

# Chapter 3

## Crowdsourcing Controls: A Review and Research Agenda for Crowdsourcing Controls Used for Macro-tasks



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1 **Abstract** Crowdsourcing—the employment of ad hoc online labor to perform various  
2 tasks—has become a popular outsourcing vehicle. Our current approach to  
3 crowdsourcing—focusing on micro-tasks—fails to leverage the potential of crowds  
4 to tackle more complex problems. To leverage crowds to tackle more complex macro-  
5 tasks requires a better comprehension of crowdsourcing controls. Crowdsourcing  
6 controls are mechanisms used to align crowd workers’ actions with predefined stan-  
7 dards to achieve a set of goals and objectives. Unfortunately, we know very little  
8 about the topic of crowdsourcing controls directed at accomplishing complex macro-  
9 tasks. To address issues associated with crowdsourcing controls for macro-tasks, this  
10 chapter has several objectives. First, it presents and discusses the literature on control  
11 theory. Second, this chapter presents a scoping literature review of crowdsourcing  
12 controls. Finally, the chapter identifies gaps and puts forth a research agenda to  
13 address these shortcomings. The research agenda focuses on understanding how to  
14 employ the controls needed to perform macro-tasking in crowds and the implications  
15 for crowdsourcing system designers.

### 16 3.1 Introduction

17 Crowdsourcing—the employment of ad hoc online labor to perform various  
18 tasks—has become a popular outsourcing vehicle. Digital platforms like Mechan-  
19 ical Turk (<http://www.mturk.com>), CrowdFlower (<http://www.crowdflower.com>),  
20 MobileWorks (<http://www.mobileworks.com>), and Crowdcrafting (<http://crowd-crafting.org>)  
21 are in part responsible for the emergence and popularity of crowd-  
22 sourcing. These popular platforms have been dominated by micro-tasks—standalone  
23 decomposed tasks (Schmitz and Lykourentzou 2018). This arrangement—micro-  
24 tasking through digital platforms—has been successful at providing organizations  
25 with access to affordable labor available 24 h a day (Ye et al. 2017).

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Our current approach to crowdsourcing—focusing on micro-tasks—fails, however, to leverage the potential of crowds to tackle more complex problems. Addressing complex problems requires collaboration among individuals who hold multiple perspectives and diverse expertise. Crowdsourcing affords the opportunity to assemble individuals with a diversity of knowledge and skills that is not often available to a single individual or organization. However, employing this collective knowledge to tackle complex problems requires the shift from standalone micro-tasking to more collaborative macro-tasking. Macro-tasks are complex crowd work that is sometimes but not always decomposable to micro-tasks and requires collaboration among crowd workers to accomplish (Schmitz and Lykourantzou 2018).

*Crowdsourcing controls* are mechanisms used to align crowd workers' actions with predefined standards to achieve a set of goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are often set by the requestor, organization, or platform but can be set by the crowd itself. Crowdsourcing controls can be classified as those that influence the inputs, behaviors, and outputs of crowds and their workers. In the crowdsourcing literature, issues of control are usually addressed indirectly through individual financial incentives (Ye et al. 2017). Financial incentives used in crowdsourcing are designed to influence the effort and attention of crowd workers. This makes sense when crowds are performing individual standalone micro-tasks. This makes less sense for macro-tasks, which require group cooperation. Unfortunately, we know very little about the topic of crowdsourcing controls directed at groups (Daniel et al. 2018).

To address issues associated with crowdsourcing controls for macro-tasks, this chapter has several objectives. First, it presents and discusses the literature on control theory. This includes behavior–output control systems developed by Ouchi and the integrative model developed by Cardinal. These frameworks represent the most widely used control theories in the organizational behavior literature (Cardinal et al. 2017). Second, this chapter presents a scoping literature review that surveys the conceptualization and operationalization of crowdsourcing controls in the HCI/CSCW, information systems and organizational behavior literature. In doing so, this chapter highlights current approaches to controls used in crowdsourcing with an emphasis on what is needed to support macro-tasking. Finally, the chapter identifies gaps and puts forth a research agenda to address these shortcomings. The research agenda focuses on understanding how to employ the controls needed to perform macro-tasking in crowds and the implications for crowdsourcing system designers.

## 3.2 Background

### 3.2.1 *Micro-tasking Versus Macro-tasking Controls*

The first question one might ask is: *Why not employ controls used in micro-tasking to accomplish macro-tasking?* In other words, what makes macro-tasking so different that we need to rethink our approach to controls in crowdsourcing? Micro-

65 tasks are different from macro-tasks in the following ways. First, micro-tasks are  
66 already decomposed. Decomposition allows for crowd work to be transparent and  
67 predictable. Both transparency and predictability reduce the complexity associated  
68 with controls. Second, micro-tasks are standalone independent tasks that require lit-  
69 tle to no cooperation among crowd members. This narrows the problem of control to  
70 the actions of a single individual rather than a group. Third, micro-tasks are homo-  
71 geneous with similar goals—multiple crowd workers are often performing the same  
72 task or set of tasks with the same or similar goal. This decreases the possibility of  
73 crowd members having conflicting goals and allows the same control to be used  
74 across the crowd.

75 Macro-tasks, on the other hand, is not decomposed, and in some cases cannot be  
76 decomposed. Therefore, crowd work for macro-tasking is often not very straightfor-  
77 ward or predictable. This requires crowd workers to negotiate what needs to be done,  
78 and in some cases, this happens in real time. This introduces the problem of deter-  
79 mining not only which controls to employ but also who should employ them. Second,  
80 macro-tasks are not standalone independent tasks but instead interdependent tasks  
81 requiring cooperation and coordination among crowd members. As such, the prob-  
82 lem of controls requires understanding how to control the actions of a group—not  
83 just individuals. Third, macro-tasking requires crowds to undertake a diverse set of  
84 tasks, each with its own goals and objectives. Therefore, workers in the same crowd  
85 can have different goals associated with their part of the macro-task. This makes it  
86 much harder to align goals using a single control. As such, one control might be  
87 effective for one component of a macro-task but not another. Issues related to the use  
88 of multiple types of group controls in crowdsourcing have largely been ignored.

### 89 ***3.2.2 Control Theory in the Organizational Behavior/Science*** 90 ***Literature***

91 Control is viewed as one of the four primary functions of management (Carpen-  
92 ter et al. 2010). This is often embodied in the planning, organizing, leading, and  
93 controlling (PLOC) framework used in most basic management books. Controls are  
94 goal-oriented in that they direct employees' actions to a specific goal, and controls  
95 are multifaceted in that there is a diverse set of ways to implement them (Cardinal  
96 et al. 2017). Generally, research on the employment of controls has been directed  
97 at understanding effective approaches to aligning workers' attitudes, intentions and  
98 behavior with an organization's goals and objectives. Next, the chapter presents the  
99 various approaches to classifying controls.

### 100 **3.2.3 Formality of Controls**

101 The actual procedures or practices used to implement controls can be viewed as  
102 either informal or formal. Informal controls are implemented by workers. They rep-  
103 resent a shared set of beliefs and values among workers driven in part by their social  
104 relationships (Eisenhardt 1985; Ouchi 1979). Informal controls are often implicitly  
105 understood as a set of acceptable and unacceptable actions (Ouchi 1980). The con-  
106 sequences of violating them often include being expelled or ostracized from one's  
107 social group (Liu 2015). On the contrary, formal controls rely on explicitly stated  
108 rules or procedures that outline acceptable and unacceptable actions (Eisenhardt  
109 1985; Kirsch 1997; Ouchi 1979). They are often driven by the management, and  
110 workers may or may not agree with them. In fact, workers often have little to no  
111 influence on determining formal controls. The consequences of violating a formal  
112 control involve the official actions by the organization.

113 Ideally, informal and formal controls should be aligned, but often they are not. It  
114 is possible for an employee to conform to a formal control and violate an informal  
115 control. Likewise, it is possible to conform to an informal control and violate a formal  
116 control. For example, workers who cross picket lines during an illegal strike might be  
117 violating an informal control while conforming to a formal control. These workers  
118 might keep their job but be expelled from their social group (i.e., union workers).

### 119 **3.2.4 Control Systems**

120 There are four types of control systems, i.e., configurations of multiple formal and  
121 informal controls. These include market, bureaucratic, clan, and integrative control  
122 systems (Cardinal et al. 2010). Market control systems are designed to focus on evalu-  
123 ating transaction outcomes such as the cost to perform a job. Market control systems  
124 do not rely heavily on either formal or informal control mechanisms. Bureaucratic  
125 control systems instead focus on specifying, monitoring, and evaluating the perfor-  
126 mance of workers (Ouchi and Price 1978). Bureaucratic control systems rely heavily  
127 on formal control mechanisms such as organizational rules, regulations, and proce-  
128 dures. Clan control systems emphasize aligning workers' motivations, beliefs, and  
129 values with those of the organization (Kirsch et al. 2010; Liu 2015). Clan control  
130 systems rely more on informal control mechanisms such as appealing to workers'  
131 personal pride or their identification with the organization. Finally, integrative con-  
132 trol systems leverage both formal and informal control mechanisms (Cardinal et al.  
133 2004; Jaworski and Kohli 1993; Sitkin and George 2005). For example, integrative  
134 control systems might employ formal controls such as rules and procedures along  
135 with informal controls such as appealing to workers' pride.

### 136 3.2.5 *Control Focus*

137 Controls can also be classified by the areas they are designed to influence: input,  
138 behavior, and output (Cardinal et al. 2017). Input controls focus on selecting the  
139 inputs (e.g., people and materials) that go into the work processes (Cardinal et al.  
140 2010). This is often done by filtering out inputs that are seen as substandard. Typically,  
141 input controls are embedded throughout the hiring process of many organizations. For  
142 example, this would include requiring specific entrance exam scores or educational  
143 achievements before a person could be hired. Other examples include requiring  
144 potential suppliers to be certified before they can bid to provide manufacturers with  
145 raw materials. Input controls assume that if the inputs are of a certain quality it is  
146 more likely that the process will produce an acceptable output.

147 Behavior controls focus on aligning behaviors used to transform a set of resources  
148 such as labor and raw materials to a specific output such as the completion of a task or  
149 set of tasks. Behavior controls are directed at work processes needed to accomplish  
150 work (Robert 2016; Tiwana 2010). Behavior controls assume that if employees align  
151 their behavior to a predefined behavior or set of behaviors they are likely to perform  
152 a given task well (Dennis et al. 2012). Behavior controls include creating plans,  
153 defining work assignments, explicating work processes, and providing status reports  
154 on work (Piccoli and Ives 2003; Robert 2016). Behavior controls are effective when  
155 workers align their behavior to act in accordance with the established rules and  
156 procedures (Dennis et al. 2012; Robert 2016).

