



# Correlated Friends' Impacts in Social-crowdsensing

Wei Chang, Department of Computer Science,  
Saint Joseph's University

Wei-Shih Yang, Department of Mathematics,

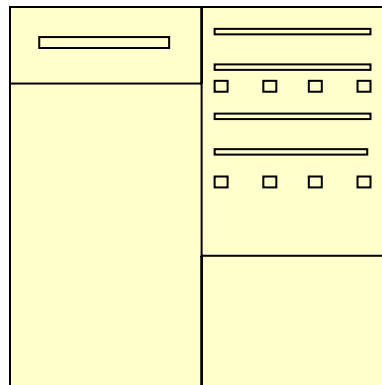
Jie Wu, Department of Computer and Information Sciences,  
Temple University

# Background

- Social sensing is a typical application of the crowdsourcing system.
- Procedure



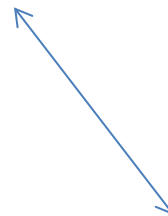
Job Owner



Platform:  
Amazon Mturk



Workers:  
Human Sensors



# Defects

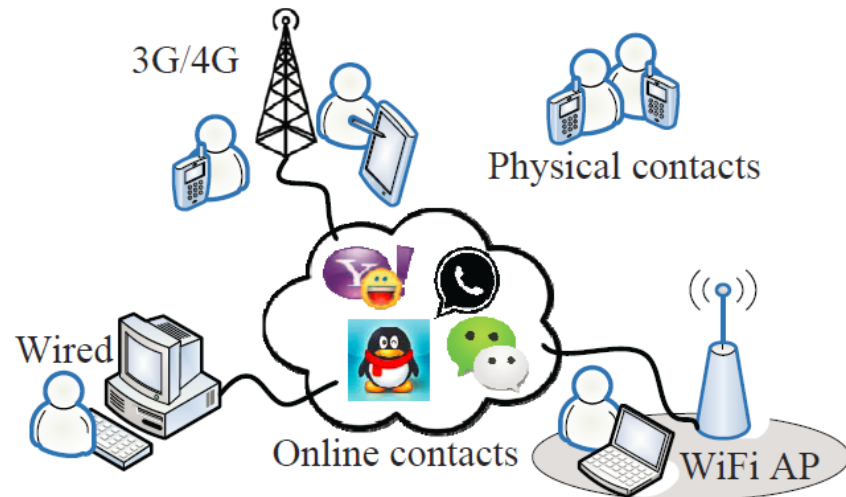
- There are 3 defects with the existing system:
  1. Lacks a timely advertising mechanism to recruit works;
    - New task: tempting payment
    - Offline workers are not aware of its existence
  2. Centralized and platform-specified;
    - Malfunctions / Unavailable
  3. Someone has to pay a fee for using the platform
    - Mturk collects a 10% commission on top of a task's total payment

# Social-crowdsensing

- A self-organized, distributed, and cross-platform crowdsensing system
- Main Idea:
  - To create a **multilayered** outsourcing structure via any stochastic **social contacts**, including physical encounters between friends and virtual contacts via any online-chatting system

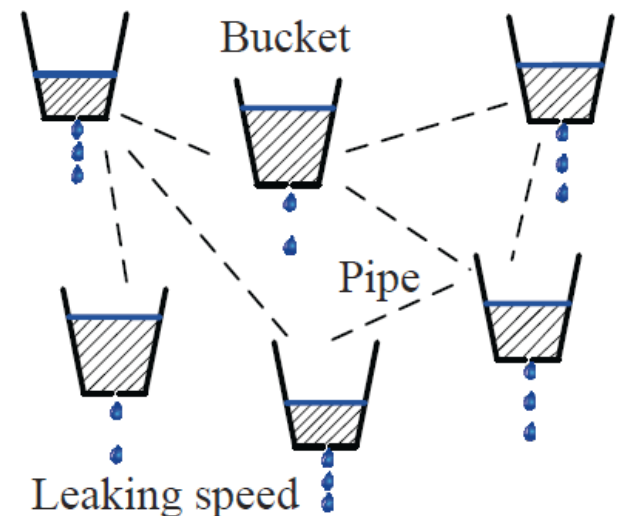
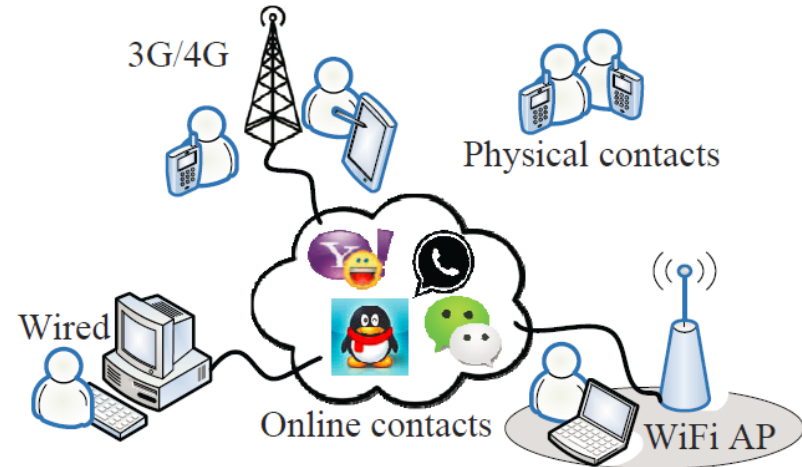
# Social-crowdsensing

