# HUMAN-IN-THE-LOOP PERSONALIZATION

Sihem Amer-Yahia CNRS Research Director, France

A special event in honor of Georg Gottlob's influential and long-lasting research contributions, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018





# In Georg's terms

- Value Added Data Systems support users in discovering data of relevance to their questions... think personalization
- Adding value to data involves the best effort to provision data to users... think constraint satisfaction
- Users can provide feedback on the results obtained, enabling changes to all data management tasks, and thus a continuous improvement in the user experience... ok, let's try that too

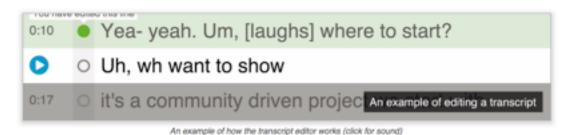
# Audio Transcription

## NYPL Lab

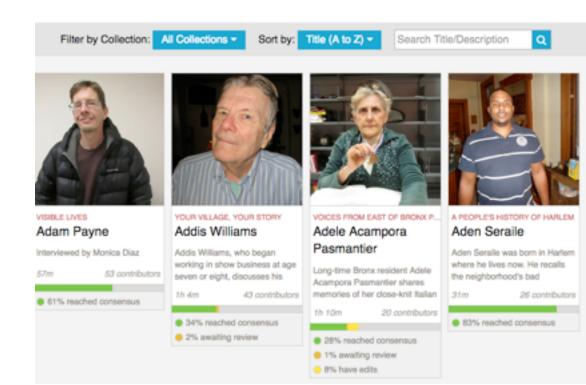
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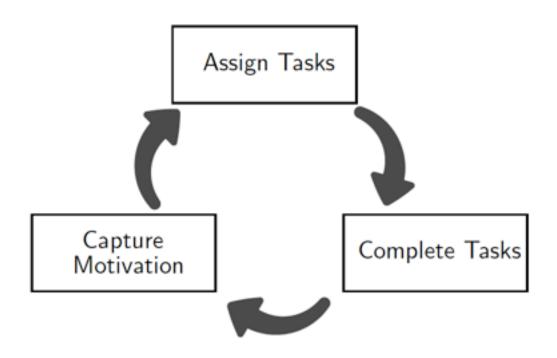


# Task assignment as a form of personalization

 We have been solving task assignment as a single-shot optimization problem matching tasks and workers

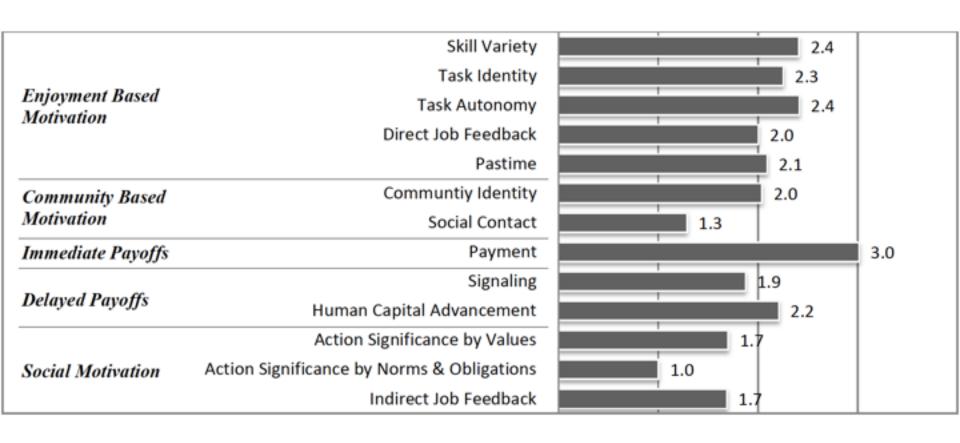
- In practice
  - Workers are involved in a series of tasks
  - Their motivation evolves over time

# Adaptive task assignment Observe, model, optimize...



#### Motivation in Amazon Mechanical Turk

More than fun and money. worker motivation in crowdsourcing-a study on mechanical turk. N. Kaufmann, T. Schulze, and D. Veit. AMCIS 2011



