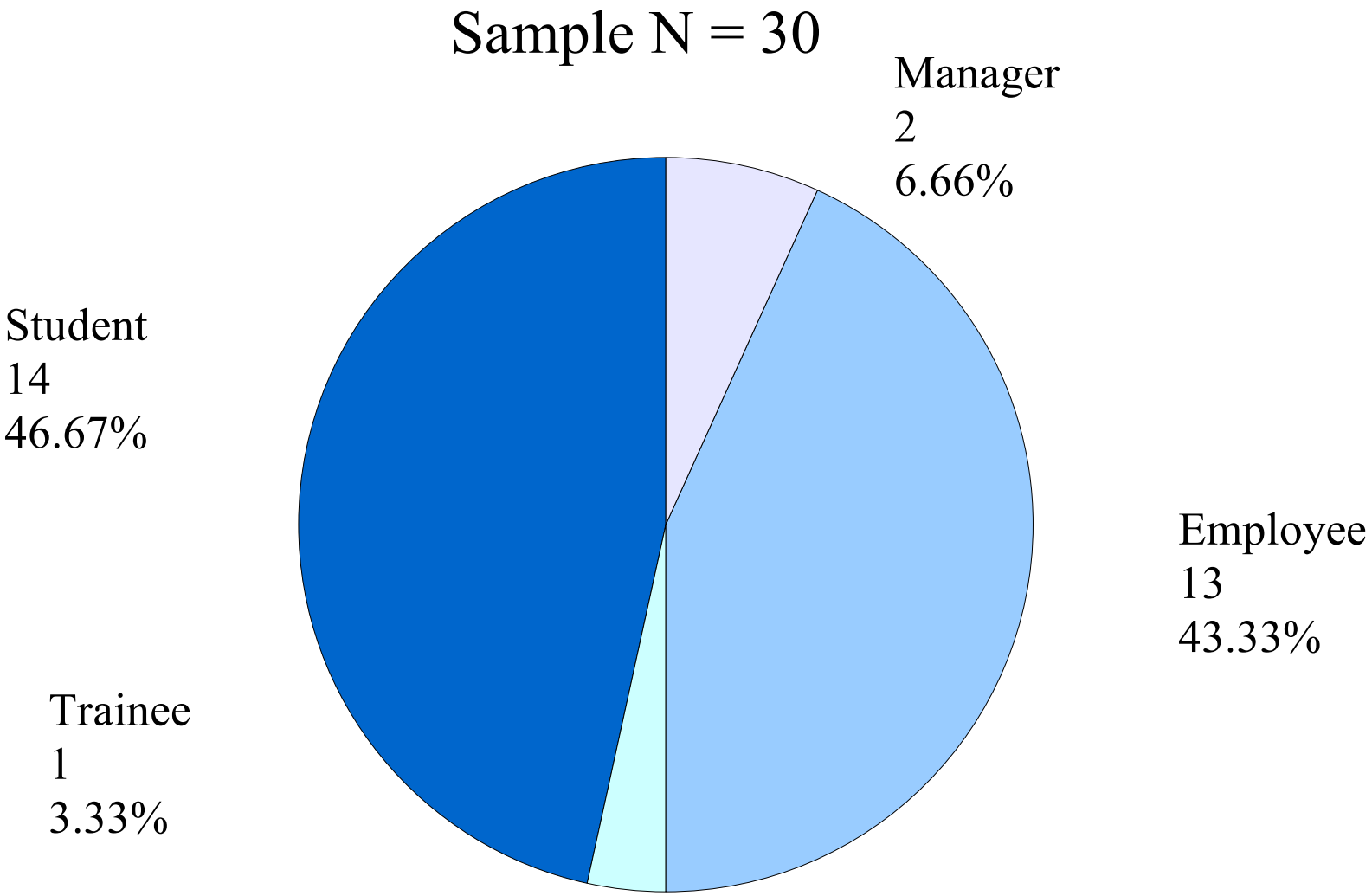
Sample Description

Age Dispersal (Groups: KDE Classic, KDE Kick Off, Vista)



