

The Science and Practice of Transitions

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ABSTRACT

We tend to set ourselves up to thrive in a particular state while ignoring the transitions between states. But there is magic in the transitions; they are where unexpected and interesting things happen. There is an opportunity for our user interfaces to better support the transitions we make, and conscious focus on how we move between states can maximize our experience in a state [4]. Microproductivity [3], for example, improves the way we handle interruptions [1], and can even help us multitask [2].

In this talk I will share some of what I have learned from years of productivity research about how to successfully transition between tasks over the course of a day, and reflect on how these findings might be extended to help us understand how we, as academics and practitioners, can successfully transition through the various contexts and roles that we hold in a lifetime.

CCS Concepts

• Human-centered computing → Human computer interaction (HCI); Human-centered computing → Collaborative and social computing.

Author Keywords

Microproductivity; transitions; collaboration.

BIOGRAPHY

Jaime Teevan is Chief Scientist for Microsoft's Experiences and Devices, where she is helping Microsoft create the future of productivity. Previously she was the Technical Advisor to Microsoft's CEO, Satya Nadella, and a Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research AI, where she led the Productivity team. Dr. Teevan has published hundreds of award-winning technical articles, books, and patents, and given keynotes around the world. Her groundbreaking research earned her the Technology Review TR35 Young Innovator, Borg Early Career, Karen Spärck Jones, and SIGIR Test of Time awards. She holds a Ph.D. from MIT and a B.S. from Yale, and is an affiliate professor at the University of Washington.

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