#### Two motivation factors

with J. Pilourdault, S. B. Roy, D. Lee. EDBT 2017, ICDE 2018

balance between

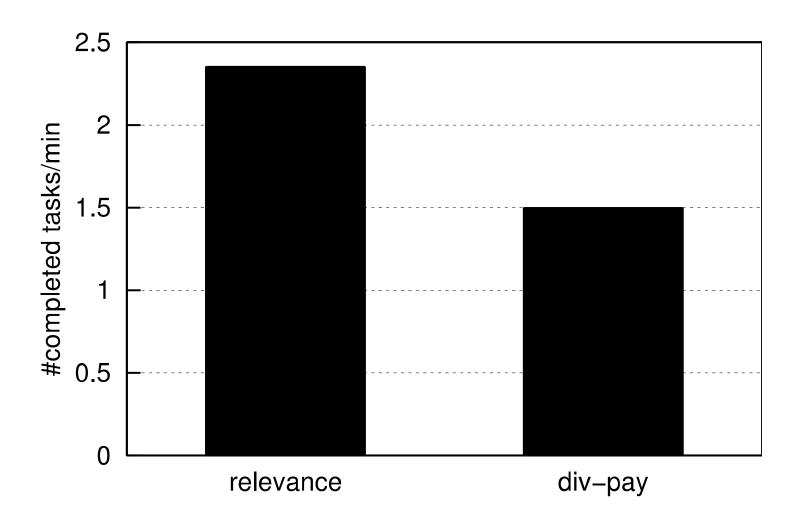
intrinsic factor, task diversity, and extrinsic factor, task reward

$$motiv(\mathcal{T}, w) = \alpha_w TD(\mathcal{T})$$
  
  $+ \beta_w \times TR(\mathcal{T}, w)$ 

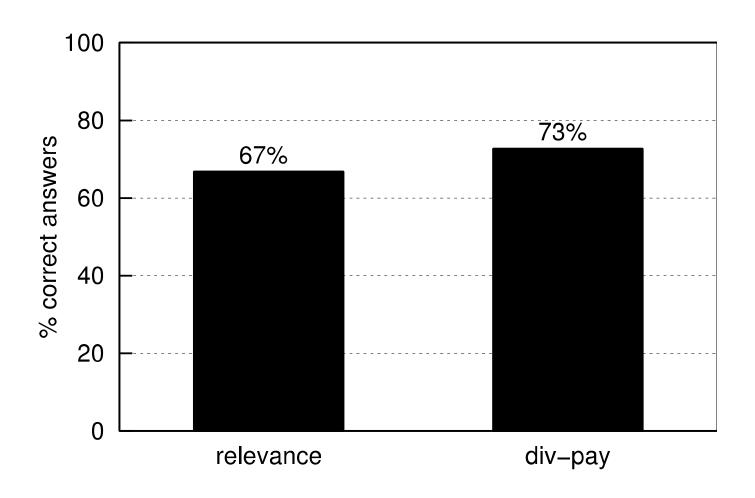
# Adaptive Task Assignment

- 158,018 tasks from CrowdFlower in 22 kinds
- 58 workers in AMT who completed 2,715 tasks in 80 work sessions
- 2 task assignment strategies:
  - Tasks matching a worker's profile: RELEVANCE
  - Tasks achieving a diversity/payment balance: DIV-PAY

# Task Throughput

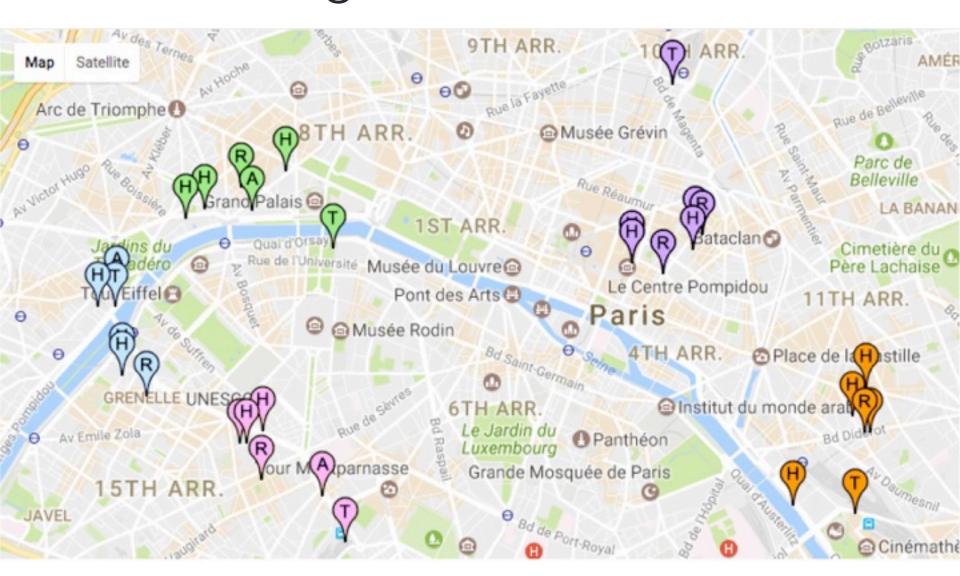


# Outcome Quality



## Travel Package

$$TP_u = \{CI_1, CI_2, \cdots, CI_k\}$$



## Personalized Travel Packages

Manish Singh, Ria Mae Borromeo, Anas Hosami, Sihem Amer-Yahia, Shady Elbassuoni: Customizing Travel Packages with Interactive Composite Items. DSAA 2017: 137-145

