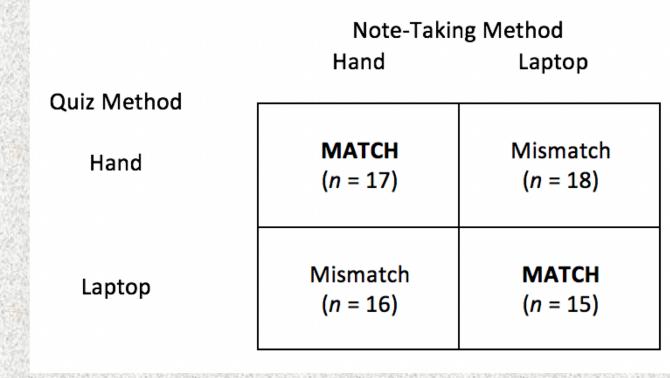
State Dependent Learning and Note-Taking Strategies

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Introduction

- 72% of students report using laptops in the classroom (Patterson & Patterson, 2017).
- Laptops allow students to take more organized, as well as comprehensive notes (Gulek & Demirtas, 2005); however, Mueller and Oppenheimer (2014) reported that taking notes using a laptop results in shallow processing of the material, ultimately impairing performance.
- Barrett et al. (2014) found state-dependent learning effects when note-taking conditions matched test-taking conditions using all open-ended questions for a quiz given immediately after lecture material.
- The goal of the current study was to examine statedependent effects for factual and conceptual questions on a quiz given two days after the material was presented.
- A 2 (note-taking method: by hand or laptop) x 2 (quiz method: by hand or laptop) between subjects design:



Method

Participants

• Sixty-six undergraduates with a mean age of of 19.27 years (SD = 1.23) completed the current study; 31 self-identified as male and 35 self-identified as female.

Materials

- Four 15-17 minute long TED Talks
- 10 question quiz, made up of five factual and five conceptual questions.
 - Factual questions relied on information taken directly from the video.
 - Conceptual questions required application of lessons from the video to new situations.
- Note pads and laptops

Procedure

- Participants were instructed to take notes as they would for class by hand or using a laptop.
- 48 hours later, participants studied their notes for 10 minutes before completing a quiz on the video they watched, either by hand or on a laptop.
- These quizzes were scored and the number of words in each participants' notes was recorded for analyses.

