Teaching a Class to Grade Itself using Game Theory

William Wu and Nicholaas Kaashoek Matt Weinberg and Christos Tzamos

Fourth Annual MIT PRIMES Conference May 18, 2014

Overview

Overview

- Problem
- Model
- Benchmark
- Mechanisms
 - Calibration
 - Deduction
- Experiment
- Conclusion

MOOCs - Massive Online Open Courses

MOOCs - Massive Online Open Courses 150,000:1 Student/professor ratio

MOOCs - Massive Online Open Courses 150,000:1 Student/professor ratio

Computer grading - Limited by multiple choice

MOOCs - Massive Online Open Courses 150,000:1 Student/professor ratio

Computer grading - Limited by multiple choice Peer grading - Hackable by clever students

1) Let H be a function of a student's grade, returning a student's happiness, such that H(0)=0. Happiness is an arbitrary numerical unit.

1) Let H be a function of a student's grade, returning a student's happiness, such that H(0)=0. Happiness is an arbitrary numerical unit.

2) Students want to maximize their happiness.

1) Let H be a function of a student's grade, returning a student's happiness, such that H(0)=0. Happiness is an arbitrary numerical unit.

- 2) Students want to maximize their happiness.
- 3) Grading an assignment costs 1 happiness.

1) Let H be a function of a student's grade, returning a student's happiness, such that H(0)=0. Happiness is an arbitrary numerical unit.

- 2) Students want to maximize their happiness.
- 3) Grading an assignment costs 1 happiness.

4) Happiness is not affected by external factors, such as the grades of peers.

1) Let H be a function of a student's grade, returning a student's happiness, such that H(0)=0. Happiness is an arbitrary numerical unit.

- 2) Students want to maximize their happiness.
- 3) Grading an assignment costs 1 happiness.

4) Happiness is not affected by external factors, such as the grades of peers.

5) Students can communicate with their peers.

6) Students are not perfect graders.

6) Students are not perfect graders.7) There is no such thing as partial-grading.

6) Students are not perfect graders.

- 7) There is no such thing as partial-grading.
- 8) Students can report their level of uncertainty when they grade. Let this factor be equal to U.

6) Students are not perfect graders.

- 7) There is no such thing as partial-grading.
- 8) Students can report their level of uncertainty when they grade. Let this factor be equal to U.
- 9) More effort spent in grading lowers uncertainty.

- 6) Students are not perfect graders.
- 7) There is no such thing as partial-grading.
- 8) Students can report their level of uncertainty when they grade. Let this factor be equal to U.
- 9) More effort spent in grading lowers uncertainty.
- 10) When a student assigns a grade G, the chance of the grade being N off from the actual grade is proportional to U.

Benchmark

Benchmark

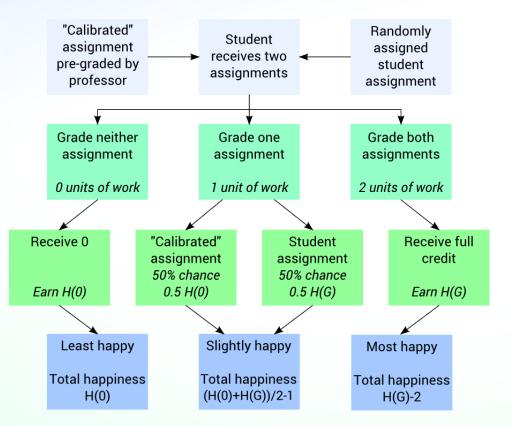
A *numerical score* defined by maximum work done by any person + highest possible error in grading.

Benchmark

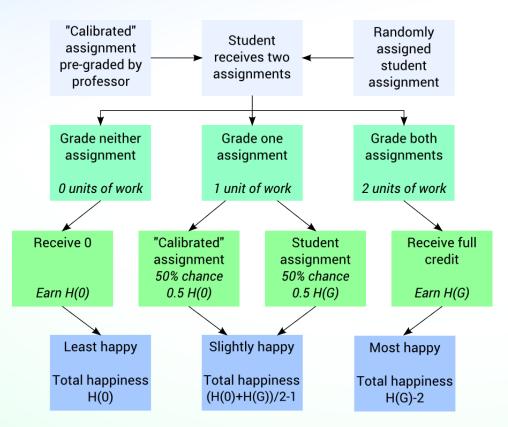
A *numerical score* defined by maximum work done by any person + highest possible error in grading.