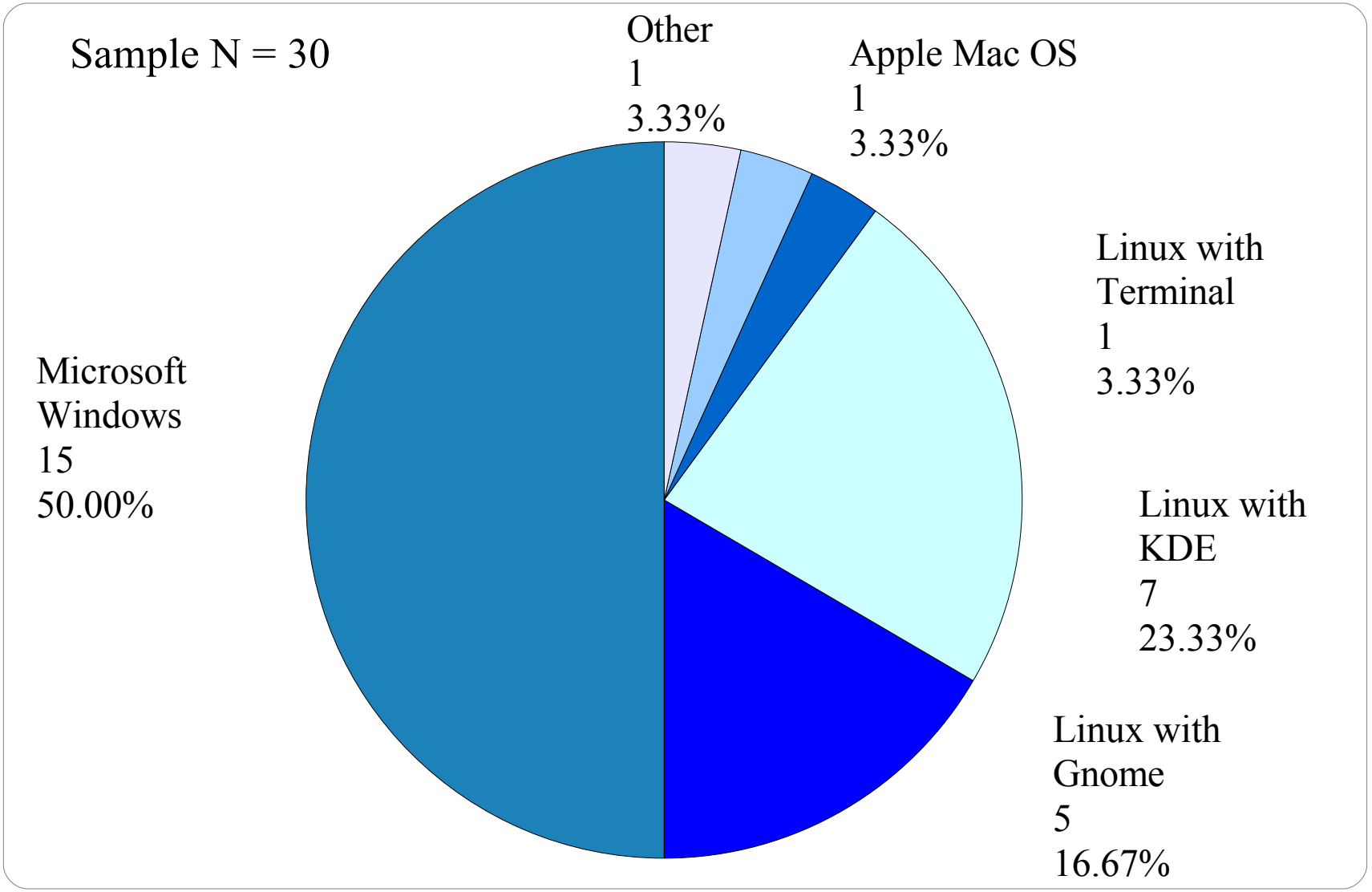
Sample Description

Profession Status (Groups: KDE Classic, KDE Kick Off, Vista)