157 Output controls focus on influencing workers by holding them accountable to a  
158 predefined output metric (Choudhury and Sabherwal 2003; Kirsch 1997; Maruping  
159 et al. 2009). Output controls are directed at the final products or services produced  
160 and ignore the processes needed to accomplish the work. Output controls assume that  
161 if workers are held accountable for a predefined output they will align their behavior  
162 to achieve this output. Examples of output controls include paying factory workers  
163 for the number of correctly completed products rather than for the number of hours  
164 worked to complete the products. Output controls also include yearly, monthly, and  
165 quarterly goals for sales and production volumes.

166 Input, behavior, and output controls have advantages and disadvantages. In many  
167 cases, output controls can be very costly. This is because discovering that the final  
168 product is below standards means in many cases that resources that have been allo-  
169 cated were wasted. It is also costly in that any other task dependent on the final  
170 output is now held up. On the contrary, behavior controls allow for the continuous  
171 evaluation of work, which allows for problems to be identified and corrected sooner.  
172 Input controls are often the least costly when one considers the resources involved  
173 later in the transformation process, but this varies by industry. Input controls are  
174 often necessary but not sufficient to ensure successful output. The use of unqualified  
175 personnel is likely to lead to poor outputs, but the use of qualified personnel does  
176 not ensure high-quality outputs.

177 Input and output controls also have advantages. They do not require knowledge  
178 of the work process itself, nor do they require detailed planning to implement. This

179 is important in creative knowledge work, where the work processes are often not  
180 understood or cannot be seen. Hiring the most talented people and holding them  
181 accountable for what they produce and not how they produce it is an example of  
182 employing input and output controls. However, behavior controls do require knowl-  
183 edge of the work processes to create a predefined set of behavior standards. Behavior  
184 controls also require the ability to monitor the work processes. This can be problem-  
185 atic for creative knowledge work where work processes are less known and work is  
186 less visible.

### 187 **3.2.6 Control Source**

188 Who determines what controls are needed and how they should be implemented? This  
189 question speaks to the source of control. Sources of control include any entity that  
190 can impose controls. For example, in crowdsourcing, there are at least five sources  
191 of control: (1) platform providers, (2) requestors, (3) crowds, (4) sub-crowds, and (5)  
192 individuals within sub-crowds. Platforms provide the digital labor markets that con-  
193 nect workers to requestors who want to employ them. For example, Mechanical Turk  
194 and CrowdFlower are two popular digital platforms. Digital platforms can impose  
195 controls on crowd workers. Many platforms require crowd workers to maintain min-  
196 imum performance standards. Requestors are another source of control. Requestors  
197 hire crowd workers and can employ controls to influence their behavior (Ye et al.  
198 2017). Crowds themselves can exert control over their members. It is quite possible  
199 that controls can be exerted by multiple sources simultaneously, each with pros and  
200 cons. For example, Robert (2016) demonstrated that controls imposed by the group  
201 itself lead to better performance when compared to controls imposed by someone  
202 outside the group.

### 203 **3.2.7 Control Unit of Analysis**

204 Controls can be designed to influence organizations, groups, individuals within  
205 groups, and individuals. Controls directed at groups hold groups accountable rather  
206 than any individual within the group. For example, a group project completion date  
207 would be a group output control, whereas a task completion date for a specific indi-  
208 vidual would be an individual output control. This chapter differentiates between  
209 controls directed at individuals and controls directed at individuals within a group.  
210 Controls directed at individuals within a group are focused on aiding the collabora-  
211 tive work of the group, whereas controls directed at individuals who are not within  
212 a group are not focused on aiding collaborative group work. Therefore, controls  
213 directed at individuals within groups could be used to help promote macro-tasking,  
214 whereas controls directed at individuals outside of groups tend to be used to promote  
215 micro-tasking.

### 216 3.3 Scoping Literature Review

217 The authors of this chapter employed a scoping literature review to identify the  
218 various approaches to employing controls in crowdsourcing. The purpose of a scoping  
219 review is to rapidly map out the underpinnings of a research area (Mays et al. 2001).  
220 Scoping reviews provide an overview of a broader topic, whereas systematic reviews  
221 tend to have a narrow focus with an emphasis on depth (Peterson et al. 2017). The  
222 purpose of this scoping review was to survey the topic of controls in crowdsourcing  
223 and map out the various approaches used in the literature.

#### 224 3.3.1 Literature Review Search

225 The literature review was conducted using Google Scholar. Google Scholar ranks  
226 articles by their relevance to the search topic and covers a wide and broad set of liter-  
227 ature. This allowed the review to cut across several research areas covering controls  
228 in crowdsourcing. The search keywords were “controls” and “crowdsourcing” and  
229 the search was conducted in September 2018. The initial search identified 58,000  
230 articles. The authors of this chapter evaluated article abstracts against the following  
231 inclusion and exclusion criteria.

232 **Inclusion criteria.** Studies were included if they (1) were empirical crowdsourcing  
233 studies and mentioned the use of controls and (2) were published in English-language  
234 journals/conferences.

235 **Exclusion criteria.** Studies were excluded if (1) they focused on types of controls  
236 that did not apply to the crowd or its members, (2) controls were in reference to  
237 variables such as age and gender (i.e., control variables), (3) they focused on control  
238 as an experimental procedure, or (4) they were nonempirical papers.

239 The literature search stopped at the first 370 articles identified by Google Scholar,  
240 for two reasons. First, articles beyond the first 300 became less and less relevant to  
241 the topic of control in crowdsourcing as outlined by the inclusion criteria. In fact, at  
242 the mark of 370, the articles met very few, if any, of the inclusion criteria. Second,  
243 the articles that were relevant did not add new knowledge to the scoping literature.  
244 In other words, the papers that were relevant employed controls no different from  
245 those in the papers already included in the review corpus.

246 The initial screening of the article abstracts produced 192 articles from the 370.  
247 Further analysis showed that 30 articles fell under exclusion criteria 1, 2, or 3, while  
248 52 others fell under exclusion criterion 4, so they were dropped from the analysis.  
249 The remaining 110 articles met all inclusion criteria. Appendix 1 presents a summary  
250 table of the included articles.

**Table 3.1** Publication venues, sources of control, and task type

Publication venues		Sources of control		Task type: macro versus micro	
Journals	63%	Requestor	92%	Micro	94.6%
Conferences	26%	Requestor and platform	5%	Macro	2.7%
Others	11%	Requestor and crowd members	3%	Macro and micro	2.7%

### 3.3.2 *Publication Venues*

The publication venues of the 110 included articles were as follows: 69 (63%) were published in journals, 29 (26%) were published in conferences, 8 (7%) were workshop papers, 3 (3%) were book chapters, and 1 (1%) was a research report. Although the journal and conference listings were diverse, many were published by ACM or IEEE (Table 3.1).

### 3.3.3 *Sources of Control*

Reviewers identified sources of control in each paper. Three sources of control were identified: platform, requestor, and crowd members (i.e., peers). Articles that employed platform controls relied on a predefined control embedded within the platform. An example of the use of a platform control would be to only include master turkers (MTurk crowd workers) in a study. The criteria used to determine who is or is not a master turker are set by the platform. The requestor was by far the most widely used source of control, employed in 101 (92%) papers; this was followed by the platform and requestor controls, used in 6 (5%) papers, then requestor and crowd members (peers) controls, used in 3 (3%; Table 3.1).

### 3.3.4 *Macro Versus Micro*

Reviewers determined whether the controls in each paper were focused on micro- or macro-tasks. Generally, studies that required participants to engage in simple standalone tasks without any need to coordinate with others were identified as micro, while studies that employed tasks that were not broken down and required coordinating with others were labeled as macro. The controls employed in crowdsourcing overwhelmingly focused on micro-tasking. One hundred four (94.6%) articles focused on micro-tasking while only 3 (2.7%) focused on macro-tasking. Three (2.7%) articles focused on both micro- and macro-tasking controls. See Table 3.1.



**Table 3.2** Level of analysis and control type

Level of analysis		Control type			
Individuals	97%	Input	23%	Input and output	35%
Within groups or groups	3%	Behavioral	16%	Behavior and output	5%
		Output	83%	Input, behavior, and output	5%
Total	100%	Should not equal 100%		Total	45%

### 276 3.3.5 *Level of Analysis*

277 The paper findings on the level of analysis were consistent with those by Daniel  
 278 et al. (2018). As stated by Daniel et al., “the quality and benefit of group work are  
 279 still not fully studied and understood” (p. 29). Only 3 (3%) the articles focused on  
 280 controls directed at individuals within groups, or groups, whereas 107 (97%) focused  
 281 on controlling individuals (Table 3.2). This fully supports Daniel et al.’s additional  
 282 conclusions that in failing to address issues of group control we also fail to fully  
 283 leverage the potential of crowds.

### 284 3.3.6 *Control Type*

285 The authors of this chapter reviewed articles to determine the types of controls  
 286 employed: input, behavior, or output, or any combination. Output controls were  
 287 used the most, with 91 (83%) of the articles employing some type of output control  
 288 (Table 3.2). Originally, the evaluation of crowd members’ output was done by  
 289 humans; more recent work has shifted toward the use of advanced forms of artificial  
 290 intelligence (AI). These approaches vary from relatively simple to more complex and  
 291 are designed to better predict and evaluate worker outputs (e.g., Kajino et al. 2014).  
 292 Yet, other approaches have sought to use both human and artificial intelligence systems  
 293 (e.g., Haas et al. 2015).

294 Input controls and behavior controls were used less often than output controls.  
 295 Input controls were used in 25 (23%) articles. The most common use of input controls  
 296 was entrance tests to participate in the crowd work (Bozzon et al. 2013). Behavior  
 297 controls were the least employed type of control, appearing in 18 (16%) articles.  
 298 Types of behavior controls included real-time feedback on task performance, which  
 299 allowed crowd workers to redo and improve their work, and design of better user  
 300 interfaces to reduce error (e.g., Ashikawa et al. 2015; Gadiraju et al. 2015). See  
 301 Table 3.2.

302 Nearly half of the articles (50, or 45%) employed more than one type of control.  
 303 The most popular combination was input and output controls (39 articles, or 35%).  
 304 This combination was typically employed by requiring an entrance test to participate  
 305 in the work, then performing quality checks on the work performed (e.g., Eickhoff

306 and de Vries 2013; Hutton et al. 2012). Five articles (5%) employed both behavior  
307 and output controls, and 6 (5%) employed all three controls (Table 3.2).

### 308 **3.3.7 Formality**

309 The review found no evidence of informal controls. Because it was a scoping review,  
310 this does not mean that there was no use of informal controls but rather that they  
311 were rarely used when compared to formal controls.

### 312 **3.3.8 Major Findings**

313 Three major findings were derived from the literature review. Although the review  
314 also showed empirical evidence of other findings, the following insights represent  
315 the most consistent and generalizable results.

