

GLIMMPSE Lite: Power and Sample Size Calculations Using Mobile Devices

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Motivation

- When designing research studies, scientists must determine the number of participants needed to answer the question of interest, while minimizing risk to participants.
- Our goal is to provide a free, open source mobile app to calculate power and sample size for researchers on the go.

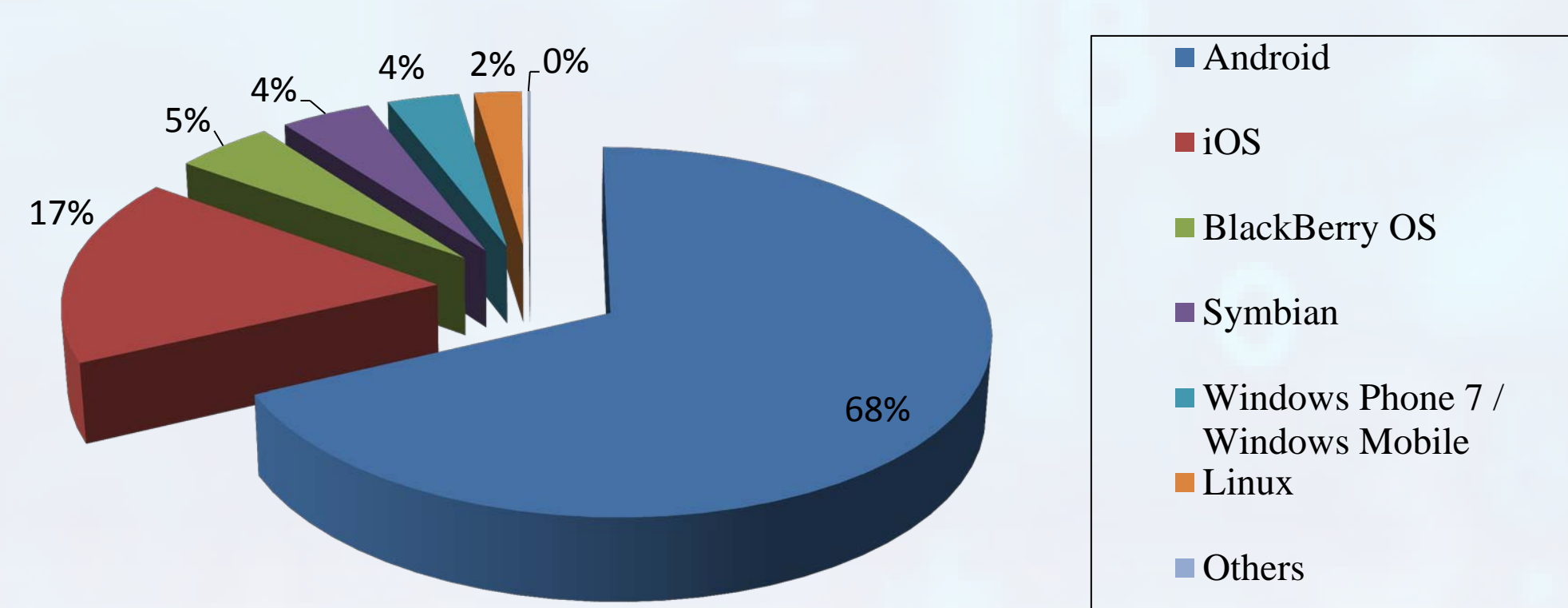
Background

- Our team previously developed GLIMMPSE, a free, open source, user-friendly web application that calculates power and sample size for multilevel and longitudinal studies.
- We designed GLIMMPSE Lite as a prototype, to test extending power and sample size calculations to mobile platforms.
- GLIMMPSE Lite leverages the existing Java Web Services architecture which powers the web application.

Why Mobile?

- Large user base for mobile applications.
 - 152.8 million smartphones.
- Carry power results in your pocket while
 - Attending a meeting.
 - Travelling in an airplane (with wi-fi or mobile network).