Given a user, return k Composite Items

### Items

 $\langle i.id, i.name, i.long, i.lat, i.type, i.sub, i.cost, i.tags \rangle$ 

**TourPedia**: POIs in 8 cities, divided into 4 types: *accommodation*, *transportation*, restaurant, and attraction.

**Foursquare**: augments TourPedia with *i.sub*, *i.cost* and *i.tags* 

i.id	i.name	i.type	i.lat	i.long	i.sub	i.tags	i.cost
1	Le Burgundy	acco	48.8679	2.3256	hotel	luxury suites cognac champagne bar gastronomic	3.00
	m pi co		10.0010	0.0000		restaurant spa	0.71
2	The Bicycle Store	trans	48.8642	2.3658	bike shop	accessoires velo beach cruiser bicycle paris fixed	2.71
						gear	
3	Un Zèbre à Mont-	rest	48.886	2.3348	french	bankers bar brunch cafe comedy fireplace frat hip-	3.20
	martre					sters liquor margaritas	
4	Les Arts Décoratifs	attr	48.8632	2.3334	museum	arts contemporary decorative exhibition fashion	3.86
						gallery mode modern museum	

Travel Package

$$TP_u = \{CI_1, CI_2, \cdots, CI_k\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{C,W}{\operatorname{argmax}} \; \alpha \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{I}|} w_{ij}^m \; \; & \underset{representative}{\operatorname{geosim}(i,c_j)} + \\ & \sum_{j=1}^k \max_{CI_j \in \mathcal{V}_{CI}} \left(\beta \sum_{i \in CI_j} \underset{\operatorname{geosim}(i,u)}{\operatorname{geosim}(i,c_j)} + \\ & \gamma \sum_{i \in CI_j} \underset{\operatorname{personalized}}{\operatorname{personalized}} \right. \\ & s.t. \; \forall i \in [1,|\mathcal{I}|], \; \sum_{j=1}^k w_{ij} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

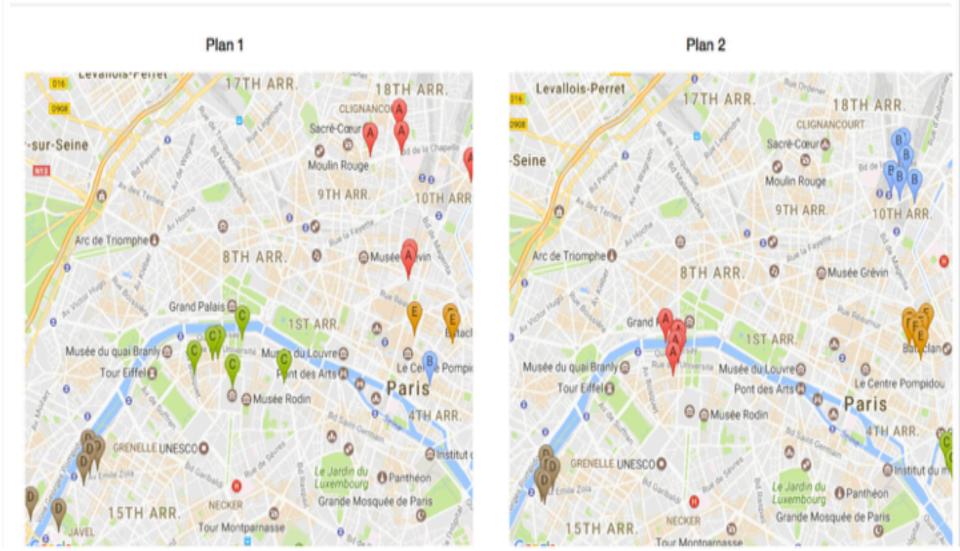
## Validation

- User study on Amazon Mechanical Turk (AMT)
  - 30 users
  - \$1.30 per user
- Users
  - provide travel profile and query
  - participate independent and comparative evaluation

- 1. Do you see a significant difference between the two plans? 