 $max_{i\geq 1}\{|H(g_i)-H(o_i)|\} + max_{i\geq 0}\{w_i\}$

Mechanisms - Calibration

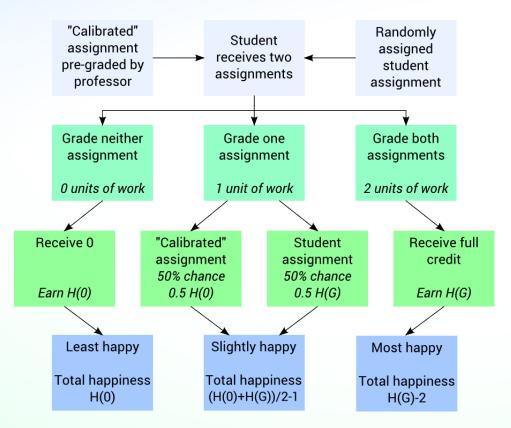


Mechanisms - Calibration



Max work: 2 Max error: 2 Benchmark Score: 4

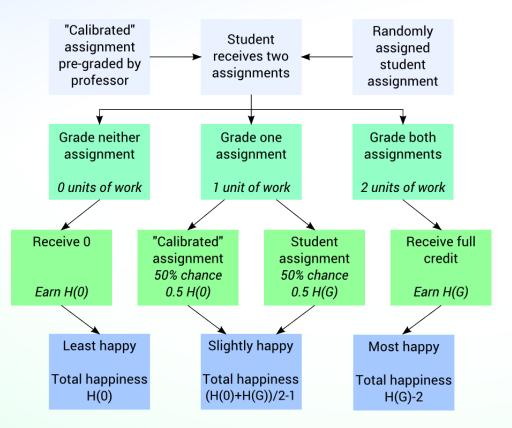
Mechanisms - Calibration



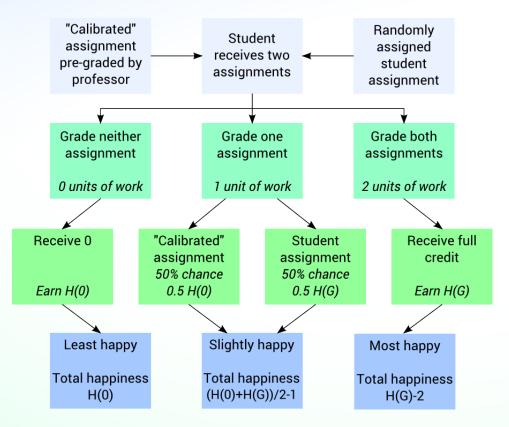
Max work: 2 Max error: 2 Benchmark Score: 4

What if students can communicate?

Mechanisms - Improved Calibration

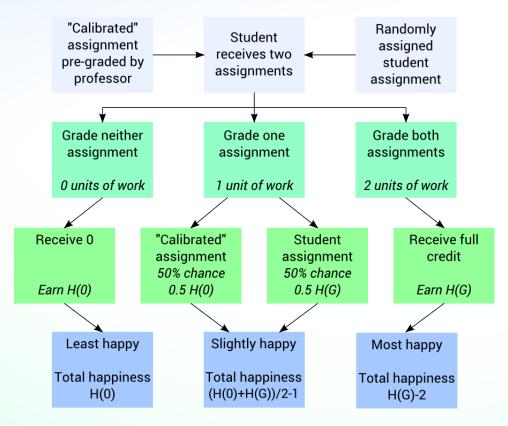


Mechanisms - Improved Calibration



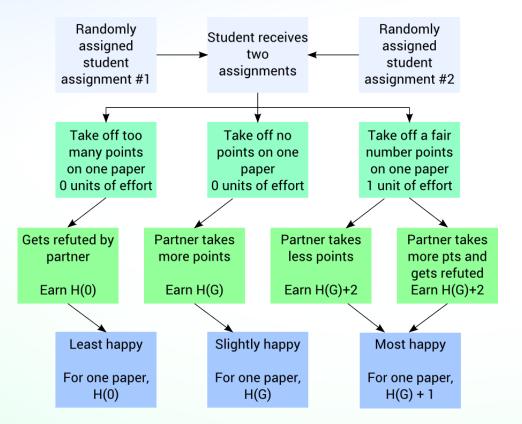
Assumption added: 5) Students can communicate

Mechanisms - Improved Calibration

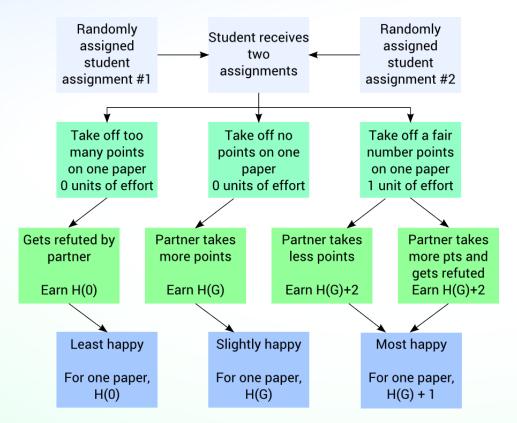


Assumption added: 5) Students can communicate "Improved" with multiple calibrated assignments