Smartphone World Wide Market 2012



Source : IDC (International Data Corporation) Mobile Phone Tracker 8th August 2012

Application Market Study

Product	Platform	Cost	Method of Analysis					
			One Way ANOVA			Data Analysis	Power Analysis	Sample Size Analysis
			One-sample t-test	Two-sample t-test	Multiple Groups			
GLIMMPSE Lite	iPhone, Android	FREE	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
ANOVA : Analysis of Variance (Learning App.)	Android	\$2.99	-	-	-	-	-	-
One Way ANOVA	iPhone	\$8.99	-	-	✓	-	✓	-
ANOVA	iPhone	\$4.99	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
ANOVA	Android	\$2.99	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
Power Analysis	iPhone	\$4.99	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✓

Table 1: Mobile applications available for ANOVA.

GLIMMPSE Lite

- Provides power or sample size calculations for t-tests and ANOVA.
- Currently available for iPhone and Android (85% market share).
- Native applications built using
 - Objective-C/Xcode/AFNetworking for iOS.
 - Java/Eclipse for Android.

Architecture

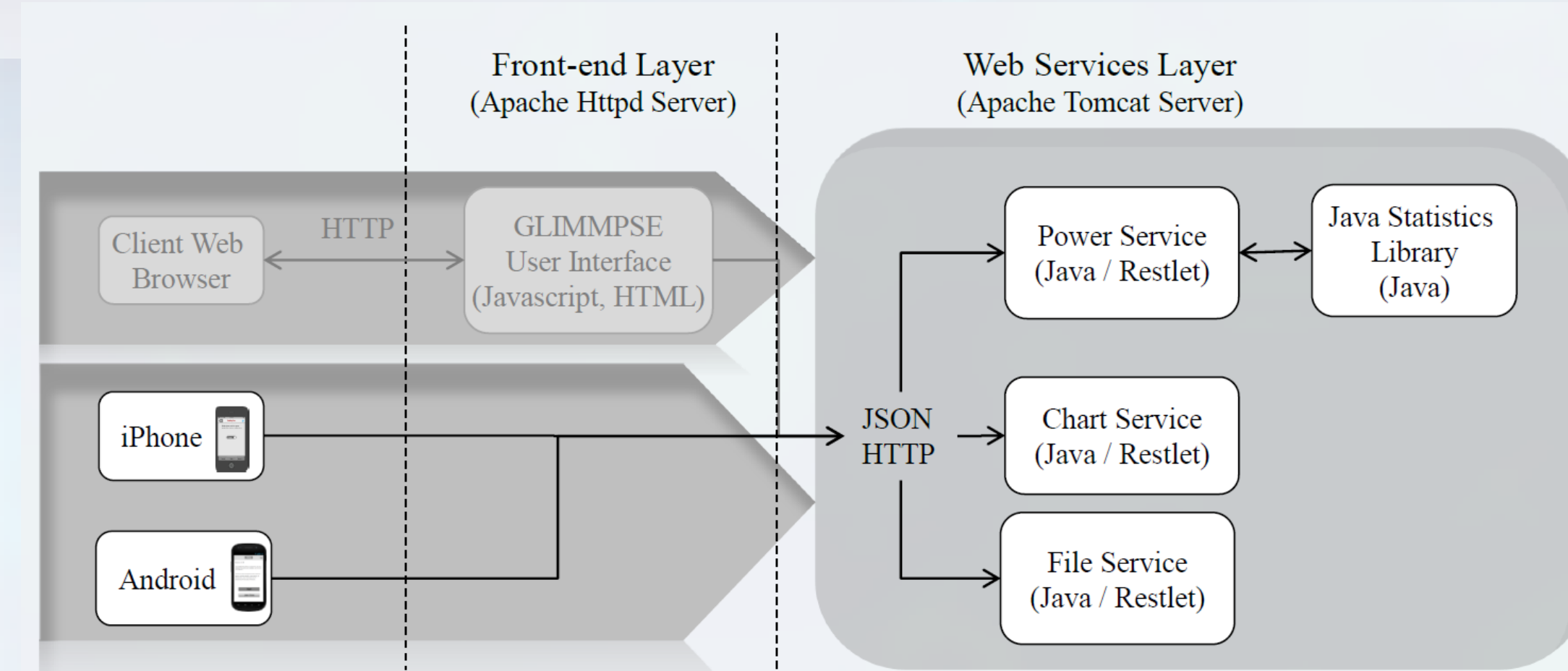


Figure 1: GLIMMPSE (web) and GLIMMPSE Lite (mobile) software architecture.