  Yes 

  No
  - In general, which plan do you prefer? 
     Plan 1 Plan 2 Reason: Why do you prefer that plan?

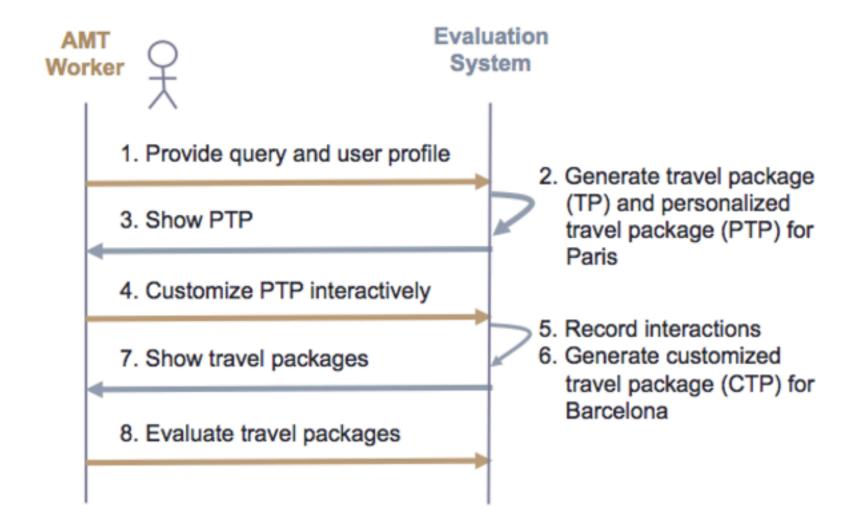


# Findings: Personalization

Workers prefer to personalize POIs in CIs

Tension btwn personalization and cohesiveness

# Introducing Customization

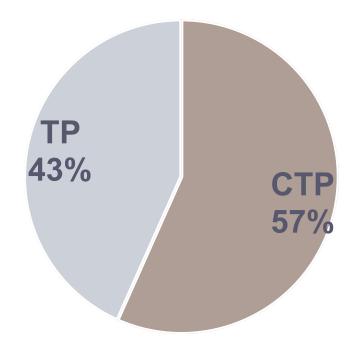


# Findings: Customization

Independent Evaluation of TP vs. CTP in Barcelona



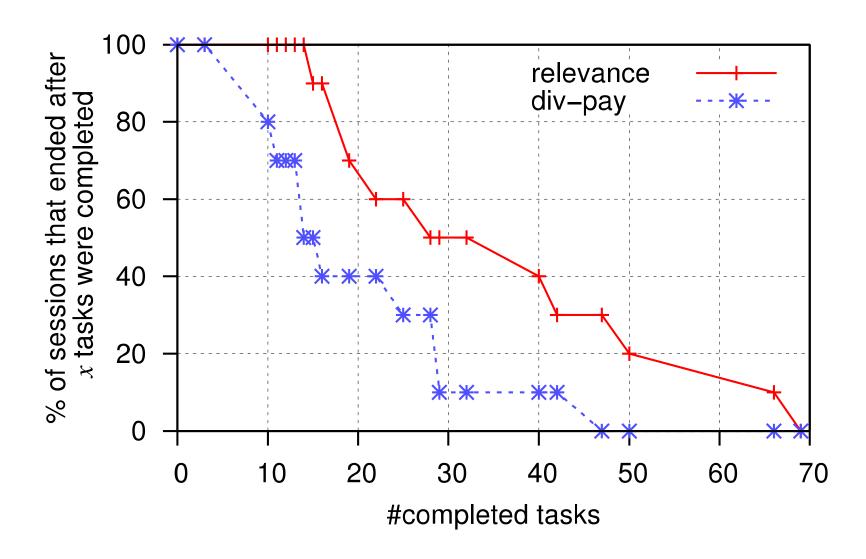
Comparative
Evaluation of TP vs
CTP in Barcelona



# Findings: Customization

- User interactions with CIs are necessary to learn other criteria such as preferred location, CI cohesiveness, and POI diversity
- For users who prefer cohesive over personalized POIs, customization achieves good trade-off
- Refined travel preferences carry across cities: Paris/ Barcelona

## Worker Retention



## **Bottom line**

- One-shot personalization not enough
- To achieve user satisfaction, the right balance between personalization (second-guessing) and user intervention (human-in-the-loop) is necessary
- How to combine user intervention and adaptivity is intriguing
- What to let users intervene on is also open
  - On results
  - On their own profile, think Google Ads Settings