- 316 1. Crowdsourcing literature has focused primarily on the individual engaging in  
317 micro-tasking, with little attention directed at groups engaging in macro-tasking.  
318 As a result, we know very little about controls for macro-tasking involving groups.
- 319 2. The requestor has been the source of control and has relied heavily on output  
320 controls, with some efforts to leverage platform controls. On one hand, this  
321 approach does not require the requestor to have any knowledge of the work  
322 process. On the other hand, output controls alone are not enough to help the  
323 crowd manage and coordinate the work of its members. To accomplish this, the  
324 crowd itself must be leveraged as a source of control.
- 325 3. The literature on controls in crowdsourcing has focused mainly on formal con-  
326 trols. Yet informal controls can be as effective, if not more so, than formal controls  
327 (Kirsch et al. 2010). Informal controls also have the additional benefit of being  
328 more effective at promoting group cohesiveness.

## 329 **3.4 Recommendations for Future Research**

330 This section outlines a research agenda as a roadmap for future research by giving  
331 specific suggestions on how to shift toward the study of crowdsourcing controls for  
332 macro-tasking. Our research agenda is based on three assumptions:

- 333 1. Macro-tasks are not decomposed when assigned to a crowd; therefore, they  
334 require the crowd to decompose the task. In many cases, the tasks are not decom-  
335 posable.
- 336 2. Macro-tasks require some degree of interaction and coordination among crowd  
337 members.

338 3. Macro-tasks require crowd members to undertake a diverse set of activities to  
339 accomplish their work. In other words, all crowd members do not perform the  
340 same task (i.e., little redundancy).

341 Given these assumptions and the gaps in the literature, this research agenda focuses  
342 on informal as well as formal controls for groups. The research agenda for formal  
343 controls not only includes input and output controls but also emphasizes the  
344 importance of behavior controls. To capture the effects of the group, this chapter  
345 conceptualizes crowds as a higher order structure that can exist on a given platform.  
346 Please see Fig. 3.1 for a visual depiction. Platforms are the digital technology that can  
347 host multiple crowds. In macro-tasking, crowds are groups of individuals working  
348 to achieve an overall common or shared goal. Crowds can be composed of multiple  
349 subgroups or sub-crowds. The term “sub-crowds” has been used by other scholars  
350 to represent smaller groups within the crowd (Malhotra and Majchrzak 2014). This  
351 chapter defines sub-crowds as crowd members who work independently to accom-  
352 plish an objective that helps the crowd achieve its overall goal. Sub-crowds have  
353 boundaries in that there are members and nonmembers of sub-crowds. This bound-  
354 ary requirement applies even if membership is fluid. Sub-crowds can vary in size  
355 ranging from at least two crowd members. Macro-tasks that cannot be decomposed  
356 to micro-tasks are likely to be assigned to sub-crowds. Therefore, this chapter asserts  
357 that sub-crowd controls are a missing but vital component to understanding macro-  
358 tasking in crowds. In all, the research agenda’s focus on informal as well as formal  
359 controls, the inclusion of crowds and sub-crowds as sources of control, and increased  
360 attention on behavior controls are expected to help address core shortcomings in the  
361 literature.

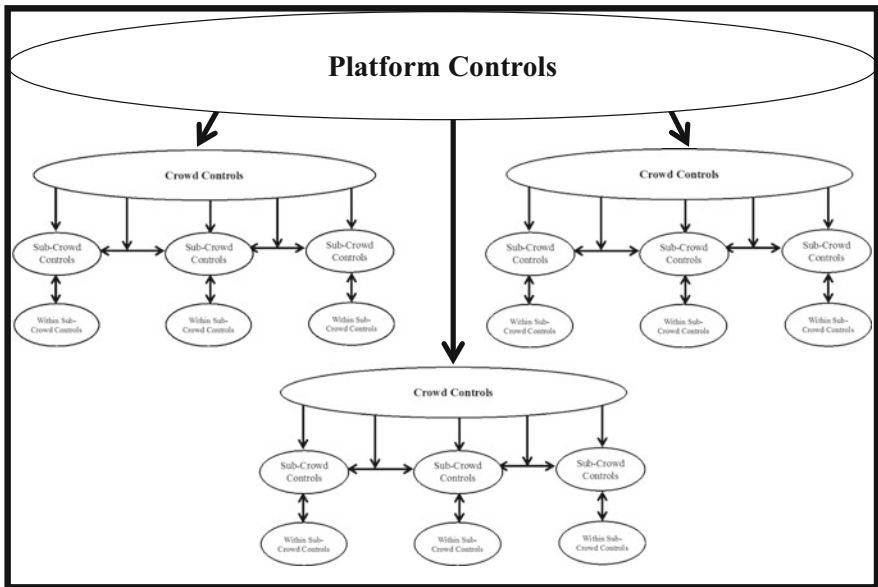


Fig. 3.1 Levels of crowdsourcing control

### 3.4.1 DE-CoRe Control Framework

To help identify the steps involved in the developmental of controls, this paper introduces the Defining, Evaluating, Correcting and Redefining (DE-CoRe) control framework. The DE-CoRe framework consists of four activities, listed next.

1. *Defining* involves developing and setting standard(s) that will be used later to compare against actual actions. These standards could refer to input, behavior, or output standards. Prescribed standards are the backbone of any control system. Standard setting for crowdsourcing input controls would focus on defining the selection criteria for potential crowd workers. For behavior control, it includes defining the behavior standards needed to perform the crowd work. Standard setting for output control would involve defining what constitutes a quality output.
2. *Evaluating* involves assessing the actual inputs, behaviors, and outputs against those prescribed standards. For input controls, this would involve evaluating potential crowd workers against the established selection criteria. Evaluation via behavior controls would involve comparing actual crowd worker behavior with the predefined behavior standard. Output control evaluation would determine whether the outputs produced met the predefined standard.
3. *Correcting*, if needed, involves identifying why and how inputs, behaviors, and outputs failed to meet the standards. This information provides feedback to explain what needs to be done differently to meet the prescribed standards. Correcting activity is distinct from the evaluation activity. Evaluation determines whether actions meet or fail to meet a predefined standard. Correcting activity focuses on why or how the actions failed to meet the predefined standard.
4. *Redefining*, if needed, is the final activity. For input control, this could entail changing the selection criteria. This might occur when new knowledge or skills are needed by crowd workers. In case of behavior controls, the need to redefine standards might be driven by new technology. For output control, quality standards can be redesigned based on new requirements.

In all, the DE-CoRe control framework provides a simple model to help organize and better communicate the research agenda presented in the next sections. Figure 3.2 depicts the developmental process and the iterative nature of the defining, evaluating, correcting, and redefining activities.

## 3.5 Formal Controls Research Agenda for Crowdsourcing Macro-tasking

### Crowd: Input Controls

*Research Question 1a: What are the most effective ways for crowds to employ input controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

### DE-CoRe Control Model

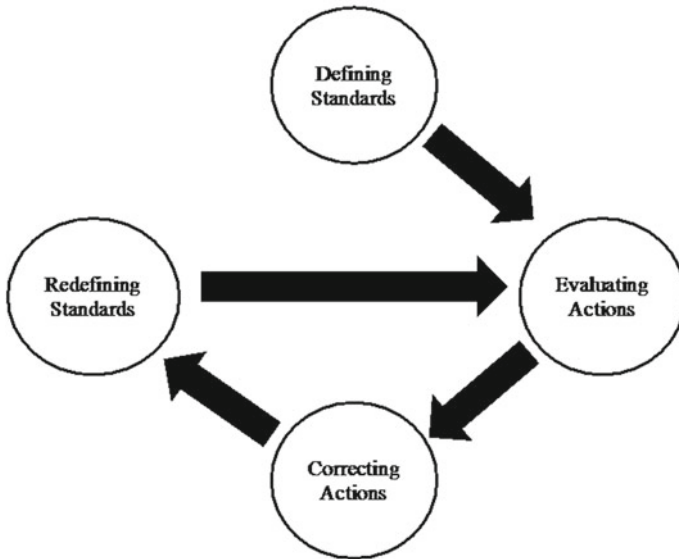


Fig. 3.2 DE-CoRe control framework

399 **Definition.** Crowd input controls are directed at the selection of the inputs (e.g.,  
400 people and software) that go into the work processes of its sub-crowds. Crowd input  
401 controls ensure that the crowd inputs meet the predefined standards needed to support  
402 the achievement of the overall crowd’s goals and objectives.

403 **Examples.** Examples include knowledge, skills, personality, and experience selection  
404 requirements, and minimum reputation scores.

405 **Challenges.** The problem of input control for macro-tasking in crowds is threefold:  
406 First, the set of knowledges and skills needed to complete macro-tasks might not be  
407 known because all the macro-task requirements might not be immediately identifi-  
408 able. Second, the knowledge and skills needed might vary greatly depending on the  
409 task requirements of the assigned sub-crowd. This makes it difficult to determine  
410 whether one set of selection criteria should be used for all crowd workers or a differ-  
411 ent set of selection criteria should be used for each particular sub-crowd. For reasons  
412 one and two, the crowd selection criteria should be more general, focusing on basic  
413 requirements for crowd workers. Finally, who should determine the selection criteria  
414 needed to employ the input controls: the requestor, the crowd, or the sub-crowds?

#### 415 **Design requirements**

416 **Defining.** Systems must be able to help crowds determine the selection criteria for  
417 potential crowd workers. Such systems could allow crowds to leverage information  
418 from other crowds. For example, new crowds could use the work requirements from

419 similar macro-tasks to determine the knowledge and skills needed by their crowd  
420 workers.

421 **Evaluating.** Going beyond filtering potential crowd workers by attributes, systems  
422 should be able to aid crowds in their decision-making process. A system might pro-  
423 duce a list of recommended crowd workers based on the selection criteria. However,  
424 the system could go beyond this by rank ordering the list of crowd workers from most  
425 to least qualified. To promote diversity, the list could highlight the underrepresented  
426 minorities. To avoid problems of bias, the system could also alert the crowd when  
427 the selection criteria produce a list with no underrepresented minorities. Of course,  
428 what is and is not an underrepresented minority and whether a list should consider  
429 such factors is beyond the scope of this chapter.

430 **Correcting.** After crowd work has started, systems should be able to help crowds  
431 determine whether the selection criteria are being employed correctly. This would  
432 involve answering questions such as this: Are the selection criteria being ignored or  
433 incorrectly applied?

434 **Redefining.** Systems should support the redefining of selection criteria by using  
435 actual crowd worker performance. Crowds need answers to questions such as, “How  
436 predictive were the selection criteria in determining actual crowd worker performance  
437 across sub-crowds?” To this end, systems should produce reports that identify predic-  
438 tive selection criteria against actual performance data. Crowds could also leverage  
439 what they learned from the correcting activity to employ more effective selection  
440 criteria. For example, crowds might discover that their selection criteria were being  
441 ignored because they were ineffective.

#### 442 **Crowd: Behavior Controls**

443 *Research Question 1b: What are the most effective ways for crowds to employ behav-*  
444 *ior controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

445 **Definition.** Crowd behavior controls direct the behavior of sub-crowds toward the  
446 achievement of the crowd’s goals and objectives. At the crowd level, behavior controls  
447 should be focused on ensuring effective interactions among sub-crowds. Therefore,  
448 crowd behavior controls should be directed at establishing standards to help govern  
449 how sub-crowds engage with one another.