- Reuses existing Java Web Services to perform power calculations.
- Uses HTTP/JSON to permit easy communication with a variety of mobile devices.
- Allows rapid application development in a small team environment.

User Interface Design

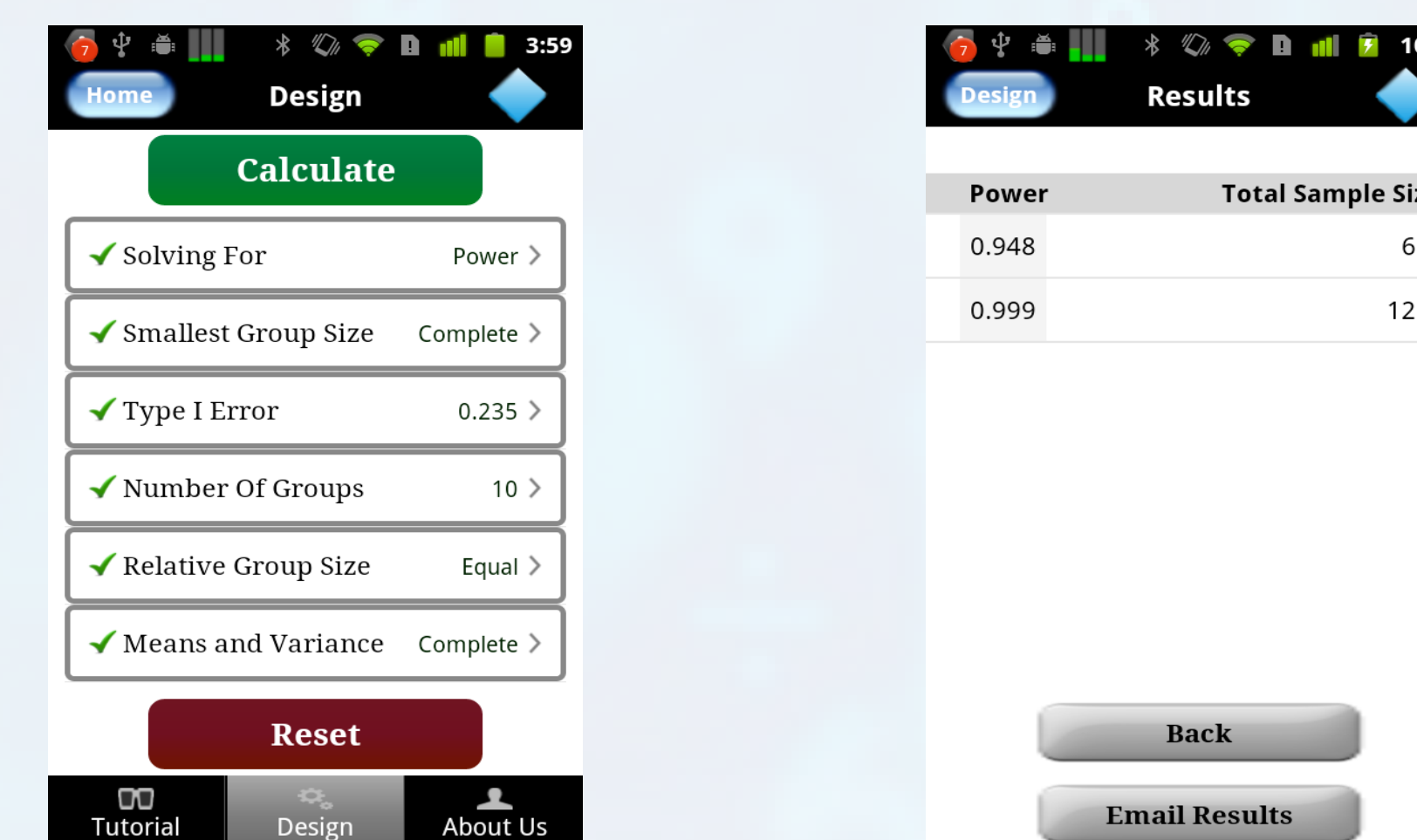


Figure 2 : GLIMMPSE Lite Android version

