

# How Crowdsourcing Works:

A Literature Review on People's Motivations and Types of Platforms

Hyesop Shin December 2nd 2020



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- Background and Definition
- Reviewing the Literature: Why is it so important?
- What is the focus of this presentation?
- Case Studies
- Proposed Framework



## Discussion Topics

- 1. Discuss whether I am understanding the direct of the project clearly
- 2. Whether I need to decide the direction of the Literature review soon or allocate more time to read and understand the topic itself
- 3. Whether it is likely to to decide our Online mapping tool (e.g. deck.gl)?



What I thought Crowdsourcing was



## My Prior Knowledge about Crowdsourcing

- Colouring London
- Missing Maps Cambridge/London













## Findings From my First Browsing Experience

Crowdsourcing in general are grouped as:

### **Spatial**

- OSM
- Others

### **Aspatial**

- Wikipedia
- Social Media

Lots of definitions of spatial crowdsourcing confused me a bit though

- CGI
- VGI
- GeoWeb
- Neogeography
- Citizen Science



## Definition



## What is "Crowdsourcing"?

- Definition(s)
  - "A business practice where an activity is outsourced to the crowd"
  - "A participative online platform where individuals, groups, and non-profit organisations can voluntarily contribute to the aim of such a project"
- Why do crowdsourcing
  - To get new ideas for such a small cost in such a short time
  - Innovation
- How new ideas are gathered
  - Active: Participants directly upload data by themselves
  - o Passive: Gathering data from Social Media



## "Crowdsourcing" in the Geographic Aspect

- Crowdsourced Geographic Information (CGI)
  - Refers to the contributions from the user-generated content that is georeferenced
- Voluntary Geographic Information (VGI)
  - A similar concept which is more widely used
- What is the difference from the general term "Crowdsourcing"?
  - Contains tags with Location information
  - Photos with georeference
  - Latitude Longitude



## Motivations



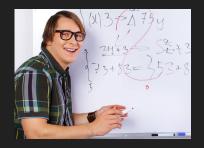
## Great Ideas come from good motivations

- Financial Reward: Prizes for the best portfolio, ideas, or paper competitions
- Development of individual skills
- Self-esteem, social recognition
- Gamification
- ...or just doing because my friend does it



## Motivations can be grouped as

### Intrinsic



Love problem solving

### Extrinsic



Better career prospects

### Learning



 Interesting in learning new things

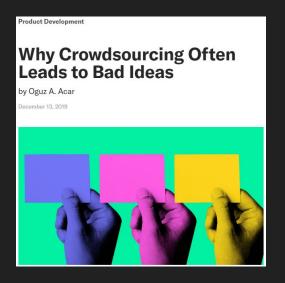
### (pro)Social



- Love to help others (prosocial)
- Enjoying the activity with others



## Crowdsourcing is not always good



Most crowdsourcing initiatives end up with an overwhelming amount of useless ideas.

Oguz Acar (2019) City, University of London

- People tend to focus on ideas that are already familiar to them
- Compared to Social motivations, Intrinsic / Extrinsic motivations gave more contribution
- Managers therefore have to set explicitly explain the aims and tasks so that the participants and themselves do not end up in difficulty



## Research Rationale



## Some Existing Literature

Open Access | Published: 26 April 2018

Harnessing the creative potential of consumers: money, participation, and creativity in idea crowdsourcing

Oguz Ali Acar ☑

Marketing Letters 29, 177-188(2018) Cite this article

Article

Crowdsourcing, Citizen Science or Volunteered Geographic Information? The Current State of Crowdsourced Geographic Information

Linda See <sup>1,\*</sup>, Peter Mooney <sup>2</sup>, Giles Foody <sup>3</sup>, Lucy Bastin <sup>4</sup>, Alexis Comber <sup>5</sup>, Jacinto Estima <sup>6</sup>, Steffen Fritz <sup>1</sup>, Norman Kerle <sup>7</sup>, Bin Jiang <sup>8</sup>, Mari Laakso <sup>9</sup>, Hai-Ying Liu <sup>10</sup>, Grega Milčinski <sup>11</sup>, Matej Nikšič <sup>12</sup>, Marco Painho <sup>6</sup>, Andrea Pődör <sup>13</sup>, Ana-Maria Olteanu-Raimond <sup>14</sup> and Martin Rutzinger <sup>15</sup>

## Handling quality in crowdsourced geographic information

Laura Criscuolo\*, Paola Carrara\*, Gloria Bordogna\*, Monica Pepe\*, Francesco Zucca†, Roberto Seppi†, Alessandro Oggioni\* and Anna Rampini\*

