

Introduction to Social Computing Human Computation

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Playing/Having Fun Work/Computation



Introduction to Social Computing, Irwin King, 2010 Ell PhD School: Cloud Computing, Service Computing & Social Networks, November 23-27, 2010, Brisbane, Australia



Idea of Human Computation



- Take advantage of people's desire to be entertained and perform useful tasks as a side effect



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Motivations

- To **describe the categorization of** Human Computation Systems (HCS)
- To **describe each category** of HCS and **present the previous work** on each category
- To **summarize** the current state-of-the-art HCS



Why Is It Important?

- Some statistics (July 2008)
 - 200,000+ players have contributed 50+ million labels.
 - Each player plays for a total of 91 minutes.
 - The throughput is about 233 labels/player/hour (i.e., one label every 15 seconds)
- Idea behind
 - Solve some problems which are difficult to be solved by computers.
 - Take advantage of people's desire to be entertained.
 - Produce useful metadata as a by-product.



Outline

- Motivation and Background
- Types of Human Computation
 - Initiatory Human Computation
 - Distributed Human Computation
 - Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers
 - Social Game-based Human Computation with online players
- Properties of Social Games
- Future Work and Final Remarks



SETI

The screenshot shows the SETI Institute website homepage. At the top left is the SETI Institute logo. To its right is the text "Welcome to SETI.org!" and a search bar with a "GO" button. Below this is a navigation menu with links: Home || About us || SETI || Astrobiology || Education || Publications || Calendar || Support us || TeamSETI || Contact us.

The main content area features a large banner with the text: "THE MISSION OF THE SETI INSTITUTE IS TO EXPLORE, UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN THE ORIGIN, NATURE AND PREVALENCE OF LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE. Learn more >".

To the right of the banner is a purple box for a "Thank you, Team! You're invited..." event: "TeamSETI Appreciation Party 2010 Ice Cream Social October 31, 2010 1:00pm - 3:00pm Register Today". It includes the address: "Come see our new headquarters! 189 N. Bernardo Ave, suite 100 Mountain View CA 94043" and a photo of a man in a chef's hat.

Below the banner are several smaller boxes: "SETI" (radio dishes), "ASTROBIOLOGY" (microscopic view), "EDUCATION & OUTREACH" (children at a table), "ALOHA ASTRONOMY RADIO SHOW" (radio dishes), "ADOPT A SCIENTIST" (diver), "COLLOQUIUM SERIES" (man in suit), "KEPLER MISSION" (spacecraft), and "LIFE AT THE INSTITUTE" (man in cap).

On the right side, there are two more boxes: "Contribute to the Search setiquest Join the Quest" and "TeamSETI Support our science Become a member".

Below these are social media links: TEAM SETI, JOIN, DONATE, LOGIN, Newsletter, Facebook, and twitter.

At the bottom right, there is a "News" section with a link: "Meet our scientists: Paul Estrada — From Dust to Planets".



Stardust@home

STARDUST @ HOME

ABOUT NEWS GET STARTED COMMUNITY CLASSROOM HELP

An interactive Internet-based search for interstellar dust in the Stardust aerogel collector

Get Started

Step 1 Read [Finding Stardust](#)

Step 2 Take [Tutorial session](#)

Step 3 Take [Test & Register](#)

Step 4 [Login](#) and start searching for stardust!

[I forgot my password](#)

News/Blog Updates You must log-in to read news/blog

[New candidates presented at the Meteoritical Society Conference in New York](#)
 August 03, 2010 07:53:48 am
 At the 2010 Meteoritical Society Conference in New York, we reported on the further analysis of track 30 (Orion and Sirius), and reported the exc...

[Slow down \(update\).....](#)
 July 31, 2010 08:29:07 am
 On September 7th, 2010 (new date) the Space Sciences Lab network connection to the world will be operating on a very slow backup connection (the ...

[Phase 3 certificates and "autoscan memory"](#)
 July 30, 2010 03:09:55 am
 Sorry for the long delay, but we have finally gotten the phase three certificates online. Enjoy! Kudos to our good friends at The Planetary Socie...

[More downtime....done](#)
 July 07, 2010 06:02:54 am
 We'll be moving the Stardust@home servers from one location to another on Tuesday July 6th. They currently live near the clean room here at Ber...

You must log-in to read news/blog

More Information

:: [Mission](#) of Stardust, goals, scientific contribution, etc.
 :: [Stardust@Home Overview](#) from The Planetary Society

Phase 1 Rankings, Thanks!

1. foxranch	171861
2. wonderdogxyz	166375
3. drush	151317

In The Spotlight!

1. Kevin A Courtney	115115
2. Myles Midgley	92222
3. chrostek	70007



Galaxy Zoo

EN · Galaxy Zoo is a ZOO NIVERSE project ...just like MOON ZOO

GALAXY ZOO

HUBBLE

Home The Story So Far The Science How To Take Part Classify Galaxies Forum Zoo Media Blog FAQ Contact Us



Pictures

Welcome to Galaxy Zoo, where you can help astronomers explore the Universe

Galaxy Zoo: Hubble uses gorgeous imagery of hundreds of thousands of galaxies drawn from NASA's Hubble Space Telescope archive. To understand how these galaxies, and our own, formed we need your help to classify them according to their shapes — a task at which your brain is

Classifier Log In

[Click here to log in](#)

[Register](#)

[Forgotten Password?](#)



Foldit: Protein Folding Game

foldit BETA
Solve Puzzles for Science

00:33:18 GMT

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The Science Behind Foldit

Foldit is a revolutionary new computer game enabling *you* to contribute to important scientific research. This page describes the science behind Foldit and how your playing can help.

Page Contents:

- [What is protein folding?](#)
- [Why is this game important?](#)
- [News Articles about Foldit](#)
- [Rosetta@Home Screensaver](#)

What is protein folding?

What is a protein? Proteins are the workhorses in every cell of every living thing. Your body is made up of trillions of cells, of all different kinds: muscle cells, brain cells, blood cells, and more. Inside those cells, proteins are allowing your body to do what it does: break down food to power your muscles, send signals through your brain that control the body, and transport nutrients through your blood. Proteins come in thousands of different varieties, but they all have a lot in common. For instance, they're made of the same stuff: every protein consists of a long chain of joined-together amino acids.

Folded up Puzzle 48 (+) [Enlarge This Image](#)

RECOMMEND FOLDIT

GET STARTED: DOWNLOAD

[Win Beta](#) [Mac Beta](#) [Linux Beta](#)

Win XP/Vista Intel OS X 10.4 or later Linux

USER LOGIN

Username: *

Password: *

- [Create new account](#)
- [Request new password](#)
- Sign in using Facebook

[Cooper et al, Nature 466, 756-760 (5 August 2010)]



Introduction to Social Computing, Irwin King, 2010 ELL PhD School: Cloud Computing, Service Computing & Social Networks, November 23-27, 2010, Brisbane, Australia



Background

- Human Computation Systems (**HCS**) aim to solve Artificial Intelligence (AI) problems through the human human interactions
- In order to ensure the collected information to be useful, we have to:
 1. guarantee the **quality** of collected information
 2. attract **more people** to contribute information



Types of HCS

- The categories of the human computation systems are:
 1. Initiatory Human Computation
 2. Distributed Human Computation
 3. Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers
 4. Social Game-based Human Computation with online players



Initiatory Human Computation (I)

- Objective: To complete some tasks that are **natural for humans but difficult for computers** even computation power increased rapid recently
- Example (I): CAPTCHA
 - A computer generated challenge-response test
 - Objective: To **distinguish humans from computers** using a common sense problem



Initiatory Human Computation (2)

- Example (2): reCAPTCHA
 - Objective: To produce valuable common sense knowledge to **improve the OCR** quality in digitizing books
 - Combining two words: **one identified word; and one unidentified word**
 - If a user recognizes the identified word, the answer to the unidentified word is assumed to be correct



Initiatory Human Computation (3)

- Example (2): reCAPTCHA

The Norwich line steamboat train, from New-London for Boston, this **morning** ran off the track seven miles north of New-London.

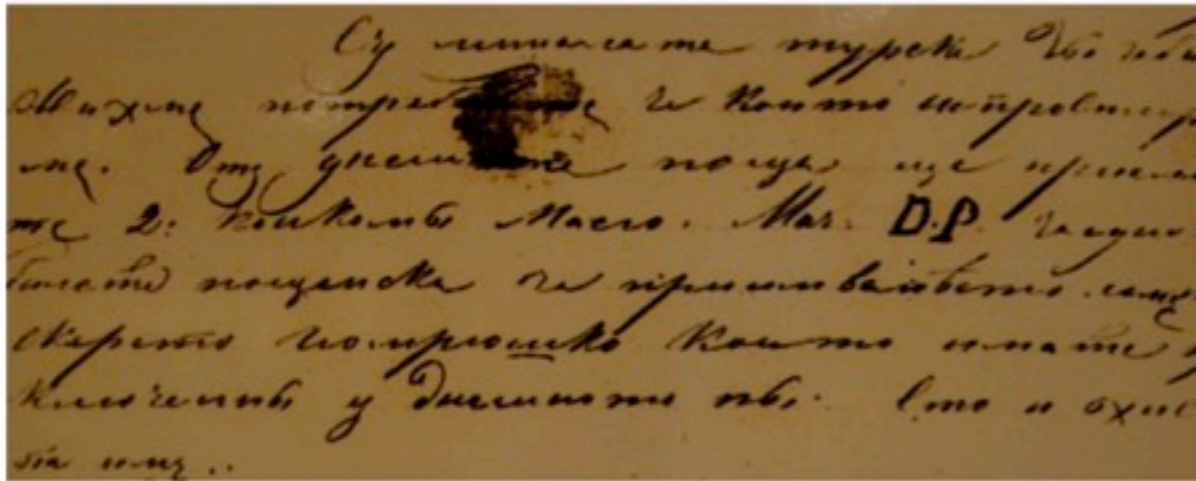
morning

morning overtook

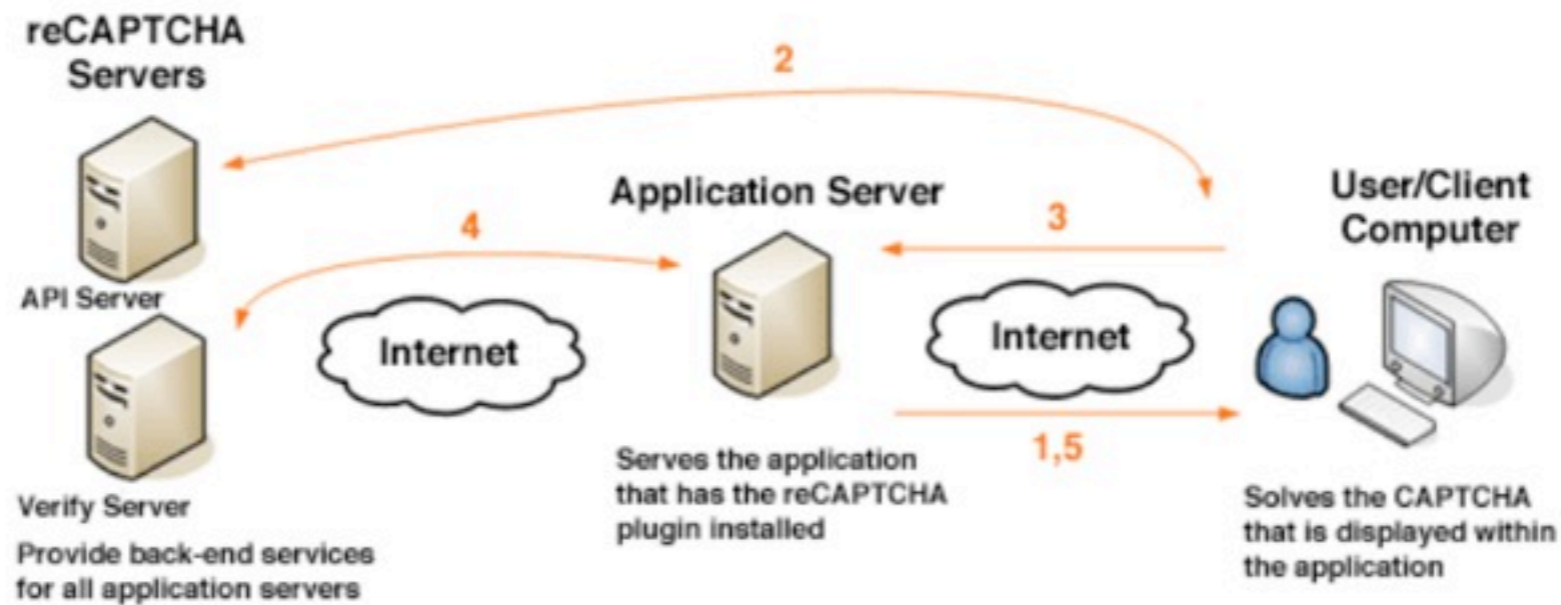
Type the two words:



reCAPTCHA

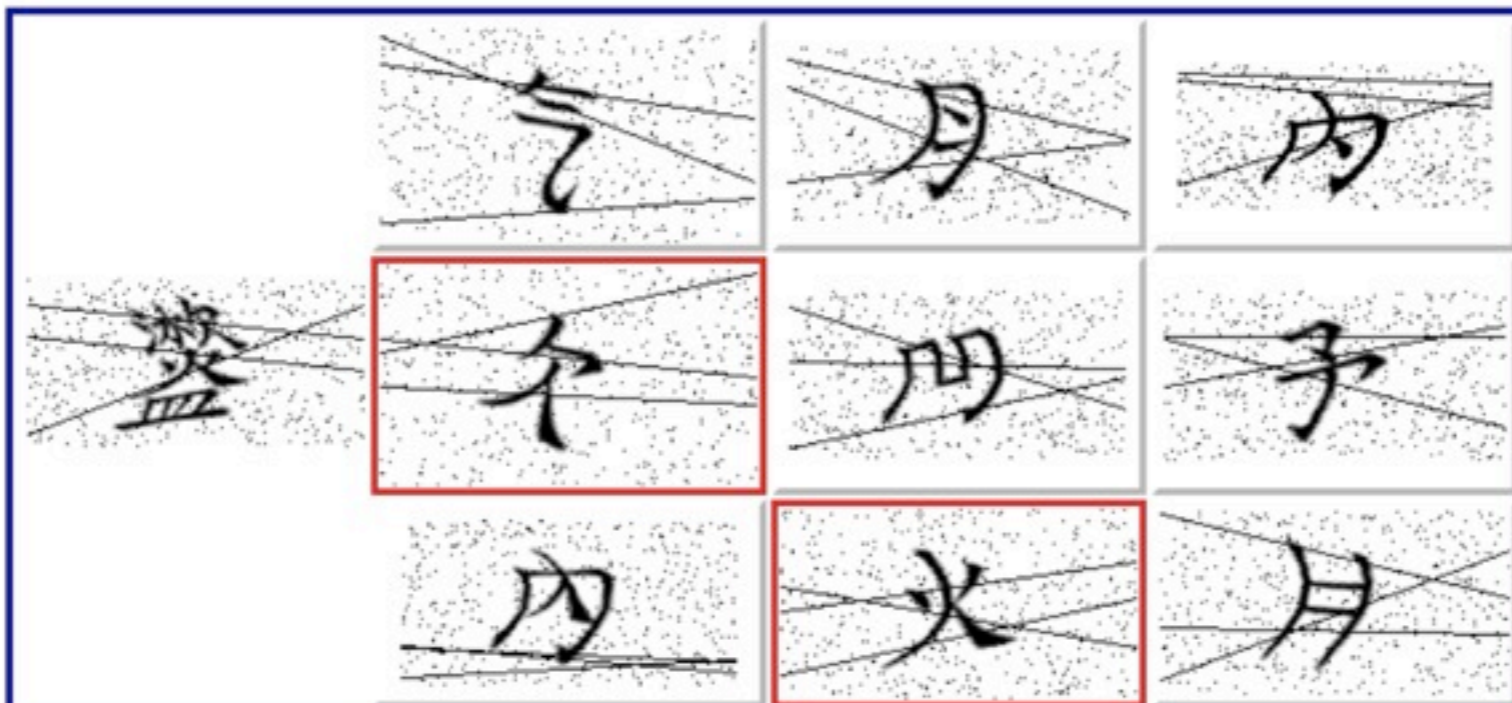
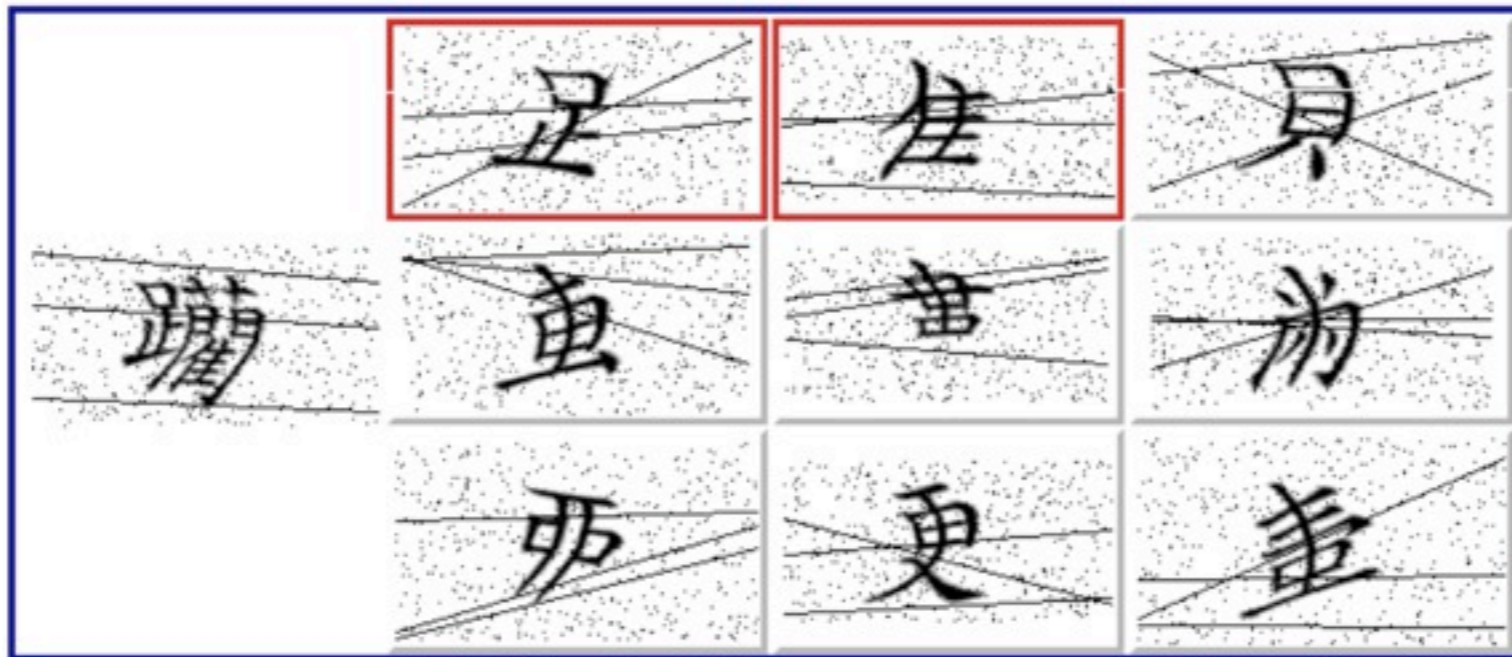


Client-Server components - reCAPTCHA plugins



Chinese CAPTCHA

Ling-Jyh Chen, Institute of Information Science, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan



System Design Issues

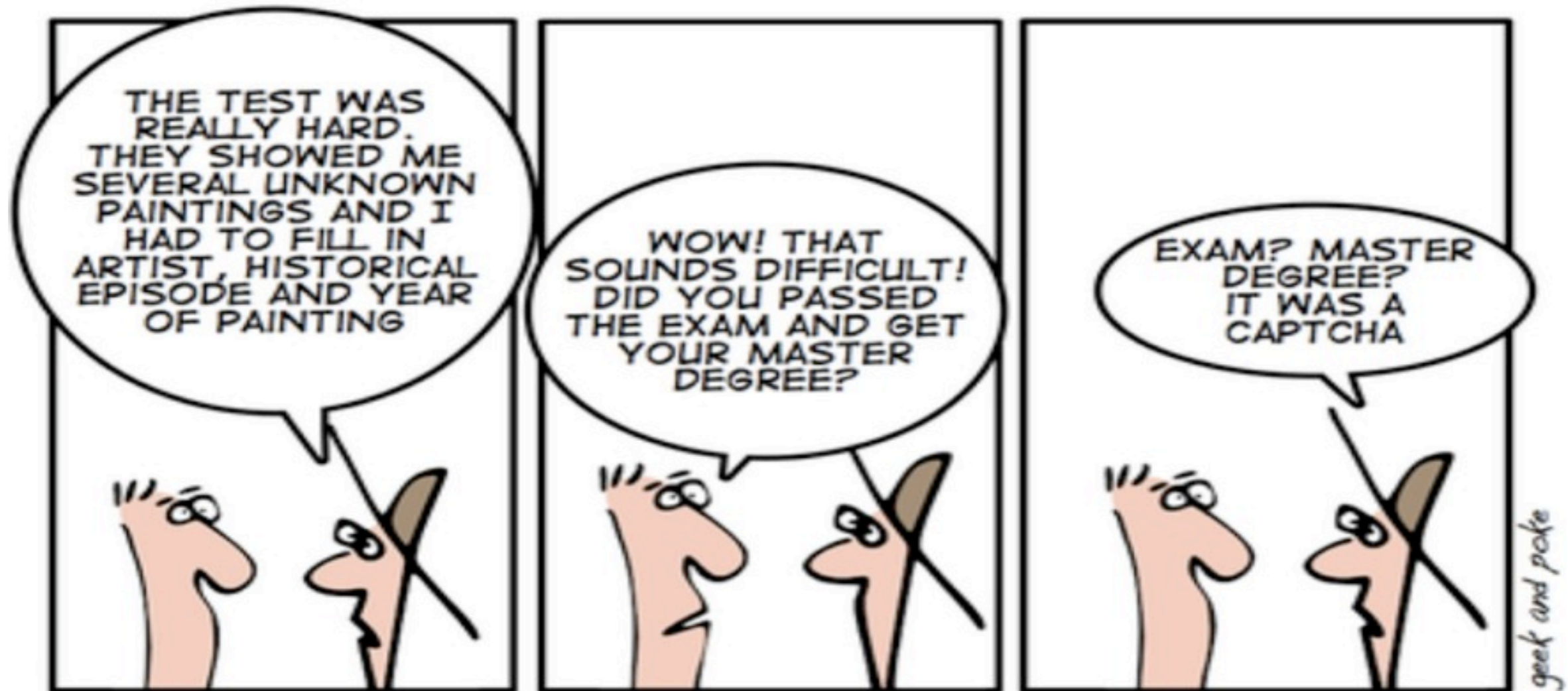
- Centralized vs. distributed systems
- Single vs. multiple players per round
- Single vs. multiple outcomes per round
- Pure vs. computer-aided HCOMP
- Stationary vs. mobile players
- “just enough” incentives
- Not “just another” HCOMP system



Initiatory Human Computation (4)

- Example (3): KA-CAPTCHA
 - Objective: To collect every correct answer submitted by humans to the CAPTCHA test as a **solution to a problem** that computers are unable to solve
 - CAPTCHA solvers are highly interested in providing a valid response to the CAPTCHA test (because they want to access the protected resource)
 - Knowledge acquisition mechanism: To strategically asking for a solution to a particular open problem that is of interest to the CAPTCHA designer.





IN THE FUTURE SOPHISTICATED CAPTCHAS WILL LOCK OUT ANY BOT



Distributed Human Computation (I)

- Objective: To encourage a **huge population of Internet users** to contribute to solve the difficult AI problems
- Example (1): **Razor**
 - To use human votes to determine if a given email is spam (anti-spam mechanism)
- Example (2): **Proofreader**
 - To give a (small) portion of the image file and corresponding text (generated by OCR) side-by-side to a human proofreader



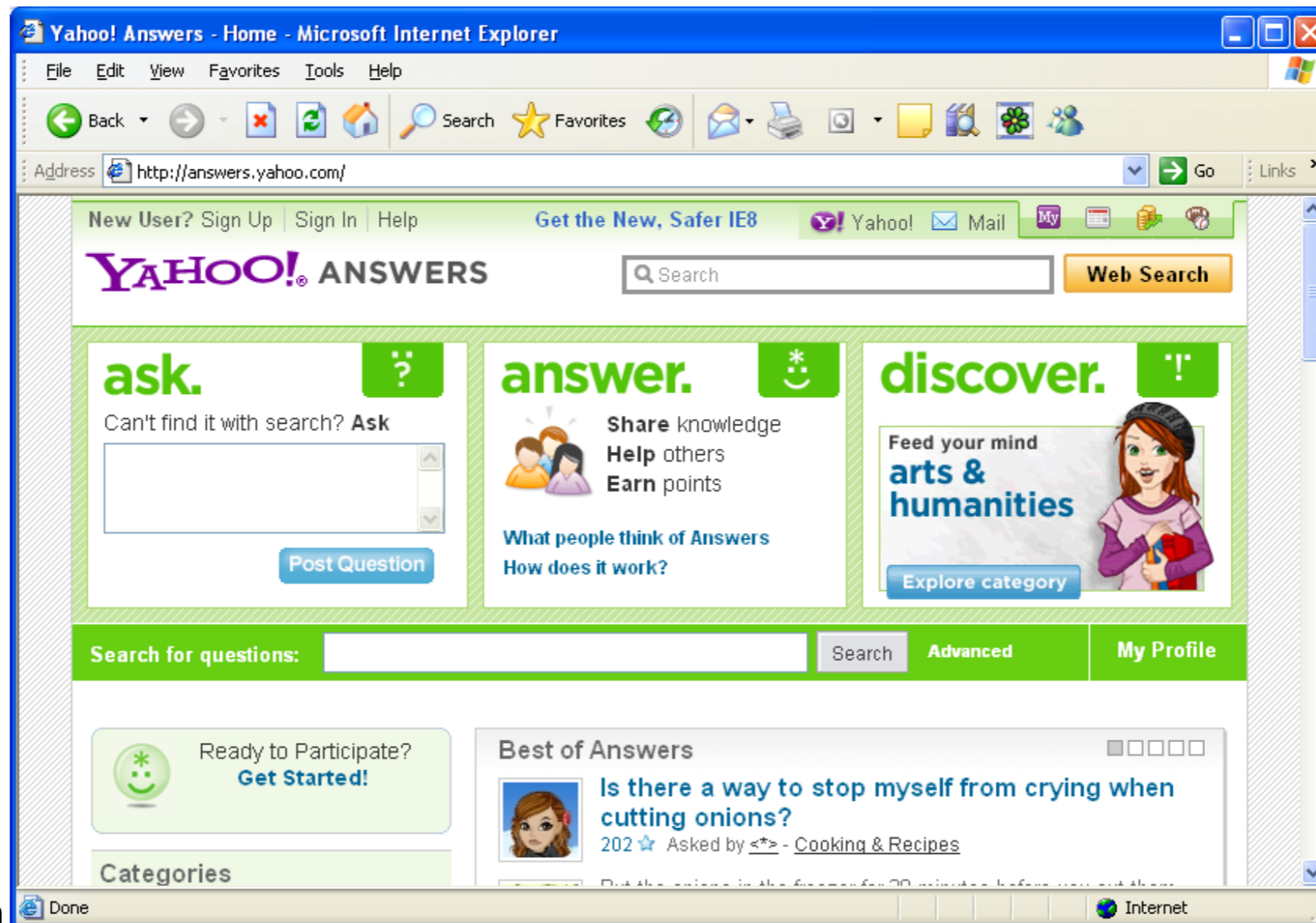
Distributed Human Computation (2)