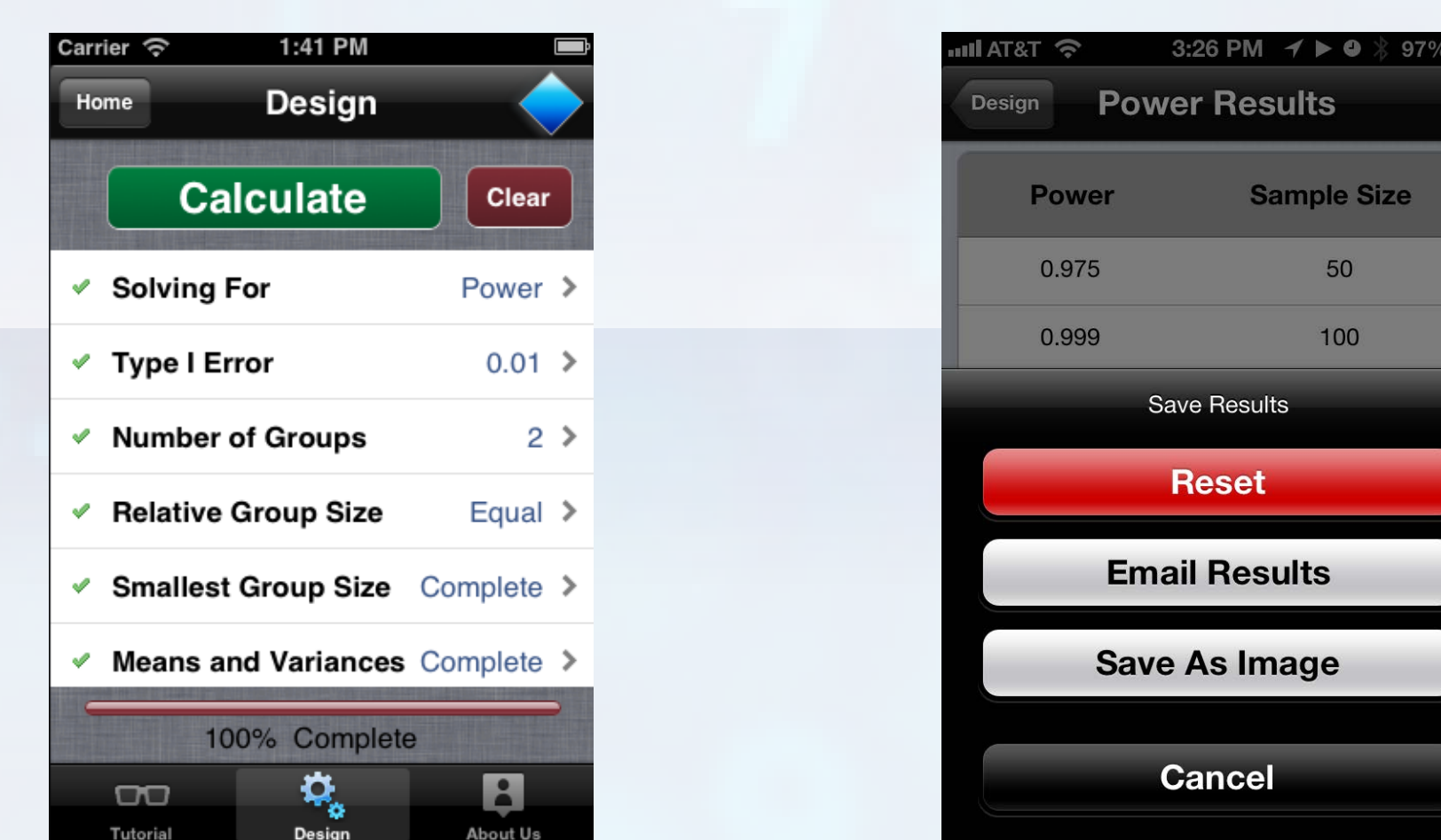


Figure 3: GLIMMPSE Lite iPhone version.

- Simple and uncluttered user interface design.
 - Complex calculation broken into a list of smaller tasks.
 - Integrated help pages for each input screen.
- Allows user to save results via email or as an image.

