**Feature requests to analyze – Ambiguity Detection in Feature Requests**

**Task Description and Tips:**

Below you will see 5 different feature requests that are pulled from Mastodon’s GitHub issues section. A feature request consists of a request number, title of the request, and a description of the feature request. Your task is to analyze the feature requests and give your critique to your understanding of whether the feature requests are ambiguous or not. If they are ambiguous, please state what type of ambiguity exists in the text. You do not need to suggest recommendation for the ambiguity (only detect and classify the ambiguity). When completed please save the file with featureRequests\_[Your Name] and send it to discord. For reference 2 links are attached in this document too (See details in **Reference Links**).

**Reference Links:**

**Dan Berry Handbook about ambiguity (Also check GitHub pinned message)**   
- You can find the definitions for ambiguity and the types of ambiguity in this handbook. We will be following this book for discussions.

<https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~dberry/handbook/ambiguityHandbook.pdf>

**A sample format from ChatGPT (\*This is only a reference on how the format can look like\*)**- This is only a sample of how the critique can look like. Please feel free to change the format and write in your own way. Make sure to capture as much of the ambiguity there exists in the request.

<https://chat.openai.com/share/2f7629ca-556e-4ff0-bde4-c81869114efe>

**Feature requests to analyze:**

1. **Request No: 70  
   Title**: Reloading gets you to latest toot, losing hability to read oldest unread first  
   **Description**: Maybe this is a feature, not a bug of the app, but certainly it is what keeps me using Fedilab for now. With Fedilab, the loading of new toots keeps my current position on the timeline, so I can read things in their natural order. In official Mastodon app, as it takes you to the top, final toot, it forces you to scroll back down to whatever was the last toot you saw.
2. **Lexical Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "toot".
   * **Explanation**: "Toot" might be unclear to those not familiar with Mastodon terminology.
   * **Reasoning**: Different readers might not recognize "toot" as a Mastodon-specific term for a post.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that "toot" refers to a post on Mastodon.
     + **Example**: "Reloading gets you to the latest post (toot), losing the ability to read the oldest unread first."
3. **Syntactic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "keeps my current position on the timeline".
   * **Explanation**: It is not immediately clear whether this refers to the exact spot in the timeline or a general area.
   * **Reasoning**: The sentence structure leaves room for interpretation about the exact functionality.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that it refers to maintaining the exact scroll position in the timeline.
     + **Example**: "With Fedilab, the loading of new posts keeps my exact scroll position on the timeline..."
4. **Semantic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "final toot".
   * **Explanation**: "Final toot" can be interpreted as the last post in the timeline or the most recent post.
   * **Reasoning**: The exact meaning is not clear within the context.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that "final toot" refers to the most recent post.
     + **Example**: "In the official Mastodon app, it takes you to the most recent post (toot)..."
5. **Pragmatic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "Maybe this is a feature, not a bug of the app".
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear whether the user is suggesting that this behavior is intentional or simply acknowledging the possibility.
   * **Reasoning**: The user's intention behind this statement is not clear.
   * **Resolution**: Rephrase to clarify the user's perspective.
     + **Example**: "While this behavior might be an intentional feature rather than a bug, it is inconvenient for my usage."

**Revised Feature Request**

**Title**: Reloading gets you to the latest post (toot), losing the ability to read the oldest unread first

**Description**: While this behavior might be an intentional feature rather than a bug, it is what keeps me using Fedilab for now. With Fedilab, the loading of new posts keeps my exact scroll position on the timeline, so I can read things in their natural order. In the official Mastodon app, it takes you to the most recent post (toot), forcing you to scroll back down to whatever was the last post you saw.