- General procedure:
  - A job owner first creates an SC task (first worker)
  - **Any worker can further recruit new workers** via stochastic social contacts (multi-hop relays)
  - Sensing results are returned via the Internet or physical encounters-based multi-hop relays.



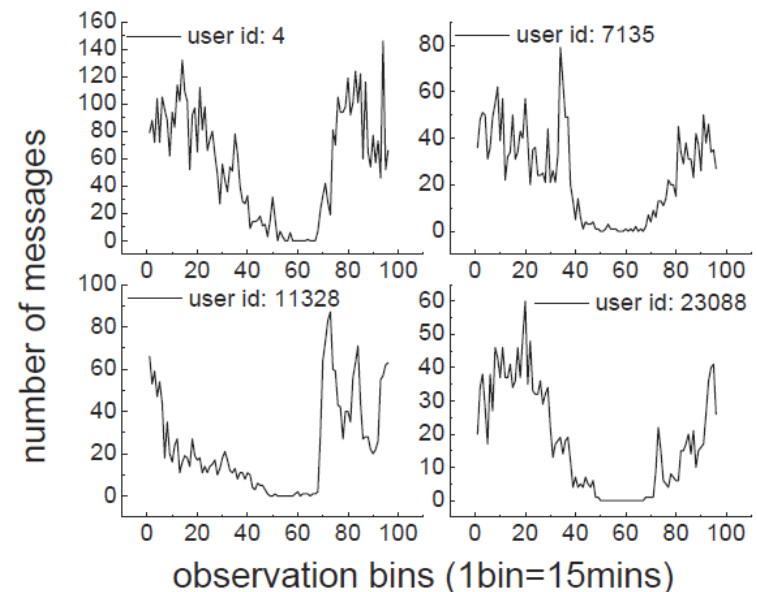
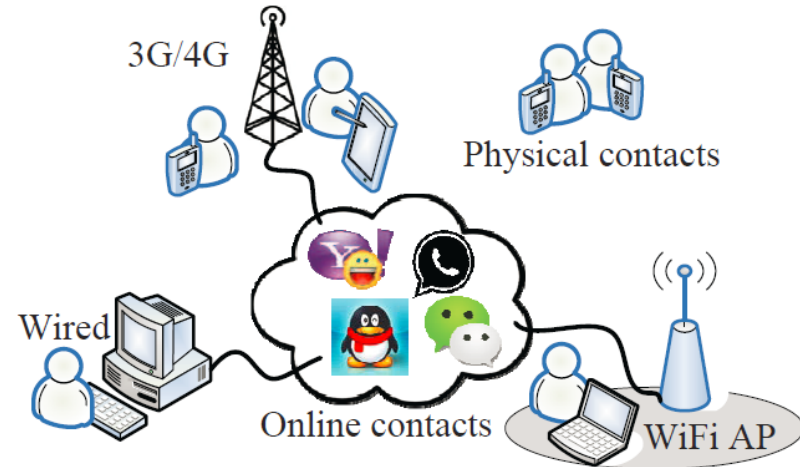
# Question 1

- Given that SC tasks initiate at random nodes, by what workload allocation strategy can the **entire** task's **completion time** be minimized?
- Minimizing the completion time = Maximize a system's utilization
- Estimate an overall computing capacity



# Question 2

- Friends are correlated.
- For example, colleagues have similar working hours, and therefore, their times of unavailability for participating in the sensing tasks are not independent.
- Incorporate correlations into the decision-making phase of workload allocations
- How to model correlation