Platform Specific Design Decisions

- OS support:
 - Android: API level 9 onwards.
 - iPhone: iOS 5 onwards.
- Different widgets in Android:
 - Switch on iPhone vs. Radio buttons on Android.
- Rotating wheel on iPhone vs. scroll bars on Android.

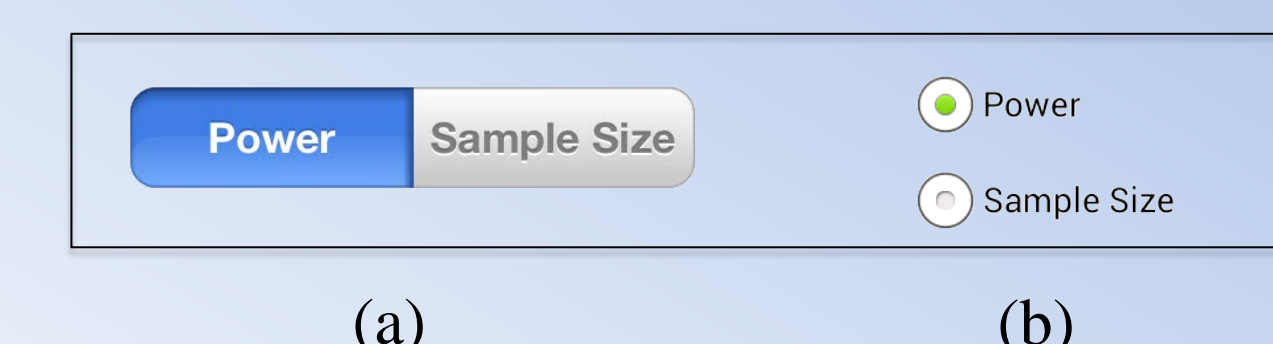


Figure 4 : GLIMMPSE Lite widgets on (a) iPhone (b) Android

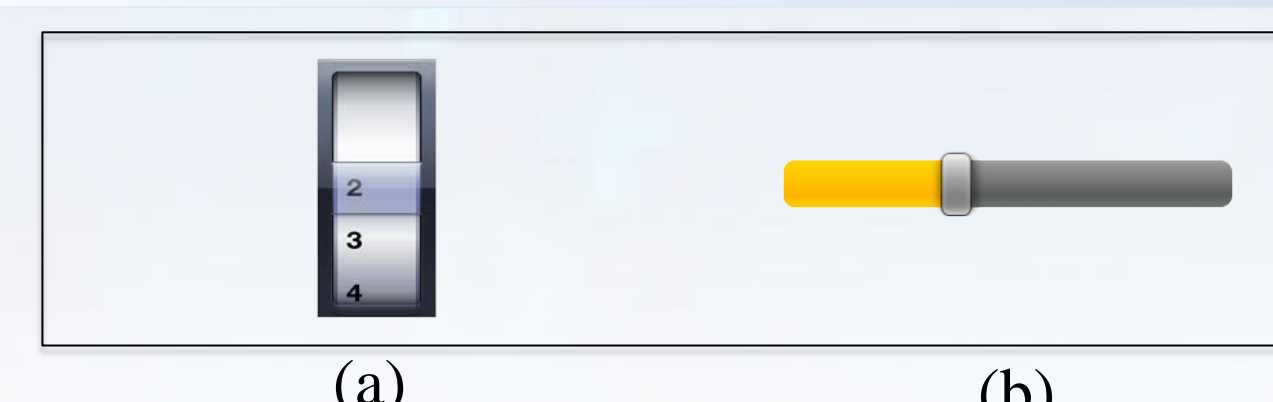
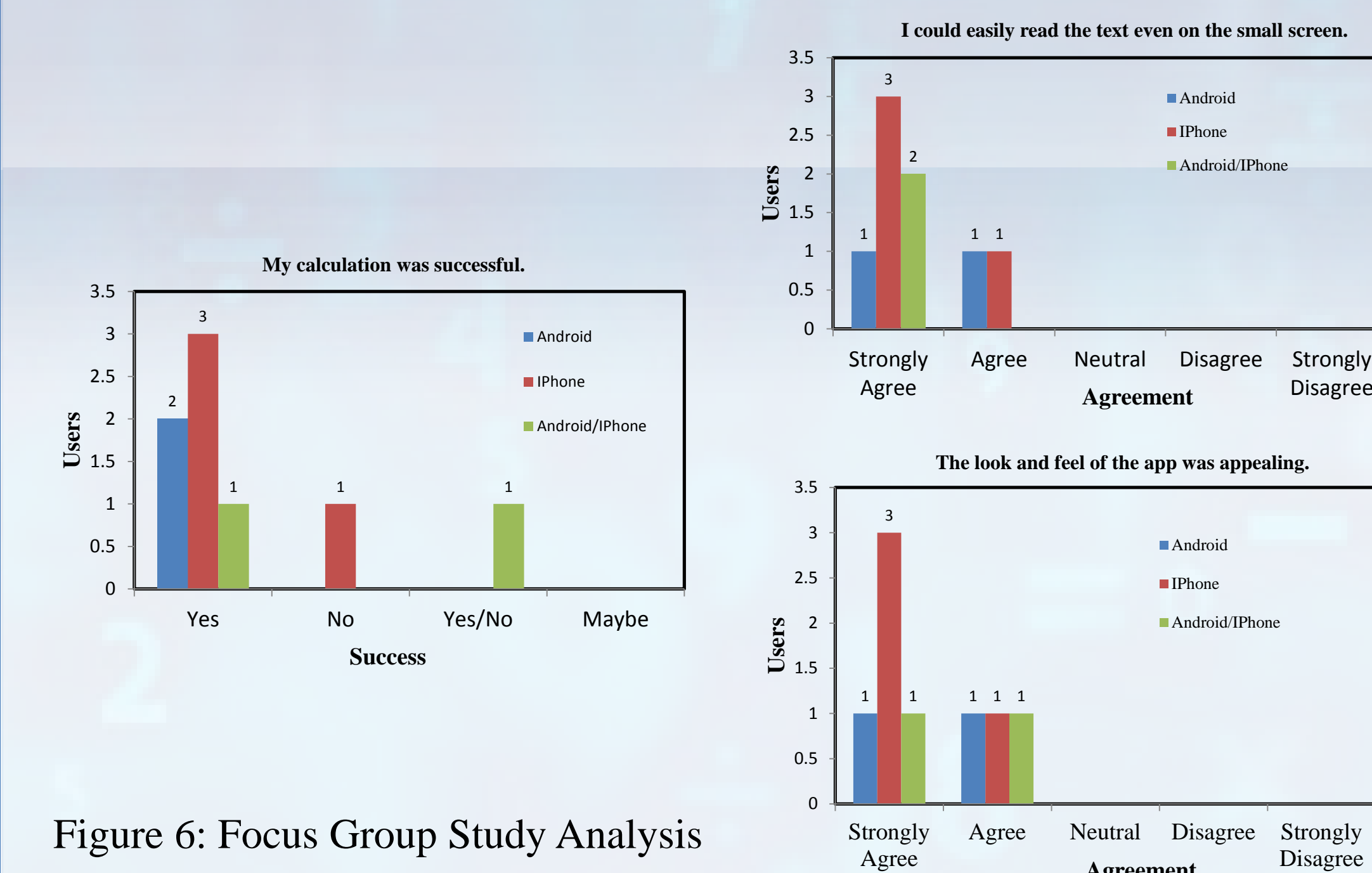


Figure 5 : GLIMMPSE Lite widgets on (a) iPhone (b) Android

Focus Group Study

- Nine participants filled out a survey rating the user experience with GLIMMPSE Lite.
 - Five PhD level biostatisticians
 - One PhD level epidemiologist
 - One M.S. student in biostatistics
- User satisfaction was high for “look and feel” and “text readability” for both mobile platforms.
- Two users encountered errors while using the apps, which we have corrected.



Conclusion and Future Work

- GLIMMPSE Lite provides a convenient tool to assist biomedical researchers in the study design process
- Software downloads and documentation are available from <http://samplesizeshop.org/>.
- Future work includes
 - Releasing to the Apple Store and Google Play.
 - Adding support for multilevel and longitudinal designs currently supported in the GLIMMPSE web interface.
 - Using PhoneGap to support additional mobile platforms such as Blackberry and Windows Phone.

Acknowledgement

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