450 **Examples.** Examples of behavior controls include sub-crowd status reports and lists  
451 of completed or uncompleted work.

452 **Challenges.** The biggest challenge with regard to crowd behavior controls is to  
453 determine how much autonomy should be afforded to sub-crowds. This is partic-  
454 ularly problematic when many of the work requirements are not initially known.  
455 Therefore, crowd behavior controls should foster cooperation among sub-crowds  
456 while providing them with the needed autonomy to develop their own behavior con-  
457 trols after work requirements become known. Specifically, crowd behavior controls  
458 should be directed at creating standards for communication and interaction among

459 sub-crowds. Crowds should pay attention to work dependencies that require hand-  
460 offs among sub-crowds. Crowd behavior controls should be developed to avoid or  
461 resolve problems that slow or hinder the transfer of work among sub-crowds.

### 462 **Design requirements**

463 **Defining.** Going beyond basic communication requirements, systems should help  
464 identify work dependencies across sub-crowds. This would help crowds understand  
465 the requirements needed to ensure effective handoffs of work among sub-crowds.

466 **Evaluating.** To help with evaluation, systems should support the creation of digital  
467 boundary objects. Boundary objects are artifacts employed to track activity across  
468 group boundaries (Star and Griesemer 1989). Within crowd work, digital boundary  
469 objects are electronic artifacts employed to track work across multiple sub-crowds.  
470 Digital boundary objects are vital to assisting crowds in monitoring and tracking the  
471 work of sub-crowds. Although boundary objects are common to most work, such as  
472 “to-do lists,” some boundary objects are context-dependent. Therefore, systems must  
473 have the flexibility to allow crowds to construct their own digital boundary objects  
474 when needed.

475 **Correcting.** To support the correcting activity, systems must produce work reports  
476 that highlight where sub-crowds went wrong and how to correct their actions. These  
477 reports could focus on identifying the sub-crowd that failed to meet requirements.  
478 This would answer questions such as this: Which sub-crowd failed to report what  
479 information when?

480 **Redefining.** Systems should allow crowds to redefine work standards when needed.  
481 After employing behavior controls, crowds might realize that their current reporting  
482 requirements are: (1) simply not enough to promote effective communication and  
483 interaction or (2) too cumbersome for sub-crowds to follow. Systems that could  
484 help to diagnose either problem and allow crowds to leverage this information in  
485 redefining their behavior standards would be invaluable.

### 486 **Crowd: Output Controls**

487 *Research Question 1c: What are the most effective ways for crowds to employ crowd*  
488 *output controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

489 **Definition.** Crowd output controls ensure that sub-crowd outputs meet the crowd’s  
490 predefined output standards or set of standards. Crowd output controls are used to  
491 hold sub-crowds accountable by making it clear what is and is not an acceptable  
492 output. Crowd output controls should ensure that sub-crowds are supporting the  
493 crowd’s overall goal and not engaging in suboptimization at the expense of other  
494 sub-crowds.

495 **Examples.** Examples of this include sub-crowd goals for completed work, sub-crowd  
496 goals for correctly completed work, and deadlines for completed work.

497 **Challenges.** The interdependent nature of macro-tasking across sub-crowds presents  
498 several challenges. First, macro-tasking often requires output from one group to be

499 used by other groups. Such dependencies must be identified before group output  
 500 controls can be designed and employed. Crowds would also need to build consensus  
 501 among groups on what such output controls should be when such dependencies exist.  
 502 The second and related issue is that group output controls must align across groups.  
 503 An example of misalignment is when one group in the crowd is being evaluated on  
 504 quantity but the group receiving the output is more concerned about quality. The  
 505 group producing the output might ignore issues related to quality to achieve more  
 506 quantity. Yet this would be all for naught, because the output would be useless to the  
 507 receiving group if the quality was not acceptable.

### 508 **Design requirements**

509 **Defining.** Systems must allow crowds to define output standards by identifying qual-  
 510 ity criteria and assigning value weights to such criteria. Systems with advanced capa-  
 511 bilities might provide cost–benefit calculations. This would allow crowds to under-  
 512 stand trade-off between decisions regarding quality and quantity. Going beyond this  
 513 requirement, advanced systems would need to help crowds deal with issues related  
 514 to the task interdependence among sub-crowds. To avoid problems related to subop-  
 515 timizing, systems should aid in the identification of work dependencies.

516 **Evaluating.** Systems should provide tools to assess or help assess the quality of crowd  
 517 outputs. These tools could be designed to help crowds manually assess quality or be  
 518 completely automated.

519 **Correcting.** If needed, systems should produce reports that help crowd workers  
 520 understand why and how they are failing to meet output standards. For example,  
 521 are the failures related to quantity or quality or both? Should sub-crowds focus on  
 522 doing less but better?

523 **Redefining.** Similar to behavior control, systems should allow crowds to redefine  
 524 their output standards. Systems could help leverage the information generated in  
 525 the correction activity. If many sub-crowds are failing to meet deadlines, maybe  
 526 the deadlines should be changed. If the sub-crowds are meeting output standards  
 527 regarding quantity easily, maybe such output standards should be increased.

### 528 **Sub-crowd: Input Controls**

529 *Research Question 2a: What are the most effective ways for sub-crowds to employ*  
 530 *input controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

531 **Definition.** Sub-crowd input controls focus on the inputs that go into the sub-crowd’s  
 532 work processes. Like crowd input controls, sub-crowd input controls would primarily  
 533 focus on selection criteria for membership. However, they could also include the  
 534 selection of software or other collaborative tools. Sub-crowd input controls offer  
 535 another opportunity to employ controls that help promote macro-tasking.

536 **Examples.** Examples include knowledge, skills, personality, and experience selec-  
 537 tion requirements *over and above those required by the crowd*, and minimum repu-  
 538 tation scores *over and above those required by the crowd*.



539 **Challenges.** Several issues arise when considering sub-crowd input controls. First,  
540 it is important to determine what additional selection criteria might be needed for  
541 sub-crowd membership above those required for crowd membership. This entails  
542 determining the sets of knowledge and skills needed to complete the sub-crowd's  
543 work. This could also include increasing the required scores needed on the crowd's  
544 selection criteria. For example, sub-crowds might require higher technical skills  
545 depending on the nature of their work. Second, it would be necessary to determine  
546 whether the sub-crowds' selection criteria superseded the crowd's selection criteria  
547 or vice versa. It would also be important to know whether sub-crowds could com-  
548 pletely bypass the crowd's selection criteria. For example, could sub-crowds select  
549 individuals who had been rejected by the crowd? This is important because sub-  
550 crowds might have the opportunity to hire unqualified crowd workers and provide  
551 training that would eventually make them qualified. Sub-crowds could evaluate the  
552 performance of such crowd workers after a trial period to determine whether they  
553 should be retained.

#### 554 **Design requirements**

555 **Defining.** In addition to the design requirements outlined for defining crowd input  
556 controls, systems must be able to help sub-crowds identify any conflicts between their  
557 and the crowd's input controls. For example, such systems would need to identify  
558 potential conflicts between the crowd and sub-crowd selection criteria.

559 **Evaluating.** The evaluating requirements for sub-crowd input controls should be  
560 similar to those for crowd input controls.

561 **Correcting.** In addition to the correcting requirements outlined for crowd input con-  
562 trols, systems should be better designed to provide more flexibility in allowing sub-  
563 crowds to override their selection criteria. These systems should require an acknowl-  
564 edgment and a thorough explanation as to why the selection criteria are being ignored.  
565 Unlike the crowd selection criteria, which are likely to be more general and stable, the  
566 sub-crowd selection criteria are likely to be more specific and dynamic. Sub-crowd  
567 selection criteria are likely to change rapidly as work requirements become clearer  
568 and work progresses. Therefore, sub-crowds might not have the luxury to wait for  
569 the redefining activities to change selection criteria. In fact, depending on the work  
570 duration, sub-crowds might disband before they ever reach the redefining activity.

571 **Redefining.** Processes for redefining sub-crowd input control requirements should  
572 be similar to those for the crowd input control requirements.

#### 573 **Sub-crowd: Behavior Controls**

574 *Research Question 2b: What are the most effective ways for sub-crowds to employ*  
575 *behavior controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

576 **Definition.** Sub-crowd behavior controls focus on aligning the behaviors of the sub-  
577 crowd workers with the behaviors needed to achieve the sub-crowd's goals and objec-  
578 tives. Although sub-crowd behavior controls are concerned with effective interactions  
579 among sub-crowd workers, they also specify work standards needed to accomplish

580 work tasks. Therefore, when compared to crowd behavior controls, sub-crowd behav-  
581 ior controls should be more detailed and task specific.

582 **Examples.** Examples of sub-crowd behavior controls include work instructions,  
583 crowd worker status reports, lists of crowd workers' completed or uncompleted  
584 work, shared calendars, and work assignment spreadsheets.

585 **Challenges.** It would be difficult to assemble sub-crowds with no common work  
586 history and expect them to work together to develop behavior controls without any  
587 guidance. In other words, newly formed sub-crowds would need behavior controls  
588 to begin to work together to develop behavior controls. This chapter proposes con-  
589 ceptualizing behavior controls as those employed before and after the sub-crowd  
590 workers develop knowledge of their work requirements. To address this challenge,  
591 this chapter introduces Layer 1 and Layer 2 behavior controls.

592 Layer 1 behavior controls are standards directed at helping the sub-crowd deter-  
593 mine the work requirements. Layer 1 behavior controls can be imposed by the crowd  
594 or quickly agreed upon by the sub-crowd. In the first approach, the crowd could  
595 dictate initial basic sub-crowd behavior controls. This approach could be referred to  
596 as the template approach to behavior controls. Templated behavior controls should  
597 be generic and light and apply broadly to any sub-crowd. These template behav-  
598 ior controls can be viewed as basic rules of engagement for crowd workers. Sub-  
599 crowds could then develop their own behavior controls later when work requirements  
600 became clearer. In the second approach, sub-crowds could engage in swift planning  
601 via a sub-crowd charter. A sub-crowd charter is a document that outlines the sub-  
602 crowd's objectives and communication protocols, and crowd workers' basic roles  
603 and responsibilities. Sub-crowds could add or remove requirements to their char-  
604 ter as work progressed. The differences between the first and second approaches to  
605 developing Layer 1 behavior controls are a matter of degree. Simply put, the two  
606 approaches vary on the degree to which the crowd or the sub-crowd has an initial  
607 influence on the Layer 1 behavior controls. Therefore, the third approach would be  
608 for the crowd to provide a template in line with the sub-crowd character and enlist  
609 the sub-crowd to decide which aspects to keep and which to remove.