# Correlations Modeling

- Based on a user's real-time contacting frequency, we associate a virtual state to each user, called **active level**.  $\sigma_i = \{-k, \dots, -2, -1, 1, 2, \dots, k\}$

- Active levels of all workers at any moment:

$$\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_i, \dots, \sigma_m)$$

- The probability distribution of workers' active levels

$$P(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{\sum_i X_i \sigma_i + \sum_{i \neq j} X_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} X_{ijk} \sigma_i \sigma_j \sigma_k \dots}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{Z} \times e^{\sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + \sum_i h_i \sigma_i}$$

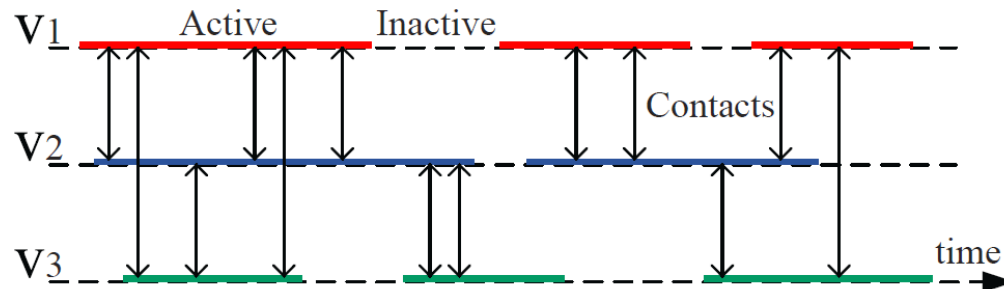


# Simulate Stochastic Contacts

- We build a discrete-time Markov Chain to simulate the changes of users' active levels.
- Assume that, at any moment, at most one worker changes its active level.
- Transition probability  $P(\sigma) = \sum_{\sigma'} P(\sigma')P(\sigma', \sigma)$

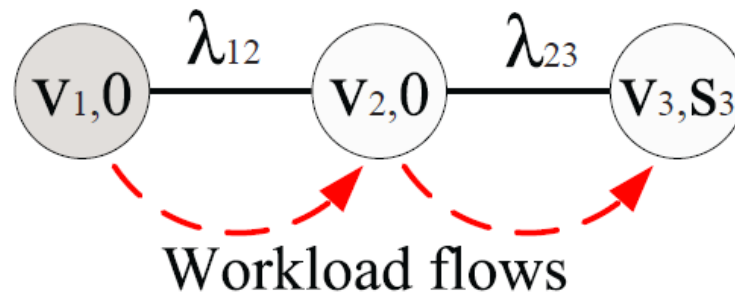
$$P(\sigma, \sigma') = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{m} \cdot \frac{e^{\sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma'_j + h_j \sigma'_j}}{\sum_{\sigma_j = \pm 1} e^{\sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + h_j \sigma_j}} & \text{if } \sigma' \sim_j \sigma \\ \frac{1}{m} \cdot \frac{e^{\sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + h_j \sigma_j}}{\sum_{\sigma_j = \pm 1} e^{\sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + h_j \sigma_j}} & \text{if } \sigma' = \sigma \\ 0 & \text{if others} \end{cases}$$

- Simulate



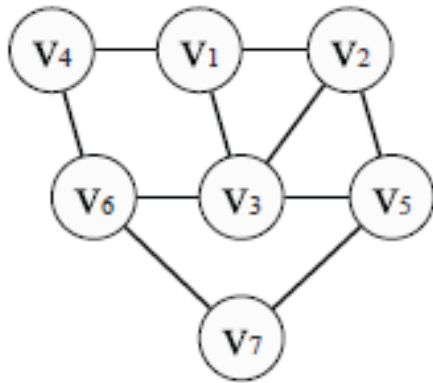
# Workload Allocation

- The capacity  $q$  reflects the amount of workload that a worker and his friends can process within one unit of time.
- Basic Rule:  $(w_1^*, w_2^*) = \left[ \frac{(w_1 + w_2)q_1}{q_1 + q_2}, \frac{(w_1 + w_2)q_2}{q_1 + q_2} \right]$
- The overall capacity cannot be a fixed-value