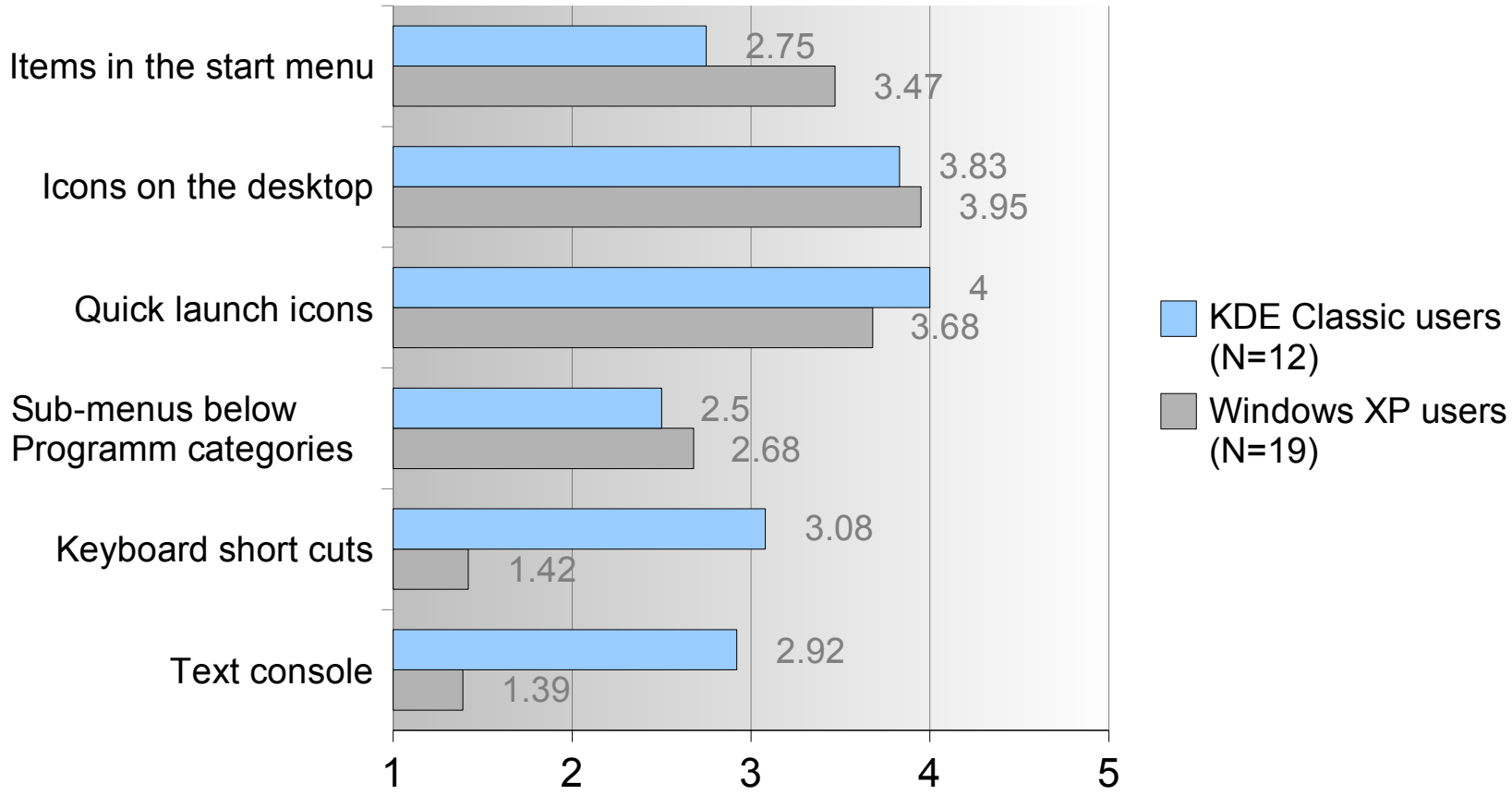
Sample Description

"My Start Menu" (Groups: KDE Classic, KDE Kick Off, Vista)