610 Layer 2 behavior controls are directed at defining standard behaviors needed to  
611 perform work. There are two approaches to developing Layer 2 behavior controls.  
612 The first approach is to have the sub-crowd workers determine them as their work  
613 requirements become clear. Layer 2 behavior controls provide instructions on how  
614 crowd workers should accomplish their job. The degree of detail associated with the  
615 instructions depends on the effort and time needed to specify such detail. Ideally, sub-  
616 crowds should weigh the benefits associated with such specification against the time  
617 and effort needed. The second approach is to provide sub-crowds with work standards  
618 already developed based on best work practices. Like the template approach to Layer  
619 1, these best work practices would be generic and light and apply broadly. However,  
620 they could also be very detailed if the new work requirements were similar to previous  
621 work requirements from another sub-crowd or crowd. Like the two approaches to  
622 Layer 1, the two approaches to developing Layer 2 can also be combined. Therefore,

623 the third approach would involve the sub-crowd starting with a template based on  
624 best practices and customizing it to the sub-crowd's needs.

625 In either case, Layer 1 behavior controls should be removed or changed if they  
626 prevent the actual work from being accomplished. At the same time, Layer 1 behavior  
627 controls might be sufficient to accomplish the sub-crowd work; if this occurs, there  
628 is no need to define Layer 2 behavior controls.

### 629 **Design requirements**

630 **Defining.** Going beyond basic communication requirements, systems should provide  
631 tools to help sub-crowds break down, structure, assign, and aggregate crowd work.  
632 Such systems could provide digital workflow diagrams, shared calendars, and work  
633 assignment spreadsheets.

634 **Evaluating.** To help with evaluation, systems should afford the design of digital  
635 artifacts such as to-do lists and crowd worker status reports. These digital artifacts  
636 would be similar in concept to the digital boundary objectives but different in at least  
637 two ways: (1) these artifacts would not be designed to be used by other sub-crowds  
638 and (2) they would be focused on evaluating the behavior of sub-crowd workers  
639 rather than the sub-crowd itself.

640 **Correcting.** Systems must produce work reports that show where sub-crowd workers  
641 went wrong and how to correct their actions. These reports should be more detailed  
642 than those produced for crowds.

643 **Redefining.** After employing behavior controls, sub-crowds might realize that they  
644 were: (1) ineffective even when followed correctly or (2) too difficult for crowd  
645 workers to follow correctly. In either case, sub-crowds would have to redefined work  
646 standards. Ideally, sub-crowds should be able to leverage the same system capabilities  
647 used in the defining phase. However, new system capabilities might be needed when  
648 new work standards are vastly different.

### 649 **Sub-crowd: Output Controls**

650 *Research Question 2c: What are the most effective ways for sub-crowds to employ*  
651 *output controls to promote crowdsourcing macro-tasks?*

652 **Definition.** Sub-crowd output controls ensure that the output of crowd workers in  
653 a sub-crowd meets the sub-crowd's predefined output standards or set of standards.  
654 Sub-crowd output controls hold crowd workers accountable to a predefined outcome  
655 or set of outcomes identified as vital to achieving the sub-crowd's overall goals  
656 and objectives. **Note:** Output controls are likely to be very important to sub-crowds  
657 engaging in complex and creative macro-tasks. In such cases, output controls are often  
658 preferred over behavior controls. This is because specifying detailed instructions for  
659 complex and creative tasks is very difficult. In addition, creative work is often not  
660 visible; as such it is hard to monitor and track the progress of creative work.

661 **Examples.** Examples of sub-crowd output controls include crowd worker lists of cor-  
662 rectly completed tasks, the number of completed tasks, and due dates for completed  
663 tasks.

664 **Challenges.** The degree of task heterogeneity and its corresponding output control  
 665 heterogeneity is likely to be a major challenge. The tasks of crowd workers within a  
 666 given sub-crowd are likely to be related and interdependent—related in that all tasks  
 667 performed by crowd workers in the same sub-crowd would be directed at achieving  
 668 a common goal, and interdependent in that the output of every crowd worker within  
 669 a sub-crowd would need to be aggregated before the sub-crowd could achieve its  
 670 goals.

671 Yet, crowd workers’ tasks are likely to be different. Task heterogeneity might require  
 672 a diverse set of output controls among crowd workers within the same sub-crowd.  
 673 For example, for one task, the quantity might be far more important than quality.  
 674 But for another task, deadlines might be the most important factor. Finding a way to  
 675 harmonize the output controls needed to avoid conflicts within a sub-crowd is likely  
 676 to be problematic. In addition, incompatible output controls are likely to lead to low  
 677 sub-crowd cohesion.

### 678 **Design requirements**

679 **Defining.** In addition to the design requirements outlined for defining crowd out-  
 680 put controls, systems supporting sub-crowds should place more emphasis on issues  
 681 related to task heterogeneity. More specifically, how can such systems help sub-  
 682 crowds harmonize output controls to avoid controls conflicting with one another?

683 **Evaluating.** Systems should provide tools to assess or help assess the quality of  
 684 individual crowd workers. In addition, such systems should be able to evaluate small  
 685 groups of crowd workers who perform a similar task, yet be flexible enough to  
 686 evaluate individual crowd workers across a wide range of tasks.

687 **Correcting.** For correcting sub-crowd output controls, systems should be able to  
 688 provide detailed reports on a range of tasks.

689 **Redefining.** Like crowd output controls, systems should allow sub-crowds to redefine  
 690 their output standards.

691 Table 3.3 summarizes the formal controls research agenda.

## 692 **3.6 Informal Controls Research Agenda** 693 **for Crowdsourcing Macro-tasks**

694 *Research Question 3: What are the most effective ways to promote informal controls*  
 695 *in crowds for macro-tasking in crowdsourcing?*

696 Many of the challenges and design requirements for informal controls are similar to  
 697 those of formal controls. The biggest difference is the role that social relationships  
 698 play in the employment of informal controls. Generally, informal control is a type  
 699 of social control exerted by members of the collective. Informal controls influence  
 700 actions by exerting normative peer pressure on crowd workers. A more specific

**Table 3.3** Formal controls and DE-CoRe design objectives

DE-CoRe design objectives		
Control	Design objectives	Exemplars
Input control RQs: 1a and 2a	Defining input standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection standards                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Identify knowledge and skills</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Evaluating inputs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select qualified crowd workers</li> <li>• Qualify crowd workers                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Train</li> <li>– Test</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Correcting inputs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed work reports</li> </ul> Redefining input standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revising selection standards</li> </ul>	Li et al. (2014) put forth a crowd targeting framework designed to automatically discover the needed crowd worker skills for a given task and target the most qualified crowd workers based on this skill set
Behavior control RQs: 1b and 2b	Defining behavior standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break down crowd work</li> <li>• Structure crowd work</li> <li>• Assign crowd work</li> <li>• Aggregate crowd work</li> </ul> Evaluating behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor crowd work</li> <li>• Assess crowd work</li> </ul> Correcting behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed work reports</li> </ul> Redefining behavior standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break down crowd work</li> <li>• Structure crowd work</li> <li>• Assign crowd work</li> <li>• Aggregate crowd work</li> </ul>	Schmitz and Lykourantzou (2018) designed and empirically tested an online algorithm that engages in the structuring and scheduling of work to accomplish macro-tasks
Output control RQs: 1c and 2c	Defining output standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify quality criteria</li> <li>• Assign value weights on criteria</li> </ul> Evaluating output <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual assessment tools</li> <li>• Automated assessment tools</li> </ul> Correcting behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed work reports</li> </ul> Redefining output standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify new quality criteria</li> <li>• Assign new value weights to criteria</li> </ul>	Oleson et al. (2011) offered a novel approach to assessing output quality by proposing new ways to develop gold standards used to assess crowd worker outputs

701 definition of informal controls can be derived from Kirsch et al. (2010). According  
 702 to Kirsch et al., informal controls are exerted when shared norms, values, beliefs,  
 703 and vision influence the behaviors of the collective. This is consistent with literature  
 704 identifying the need to facilitate social bonds, identification, and common values  
 705 among members of a collective to help establish and strengthen informal controls  
 706 (Weibel et al. 2016). However, social bonds, identification, and common values are  
 707 normally associated with groups with a long history of working together (Robert  
 708 et al. 2008).

709 Therefore, the biggest challenge associated with informal controls relative to  
 710 formal controls is determining how crowd workers with little history can develop  
 711 the social bonds, identification, and common values needed to employ informal  
 712 controls. In this section, the discussion on informal controls is focused on addressing  
 713 this issue only. However, some of the same challenges and design requirements  
 714 identified in the discussion on formal controls are also applicable. In addition, this  
 715 chapter acknowledges that depending on the task duration and task complexity, crowd  
 716 workers may or may not have an opportunity or a need for informal controls. Yet,  
 717 without informal controls, macro-tasking complex and creative work is likely to be  
 718 difficult. Consequentially, informal control is likely to be difficult to establish but  
 719 nonetheless very important in the crowdsourcing of macro-tasks. Next are several  
 720 approaches to promoting informal controls in crowdsourcing macro-tasks. They are  
 721 summarized in Table 3.4.

722 One approach is to understand how to help crowds build common norms, values,  
 723 beliefs, and vision through the promotion of a shared identity. Research has shown  
 724 that a shared identity can facilitate the establishment of common norms, values,  
 725 beliefs, and vision (Chatman 2010; Robert 2016). Windeler et al. (2015) provided an  
 726 example of how this approach could be operationalized. They studied ways to reduce  
 727 conflict and promote a shared understanding and ultimately improve performance in  
 728 online teams. They designed a system that provided one set of teams with profiles  
 729 of each team member that only listed similar attributes among team members. This  
 730 was done to promote perceptions of similarity—a shared or common identity among  
 731 team members. Another set of teams received no such information regarding their  
 732 similarities. The online teams that received the similarity information experienced  
 733 less conflict, had a better shared understanding, and performed better as a team. A  
 734 similar approach could be used in crowdsourcing. Questions like how to best promote  
 735 similarities or which similarities to promote still need to be addressed. Nonetheless,  
 736 designing crowdsourcing systems to promote similarities among crowds or sub-  
 737 crowds holds much potential.

**Table 3.4** Informal controls and design objectives

Informal control mechanism	Design objectives	Examples
Identification	Perceived similarity	Windeler et al. (2015)
Shared norms and values	Socialization/onboarding	Homan et al. (2007)
Identification, shared norms, and values	Familiarity	Salehi et al. (2017)

738 Another approach is helping crowds establish shared work norms and values.  
739 In traditional organizations, new employees go through a socialization process that  
740 both introduces and facilitates preexisting shared norms, values, beliefs, and vision  
741 (Turner and Makhija 2006). Organizations often leverage orientation and training  
742 programs to help establish prototype norms, values, and beliefs. Similar approaches  
743 have been done in groups. For example, Homan et al. (2007) conducted a lab study  
744 and found that teams trained to value diversity were able to establish norms that led  
745 them to better leverage diversity to perform better. Crowdsourcing systems can be  
746 designed to not only train crowd workers but also orient workers to a specific crowd  
747 climate or culture. This could be done by building crowdsourcing systems that walk  
748 crowds or sub-crowds through series of group-building exercises. Although there are  
749 many unanswered questions related to finding effective team-building exercises and  
750 designing such a crowdsourcing system, this avenue holds the potential to promote  
751 informal controls.