1. **Request No: 160  
   Title**: Feature: Group notifications by toot  
   **Description**: In the notifications tab, the app tells you that “@realpixelcodeboosted your post” and displays a preview of the toot beneath. Now, when a toot becomes popular and gets quite a few favourites and boosts, it quickly becomes a mess.Instead, my proposal is to group favourite and boost notifications by the respective toot, so the notification would instead look like this:Your post has received 14 boosts from:user1user2user3...[toot preview]
2. **Lexical Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "toot".
   * **Explanation**: "Toot" might be unclear to those not familiar with Mastodon terminology.
   * **Reasoning**: Different readers might not recognize "toot" as a Mastodon-specific term for a post.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that "toot" refers to a post on Mastodon.
     + **Example**: "In the notifications tab, the app tells you that ‘@realpixelcode boosted your post’ and displays a preview of the post (toot) beneath."
3. **Syntactic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "it quickly becomes a mess".
   * **Explanation**: It is not immediately clear what "a mess" specifically refers to.
   * **Reasoning**: The sentence structure leaves room for interpretation about what exactly becomes disorganized.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that it refers to the notifications tab becoming cluttered.
     + **Example**: "When a post (toot) becomes popular and gets quite a few favorites and boosts, the notifications tab quickly becomes cluttered."
4. **Semantic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "group favorite and boost notifications".
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear whether this means grouping all notifications together or grouping them by individual posts.
   * **Reasoning**: The exact grouping method is not specified.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that notifications should be grouped by individual posts.
     + **Example**: "Instead, my proposal is to group favorite and boost notifications by individual posts."
5. **Pragmatic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "your post has received 14 boosts from: user1, user2, user3..."
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear how many users should be listed and whether this list is expandable.
   * **Reasoning**: The presentation of the list might be misunderstood without further detail.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that the list should display a few users with an option to expand for more.
     + **Example**: "Your post has received 14 boosts from: user1, user2, user3... [view all]"

**Revised Feature Request**

**Title**: Feature: Group notifications by post (toot)

**Description**: In the notifications tab, the app tells you that "@realpixelcode boosted your post" and displays a preview of the post (toot) beneath. When a post (toot) becomes popular and gets quite a few favorites and boosts, the notifications tab quickly becomes cluttered. Instead, my proposal is to group favorite and boost notifications by individual posts. This way, the notification would instead look like this: "Your post has received 14 boosts from: user1, user2, user3... [view all] [post (toot) preview]"

1. **Request No: 72  
   Title**: Unable to access hashtags with talkback  
   **Description**: When using talkback there is no way to access the hashtag links in a post Edit 1: i stand corrected. In a post with only one hashtag it appears possible to access it by long pressing the post, however this is unintuitive. In posts with more than one hashtag that trick doesnt work either Edit 2: i feel tusky has a good way of fixing this by adding links and hashtags to the talkback local context menu
2. **Lexical Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "talkback" might be ambiguous as it can refer to different assistive technologies or feedback systems.
   * **Explanation**: The term "talkback" is a common name for screen readers on Android devices, but without context, it might be unclear.
   * **Reasoning**: Different readers might interpret "talkback" differently.
   * **Resolution**: Specify that "talkback" refers to the Android screen reader feature.
     + **Example**: "When using the TalkBack screen reader on Android devices..."
3. **Syntactic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "however this is unintuitive" might cause confusion.
   * **Explanation**: The phrase placement might make it unclear what exactly is unintuitive.
   * **Reasoning**: Syntactic ambiguity arises due to unclear grammatical relationships.
   * **Resolution**: Rephrase to clarify what is considered unintuitive.
     + **Example**: "In a post with only one hashtag, it appears possible to access it by long pressing the post; however, this method is unintuitive."
4. **Semantic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The sentence "In posts with more than one hashtag that trick doesn’t work either" is ambiguous.
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear if the trick doesn’t work at all or if it behaves differently.
   * **Reasoning**: The sentence can be interpreted in multiple ways within its context.
   * **Resolution**: Provide more detail about what happens in posts with multiple hashtags.
     + **Example**: "In posts with more than one hashtag, long pressing does not allow access to any of the hashtags."
5. **Pragmatic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The reference to "tusky" might be unclear without context.
   * **Explanation**: "Tusky" might not be immediately recognized by all readers.
   * **Reasoning**: Contextual knowledge is needed to understand what "tusky" refers to.
   * **Resolution**: Provide a brief explanation of what "tusky" is.
     + **Example**: "I feel that the Tusky app, a client for Mastodon, has a good solution by adding links and hashtags to the TalkBack local context menu."

**Revised Feature Request**

**Title**: Unable to access hashtags with TalkBack

**Description**: When using the TalkBack screen reader on Android devices, there is no way to access the hashtag links in a post. Edit 1: I stand corrected. In a post with only one hashtag, it appears possible to access it by long pressing the post; however, this method is unintuitive. In posts with more than one hashtag, long pressing does not allow access to any of the hashtags. Edit 2: I feel that the Tusky app, a client for Mastodon, has a good solution by adding links and hashtags to the TalkBack local context menu.