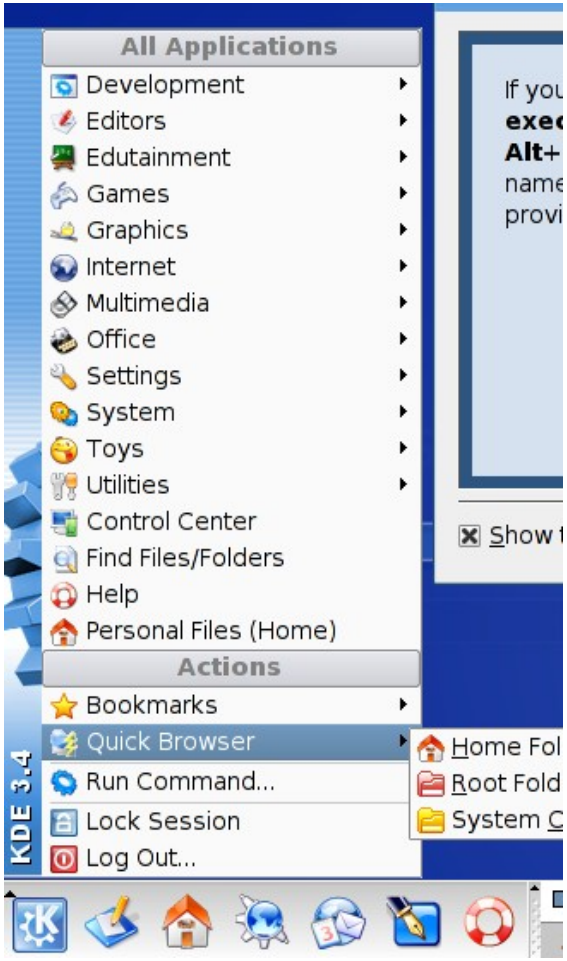
Start of Applications
Group independent sample N = 31

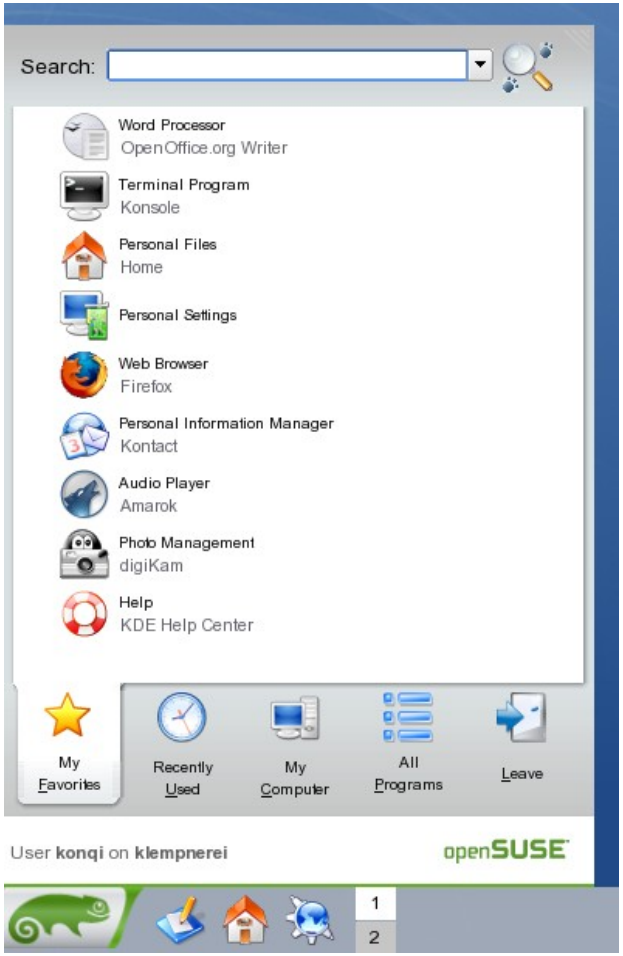
Question: How often do you start applications via...