- Example (3): **Wikipedia**
- The collective knowledge is distributed in that essentially almost anyone can contribute to the Wiki



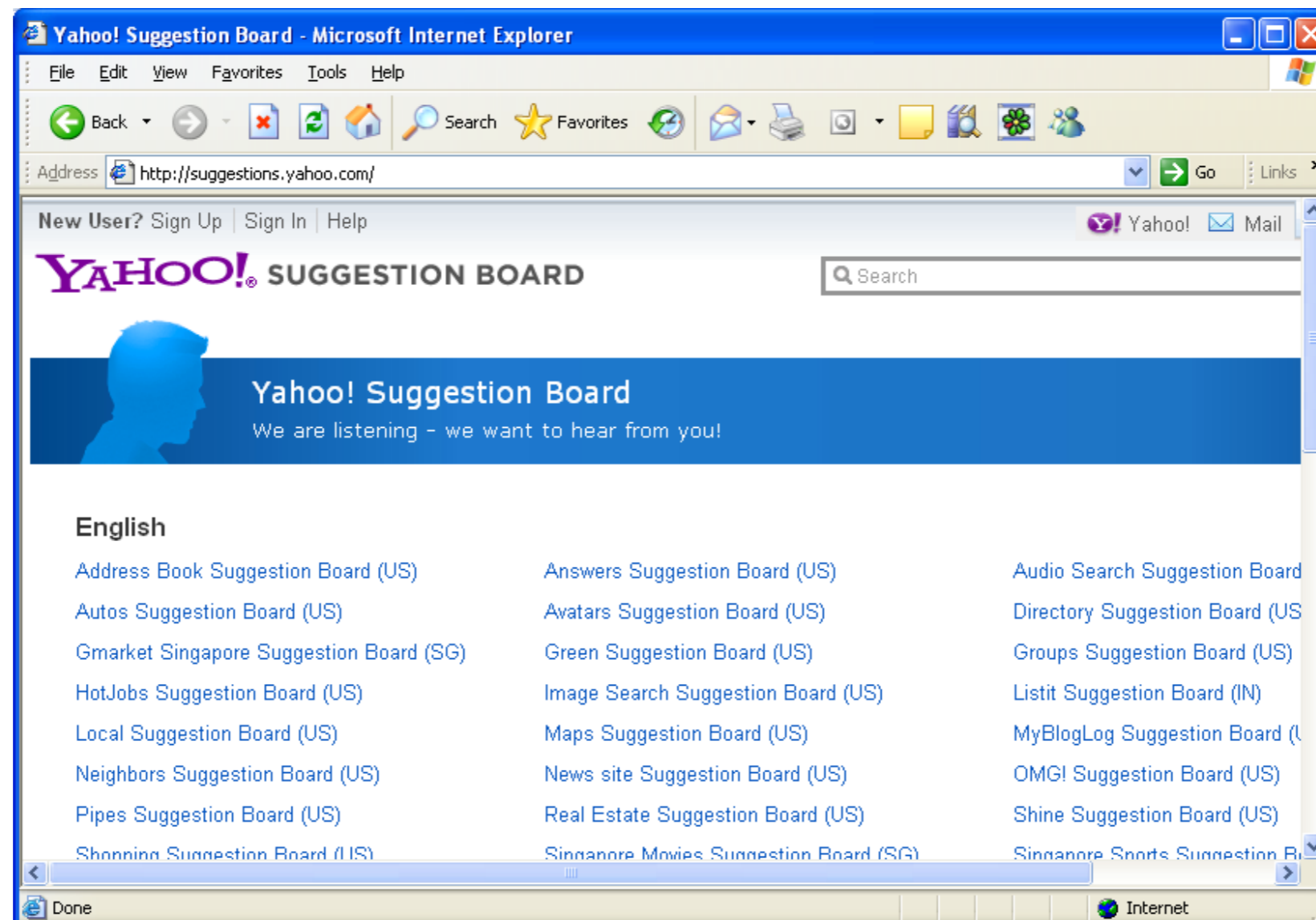
Distributed Human Computation (3)

- Example (4): **Yahoo! Answers**
- To provide automated collection of human reviewed data at Internet-scale



Distributed Human Computation (4)

- Example (5): **Yahoo! Suggestion Board**
- An Internet-scale feedback and suggestion system



Distributed Human Computation (5)

- Example (6): **Amazon Mechanical Turk**
 - It provides monetary rewards for tasks
- Example (7): **LabelMe**
 - A web-based tool for image annotation
 - Anybody can annotate image using it. You can only have access to the database once you have annotated a certain number of images.
- Example (8): **43Things**
 - To collect goals from users and help them to find other users who have similar goals
- Example 9: **MajorMiner**
 - Music annotation game



Amazon Mechanical Turk

Mechanical Turk is a marketplace for work.

We give businesses and developers access to an on-demand, scalable workforce. Workers select from thousands of tasks and work whenever it's convenient.

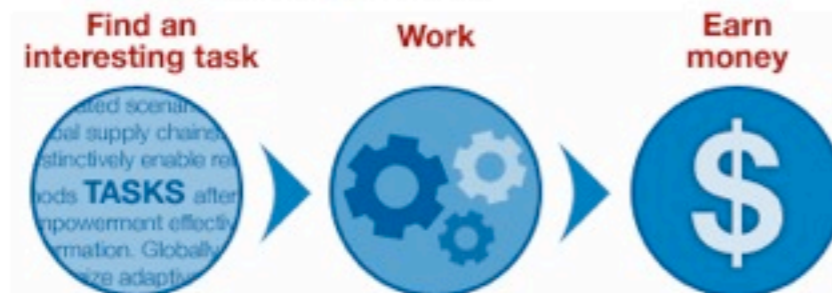
26,113 HITs available. [View them now.](#)

Make Money by working on HITs

HITs - *Human Intelligence Tasks* - are individual tasks that you work on. [Find HITs now.](#)

As a Mechanical Turk Worker you:

- Can work from home
- Choose your own work hours
- Get paid for doing good work



[Find HITs Now](#)

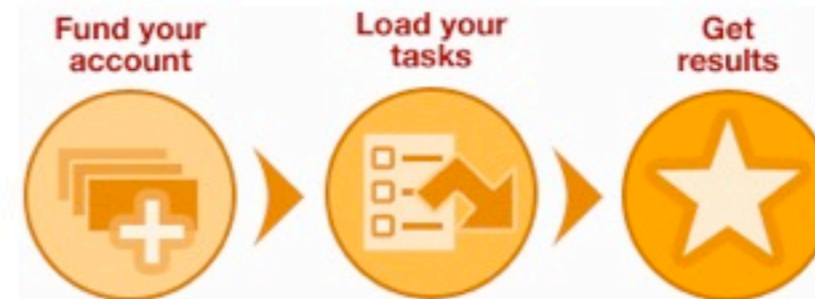
or [learn more about being a Worker](#)

Get Results from Mechanical Turk Workers

Ask workers to complete HITs - *Human Intelligence Tasks* - and get results using Mechanical Turk. [Register Now](#)

As a Mechanical Turk Requester you:

- Have access to a global, on-demand, 24 x 7 workforce
- Get thousands of HITs completed in minutes
- Pay only when you're satisfied with the results



[Get Started](#)

or [learn more about being a Requester](#)



Example of Mechanical Turk

Answer a short survey

1. What is your gender?

- Male
 Female

2. What is your age?

3. Which of the following best describes your highest achieved education level?

Some High School

4. What is the total income of your household?

- Less than \$12,500
\$12,500 - \$24,999
\$25,000 - \$37,499
\$37,500 - \$49,999

5. What is your favorite type of TV Show? (select all that apply)

- Sports
 Situational Comedies
 Drama
 News
 Music Videos

Find the Website Address for this Restaurant

- For this restaurant below, enter the website address for the official website of the restaurant
- Include the full address, e.g. <http://www.thecheesecakefactory.com>
- Do not include URLs to city guides and listings like Citysearch.

Restaurant Name: **\$(name)**

Address: **\$(address)**

Phone Number: **\$(phone)**

Website:

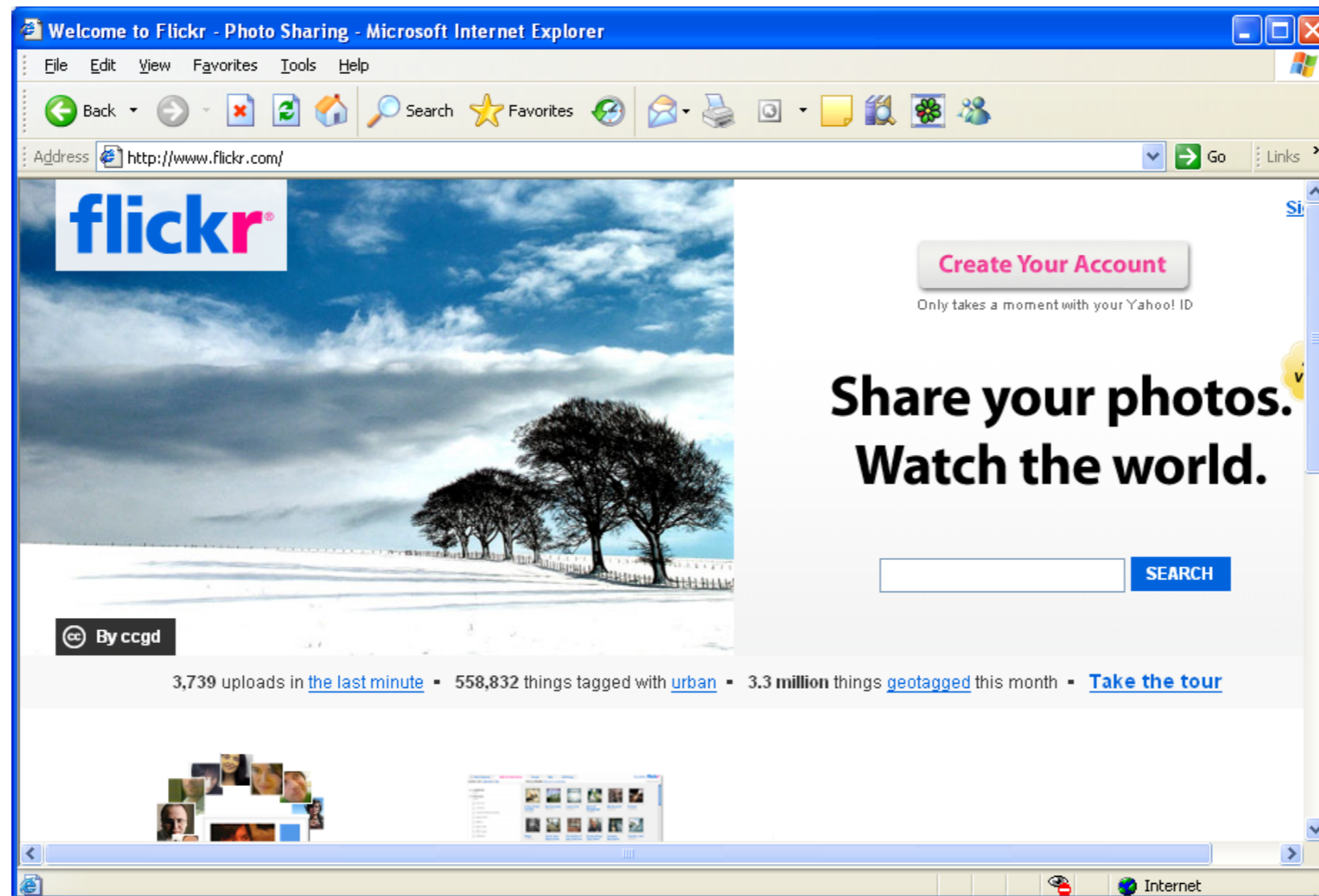
Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

Submit



Distributed Human Computation (6)