752 Another approach to promoting informal controls is to select crowd workers who  
753 already have shared norms, values, beliefs, and vision. This could be accomplished by  
754 selecting crowd workers who worked together in the past. For example, a crowdsourc-  
755 ing system could be programmed to select crowd workers from a GitHub project.  
756 This system could be designed to assess the success of a group of crowd workers  
757 based on a specific metric. Then the system could invite all crowd workers who par-  
758 ticipated in a specific project or part of the project. These crowd workers would likely  
759 have been indoctrinated into a system of shared norms, values, beliefs, and vision.  
760 Salehi et al. (2017) provided an example of this approach. Their systems selected  
761 crowd workers based on whether they were familiar with one another. Familiarity is  
762 a strong predictor of shared norms, values, beliefs, and vision. By selecting specific  
763 online communities like GitHub, organizations could ensure they hire crowd work-  
764 ers who are competent in a specified domain. Questions about which parameters to  
765 use to select crowd workers along with the actual design of such systems needed to  
766 operationalize the selection criteria are important issues to be addressed.

### 767 **3.7 Future Research and Limitations**

768 The next section presents several limitations as well as future research opportunities.  
769 While these areas complement and overlap the research areas identified and discussed  
770 earlier in the chapter, these areas could themselves constitute their own research  
771 agenda. Although they could not be sufficiently discussed in detail in this chapter,  
772 they are important areas that should be acknowledged.

### 773 **3.7.1 *Meta-control Theory***

774 To accommodate the use of multiple types of control inherent in the crowdsourcing of  
775 macro-controls, this chapter introduces the meta-control theory. Meta-control theory  
776 focuses on comprehending the impacts of controls on controls. Meta-control theory  
777 is concerned with understanding how controls reinforce or undermine one another.  
778 The goal of meta-control theory is to avoid controls conflicting with or undermining  
779 one another. Meta-control theory also recognizes that controls must be dynamically  
780 managed throughout their use. Meta-control theory acknowledges that controls make  
781 up a complex system that might not lead to linear, well-understood effects but instead  
782 could lead to nonlinear effects that are difficult to understand. Understanding how  
783 to ensure that controls align across levels of analysis is one example of meta-control  
784 theory.

785 The theoretical development and empirical validation of the study of how controls  
786 impact controls could significantly contribute to control theory in general as well as its  
787 specific application to crowdsourcing. Yet, we have not begun to scratch the surface  
788 in this area. Although we have empirical examples of the use of multiple controls,  
789 little theory or reasoning has been offered as to why these particular controls were  
790 chosen or how they are expected to align with one another or, better yet, when they  
791 are expected not to align with one another. This is almost certainly a result of the  
792 micro-tasking nature of most crowdsourcing work. Nonetheless, as we move toward  
793 macro-tasks, meta-control theory, or the study of how controls impact controls, is  
794 becoming increasingly important.

### 795 **3.7.2 *Temporal Effects on Control***

796 Generally, things change over time. This is not surprising or profound—the impact  
797 and importance of time have been increasingly recognized by many HCI/CSCW  
798 scholars and others (You et al. 2015). Yet no studies of control examine the impact of  
799 time. At this stage, the evidence of the importance of time on controls is more anecdotal  
800 than scientifically verifiable. For example, platform companies like Uber update  
801 their controls based on dimensions such as time. For instance, by implementing surge  
802 pricing, Uber charges higher driving fares during peak demand times.

803 A less popular example of the impact of time on the effectiveness of control  
804 relates to Uber’s driver assignment algorithm. Uber’s driver assignment is a type  
805 of behavior control the company imposes on drivers. However, many drivers learn  
806 how Uber’s algorithm assigns which drivers to which routes. Drivers then attempt  
807 to manipulate their assignment to more lucrative routes. Uber responds by changing  
808 the assignment algorithm to prevent such manipulation. Hence, over time Uber’s  
809 behavior control has become less effective. A more systematic research agenda might  
810 not only investigate how time impacts the effectiveness of controls but why, when,



811 and how. What is certain is that we know little if any with regard to the impact of  
812 time on the effectiveness of controls in crowdsourcing. □

### 813 **3.7.3 Artificial Intelligence Control Systems**

814 The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to control workers is becoming popular in many  
815 industries. AI—the ability of a computer system to sense, reason, and respond—holds  
816 many potential uses for controlling crowd workers for macro-tasking. Artificial intel-  
817 ligence control systems (AICS) are intelligent computer systems that *seek to align*  
818 *and dynamically realign workers' actions to predefined standards to achieve a set of*  
819 *goals and objectives*. AICS can dynamically evaluate, correct, and redefine controls  
820 in real time. AICS can be used as input, behavior, and output controls. There are  
821 several examples of researchers employing automated quality assessments (Hoßfeld  
822 and Keimel 2014) or automating work processes (Schmitz and Lykourantzou 2018).  
823 However, these systems fall far short of employing the full capabilities of AICS cur-  
824 rently used in many digital platforms (i.e., Uber and Upwork). Future HCI/CSCW  
825 research needs to explore both the development and implications of AICS in crowd-  
826 sourcing. □

## 827 **3.8 Conclusions**

828 The conditions needed to design effective controls for micro-tasks represent an  
829 approach to control that is typical of the Industrial Age. But as crowd work becomes  
830 increasingly more complex, interdependent, and less decomposable, focusing more  
831 on innovation and learning than performing, HCI scholars must ask ourselves how  
832 we can design controls that better meet the demands of macro-tasking. The need  
833 to rethink controls for new ways of working is not a particularly new problem, nor  
834 is it confined to HCI scholars examining crowdsourcing. Organizational scholars  
835 have warned of the need for dramatic changes in our approaches to organizing and  
836 they have decried the lack of progress toward newer approaches to designing con-  
837 trols (Cardinal et al. 2010). As such, this chapter should help organizational scholars  
838 begin to rethink the design of controls in traditional organizational settings.

839 **Acknowledgements** This book chapter was supported in part by the National Science Foundation  
840 [grant CHS-1617820].

## 841 **Appendix 1**

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Aker, A., El-Haj, M., Albakour, M. D., & Kruschwitz, U. (2012). Assessing Crowdsourcing Quality through Objective Tasks. In Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (pp. 14561461).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Ashikawa, M., Kawamura, T., & Ohsuga, A. (2015, December). Deployment of private crowdsourcing system with quality control methods. In Web Intelligence and Intelligent Agent Technology (WI-IAT), 2015 IEEE/WIC/ACM International Conference on (Vol. 1, pp. 9–16). IEEE.	Conference	Platform and requestor	Micro	Individuals	X	X	X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Baba, Y., & Kashima, H. (2013, August). Statistical quality estimation for general crowdsourcing tasks. In Proceedings of the 19th ACM SIGKDD international conference on Knowledge discovery and data mining (pp. 554562). ACM.	Conference	Requestor and peer	Micro	Individuals			X
Baba, Y., Kashima, H., Kinoshita, K., Yamaguchi, G., & Akiyoshi, Y. (2013, June). Leveraging Crowdsourcing to Detect Improper Tasks in Crowdsourcing Marketplaces. In Twenty-Fifth Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Conference, pp. 1487- 1492.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Baba, Y., Kashima, H., Kinoshita, K., Yamaguchi, G., & Akiyoshi, Y. (2014). Leveraging non-expert crowdsourcing workers for improper task detection in crowdsourcing marketplaces. <i>Expert Systems with Applications</i> , 41 (6), 26782687.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Bell, S., & Bala, K. (2015). Learning visual similarity for product design with convolutional neural networks. <i>ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG)</i> , 34(4), 98.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Bontcheva, K., Roberts, I., Derczynski, L., & Rout, D. (2014). The GATE crowdsourcing plugin: Corpora made easy. In Proceedings of the Demonstrations at the 14th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (pp. 97–100).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Bozzon, A., Brambilla, M., Ceri, S., & Mauri, A. (2013, May). Reactive crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the 22nd international conference on World Wide Web (pp. 153–164). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X	X	X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Bozzon, A., Brambilla, M., Ceri, S., Mauri, A., & Volontero, R. (2014, July). Pattern-based specification of crowdsourcing applications. In International Conference on Web Engineering (pp. 218–235). Springer, Cham.	Conference	Requestor	Micro/Macro	Individuals or individuals within groups	X	X	X
Bragg, J., & Weld, D. S. (2013, November). Crowdsourcing multi-label classification for taxonomy creation. In First AAAI conference on human computation and crowdsourcing.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Causser, T., Tonra, J., & Wallace, V. (2012). Transcription maximized; expense minimized? Crowdsourcing and editing the collected works of Jeremy Bentham. <i>Literary and Linguistic Computing</i> , 27(2), 119–137.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Chang, D., Chen, C. H., & Lee, K. M. (2014). A crowdsourcing development approach based on a neuro-fuzzy network for creating innovative product concepts. <i>Neurocomputing</i> , 142, 60–72.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Chen, Z., Fu, R., Zhao, Z., Liu, Z., Xia, L., Chen, L.,... & Zhang, C. J. (2014). gMission: A general spatial crowdsourcing platform. <i>Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment</i> , 7(13), 1629–1632.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Cheng, J., Teevan, J., Iqbal, S. T., & Bernstein, M. S. (2015, April). Break it down: A comparison of macro-and microtasks. In <i>Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems</i> (pp. 4061–4064). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Behavior
Chiu, C. M., Liang, T. P., & Turban, E. (2014). What can crowdsourcing do for decision support?. <i>Decision Support Systems</i> , 65, 40–49.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Chung, M. J. Y., Forbes, M., Cakmak, M., & Rao, R. P. (2014, May). Accelerating imitation learning through crowdsourcing. In <i>ICRA</i> (pp. 4777–4784).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Dai, P., Lin, C. H., & Weld, D. S. (2013). Pomdp-based control of workflows for crowdsourcing. <i>Artificial Intelligence</i> , 202, 52–85.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

(continued)



(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Dai, P., Rzeszotarski, J. M., Paritosh, P., & Chi, E. H. (2015, February). And now for something completely different: Improving crowdsourcing workflows with micro-diversions. In Proceedings of the 18th ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (pp. 628–638). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
de Herrera, A. G. S., Foncubierta-Rodriguez, A., Markonis, D., Schaer, R., & Muller, H. (2014, September). Crowdsourcing for medical image classification. In Annual Congress SGM1 (Vol. 2014).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Output
(continued)						
Deng, J., Krause, J., & Fei-Fei, L. (2013). Fine-grained crowdsourcing for fine-grained recognition. In Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition (pp. 580–587).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Difallah, D. E., Demartini, G., & Cudre-Mauroux, P. (2012, April). Mechanical Cheat: Spanning Schemes and Adversarial Techniques on Crowdsourcing Platforms. In CrowdSearch 2010 Workshop at WWW 2012 (pp. 26–30).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Duan, L., Oyama, S., Sato, H., & Kurihara, M. (2014). Separate or joint? Estimation of multiple labels from crowdsourced annotations. Expert Systems with Applications, 41(13), 5723–5732.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