Kickoff Design and Testing

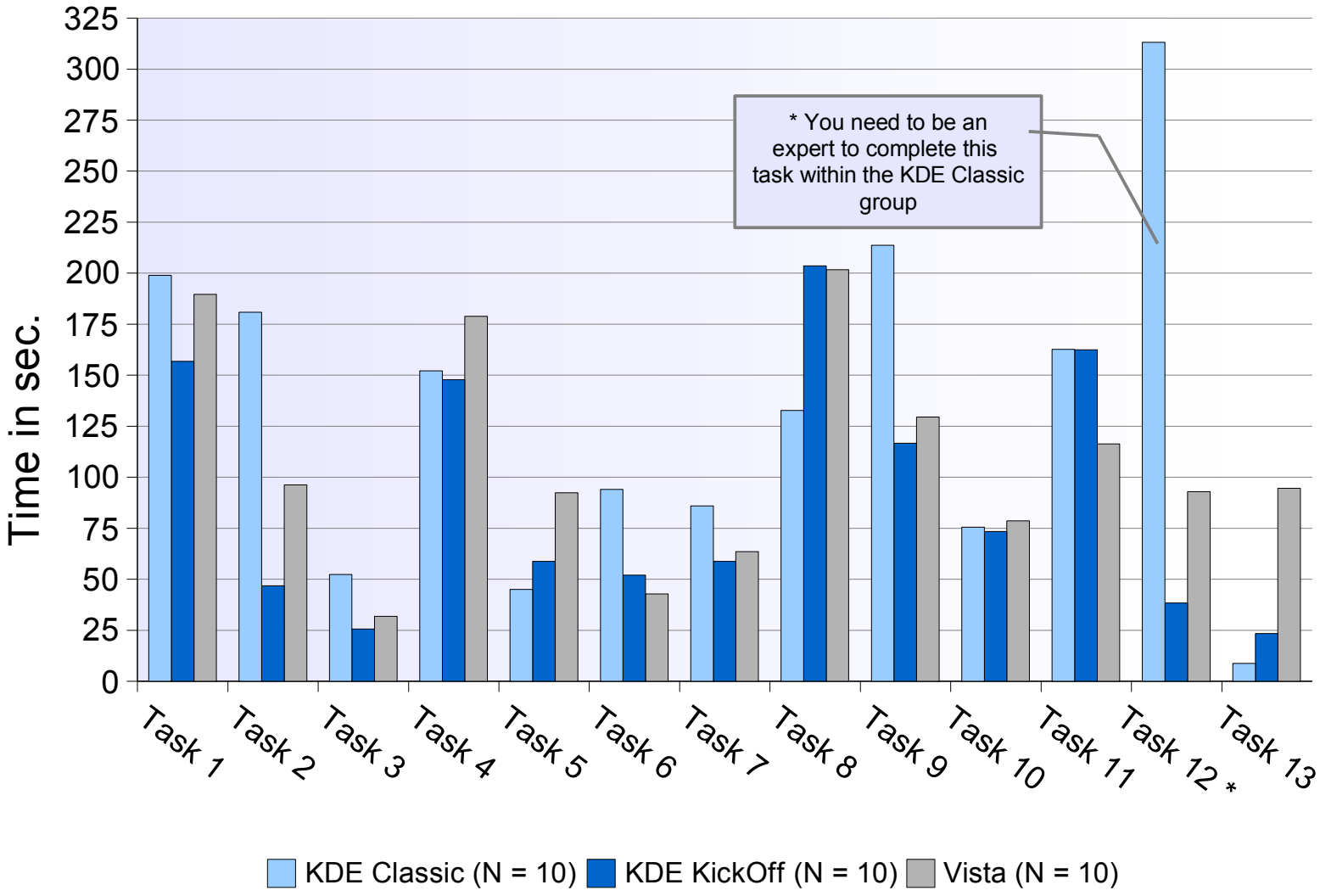
Our Design


All Applications
Development
Editors
Edutainment
Games
Graphics
Internet
Multimedia
Office
Settings
System
Toys
Utilities
Control Center
Find Files/Folders
Help
Personal Files (Home)
Actions
Bookmarks
Quick Browser
Run Command...
Lock Session
Log Out...
KDE 3.4
Home Fol
Root Fold
System C


Search:
Word Processor
OpenOffice.org Writer
Terminal Program
Konsole
Personal Files
Home
Personal Settings
Web Browser
Firefox
Personal Information Manager
Kontact
Audio Player
Amarok
Photo Management
digiKam
Help
KDE Help Center
My Favorites
Recently Used
My Computer
All Programs
Leave
User konqi on klempnerei
openSUSE
1
2