- Example (10): **Yahoo's flickr**
- It is a photo-sharing site with captions being used as photo tags



Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers (I)

- Recently social games were proposed to **collect accurate information** from players as a side effect of their playing
- The players are **volunteers** or **paid engineers**
- Disadvantages:
 - Rely on **online volunteers** or **paid engineers** to enter information explicitly
 - **Unable to scale up** the system due to high cost
 - **No validation mechanism** to guarantee that the information collected is accurate



Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers (2)

- Most of the games at early stage aimed to collect commonsense knowledge.
- Example (1): **Cyc**
 - To collect information from the input by **paid knowledge engineers**
- Example (2): **Open Mind**
 - To collect **common sense knowledge** from people to develop intelligent software
 - Shortcoming: was too reliant on the **unpaid volunteers** to donate their time to contribute information



Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers (3)

- Example (2): **Open Mind**



Social Game-based Human Computation with volunteers or paid engineers (4)

- Example (3): **Mindpixel**
 - Reward those Internet users who consistently **validate a fact** inline with the other users
 - Shortcoming: the cost is high!
- Example (4): **Wildfire wally**
 - To solve the **maximum clique problem**
 - Shortcoming: rely on unpaid volunteers to donate their time to contribute information



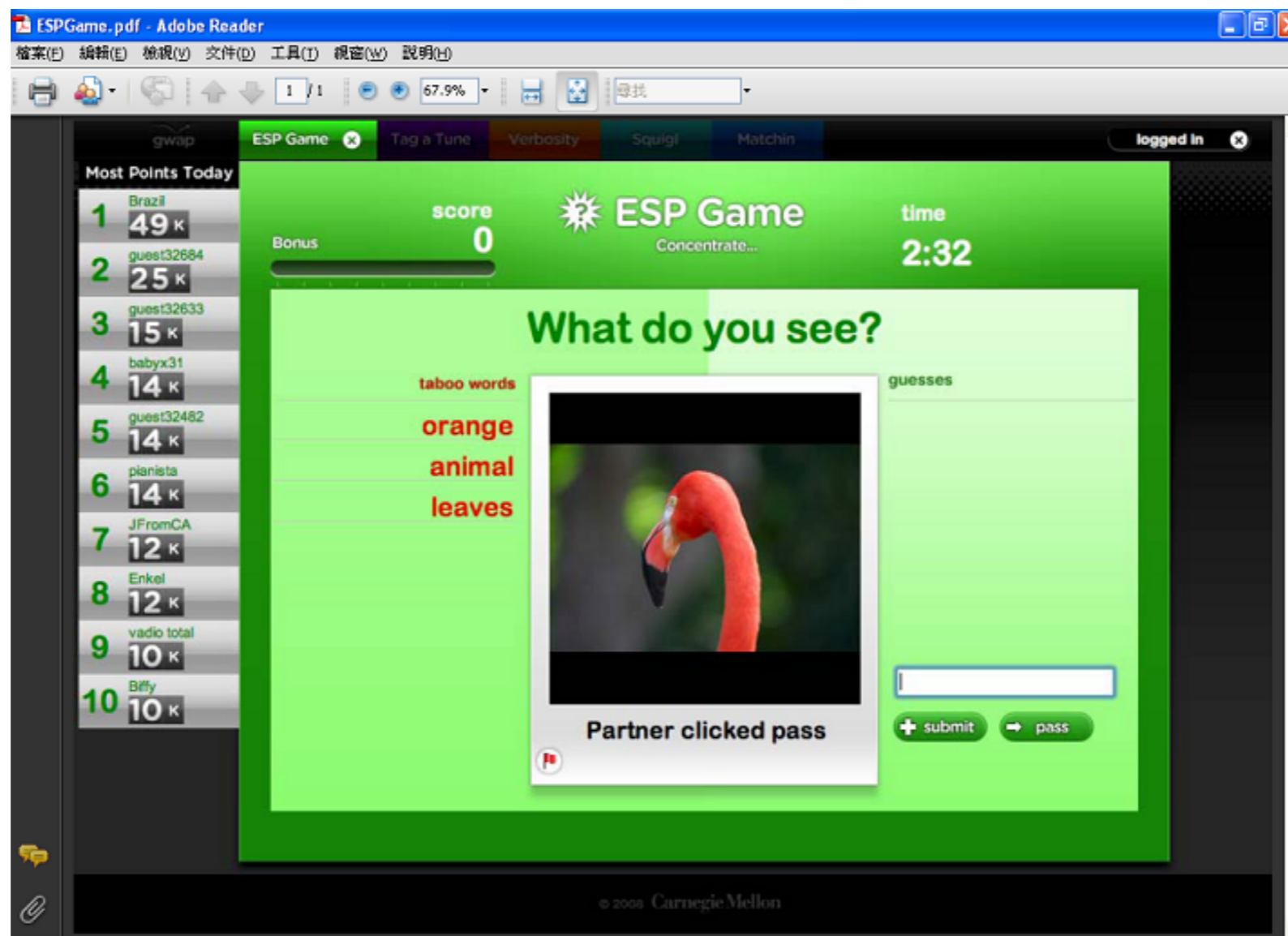
Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (I)

- Later, social games were proposed to **collect information** from the players as a **side effect** of their playing
- Advantage:
 - It **encouraged more Internet users** to contribute information to solve the AI problems because of the **increasingly popularity of online game**
- TWO important factors for collecting information effectively from players through a social game:
 - Guarantee the **quality** of collected information
 - Maintain the **enjoyment** of players in the game



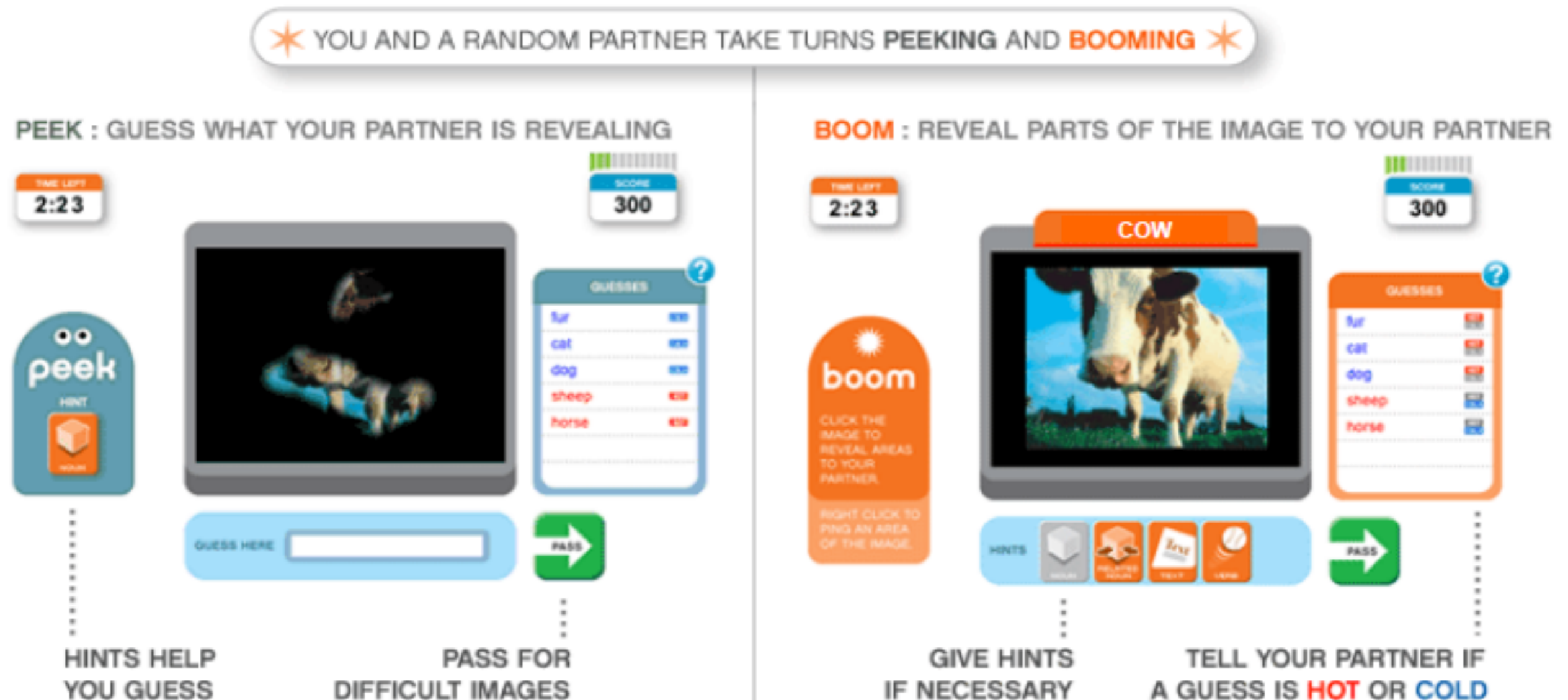
Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (2)

- To collect text information from images
 - Examples (1): **ESP game**



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (3)

- To collect text information for images:
 - Examples (2): **Peekaboom**



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (4)

- To collect commonsense knowledge:
 - Examples (3): **Verbosity**



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (5)

- To collect subjective descriptions of sounds and music:
 - Example (4): **Tagatune**

Most Points Today

1	sunshine	173 k
2	quest40692	86 k
3	WhigleyFive	50 k
4	occam	24 k
5	ScottParade	20 k
6	haim	17 k
7	missy420	16 k
8	adaman	12 k
9	Amro	10 k
10	tomkiddo	9,850

Score: 80
Timer: 1:41
Tag a Tune
Hear Here

Describe the tune ...
0:10

Listening to the same tune?
same different 1 in a row

your descriptions
male vocal
medieval music
quartet
two females

your partner's descriptions
guitar
solo
no vocals

You Correct Partner
60 points

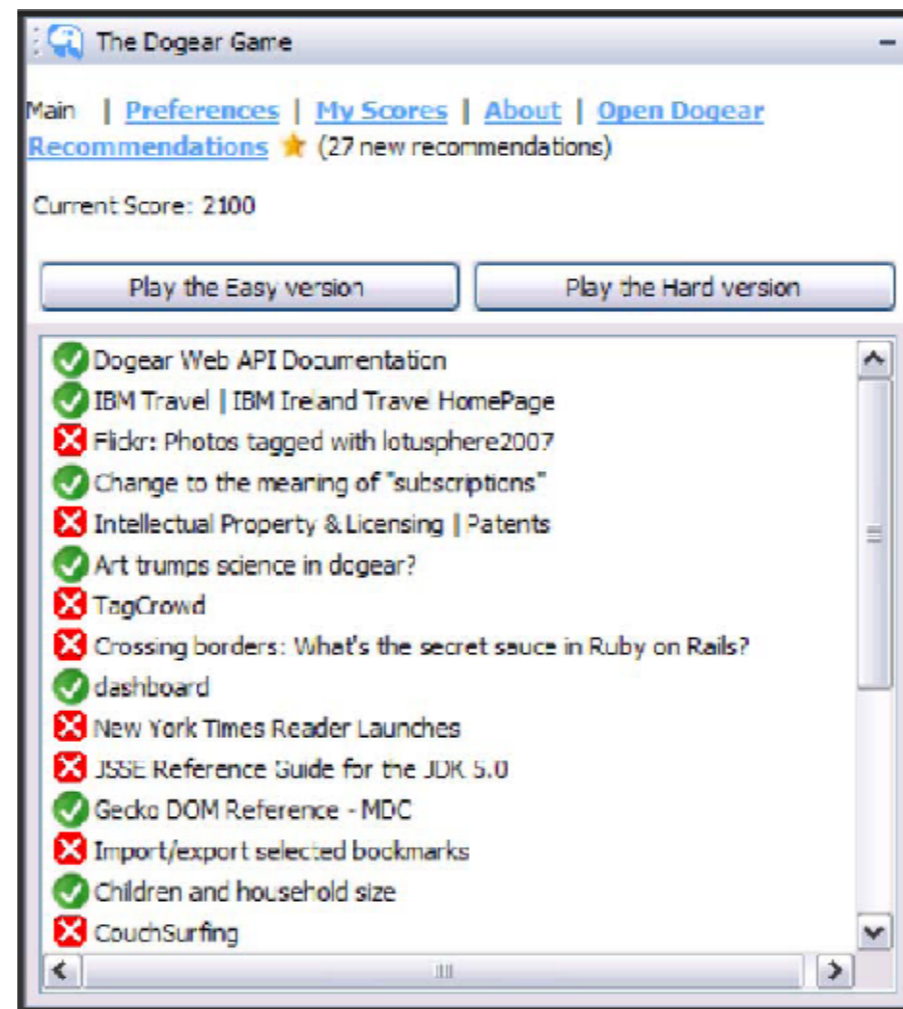
submit pass

Your partner has chosen.



