Research

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SLIDES ADAPTED FROM SCOTT KLEMMER
Today

• From prototypes to a research vision
• Starting to work on our code infrastructure
• Milestone 6
Tell us about one of the idea prototypes

To the panel!
Prototypes make ideas concrete

- We can argue ideas forever, but prototypes instantiate them to make tradeoffs concrete
- Two approaches from here
  - Try out your prototypes “manually” to see how people react to them
  - Reflect on the prototype (without users) to inform our decision
Research contributions

Time for synthesis!
So far: lots of ideas

- Reputation
- Task authorship
- Mediation
- and more!
Now we need to emphasize a conceptual point of view

- A string of features is not a research contribution
- A point of view gives us a single angle that informs our decisions and features

- This is going to be an important week!
Foundations

- A new high-level approach to organizing our crowd platform to improve trust and power
- Examples:
  - Workers review all tasks before posting and make all payment decisions
  - Workers organize themselves into collectives

Features

- Ideas which improve the strength of any platform but aren’t holistic or don’t give it a high-level purpose
- Examples:
  - Task recommender systems
  - Mediation strategies
  - Specific feedback mechanisms
Starting to code

Building a sharable infrastructure
Code infrastructure

• We are looking for a few teams who want to start thinking about the basic architecture of our platform
• We’ll want it to be modular enough that many teams can contribute
Quick infra poll

- http://hci.st/codeinfra
Milestone 6

Choose your path!
Two paths: platform or code?

- Each team picks a direction to explore this week
Platform: Foundations and Features

- Look at the ideas from Milestone 5, as well as back in our original brainstorm with Milestones 3-4 for inspiration.
- Work with your team to synthesize toward a few big ideas: which are the foundations?
- Then consider which features you think will be most important.
Platform decisions

• Given all of our ideas and prototypes, your team should propose one–three core foundations that will form the basis of our platform

• Then, propose two–three features that you think will be the most influential and helpful
Platform milestone

• To focus our foundations around big ideas, we’ll use a common tactic of writing up our deliverable like an academic paper introduction
  • ~6 well-written paragraphs
  • This is similar to Amazon’s tactic of writing the press release before the product
• We’ve given you a few template papers that you can use to pattern yours
General format of an intro

- What’s the problem you’re solving?
  - *Specific* problem! Not just “crowdsourcing”. More like how trust and power are broken.
- Related work
  - What else have people tried, and why haven’t they worked?
- What’s the high-level insight?
  - This is the general idea, and what other platforms would want to replicate
- What’s the system?
  - How might this idea look or work as a running system?
Code: kickstart an architecture

- Start creating the infrastructure for a crowd marketplace
- Either pick a few ideas just for testing purposes, or make it look and work like Mechanical Turk
- We’ll aim to agree on a programming platform ASAP: http://hci.st/codeinfra
- Also join the new #infra channel on our Slack