#### Motivation mechanism of gamification in crowdsourcing projects

Zhiyuan Zeng, Jian Tang and Tianmei Wang School of Information, Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing, China Motivation mechanism

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Received 23 November 2016 Revised 21 December 2016 12 January 2017 Accepted 17 January 2017

Exploring the use of crowdsourced geographic information in defence: challenges and opportunities

Nikolaos Papapesios<sup>1</sup> · Claire Ellul<sup>1</sup> · Amanda Shakir<sup>2</sup> · Glen Hart<sup>2</sup>

Received: 7 November 2017 / Accepted: 8 November 2018 / Published online: 17 December 2018 © The Author(s) 2018



## What the Existing Literature is telling us

- Concepts
- Motivations
- What was the best motivation after all
- Suggest ways to encourage participants

The writing is heavily focusing on the terminology and features of Crowdsourcing in general, while missing the diversity of participants, introducing the cases one-by-one



## Why do we need another review then?

- 1. To clarify similar notions mentioned in the literature
- 2. Too many papers that review the basic concepts without targeting a topic
- 3. Better understand different motivations of participants by demographic groups
- 4. The need to understand the state-of-the-art platforms
- 5. Need a deeper understanding about User Experience by demographic groups

Seek ways to encourage **active** participants to get involved in our research



## Objective of this Review

- Review various cases and platforms (whether academic or non-academic)
- Review different motivations by types of crowdsourcing
- Review with a focus on platforms that mentioned demographic groups
- Suggest a proof-of-concept Crowdsourcing framework



# Next Step



## **Proposed Direction 1**

### Navigation Focused Review

Navigation Experiences by demographic groups

Current Crowdsourcing platforms for different navigation purposes

Opportunities and Challenges

- Concept Introduction
- Review current crowdsourcing platforms that provide demographic information
- Write pros and cons



## Proposed Direction 2

### **Platform Review**

Crowdsourcing platforms for navigation services



Introducing Tools and Platforms

- Methodological Review
- Introducing Tools and Platforms
  - Amazon Mechanical Turk
  - Website of their own
  - Apps
  - Surveys





I am currently documenting my slides into a more formal style writing, but I can introduce some cases if the discussion ends early



## Cases



## Where does Crowdsourcing take place

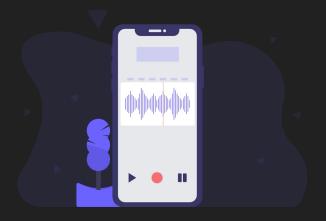


- Successful Crowdsourcing will happen only when all the stages are firmly constructed
- Types of Crowdsourcing
  - Project-based
  - Competition-based



## Project based

### 1. COVID Sound





Upload short recordings of cough and breathing and report symptoms to help researchers from the University of Cambridge detect if a person is suffering from COVID-19. Healthy and non-healthy participants welcome.

 The aim of this research is to collect data to inform the diagnosis of COVID-19 by developing machine learning algorithms, based primarily on sounds of their voice, their breathing and coughing.



## Project based

#### 2. Waze





- Users actively report on live events happening on the road
- Users passively relay information about driving speed and traffic conditions whenever they have the app open in the background
- A network of 500,000 volunteers who constantly edit the maps used in the app

### 3. Turing DSG



- Competition to secure a position
- Work on a real-world task
- Gain knowledge for yourself but most importantly learn how to work collaboratively



## Project based

### 4. mySoil



- Provides basic information on soil across Europe
- Habitat, soil texture, organic content, temperature, depth and pH\
- Users can upload and share their own observations and photographs of soil - Converted to Smartphone optimised screen

### 5. WOW-UK



Kirk etl al. (Oct, 2020) Weather Observations Website, Weather (Journal)

- WOW is also being used to combine crowdsourced data with observations from the Met Office's official network of automatic surface stations, the Meteorological Monitoring System (MMS).
- Meaningful for better understanding of urban climate (urban heat islands) and the occurrence of extreme meteorological events.



## Competition based

### 1. Hackathons



### 2. LEGO



- LEGO provides the consumer a platform to share their creative ideas.
- Lego picks the best idea and provides compensation once product releases.
- By keeping the consumer engaged, the brand continues to keep its loyal customer base and continues to keep the products fresh and entertaining



## Joy of Learning (Intrinsic)

### 1. Mapillary



- Mapillary is a service for sharing crowdsourced geotagged photos and videos
- Now acquired by Facebook

### 2. Colouring London



### 3. Missing Maps



### 4. Gamification