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (6)

- To learn colleagues' bookmarks in an organizational goal:
- Example (5): **Dogear Game**



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (7)

- To tag locations in the real world through gameplay in mobile social games:
 - Example (6): **Gopher guessing game**

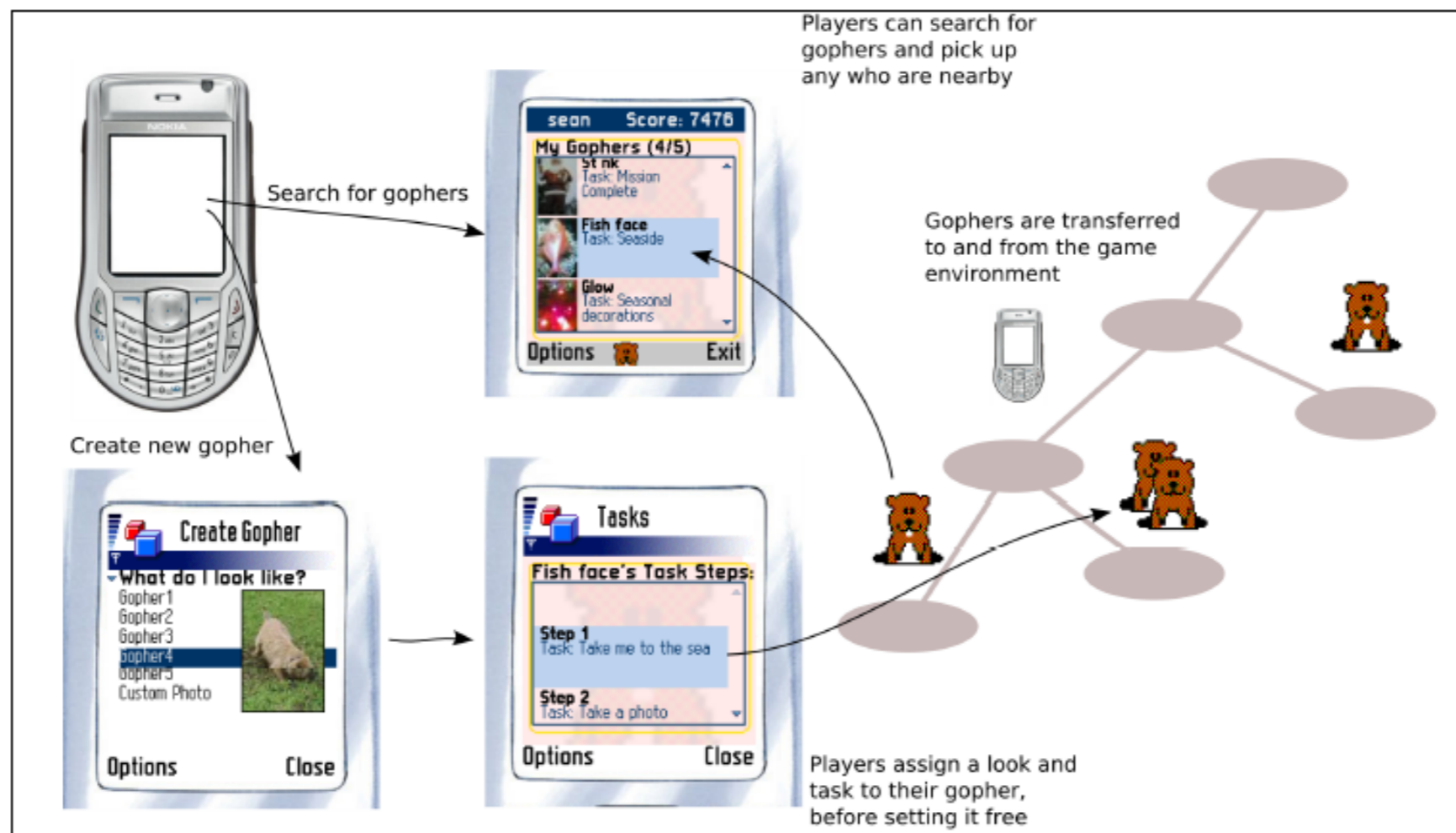


Figure 1. Real world experience, acquiring gophers



Social Game-based Human Computation with online players (8)

- To tag locations in the real world through gameplay in mobile social games:
 - Example (7): **Gopher guessing game**

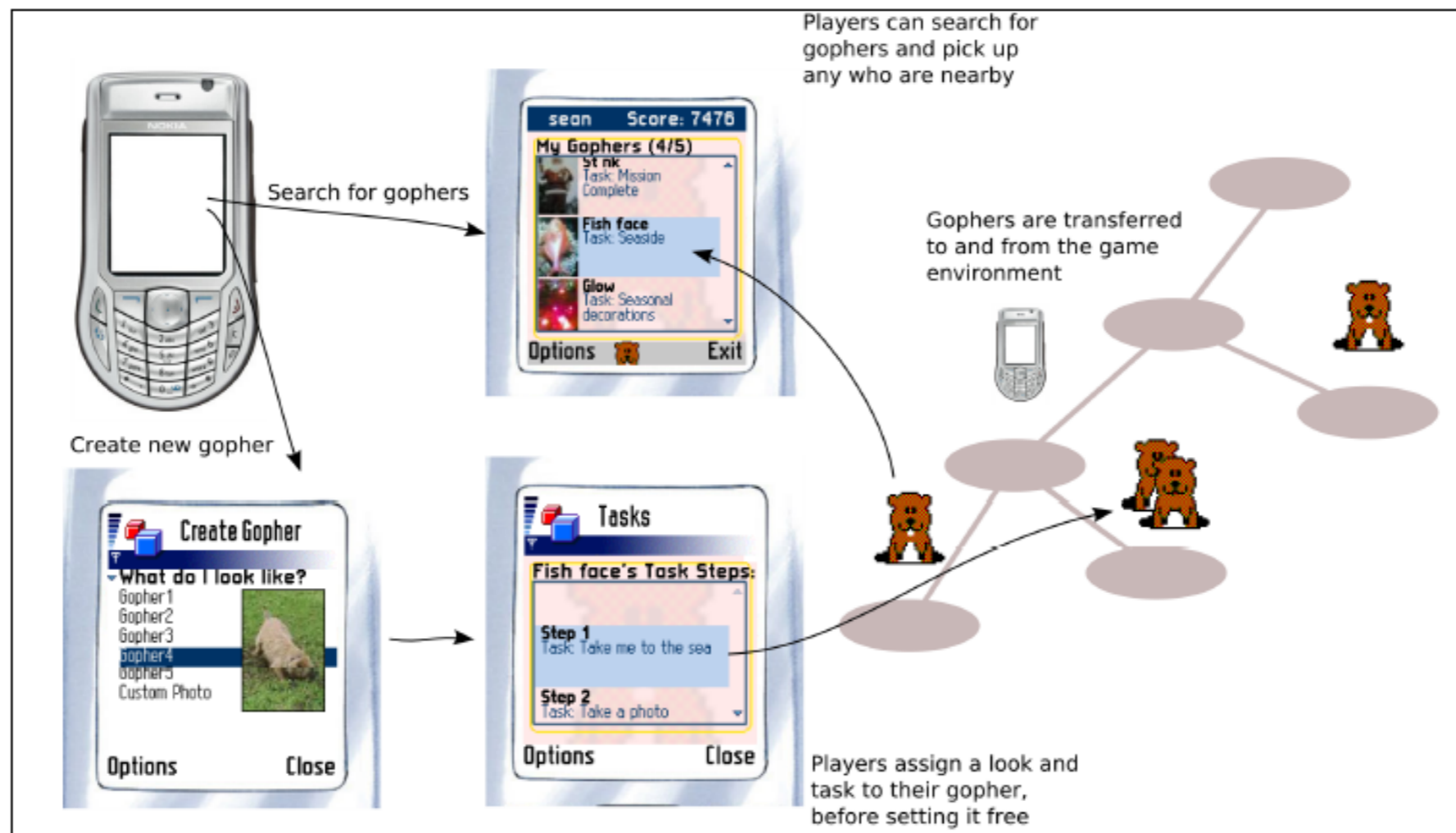
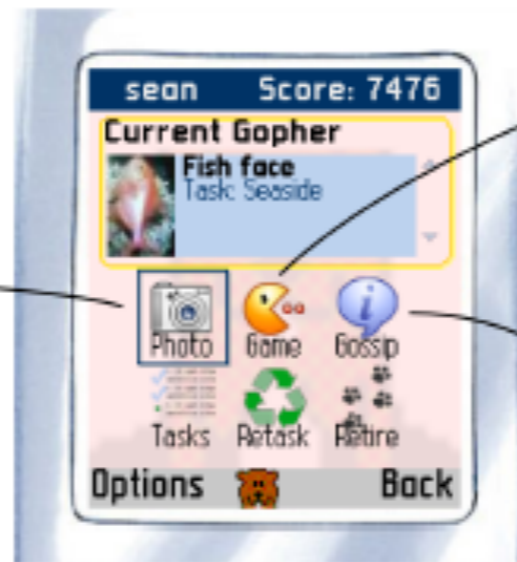


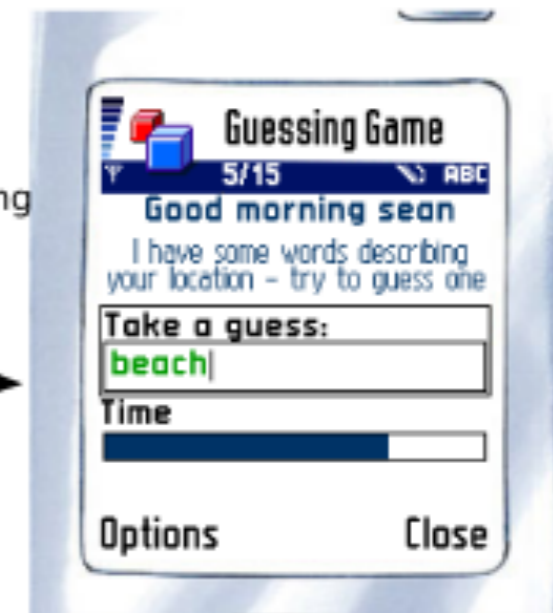
Figure 1. Real world experience, acquiring gophers



Visual feedback can be provided in the form of camera phone images - players photograph their current location and supply this to the gopher. The gopher responds with an image from its history, taken at a spatially nearby location.



Gophers can participate in a word guessing game, based on their real-world location. Players supply semantic descriptions relative to their current whereabouts. They are awarded points depending on the accuracy of their guesses.



Players can provide text information by exchanging some gossip with the gopher - a player supplies textual information to the gopher. The gopher responds with some gossip from it's history, taken at a nearby location.

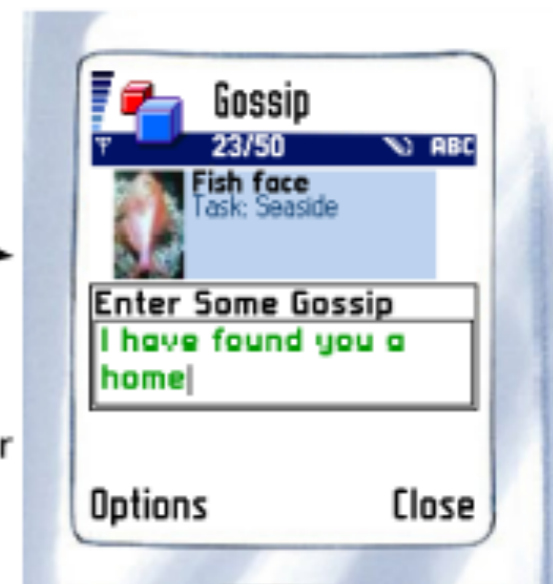


Figure 2. Real world experience, interacting with gophers



Properties of Social Games

1. Type of information to be collected

2. Game Structure

1. Output-agreement Game

2. Input-agreement Game

3. Inversion-problem Game

4. Output-optimization Game

3. Verification Method

1. Symmetric

2. Asymmetric

4. Game Mechanism

1. Collaborative

2. Competitive

3. Hybrid

5. Player Requirement



Categorization of Social Games

TABLE I
CATEGORIZATION OF SOCIAL GAMES

Game Structure	Verification Method	Game Mechanism
Output-agreement	Symmetric	Collaborative or Hybrid
Input-agreement	Symmetric	Collaborative or Hybrid
Inversion-problem	Asymmetric	Collaborative or Competitive or Hybrid
Output-optimization	Symmetric or Asymmetric	Collaborative or Competitive or Hybrid



Subjective vs. Objective Information

- For **subjective information**, the information presented for the same subject is affected by users because of different choices of vocabularies for the same subject.
- **lower probability** on players' correct **outputs being the same**
- For **objective information**, the information presented for the same subject is **NOT** affected by users because of same choices of vocabularies for the same subject.
- **higher probability** on players' correct **outputs being the same**



Game Structure (I)

- Game structure defines the key elements of a game including players' **input**, players' **output**, the **relationship** among the input and output of players, and the **winning condition**
- Four types of game structure
 1. Output-agreement Game
 2. Input-agreement Game
 3. Inversion-problem Game
 4. Output-optimization Game



Game Structure (2)

- **Output-agreement Games:** All players are given the same input and must produce outputs based on the common input
 - An output-agreement game should be used to collect **objective information**
- **Input-agreement Games:** All players are given inputs that are known by the game (but not by the players) to be the same or different. The players are instructed to produce outputs describing their input, so their partners are able to assess whether their inputs are the same or different. Players see only each other's outputs
 - An input-agreement game should be used to collect **subjective information**



Game Structure (3)

- **Inversion-problem Games:** The first player has access to the whole problem and gives hints to the second player to make a guess. If the second player is able to guess the secret, we assume that the hints given by the first player are correct.
- **Output-optimization Games:** All players are given the same input and their outputs are the hints of other players' outputs.
 - An output-optimization game should be used to collect **subjective information**, because the output pattern of players reflects outputs of players are strongly affected by others' outputs. It is subjective.