1. **Request No: 115  
   Title**: Feature: Optional indicator for bots  
   **Description**: An optional setting to show who is marked as a bot on Mastodon
2. **Lexical Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "bots".
   * **Explanation**: The term "bots" could refer to automated accounts or accounts run by scripts in general.
   * **Reasoning**: Different readers might interpret "bots" differently based on their experience with the platform.
   * **Resolution**: Specify that "bots" refer to automated accounts on Mastodon.
     + **Example**: "An optional setting to show which accounts are marked as automated bots on Mastodon."
3. **Syntactic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "An optional setting to show who is marked as a bot" can be unclear.
   * **Explanation**: It is not immediately clear whether this setting will indicate bots within the user interface, user profiles, or another specific location.
   * **Reasoning**: The sentence structure leaves room for interpretation about the exact functionality and placement of this setting.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify where and how the indicator will be shown.
     + **Example**: "An optional setting to display an indicator on user profiles showing which accounts are marked as automated bots on Mastodon."
4. **Semantic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "marked as a bot".
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear who marks these accounts as bots and what criteria are used.
   * **Reasoning**: The marking process is not defined, leading to potential misunderstandings about its implementation.
   * **Resolution**: Explain how accounts are marked as bots.
     + **Example**: "An optional setting to show which accounts, marked as automated bots by administrators or through user reports, on Mastodon."
5. **Pragmatic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "optional setting".
   * **Explanation**: It's unclear where users can find this setting and how to enable it.
   * **Reasoning**: Users need practical information to understand how to utilize this feature.
   * **Resolution**: Provide details about where this setting can be found and how to enable it.
     + **Example**: "An optional setting in the user preferences menu to display an indicator on user profiles showing which accounts are marked as automated bots on Mastodon."

**Revised Feature Request**

**Title**: Feature: Optional indicator for automated bots

**Description**: An optional setting in the user preferences menu to display an indicator on user profiles showing which accounts are marked as automated bots by administrators or through user reports on Mastodon.

1. **Request No:** 50 **Title**: Feature: Display profile notes  
   **Description**: In the Web UI one can add notes to other profiles. It should be possible to view and edit them in the app too.
2. **Lexical Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "notes".
   * **Explanation**: "Notes" could refer to various types of annotations or comments.
   * **Reasoning**: Different readers might interpret "notes" differently, such as comments, reminders, or annotations.
   * **Resolution**: Specify that "notes" refer to personal annotations added to user profiles.
     + **Example**: "In the Web UI, one can add personal annotations to other profiles."
3. **Syntactic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "view and edit them in the app" can be unclear.
   * **Explanation**: It is not immediately clear which app is being referred to or where in the app this functionality will be available.
   * **Reasoning**: The sentence structure leaves room for interpretation about the exact functionality and placement.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify that the app refers to the Mastodon mobile app and specify where this feature will be available.
     + **Example**: "It should be possible to view and edit these personal annotations in the Mastodon mobile app, within the user profile section."
4. **Semantic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The term "Web UI".
   * **Explanation**: It is unclear which web interface is being referred to, as there could be multiple versions or instances of Mastodon.
   * **Reasoning**: The context of "Web UI" is not specified, leading to potential misunderstandings.
   * **Resolution**: Specify that "Web UI" refers to the official Mastodon web interface.
     + **Example**: "In the official Mastodon Web UI, one can add personal annotations to other profiles."
5. **Pragmatic Ambiguity**:
   * **Detection**: The phrase "should be possible" is vague.
   * **Explanation**: It is not clear if this is a suggestion, a requirement, or a planned feature.
   * **Reasoning**: The level of priority or urgency is not defined.
   * **Resolution**: Clarify whether this is a suggestion or a high-priority feature request.
     + **Example**: "We suggest implementing the ability to view and edit these personal annotations in the Mastodon mobile app."

**Revised Feature Request**

**Title**: Feature: Display profile notes

**Description**: In the official Mastodon Web UI, one can add personal annotations to other profiles. We suggest implementing the ability to view and edit these personal annotations in the Mastodon mobile app, within the user profile section.