# Pairwise-Capacity Estimation

- Approximate it by 2-hop social information
- Without Correlation



---

## Algorithm 1: Pairwise Overall Speed

---

```
1: /*Suppose that  $v_u$  is contacting with  $v_{u'}$ */  
2: Eliminate node  $v_{u'}$  from social contact graph  $G$   
3: Initialization  $q_u \leftarrow s_u$  /*Local contribution*/  
4: for  $i \in N(u)$  do  
5:    $q_u \leftarrow q_u + \lambda_{ui}s_i$  /*1-hop contribution*/  
6:   for  $j \in N(i)$  do  
7:      $q_u \leftarrow q_u + \lambda_{ui}\lambda_{ij}s_j$  /*2-hop contribution*/  
8:     if  $j \in N(u)$  then  
9:        $q_u \leftarrow q_u - \lambda_{ui}\lambda_{ij}\lambda_{uj}s_j$  /*Double counted*/  
10: Return  $q_{u'}^u \leftarrow q_u$ 
```

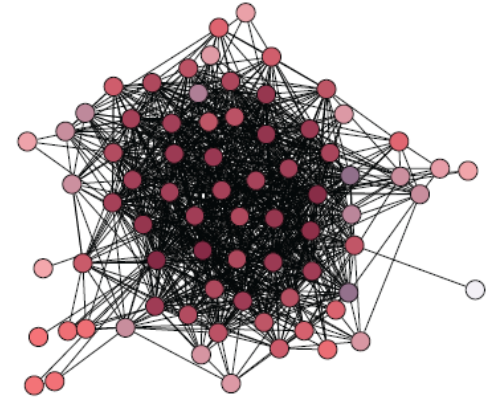
---

- With Correlation  $\lambda_{ij}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j)$ 
  - It gives the average contacting frequency for each type of active level combination.

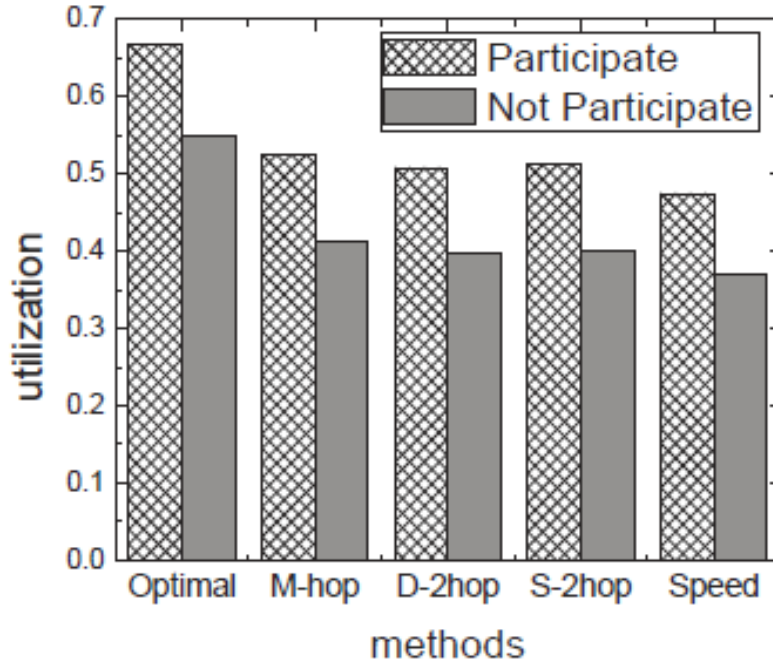
# Evaluation

## System Utilization

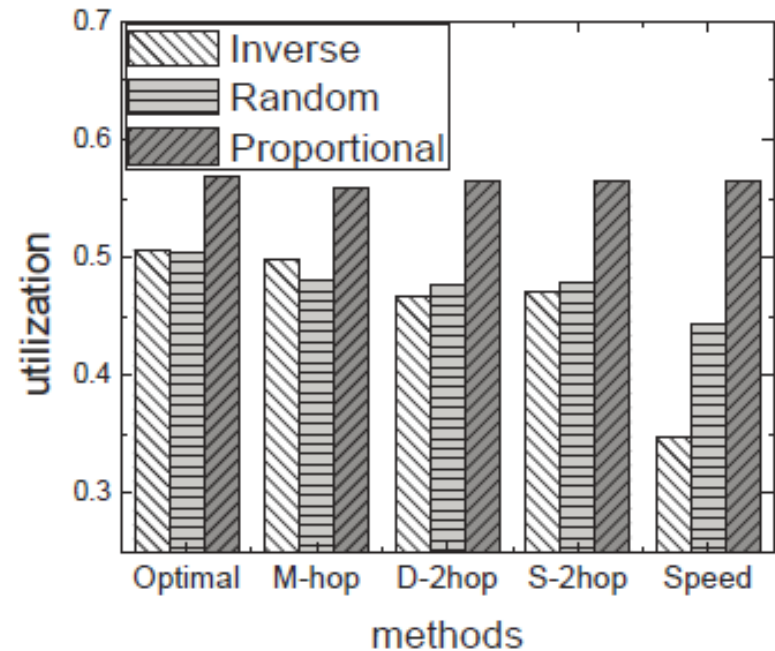
$$U = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m s_i \int_0^{t^*} \delta_i(t) dt}{\sum_{i=1}^m s_i t^*}$$



