Gaming in Dyscalculia: A Review on disMAT

Filipa Ferraz¹, António Costa¹, Victor Alves¹, Henrique Vicente^{1,2}, João Neves³, and José Neves¹⁽⁽⁾

¹ Centro Algoritmi, Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal filipatferraz@gmail.com, {costa,valves,jneves}@di.uminho.pt, hvicente@uevora.pt ² Departamento de Química, Escola de Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade de Évora, Évora, Portugal ³ Mediclinic Arabian Ranches, PO Box 282602 Dubai, United Arab Emirates joaocpneves@gmail.com

Abstract. Dyscalculia is a particular learning disability that affects around 6% of the world population. However, dyscalculics are not brainless; they fight to learn mathematics, notwithstanding nurturing an acceptable education environment at home and school. Indeed, dyscalculic children fall behind early in primary school, and may develop anxiety or a strong dislike of mathematics. When reach adult life are still paid less than ordinary people and have difficulties on handling their ordinary finances. Therefore, this work is about a game; *disMAT*, which is an app whose purpose entails to appeal children to train their mathematical skills. *disMAT* involves planning by choosing strategies for change as kids move through the game. Unlike a whole-class mathematics activity, a game may support one's child's individual needs. Undeniably, it must be challenging, have rules and structure, include a clear ending point, and focus on specific abilities.

Keywords: Dyscalculia · Gaming therapeutics · Learning disability