Mechanisms - Deduction

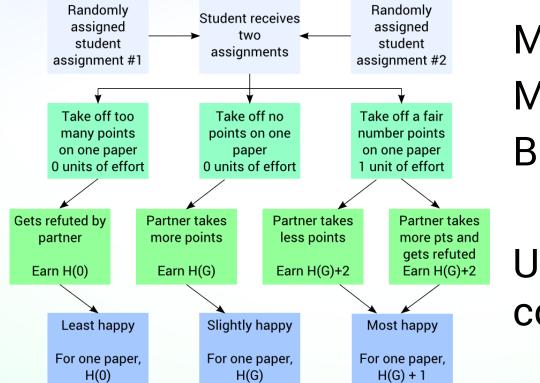


Mechanisms - Deduction



Max work: 2 Max error: 0 Benchmark Score: 2

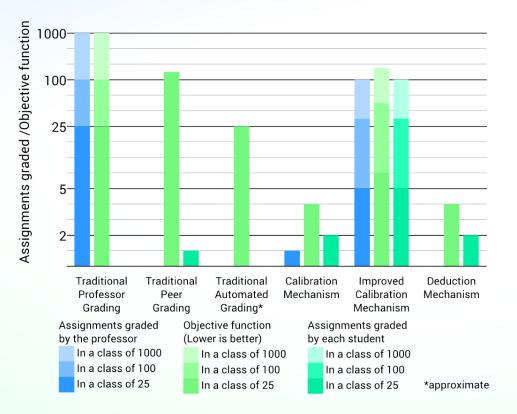
Mechanisms - Deduction



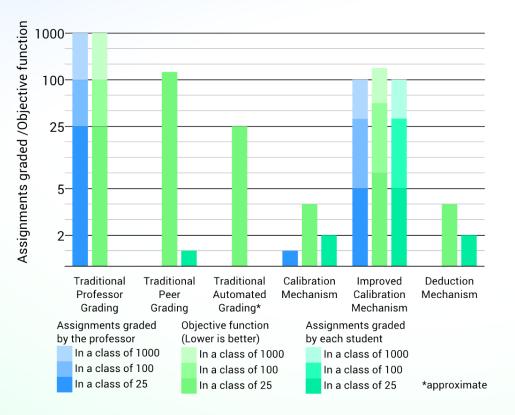
Max work: 2 Max error: 0 Benchmark Score: 2

Unfriendly competition

Mechanisms - Comparison



Mechanisms - Comparison



Calibration and Deduction outperform existing mechanisms

Experiment

Online, crowdsourced, and anonymous

Experiment

Online, crowdsourced, and anonymous Designed to validate Calibration Mechanism:

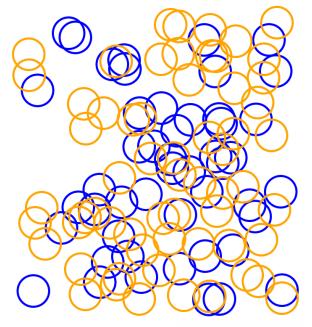
Experiment

Online, crowdsourced, and anonymous Designed to validate Calibration Mechanism: *Presented two assignments to grade, Rewarded on one assignment*

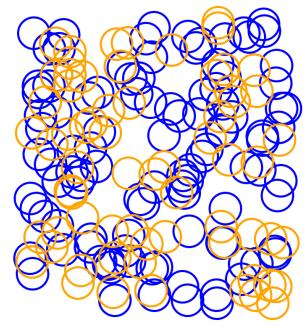
Experiment

Online, crowdsourced, and anonymous **Designed to validate Calibration Mechanism:** Presented two assignments to grade, Rewarded on one assignment Assignment - A set of "marbles" Grading - Counting the orange "marbles"