## Impact of 0-speed workers

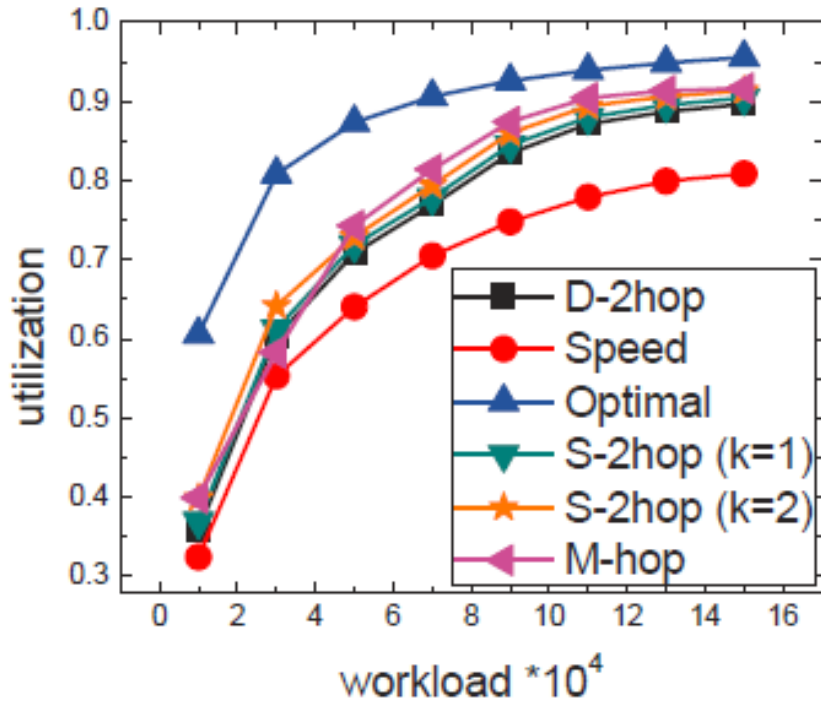


## Impact of speed distribution

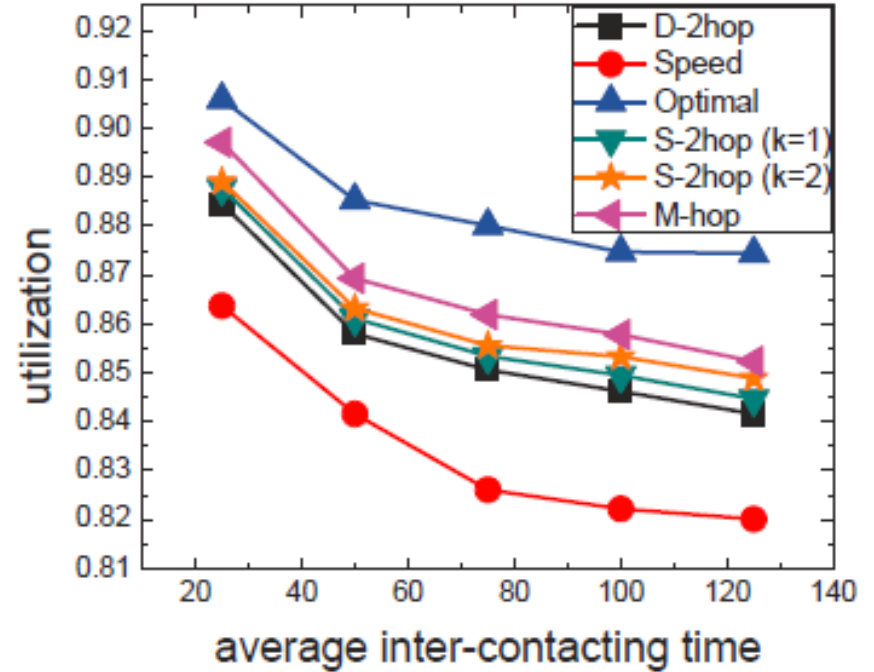


# Evaluation

## Workload's size



## Ave inter-contacting intervals



Thank you !