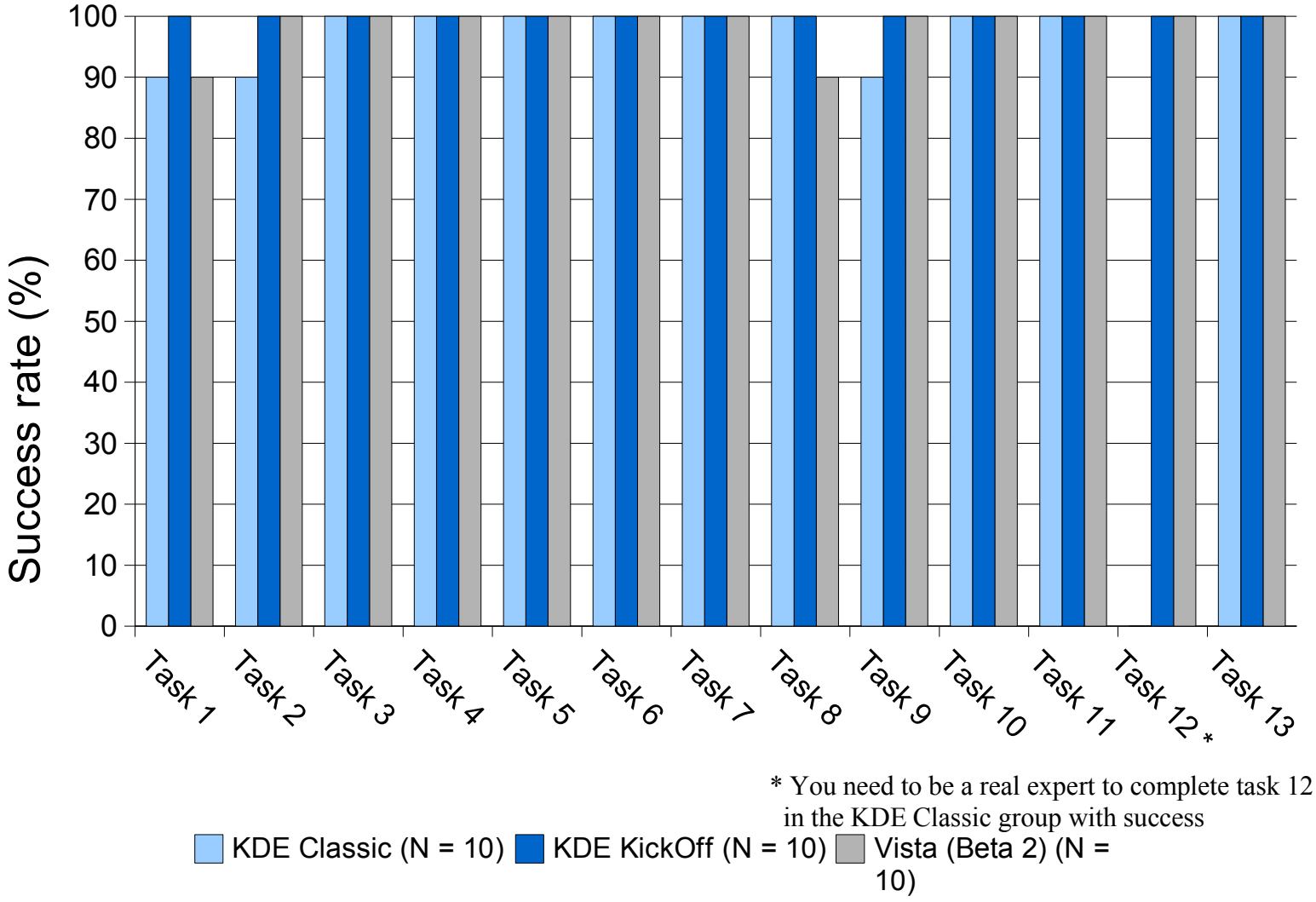
Task Completion Time

Task 1 to 13 – Lower Values Represent Better Scores



Success Rate of Task Completion