(continued)

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Eickhoff, C., & de Vries, A. (2011, February). How crowdsourcable is your task. In Proceedings of the workshop on crowdsourcing for search and data mining (CSDM) at the fourth ACM international conference on web search and data mining (WSDM) (pp. 11–14).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Eickhoff, C., & de Vries, A. P. (2013). Increasing cheat robustness of crowdsourcing tasks. Information retrieval, 16(2), 121–137.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Fan, J., Li, G., Ooi, B. C., Tan, K. L., & Feng, J. (2015, May). icrowd: An adaptive crowdsourcing framework. In Proceedings of the 2015 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data (pp. 1015–1030). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Fang, Y., Sun, H., Li, G., Zhang, R., & Huai, J. (2016, April). Effective result inference for context-sensitive tasks in crowdsourcing. In International Conference on Database Systems for Advanced Applications (pp. 33–48). Springer, Cham.	Conference	Requestor	Micro/Macro	Individuals			X
Filatova, E. (2012, May). Irony and Sarcasm: Corpus Generation and Analysis Using Crowdsourcing. Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (pp. 392–398).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Output
(continued)						
Finin, T., Murnane, W., Karandikar, A., Keller, N., Martineau, J., & Dredze, M. (2010, June). Annotating named entities in Twitter data with crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the NAACL HLT 2010 Workshop on Creating Speech and Language Data with Amazon's Mechanical Turk (pp. 80–88). Association for Computational Linguistics.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Foncubierta Rodriguez, A., & Muller, H. (2012, October). Ground truth generation in medical imaging: a crowdsourcing based iterative approach. In Proceedings of the ACM multimedia 2012 workshop on Crowdsourcing for multimedia (pp. 9–14). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Franklin, M. J., Kossmann, D., Kraska, T., Ramesh, S., & Xin, R. (2011, June). CrowdDB: answering queries with crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the 2011 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of data (pp. 6172). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Fu, W. T., & Liao, V. (2011, March). Crowdsourcing quality control of online information: a quality-based cascade model. In International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural Modeling, and Prediction (pp. 147-154). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Gadrajai, U., Kawase, R., Dietze, S., & Demartini, G. (2015, April). Understanding malicious behavior in crowdsourcing platforms: The case of online surveys. In Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (pp. 1631–1640). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Gao, Y., Chen, Y., & Liu, K. R. (2015). On Cost-Effective Incentive Mechanisms in Microtask Crowdsourcing. IEEE Trans. Comput. Intellig. and AI in Games, 7(1), 3–15.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X	X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Gould, S. J., Cox, A. L., & Brumby, D. P. (2016). Diminished control in crowdsourcing: an investigation of crowdworker multitasking behavior. <i>ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)</i> , 23(3), 19.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X	
Haas, D., Ansel, J., Gu, L., & Marcus, A. (2015). Argonaut: macrotask crowdsourcing for complex data processing. <i>Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment</i> , 8(12), 1642–1653.	Conference	Requestor	Macro	Individuals within group	X	X	X

(continued)



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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Han, S., Dai, P., Pariotosh, P., & Huynh, D. (2016). Crowdsourcing Human Annotation on Web Page Structure: Infrastructure Design and Behavior-Based Quality Control. <i>ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST)</i> , 7(4), 56.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Hansen, D. L., Schone, P. J., Corey, D., Reid, M., & Gehring, J. (2013, February). Quality control mechanisms for crowdsourcing: peer review, arbitration, & expertise at family search indexing. In <i>Proceedings of the 2013 conference on Computer supported cooperative work</i> (pp. 649–660). ACM.	Conference	Requestor and peer	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Hara, K., Le, V., & Froehlich, J. (2013, April). Combining crowdsourcing and Google street view to identify street-level accessibility problems. In Proceedings of the SIGCHI conference on human factors in computing systems (pp. 631–640). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Hirth, M., Hoßfeld, T., & Tran-Gia, P. (2010). Cheat-detection mechanisms for crowdsourcing. Research Report Series, Report No 474.	Research report	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Hirth, M., Hofßfeld, T., & Tran-Gia, P. (2011, June). Cost-optimal validation mechanisms and cheat-detection for crowdsourcing platforms. In <i>Innovative Mobile and Internet Services in Ubiquitous Computing (IMIS)</i> , 2011 Fifth International Conference on (pp. 316–321). IEEE.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Hirth, M., Hofßfeld, T., & Tran-Gia, P. (2013). Analyzing costs and accuracy of validation mechanisms for crowdsourcing platforms. <i>Mathematical and Computer Modelling</i> , 57(11–12), 2918–2932.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Hofßfeld, T., & Keimel, C. (2014). Crowdsourcing in QoE evaluation. In <i>Quality of Experience</i> (pp. 315–327). Springer, Cham.	Book chapter	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Hosio, S., Goncalves, J., Lehdonvirta, V., Ferreira, D., & Kostakos, V. (2014, October). Situated crowdsourcing using a market model. In Proceedings of the 27th annual ACM symposium on User interface software and technology (pp. 55–64). ACM.	Conference	Requestor and peer	Micro	Individuals			X
Hutton, A., Liu, A., & Martin, C. E. (2012, March). Crowdsourcing Evaluations of Classifier Interpretability. In AAAI Spring Symposium: Wisdom of the Crowd.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Jo, J., Stevens, A., & Tan, C. (2013). A quality control model for trustworthy crowdsourcing in collaborative learning. In robot intelligence technology and applications 2012 (pp. 85–90). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.	Book chapter	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Kajino, H., Arai, H., & Kashima, H. (2014). Preserving worker privacy in crowdsourcing. <i>Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery</i> , 28(5-6), 1314-1335.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Kamar, E. (2016, July). Directions in Hybrid Intelligence: Complementing AI Systems with Human Intelligence. In <i>IJCAI</i> (pp. 4070-4073).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Kamar, E., Kapoor, A., Hornitz, E., & Redmond, W. A. (2013, August). Lifelong learning for acquiring the wisdom of the crowd. In <i>IJCAI</i> (Vol. 13, pp. 2313-2320).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X	
Kannagara, S. N., & Uguccioni, P. (2013). Risk management in crowdsourcing-based business ecosystems. <i>Technology Innovation Management Review</i> , 3(12).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Kazai, G. (2011, April). In search of quality in crowdsourcing for search engine evaluation. In European Conference on Information Retrieval (pp. 165–176). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.	Conference	Platform and requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		
Kazai, G., Kamps, J., Koolen, M., & Milic-Frayling, N. (2011, July). Crowdsourcing for book search evaluation: impact of hit design on comparative system ranking. In Proceedings of the 34th international ACM SIGIR conference on Research and development in Information Retrieval (pp. 205–214). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
(continued)	Conference	Platform and requestor	Micro/Macro	Individuals	X		
Kazai, G., Kamps, J., & Milic-Frayling, N. (2012, October). The face of quality in crowdsourcing relevance labels: Demographics, personality and labeling accuracy. In Proceedings of the 21st ACM international conference on Information and knowledge management (pp. 2583–2586). ACM.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Kazai, G., Koolen, M., Kamps, J., Doucet, A., & Landoni, M. (2010, December). Overview of the INEX 2010 book track: Scaling up the evaluation using crowdsourcing. In International Workshop of the Initiative for the Evaluation of XML Retrieval (pp. 98–117). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.							

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
(continued)	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Kazai, G., & Zitouni, I. (2016, February). Quality management in crowdsourcing using gold judges behavior. In Proceedings of the Ninth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (pp. 267–276). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Khapra, M. M., Ramanathan, A., Kunchukuttan, A., Visweswariah, K., & Bhattacharyya, P. (2014). When Transliteration Met Crowdsourcing: An Empirical Study of Transliteration via Crowdsourcing using Efficient, Non-redundant and Fair Quality Control. Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC-2014) (pp. 196–202).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			

(continued)



(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Khazankin, R., Psalter, H., Schall, D., & Dustdar, S. (2011, December). Qos-based task scheduling in crowdsourcing environments. In International Conference on Service-Oriented Computing (pp. 297-311). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Lange, R., & Lange, X. (2012, March). Quality Control in Crowdsourcing: An Objective Measurement Approach to Identifying and Correcting Rater Effects in the Social Evaluation of Products and Services. In AAAI Spring Symposium: Wisdom of the Crowd (Vol. 12, p. 06).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Behavior
Lasecki, W. S., & Bigham, J. P. (2012, October). Online quality control for real-time crowd captioning. In Proceedings of the 14th international ACM SIGACCESS conference on Computers and accessibility (pp. 143–150). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Lasecki, W. S., Miller, C. D., & Bigham, J. P. (2013, April). Warping time for more effective real-time crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (pp. 2033–2036). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Behavior
Lasecki, W. S., Murray, K. I., White, S., Miller, R. C., & Bigham, J. P. (2011, October). Real-time crowd control of existing interfaces. In Proceedings of the 24th annual ACM symposium on User interface software and technology (pp. 23–32). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Lasecki, W. S., Teevan, J., & Kamar, E. (2014, February). Information extraction and manipulation threats in crowd-powered systems. In Proceedings of the 17th ACM conference on Computer supported cooperative work & social computing (pp. 248–256). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Le, J., Edmonds, A., Hester, V., & Biewald, L. (2010, July). Ensuring quality in crowdsourced search relevance evaluation: The effects of training question distribution. In SIGIR 2010 workshop on crowdsourcing for search evaluation (Vol. 2126).	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Lee, C. Y., & Glass, J. (2011). A transcription task for crowdsourcing with automatic quality control. In Twelfth Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Li, H., Zhao, B., & Fuxman, A. (2014, April). The wisdom of minority: Discovering and targeting the right group of workers for crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the 23rd international conference on World wide web (pp. 165–176). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Li, Q., Vempaty, A., Varshney, L. R., & Varshney, P. K. (2017). Multi-object classification via crowdsourcing with a reject option. IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, 65(4), 1068–1081.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Lin, C. H., & Weld, D. (2012). In Proceedings of the Twenty-Eighth Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI'12), Nando de Freitas and Kevin Murphy (Eds). AUAI Press, Arlington, Virginia, United States, 491-500.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Liu, Q., Ihler, A. T., & Steyvers, M. (2013). Scoring workers in crowdsourcing: How many control questions are enough?. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (pp. 1914-1922).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Liu, Z., Shabani, S., Balet, N. G., Sokhn, M., & Cretton, F. (2018, January). How to motivate participation and improve quality of crowdsourcing when building accessibility maps. In Consumer Communications & Networking Conference (CCNC), 2018 15th IEEE Annual (pp. 1–6). IEEE.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Loni, B., Menendez, M., Georgescu, M., Galli, L., Massari, C., Altingovde, I. S., ... & Larson, M. (2013, February). Fashion-focused creative commons social dataset. In Proceedings of the 4th ACM Multimedia Systems Conference (pp. 72–77). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
<p>Massung, E., Coyle, D., Cater, K. F., Jay, M., &amp; Preist, C. (2013, April). Using crowdsourcing to support pro- environmental community activism. In Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (pp. 371–380). ACM.</p>	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
<p>McGraw, I., &amp; Polifroni, J. (2013). How to Control and Utilize Crowd-Collected Speech. In Eskenazi, M., Levow, G., Meng, H., Parent, G., Suendermann, D. (eds) Crowdsourcing for Speech Processing: Applications to Data Collection, Transcription and Assessment, 106–136.</p>	Book chapter	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)



