Providing Worker Feedback

Walter S. Lasecki

EECS 598, Fall 2015
Normal Task Lifespan

- 1) Post task
- 2) Worker finds task
- 3) Worker completes task
- 4) Worker leaves (forever?)
  - (or not… then yes.)
What is lost?

- Workers learn over the course of the task
- This learning is in isolation, usually not passed on
- Often, it’s not even known to BE ‘learning’
  - Worker leaves task unsure at the end
Task Scoping

(Lecture Part Deux)

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Traditional Tasks

- Crowds are assumed to be uniformed (sans error)

- Workers fit into well-defined roles or tasks
  - No room for creativity. How could we and still have HCOMP?
  - All roles persist throughout the task lifespan
  - Tasks are mostly uniform
  - Aggregation possible / feasible
  - Workers’ work is explicitly coordinated through the workflow (can’t conflict or be redundant)

- Workers don’t communicate
  - Would open the possibility of collusion (e.g., might bias answers)
  - Not needed, since system enforces coordination
Traditional Reward Mech.s

- Reward for predictable contributions
- Reward range pre-defined
- Live feedback helpful to understand complex tasks
  - Scribe, Chorus: like ‘points’
  - Legion: Live ‘agreement’ meter
Answer Likelihoods [repeat]

- How likely are two workers to agree?
  - Multiple choice?
  - Open-ended text?
  - Image?
  - UI controls?

- Is there any bias?
  - Recall the Legion robot example:
    - The wrong feedback leads to over-agreement
    - Over-agreement can result in consensus mistakes
  - Saliency leads to bias
    - M&Ms: 0, 1000, 1000000, …
    - Scribe (captioning): first word in sentence
Remember Shreddr...

- Open platform, but not robust
  - Allowed for disproportionate destruction per worker effort
- Didn’t account for malicious workers (at all)
- In the end: **1-2** adversarial workers killed the effort
  - (...when even a wave of 4chan attackers got bored)
  - At least 1 used a Sybil attack
  - Stacked chads
  - Moved chads off working area/canvas
  - Used multi-select (drag-to-select)
  - Demoralized genuine workers

[artist’s depiction]
(well, my depiction, anyway)
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Does the world fall apart when we let workers self-coordinate?

[artist’s depiction]
(well, my depiction, anyway)
Logistics

DUE this Friday: initial ‘possible ideas’ doc. (collective submission)

- 3-5 ideas/variations, with ~1 paragraph for each. You’ll get feedback+ideas from me on these ideas
- There will be some time in class today to discuss this w/ your team

Note: the initial discussion section time (Tues. 5-6pm) should be free for most everyone. Use this to your advantage for your projects.