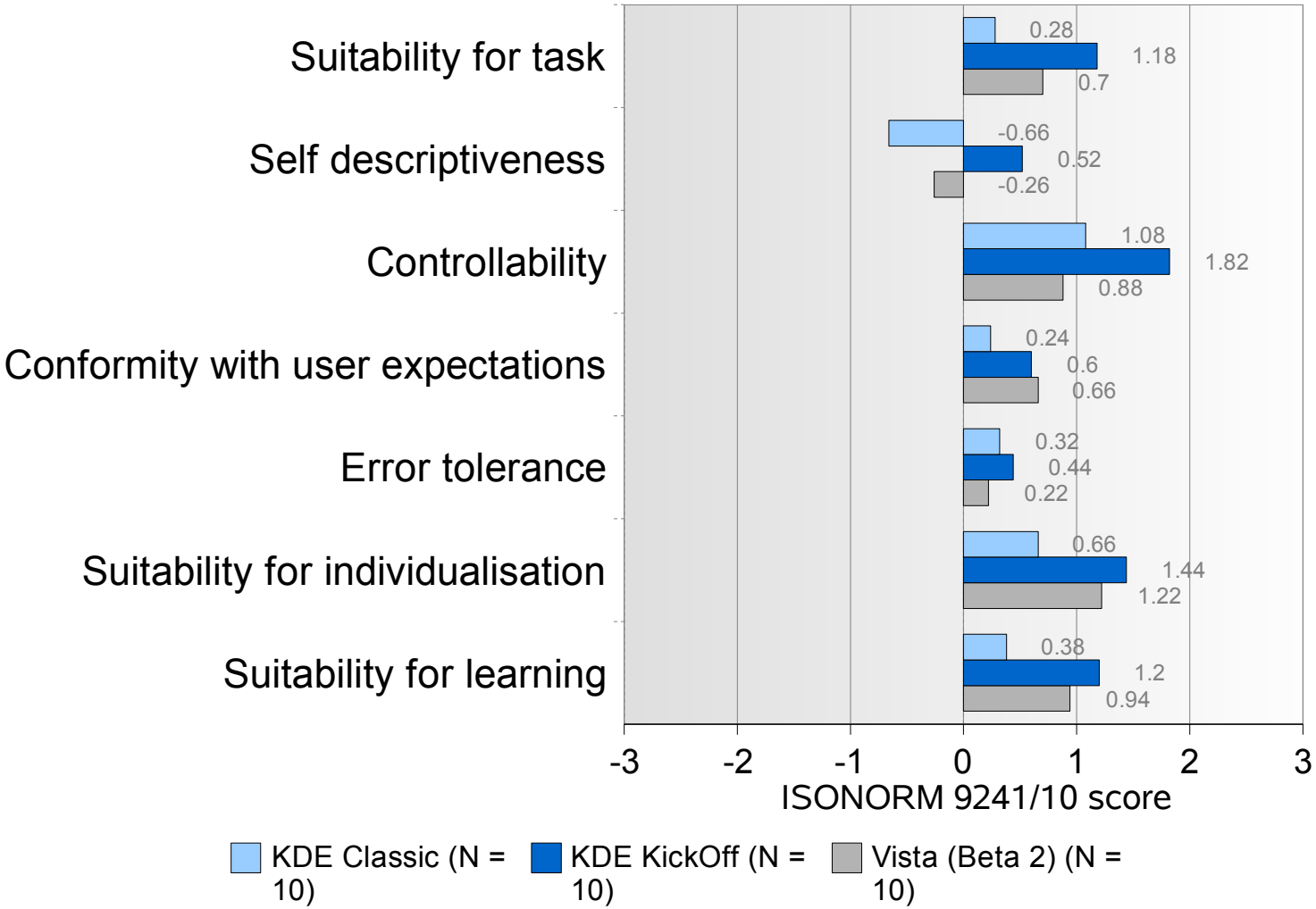
Task 1 to 13



* You need to be a real expert to complete task 12 in the KDE Classic group with success