Experiment - Screenshot



Finish Observation \rightarrow



Finish Observation \rightarrow

Experiment - Reward

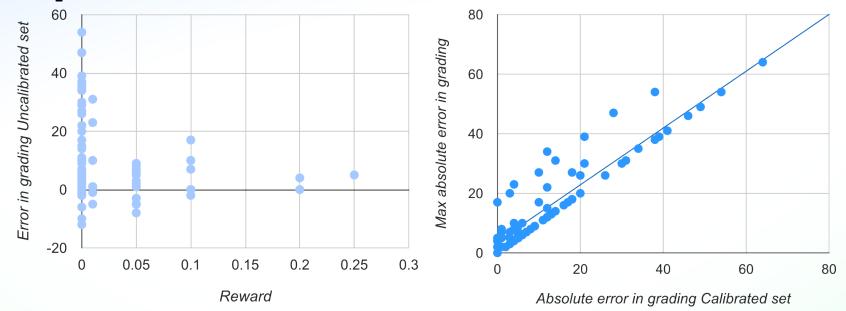
Confidence	Within	Reward
1	1 marble	\$0.25
2	2 marbles	\$0.20
5	5 marbles	\$0.10
10	10 marbles	\$0.05
20	20 marbles	\$0.01

Experiment - Reward

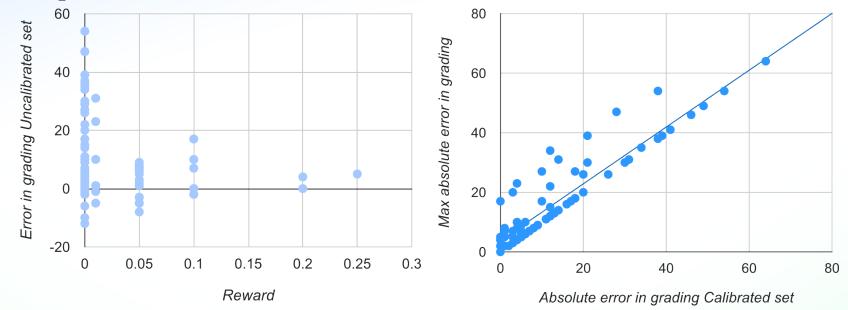
Confidence	Within	Reward
1	1 marble	\$0.25
2	2 marbles	\$0.20
5	5 marbles	\$0.10
10	10 marbles	\$0.05
20	20 marbles	\$0.01

Reward is based on the reported confidence and the accuracy of the reported guess

Experiment - Data

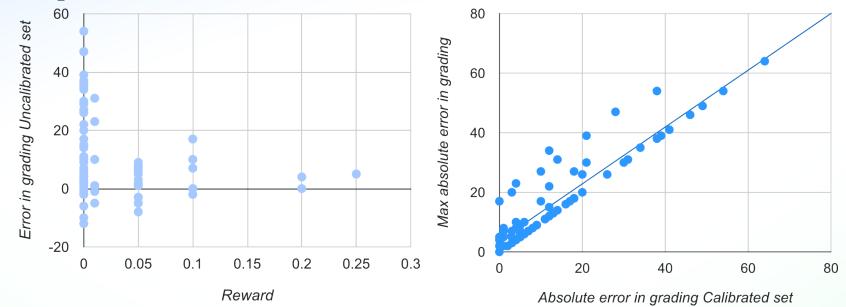


Experiment - Data



1. Greater reward \rightarrow lower uncalibrated error

Experiment - Data



- 1. Greater reward \rightarrow lower uncalibrated error
- 2. Calibrated set indicates grading proficiency

• Student model - approximations for student behavior

- Student model approximations for student behavior
- Benchmark score measuring efficiency and workload of various mechanisms

- Student model approximations for student behavior
- Benchmark score measuring efficiency and workload of various mechanisms
- Calibration, Improved Calibration, and Deduction
 mechanisms developed

- Student model approximations for student behavior
- Benchmark score measuring efficiency and workload of various mechanisms
- Calibration, Improved Calibration, and Deduction
 mechanisms developed
- Calibration validated by a crowdsourced experiment

- Student model approximations for student behavior
- Benchmark score measuring efficiency and workload of various mechanisms
- Calibration, Improved Calibration, and Deduction
 mechanisms developed
- Calibration validated by a crowdsourced experiment
- Calibration and Deduction mechanisms outperform existing grading solutions

 Improving realism - producing accurate grades from incompetent graders

- Improving realism producing accurate grades from incompetent graders
 - Proficiency test
 - Using multiple graders to reduce error

- Improving realism producing accurate grades from incompetent graders
 - Proficiency test
 - Using multiple graders to reduce error
- Implementation

- Improving realism producing accurate grades from incompetent graders
 - Proficiency test
 - Using multiple graders to reduce error
- Implementation
 - User testing with Mechanical Turk
 - Eventually in Coursera / EdX

Acknowledgements

MIT

MIT PRIMES program,

Slava Gerovitch, Tanya Khovanova, Srini Devadas

Mentors, Matt Weinberg and Christos Tzamos

Professor, Costis Daskalakis

Parents