	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
(continued)	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Melchior, P., Sheldon, E., Drllica-Wagner, A., Rykoff, E. S., Abbott, T. M. C., Abdalla, F. B.,... & Rosell, A. C. (2016). Crowdsourcing quality control for Dark Energy Survey images. <i>Astronomy and Computing</i> , 16, 99–108.							
Munro, R., Bethard, S., Kuperman, V., Lai, V. T., Melnick, R., Potts, C.,... & Tily, H. (2010, June). Crowdsourcing and language studies: the new generation of linguistic data. In <i>Proceedings of the NAACL HLT 2010 workshop on creating speech and language data with Amazon's Mechanical Turk</i> (pp. 122–130). Association for Computational Linguistics.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Behavior
Negri, M., Bentivogli, L., Mehdad, Y., Giampiccolo, D., & Marchetti, A. (2011, July). Divide and conquer: Crowdsourcing the creation of cross-lingual textual entailment corpora. In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (pp. 670–679). Association for Computational Linguistics.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
Oleson, D., Sorokin, A., Laughlin, G. P., Hester, V., Le, J., & Biewald, L. (2011). Programmatic Gold: Targeted and Scalable Quality Assurance in Crowdsourcing. Human computation, 11(11).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Otani, N., Baba, Y., & Kashima, H. (2016). Quality control of crowdsourced classification using hierarchical class structures. <i>Expert Systems with Applications</i> , 58, 155–163.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Oyama, S., Baba, Y., Ohmukai, I., Dokoshi, H., & Kashima, H. (2015). From one star to three stars: Upgrading legacy open data using crowdsourcing. <i>IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics</i> ; <a href="http://hdl.handle.net/21157/65226">http://hdl.handle.net/21157/65226</a>	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

(continued)

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Oyama, S., Baba, Y., Sakurai, Y., & Kashima, H. (2013, August). Accurate Integration of Crowdsourced Labels Using Workers' Self-reported Confidence Scores. Twenty-Third International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (pp. 2554-2560).	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Paul, S. A., Hong, L., & Chi, E. H. (2011). What is a question? Crowdsourcing tweet categorization. HCOMP Workshop CHI 2011.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

(continued)

	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus			
					Input	Behavior	Output	
(continued)								
Post, M., Callison-Burch, C., & Osborne, M. (2012, June). Constructing parallel corpora for six indian languages via crowdsourcing. In Proceedings of the Seventh Workshop on Statistical Machine Translation (pp. 401–409). Association for Computational Linguistics.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals				
Qiu, C., Squicciarini, A. C., Carminati, B., Caverlee, J., & Khare, D. R. (2016, October). Crowdselect: Increasing accuracy of crowdsourcing tasks through behavior prediction and user selection. In Proceedings of the 25th ACM International Conference on Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (pp. 539–548). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Rhyn, M., & Blohm, I. (2017) A Machine Learning Approach for Classifying Textual Data in Crowdsourcing, in Leimeister, J.M.; Brenner, W. (Hrsg.): Proceedings der 13. Internationalen Tagung Wirtschaftsinformatik (WI 2017), St. Gallen, S. 1171–1185.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Riccardi, G., Ghosh, A., Chowdhury, S. A., & Bayer, A. O. (2013, August). Motivational feedback in crowdsourcing: a case study in speech transcription. In INTERSPEECH (pp. 1111–1115).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Riegler, M., Gaddam, V. R., Larson, M., Eg, R., Halvorsen, P., & Griwodz, C. (2016, June). Crowdsourcing as self-fulfilling prophecy: Influence of discarding workers in subjective assessment tasks. In Content-Based Multimedia Indexing (CBMI), 2016 14th International Workshop on (pp. 1–6). IEEE.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Salk, C. F., Sturm, T., See, L., Fritz, S., & Perger, C. (2016). Assessing quality of volunteer crowdsourcing contributions: lessons from the Cropland Capture game. International Journal of Digital Earth, 9(4), 410–426.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Satzger, B., Psailer, H., Schall, D., & Dustdar, S. (2013). Auction-based crowdsourcing supporting skill management. <i>Information Systems</i> , 38(4), 547–560.	Journal	Platform and requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
See, L., Schepaschenko, D., Lesiv, M., McCallum, I., Fritz, S., Comber, A.,.... & Siraj, M. A. (2015). Building a hybrid land cover map with crowdsourcing and geographically weighted regression. <i>ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing</i> , 103, 48–56.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Schmitz, H., & Lykourantzou, I. (2018). Online Sequencing of Non-Decomposable Macrotasks in Expert Crowdsourcing. <i>ACM Transactions on Social Computing</i> , 1(1), 1.	Journal	Requestor	Macro	Individuals within group		X	

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus			
					Input	Behavior	Output	
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Sorokin, A., Berenson, D., Srinivasa, S. S., & Hebert, M. (2010, October). People helping robots helping people: Crowdsourcing for grasping novel objects. In 2010 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (pp. 2117–2122). IEEE.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals				X
Sprugnoli, R., Moretti, G., Fuoli, M., Giuliani, D., Bentivogli, L., Pianta, E.,... & Brugnara, F. (2013, May). Comparing two methods for crowdsourcing speech transcription. In 2013 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (pp. 8116–8120). IEEE.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals				X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Stolee, K. T., & Elbaum, S. (2010, September). Exploring the use of crowdsourcing to support empirical studies in software engineering. In Proceedings of the 2010 ACM-IEEE international symposium on Empirical software engineering and measurement (p. 35). ACM.	Conference	Platform and requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		
Su, H., Deng, J., & Fei-Fei, L. (2012, July). Crowdsourcing annotations for visual object detection. In Workshops at the Twenty-Sixth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (Vol. 1, No. 2).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Tai, L., Chuang, Z., Tao, X., Ming, W., & Jingjing, X. (2011). Quality control of crowdsourcing through workers experience. In Proceedings of the ACM SIGIR workshop on crowdsourcing for information retrieval.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Tang, W., & Lease, M. (2011, July). Semi-supervised consensus labeling for crowdsourcing. In SIGIR 2011 workshop on crowdsourcing for information retrieval (CIR) (pp. 1–6).	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus	
					Input	Behavior
<p>Tran-Thanh, L., Huynh, T. D., Rosenfeld, A., Ramechum, S. D., &amp; Jennings, N. R. (2014, May). BudgetFix: budget limited crowdsourcing for interdependent task allocation with quality guarantees. In Proceedings of the 2014 international conference on Autonomous agents and multi-agent systems (pp. 477–484). International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems.</p>	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X
<p>Trompette, P., Chanal, V., &amp; Pelissier, C. (2008, July). Crowdsourcing as a way to access external knowledge for innovation. In 24 th EGOS Colloquium.</p>	Conference	Requestor	Macro	Individuals		

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
UI Hassan, U., Zaveri, A., Marx, E., Curry, E., & Lehmann, J. (2016, November). ACRyLIQ: Leveraging DBpedia for adaptive crowdsourcing in linked data quality assessment. In European Knowledge Acquisition Workshop (pp. 681-696). Springer, Cham.	Workshop	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Vempaty, A., Varshney, L. R., & Varshney, P. K. (2014). Reliable crowdsourcing for multi-class labeling using coding theory. IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing, 8(4), 667-679.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Venetis, P., & Garcia-Molina, H. (2012, August). Quality control for comparison microtasks. In Proceedings of the first international workshop on crowdsourcing and data mining (pp. 15-21). ACM.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Vliegendorht, R., Larson, M., Kofler, C., Eickhoff, C., & Pouwelse, J. (2011, February). Investigating factors influencing crowdsourcing tasks with high imaginative load. In Proceedings of the Workshop on Crowdsourcing for Search and Data Mining (CSDM) at the Fourth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (pp. 2730).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Wais, P., Lingamneni, S., Cook, D., Fennell, J., Goldenberg, B., Lubarov, D., . . . & Simons, H. (2010). Towards building a high-quality workforce with mechanical turk. Proceedings of computational social science and the wisdom of crowds (NIPS), 1–5.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Wang, S., Huang, C. R., Yao, Y., & Chan, A. (2014). Exploring mental lexicon in an efficient and economic way: Crowdsourcing method for linguistic experiments. In Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Cognitive Aspects of the Lexicon (CogALex) (pp. 105–113).	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Wu, C. C., Chen, K. T., Chang, Y. C., & Lei, C. L. (2013). Crowdsourcing multimedia QoE evaluation: A trusted framework. IEEE transactions on multimedia, 15(5), 1121–1137.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Xia, T., Zhang, C., Xie, J., & Li, T. (2012, September). Real-time quality control for crowdsourcing relevance evaluation. In <i>Network Infrastructure and Digital Content (IC-NIDC)</i> , 2012 3rd IEEE International Conference on (pp. 535–539). IEEE.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X
Yung, D., Li, M. L., & Chang, S. (2014). Evolutionary approach for crowdsourcing quality control. <i>Journal of Visual Languages &amp; Computing</i> , 25(6), 879–890.	Journal	Requestor	Micro	Individuals		X	X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
(continued)	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Zaidan, O. F., & Callison-Burch, C. (2011, June). Crowdsourcing translation: Professional quality from non-professionals. In Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies-Volume 1 (pp. 1220–1229). Association for Computational Linguistics.							
Zhai, H., Lingren, T., Deleger, L., Li, Q., Kaiser, M., Stoutenborough, L., & Solti, I. (2013). Web 2.0-based crowdsourcing for high-quality gold standard development in clinical natural language processing. Journal of medical Internet research, 15(4).	Journal	Platform and requestor	Micro	Individuals	X		X

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	Publication type	Source	Task	Level	Control focus		
					Input	Behavior	Output
Zhang, G., & Chen, H. (2013, October). Quality control for crowdsourcing with spatial and temporal distribution. In International Conference on Internet and Distributed Computing Systems (pp. 169–182). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			
Zhang, G., & Chen, H. (2013, December). Quality control of massive data for crowdsourcing in location-based services. In International Conference on Algorithms and Architectures for Parallel Processing (pp. 112–121). Springer, Cham.	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X
Zogaj, S., & Bretschneider, U. (2014). Analyzing governance mechanisms for crowdsourcing information systems: a multiple case analysis. ECIS 2014	Conference	Requestor	Micro	Individuals			X

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