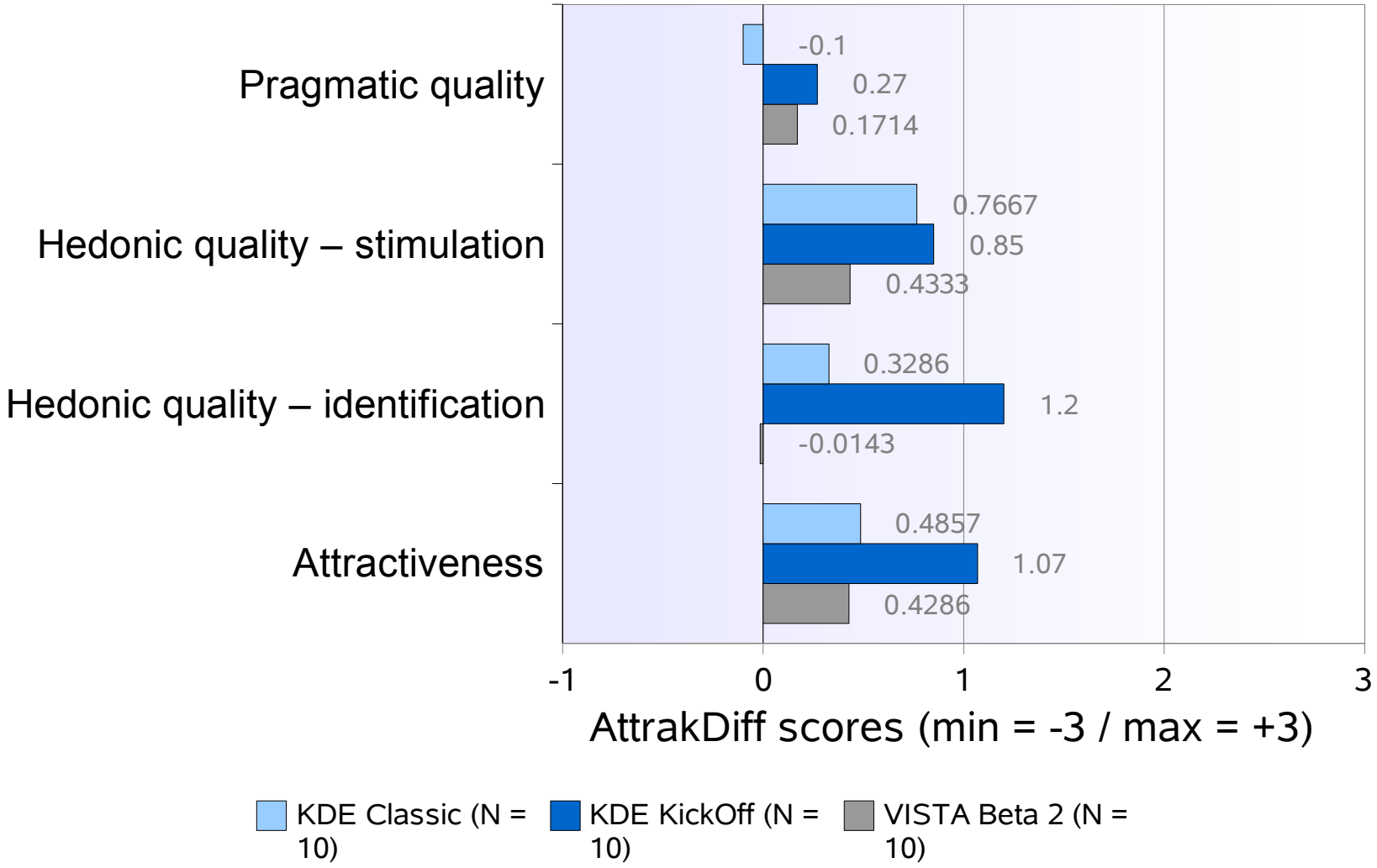
ISONORM Questionnaire by Prümper & Anft

Mean of 5 Questions in 7 Categories



AttrakDiff by Hassenzahl

4 Categories Representing Different Aspects of Attractiveness



Video Time

General Information

Mailing-Lists

opensuse-kde@opensuse.org

Discussion about KDE in the openSUSE distribution

opensuse-usability@opensuse.org

Help to improve the usability in openSUSE

Subscription: mailto:<listname>+subscribe@opensuse.org

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openSUSE Build Service Repositories

KDE:KDE3

Latest released KDE for released distributions

KDE:Backports

Application from Factory for released distributions

KDE:Community

Community maintained KDE applications

KDE:Playground

Development version of applications in distribution

KDE:KDE4

Unstable test builds of upcoming KDE 4

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Questions?

http://en.opensuse.org/Kickoff

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Corporate color palette and margins

These gray lines show the margins that need to be adhered too. If your slide content extends beyond the margins you may need to move to a full screen slide layout.

Most importantly keep the area under the logo clear

SUSE Palette	Yellow Palette	Green Palette	Blue Palette	Gray Palette	Misc
R 188 G 225 B 141	R 252 G 194 B 79	R 225 G 213 B 75	R 182 G 201 B 207	R 186 G 189 B 182	R 237 G 238 B 236
R 0 G 149 B 48	R 232 G 128 B 0	R 157 G 176 B 41	R 100 G 132 B 164	R 107 G 108 B 105	R 224 G 0 B 0
R 0 G 98 B 90	R 201 G 86 B 22	R 115 G 126 B 31	R 77 G 68 B 102	R 46 G 52 B 54	R 204 G 0 B 0

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