Digital exams revisited - experiences of exam visits in Finnish Higher Education Institutes

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Contents of the presentation

- EXAM concept for digital exams
- EXAM visit
- Pilot project experiences of EXAM visit
- Future steps
EXAM-consortium

HEIs (universities and universities of applied sciences)
27

EXAM attainments (2019)
170,000

EXAM visit organizations
13
EXAM concept for supervised digital exams

- Developed by EXAM consortium since 2014
  - 27 of 38 Finnish HEIs, covering 90% of students
  - Funded mainly by members, some project funding from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture
- Advancing the flexibility of studies for the students: can freely choose their examination time and date (and place).
- Gives an easy tool for teachers for continuous assessment.
- Consists of the exam software (EXAM), customized workstations and network environment, camera-monitored exam rooms on campus and the process to supervise the students.
- Source code licensed under EUPL 1.1
- More flexibility and efficiency will be gained by shared use of the EXAM premises.
Main functionalities

**Teacher**
- Creating an exam
- Question types and attachments
- Question library
- Assessment
- Exam summary
- E-mail notifications

**Student**
- Registration and time-booking
- Choosing exam subjects
- Taking an exam
- Reading the assessment and feedback

**Administrator**
- User management
- Exam rooms management
- Statistics and reports
- SIS integrations (Oodi, Nettiopsu (Peppi, Sisu))
- Other interfaces (reservations, exams, report)

**Shared Resources**
- EXAM Visit
- Joint exams beta
- In making
  Autograding help for essays
  BYOD-based campus and home exams
The concept of EXAM visit

- EXAM visit means that the student can take their own university’s digital exam in another university’s EXAM room.

Original picture by Mtra Törmånen.
EXAM visits in 2019-2020

• 2019: 9 universities and over 1200 visits
• 2020 Q1: 13 universities and over 700 visits
• Distributed geographically across the country from north to south and east to west.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAM visits 2019</th>
<th>Incoming</th>
<th>Outgoing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Eastern Finland</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Jyväskylä</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>108</td>
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<td>University of Turku</td>
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<td>University of Tampere</td>
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<td>University of Lapland</td>
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<td>Oulu University of applied sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satakunta University of applied sciences</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Vaasa</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXAM visit experiences

- Overall student experience very positive.
  - A long hoped-for feature.
  - No extra work for teachers.

Challenges
- Instructions and understanding the process (students)
- Variety of EXAM versions used
- Differences in using IDP attributes
- Workstation set-up and different software resources
- Unequal distribution of the visits b/ween the universities (north-south, big-small universities)
  - In the pilot no costs for students or organizations but how in the future?
  - Follow-up for volume to make decisions about the costs.
Future steps

- Further development of admin statistics and monitoring
- Policies for system maintenance and implementation process
- Work-station set-up more uniform
- Agreement on joint use of the exam premises
- Service development:
  - BYOD exam (with Safe Exam Browser and without)
THANK YOU!

For more information: https://e-exam.fi/in-english/
twitter: #examfi