Visibility as a lever of collaboration: Implications for designing collaborative spaces

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Collaboration

• “To work together, especially in a joint intellectual effort.”
  -Dictionary.com

• Contribution of parties participating in an collaborative enterprise is crucial for its success.
Dominant approaches

- Use of monetary incentive
- Coercion

-Frey 1997; Benkler 2006
Emerging model of collaboration

Art Illusion, an open source software
Emerging research area

- Many more including several journal articles
- But mostly focused on text-based systems
Our work

• Most things happen somewhere below, on, or above the earth’s surface
• 80% information have spatial component (Citation)
• Provides insights not obtained from text-based systems
OpenStreetMap (www.openstreetmap.org)
Man-to-land interaction

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- Going out to collect mapping data is an enjoyable part of my OSM experience.
- Being part of a mapping party is an enjoyable part of my OSM experience.
- OSM allows me to spend some time outdoors.
- Meeting new people while participating in OSM mapping party is an enjoyable part of my OSM experience.

Legend:
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Neutral
- Somewhat Agree
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
Altruism

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- Digital map data should be available for free.
- I contribute to OSM because those who are in need of digital map data...
- I expect OSM users to actively contribute geographic data to the proj...
- OSM will not succeed in developing a world map without the community.

Legend:
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Neutral
- Somewhat Agree
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
Visibility

The following statements describe users' experiences of the OSM project. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each statement?

- I believe that 'Free Wiki World Map', which is the goal of OSM, is accurate.
- When I see information about the places I know missing from OSM, I make corrections.
- When I see errors on the map for the area in which I live, I correct them.
- I use OSM to display my skills to potential employers.
- I think that my contributions are as good as those of other users.
- OSM community is important to me.
- Seeing my contribution appear visually on OSM map provides me with a sense of satisfaction.
- Entering map data on the computer is an enjoyable part of my OSM experience.
It gives satisfaction to see my collected data appearing worldwide for the use of others as I cycle and run often. I wanted adding cyclepaths that were missing or wrong on the existing data.

Mapper 1

It's a lot of fun, and it's nice to see your work appear 1-2 hours after it's done available to the whole world :)

Mapper 2

I love to see the area around where I live accurately mapped (and updated in a timely manner). I get enormous satisfaction out of this entire process as well as know that I'm contributing towards a valuable resource that others can use. I also enjoying exploring on my bike new areas that I'm mapping - I've discovered some cool suburban places that I never knew existed - often within meters of roads that I drive down regularly.

Mapper 3

I believe in the power of groups. A single person is just a single ant but the group can move a mountain (grain by grain).

Mapper 4
Youth mapping: community atlas project
Youth mapping: cemetery mapping project
Youth mapping: community asset mapping
Visibility matters

- Group goal
- Instrumentality of one’s contribution
- Pleasure of creation
Conclusions

• Need to extend orthodox economics theories
• Investigative, expressive and social instincts
• Pleasure of creation, which deepens with visibility
• Implications for designing collaborative systems
More about our work......

- http://yci.illinois.edu/
- http://www.isrl.illinois.edu/~chip/
- http://budhathoki.wordpress.com/
Thank you for listening!