**Disclaimer: Please read the whole content even if it seems long to you. I ensure that the idea and its applications in educational domain (mentioned at the end) are really promising.**

****

**What is CryptoSocio and how it works?**

CryptoSocio is a **back end reputation system** designed to run on top of **Ethereum**. Its principles however may certainly be implemented in other similar crypto currency platforms.

It works by *allowing anyone to upload content to a decentralized network*, *tag the content with a short but meaningful sentence* and then *allow anyone to ‘vote’ on that tag*.

Votes would have a *minimum cost* in order to prevent vote spamming. The voting on tags rather than content would allow for a richer and more descriptive evaluation of content quality as tags compete for popularity and describe any elements of the content that users wish to highlight.

Beautiful yet simple, right? Well it gets better.

Where its potential reaches for the moon, is in its *integration with a crypto currency based reward system*. This would pay early visionaries and voters based on how many votes came after them. That way, users are *encouraged to vote on new ideas*, rather than just what has been proven popular by the community, and *prevent real quality material from being lost in the ocean of content*.

Such a reward system would essentially *create an investment or speculation market on top of content creation*. The coins -perhaps called CS coins- could be traded on exchanges, be it on top of Ethereum or other markets, and would have a value based on their utility to the public.

Imagine if those posts you make on Facebook which get a dozen or two likes could actually make you money? or if that music track you created and uploaded to YouTube was found by a talent-marketing agency seeking to be rewarded by your popularity?

Imagine if that research paper you have been working on for months and are so proud of could be published without an editor’s consent, peer reviewed, and funded based on its ability to inspire your vision in others?

Ok, that sounds great, but how does this supposed reward system actually work?

There are a few different possibilities here. Given the voluntary yet ideological nature of the crypto currency space, the market will ultimatedly decide which implementation is better for what purpose.

Some favour currencies with hard or virtually hard limits, where unit creation of a currency ends completely at some point -say 21 milllion Bitcoins.

Others argue for the value of inflationary currencies, and want to control inflation at various degrees. In the crypto coin space, each can have their own, and they can put their money where their mouth is. Given the open source nature of this space, both will likely be attempted, and they might even cooperate!

Whether the coins would be pre-mined or mined over time is also yet to be seen. How the project will be funded and how will the developers will be rewarded is also yet to be seen. Both of these issues are common challenges among crypto currency start-ups and projects.

One important element is making sure the coin has utility within its ecosystem. Votes would certainly need to be bought using CS coin and depending on your view of marketing, so would advertise space.

The money would automatically go into CryptoSocio to pay for its running costs and then sit in escrow waiting to reward those early visionaries, content creators and talent seekers as their content grows in popularity.

**What does CryptoSocio actually reward?**

Pondering on what the definition quality content actually means – and what will actually be rewarded by CryptoSocio – raises some interesting questions.

Does popularity equal good quality? What if a piece of content is famous with one audience and not with another?

*One possibility is that quality within CryptoSocio would be defined by the community and group values that bring individuals together*. A heavy metal network, for example, might vote more often on tags that speak to the music’s head banging inspirations, or by its \m/ factor.

On the other hand, a neuroscience scholarly content site would likely vote on tags with the most scientifically sound meaning.

If a controversial yet highly disruptive discovery was made and published, early voters could later be rewarded if they found capital and managed to give the idea life in the form of a great product or service, for example.

This could help the idea grow into the mainstream, inviting new votes from optimistic speculators and rewarding the previous ones.

**APPLICATION IN EDUCATIONAL DOMAIN**

**Decentralizing Academic Publishing**

Out of all the possible implementations of CryptoSocio, perhaps the *most important one and one closest to the my heart, is the decentralization of academic publishing.*

Academic publishing today suffers from a variety of problems that have been observed and mentioned by many. One of its critical flaws is its *outdated reliance on centuries-old print publishing methods and corporations*, who require copyrights of academic content before they peer review and broadcast them as scholarly journals.

Another flaw is the *university system’s dependency on government subsidies in the form of guaranteed student loans*.

The funds allow universities to fund expensive tenure for academics, which make it worthwhile for them to peer review, edit and give away their intellectual fruits for free.

It also allows universities to buy those scholarly journals back through their libraries at exuberant costs, adding up to thousands of dollars per journal.

*The CryptoSocio platform is most impressive in its potential to disrupt legacy academic publishing systems, and enhance the reach of the Open access movement.*

Perhaps the most widely recognized failing of peer review is its *inability to ensure the identification of high-quality work*. The list of important scientific papers that were initially rejected by peer-reviewed journals goes back at least as far as the editor of Philosophical Transaction’s 1796 rejection of Edward Jenner’s report of the first vaccination against smallpox.

It is as if CryptoSocio was made in heaven, specifically to solve this problem.

CryptoSocio’s capacity to *incentivize the finding, reviewing and promoting of high quality disruptive information* is what makes it a revolutionary piece of software.

Its incentives could *allow inventors in all fields to no longer depend on government subsidies, nor political forces*, while hacking the resistance to disruptive innovations that human beings seem to be so prone to.

Organizations of experts in all fields which could solve human problems would likely arise and compete to find and promote innovative solutions.

Investors could get a piece of the pie by funding research that would reward their efforts with popular products, appreciated by end users through a free market of ideas.

Information would be readily available and free -or very cheap- to access, since more people having access to the content would mean more potential voters.

If such a platform is unleashed on the web, it will make little sense for the innovators of knowledge – scholars- to continue within legacy systems. And even if they do, their content can be uploaded and profited on by others who see its potential.

**APPLICATIONS IN MACHINE LEARNING**

Machine learning *focuses on the construction and study of systems that can learn from data*, akin to an anthropologist attempting to decipher strange hieroglyphs. Machine learning – a core element of AI- is *facing the challenge of mostly having access to content that has been evaluated based on an up or down vote mechanic*.

Google is very aware of this problem and has been paying workers on Amazon Mechanical Turk to semantically tag content. This data would be used to advance machine learning technologies, ideally allowing computer programs to read and understand human created content, far beyond what search engines are capable of.

*The semantic tagging of CryptoSocio would incentivise such work on its platform at a much larger and more organic scale*.

*The part which I love the most about CryptoSocio is its semantic representation of content. It could be the largest and best natural language processing database.*

*I see a future where Facebook-like social networking sites would run on the CryptoSocio reward system, allowing for a direct monetization of content “delivering its monetary value back to the people”.*

*(The project is still in its initial phase and I am looking for experienced devs to work with . Any sort of guidance will be helpful.* ***CONTACT: vasa.develop@gmail.com****)*