Verification Methods

- Verification method of a game defines the method **to check the output accuracy** of players by asking players to do the same task or different tasks
- **Symmetric Verification Games:** Either an output-agreement game or an input-agreement game is symmetric verification
- **Asymmetric Verification Games:** Players are assigned to one of the roles to do different tasks



Game Mechanism

- Game mechanism defines the **relationship of all players** in the game in order to achieve the winning condition
- **Collaborative Games** determine the winning condition of all players. The accuracy of output is guaranteed by collaboration of all players.
- **Competitive Games** determine the winning condition of a player. Output accuracy is guaranteed by information stored in a database. Players' enjoyment in the game can be increased in competition.
- **Hybrid Game**



Player Requirements (I)

- Player requirement defines the rules on accessing the game of all players.
- In **Synchronous Games**, players have to give real-time response to other players' action.
- In **Asynchronous Games**, players do not have to give real-time response to other players' action. The information collected from one player is stored in a database and will be used to determine the correctness of other players' output.



Player Requirements (2)

- Number of players define the following types:
- **Single-player Games:** It allows one player to play and the other's moves can be simulated from the prerecorded game. Only inversion-problem game can be a single-player game.
- **Two-player Games:** It allows two players to play together.
- **Multi-player Games:** It allows multiple players to play together. Only **hybrid games** can be a multi-player game.



Summary

TABLE II
CATEGORIZATION OF SOCIAL GAMES WITH EXAMPLES

Game Structure	Verification Method	Game Mechanism	Player Requirement		Examples
			Num of Player	Game Play	
Output-agreement	Symmetric	Collaborative	2	Synchronous	ESP, Matchi, Squigl, OntoGame
		Hybrid	Multi-players	Synchronous	Common Consensus, Social Heroes
		Hybrid	Multi-players	Asynchronous	Gopher Game
Input-agreement	Symmetric	Collaborative	2	Synchronous	TagATune
		Hybrid	N/A	N/A	N/A
Inversion-problem	Asymmetric	Collaborative	1 or 2	Synchronous	Peckaboom, Verbosity
		Competitive	2	Asynchronous	Dogear, CyPRESS, CARS
		Hybrid	1 or Multi-players	Synchronous	Phetch
Output-optimization	Symmetric	Collaborative	2	Synchronous	Restaurant Game
		Competitive	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Hybrid	Multi-players	Synchronous	Diplomacy



- Gentry et al. analyzed the security and reliability against malicious parties on distributed human computation systems.
- Su et al. performed comprehensive experiments using real datasets to study the impacts of user behavior on the quality of human-reviewed data.
- Snow et al. compared the quality of non-expert annotations and existing gold standard labels provided by expert labelers.
- Sheng et al. proposed an analysis to model the data quality using repeated labeling with a cost. They found that, with repeated labeling, it is possible to improve the data quality at low cost, especially when labels are noisy.
- A number of previous works analyzed the performance of the ESP game which was the first social game and was subsequently adopted as the Google Image Labeler.



Final Remarks

- Future Work
 - Models, theories, etc.
 - Tools, platforms, etc.
 - Performance metrics, e.g., accuracy, complexity, etc.
- To provide a better understanding about Human Computation Systems (HCS) systematically
- To facilitate future research activities in the field of HCS



Crowdsourcing

Sheng-Wei (Kuan-Ta) Chen, Institute of Information Science, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

- Crowdsourcing = Crowd + Outsourcing
- Soliciting solutions via open calls to large-scale communities

- INNOCENTIVE



- oDesk



- Amazon Mechanical Turk - Marketplace for work
- Yahoo! Answers
- Wikipedia



What Are Crowdsourcable?

- Software development - USD \$25,000 per job
- Data entry - USD \$4.4 per hour
- Image tagging - USD \$0.04 per image
- General questions - points on Yahoo! Answers
- Image understanding - USD \$0.01 to \$0.02 per task
- Human action recognition - USD \$0.01 per task
- Linguistic annotations (word similarity) - USD \$0.2 per 30 word pairs



Multimedia QoE Assessment

- Quality of Experience (QoE) = User's subjective satisfaction about a service (multimedia content)
- To provide end-user experience, we measure the QoE of multimedia content, e.g, image, voice, video, etc.
 - Efficiency vs. Reliability
 - Objective evaluation approach
 - Subjective evaluation approach



Evaluation Approaches

- Objective Evaluation
 - Cannot capture all the QoE dimensions that may affect users' experiences
 - Cannot include external factors, e.g., quality of headsets, distance between the viewer and the display
- Subjective Evaluation
 - Opinions, e.g., 1=bad, 2=poor, 3=fair, 4=good, and 5=excellent
 - Difficult to define the ordinal scales concisely
 - Difficult to verify users' scoring results



Drawbacks of Subjective Evaluation

- High economic cost
 - Participant payment
- High labor cost
 - Supervision labor
- Physical space/time requirements
 - Transportation cost
 - Laboratory space
 - Difficult to find motivated participants



Crowdsourcing Challenges

- Not every Internet user is trustworthy
 - Experiments without supervision so no quality assurance
 - Increased variance and bias
 - Need to find a way to detect problematic inputs!



Paired Comparison Test



Stimulus A



Stimulus B



Which one is better?

Vote



Stimulus A



Features of Paired Comparison

- Generalizable across a variety of multimedia applications
- Simple comparative judgement
- Interval scale QoE scores can be calculated
- Verifiable users' feedback



Verification of Users' Inputs

- Transitivity property
 - If $A > B$ and $B > C$ then A should be $> C$
- Transitivity Satisfaction Rate (TSR)

$$\frac{\# \text{ of triples satisfy the transitivity rule}}{\# \text{ of triples the transitivity rule may apply to}}$$

- Detect inconsistent judgements from problematic users
 - $\text{TSR} = 1 \Rightarrow$ perfect consistency
 - $\text{TSR} \geq 0.8 \Rightarrow$ generally consistent
 - $\text{TSR} < 0.8 \Rightarrow$ judgement are consistent

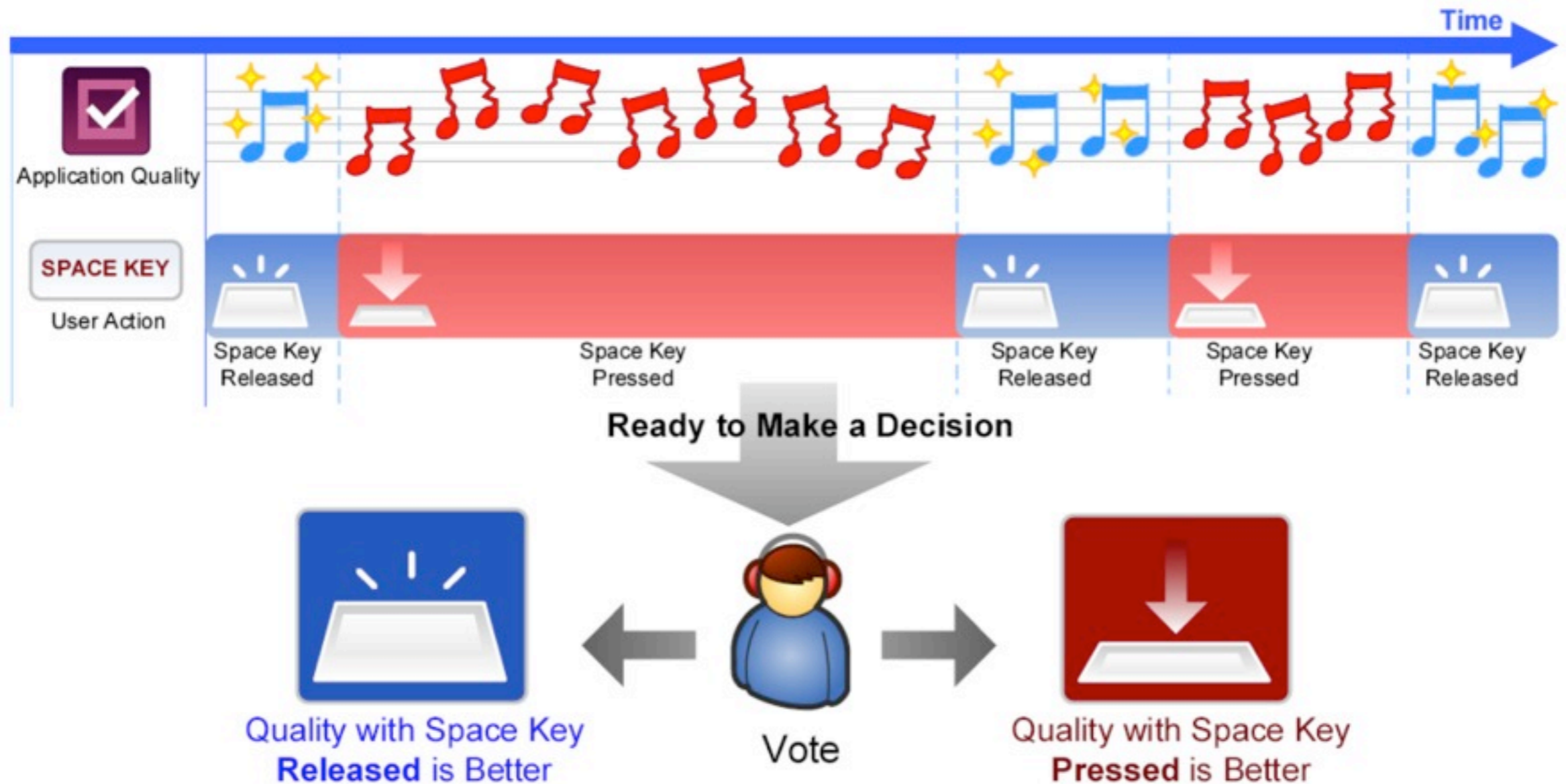


Experiment Design

- Suppose our task is to evaluate the effect of n audio processing algorithms, e.g., audio encoding
 - Select an audio clip (source clip) as the evaluation target
 - Apply the n algorithms to the source clip and generate n different versions of the clip (test clips)
 - Create an Adobe Flash-based system for users to evaluate the n test clips
 - A user need to perform 2 out of n paired comparison



Concept Flow of Acoustic QoE Evaluation



Which One is Better?



Participant Source

- Laboratory
 - Recruit part-time workers at an hourly rate of USD \$8
- MTurk
 - Post experiments on the Mechanical Turk web site
 - Pay the participant USD \$0.15 for each qualified experiment
- Community
 - Seek participants on the website of Internet community with 1.5 million members
 - Pay the participant an amount of virtual currency that was equivalent to USD \$0.01 for each qualified experiment



Evaluation of the Framework

- Three participant sources
 - Laboratory
 - Amazon Mechanical Turk
 - Community
- Each with different cost structure
- Compare the cost required by each participant and the data quality produced



- The first **crowdsourcable** QoE evaluation framework
- Users' inputs can be **verified**
 - the transitivity property: $A > B$ and $B > C \rightarrow A > C$
 - detect inconsistent judgements from problematic users
- Experiments can thus be outsourced to Internet crowd
 - **lower monetary cost**
 - **wider participant diversity**
 - **maintaining the evaluation results' quality**

Case Study	Experimenter Source	Total Cost (dollar)	# Rounds	# Person	Qualified Rate	Cost / Round (cent)	Time / Round (sec)	Avg. TSR
MP3 Bit Rate	Laboratory	50.97	1440	10	67%	3.54	16	0.96
	MTurk	7.50	750	24	47%	1.00	9	0.96
	Community	1.03	1,470	93	54%	0.07	25	0.96

Chen et al, "A Crowdsourcable QoE Evaluation Framework for Multimedia Content," *Proceedings of ACM Multimedia 2009*.





Quadrant of Euphoria



Researchers



Image

Register

Login



Audio

Register

Login



Video

Register

Login

💡 If you are a researcher who interested in Quadrant of Euphoria and want to try it out, we provide a demo profile for each type of experiment for you.

