

# Current Research Directions in Microtask Crowdsourcing

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# Current Crowdsourcing Trends

- Hybrid Human-Machine systems (DB/SW)
- User-support (HCI)
- Innovation (Business)
- Science (Bio/Physics)

# State of Micro-task Crowdsourcing

- Platform side
  - Pull platforms
  - Batch processing
- Worker side
  - Work flexibility
  - Anonymity
- Requester side
  - Web/API

# The Future for Requesters

- Push Platforms
- Mobile Access
- Quality and Time guarantees
- Worker API (enable novel worker UI)
- Know your crowd: Model workers

# The Future of the Worker side

- Reputation system for workers
- More than financial incentives
- Recognize worker potential (badges)
  - Paid for their expertise
- Train less skilled workers (tutoring system)

# The Future of the Worker side

- Promote workers to management roles
  - Create gold labels
  - Manage other workers
  - Make task design suggestions (first-pass validation)
- Career trajectory (based on reputation):
  1. Untrusted worker
  2. Trusted worker
  3. Hourly contractor
  4. Employee
- Platforms logs
  - Which kind of tasks attract skilled workers

# Crowdsourcing Ethics

- People work full-time as crowd workers
- Chinese crowdsourcing platform with 5.5M workers
- Pros
  - Help developing countries
  - Provide cash fast to people == short-term satisfaction
  - Job Flexibility
- Cons
  - No job security
  - No social security
  - Long term satisfaction? Career plans?

# References

- **“The future of crowd work”** in CSCW '13.
- Dagstuhl Seminar on **“Crowdsourcing: From Theory to Practice and Long-Term Perspectives”**, September 2013.