Results

Overall Score

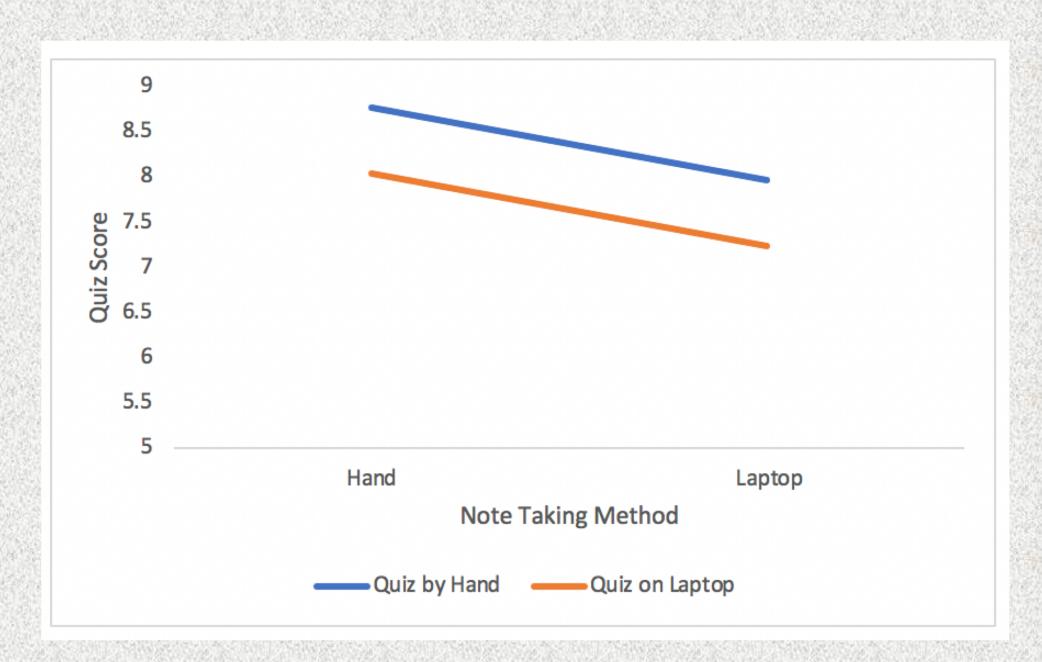


Figure 1. Overall Score on the Quiz

Conceptual Questions

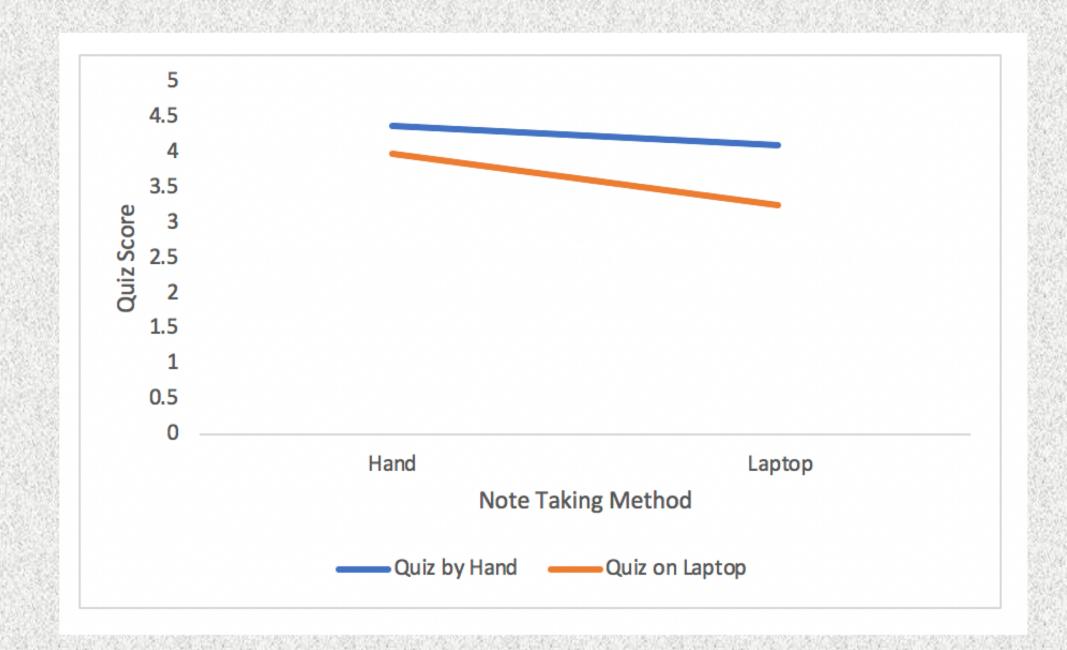


Figure 2. Score for the Conceptual Questions

Factual Questions

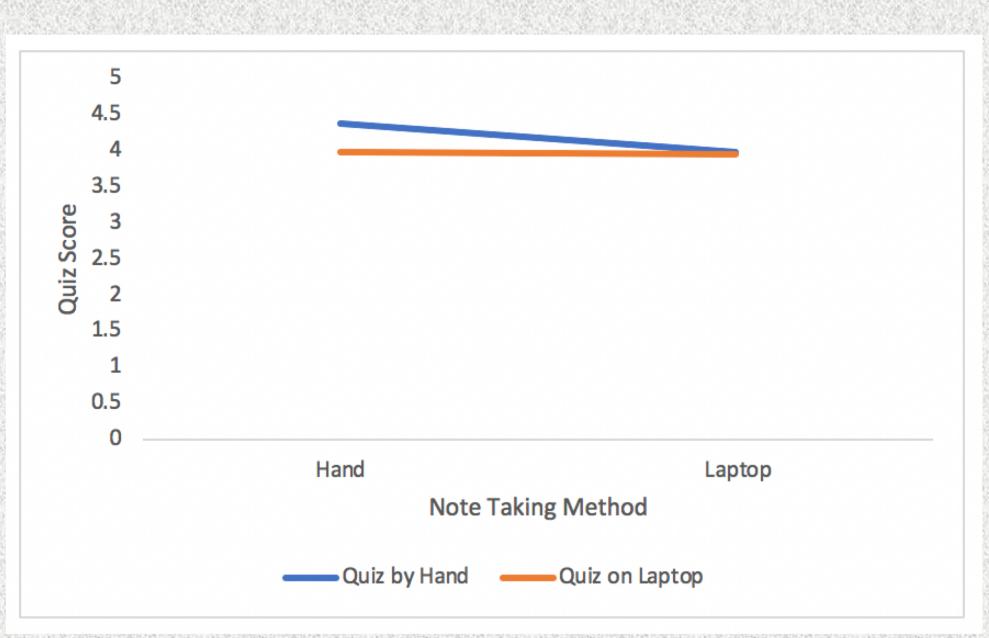


Figure 3. Score for the Factual Questions

Discussion

- The current study provides additional support for the idea that taking notes by hand improves performance as compared to taking notes using a laptop.
 - Using a laptop may result in shallow encoding of the material. Participants typed more words (M = 248, SD = 112) than they could write by hand (M = 162, SD = 44), t(63) = 4.09, p < .01
- Unlike Barrett et al. (2014) we failed to find statedependent effects:
 - Immediate vs. delayed quiz
 - Type of material in the lecture
 - Type of questions on the quiz

References

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