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Read the PNAS paper about "crowd science" Crowd science user contribution patterns and their implications Henry Sauermann and Chiara Franzoni PNAS January 20, 2015 112 (3) 679-684; first published January 5, 2015

What challenges do the authors identify for crowd science?

- Short term participation, if a challenge requires sustained participation by the same individual, but this same user only participates once, then these challenges won't be able to benefit from the efficiency of a long-term participant.
- Lack of a roadmap, each project has their own way of challenging and rewarding the crowd, so there is no clear "algorithm" on how to crowdsource well.
- Number of long-term contributors, most users are short term users, as 10% of contributors, make up 70% of the contributions, this means that losing a long-term contributor can be impactful for the advancement of your research. And that you aren't making your "challenges", reward system interesting enough that people want to do it more often.

How do the results inform current science policy discussions?

- Providing insight into opportunities and challenges.
- Understanding the potential benefits of crowd science for science education.
- To which kind of problems one can apply crowd science.

What aspects of their analysis were not clear to you, and why?

- None