💡 Please login the demo profile by using name: **demo**, password: **qoedemo**



Experiment Participants

Type	Exp	Description	Reward	Link
	jpg2000	JPEG 2000 Quality Study.	\$1.0	go
	new_jpg	We want to test our new compression method.	N/A	go
	compression	Audio VBR compression level.	\$1.5	go
	mp3_lossless	Verify the loss-less MP3 codec.	\$1.5	go
	h264_test	Test if the new codec have significant quality boost.	\$1.0	go

[More...](#)



Introduction to

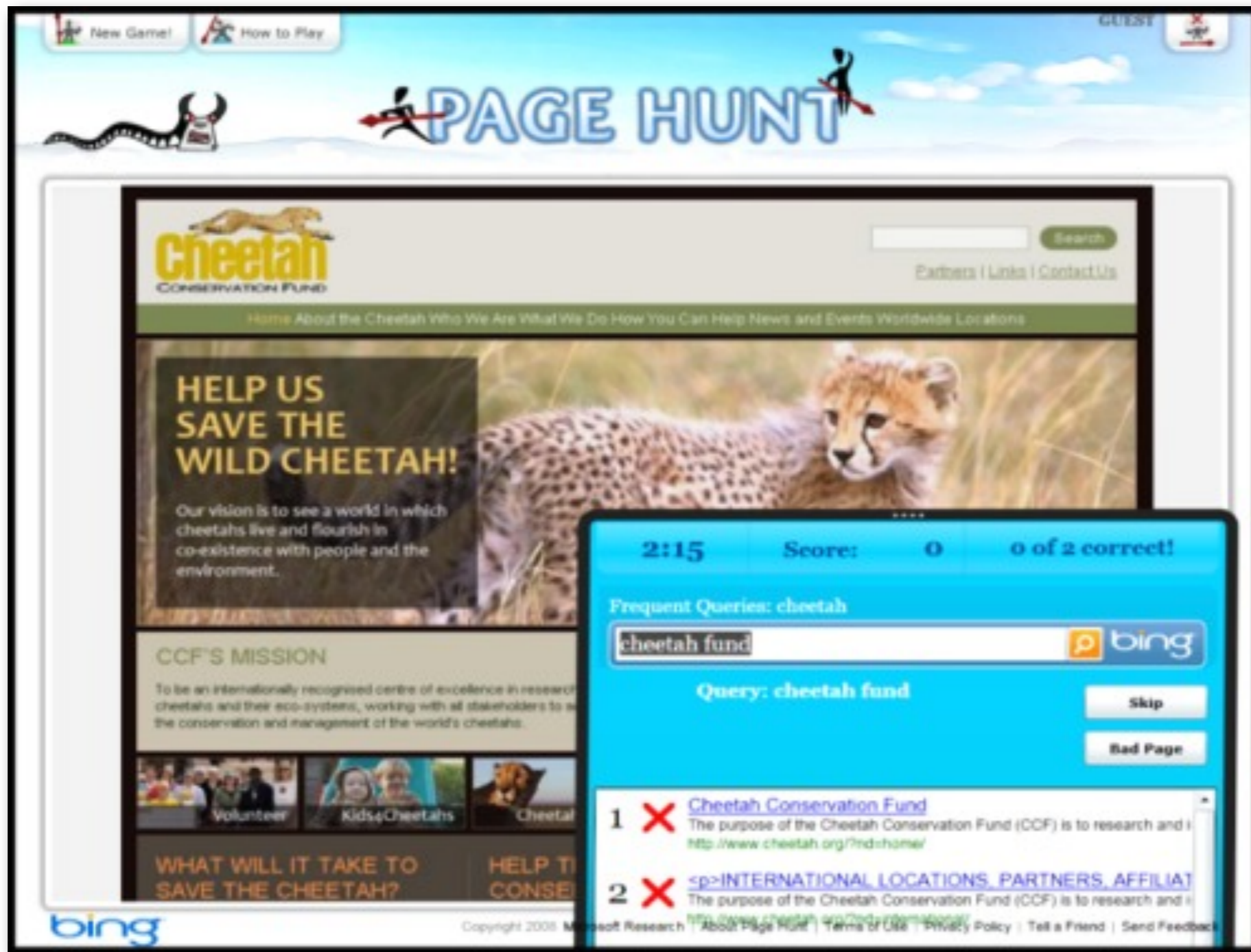
<http://mmnet.iis.sinica.edu.tw/link/qoe>

vice Computing



Improving Search Engines Using Human Computation Games

[Hao Ma, et al., SIGIR'09, CIKM'09]



Improving Search

- Human Relevance judgments and implicit measures of relevance predicated on web pages being surfaced
- But what if some pages don't get surfaced?
- Page Hunt: a human computation game that's like search in reverse: **going from web pages to queries**



Motivation and Response

- Our Motivation
 - No games for tagging Web pages
 - No single player human computation games
 - People like competition, not just cooperation!
- Our response:
 - **Page Hunt** (one-player game)
 - **Page Race** (two-player competitive game)
 - **Page Match** (two-player cooperative game)



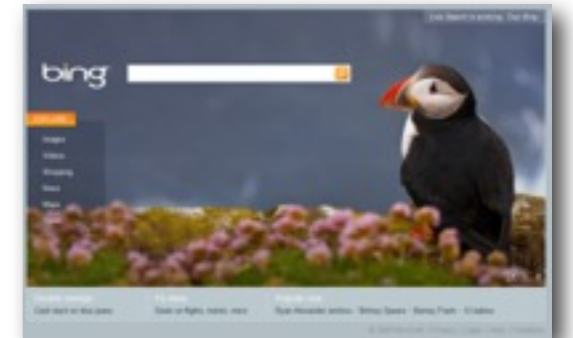
Implementation

- Implemented in C#
- Silverlight makes it zippy and fun
- Two player games created in collaboration with Max Chickering & Anton Mityagin (Microsoft) and Edith Law (CMU)



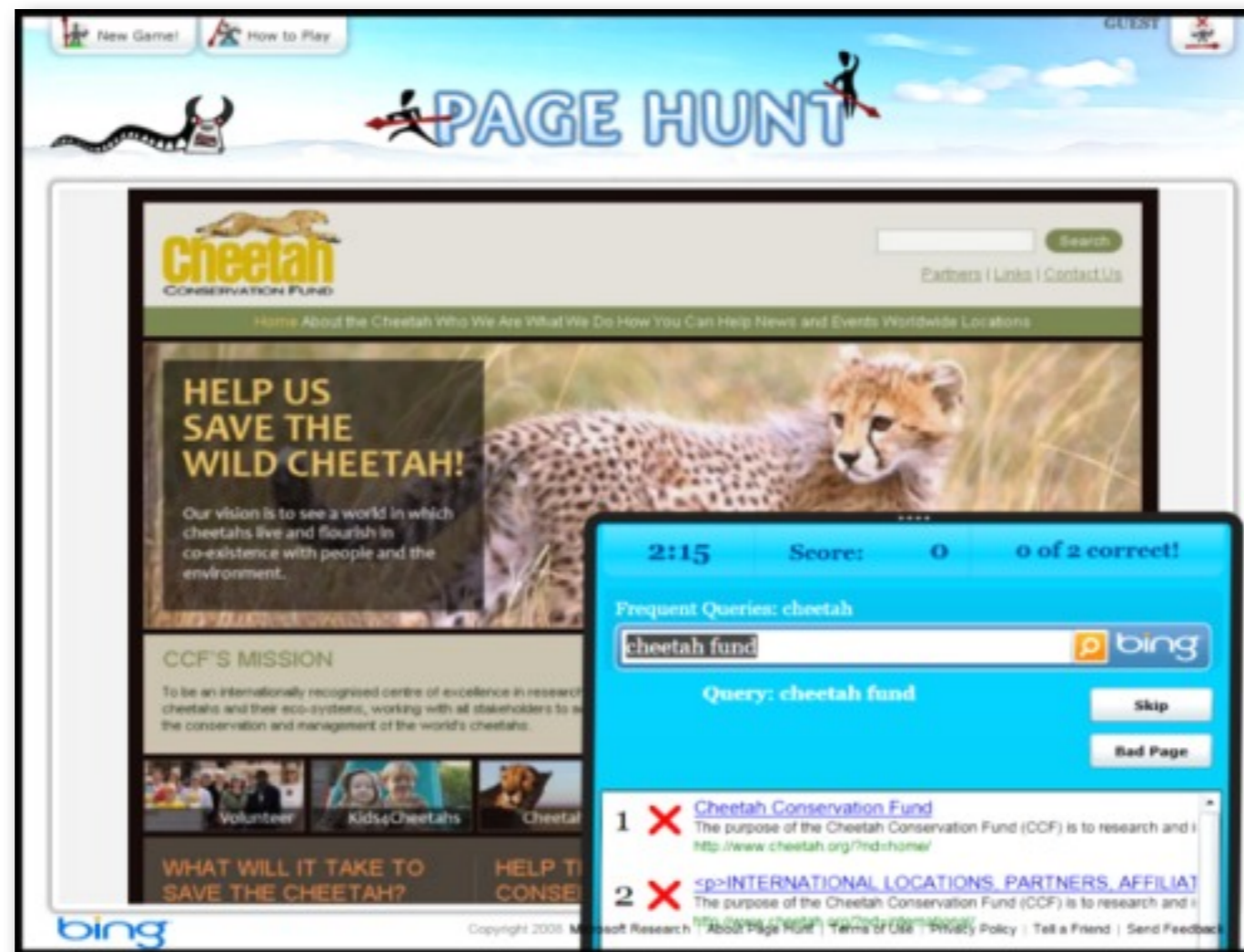
Rules

- Rules
 - Show a Web page
 - Player enters a set of terms about the page (the query)
 - Query is then executed on **Bing**, and the top 5 results shown (*Bing is your implicit partner*)
- Goal
 - Get the web page in the top 5 results for this query
- Taboo words (30% of the time); extra points for avoiding these Random 2x and 3x bonuses



Page Hunt on the Web

- Game on the web at <http://PageHunt.msrlivelabs.com>



Research Questions

- Can this be made a fun game?
 - Prerequisite to getting people to play the game and provide data
- How does Page Hunt data compare with other data?
 - Is the data realistic? Skewed in any way?
- How can we extract useful information from this data?
 - What can we do with this data



Making Page Hunt Fun

- Page Hunt uses
 - Timed Responses
 - Score keeping/Leader Board
 - Frequent Queries
 - Related to Taboo Queries
 - Randomness
 - Random pages
 - Random score boosts
- ‘Measuring’ Fun: Repeat games/Engagement



Some Statistics

- Data from a few days of play in July 2009
 - #players: **10,227**
 - #Query-URL rows of data
 - Raw: 155,298
 - Non-null query: 123,734
 - #Wins: 45,637
 - #URLs being labeled: **698**
 - Avg queries/url: **177**
 - Avg wins/url: **65**
 - Avg wins/player: **4.5**



Nature of Queries Elicited (I)

- Issue: Are users queries realistic?
 - Or are they more like known-item search?
- Users have page in front of them
 - Cut and paste not allowed, but users may:
 - Paste long phrases from the page
 - Type in discriminative, unusual words/phrases



Nature of Queries Elicited (2)

- Small random subset classified into 3 categories:
 - **Over-specified queries**
e.g. [start here medline plus hives] for
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/hives.html>
 - **Under-specified queries**
 - e.g. [hives]
 - **Just-Right Queries**
 - e.g. [medline plus urticaria]
 - [medline plus hives]



Nature of Queries Elicited (3)

- Results:
 - Over-specified queries 15%
 - Under-specified queries 7%
 - Just-Right Queries 78%
- **Time pressure** seem to inhibit people from looking for highly discriminating/minimal queries.
- Many different correct queries possible for each URL; noise can be eliminated by **thresholding**.



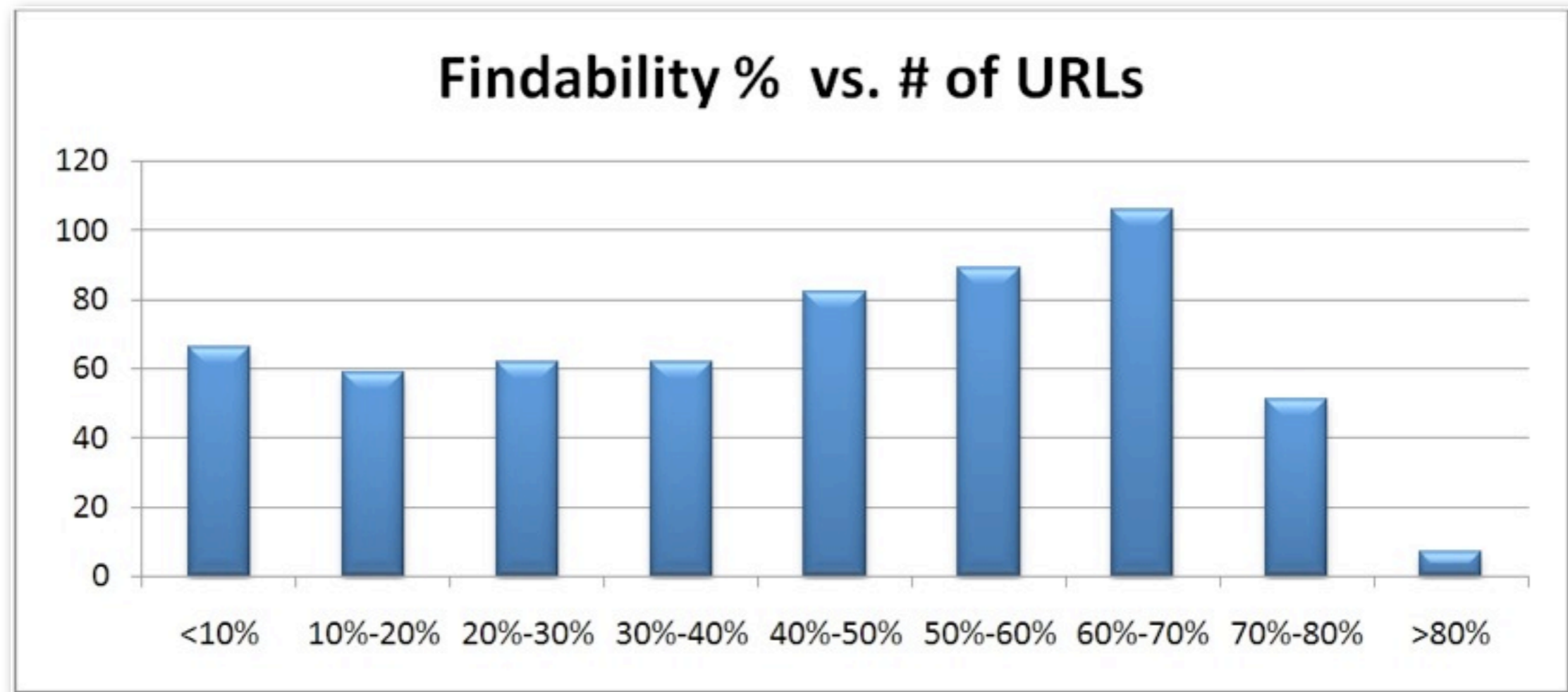
How This Data Can Help Search Engines

- This game can get us data to
 - Learn about query refinement
 - Diagnose problems in ranking
 - Obtain additional anchor text
 - Induce grammars from queries to trigger instant answers
 - about celebrities, weather etc.
 - Evaluate human relevance data
 - Compare search engines



