

From Communities to Crowds: Quantifying the subjective

Dear Prof. Joemon and Prof. Yulan,

I sincerely thank you for the time that you have dedicated to examine my Ph.D., as well as for the insightful feedback. Over the past three months, I have tried to address it as much as possible. I hope this makes the document much stronger, and satisfies your expectations.

I would like to broadly summarise the changes that I have done to the dissertation document in order to allow ease of readability.

———— Broad summary of edits

The key feedback received pointed to the fact that I needed a better contextualization of the work, along with a finer reflection on the research questions and the findings. Across the dissertation, I have re-wrote sections in order to address the following points

- I have added a Background chapter (chapter 2) to the dissertation which walks through the different approaches to the problem of “Quantifying the subjective”. The Chapter also lays out the fundamental work done in the two regimes written about in this dissertation viz. Communities and Crowds.
- I have reformulated the research questions to be more specific. I have also added a fair bit of reflection at the end of each chapter, which reflects upon the key findings in each chapter and how do those help in answering the research questions.
- I have fixed some problems with typos, missing text, and interpretability of figure captions across the entire document.
- Whenever a method is proposed, or used, I have added text to describe the method as well as the reason behind the choice.

———— Chapter 1

- Sharpened the description of DIKW pyramid. In order to minimize adding concepts without proper explanation, I have steered away from some of the problematic vocabulary
- I have clarified the reasons behind the labels of meso and macro signatures.

———— Chapter 2

This is an entirely new chapter with discussion about the previous works in the fields of quantifying the subjective. I have tried to tie together some background from the support theory and urban analytics, with the use case of computational quantification of certain subjective properties.

Chapter 3

- Refined the research question and discussed the implications of the findings at the end.
- Fixed typos, missing text, and missing data in the chapter.
- All the metrics are introduced in the text, with references. These metrics are also discussed in the background chapter.
- Made the text consistent with respect to the vocabulary of superusers.
- Improved data section with samples and processing information.

Chapter 4

- Improved the data section with specifics of collection methods and description of the data schema with example.
- Discuss the significance of Frontpage posts as baseline.
- Corrected figure presentation.
- Explained triadic motifs clearly and discussed the algorithm to compute the census

Chapter 5

- Corrected research questions
- Added details about data annotation for the pairwise comparison
- Added further details about the convolutional neural network model.
- Motivated the use of TrueSkill for converting pairwise comparisons into ordinal rankings.

Chapter 6

- Reformulated research questions
- Added details about the GAN models along with the link to the code and the models for reproducibility.
- Described the PlacesNet and Segnet models. Clarified the retrieval step, which is crucial to the framework.
- Fixed references to FaceLift.

Chapter 7

- Restated RQs and reflected on the results of all the works. Summarised the findings in relation to the RQs.

The changes done to the document were aimed at improving its clarity and rigour. I have strived to address the feedback to the best of my knowledge and ability. Please feel free reach out if you have any further questions about the edits.

Thank you very much,

Best Regards,

Sagar Joglekar