URL Findability Levels

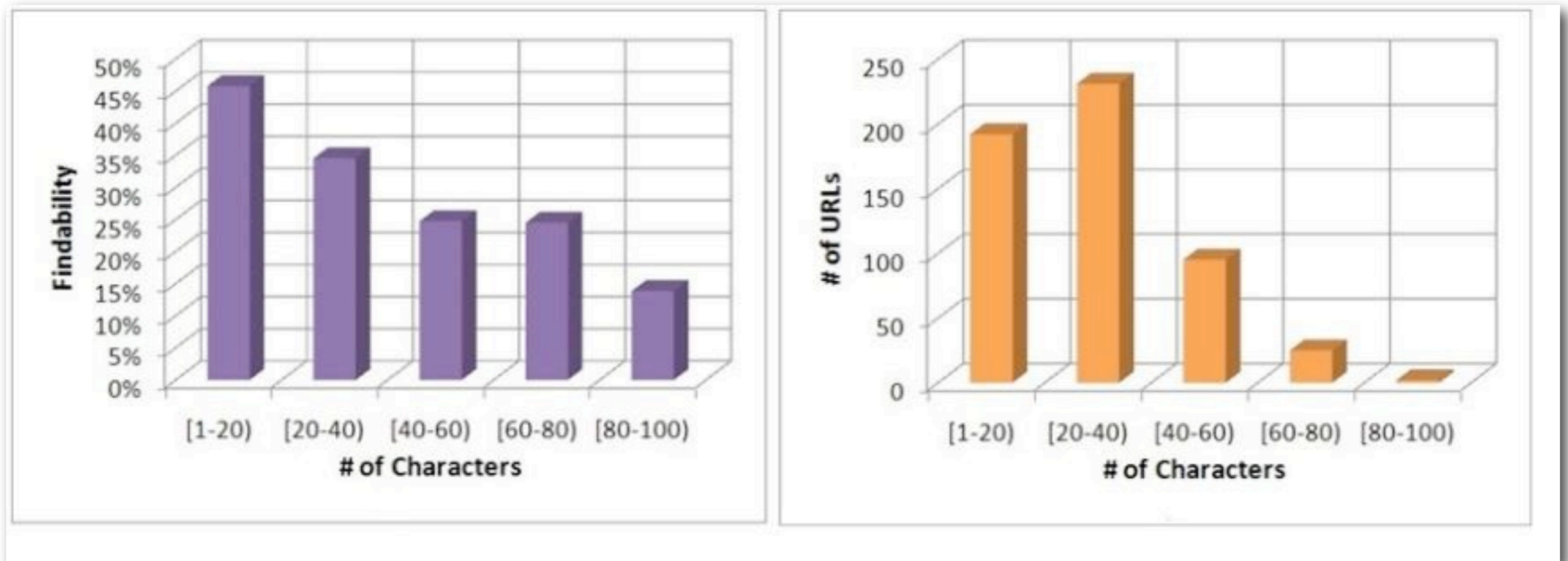
#URLs 'hunted' down



About 10% of URLs @ < 10% findability,
About 11% of URLs @ > 70% findability



URL Length vs. Accuracy



Because of variants? Low page/static rank?



Learning Query Alterations

- Yes, we can! We can learn query alterations using all queries submitted for a given URL
- E.g., for <http://www.labor.state.ny.us>, we get:

new york state dept of labor
new york department labor
new york state department of labor
NY Department Labor
nysdol
new york state department of labor
New york state department of labor
new york state department of labor
ny labor



Alterations obtained

- Four classes of potential alterations got:
 - Punctuation/Spelling/Morphology variations
 - Site – name variations
 - Acronym – expansions
 - Conceptual equivalents

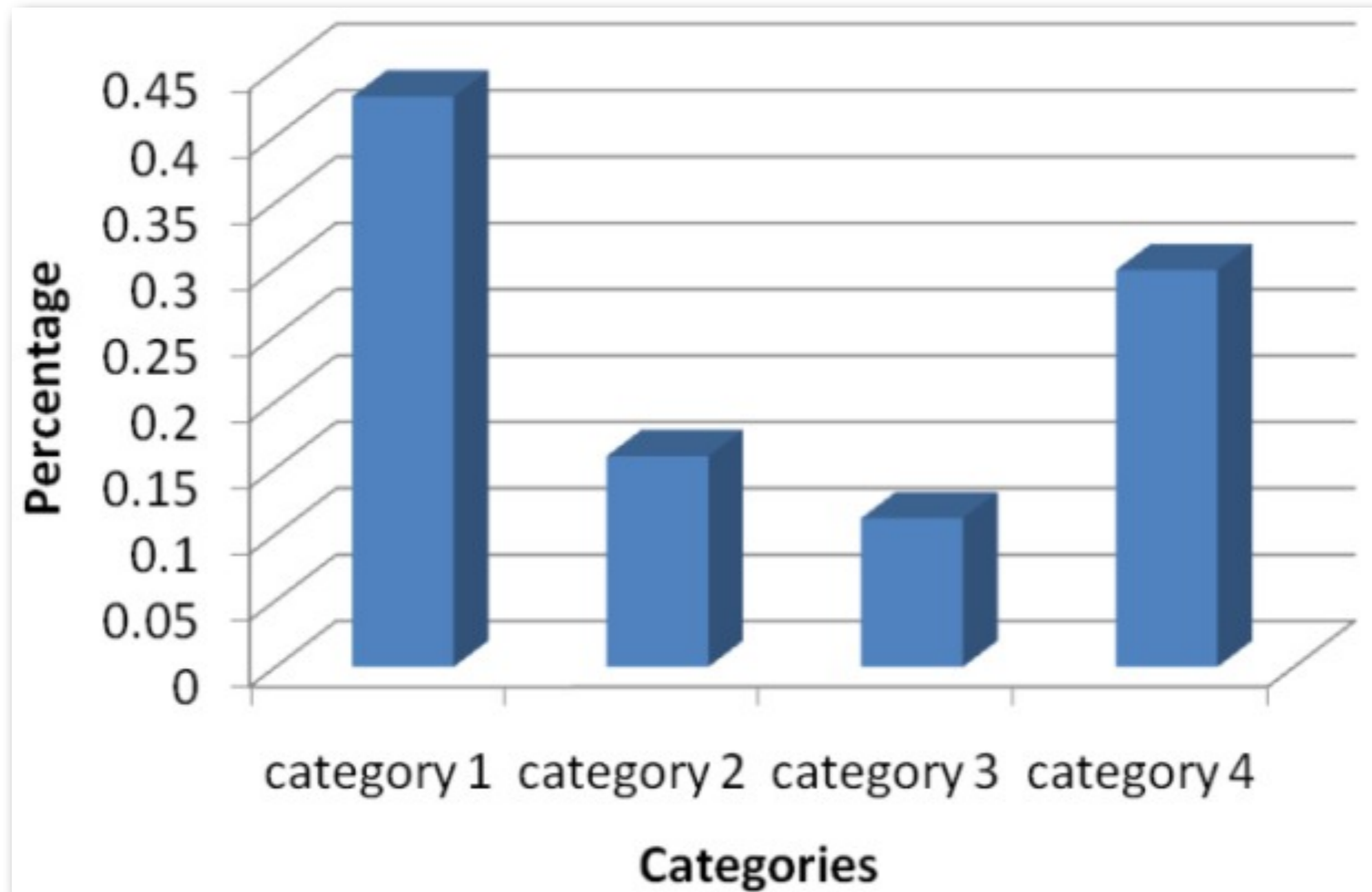


Query Alteration Examples

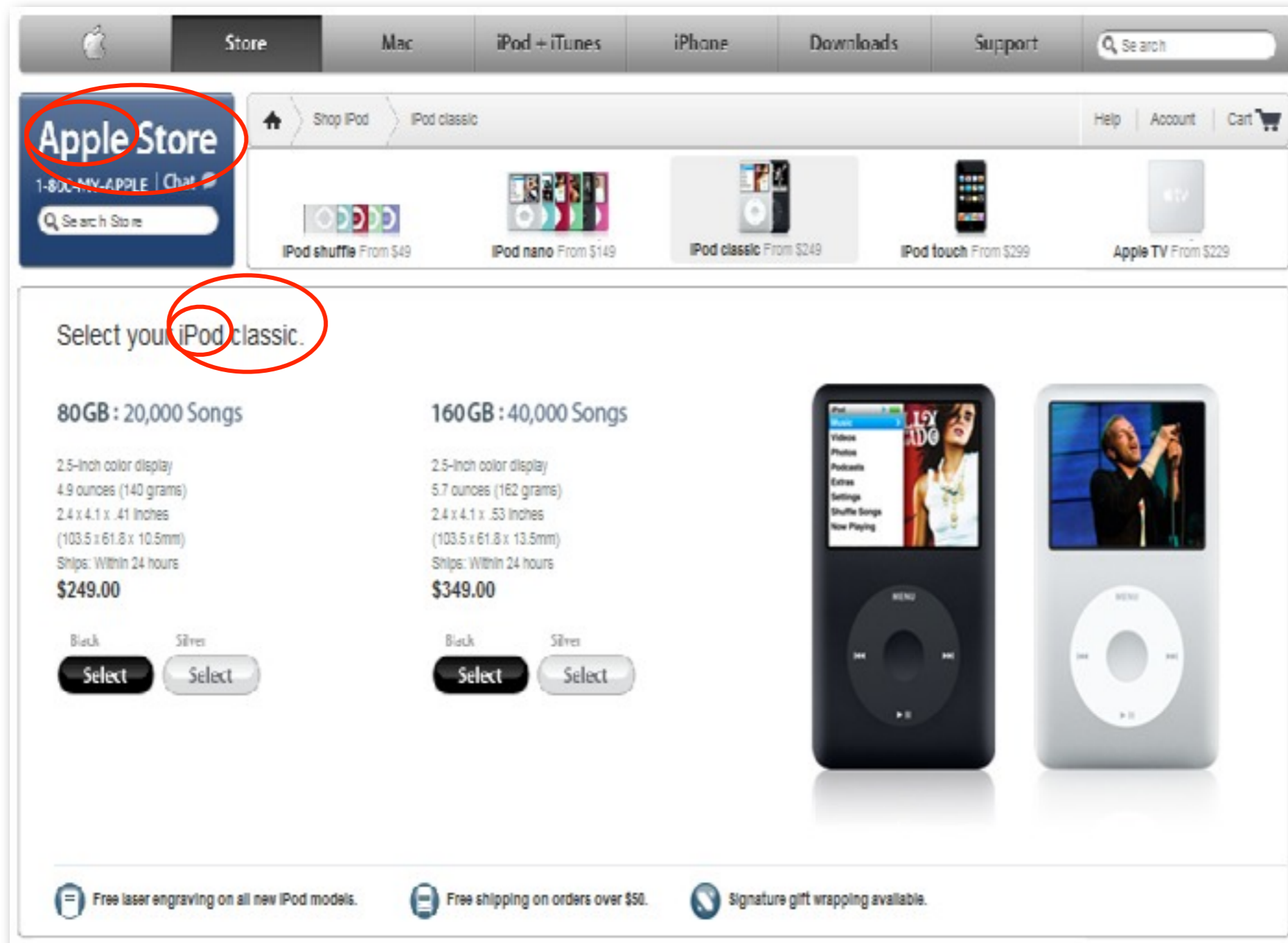
Original Query	Replacement	Category	Probability
jc penny	jc penney	Spelling	0.323
T mobile	T-mobile	Spelling	0.557
acid reflux	acidrefluxconnection.com	Sitename to site	0.26
Zune	Zune.com	Sitename to site	0.43
wayn	where are you now	Abbr./Initialism	0.72
iht	international herald tribune	Initialism	0.82
Jlo	Jennifer lopez	Conceptual	0.78
jay chou	Zhou Jielun	Conceptual	0.85
Capital city airport	Kentucky airport	Conceptual	0.57



Distribution of Categories



Eye-tracking/Page-Element Weighting



1. Apple
2. Apple Store
3. Apple ipod
4. Apple ipod classic



Summary

- Crowdsourcing provides a new paradigm and a new platform for scientific research
- New applications, new methodologies, and new businesses are emerging with the aid of crowdsourcing



I think you'll be
delightfully surprised
by the quality of my work
on this assignment.
I crowdsourced it.



Q & A



Introduction to Social Computing, Irwin King, 2010 EII PhD School: Cloud Computing, Service Computing & Social Networks, November 23-27, 2010, Brisbane, Australia

